

UNITED STATES



OF AMERICA

# Congressional Record

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SECOND SESSION

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## SENATE—Thursday, December 11, 2014

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

### PRAYER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Today's opening prayer will be offered by our guest Chaplain, a guest of Senator MARK WARNER, Rabbi Israel Zoberman, Founding Rabbi of Congregation Beth Chaverim in Virginia Beach, VA.

The guest Chaplain offered the following prayer:

Our one God of life's blessings, Who brings us together to be one family, gratefully united though gloriously diverse through the Divine commandments of loving-kindness. May the awesome Author of an enchanting yet endangered universe uplift our honored Senators with the essential twin gifts of freedom and responsibility, ever fulfilling the demanding American dream. At these crossroads of compelling challenge, may the Senators be reassured that each human life is a singular journey of promising purpose, that the Creator's divinity and human dignity are inseparably linked. May the Most High bless the Senators, the Nation, and humanity with Shalom's sacred healing, hope, and harmony.

Recalling my early childhood in a Displaced Persons Camp in Germany's American Zone, and on my 40th anniversary in the rabbinic ministry in the most ecumenical Nation under Heaven, I am grateful. Amen.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The President pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

### SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, following my remarks and those of the Republican leader, the Senate will resume consideration of the motion to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 3979, the defense authorization bill.

At 10:30 a.m., there will be a cloture vote on the motion to concur on the defense authorization bill.

Mr. President, the work we are going to do on this defense authorization bill is extremely important for our country. I will have more to say about that in just a minute.

### TRIBUTE TO JAMES FRANSEN

Mr. REID. Today's generation goes to Google for answers to questions they have about geography, about politics, famous people, or any subject. Any subject, you name it, and we all go to Google as quickly as we can. But long before Google, we had to use books, encyclopedias, volumes of books containing all sorts of facts on topics, and they were all in alphabetic order. For almost the last 40 years—39 to be exact—the Senate has had its own encyclopedia—legislative counsel Jim Fransen.

Jim began his Senate career in 1975, just after graduating from law school—from the University of Wisconsin—where he also studied as an undergraduate. That year he joined the Office of Legislative Counsel as assistant counsel. Over the years, Jim Fransen gradually moved up the ranks until he was named legislative counsel, a position he has held for 15 years.

He is a noted expert on a lot of things, but especially the United States Tax Code. We have heard speeches on this floor about the complexity of the Tax Code. That is a monumental assignment, to understand the Tax Code. Jim certainly does, perhaps better than anyone in Washington. Jim actually wrote the Tax Reform Act of 1986. That was the famous Bradley-Gephardt legislation.

For four decades, he has played a role in every important piece of tax legisla-

tion that has become law in our country. The Office of Legislative Counsel does the work for the Senate—not Democrats, not Republicans, but all of us, including our staffs. They write bills to create programs while also drafting amendments that will have some effect on these programs, sometimes wiping out these programs. This impartiality is the key to the success of the Senate and something we don't often consider—how we get to the point where we are.

This massive bill we are going to deal with today has legislative counsel's imprint on it. The same can be said of the bill they are going to work on today in the House, the omnibus; the tax extenders, the same thing. These are the must-do's we have to do before we leave here.

Another key to the success of Jim Fransen is the excellent team he has put together in the Office of Legislative Counsel. The staff, under his watchful eye, receives about 15,000 legislative inquiries every year—15,000—well more than 1,000 a month, and they are responsible for drafting 98 percent of all the legislation we do.

(Mr. WALSH assumed the Chair.)

It is rare to find someone like former Senator Jim Webb, who was a freshman Senator who came in and drafted his own bill that would give educational benefits to the military. Senator Webb came to me and said: I am going to write my own bill. Now that doesn't happen very often, but it was extremely important to him that he did that, and it had to be done because it was a significant piece to the new GI bill of rights, which the Presiding Officer—the General—would certainly understand. But 98 percent of the work we do here is not stamped by Jim Webb. We depend upon Jim Fransen's office to do this. So his job is not an easy job, but he has excelled because of his knowledge of the law, his experience of the legislative process, his patience, and his impeccable character.

Jim Fransen is a man of integrity and one who considers everyone's views, whether he personally agrees with them or not. It is no wonder Jim

is the second longest serving legislative counsel in the history of the Senate. One of his admirers once told me: Jim always plays it way up here, while the rest of us are down here. His phone rings at all hours of the day and night with random requests, and Jim handles it all with class and dignity.

Jim is retiring from the Senate at the end of this month. He will be missed, and that is an understatement, but he leaves with us an Office of Legislative Counsel that has never performed better. I thank him for his service, and I do this on behalf of the entire Senate family. I thank his family for the untold hours he has spent away from home. I appreciate the work his wife Margaret Ann has done in supporting him, and, of course, he will spend more time with his three daughters and two grandsons. So thanks very much for sharing this good man with us.

I wish Jim the very best in his retirement, and I repeat, I thank him on behalf of the Senate family for all the work he has done.

#### DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION BILL

Mr. REID. Mr. President, as I indicated, we are going to move to the defense bill, but we are going to also, as part of that bill, do something that is at least 10 years overdue. For the last 10 years, we have been struggling to get bills out of the energy committee. We are fortunate enough to get them out once in a while, but they are stymied here on the floor. That has been going on for 10 years. There has been a permanent wrecking crew, led by one person, to do this.

Before Nevada was settled by pioneers, its mountains were home to thousands of bighorn sheep—we still have lots of them—and pronghorn antelope—we have the largest antelope herd in the entire world in northern Nevada—and Nevada's streams and lakes at one time were full of Lahontan and cutthroat trout. That is not the case anymore.

Because of the growth in the State of Nevada there has been a tremendous impact on the environment. We had in Nevada salmon in our rivers, but not anymore. We are trying to replenish fish so that we will have more of what we did have before, including salmon. Like every State across the Nation, Nevada's natural and cultural heritage has come under immense pressure as our cities and populations have swelled.

About 80 percent of the people now live in one of our 17 counties. Clark County is where Las Vegas is. The other 16 counties make up about 20 percent of the population. So the pressure, especially because of what has happened in southern Nevada, has been very difficult on the environment.

The other thing people have to understand is that 87 percent of the State

of Nevada is owned by the Federal Government. That creates a lot of issues—some positive, some negative. But with the population having swelled, some of the issues we are now experiencing are certainly to be expected. As our society continues to expand, the stresses on our land, our wildlife, and water resources will continue.

That is why the package of land bills in this National Defense Authorization Act is vitally important to our country. The package is a compromise that protects our Nation's wild and scenic places, our Nation's unique history, and opens up other lands for development.

Are there provisions in this bill that I don't care a great deal about in a positive fashion? Yes. There are things in this bill I don't like. But there are things in here I do like. Are there things in this bill the majority of Republicans probably don't like? The answer is yes. So this is what legislation is all about. It is about compromise. It is about working together to have an end product, and that is what we have here.

This compromise is a chance for the Senate to get something done. Compromise has been wanting in this body, especially regarding matters of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee. Hundreds of bills for the last 10 years have been stopped.

I am only offering my opinion, but one of the finest public servants I have ever served with is Jeff Bingaman from New Mexico. Jeff is an absolutely brilliant man, a hard worker. I would bet—and I don't bet very often, and I am sure no one will take me up on this—but I think one reason Jeff Bingaman left the Senate was because of the work he was unable to get done in his committee. What a good chairman he was, but he was stymied time and time again from getting anything out of that committee. So for the last 10 years that committee has worked really hard, very hard, but they haven't had much to show for that work.

This package protects more than 1 million acres of landscapes. I was waiting in my office and Senator BENNET from Colorado came to my office. He had a great big poster with him. I asked: What is that? It was upside down. You could see immediately what it was when it was right side up. He was looking for time on the floor to show America what was in this bill for the State of Colorado. This beautiful vista he was showing me—and he showed the whole world last night—is something that is in this bill. It will be protected—a stunningly beautiful forest area in Colorado.

One million acres of landscape will be protected. Watersheds will be protected. Historic treasures will be protected. This protects over 140 miles of wild and scenic rivers throughout our country. These bills will create nearly

250,000 acres of wilderness in five States: Colorado, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, and Washington.

Additionally, the packages convey more than 100,000 acres to local communities for economic development. My friend the Presiding Officer understands how important that is, being able to convey to the private sector the ability to develop Federal lands. It has to be done carefully. It can't be done on a massive scale. If we did that, the rich people would wind up owning all the nice places. These are places I think should be shared by the American people. But 100,000 acres go to local communities for economic development.

The legislation continues our country's rich history, establishing national parks. It designates a number of new areas—for example, the Harriet Tubman Historic Park.

I read in a period of a month two books on Harriet Tubman. They both came out at about the same time. I can't imagine why a movie hasn't been made about this dynamic little 5-foot woman who did such remarkable things. What a story of this woman—this slave. She was a slave—bringing people out of the South into freedom in the North. She took them as far as Canada. She did it alone. So I hope some day someone will make a movie of this stunningly powerful woman. We are recognizing an area that will be named on her behalf.

The bundle of lands bills is good for America. It stretches literally from the shores of Alaska to the coast of Maine. It is especially important to Nevada, my State. It protects over 75,000 acres of wilderness in Humboldt and Lyon Counties in northern Nevada, the first new wilderness protections in the State since 2006.

One of those areas is named after a famous Indian, Wovoka. There was a man who was a famous Indian. He established a dance that really brought Native Americans together. Even though it started in Nevada, it swept the country. This is going to be in Lyon County, it contains sage-grouse, bighorn sheep habitats, and some of the best fly fishing opportunities in Nevada and the Nation.

Now there is a pine forest wilderness in Humboldt County which has been championed by the local community. They have been working on this for years. We couldn't get it out of the House of Representatives. Over here, of course, it was a lost cause, and don't even think about getting it out of the energy committee.

Environmentalists, ranchers, hunters, anglers, and off-road vehicle enthusiasts came together to protect 20,000 acres of scenic lakes, amazing rock formations, and prime sage habitat.

But it also allows a mine there to have some more land from the Federal Government which they need from enlarging that land. It is a copper mine.



It is extremely important that we develop copper and don't have to import it from South America and Russia.

Southern Nevada established the Tule Springs Fossil Beds National Monument on the edge of North Las Vegas. This area is the largest deposit of ice age mammals in the United States. Imagine that basically in the middle of thousands of homes. People couldn't understand what they were digging up out there, ice age mammals that are so unbelievably large and preserved over these thousands of years. When the resources are developed, catalogued, and better understood, it will likely be the largest deposit in the entire country.

The package sells 10,000 acres of land to the city of Yerington. Lyon County was a county that probably suffered more from the economic shutdown. They had huge problems of unemployment, and now we have that mine there that will help. This will allow them to make even more jobs there.

The agreement also provides lands to the cities of Las Vegas, North Las Vegas, Fernley, Carlin, allocates tracts for three universities and college campuses, and expands Nellis Air Force Base and the Fallon Naval Air Station.

This is good for Nevada. It is good for the country. This legislation promotes jobs, protects the environment, helps our Armed Forces, and gives Americans the opportunity to enjoy the beautiful landscapes this country has to offer.

It is not perfect legislation. No legislation is. But this is really good legislation. So I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting these critical lands bills which are part of the defense authorization bill.

#### RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

Mr. REID. Mr. President, what is the business now?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

#### PROTECTING VOLUNTEER FIRE-FIGHTERS AND EMERGENCY RESPONDERS ACT OF 2014

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of the message to accompany H.R. 3979, which the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 3979, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to ensure that emergency services volunteers are not taken into account as employees under the shared responsibility requirements contained in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

Pending:

Reid motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to the bill.

Reid motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to the bill, with Reid amendment No. 3984 (to the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to the bill), to change the enactment date.

Reid amendment No. 3985 (to amendment No. 3984), of a perfecting nature.

Reid motion to refer the message of the House on the bill to the Committee on Armed Services, with instructions, Reid Amendment No. 3986, to change the enactment date.

Reid amendment No. 3987 (to (the instructions) amendment No. 3986), of a perfecting nature.

Reid amendment No. 3988 (to Amendment No. 3987), of a perfecting nature.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from South Dakota.

#### FAREWELL TO THE SENATE

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. President, in 1986 the people of South Dakota elected me to serve them in the 100th Session of the Congress in the House of Representatives. In 1996 they gave me the honor and privilege of being their junior Senator.

When I ran for the House in 1986, I told the people of South Dakota that neither party has all the answers, and that both parties have good ideas, as well as men and women of good will. My job, as I understood it, would be to work in a bipartisan manner, listening to all parties and reaching a good fit—also known as a compromise. That is what I still believe.

However, in each year of my 28 years of service this has become more difficult to achieve. Each party, rather than working cooperatively for the American people, is more and more focused on winning the next election. Today, days after the 2014 election, you can walk into the call center for either party and find Members dialing for dollars for 2016. Tonight there will be fundraisers across DC where Members will discuss policy not with their constituents but with organizations that contribute to their campaigns. We have lost our way.

My thoughts are not original. My colleague and dear friend from South Dakota, Senator Tom Daschle, in his farewell called for finding common ground that "will not be found on the far right or on the far left. That is not where most Americans live. We will only find it in the firm middle ground based on common sense and shared values."

Ohio's Senator Voinovich in his 2010 farewell speech said that his greatest frustration was the difficulty in finding common ground on significant issues, saying that "it doesn't happen enough."

In fact, the need for bipartisanship and the lack of it in the Senate is a hallmark of Senate farewell speeches. Rather than expounding on this topic, I would like to share the instances where I have experienced it.

I found it working with my colleague Senator JOHN THUNE, as we put aside

our political differences and worked as our constituents expected two Norwegians to work. We worked side by side as we pushed for farm bills, highway funding, emergency relief from droughts and from floods. We successfully fought the proposed BRAC closing of Ellsworth Air Force Base. However, honoring our Norwegian heritage, we never hugged.

I found it on the banking committee, working closely with Ranking Member CRAPO. Together, we reached middle ground on reforms in which both parties gave up significant priorities, compromising, finding the middle ground to pass bills out of committee.

My best and most enduring memory of this magnificent body occurred during my 9-month absence following my AVIM, a long and humbling journey. During this journey my committee assignments were respected and my friend from Rhode Island Senator JACK REED graciously accepted extra responsibilities until my return. Senator HARRY REID told me that during my long absence my colleagues on the other side of the aisle never once tried to take advantage of my absence. More importantly, in so many ways the kind words and prayers from you and your spouses, on both sides of the aisle, supported both Barbara and me and gave us strength during my long and continuing recovery.

I was grateful and humbled by your support on September 9, 2007, the day I returned to the Senate when almost every chair in this Chamber was filled. Senator REID and Senator MCCONNELL, I thank you for your welcome back to the Senate family.

In the years ahead, I will miss this family—not the bickering that I mentioned earlier, but the blessings that you have all been to Barbara and me.

I would also like to thank another family that has been critical to my work for South Dakota—a family that goes by the name "Team Johnson." This team is composed of highly talented and caring individuals. They have worked tirelessly in the halls of Congress, in South Dakota, and on campaigns to make our State and our country a better place to live.

I wish I could thank each one of you for your service. Please know how much I appreciated the long hours and late nights that you put in. In the years ahead I hope we will continue to celebrate the friendships we have forged.

To my friend and chief of staff for 30 years, Drey Samuelson, thank you for joining my fledgling, uphill race for Congress in 1986 and for staying with me until we close the Senate office in a few days. Few Members of Congress have been as fortunate as I have been to have the loyalty, friendship, and thoughtful guidance that you have given me.

My legislative directors have all been remarkable, but time limits me to noting the services of two individuals who have served the longest. Dwight Fettig started with us in the House as a young man fresh from his internship with Senator Byron Dorgan of North Dakota. Dwight rose through the ranks to legislative director and then became my first director on the banking committee. Todd Stubbendieck is my current LD, and his legislative guidance for over 10 years has guided the staff in moving critical legislation through the Senate. Todd and Dwight have worked on legislation for projects that now deliver water to hundreds of thousands of people across South Dakota, country of origin labeling bills, farm bills, national historic sites for Lewis and Clark and the Minute Man Missile, numerous projects for Ellsworth Air Force Base and the South Dakota National Guard with efficiency and collegiality. To Todd and Dwight, thank you for your outstanding legislative teams.

Our No. 1 researcher, humorist, historian, and go-to person, Luci Weigel, has been with us since we opened the first offices. Thank you, Luci.

To my South Dakota State director, Sharon Boysen, thank you for leading the three State offices, for ensuring that we were responsive to South Dakotans, and for coordinating with the DC office.

Sharon Stroschein, who directed the Aberdeen office, and Darrell Shoemaker, who managed the Rapid City office, have been outstanding leaders for 28 years. You and all the State staff have been great advocates for South Dakota. You made sure that I always knew what was on the minds of South Dakotans, that I visited crisis situations, nonprofits, local and tribal governments, promising businesses, schools, and much more. Thank you.

Linda Robison, thank you for your dedication, willingness to go the extra mile, and your outreach to and service for our State's veterans for 28 years.

The Senate office only needed one office manager for the last 18 years. Nancy Swenson is the most efficient, precise, and insightful person I know. The University of South Dakota will be forever grateful when they receive the archives Nancy assembled. Thank you.

To the Senate standing committees on banking and MILCON, you have served our Nation well, and I know you will continue to do so in the future. Thank you for your leadership on important issues.

I am looking forward to the years ahead and the time we will share.

To my wife Barbara and our three children—Brooks, Brendan, and Kelsey—thank you for your unwavering support, for putting up with late-night dinners, for accepting that my work demanded that I be away so many weekends, and for working side by side

with me on challenging campaigns. Without your understanding, love, and support, I could not have done the work I love.

Finally, to the people of South Dakota, thank you for the honor and privilege of serving you in our State legislature, the House of Representatives, and the United States Senate. Thank you for working side by side with me to improve the lives of South Dakotans and our Nation.

Pilamayaye.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

(Applause. Senators rising.)

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from South Dakota.

#### TRIBUTE TO TIM JOHNSON

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I rise today to bid farewell to my colleague and friend Senator TIM JOHNSON.

TIM has deep roots in South Dakota and in the towns of Canton and Vermillion in particular. He has served our State for more than 35 years, first in the State legislature and then, after winning a highly competitive primary against two well-known Democratic opponents, in the Halls of Congress. In 1996, after a decade in the U.S. House of Representatives, TIM won his first of three terms in the U.S. Senate. I am well acquainted with his second election because I came out on the short end of that stick. But I have had the privilege of serving with TIM now in the South Dakota delegation for over 16 years, and the last 10 have been here in the Senate. Today I want to pay tribute to his many years of public service and all he has done for our home State.

I would also like to take a moment to thank Senator JOHNSON's staff for their dedicated work. They have worked closely with my staff for many years, and I am grateful for their efforts.

Like many South Dakotans, I will always remember TIM as a fighter. South Dakotans are tough, rugged folks, and TIM has exemplified that spirit every day in the Senate. A big part of his legacy as a public servant will be his tenacity, his work ethic, and his unwavering focus on the policies he believed to be in the best interest of South Dakota.

TIM and I haven't always seen eye to eye on every issue, but we have always been able to come together and work with South Dakotans in times of crisis. From drought relief, to flood and tornado responses, to protecting the Black Hills from wildfires, Senator JOHNSON and I have always been able to quickly respond to the needs of our State regardless of party differences or past disagreements.

Mr. President, when you represent a State like South Dakota—what some people like to call a flyover State, a State some of our colleagues here in the Senate occasionally mix up with North Dakota—there are days when it

can seem as though the concerns of rural Americans aren't given fair consideration and the needs of rural America are not being heard by the administration or the more densely populated areas of our country.

I have had the great pleasure of working with TIM to bring a voice to the concerns of rural America and those of us who hail from the middle of the country. To highlight just one of the many examples I could bring up, since his first term in Congress TIM has fought tirelessly for water infrastructure to deliver clean drinking water to families in South Dakota and throughout the Great Plains. Water is a vital resource in the rural expanses of South Dakota, and TIM's efforts have helped meet this basic need in underserved Indian reservations, small towns, and rural areas across the State. These investments will pay dividends well beyond his tenure in the Senate.

Throughout TIM's long career in public service—from his beginnings in the legislature to his ascension to the chairmanship of the Senate banking committee—he has had a hand in numerous efforts that will help South Dakotans and Americans alike for generations to come.

I know I speak for all South Dakotans when I say thank you, TIM, for your dedication and your service to our great State. It has been an honor to serve with you here in the United States Senate. Thank you for your example, your efforts on behalf of our beloved South Dakota, and most of all for your friendship. On behalf of my wife Kimberly and me, I wish you, Barbara, and your family the very best as you begin your retirement.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New York.

#### UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—S. 2992

Mrs. GILLIBRAND. The DOD just reported that in 2014 almost the same number of servicemembers—19,000—reported unwanted sexual contact as in 2010. Still, fewer than 3 out of 10 are willing to report. The overall percentage of those who are reporting openly and seeking justice is declining, and a striking 62 percent retaliation rate went unchanged from 2012. Despite retaliation having been made a crime in last year's NDAA, the Pentagon reports no indication of progress on that front. Despite the Pentagon's spin, these numbers do not show an increased trust in a system that simply isn't working for the men and women in uniform.

I wish to draw attention to comments made earlier this year by the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, GEN Martin Dempsey. He said:

We are currently on the clock, if you will . . . the President of the United States said to us in December, you know what, you've got about a year to review this thing and show me you can make a difference . . . we

understand that just because Senator GILLIBRAND's vote was defeated yesterday doesn't mean that a year from now it may not be reintroduced, and if we haven't been able to demonstrate making a difference, you know, then we deserve to be held to the scrutiny and standard.

There is no other mission in the world for our military where this much failure would be allowed. Based on General Dempsey's own timeline, our men and women in uniform deserve a vote on this broadly bipartisan reform because the military has not been able to demonstrate that they have made a difference; therefore, they should be held to the scrutiny this year.

Throughout last year we continued to see the evidence of how much further we have to go to solve the problem of sexual assaults in our military. We saw BG Jeffrey Sinclair—one of the highest ranking officers ever charged with sexual assault—walk away with a slap on the wrist, reportedly over fears that the commanding officer had rejected a plea deal on lesser charges for political reasons despite stated concerns over evidence.

That case brings up the very important issue of undue command influence—another reason why an independent justice system is needed. We should all be able to agree that our brave men and women in uniform deserve blind justice. The scale should not be tipped in either direction—in favor of a victim or an accused. Why should our servicemembers enjoy a lesser standard of justice and fairness than you and I, whose freedoms they risk everything to protect?

According to a recent story in the New York Times, an attendee of a sexual assault prevention seminar was asked if things were improving. She said:

We all laughed. Sinclair was happening then. He proved that it was a joke.

The Times also chronicled the story of a survivor they called Kris, from Ellsworth Air Force Base. On April 12, 2013, about two dozen male officers of the 37th Bomb Squadron gathered at a strip club at the beginning of a pub crawl—including her commander. She was assaulted later that night. According to the Times:

What Kris encountered since reporting the assault was the same kind of cold-shouldered skepticism on the part of her commander that Christensen had seen in a vast majority of sexual assault cases—behavior that was supposed to have changed with the military's recent vows to support those who reported sex crimes.

Further, she was retaliated against, which is now supposed to be a crime, and was told by a commander, "It's illogical for you to think that there won't be negative consequences to your reporting."

She said: "I was put on a shelf."

Why in the world would we want this commander who takes his team to a strip club and retaliates against a sex-

ual assault victim to have the authority to decide if a crime was committed? It is insane, and it is beneath our military members.

I could read many more troubling cases, but perhaps the most eye-opening instance showing the ongoing lack of accountability was revealed in testimony by a witness at a court-martial on September 24, 2014—just 2 months ago. In this case, former Fort Leonard Wood drill sergeant Angel Sanchez was found guilty on multiple accounts of sexually assaulting female trainees. According to the witness, the command sergeant major at Fort Leonard Woods said—and remember this was just 2 months ago—"If any more sexual assault cases come forward" the whole company of soldiers won't graduate—not "I don't want to see any more sexual assaults"; rather, "I don't want to see any more reports."

Here is how we really know the system is broken: When a cadet is instrumental in obtaining the first sexual assault convictions in over a decade at the Air Force Academy, he is expelled. When a chief prosecutor is too good at his job and briefs Members of Congress, he is retaliated against and forced out. When a survivor comes forward, she is put on a shelf.

Time is short, but there is more than enough left for this Congress to actually do its job. We should not have more calls for just a little more time. The DOD has failed on this issue for over 20 years now, and the scandals of the last 12 months and the latest data show they still don't get it.

As USA Today said:

Over the decades, sexual scandals have spurred cycles of Pentagon apologies, congressional handwringing, half-baked attempts at action and nibble-around-the-edges changes. Isn't it time that women and men who serve their country so nobly have a justice system that will serve them when they are victims of crime?

I agree. Congress should vote to remove the chain of command from these crises before year's end. Our servicemembers deserve no less.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that at a time to be determined by the majority leader, after consultation with the Republican leader, the Senate proceed to the consideration of Calendar No. 644, S. 2992, the Military Justice Improvement Act, that there be up to 1 hour equally divided between the proponents and opponents of the bill prior to a vote on passage of the bill; that the vote on passage be subject to a 60-affirmative vote threshold; finally, that there be no amendments, points of order, or motions in order to the bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. INHOFE. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, I think it might be appropriate for the ranking member of the appropriate personnel

subcommittee to be heard on this. In my opinion, he is the most knowledgeable person on this subject at this time, and that would be Senator GRAHAM.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from South Carolina.

Mr. GRAHAM. I join in the objection with Senator INHOFE. I appreciate what Senators INHOFE and LEVIN have done over the last couple of years, working in a bipartisan fashion, to make sure we deal with a problem in the military that is a problem in society, sexual assault, sexual harassment, and to set a zero-tolerance policy, but at the same time keep the military in a position to defend this country.

What can we say about our military? We heard Senator GILLIBRAND's view. My view is that this is the finest military in the world—great people. But within that construct, you have people doing things that are criminal, wrong. But is it any different in the military than it is anywhere else?

My argument is this is a societal problem, and in the military it is a problem that is being addressed in, I think, a very aggressive fashion. Contrary to what the Senator from New York offers the Senate, I like where we are headed.

In March, we rejected her approach. Her approach was to fire every commander and replace the commander with a bunch of military lawyers to make decisions not just about sexual assault but about aspects of military life far beyond that.

I know the Presiding Officer has been a military commander, and barracks theft is a very big deal in the military. When you are in the military and you find out someone has stolen from another member of the unit, and you are all living together on top of each other, side by side, that is a very big deal, and the commander responsible for that unit needs to make sure something happens fairly.

The last matter I will ever agree to is the following: Sir, or ma'am—this is the first sergeant going to the commander—last night we think there may have been a rape in the barracks, and the commander says, well, that is no longer my problem, send that over to the lawyers. What a terrible thing to do to a military unit. The commander needs more accountability, not less. The commander is the person whom we choose to send people to war.

It is odd, to me, that we will give the commanders of the American military the power of life-and-death decisions, but somehow they are so morally corrupt or incapable of rendering justice in a situation such as this.

All I can say is that I respect the passion of the people who are behind this to a point, but you are going too far. Members on the other side of the aisle have been threatened with money being cut off if they vote against this

idea. This is no longer about reforming a system, this is a political cause going out of control.

In my view, the good thing about the Armed Services Committee is that we have always been able, for the most part, to work out problems that affect our military.

And I say to Senator LEVIN, through the Chair, above all others, I appreciate my colleague's maturity and leadership to make sure we get the right answer. The right answer is to purge the military of the heinous crime of sexual assault, sexual harassment, clean up this mess, but do not destroy the structure that makes it the finest military on the planet, and we are well on our way.

Senator GILLIBRAND's bill last year did not make it through the Senate, but another bill did. Senator AYOTTE, Senator MCCASKILL, Senator FISCHER, along with the chairman, and others, came up with a reform package that I think was passed unanimously last March.

What do we now know from the recent report? You would have to have such a bias about your view to believe that this report doesn't show progress. By any objective measurement, the reforms we have been working on in a bipartisan fashion are beginning to bear fruit.

I will give an example of some of those reforms. Every victim of a sexual assault or of sexual harassment allegations in the military is to be assigned an individual lawyer—a judge advocate—to represent their interests.

I don't know about other States, but in South Carolina, we are miles away from that. The goal of the Senators that I have just mentioned, and myself, is to make sure that the military is the most victim-friendly legal system in America, but a person can still get a fair trial. That should be the goal of all of us, to ensure that every victim has a lawyer.

I have been a judge advocate for 32 years now. I have thought long and hard of the times that I have known a lawyer in the legal community recommend to the commander: Go forward on a sexual assault case, and the commander says no. There is literally a handful, or less, that I can think of. However, I do know that there are a lot more cases where the lawyer says: Sir, or ma'am, we don't think we have enough here to prove this beyond a reasonable doubt, and the commander will say: Go for it anyway. I want to make sure we air this out. That is the most common use of a commander's discretion vis-à-vis their lawyer.

But to those who are worried about making sure the commanders and lawyers understand where we are coming from, we made a wholesale change of how they report and dispose of these cases. If a judge advocate recommends to the military commander in question

to go forward and the commander says no, that commander's decision to say no is reviewed by the Secretary of the Service. In my case, it is the Secretary of the Air Force. If an Air Force commander is given legal advice by their JAG, informing us that we have a good case in the area of sexual assault, and the commander says no, it goes all the way up to the Secretary of the Air Force. As anybody who has ever been in the military knows, that is a very big deal. That is the ultimate sign that we expect people to treat these allegations seriously.

If the JAG and the commander say no to the prosecution, it goes to the next step in the chain of command. What did this report say—and I will let Senator LEVIN detail some of the results. The big takeaway is that more people are coming forward, which is a good thing. More people are telling us they feel better able to come forward because the system is more understanding. The lawyer who has been provided to the victim has been received very well.

The number of reports, restricted reports—where a victim says, I am going to tell you about what happened to me, but I don't want to go through the process of prosecuting somebody because I don't want to go through that process myself—that are now unrestricted has gone up fairly dramatically, meaning that the victim believes there will be somebody there helping them through the system.

Retaliation is a problem all over society. I don't know of any law in South Carolina that makes it a specific crime in the eyes of the victim to retaliate against bringing an allegation forward.

Under the Uniform Code of Military Justice, it is a crime to retaliate against someone making an assault complaint. The retaliation portion of the report—where 62 percent felt retaliation—mostly came from peer, lower level members of the unit, not the commander.

Here is what I would say: Once the commander goes forward and gives his blessing to the allegation, retaliation is going to be less likely because it was the commander who made the decision in that unit and not a far-off lawyer.

I will now turn this over to Senators INHOFE and LEVIN.

There are so many more reforms that are paying dividends. So many of them have not even started yet.

I have to say we are on the right track. Let's give this a chance. We are taking this seriously. The military is responding in a positive fashion and now is not the time to retreat from these reforms. I do believe what we have done today will help us tomorrow, and our goal is common—to eliminate the scourge of sexual assault and sexual harassment, but keep the military command structure the way it is because it is necessary to hold our commanders more accountable.

I will end with this thought. There is no problem in the military that can be solved without commander buy-in. That is the role of the commander. To everybody who wonders about what is going on in the military legal community, this colonel who feels put upon—if I am the head of the subcommittee—will get a chance to come to our committee with Senator GILLIBRAND and myself, if I am there, to give an accounting of what they think went wrong with the system and how they were treated, and the Air Force will be required to respond.

Every judge advocate of every branch of the service opposes the Gillibrand approach. Every commander and every member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff oppose what Senator GILLIBRAND is proposing, for very good reason. Give these reforms a chance.

To all of those who worked on this, congratulations. We are moving in the right direction, but we have a long way to go.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Michigan.

Mr. LEVIN. We are going to vote soon on cloture on—by the way, I understand there was an objection to the unanimous consent request by Senator GILLIBRAND.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. That is correct.

Mr. LEVIN. It is an objection which I join. I understand she wishes to respond for 1 minute. I have no objection, as long as we can really do it in 1 minute because I would like to close the debate prior to the vote on cloture. My friend from Oklahoma, the ranking member, also wants to make a comment.

Mrs. GILLIBRAND. I ask for 1 minute.

Mr. LEVIN. I will yield for 1 minute.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New York.

Mrs. GILLIBRAND. I wish to clarify a few things that are very misleading about this debate.

First of all, we are not making commanders less responsible. They are the only ones who can prevent retaliation from happening, whether it is by them or lower ranks, and they are failing in that right now. The only difference this bill makes is that 3 percent of commanders—the highest ranking commanders, generals—will no longer make this decision, but instead trained military prosecutors should make that decision. Ninety-seven percent of commanders' jobs do not change. They have to train their forces, bring them into battle, instill order and discipline, and make sure these victims are not retaliated against, and that is where they are failing. We are making commanders more responsible, not less responsible.

What I want is not the most victim-friendly place in the world. I want no

victims, and that is where we are failing.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Michigan.

Mr. LEVIN. We are going to vote on cloture on H.R. 3979 soon, which represents the agreement between the Armed Services Committees of the Senate and the House on the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015.

I urge my colleagues—I know my good friend from Oklahoma, the ranking member, joins in this urging—to support cloture so we can enact this important bill into law.

The Armed Services Committee approved the defense authorization bill by a 25-to-1 vote in May.

In June, Senator INHOFE and I came to the Senate floor to urge Senators to begin to file amendments to the bill so we could work on a package of cleared amendments and try to identify relevant amendments that would need votes. We made the same request in July.

When our efforts failed to bring about a unanimous consent to bring the committee-reported bill to the floor with an opportunity to offer relevant amendments, we began to meet with the House Armed Services Committee in an effort to reach a bipartisan agreement that could be presented to the two Houses for approval in the form of a new bill.

We also established an informal clearing process pursuant to which we were able to clear 44 Senate amendments—roughly an equal number of Democratic and Republican amendments—which are included in the bill that is now before us. The process is far from ideal, but it was the best we could do under the circumstances.

We now have before us a bill that is the product of a bipartisan, bicameral agreement between the Armed Services Committees of the Senate and the House of Representatives.

The House has already passed this bill by a vote of 300 to 119.

This bill includes hundreds of important provisions to authorize the activities of the Department of Defense and provide for the well-being of our men and women in uniform and their families. The bill will enable the military services to continue paying special pays and bonuses needed for recruitment and retention of key personnel. It strengthens survivor benefits for disabled children of servicemembers and retirees. It includes provisions addressing the employment of military spouses, job placement for veterans, and military child custody disputes. It addresses military hazing, military suicides, post-traumatic stress disorder, and mental health problems in the military. It provides continued impact aid to support military families and local school districts.

The bill includes 20 provisions to continue to build on the progress we are starting to make in addressing the scourge of sexual assault in the military. It provides continued funding and authorities for ongoing operations in Afghanistan and for our forces conducting operations against the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria—ISIS. It takes important steps to respond to Russian aggression in Ukraine. It adds hundreds of millions of dollars in funding to begin to restore the readiness of our Armed Forces. And it begins to make some of the structural changes that are needed to enable DOD to perform its essential missions in an era of tight budgets.

The process may have been flawed, but we have done everything we could to overcome those flaws and produce a defense bill that does the right thing for the national defense and for our troops.

I urge my colleagues to vote for cloture on the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015.

We have produced a defense bill that does the right thing for our national defense and for our troops. I hope our colleagues will vote for cloture. I hope I have a minute left to yield to the ranking member.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma.

Mr. INHOFE. I know we are out of time. The vote is going to take place in 1 minute and we all appreciate that.

I will repeat what I think is most significant: We have to pass this bill. The House is going to go home. There is no way of making any changes at this point. It has to pass. If it doesn't pass, when December 31 gets here, there will be 1.8 million enlisted personnel throughout the country at all of our establishments who are going to lose their benefits. I am talking about pilots' pay, flight pay. I am talking about the SEALS who have extraordinary duties and all the rest of them. These benefits will be taken away from our enlisted personnel if we don't pass this bill. In order to pass this bill, we have to pass this procedural vote that will take place right now.

So I encourage everyone to keep in mind, if my colleagues truly want to help our enlisted personnel, they have to have this bill and this bill has to pass now.

#### CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

#### CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 3979.

Harry Reid, Carl Levin, Brian Schatz, Martin Heinrich, John E. Walsh, Patty

Murray, Jack Reed, Tom Udall, Sheldon Whitehouse, Amy Klobuchar, Christopher A. Coons, Debbie Stabenow, Robert Menendez, Tom Harkin, Richard J. Durbin, Charles E. Schumer, Robert P. Casey, Jr.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the motion to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 3979 shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN) is necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 85, nays 14, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 322 Leg.]

#### YEAS—85

Alexander	Graham	Murphy
Ayotte	Grassley	Murray
Baldwin	Hagan	Nelson
Barrasso	Hatch	Portman
Begich	Heinrich	Pryor
Bennet	Heitkamp	Reed
Blumenthal	Heller	Reid
Blunt	Hirono	Roberts
Booker	Hoeben	Rockefeller
Boozman	Inhofe	Schatz
Boxer	Isakson	Schumer
Brown	Johanns	Scott
Burr	Johnson (SD)	Sessions
Cantwell	Johnson (WI)	Shaheen
Cardin	Kaine	Shelby
Carper	King	Stabenow
Casey	Kirk	Tester
Chambliss	Klobuchar	Thune
Coats	Landrieu	Toomey
Cochran	Leahy	Udall (CO)
Collins	Levin	Udall (NM)
Coons	Manchin	Vitter
Donnelly	Markey	Walsh
Durbin	McCain	Warner
Enzi	McCaskill	Warren
Feinstein	McConnell	Whitehouse
Fischer	Menendez	Wicker
Flake	Mikulski	
Franken	Murkowski	

#### NAYS—14

Coburn	Gillibrand	Risch
Corker	Lee	Rubio
Cornyn	Merkley	Sanders
Crapo	Moran	Wyden
Cruz	Paul	

#### NOT VOTING—1

Harkin

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 85, the nays are 14.

Three-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn having voted in the affirmative, the motion is agreed to.

Cloture having been invoked, the motion to refer falls as being inconsistent with cloture.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. COBURN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

FAREWELL TO THE SENATE

Mr. COBURN. Mr. President, following in the traditions of the Senate, I come to the floor to speak about my experience in the Senate. Unfortunately, this will not be the last time I speak, much to the chagrin of many of you, as I have some adamant opposition to some of the things we are doing.

But I nevertheless will try to put in context some of my feelings and thoughts about the great privilege that has been granted to me by the people of Oklahoma. We hear a lot of speeches in this place. As Members who are elected, it gets reflected on us, but nothing could be further from the truth. Because the things that really make this place operate are the people who work with us, the people who support us, the people who help guide us, the people behind the scenes who are both brilliant and committed and dedicated to the founding principles of this country.

We all have them working for us. Yet they are rarely recognized. So whether our accomplishments are big or small, those accomplishments come through the work, efforts, and labors of those who join with us as we come here to try to make a difference. So I first wanted to say there are a lot of people I need to say thank you to; from our Parliamentarian Elizabeth to all of the staff who work in the Senate, to the people who work at GAO, wonderful people, CRS, the IGs, legislative counsel—they have written thousands, I mean literally thousands of amendments for me. They probably are going to have some real mixed feelings about my departure. Then I have personal staff, one of whom—all tremendous—but one of whom I found to be a phenomenal, brilliant person. His name is Roland Foster. There is not anything he has ever forgotten. You can ask him anything. He will find it. He knows it. So I mention him. I have hundreds of others whom I could equally speak about, from my former chief of staff Mike Schwartz, who passed away from Lou Gehrig's disease, to those in my office and staff who each knows what a difference they make—they did—the cloakroom staff and the help we get from Laura Dove and David Schiappa and Mr. Duncan on our side—same on the opposite side. We are only able to function because of all of the people who enable us to do that. So with those thank-yous, I actually wanted to move to a different topic. The topic is believing in our country. I tell people wherever I go: We do not have one problem we cannot solve. There is nothing too big for us. They are all solvable.

To prove that is my chairman, TOM CARPER, on homeland security. He has been a phenomenal chairman. He is not in my party. We do not agree on everything, but the one thing we agreed on

was that we were going to work together to solve problems. We have. We did not solve them all, but I would suggest if we look at what has come through this place, even in this dysfunctional place at this time, we will see more coming out under his leadership than any other pieces of legislation. Why is that? It is because the focus was not about him, it was not about me, it was about solving the problems of our country.

To those of you through the years whom I have offended, I truly apologize. I think none of that was intended because I actually see things differently. You see, I believe our Founders were absolutely brilliant, far smarter than we are. I believe the enumerated powers meant something. They were meant to protect us against what history says always happens to a Republic. They have all died. They have all died.

So the question is, What will happen with us? Can we cheat history? Can we do something better than was done in the past? I honestly believe we can, but I do not believe we can if we continue to ignore the wisdom of our founding documents. So when I have offended, I believe it has been on the basis of my belief in article I, section 8. I think we can stuff that genie back into the bottle.

E pluribus unum. "Out of many, one." But you do not have one unless you have guaranteed the liberty of the many. When we ignore what the Constitution gave us as a guideline, to protect the individual liberties, to limit the size and scope of the Federal Government so the benefits of freedom and liberty can be expressed all across this land, that is when we get back to solving our problems.

I think about my father—he had a fifth-grade education—a great believer in our country. He would not recognize it today. The loss of freedom we have imposed by the arrogance of an all-too-powerful Federal Government, ignoring the wisdom and writing of our Founders that said: Above all, we must protect the liberty of the individual and recognize that liberty is given as a God-given right.

So my criticism isn't directed personally, it is because I truly believe that freedom gains us more than anything we can plan here. I know not everybody agrees with me, but the one thing I do know is that our Founders agreed with me.

They had studied this process before. They know what happens when you dominate from a central government. This didn't mean intentions are bad; the intentions are great. The motivations of people in this body are wonderful, but the perspective on how we do it and what the long-term consequences are of how we do it really do matter.

We see ourselves today with a President whom we need to be supporting

and praying for, with an economy that is not doing what it could be doing, and we need to be asking the question, Why? Is there a fundamental reason? And there is.

We are too much involved in the decisionmaking in the economy in this country that inhibits the flow of capital to the best return, which inhibits the growth of wealth, which leaves us at a standard of living the same as what we had in 1988. That is where we are, yet it doesn't have to be that way.

I am going to read some words we have all heard before, but they are worth rereading.

WE hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights . . .

All of us.

. . . that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness—

I look at legislation and say how does that have an impact on those two things, and too often it has a negative impact.

. . . That to secure these Rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just Powers from the Consent of the Governed, that whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these Ends, it is the right of the People to alter or abolish it.

I don't know where we are on that continuum, but I know we are not where we were intended to be in the vision of our Founders, and we are suffering, no matter where you are in the country, as a consequence.

We established the Constitution to try to protect those rights and to delineate those rights. We put in the limitation of the government and outlined the rights of each individual citizen upon which the government shall not infringe. Yet what comes out of this body and this Congress every day, to my chagrin, infringes those guaranteed rights.

Every Member of the Senate takes the same oath and this is where I differ with a lot of colleagues. Let me read the oath, because I think it is part of the problem.

I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which I am about to enter: So help me God.

Your State isn't mentioned one time in that oath. Your whole goal is to protect the United States of America, its Constitution and its liberties. It is not to provide benefits for your State. That is where we differ. That is where my conflict with my colleagues has come. It is nice to be able to do things for your State, but that isn't our charge. Our charge is to protect the future of our country by upholding the Constitution and ensuring the liberty that is

guaranteed there is protected and preserved.

The magic number in the Senate is not 60, the number of Senators needed to end debate, and it is not 51, a majority. The most important number in the Senate is one—one Senator. That is how it was set up. That is how our Founders designed it, and with that comes tremendous amounts of responsibility, because the Senate has a set of rules or at least that gives each individual Member the power needed to advance, change, or stop legislation. That is a tool that has to be mentored and refined and wise in its application.

Most of the bills that pass the Senate never receive a vote. We all know that. It is a vast majority of the bills. They are approved by unanimous consent. It only takes a single Senator to withhold consent to stop most legislation.

There are many other rules and procedures a Member can use. They are often referred to as arcane, but that is only because they are rarely used. They are not arcane. They were designed to protect liberty, to secure liberty, to make sure that we don't all follow history and fail.

Every Senator has the power to introduce legislation and, until recently, offer amendments.

No single Senator should be allowed to decide what the rights of another Senator should be. That is tyranny. It has nothing to do with the history and classics of the Senate.

To exercise the rights we have been entrusted with, we must respect the rights of others. That is the true power of our Constitution. That is also the true power of the Senate. It is what binds our Nation together, and it is what is needed to make the Senate work properly again.

The Senate was designed uniquely to force compromise, not to force gridlock—to force compromise. One Senator had the power to stop everything for the first 100 years, but it didn't because compromise was the goal.

Our Founders understood there were many differences between the States—in size, geography, economy, and opinions. They united the States as one country based upon the premise that the many are more powerful than the one. As Senators, we have to follow this example. I have not always done that; I admit that freely to you. I should have. As Senators, we must follow the example, stand for our principles, but working to find those areas of agreement where compromise can be found to unite and move our country forward. My colleague Senator CARPER has my admiration because he has worked tirelessly the past 2 years to try to accomplish that.

Not all of the powers of the Senators are exercised on the Senate floor. Each Member of the Senate has a unique role to participate and practice oversight, to hold the government accountable,

and that is part of our duties, except most often that is the part of our duties that is most ignored.

To know how to reach a destination, you must first know where you are, and without oversight—effective, vigorous oversight—you will never solve anything. You cannot write a bill to fix an agency unless you have an understanding of the problem, and you can only know this by conducting oversight, asking the tough questions, holding the bureaucrats accountable, find out what works and what doesn't, and know what has already been done.

Effective oversight is an effective tool to expose government overreach and wasteful spending, but it also markedly exposes where we lose our liberty and our essential freedoms.

I have had some fun through the years, taken some criticism for the waste vote—and it is opinion, I agree. Everybody who has seen the waste book has a great defense of why it is there. But the real question is will we become efficient at how we spend the money of the American people? This is a big enterprise. There is no other enterprise anywhere close to it in size in the world. It is not manageable unless we all try to agree to manage it and have the knowledge of it.

I think there ought to be 535 Wastebooks every year, and then we ought to have the debate about where we are not spending money wisely and have the information at our fingertips so we make great decisions because, quite frankly, we don't make great decisions because we don't have the knowledge. Then what knowledge we do have we transfer to a bureaucracy to make decisions about it when we should have been guiding those things.

True debates about national priorities would come about if we did effective oversight. It is the Senate, once hailed as the world's greatest deliberative body, where these differences should be argued. Our differences should be resolved through civil discourse so they are not settled in the street.

Just as the Constitution provides for majority rule and our democracy while protecting the rights of the individual, the Senate must return to the principles to bring trust of the electorate, and it can. Our Founders believed that protecting the minority views and minority rights in the Senate was essential to having a bicameral legislature that would give us balance and not move too quickly against the very fundamental principles upon which this country was based—and not out of guessing, but out of thorough knowledge of what had happened in the past. We have to be very careful to guard both minority rights and the rule of law.

There is no one who works in the Senate who is insignificant, whether it is the people who serve us when we

have lunch, to the highest of the high. They all deserve our ear. Each of us has value.

I would end with one final comment. The greatest power I have not used as a Senator, which I would encourage you to use in the future, is the power of convening. You have tremendous power to pull people together because of your position.

To convene the opposite opinions—CHUCK SCHUMER has been great at that for me. When we have a difference, he wants to get together, convene, and see how we work. That power is the power that causes us to compromise, to come together, to reach consensus. So my encouragement to you is to rethink the utilization of the power of convening. People will come to you if you ask them to come.

Again, I end by saying a great thank you to my family for their sacrifice, a great thank you to the wonderful staff I have, and a thank you to each of you for the privilege of having been able to work for a better country for us all.

I yield the floor.

(Applause, Senators rising.)

TRIBUTES TO TOM COBURN

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BOOKER). The Senator from Georgia.

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. President, we have all just heard a very moving, a very inspirational and what I considered a motivational speech from our dear friend TOM COBURN.

Twenty years ago, in 1994, there were a bunch of wild and crazy folks who got elected to the U.S. House of Representatives. The Republicans took the majority for the first time in 42 years. They ran on a Contract with America and were led by a group of firebrand leaders. TOM COBURN was in that group of folks who got elected in 1994 to the U.S. House. I was in that group. Senator GRAHAM was in that group. Senator BURR was in that group. Senator WICKER was in that group.

There were a few Members of that class who became known as real bomb throwers. TOM COBURN was a bomb thrower. TOM COBURN would object for the sake of objecting to anything that was going on. It didn't make any difference which side of the aisle it was coming from. But let me tell you, TOM COBURN matured into a class act, No. 1, which he always was; and No. 2, he matured into a legislator second to none.

TOM did not hesitate to object to any spending bill that came from either party if TOM COBURN believed that was not provided for in the Constitution and was something the U.S. taxpayer should not be paying for. There is nobody who has guarded the pocketbook of the taxpayers of the United States like TOM COBURN.

It is remarkable that those of us who were elected with TOM have had the opportunity to see him over the last 20 years take on major subjects that most veterans said, you know, in the end, we



are going to prevail. But guess what. They never did. TOM COBURN, even though he may have lost a vote from time to time, in the end, TOM COBURN prevailed.

TOM is one tough guy too. He has been through a lot physically and, boy, what a survivor. I mean we think we have issues to deal with. None of us can imagine what TOM has gone through. When somebody comes up to me as I am walking through an airport—and they will have seen TOM COBURN on TV—and they say: What about this guy COBURN, there are two things that immediately come to mind when I think of TOM COBURN, family and faith.

First, family. TOM and Carolyn have had such a solid marriage. He tried to date her as an eighth grader and she wouldn't go out with him. But he kept pestering her long enough that she finally did and what a great marriage they have had. They have three beautiful daughters and a household of grandchildren whom he absolutely loves to death and likes to spend time with, as opposed to being here.

Secondly, TOM's faith. There is nobody I have ever met who has a stronger faith than TOM COBURN. He exhibits it on the floor, he exhibits it one-on-one, he exhibits it in the Prayer Breakfast every Wednesday morning. He is one person who has probably counseled more people in this body, on both sides of the aisle, than anybody other than the Chaplain.

On top of that, he is just a class act. He has been a dear friend. We have spent many hours on the road together, many hours on the golf course together and socializing together. There is no finer individual who ever served in the Senate than TOM COBURN. He is one of the things I am truly going to miss about leaving here. But actually, as we have already talked, we will probably now spend more time together than ever since both of us are retiring.

But, TOM, to you, I thank you for that great friendship but also thank you for what you have done for my children and my grandchildren. You are a great American and you have served this country well.

God bless you.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The minority leader.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, along with many of my other colleagues, I pay tribute to one of the most decent and principled men I have ever met, Senator TOM COBURN.

Washington is going to miss TOM, but the irony of that is TOM really can't stand Washington. When he first got here, the feeling appeared to be mutual. Some just didn't know what to make of this doctor from Oklahoma—so frequently on the losing end of lopsided votes, so often pressing ahead on his own and never giving up. That was apparent from his days in the House, when we hear he led the only “fili-

buster” in the House anybody can ever remember. He may have placed more holds than any equivalent Senator in history. He apparently held his own bill once.

Fast forward to today. The pundit class has declared TOM COBURN a card-carrying member of the establishment. The rebel who once described himself as a kamikaze pilot has now been branded, incredibly, with a scarlet “E” right on his forehead. It may seem contradictory, but TOM always fought smart battles—the kind you might lose today but win later—and he forged an amazing bond with the people he represents. For TOM that meant spending as much time away from Washington as possible and making himself available when he was home.

TOM published his address, and Oklahomans were never shy about coming over to share their opinions. TOM was never shy about sharing how he felt either. He believed his constituents deserved the truth. He gave it to them absolutely unvarnished, but he did it in a respectful way.

It reminds me of the two posters he has framed on either side of his desk. One says: “NO,” N-O. The other says “KNOW,” K-N-O-W. That is TOM in a nutshell. It is why TOM has made so many friends on both sides of the aisle. It is why you can't flip on MSNBC most mornings without seeing him.

I think TOM actually prefers these settings. It is a challenge he relishes. Not only is TOM confident enough to tangle with anyone, he usually wins, and he rarely—rarely—makes lasting enemies. It is a trait that has served him well, particularly at the beginning of his career.

TOM first came to Washington representing a district that was heavily Democratic. He won a close race that year. I am told he also gained a friend, and that friend was the Democrat he defeated. His opponent's grandson actually ended up joining TOM's staff, which obviously is a great honor.

But it is no picnic being on TOM's staff. TOM works his staff hard. It is difficult even to take a sick day over there. TOM has always got the stethoscope nearby. If the doctor is in, so are you. Yet the people on TOM's team seem to love him. “Once a member of COBURN's family, always a member.” That is their motto.

It doesn't mean they love everything about him. Take his handwriting; it is just what you would expect from a guy named Dr. COBURN. It is absolutely awful—a mix of chicken scratch, hieroglyphics, and vocab from the extra credit section of an MCAT.

Back in the 1990s one staffer made the mistake of letting TOM take a yellow highlighter back to Oklahoma. TOM spent the entire weekend marking up a massive bill. There were handwritten notes and questions in nearly every margin. It took literally days to

decipher any of it. It was like something out of a Dan Brown novel. Needless to say, an office ban on yellow highlighters was quickly implemented.

So the legacy of TOM's former profession gets him in trouble sometimes, but it remains the job he enjoyed most: helping to deliver new lives into the world. It brings a unique perspective to TOM's work in the Senate. It instilled a lasting appreciation for life too.

Even though TOM has stopped delivering babies these days, he still travels back to Oklahoma a lot. There is nowhere he would rather be than his hometown of Muskogee, and there is almost nothing he would rather be doing there than mowing his lawn or eating a sandwich at his favorite barbecue joint or sipping a cold Coors with olives. He prefers these things over almost anything else, except spending time with his grandkids and of course his wife Carolyn.

TOM has known Carolyn since grade school. She has always been the one to keep him balanced and grounded. She doesn't care that he is a Senator. She frequently reminds him of that too.

Carolyn is also the reason TOM is such good friends with President Obama. Both men came to the Senate the same year. At freshman orientation, Carolyn spotted Michelle Obama from across the room. “She looks like fun,” Carolyn said. “Let's sit next to her.” The rest, as they say, is history, and it is also remarkable. Because when TOM announced his retirement, warm sentiments poured in from across the political spectrum. It was a day—listen to this—when Barack Obama and Jim DeMint found something to agree on. It must have brought some joy to TOM at such a difficult time.

As he departs the Senate, TOM will leave one battle behind to confront another. We are sending him every best wish in that fight. We are keeping him in our prayers. We know he will prevail, but he is really going to be missed around here. He is just the type of citizen legislator our Founders envisioned.

TOM has poured over more oversight documents than anyone cares to imagine. His “Wastebook” has become an annual phenomenon. It helps drive the conversation on spending. He has led on issues like HIV and malaria.

The Senate will lose a critical leader on intelligence oversight when he leaves. TOM played an invaluable role on the Intelligence Committee, where he brought a unique blend of integrity, analytical rigor, and dogged determination. He served our Nation selflessly, toiling for hours every week in a secure hearing room, learning many sensitive matters he could not discuss with others.

He worked closely with another extraordinary departing colleague, Vice Chair SAXBY CHAMBLISS, to ensure that our Nation's intelligence community



retains the tools necessary to defend our country.

If anyone thinks our Nation's classified programs aren't overseen rigorously, they certainly haven't met TOM COBURN. He brought a skeptic's eye and a professional determination to the task. His probing lines of questioning earned the respect of his colleagues and helped the intelligence community craft stronger programs, while also reminding us of the value of many other intelligence activities.

Now, TOM has obviously done a lot to earn his reputation as a hawk on the budget, too. His interest there was never about the baubles of office. It is about solutions. That is why TOM actually volunteered for Simpson-Bowles. That is why he lobbied me to actually take him off—believe it or not—of the Finance Committee.

You always know where TOM stands. I am told he was overseas with a couple of other Senators when a government minister launched into a finger-wagging harangue about our country. TOM couldn't take it after he listened for a few minutes. He cut him off, told the minister what he thought of him, and caught the next flight home. So TOM is literally one of a kind. We are not likely to see another one like this guy.

Here is what former Senator Kyl had to say about him:

Tom's like your conscience. You can try to ignore him, but you know he's right even when you wish he weren't.

Some people may think TOM is a member of the establishment now, but the truth is TOM never changed. Washington changed. America changed.

People recognize the wisdom of his ideas—about leaving a better country to the next generation, about giving Americans the freedom and the opportunity to achieve real meaning and lasting happiness in their lives.

We are going to miss the Senator who actually likes to get his hands dirty, who actually likes to legislate. We are going to miss the Senator who is so devoted to procedure that he sleeps next to Marty Gold's book, and we are going to miss a friend who understands that honest compromise is necessary to achieve anything in a pluralistic society. We are all going to miss TOM a lot. But he can retire with pride, and he should know that we are sending him our best wishes for a speedy recovery and a joyful retirement.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maine.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I was not at all surprised as I listened to the words of our colleague Senator TOM COBURN that he quoted extensively from the Declaration of Independence and he referred to our Constitution—the founding documents of our great country.

When America's Founders conceived of a nation of citizen legislators, they

had leaders like Senator TOM COBURN in mind. Indeed, throughout his service in Congress, he has remained a compassionate physician, a devoted husband and father, a fierce defender of the rights enshrined in our Constitution, and an unwavering opponent of excessive spending.

Senator COBURN may be best known as our most diligent fiscal watchdog, relentlessly hounding wasteful spending. His annual "Wastebook" report is a call for transparency and accountability in the Federal Government that has guided oversight investigations and policy debates.

The aspect of his service in the Senate that deserves just as much acclaim is his work on the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee and the Select Committee on Intelligence. Serving with Senator COBURN on both of those committees for many years, I have seen firsthand his brilliance, his tenacity, and his determination to strengthen our Nation and the safety of our people. He has a keen understanding of the grave and ever-evolving threats that our Nation faces.

As a citizen legislator, Senator COBURN leads by example and with compassion. With his expertise as a physician, he has been a leader in promoting wellness, disease prevention, combatting HIV/AIDS, and advancing biomedical research. When it comes to fiscal responsibility, he walks the walk, having returned more than \$1 million from his Senate office budget to the American taxpayers.

We have heard many descriptions of TOM COBURN today, but the word I most associate with him is "integrity." He is a man of the utmost integrity, who always stands tall for his principles and for what he believes in. He sets an example for all of us who seek to serve the public.

On a personal note, I want to thank Senator COBURN for hounding me into joining a women's prayer breakfast that meets each week and has introduced me to a number of wonderful women from the House of Representatives who have become my close friends as well as colleagues. And I use the word "hound" appropriately. He mentioned it to me so many times that eventually I gave in and went to one of those breakfasts, and, indeed, it has been a spiritually enriching experience that I never would have had but for TOM continuing to press me to attend.

This past January Senator COBURN announced his intention to leave the Senate, due in part to his deepening health problems—problems he has faced with extraordinary courage. This somber news was counterbalanced by his overarching concern, not for himself, but for his family and for the people of his State and our Nation.

As he now returns to the life of a private citizen, I wish him every success

in combatting his illness, and I thank him for his truly extraordinary service to our country. To quote from Scripture, I think everyone would agree with these words when it comes to TOM COBURN: "Well done, good and faithful servant."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Delaware.

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I have no prepared remarks. I am trying to speak right from my heart, and my heart is full.

I want to start off by thanking TOM for the very kind comments he made about serving with me. We met 10 years ago. He was that bomb thrower—still is a little bit—that SAXBY talked about when they were elected 20 years ago. I was one of the people who came up, along with LAMAR ALEXANDER, George Voinovich, and MARK PRYOR, for an orientation for new Senators so that when they got here we could actually spend some time and teach the new guys and gals the ropes.

I remember the first day we convened and put them all in a big circle in Ted Stevens' office, a beautiful office here in the Capitol, and out of those 3 days TOM and Carolyn and Michelle and Barack began to bond and became friends. I didn't know how close friends they were until about 4 or 5 years ago. Barack Obama had given the State of the Union address. I was sitting on the Republican side. There was a time when we actually went back and forth to try to mix things up. The President finished his speech, and there is no rope line at those speeches. The President came along to shake hands with people. I was sitting next to TOM, and we walked down so we could say hi to the President.

I will never forget what the President said to him. In just the quiet between the two of them—they embraced, and the President said to him: Are you still praying for me? And very quietly, TOM COBURN said: Every night.

Just like that—they didn't agree on everything, but they were friends. They are friends, and they will always be friends. I hope TOM and I will be as well.

I remember sitting up there where CORY BOOKER, our new Senator from New Jersey, is sitting now, listening to MIKE ENZI talking about how he worked so well with Ted Kennedy—Ted Kennedy, one of the most liberal Democrats in the Senate, and MIKE ENZI, one of the most conservative—and how they got extraordinary amounts of stuff done.

I just want to say that the legislation coming out of our committee—and Senator COLLINS has led that committee before—is moving through this body and the House—it is really pretty amazing—to strengthen our cyber defenses, to take the chemical facility antiterrorism law that SUSAN COLLINS authored and to make it better and

make it real, to better protect our Nation's information from attacks from all over the world, to try to make our Postal Service not just relevant and not just hanging on but actually vibrant and real.

But that day, MIKE ENZI talked about the 80/20 rule with Ted Kennedy. He said: Ted Kennedy and I agree on about 80 percent of the stuff, and we disagree on 20 percent. He and I decided to focus on the 80 percent we agreed on and set aside the 20 percent we didn't agree on to another day.

I call that the "Enzi Rule," and that has helped guide me here in the Senate, and it certainly has helped to guide me in the work I have been privileged to do with Dr. COBURN.

When I became chairman of the committee about 2 years ago and Dr. COBURN was going to be the ranking member of the committee, somebody asked me what it was going to be like. How are you going to work with this guy?

I said: It is going to be a little like a marriage. You have to work at it every day. Everybody has to give and meet somewhere in the middle.

I love to ask people who have been married a long time what the secret is for being married a long time. Some of you have maybe heard me talk about this. I get some really hilarious answers but also some really terrific and insightful answers.

I think the best one I have ever gotten when I asked what is the secret for being married 40, 50, 60, 70 years is the two c's. It is not COBURN and CARPER. It is the two c's: communicate and compromise. That is not only the secret for a vibrant, long marriage for two people; it is a secret for a vibrant democracy.

I believe the reason why TOM and I have had this partnership that I think has been productive is, one, we surround ourselves with people—certainly for me—smarter than us. The second thing is we believe in communicating, we believe in compromising, and we believe in collaborating. I think the American people are the beneficiaries of that.

We have a reception later today for TOM, and I hope he comes. We will have the opportunity to say some more things, as well. He is not the kind of person who likes to be praised, so this is probably punishment. There is a verse in the Scriptures talking about heaping with praise, pouring praise all over. This is probably a little like that. But I want to close with this. His words on the Bowles-Simpson Commission are for the ages, and I hope we will never walk away from the lessons he showed us with his courage in supporting that work and helping to craft that work.

There are words in the Scriptures, in Matthew 25, that talk about the least of these in our society. When I was

sick, when I was hungry, when I was thirsty, when I was naked, when I was in prison—those are the questions. The answer: If you have done it to the least of these, you have done it also to Me.

Senator COBURN believes we have a moral responsibility, a moral obligation to the least of these in our society. He also believes we have a fiscal obligation, a fiscal imperative to meet that moral obligation in a fiscally responsible way. And I think those two ideas guide him in his work, and, frankly, it is an inspiration to me.

Last word. Leaders should be humble, not haughty. Leaders should lead by our example, not "do as I say" but "do as I do." Leaders should have the heart of a servant. Leaders should have the courage to stay out of step when everyone else is marching to the wrong tune. Leaders ought to be committed to doing what is right, not what is easy. Leaders should treat other people the way they want to be treated. TOM has offended just about everybody in this body, but he always comes back and apologizes, and he has already done it here today. Leaders should focus on excellence in everything they do. If it isn't perfect, make it better. It is in the preamble of the Constitution—"in order to form a more perfect Union." That defines him. Finally, if you think you are right and you know you are right, never give up. That is what a leader should be about.

For the years he served here and for a long time before that and for a long time to come, he has been that leader, and I feel lucky to say he is my friend. God bless you.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Carolina.

Mr. BURR. Mr. President, I feel surrounded by friends and colleagues who are getting ready to leave, and being part of that original class 20 years ago, there is one thing that I have learned is extremely unique in Washington. I am next to two people who are voluntarily leaving. The toughest decision a Member of Congress ever makes is to leave this institution voluntarily. And I know that for my two friends and my third one, MIKE JOHANNIS, this was not easy. It is not easy to stand here and know that in January they are not going to be here any longer, because they are truly friends, and that is tough.

To say that TOM COBURN can be intimidating I think is an understatement, and I think that comes because his breadth of knowledge based upon his experiences in life enable him to be an expert on a lot of issues.

With that in mind, I remember the day TOM sat down—we were leaving that week, and I said: What are you going to do this weekend? And he said: Well, Sarah's future fiancé is coming to sit down with me to find out whether he can marry my daughter. And I looked at him and thought, I would hate to be that young man.

Well, the truth is that TOM is a very intimidating guy. He plays hard, and he plays to win.

There is not an individual I know who is more fair and more compassionate than TOM COBURN. I remember the day the Bush administration wanted to extend the PEPFAR Program—the AIDS in Africa program—and when TOM found out that they were going to relax the requirement on how many people were treated and that more money would go to education than to actually saving lives, he grabbed me and he said, "We can't let this stand. We've got to fight it. We've got to change it." And it was TOM COBURN who blocked the reauthorization of President Bush's PEPFAR plan for 6 months—a Republican President, a Republican Senator. Why? On principle.

TOM COBURN, if you didn't know it before this speech today, has never done anything in this institution or in life that wasn't based upon principle. No Member of Congress should ever question whether he thinks he is right because if he didn't think he was right, he wouldn't fight so hard.

It is particularly difficult for me to say goodbye to TOM. We truly are legislative partners. We fought a lot of battles for a long time, and inherently we have a level of trust in each other that I would actually sign on to legislation that I had no idea what it did; I just knew that in that foxhole he needed somebody he could count on, and I knew when he signed on to something that I needed, that there was always somebody there to cover my back.

The institution is losing something significant when we no longer have that legislative expertise TOM COBURN represents.

There are a lot of descriptions that people have used today and that people will use in the future to describe TOM COBURN, but I would boil it down to two words that I think best describe him: TOM COBURN is a good man. In every sense of the word, he is a good man. This institution will lose a great leader when TOM COBURN retires.

Godspeed, TOM.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New York.

Mr. SCHUMER. I will be very brief. I know people are waiting to speak.

I guess it would surprise the world in general to know that TOM COBURN and I are true friends, but we are. He is a man of integrity above all.

You don't have to agree with someone—we probably disagree on 90 percent of all the issues—to trust someone's handshake, to trust someone that if you make a good argument, understanding their values, they will come along. That is just what TOM COBURN has done time and time again with this Senator from New York and countless others on the other side of the aisle.

On so many issues where TOM was opposed, I said: Let's just sit down and let

me give you the logic and then you will make your own judgment. And I knew that would be good enough. Sometimes it didn't work. Sometimes he disagreed. But he always sat and listened. He always asked perceptive questions, not "gotcha" questions. He was trying to figure it out.

Of course the most well known was when we negotiated on the Zadroga bill. Thousands of New Yorkers had rushed to the towers and gotten poison in their lungs and their gastrointestinal systems, and we wanted to help them. We thought they were just like our veterans. TOM knew it was a big expense. He sat with us, listened, made suggestions to make it leaner and trimmer, and then supported the bill. So right now there are people alive throughout the New York area, heroes, because of the integrity of that man from Oklahoma.

TOM, I will miss you. This body will miss you. Regardless of our ideological views and perceptions, we will miss you. You are a great American.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from West Virginia.

Mr. MANCHIN. First of all, there is not a whole lot that needs to be said that hasn't been said, but one thing I want to say to my dear friend TOM COBURN is that he made Washington happen for me, if you will. He made it more tolerable. I had a hard time in transitioning. TOM reached out. He saw that. We talked about this before, but TOM made this place more palatable.

TOM, you have expanded my area of friendships with more people than you know and the right type of people, and I appreciate it I think more than you even know.

I will end with this, and I don't mean to say a lot. I have been asked about TOM COBURN. How would I explain him? TOM COBURN's got soul. TOM COBURN's got soul. And I mean that from the bottom of my heart, brother. You have soul, and I thank you for what soul you brought to this place.

God bless.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arizona.

Mr. FLAKE. Fourteen years ago I entered the House of Representatives. I had been elected, but before I took office, I traveled to Washington, and MATT SALMON, the Congressman I was replacing, said: Is there anybody you want to meet? And I said: TOM COBURN. I had watched from afar what he had done on the Appropriations Committee and the stands he had taken, and I admired him. I went and visited with him in his office while he was packing up his stuff. I will never forget that. And I have to say that today I admire him even more than I did then, having watched him go back into the private sector and then enter the Senate.

Columnist George Will said TOM COBURN was the most dangerous crea-

ture that could come into the Senate. Why? Because he is simply uninterested in being popular. I think that is certainly true. But if he didn't care about it, it happened anyway. I have news for TOM. As you can see around, he has become popular. But one thing he never managed to achieve, if he sought it, was becoming partisan. When you hear those across the aisle lavish praise on this man, realize that was never one of his goals and never happened, much to his credit.

I thank you and your staff for your generosity over the years to me and my staff and for what you have done for this institution, for your colleagues, and for me personally.

I yield back.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maine.

Mr. KING. Mr. President, I probably have known TOM for the least length of time of anybody in this Chamber, and I want to offer some comments from the perspective of only 2 years and really more like a year and a half since we became friends and colleagues.

I have seen Senator COBURN in two contexts—one is intelligence and the other is faith. He and I serve on the Intelligence Committee. We sit directly across from each other. That committee is generally a non partisan one, but it is also one where all the meetings generally are closed. There is no press. You can really take the measure of someone when they ask questions and participate in a debate in that forum.

His questions always struck me as the questions I wished I had asked, and they struck me as the questions I am sure the people of America would have wanted asked. They were penetrating, they cut through obfuscation, and they were always meaningful and helped us move toward the important work that committee has to accomplish.

I have also become acquainted with him through our faith and participation in the Wednesday Prayer Breakfasts, and more recently, for reasons that I am not entirely sure, he has invited me to join him on Tuesday evenings for dinners on the other side of the Capitol that have been very meaningful.

For the 9 years before I came here, I taught a course called "Leaders and Leadership," and I taught it at a couple of colleges in Maine. I taught it really as much for myself as for my students because I wanted to try to understand what leadership was, and I thought if I signed on to teach it, I would have to learn something about it. Every year what we did was go through and discuss the stories of great leaders throughout history, some well known and some not so well known. We always started with Ernest Shackleton. We talked about Eleanor Roosevelt and Margaret Thatcher and Martin Luther King and Lincoln and

Churchill. We always tried to define the qualities that make a leader, and there are lots of them—perseverance, communication, vision, team work, trust—but the last one on the list and the one that brings me back to TOM is always character. It is an indefinable quality. You cannot really put a specific definition to it, but people like Lincoln had it, Ernest Shackleton had it, Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain from Maine had it, Eleanor Roosevelt had it. It involves a combination of qualities that TOM embodies, and almost all of them have been mentioned here today—integrity, intelligence, honesty, faith, belief in principle, and daring to stand for principle. It is the hardest thing to teach, but it is the easiest thing to see. And the reason I felt so privileged to get to know this man for such a short period of time is that he has shown me what character is all about.

TOM, it is one of the great joys of my life to have had these 2 years to get to know you, if only slightly. It is one of the great sadnesses of my life that it has only been 2 years.

Godspeed, TOM. You have made a difference for this country that we all love and honor and respect. Thank you for your service and for sharing your great character with all of us.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Georgia.

Mr. ISAKSON. I was elected in a special election 16 years ago. I was No. 435 in the House of Representatives, so I did what my father told me to do when I went into business. He said: Son, sit in the back of the room, listen to people who are smart, pay attention to them, and do what the smart people do.

After 2 weeks of listening to TOM COBURN, I said no human being could know as much about everything as this guy named COBURN. In 16 years, I have come to believe, yes, there is one who knows about everything he speaks of, and that is TOM COBURN.

Senator COBURN has been a great role model for me. The Senator from Oklahoma has taught me many great lessons, and I have learned a lot from him.

The greatest evangelists in life are those who witness their faith, and TOM COBURN is a true witness for his faith and has changed the lives of many people. I have enjoyed, as much as anything, our walk with faith at the Prayer Breakfasts, in private meetings, and what we have shared together.

Lastly, every Christmas I try to give my grandchildren who can read something to read as a little treasury to put in their book to save so that when they grow up, they can refer to great things and great historical statements that have been made. I doubt if there has ever been a better statement made on the floor of the Senate about our heritage, our country, our future, and our

hopes than TOM COBURN has said today. It will be required reading for my grandchildren this Christmas, and I can assure you that I am a better man for having served with TOM COBURN, the great Senator from the State of Oklahoma.

God bless you, TOM.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma.

Mr. INHOFE. The other Senator from Oklahoma.

I wish to make some unscripted comments, but sincere and from the heart. I hope I am accurate when I say this, that I think in some respect I discovered TOM COBURN. I suspect that TOM and I are the only two who have ever been to Adair, OK. I remember hearing that there was a conservative doctor from Muskogee. I remember calling him up at that time and asking him to run for the House of Representatives, which he did. He kept his commitments and did everything he was supposed to do. I always remember that day.

As Senator COBURN knows, we have a place my wife and I built on a big lake in Oklahoma back in 1962—a long time ago. When I drive up there, I go through Adair, and I go by that little sheltered area that is half torn down now. They tore down the biggest bank in town. Every time I go by there, I have to say I recall meeting for the first time with a young doctor named TOM COBURN.

I regret to say there are times in our service together when we have not been in agreement on specific issues, and I think we have a characteristic in common. I think we are both kind of bull-headed, which has created some temporary hard feelings, but there is one thing that overshadows that. Jesus has a family, and His family has a lot of people in it. Some are here in this room. TOM COBURN and I are brothers.

In the 20 years I have been here in the Senate, I don't believe I heard a speech that was as touching and sincere as the speech I heard from my junior Senator a few minutes ago.

I really believe that in spite of all the things that have happened—and there were some differences, but they were minor—that he never ceased to be my brother, and I want to ask the Senator right now to forgive me for the times I have perhaps said something unintentionally that was not always right and was not always from the heart. But I want my junior Senator to know that I sincerely love him and am going to be hurting with him with the troubles he has right now, or might have in the future, and will sorely miss him in this body.

I ask that the RECORD show that I sincerely love my brother, Senator COBURN.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Indiana.

Mr. COATS. I have been sitting here listening to the respect and the emo-

tion of people recognizing the service of TOM COBURN. I don't have a prepared speech, but I second everything that has been said about TOM.

My emotions well up in me when I think about TOM. TOM exhibits the conviction that I wish I had more of, TOM exhibits the commitment I wish I had more of, and he exhibits the courage I wish I had more of.

I remember my very dear friend Chuck Olson made this statement: Lord, show me the kind of person You would like me to be and give me the strength to be that person.

I feel like God has given a gift to the Senate, and certainly a gift to me, by simply saying, take a look at TOM COBURN. Look at the qualities he exhibits and his commitment to faith. He is a pretty good model to follow.

Thank you, TOM.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

Mr. BEGICH. I came down to give my farewell remarks, but before I do, I have to make a comment about Senator COBURN. Senator COBURN is absolutely what many people said about his word. Yesterday was an example of that when he resolved an issue.

There is always activity after the Senate, and I wish my friend from Oklahoma the best.

#### FAREWELL TO THE SENATE

I thank the Presiding Officer for allowing me to speak on my 6 years of serving in this body. It has been a true honor to serve with the Presiding Officer in the short time he has been here and to serve with all of my colleagues, but it has been an even bigger honor to serve my fellow Alaskans.

Alaska is a huge State—660,000 square miles. More than—to my friends from Texas and California, please don't take this personally—double and triple the size of States such as Texas and California.

But Alaska is a very small place in many ways. People make personal connections with their elected official. At the end of the day, we pretty much know everybody one way or another. Alaskans will more than likely will see me at a checkout stand at Andy's Hardware or Home Depot or hanging Christmas lights at my wife's store or doing errands with my son Jacob that at times he is not very anxious to do. It is a small State, and they will more likely see me doing that than on the floor making speeches or on C-SPAN.

When Alaskans contacted me with an idea or complaint or problem, we made sure we responded. After 6 years in the Senate, I am most proud of the work with helping Alaskans and their families. My office responded to more than 360,000 individual letters and emails and phone calls from Alaskans. To put it in perspective, 360,000 is roughly half the population of the State.

Much of my staff is here with me on the floor today. I thank them for their

unwavering service to their fellow Alaskans. Truly I have the best of the best. Some of them worked with me when I was mayor and are now working for me as a Senator. Many will go on and continue to do incredible work not only for Alaskans but for this country. I thank them.

We took on 3,000 individual casework cases to help Alaskans navigate the Federal Government. We helped them get their Social Security checks, made sure the local post office actually delivers the mail, and in Alaska that is important. We fought for benefits for individual veterans.

I am also proud of the great policy work we did. When I say we, it is because sometimes ideas came from Alaskans, sometimes they came from this body, sometimes I would have a crazy idea I would write down on a sheet of paper, but at the end of the day it was my staff that did the work.

Opening Alaska's arctic lands and waters to responsible resource development—NPR-A, CD-5, Beaufort and Chukchi. We also helped to convince the EPA to free up permits for Kensington and Greens Creek mines.

The Arctic. When I first came to the office, I have to say that not everybody knew where the Arctic was. Some didn't even know it was an ocean, to be frank with you, but that is not the case today. Some of my colleagues probably got tired of hearing me always talk about Alaska no matter what they were discussing.

I see my friend AL FRANKEN is here, and I know he remembers this story. He draws incredible maps of the United States, and he does it all freehand. I remember him drawing a map one day, and I said: You missed two things, Alaska and Hawaii.

He said: Well, when I drove around the country with my parents, they were not States, they were just territories, and the maps they bought were maps of the lower 48. So I sent him a dot-to-dot of Alaska, and he sent me back a nice letter with a map of Alaska he had drawn.

No matter what conversation my colleagues might be having on an issue, I would manage to weave in Alaska.

The Arctic has unbelievable potential. We just touched the tip of the iceberg and there is more work to be done.

Working on defense is important to Alaska. It is important that we keep our military bases secure by saving F-16s at Eielson and getting F-35s next. We need to make sure that the benefits for those who are serving continue to be there for them.

It is incredible to hear stories from veterans when they talk about the new model of care we developed over 2½, 3 years ago. Our State has 77,000 veterans. When I was campaigning in 2008, I had an idea that I called the Hero's Health Card, and I remember when I got into office, people said it will never

happen. People who know me know that when you say never or no, that means yes, they just didn't spell it properly, and I have to figure out what to do.

Today in Alaska, it doesn't matter if you are a veteran in the smallest rural communities or the biggest cities, you will get health care and access to it through our tribal health care delivery system—the first in the Nation.

One time when I was in Bethel, this gentleman who was a veteran came up to me when I was in the VFW Hall. A lot of us have been in VFW halls, and you know that when someone comes at you at an aggressive pace, it is probably not a positive situation, but you have to engage them in a conversation. He held his hand out and showed me his scars, and he said that he had to go to Anchorage to get this taken care of, and you told me I could go down to my clinic and get it taken care of, but it didn't happen. I was about to say something, but before I could get a word out, he said: Do you know what I get to do because of what you did? Every single week now when I need therapy, I can go down the street in Bethel instead of flying to Anchorage to get it done. That is a model of how to do the right thing.

Alaska is well known for fisheries. I don't mean to pick on Senator FRANKEN, but I remember him coming up to me because we coined a phrase on modified engineered fish which we called the "Frankenfish." It was not about the Senator, but it was about this fish that was chemically enhanced and would really destroy the fisheries in Alaska and would be bad for the market and bad for consumers. We fought over that issue because Alaskans brought it to our attention every single day.

I just mentioned some of the things we did for native rural health care, which was not just about Alaska. When we discussed an issue in our office, we asked: Can we do it for Alaska, and does it have an international impact? Will it impact the rest of the United States in a positive way?

I remember hearing and reading about the money the Federal Government owed to our tribes which had not been paid for two decades. It was money for clinical services they produced. We did some things, and the net result was Alaska received over \$500 million in settlements over the last year. On top of that, many tribes across the country now have almost three-quarters of a billion dollars, money owed by the government for services delivered to individuals. And earlier this week we were able to pass another piece taking away the restriction on our tribes in Alaska so they can now, under the Violence Against Women Act—and we hope the House passes it—to be able to dispense and do tribal government in the sense of our

justice system improving the situation on the ground when it comes to sexual assault, domestic violence, and substance abuse.

There are a lot of examples. It is hard when we talk about these because there are a lot of great things that have been done, not just individually but collectively. But in this place we spend a lot of time talking about doom and gloom and how the sky is falling and always the worst-case scenario.

We have come a long way in the last 6 years. The people who know me know I don't care how bad the situation is, I am positive about it because there is always another day to solve these problems and make things happen.

I think about where we were when I came to the Senate. I remember coming on this floor as a freshman in 2009, and the chaos of this economy was unbelievable. We were losing 600,000 jobs a month—equal to the whole population of my State—unemployed, boom, gone. Unemployment was around 10 percent. The stock market was at 6,500. Two of the largest automobile companies in this country were flat on their backs. No housing starts were happening. The market was crashing. The deficit was \$1.4 trillion per year. As a new Member, I wasn't sure what I had gotten myself into, to be frank. Some of the Members who came with me were trying to figure out, What did we get? But we didn't sit around.

I know we always hear this doom and gloom out there. When we look back over 6 years, we remember we had some battles here, and most people think we don't do anything. But where are we today? We are 17,000-plus in the stock market today.

I can tell my colleagues that Alaskans saw this because every year—I know I hear from other Members who ask me this question all the time—we get a permanent fund check. It is based on investments we make, and it is based on revenues we receive from oil and gas. That permanent fund check doubled this year from \$800 to over \$1,900. Why did it double? Because it is based on the stock market average of the last 5 years. We dropped off 2009, so the market was doing better. Every Alaskan felt what this economy has done. So when the naysayers are out there speaking, it is just not accurate.

GM and Ford and Chrysler have added over half a million good-paying jobs. Unemployment is at 5.8 percent—almost a 50-percent drop. Over 10 million new jobs and the longest stretch of private sector growth on record—56 months. Just last week—I know we always hear it is not good enough. Of course, but it is a heck of a lot better.

I remember the chaos on this floor during those 3 or 4 months and as a new Member what we had to go through.

The deficit has dropped by \$1 trillion a year. We are down to about \$480 bil-

lion now. We have sliced off \$1 trillion a year from the deficit.

In Alaska we have seen some incredible things. Anchorage unemployment is at 4.9 percent. There are more jobs in mining and timber than ever before. Tourism has risen to nearly 1 million visitors. There are 78,000 people in the fishery industry.

It is important to remember that this is just a moment in time of challenges we have as a body and as a country. It is important to remember that there is a lot of work ahead of us. But we have accomplished a lot. But we spend a lot of time on this floor debating what is bad about this country.

A lot of us are coming to the floor and giving our farewell speeches and talking about good things. There are a lot of good things we should be proud of as a country. I am proud of what we have done over the last 6 years. This country is back on track. We have more work to do to make sure people's incomes rise, but that is starting to happen now.

The challenge for my colleagues who are still here and for this country is—it has been an incredible honor to be in this body, but what do we do to make sure we move forward so we don't have this as a platform of negative attitudes and views but about opportunity and possibilities; not about things that we sit here and try to figure out how to kill but what we try to do to improve and give new ideas a chance.

I said it earlier: I am a very optimistic person. I believe what is possible today can be even better tomorrow. But it is incumbent on people to believe it, to want to do it, to put aside their differences where we can. I will tell my colleagues, that is why fewer Alaskans are party registered and more are nonparty registered in our State than in most States—because our view is that we don't care about the party; what we care about is getting things done. We are trying to find the answer to yes rather than trying to find the way to no.

My staff has always, and it is a struggle sometimes—and I have a great staff, as I said earlier, some from Alaska, some from here, and some from across the country, people who I don't understand why they continue to subject themselves to working for me after the mayor's office, and then they came here. I always told them that what mattered was not who sponsored the bill but whether it is a good idea. If it is a good idea, then let's move forward, try to find an answer, try to solve the problem.

The positive attitude we have to have is not only important for this body, but it is important for this country. In a weird way, they love us and they hate us. The poll numbers show they don't love us too much—13 percent. But on the flip side, they look to us. They look to us for certainty and guidance and

where we might take them. The pundits are different, but the people look to us. I see it when I go to stores, when I am out and about. People may be angry with us, but they want to know what we are going to do to solve these incredible problems, and it will be incumbent upon the next Congress to sit down and work together. It is going to be tough because the politics of the day are about the moment in time, not about the long term. This is an incredible challenge that has to be dealt with in some way.

I have spent a lot of time trying to, as I said, do what I can; it didn't matter whose idea it was. I listened to Senator COBURN speak. I remember one day we were working on an issue—essential air service. Some of us have that in our States. Senator COBURN was against it. I remember having a conversation with him and trying to explain that between one airport and the next is 1,200 miles. There is no road. There is no way to get to it. At the end of the day we were able to resolve that issue and move forward.

I think of all the things that have been accomplished in this body but how little people know about it. In an odd way, over these last few days more of the positive issues are out there. I hope the press covers them. We will see. But we live in a world where it is better to talk about the negative because that seems to be what thrives. I hope that changes.

Let me end by sharing a couple of other quick thoughts. There are a lot of great stories about being here in the Senate. Someone asked me one day: Do you write these down? And I said no.

I remember I was in Sitka, AK, and I was headed to the airport. I got to the airport, and the attendant there was checking my ticket, and he said: Oh, wait, Mr. BEGICH. We have something for you.

It was a wrapped gift at the airport. I said: Great.

Now, people who care about the TSA, please ignore what I am about to say. They just handed it to me. I took it. I opened it, and it was one of those empty books that say: Please write down your thoughts and your notes. They are incredible thoughts.

I remember I was coming through—people will remember when it snowed like crazy. Well, people from DC thought it snowed like crazy. I did not. I knew one thing, and that is about how the plows work, being a former mayor. I thought to myself, I can't leave my car on the street because they will plow me in, especially in this place, or they will attempt to. So I and my son Jacob—we got our snow shovels, did our shoveling, and then drove the car to another area. Then I realized—we were dressed in what I call Alaska good garb. And then I realized that I had to get back to the house because I had this snow shovel and he had

a snow shovel. It was on the other side of the Capitol. So what did we do? People who know me know I don't really follow all the rules around this place. We started walking through the Capitol with our snow shovels over our shoulders. The place was empty. I realized what an incredible place this is. First, we were allowed to walk through with snow shovels. It was dead silent. If my colleagues have never done that, they should. You walk through the Capitol and you just see the history, and in a small way, we were a part of it.

I did break another rule. This is confession time. I am a Catholic, I can do that. We came into this Chamber. I had the corner desk over here. Why did I pick that desk? A lot of people don't know this story. Why did I do that? One, I was a junior Member, but No. 2, I wanted that desk because that is where the candy box was, and I knew every Member would have to go there sooner or later, and I thought I could spend some time talking to them. And maybe I would have a candy box, which I did. I had special candies from my wife's store.

One day I came in here late at night with my son, and we sat right there. I know the security guards probably didn't see us. We took a photo. Yes, I broke the rules. I took a photo of my son sitting there, and I will cherish that photo forever.

As my son once said—and I said it on this floor one time—about how important it is to get things done and the battle we were having—I remember I actually quoted my son on the floor, and I think I shocked somebody. I was talking to him about something, and he said: Dad, just suck it up. I thought, only from a young kid do you hear what you have to do sometimes.

Now, I didn't forget her; I just wanted to wait until the end. I know I am breaking the rules, but my wife is right up there. I am pointing to her. Yes, I am, Sergeant at Arms. Too bad. I am acknowledging her. She has been incredible. She has allowed me to do my public service, to fly those 20 hours every weekend to and from Alaska. She has taken care of Jacob when I couldn't. I love her dearly. Thank you.

To end, I will just say this: It has been a true honor to serve in the U.S. Senate, to serve the people of Alaska, and to know every day we—me, my staff, and my colleagues who work with me—contributed a little bit to making life better for Alaska, for Alaskans, and for this country. There is no experience like serving in this body and doing what I could to make a difference.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

(Applause, Senators rising.)

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. WALSH). The Senator from Virginia.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I know a number of my colleagues are going to

want to talk about our friend MARK BEGICH. When we came to the Senate—I see a number of folks here—we came in 2008. I see a lot of other Members who are newer Members as well. I think when you come in with a class, you get kind of confused about what is going on and you form a bond.

I remember my first—our first—Senator FRANKEN wasn't here yet, but Senator MERKLEY, Senator HAGAN, Senator BENNET, and a number of others. And we were in Senator DURBIN's office. There was still a question about what was going to happen in the election because there were thousands of votes out. So being giddy new Members, we got on the phone to call Senator BEGICH to say we wish him well and we are counting on him. He said: Hey, Jacob and I are leaving on vacation because I already know where the votes are coming from. I am going to be there.

He knew his State that well.

As someone who is a former chief executive and as some others here who are former chief executives, I remember him coming here, and many of us new Members were kind of scratching our heads about the notion of how this institution would work or didn't work sometimes. But, as Senator BEGICH mentioned and as Senator MURRAY mentioned at our dinner the other night, there are a lot of people in this body who are chronic optimists. I am blessed to have an optimist in my colleague Senator KAINE. I don't always fit in that category. But Senator BEGICH, week in and week out, would always try to remind us that it is not quite as bleak as it might seem at the moment, that there was good news and there was progress being made.

I think, looking back, I am not sure some of us fully realized, particularly that first year and a half or two when so many things happened—controversial things and things that are still being relitigated in many ways but that have allowed this country to make progress, and Senator BEGICH was an incredibly important part of that.

He was also, as one of the newer Members, liaison to management. So whenever anything didn't happen right with leadership, it was always the fault of Senator BEGICH.

But I just want to say—and I know Senator HAGAN was here a little bit earlier—I fear at times that our elections are almost becoming like parliamentary elections in the other countries where people are voting for or against a leader not based upon what a leader has done individually—such as Senator LANDRIEU and all the things she has done for Louisiana. Lord knows—but, as Senator BEGICH just mentioned, there was not a bill or an issue where he didn't find an Alaska connection and where he didn't make a difference for the people of his great State.

So I know I am just the first of many who want to say to my colleague, to my friend, to a great Senator, God-speed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Minnesota.

Mr. FRANKEN. Mr. President, I was a part of that class. I was a little late getting here, my colleagues will recall. But I was part of that class and campaigned with the class, and I remember being with MARK UDALL and TOM UDALL and MARK BEGICH at a campaign event, and they kind of looked at me and said: So your dad wasn't like a public servant.

I said: No.

And they said: Well, that is unusual. No, no, that is fine.

What a lot of people don't know about MARK is his father died very famously in a plane crash.

MARK is the only Member of this body, I believe, who did not graduate from college, did not go to college.

There are a lot of things about MARK—and MARK WARNER just referred to it—he was a chief executive.

We need more mayors here. Sometimes we say we need more diversity. Sometimes we say we need more women. God knows we need more satirists—but mayors, wow. Having that mayor's perspective—CORY BOOKER looking a little smug—is very useful.

MIKE ENZI, a mayor—am I forgetting a mayor?

Mr. BEGICH. TIM KAINE, Richmond.

Mr. FRANKEN. BOB CORKER.

Whom are you pointing at? TIM, were you a mayor?

Mr. KAINE. Richmond.

Mr. FRANKEN. Oh, Richmond, you just kept saying Richmond. I don't know anybody named "Richmond."

Mr. WARNER. He was also a lieutenant governor.

Mr. FRANKEN. So he was a lieutenant governor too—OK. So he is the most qualified.

This is what it is like when we are together. Being a Senator, a lot of people ask: Is being a Senator as much fun as working on "Saturday Night Live?" The answer of course is no. It is not close, but it is the best job I have ever had.

It means so much to us what we can do for our State, and no one knows more about his State—and I know MARY LANDRIEU is sitting here, no one knows more than MARY and MARK—and that it is an incredibly long flight he took every weekend to go back to Alaska.

Minnesota had a happy warrior, one of the great, great Senators who has ever served this body, Hubert Humphrey. We may have noticed during MARK's speech he teared up a few times, the most when he was talking about his wife.

That is good for you. That works out well.

But Hubert Humphrey said: "A man who has no tears has no heart."

This man has a tremendous heart. Humphrey was a happy warrior, and this guy is a happy warrior—and you brought joy, humor, and optimism to this body, and I thank you, my friend, for that.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Louisiana.

Ms. LANDRIEU. I rise to say a word about my dear friend MARK BEGICH and to add some words on behalf of him.

We saw, when he presented himself in his final remarks to this body, his compassion, his heart, and his emotions were clear in relation to his family, his son, and to us—because he was truly an amazing friend to many. He is always in a good humor, always upbeat.

As the Senator from Virginia said, we could never quite understand it, but he was—and still is—an amazingly optimistic and positive person.

Having served as mayor, as a small business owner, as a passionate champion for Alaska, what he didn't mention—I thought I might because it might be too hard for him to remember today—but I want this body to remember that MARK comes from a distinguished line of public service.

A lot of us say that, but in MARK's case his father literally gave his life to Alaska. His plane went down on October 16, 1972. The plane has never been found.

So when MARK walked in the first day I met him, I don't know what I was expecting, but I was expecting someone to have a heavy burden on his shoulders because of that. As the eldest daughter of nine children, I take responsibility so much for my brothers and sisters, and I don't know how I could have gotten where I have gotten without both parents literally lifting me up every day.

So as I have sat across from MARK all these years in very close leadership meetings on Tuesday mornings—and he has walked in with such optimism, such extraordinary confidence in himself, in what he is doing, and in encouraging us—I was always just so struck by the fact that he grew up with a large family, six children. His mother was widowed at a young age. He took on so much responsibility, and yet he came to the Senate ready to serve.

I know his father is truly honored that he didn't get bitter, he wasn't angry. He grew up to be a man who accepted that as God's will, which is a hard thing to accept.

He did so much for the community that his father loved and the State that his father loved. I wanted to add that to the RECORD because a lot of people watching us think we are one-dimensional robots and that there are no other dimensions to our lives and our family.

But it always struck me, MARK, that you have been such a man of courage, such a great inspiration to your family, and truly an inspiration to all of us.

I know your parents are very proud, both of them.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oregon.

Mr. MERKLEY. I wish to add a word to honor my good friend Senator MARK BEGICH. I think there is a special connection with those of us who were elected on the same day.

We share something else in common, which is on that election day in November 2008 neither one of us knew if we had won. We both had to wait some length of time—in my case 2 days and in Senator BEGICH's case a couple of weeks—but it kind of makes us ponder the future: Are you going to serve or are you not going to serve and how will you utilize that opportunity.

There is another connection that comes from being western Senators. When we talk about salmon—and MARK BEGICH mentioned a while ago "Frankenfish." Well, we are very concerned. We have a collective concern about the health of our salmon runs.

It is not just a fishing economy, although that is very much a part of the economy of our States, it is about the soul of our States, the traditions of our State, the natural resources of our States.

When we talk about timber, we have a connection. Sitka was mentioned. Sitka spruce is a common tree in our State of Oregon.

When we get concerned about the rescues off the Oregon coast because the water is so cold one can't be in it for very long without dying—which makes it much more important to have advanced helicopters, and just last night we were able to keep a key helicopter on the coast due to Senator MARK BEGICH's considerable involvement and advocacy. Thank you so much for doing that.

Why is our water so cold off the coast of Oregon? Because it is coming down with the currents from Alaska. In so many ways our States are tied together.

As I have served this first 6 years, I have turned to my friend from Alaska for advice and counsel time after time. His seasoned policy judgment and his core political instincts are on a par with any other Senator in this Chamber and certainly far in advance of my own.

I say to the Senator, I appreciate your friendship. I appreciate you sharing your judgment, and I appreciate your buoyant spirit that reminds us, when we are discouraged, that so much can be accomplished. What an honor it is to have a seat in the Chamber of just 100 Senators, where we can add our voice to a conversation about truly how to make this a better world.

Thank you, my friend, for your service. We will miss you greatly.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KING). The Senator from Michigan.

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I just want to add my words to what my



other colleagues have said about someone I am going to miss dearly. Senator MARK BEGICH and I worked together on many things. When I passed the reins from the steering and outreach committee and suggested to our leader that he should seriously consider Senator BEGICH for that responsibility, he made us all proud as part of the leadership in presenting a very important perspective every single day.

I have frequently referenced an energy committee trip I took to Alaska with Senator BEGICH where—I thought Michigan was big. Michigan is big. But we not only had to travel a long way to get to Alaska, once we were in Alaska we had to travel a long way from one end to another.

I remember I ran into a number of people from Michigan because in our Upper Peninsula we also have a lot of snow, and we have a lot of people who were working there. But everywhere we went—and we traveled to Native American villages. We flew to Barrow. We were in every part of the State. Some areas you could only get into by helicopter.

We would get there—we went to a Native village that needed a new post office. Senator BEGICH took me out. We had boots on because there was water coming up. We looked at this little, tiny post office that was maybe a little bigger than a closet, not much. We came out. The whole community was there to urge us to support this post office.

To see not only the information, the depth that Senator BEGICH had about that before we got there, but the way he interacted, his commitment to them—everywhere we went he knew about that community, the leaders in the community. He had a relationship with them.

This is somebody who loves Alaska. In his bones, in your DNA, MARK, is your State. I love seeing that. It was so inspirational to see that. I know the Senator has wonderful family support at home. It has been my pleasure to be at your home for dinner and to watch your son. He is growing up. I know we have a lot more that we will benefit from, from your leadership. I know you have a lot more to contribute to Alaska, to our country.

Just know you are leaving with incredible respect from colleagues and love and affection. We wish you every Godspeed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Jersey.

Mr. BOOKER. Mr. President, I rise to add my sense of gratitude and appreciation to someone who has become a dear friend. I am his newest colleague and have had the privilege of working with him for these past 13 months. I just want him to know and state very publicly that he was one of the anchors to me as I was getting to know a very different place from being a mayor of a big city.

Your sense of fierce pragmatism was a light to me, coming down into a place known for partisanship and gridlock, and demonstrated to me your ability to bring people together and get things done, but even more than that, being a model for me, a role model for me in the early stage of my career in the Senate.

I have to confess, and do it with pride, that I love this country with the depth and the core of my being. My parents taught me that sense of pride. But you expanded that, incredibly, by bringing me out to Alaska. Of all my experiences in these 13 months, that was one of the highlights. It taught me a lot when I saw that a Senator still had such a powerful touch and connection and knowledge and love of the people of that State. You have made me love Alaska even more and know Alaska in my heart.

What was extraordinary to me, in knowing you in your short career, was how much you got accomplished, how steadfast you were in pursuing the interests of your State and this Nation. One thing I have to say, I felt uncomfortable as I saw you—I will never forget being at Bartlett High School, with the Bears, and seeing your love and connection to those kids. It made me feel very uncomfortable, the negativity that was being hoisted upon you during a campaign.

It made me think of something as I was out there, and I thought about it again as you talked of history. There is a very famous poet named Maya Angelou, who said these words:

You may write me down in history  
With your bitter, twisted lies,  
You may trod me in the very dirt  
But still, like dust, I rise.

The truth is, you are one of those people who are at your ascendancy. You have risen above it all. You have risen above the things in Washington that try the spirits, not just of those of us here but of the Nation. You have risen to a level of accomplishment in your life that is extraordinary and as awesome as some of the vistas I saw in the State of Alaska.

The beauty I have right now, the confidence and the joy I have right now, is the simple fact that I know that God ain't finished with you yet.

Thank you. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Mexico.

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. President, I just want to rise, similar to others in our class, and many other Senators have risen, to talk a little bit about MARK BEGICH and his service to Alaska and praise him for his service, because I think he has been—since I have been here, the 6 years I have served with him; he was in my class—I have seen a remarkable Senator who truly cares about his State and has been an incredible advocate for his State.

I was not here for his entire speech, but I turned it on. The good thing about our offices is you can tune it in. I caught the point where he got a little bit choked up about Deborah and Jacob. I got choked up, too, in the office. I can cry but not in public. In any event, the first thing I know about MARK is how much he cares about his family and how much the toll of serving in the Senate takes on that family.

His travel—I am a westerner, and I have to travel out 5 hours, 6 hours, 8 hours to get home. His flight is always—we heard the description the other day from Senator MURRAY. He flies all the way out to Seattle at the end of the day. It is 12:30 our time when he arrives there. Then he gets on another flight for another 4½ hours up to Anchorage, just to get home. It is not a very long weekend. Then he has to get on a flight and come back.

His family is so important. I have seen him with his son Jacob. We live just across the alley from each other. I can look out my back window and look down and see the light—just four houses down—and know whether MARK and Deborah and Jacob are in town. We have spent many good times in his house there. That is the first thing I would like to say.

The second is—I have seen this over and over again with Senators. You are one of the best at it—taking the issues that are involved with Alaska and that Alaskans care about and that you knew so well when you were a mayor and fitting them into this vast Federal landscape and making sure Alaskans are heard. I think you are one of the best at doing that. You stepped out on so many different issues. I remember the Native American corporations and how you would reach out in a number of areas with Senators throughout the Senate and try to reach some compromise there.

I have a large Native American community. We, too, have the same kinds of issues on that front that you do. We also share many Native American tribes. As the Senator knows well, it was my father and my uncle who stood up in the 1960s and 1970s to make sure the Natives got a fair shake in Alaska. MARK—that is the way he serves when it comes to Native Americans, caring about them, caring about their issues, going up to the North Slope where it is cold.

My understanding is that during this campaign he got frostbite on one occasion, being out in that terribly tough environment. Thank you for that and for working with me and working with everyone else who tries to make sure Native people get justice. They look to Washington for justice. They look for justice at the Supreme Court. They are not getting much of it over there at the Supreme Court any more. We are the last refuge. We served together on the Indian Affairs Committee.



One final thing to talk about. I have been working on an issue, it is the chemical substances act, for the last couple of years with Senator VITTER. We have tried to do everything we can to bring people—extraordinary piece of legislation—12 Republicans, 12 Democrats on this piece of legislation.

We have been working to make it better. We have had Senators start joining us on both sides of the aisle. MARK, you were one of the key people to work on that. As Senator WARNER said earlier, you were our liaison to the leadership. You were in all of those leadership meetings. Whenever I told you there was a problem, you would surface it, whether or not it was going to blow up the meeting. You stuck in there when it came to truly caring about issues and caring about getting things done.

I think if anything is your hallmark, it is wanting to put aside the partisanship and try to get things done. So that is something that you should be tremendously proud of.

Just as a final word, I love your State of Alaska. I have climbed your highest mountain. My cousin, MARK UDALL, has also done the same thing, climbed Mount McKinley, which has now returned to its Native name, called Denali. I remember going up to your State as a State attorney general. It was the only State in the Nation that put in money for our conference of attorneys general and put us on an 8-hour train across Alaska so we could see all of Alaska.

Alaska is a terrific State. You and I have some disagreements on what we protect in Alaska, but the wonderful thing is we understand each other's position. We are still very good friends. It has been a real honor to serve with you. I wish you and Deborah and Jacob the very best. Wherever you land—I hope to see you in Alaska again because I know I am going to come up there. But wherever you land, our door will always be open to you.

Thank you and God bless you.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Minnesota.

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, we have heard a lot of people honoring our wonderful colleague Senator BEGICH today. We are all going to miss him dearly. We are especially going to miss him in Minnesota. I have heard many positive statements about Alaska today, but no one can come from a State where they can say they have one of the main streets in Anchorage named after them; that is, Minnesota Street in Anchorage.

That is because there are many Minnesotans. Believe it or not, it was not cold enough in Minnesota so they moved to Alaska. One of those people who moved to Alaska was MARK's dad. MARK's dad actually grew up about 30 miles away from my dad. It is rough-and-tumble country up in the Iron

Range of Minnesota. MARK still has relatives in northern Minnesota, and particularly he has an uncle named Uncle Joe—Joe Begich—who served in the legislature for many years and also is a Korean War vet and was truly the heart and soul of the Iron Range delegation in the Minnesota State legislature.

For any of our colleagues who think MARK BEGICH is a character, they should meet his Uncle Joe. I know Uncle Joe. I hope he is watching because nothing made him happier than the day MARK BEGICH got elected to the Senate. And when MARK once came up there with me and we were greeted by Uncle Joe, it was like a hero's welcome when MARK BEGICH appeared on the Iron Range of Minnesota. People came out, and we did an event with veterans. Then, of course, the problem was we went to a bar, and we could get no pictures that didn't have a Budweiser sign on them.

But MARK is a hero up there, and he is a hero across our State just for the work he has done for rural communities. When I say we have rural communities in Minnesota, he always says we have extreme rural communities in Alaska.

He has done work in conservation, which we care about so much. He has done work on tourism. We are cochairs of the tourism caucus, and I still remember the hearing we had right in the middle of the downturn, where every Senator came to talk about all of the things that were happening in their States with tourism. MARK was actually able to cite the price of cruises you could take in Alaska. It was written up in the Washington Post about all the Senators hawking their States, but no one was prouder to hawk Alaska.

The other thing about MARK, which I know was mentioned, is he doesn't believe politics is about standing in the opposite corner of the boxing ring. He believes politics is about working together in the middle and trying to find common ground.

The last thing I will say is how much we love Deborah and Jacob, and we know we will see them around and they are not going to go away.

One time Deborah, Jacob, and MARK came over to our house for brunch. My daughter is about 6 years older now. She was about 13. Jacob and my daughter were playing a game in the other room, and the adults were talking over breakfast. I will never forget Jacob Begich. From the other room, he heard his dad talking about him and, as any politician's kid would do, he said: Stop talking about me, dad. So that kid has inherited that MARK BEGICH sense of fierce independence. When he left, my daughter said: I love that kid, mom. He knows how hard it is to be a politician's kid.

So MARK has left here the legacy of Alaska, the legacy of good work, the

legacy of a great staff, and the legacy of a great family. So we will see you around, and thank you for your service.

Mr. BEGICH. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### TRIBUTE TO MARK PRYOR

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I am honored to stand here and recognize my colleague and friend, Arkansas's senior Senator MARK PRYOR, for his service to our State, his contributions to our country, and his work across the aisle.

I have worked with Senator PRYOR during his entire service in the Senate, both as a Member of the House and as a colleague in the Senate. While we don't always agree on policy, we always agree that we need to do what is best for Arkansas and what is best for our Nation.

MARK is always ready to step forward, find a solution, and resolve an issue. He is always ready to extend a hand to the other side of the aisle to get support, and he always has Arkansas on his mind.

Over the last 4 years, we have introduced several pieces of legislation together, and you will find our names as cosponsors of several other pieces of legislation that all have one goal—helping the people of Arkansas and helping the people of our country.

There is a longstanding tradition of collaboration in the Arkansas delegation. When I was elected to the House in 2001, long-time Arkansas Congressman John Paul Hammerschmidt gave me some advice I have tried to live by since coming to Washington. He said: JOHN, always remember that once the election is over, it is time to put away the political differences and focus on helping the people of Arkansas. That is how the delegation worked during John Paul's 26 years of congressional service, which included service with MARK's dad, Senator David Pryor, and that is how MARK and I operated as well.

I appreciate the welcome MARK gave to me and the help his office offered to my staff when I moved over here to the Senate in 2011. I value his friendship, thank him for his service, and appreciate all he has done for the people of Arkansas. I wish him well in the next chapter of his life.

I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Will the Senator withhold his request?

Mr. BOOZMAN. I will.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Massachusetts.

## BAILOUT PROVISION IN OMNIBUS

Ms. WARREN. Mr. President, yesterday I came to the floor to call on House Democrats to withhold their support from the omnibus spending bill until one provision is removed. The provision was slipped in at the last minute to benefit Wall Street. In fact, it was written by lobbyists for Citicorp. That provision means big money for a few big banks. It would let derivatives traders on Wall Street gamble with taxpayer money—and when it all blows up, require the government to bail them out.

Just to be clear, I want to read the title of the part of the law that will be repealed if this provision is not stripped out of the omnibus. The title is “Prohibition Against Federal Government Bailouts of Swaps Entities.” That is what is on the table to be taken out of the law.

Now, I am here today to ask my Republican colleagues who don’t want to see another Wall Street bailout to join in our effort to strip this Wall Street giveaway from the bill. This is not about partisanship. This is about fairness. This is about accountability and responsibility. This is about preventing another financial collapse that could again wipe out millions of jobs and take down our whole economy.

If big Wall Street banks want to gamble with their own money, so be it. Let them take their risks with their own money, and let them live with the consequences of those risks. That is how markets are supposed to work. But they shouldn’t get to gamble with government-insured money, and they shouldn’t get to run to the government when the deal goes sour.

Opposition to government bailouts of Wall Street is not a liberal or a conservative issue. The current law, the one about to be repealed, was put in place years ago because after the 2008 financial collapse, people of all political persuasions were disgusted by the prospect of ever having to use taxpayer dollars to rescue big banks from their own bad decisions.

This morning, Senators from both parties—SHERROD BROWN, a Democrat from Ohio, and DAVID VITTER, a Republican from Louisiana—called for this provision to be taken out of the spending bill. Here is what they said:

If Wall Street banks want to gamble, Congress should force them to pay for their losses, not put taxpayers on the hook for another bailout. Congress should not gamble on a possible government shutdown by attempting to tuck this controversial provision into a spending bill without having been considered by the committees of jurisdiction, where it can be subject to a transparent and rigorous debate.

Senators BROWN and VITTER are exactly right. This provision has no place in a must-pass spending bill.

Conservative activists have jumped in as well. They are raising their voices today to say that this provision has no

place in a must-pass spending bill. Here is what one front-page contributor on the conservative blog RedState said this morning:

I have no way to refute the basic point that Democrats are making about the CROmnibus fight right now. In fact, I might even go so far as to say they are right. . . . what possible good faith reason can Republicans have for threatening to gum up the whole works over doing a favor to Wall Street? . . . generally speaking, if Nancy Pelosi is opposed to something then instinctively I know I should be for it. Beyond that I haven’t the slightest clue why the proposed tweak to Dodd-Frank ought to be anything resembling a hill the Republicans should die for.

These conservative activists are right. If you believe in smaller government, how can you support a provision that would expand a government insurance program and put taxpayers on the hook for the riskiest private activities? If you thought the Ex-Im Bank exposed taxpayers to risk—even though it has never cost the taxpayers a dime—how can you support a provision to prevent another calamity such as the one that cost taxpayers billions of dollars just 6 years ago?

House Republican leaders are moving quickly to try to jam this bill through today before their own Members have had a chance to digest this Wall Street bailout provision. The fact sheet that Republican appropriators sent around to their Members explaining the provision doesn’t even describe it accurately. According to the fact sheet, the provision in question would “protect farmers and other commodity producers from having to put down excessive collateral to get a loan, expand their businesses, and hedge their production.” Whatever you think about the bill, that description is flatly wrong. In fact, that description applies to yet another Wall Street reform roll-back that the Republicans are pushing right now, which is attached to a completely different bill.

Now, I don’t know if Republican leaders in the House are deliberately trying to confuse their Members into voting for a government bailout program or whether they just can’t keep straight all their efforts to gut financial reform. Republican leaders are about to bring this bill up for a vote. So here is the bottom line. A vote for this bill is a vote for future taxpayer bailouts of Wall Street. When the next bailout comes, a lot of people will look back to this vote to see who was responsible for putting the government back on the hook to bail out Wall Street.

To Republican leaders in the House, I would ask this. You say you are against bailouts on Wall Street. I have heard you say it again and again for 5 years. So why in the world are you spending your time and your energy fighting for a provision written by Citigroup lobbyists that would increase the chance of future bailouts? Why, in

the last minute as you head out the door and a spending bill must be passed, are you making it a priority to do Wall Street’s bidding? Whom do you work for—Wall Street or the American people?

This fight isn’t about conservatives or liberals. It is not about Democrats or Republicans. It is about money, and it is about power right here in Washington. This legal change could trigger more taxpayer bailouts and could ultimately threaten our entire economy, but it will also make a lot of money for Wall Street banks. According to Americans for Financial Reform, this change will be a huge boon to just a handful of our biggest banks: Citigroup, JPMorgan, Bank of America.

People are frustrated with Congress. Part of the reason, of course, is gridlock. But mostly it is because they see a Congress that works just fine for the big guys but won’t lift a finger to help them. If big companies can deploy their armies of lobbyists and lawyers to get Congress to vote for special deals that benefit themselves, then we will simply confirm the view of the American people that the system is rigged.

This is a democracy. The American people sent us here—Republicans, Democrats and Independents. They sent us here to stand up for them, to stand up for taxpayers, to protect the economy. Nobody sent us here to stand up for Citigroup.

I urge my Republican colleagues in the House to withhold their support from this package until this risky giveaway is removed from the legislation. It is time for all of us to stand up and fight.

Mr. President, I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

## UKRAINE FREEDOM SUPPORT ACT OF 2014

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 573, S. 2828.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2828) to impose sanctions with respect to the Russian Federation, to provide additional assistance to Ukraine, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Foreign Relations, with amendments, as follows:

(The parts of the bill intended to be stricken are shown in boldface brackets and the parts of the bill intended to be inserted are shown in italics.)

S. 2828

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

# **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

(a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This Act may be cited as the “Ukraine Freedom Support Act of 2014”.

(b) **TABLE OF CONTENTS.**—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
- Sec. 2. Definitions.
- Sec. 3. Statement of policy regarding Ukraine.
- Sec. 4. Sanctions relating to the defense and energy sectors of the Russian Federation.
- Sec. 5. Sanctions on Russian and other foreign financial institutions.
- Sec. 6. Codification of executive orders addressing the crisis in Ukraine.
- Sec. 7. Major non-NATO ally status for Ukraine, Georgia, and Moldova.
- Sec. 8. Increased military assistance for the Government of Ukraine.
- Sec. 9. Expanded nonmilitary assistance for Ukraine.
- Sec. 10. Expanded broadcasting in countries of the former Soviet Union.
- Sec. 11. *Support for Russian democracy and civil society organizations.*
- Sec. 12. *Report on non-compliance by the Russian Federation of its obligations under the INF Treaty.*

## **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

In this Act:

(1) **ACCOUNT; CORRESPONDENT ACCOUNT; PAYABLE-THROUGH ACCOUNT.**—The terms “account”, “correspondent account”, and “payable-through account” have the meanings given those terms in section 5318A of title 31, United States Code.

(2) **APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.**—The term “appropriate congressional committees” means—

(A) the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives.

(3) **CONTROL.**—The term “control” means—

(A) in the case of a corporation, to hold at least 50 percent (by vote or value) of the capital structure of the corporation; or

(B) in the case of any other entity, to hold interests representing at least 50 percent of the capital structure of the entity.

(4) **DEFENSE ARTICLE; DEFENSE SERVICE; TRAINING.**—The terms “defense article”, “defense service”, and “training” have the meanings given those terms in section 47 of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2794).

(5) **FINANCIAL INSTITUTION.**—The term “financial institution” means a financial institution specified in subparagraph (A), (B), (C), (D), (E), (F), (G), (H), (I), (J), (M), or (Y) of section 5312(a)(2) of title 31, United States Code.

(6) **FOREIGN FINANCIAL INSTITUTION.**—The term “foreign financial institution” has the meaning given that term in section 561.308 of title 31, Code of Federal Regulations (or any corresponding similar regulation or ruling).

(7) **KNOWINGLY.**—The term “knowingly”, with respect to conduct, a circumstance, or a result, means that a person has actual knowledge, or should have known, of the conduct, the circumstance, or the result.

(8) **NATIONAL.**—The term “national” has the meaning given that term in section

101(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)).

(9) **PERSON.**—The term “person” means—

(A) an individual;

(B) a corporation, business association, partnership, society, trust, any other non-governmental entity, organization, or group, or any governmental entity operating as a business enterprise; or

(C) any successor to any entity described in subparagraph (B).

(10) **RUSSIAN PERSON.**—The term “Russian person” means—

(A) an individual who is a citizen or national of the Russian Federation; or

(B) an entity organized under the laws of the Russian Federation.

(11) **SPECIAL RUSSIAN CRUDE OIL PROJECT.**—The term “special Russian crude oil project” means a project intended to extract crude oil from—

(A) the exclusive economic zone of the Russian Federation in waters more than 500 feet deep;

(B) Russian Arctic offshore locations; or

(C) shale formations located in the Russian Federation.

(12) **UNITED STATES PERSON.**—The term “United States person” means—

(A) a United States citizen or an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence to the United States; or

(B) an entity organized under the laws of the United States or of any jurisdiction within the United States, including a foreign branch of such an entity.

## **SEC. 3. STATEMENT OF POLICY REGARDING UKRAINE.**

It is the policy of the United States to further assist the Government of Ukraine in restoring its sovereignty and territorial integrity to deter the Government of the Russian Federation from further destabilizing and invading Ukraine and other independent countries in Eastern Europe and Central Asia. That policy shall be carried into effect, among other things, through a comprehensive effort, in coordination with allies and partners of the United States where appropriate, that includes economic sanctions, diplomacy, assistance for the people of Ukraine, and the provision of military capabilities to the Government of Ukraine that will enhance the ability of that Government to defend itself and to restore its sovereignty and territorial integrity in the face of unlawful actions by the Government of the Russian Federation.

## **SEC. 4. SANCTIONS RELATING TO THE DEFENSE AND ENERGY SECTORS OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION.**

(a) **SANCTIONS RELATING TO THE DEFENSE SECTOR.**—

(1) **ROSOBORONEXPORT.**—Except as provided in subsection (d), not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall impose 3 or more of the sanctions described in subsection (c) with respect to Rosoboronexport.

(2) **RUSSIAN PRODUCERS, TRANSFERORS, OR BROKERS OF DEFENSE ARTICLES.**—Except as provided in subsection (d), not later than 45 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall impose 3 or more of the sanctions described in subsection (c) with respect to a person the President determines—

(A) is an entity—

(i) owned by the Government of the Russian Federation or controlled by nationals of the Russian Federation; and

(ii) that—

(I) manufactures or sells defense articles transferred into Syria or into the territory

of a specified country without the consent of the internationally recognized government of that country;

(II) transfers defense articles into Syria or into the territory of a specified country without the consent of the internationally recognized government of that country; or

(III) brokers or otherwise assists in the transfer of defense articles into Syria or into the territory of a specified country without the consent of the internationally recognized government of that country; or

(B) knowingly, on or after the date of the enactment of this Act, assists, sponsors, or provides financial, material, or technological support for, or goods or services to or in support of, an entity described in subparagraph (A) with respect to an activity described in clause (i) of that subparagraph.

(3) **SPECIFIED COUNTRY DEFINED.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—In this subsection, the term “specified country” means—

(i) Ukraine, Georgia, and Moldova; and

(ii) any other country designated by the President as a country of significant concern for purposes of this subsection, such as Poland, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, and the Central Asia republics.

(B) **NOTICE TO CONGRESS.**—The President shall notify the appropriate congressional committees in writing not later than 15 days before—

(i) designating a country as a country of significant concern under subparagraph (A)(i); or

(ii) terminating a designation under that subparagraph, including the termination of any such designation pursuant to [subsection (g)] *subsection (h)*.

(b) **SANCTIONS RELATED TO THE ENERGY SECTOR.**—

(1) **DEVELOPMENT OF SPECIAL RUSSIAN CRUDE OIL PROJECTS.**—Except as provided in subsection (d), not later than 45 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall impose 3 or more of the sanctions described in subsection (c) with respect to a person if the President determines that the person knowingly makes a significant investment in a special Russian crude oil project.

(2) **AUTHORIZATION FOR EXTENSION OF LICENSING LIMITATIONS ON CERTAIN EQUIPMENT.**—The President, through the Bureau of Industry and Security of the Department of Commerce or the Office of Foreign Assets Control of the Department of the Treasury, as appropriate, may impose additional licensing requirements for or other restrictions on the export or reexport of items for use in the energy sector of the Russian Federation, including equipment used for tertiary oil recovery.

(3) **CONTINGENT SANCTION RELATING TO GAZPROM.**—If the President determines that Gazprom is withholding significant natural gas supplies from member countries of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, or further withholds significant natural gas supplies from countries such as Ukraine, Georgia, or Moldova, the President shall, not later than 45 days after making that determination, impose the sanction described in subsection (c)(7) and at least one additional sanction described in subsection (c) with respect to Gazprom.

(c) **SANCTIONS DESCRIBED.**—The sanctions the President may impose with respect to a foreign person under subsection (a) or (b) are the following:

(1) **EXPORT-IMPORT BANK ASSISTANCE.**—The President may direct the Export-Import Bank of the United States not to approve the

issuance of any guarantee, insurance, extension of credit, or participation in the extension of credit in connection with the export of any goods or services to the foreign person.

(2) **PROCUREMENT SANCTION.**—The President may prohibit the head of any executive agency (as defined in section 133 of title 41, United States Code) from entering into any contract for the procurement of any goods or services from the foreign person.

(3) **ARMS EXPORT PROHIBITION.**—The President may prohibit the exportation or provision by sale, lease or loan, grant, or other means, directly or indirectly, of any defense article or defense service to the foreign person and the issuance of any license or other approval to the foreign person under section 38 of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2778).

(4) **DUAL-USE EXPORT PROHIBITION.**—The President may prohibit the issuance of any license and suspend any license for the transfer to the foreign person of any item the export of which is controlled under the Export Administration Act of 1979 (50 U.S.C. App. 2401 et seq.) (as in effect pursuant to the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.)) or the Export Administration Regulations under subchapter C of chapter VII of title 15, Code of Federal Regulations.

(5) **PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS.**—The President may, pursuant to such regulations as the President may prescribe, prohibit any person from—

(A) acquiring, holding, withholding, using, transferring, withdrawing, transporting, or exporting any property that is subject to the jurisdiction of the United States and with respect to which the foreign person has any interest;

(B) dealing in or exercising any right, power, or privilege with respect to such property; or

(C) conducting any transaction involving such property.

(6) **BANKING TRANSACTIONS.**—The President may, pursuant to such regulations as the President may prescribe, prohibit any transfers of credit or payments between financial institutions or by, through, or to any financial institution, to the extent that such transfers or payments are subject to the jurisdiction of the United States and involve any interest of the foreign person.

(7) **PROHIBITION ON INVESTMENT IN EQUITY OR DEBT OF SANCTIONED PERSON.**—The President may, pursuant to such regulations as the President may prescribe, prohibit any United States person from investing in or purchasing significant amounts of equity or debt instruments of the foreign person.

(8) **EXCLUSION FROM THE UNITED STATES AND REVOCATION OF VISA OR OTHER DOCUMENTATION.**—In the case of a foreign person who is an individual, the President may direct the Secretary of State to deny a visa to, and the Secretary of Homeland Security to exclude from the United States, the foreign person, subject to regulatory exceptions to permit the United States to comply with the Agreement regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations, signed at Lake Success June 26, 1947, and entered into force November 21, 1947, between the United Nations and the United States, or other applicable international obligations.

(9) **SANCTIONS ON PRINCIPAL EXECUTIVE OFFICERS.**—In the case of a foreign person that is an entity, the President may impose on the principal executive officer or officers of the foreign person, or on individuals performing similar functions and with similar authori-

ties as such officer or officers, any of the sanctions described in this subsection applicable to individuals.

(d) **EXCEPTIONS.**—

(1) **IMPORTATION OF GOODS.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The authority to block and prohibit all transactions in all property and interests in property under subsection (c)(5) shall not include the authority to impose sanctions on the importation of goods.

(B) **GOOD DEFINED.**—In this paragraph, the term “good” has the meaning given that term in section 16 of the Export Administration Act of 1979 (50 U.S.C. App. 2415) (as continued in effect pursuant to the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.)).

(2) **ADDITIONAL EXCEPTIONS.**—The President shall not be required to apply or maintain the sanctions under subsection (a) or (b)—

(A) in the case of procurement of defense articles or defense services—

(i) under existing contracts or subcontracts, including the exercise of options for production quantities to satisfy requirements essential to the national security of the United States;

(ii) if the President determines in writing that—

(I) the person to which the sanctions would otherwise be applied is a sole source supplier of the defense articles or services;

(II) the defense articles or services are essential;

(III) alternative sources are not readily or reasonably available; and

(IV) the national interests of the United States would be adversely affected by the application or maintenance of such sanctions; or

(iii) if the President determines in writing that—

(I) such articles or services are essential to the national security under defense co-production agreements; and

(II) the national interests of the United States would be adversely affected by the application or maintenance of such sanctions;

(B) in the case of procurement, to eligible products, as defined in section 308(4) of the Trade Agreements Act of 1979 (19 U.S.C. 2518(4)), of any foreign country or instrumentality designated under section 301(b)(1) of that Act (19 U.S.C. 2511(b)(1));

(C) to products, technology, or services provided under contracts entered into before the date on which the President publishes in the Federal Register the name of the person with respect to which the sanctions are to be imposed;

(D) to—

(i) spare parts that are essential to United States products or production;

(ii) component parts, but not finished products, essential to United States products or production; or

(iii) routine servicing and maintenance of United States products, to the extent that alternative sources are not readily or reasonably available;

(E) to information and technology essential to United States products or production; or

(F) to food, medicine, medical devices, or agricultural commodities (as those terms are defined in section 101 of the Comprehensive Iran Sanctions, Accountability, and Divestment Act of 2010 (22 U.S.C. 8511)).

(e) **NATIONAL SECURITY WAIVER.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The President may waive the application of sanctions under subsection (a) or (b) with respect to a person if the President—

(A) determines that the waiver is in the national security interest of the United States; and

(B) submits to the appropriate congressional committees a report on the determination and the reasons for the determination.

(2) **FORM OF REPORT.**—The report required by paragraph (1)(B) shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex.

(f) **TRANSACTION-SPECIFIC NATIONAL SECURITY WAIVER.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The President may waive the application of sanctions under subsection (a) or (b) with respect to a specific transaction if the President—

(A) determines that the transaction is in the national security interest of the United States; and

(B) submits to the appropriate congressional committees a detailed report on the determination and the specific reasons for the determination that a waiver with respect to the transaction is necessary and appropriate.

(2) **FORM OF REPORT.**—The report required by paragraph (1)(B) shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex.

(g) **PENALTIES.**—The penalties provided for in subsections (b) and (c) of section 206 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1705) shall apply to a person that violates, attempts to violate, or conspires to violate, or causes a violation of, subsection (a) or (b) of this section, or an order or regulation prescribed under either such subsection, to the same extent that such penalties apply to a person that commits an unlawful act described in section 206(a) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act.

[(h) **TERMINATION.**—This section, and sanctions imposed under this section, shall terminate on the date on which the President submits to the appropriate congressional committees a certification that the Government of the Russian Federation has ceased ordering, controlling, or otherwise directing, supporting, or financing, significant acts intended to undermine the peace, security, stability, sovereignty, or territorial integrity of Ukraine, Georgia, and Moldova.]

(h) **TERMINATION.**—This section, and sanctions imposed under this section, shall terminate on the date on which the President submits to the appropriate congressional committees a certification that the Government of the Russian Federation has ceased ordering, controlling, or otherwise directing, supporting, or financing, significant acts intended to undermine the peace, security, stability, sovereignty, or territorial integrity of Ukraine, Georgia, and Moldova, including through an agreement between the appropriate parties.

## SEC. 5. SANCTIONS ON RUSSIAN AND OTHER FOREIGN FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS.

(a) **FACILITATION OF CERTAIN DEFENSE- AND ENERGY-RELATED TRANSACTIONS.**—The President may impose the sanction described in subsection (c) with respect to a foreign financial institution that the President determines engages, on or after the date of the enactment of this Act, in significant transactions involving—

(1) persons with respect to which sanctions are imposed under section 4; and

(2) activities described in subsection (a) or (b) of that section.

(b) **FACILITATION OF FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS ON BEHALF OF SPECIALLY DESIGNATED NATIONALS.**—The President may impose the sanction described in subsection (c)

with respect to a foreign financial institution if the President determines that the foreign financial institution has, on or after the date that is 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, knowingly facilitated a significant financial transaction on behalf of any Russian person included on the list of specially designated nationals and blocked persons maintained by the Office of Foreign Assets Control of the Department of the Treasury, pursuant to—

(1) this Act;

(2) Executive Order 13660 (79 Fed. Reg. 13,493), 13661 (79 Fed. Reg. 15,535), or 13662 (79 Fed. Reg. 16,169); or

(3) any other executive order addressing the crisis in Ukraine.

(c) **SANCTION DESCRIBED.**—The sanction described in this subsection is, with respect to a foreign financial institution, a prohibition on the opening, and a prohibition or the imposition of strict conditions on the maintaining, in the United States of a correspondent account or a payable-through account by the foreign financial institution.

(d) **NATIONAL SECURITY WAIVER.**—The President may waive the application of sanctions under this section with respect to a foreign financial institution if the President—

(1) determines that the waiver is in the national security interest of the United States; and

(2) submits to the appropriate congressional committees a report on the determination and the reasons for the determination.

(e) **TERMINATION.**—This section, and sanctions imposed under this section, shall terminate on the date on which the President submits to the appropriate congressional committees the certification described in section 4(h).

#### **SEC. 6. CODIFICATION OF EXECUTIVE ORDERS ADDRESSING THE CRISIS IN UKRAINE.**

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—United States [United States] sanctions with respect to the Russian Federation provided for in Executive Orders 13660 (79 Fed. Reg. 13,493), 13661 (79 Fed. Reg. 15,535), and 13662 (79 Fed. Reg. 16,169), as in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of this Act, shall remain in effect until the date on which the President submits to the appropriate congressional committees the certification described in section 4(h).

(b) **EXCEPTIONS AND WAIVERS.**—Sanctions referred to in subsection (a) shall, as appropriate, be subject to the exceptions and waivers provided for in subsections (d), (e), and (f) of section 4.

#### **SEC. 7. MAJOR NON-NATO ALLY STATUS FOR UKRAINE, GEORGIA, AND MOLDOVA.**

Section 517 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2321k) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(c) **ADDITIONAL DESIGNATIONS.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Effective on the date of the enactment of the Ukraine Freedom Support Act of 2014, Ukraine, Georgia, and Moldova are each designated as a major non-NATO ally for purposes of this Act and the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2751 et seq.).

“(2) **NOTICE OF TERMINATION OF DESIGNATION.**—The President shall notify Congress in accordance with subsection (a)(2) before terminating the designation of a country specified in paragraph (1).”

#### **SEC. 8. INCREASED MILITARY ASSISTANCE FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF UKRAINE.**

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The President is authorized to provide defense articles, defense serv-

ices, and training to the Government of Ukraine for the purpose of countering offensive weapons and reestablishing the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine, including anti-tank and anti-armor weapons, crew weapons and ammunition, counter-artillery radars to identify and target artillery batteries, fire control, range finder, and optical and guidance and control equipment, tactical troop-operated surveillance drones, and secure command and communications equipment, pursuant to the provisions of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2751 et seq.), the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2151 et seq.), and other relevant provisions of law.

(b) **REPORT REQUIRED.**—Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall submit a report detailing the anticipated defense articles, defense services, and training to be provided pursuant to this section and a timeline for the provision of such defense articles, defense services, and training, to—

(1) the Committee on Foreign Relations, the Committee on Appropriations, and the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate; and

(2) the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Committee on Appropriations, and the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives.

(c) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of State \$350,000,000 for fiscal year 2015 to carry out activities under this section.

(2) **AVAILABILITY OF AMOUNTS.**—Amounts authorized to be appropriated pursuant to paragraph (1) shall remain available for obligation and expenditure through the end of fiscal year 2017.

(d) **AUTHORITY FOR THE USE OF FUNDS.**—The funds made available pursuant to subsection (c) for provision of defense articles, defense services, and training may be used to procure such articles, services, and training from the United States Government or other appropriate sources.

#### **SEC. 9. EXPANDED NONMILITARY ASSISTANCE FOR UKRAINE.**

(a) **ASSISTANCE TO INTERNALLY DISPLACED PEOPLE IN UKRAINE.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit a plan, including actions by the United States Government, other governments, and international organizations, to meet the need for protection of and assistance for internally displaced persons in Ukraine, to—

(A) the Committee on Foreign Relations, the Committee on Appropriations, and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Committee on Appropriations, and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives.

(2) **ELEMENTS.**—The plan required by paragraph (1) should include, as appropriate, activities in support of—

(A) helping to establish a functional and adequately resourced central registration system in Ukraine that can ensure coordination of efforts to provide assistance to internally displaced persons in different regions;

(B) encouraging adoption of legislation in Ukraine that protects internally displaced persons from discrimination based on their status and provides simplified procedures for obtaining the new residency registration or other official documentation that is a prerequisite to receiving appropriate social pay-

ments under the laws of Ukraine, such as pensions, and disability, child, and unemployment benefits; and

(C) helping to ensure that information is available to internally displaced persons about—

(i) government agencies and independent groups that can provide assistance to such persons in various regions; and

(ii) evacuation assistance available to persons seeking to flee armed conflict areas.

(3) **ASSISTANCE THROUGH INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS.**—The President shall instruct the United States permanent representative or executive director, as the case may be, to the relevant United Nations voluntary agencies, including the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, and other appropriate international organizations, to use the voice and vote of the United States to support appropriate assistance for internally displaced persons in Ukraine.

(b) **ASSISTANCE TO THE DEFENSE SECTOR OF UKRAINE.**—The Secretary of State and the Secretary of Defense should assist entities in the defense sector of Ukraine to reorient exports away from customers in the Russian Federation and to find appropriate alternative markets for those entities in the defense sector of Ukraine that have already significantly reduced exports to and cooperation with entities in the defense sector of the Russian Federation.

(c) **ASSISTANCE TO ADDRESS THE ENERGY CRISIS IN UKRAINE.**—

(1) **EMERGENCY ENERGY ASSISTANCE.**—

(A) **PLAN REQUIRED.**—The Secretary of State and the Secretary of Energy, in collaboration with the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development and the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, shall work with officials of the Government of Ukraine to develop a short-term emergency energy assistance plan designed to help Ukraine address the potentially severe short-term, heating fuel and electricity shortages facing Ukraine in 2014 and 2015.

(B) **ELEMENTS.**—The plan required by subparagraph (A) should include strategies to address heating fuel and electricity shortages in Ukraine, including, as appropriate—

(i) the acquisition of short-term, emergency fuel supplies;

(ii) the repair or replacement of infrastructure that could impede the transmission of electricity or transportation of fuel;

(iii) the prioritization of the transportation of fuel supplies to the areas where such supplies are needed most;

(iv) streamlining emergency communications throughout national, regional, and local governments to manage the potential energy crisis resulting from heating fuel and electricity shortages;

(v) forming a crisis management team within the Government of Ukraine to specifically address the potential crisis, including ensuring coordination of the team's efforts with the efforts of outside governmental and nongovernmental entities providing assistance to address the potential crisis; and

(vi) developing a public outreach strategy to facilitate preparation by the population and communication with the population in the event of a crisis.

(C) **ASSISTANCE.**—The Secretary of State, the Secretary of Energy, and the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development are authorized to provide assistance in support of, and to invest in short-term solutions for, enabling Ukraine

to secure the energy safety of the people of Ukraine during 2014 and 2015, including through—

- (i) procurement and transport of emergency fuel supplies, including reverse pipeline flows from Europe;
- (ii) provision of technical assistance for crisis planning, crisis response, and public outreach;
- (iii) repair of infrastructure to enable the transport of fuel supplies;
- (iv) repair of power generating or power transmission equipment or facilities;
- (v) procurement and installation of compressors or other appropriate equipment to enhance short-term natural gas production;
- (vi) procurement of mobile electricity generation units; [and]
- (vii) conversion of natural gas heating facilities to run on other fuels, including alternative energy sources[.]; and
- (viii) provision of emergency weatherization and winterization materials and supplies.

(D) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Energy, and the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development \$50,000,000 in the aggregate for fiscal year 2015 to carry out activities under this paragraph.

(2) REDUCTION OF UKRAINE'S RELIANCE ON ENERGY IMPORTS.—

(A) PLANS REQUIRED.—The Secretary of State, in collaboration with the Secretary of Energy and the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, shall work with officials of the Government of Ukraine to develop medium- and long-term plans to increase energy production and efficiency to increase energy security by helping Ukraine reduce its dependence on natural gas imported from the Russian Federation.

(B) ELEMENTS.—The medium- and long-term plans required by subparagraph (A) should include strategies, as appropriate, to—

- (i) improve corporate governance and unbundling of state-owned oil and gas sector firms;
- (ii) increase production from natural gas fields and from other sources, including renewable energy;
- (iii) license new oil and gas blocks transparently and competitively;
- (iv) modernize oil and gas upstream infrastructure; and
- (v) improve energy efficiency.

(C) PRIORITIZATION.—The Secretary of State, the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, and the Secretary of Energy should, during fiscal years 2015 through 2017, work with other donors, including multilateral agencies and nongovernmental organizations, to prioritize, to the extent practicable and as appropriate, the provision of assistance from such donors to help Ukraine to improve energy efficiency, increase energy supplies produced in Ukraine, and reduce reliance on energy imports from the Russian Federation, including natural gas.

(D) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated \$50,000,000 in the aggregate for fiscal years 2015 through 2017 to carry out activities under this paragraph.

(3) SUPPORT FROM THE OVERSEAS PRIVATE INVESTMENT CORPORATION.—The Overseas Private Investment Corporation shall—

(A) prioritize, to the extent practicable, support for investments to help increase energy efficiency, develop domestic oil and

natural gas reserves, improve and repair electricity infrastructure, and develop renewable and other sources of energy in Ukraine; and

(B) implement procedures for expedited review and, as appropriate, approval, of applications by eligible investors (as defined in section 238 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2198)) for loans, loan guarantees, and insurance for such investments.

(4) SUPPORT BY THE WORLD BANK GROUP AND THE EUROPEAN BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT.—The President shall, to the extent practicable and as appropriate, direct the United States Executive Directors of the World Bank Group and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development to use the voice, vote, and influence of the United States to encourage the World Bank Group and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development and other international financial institutions—

(A) to invest in, and increase their efforts to promote investment in, projects to improve energy efficiency, improve and repair electricity infrastructure, develop domestic oil and natural gas reserves, and develop renewable and other sources of energy in Ukraine; and

(B) to stimulate private investment in such projects.

(d) ASSISTANCE TO CIVIL SOCIETY IN UKRAINE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State and the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development shall, directly or through nongovernmental or international [organizations] organizations, such as the *Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe*, the *National Endowment for Democracy*, and related organizations—

(A) strengthen the organizational and operational capacity of democratic civil society in Ukraine;

(B) support the efforts of independent media outlets to broadcast, distribute, and share information in all regions of Ukraine;

(C) counter corruption and improve transparency and accountability of institutions that are part of the Government of Ukraine; and

(D) provide support for democratic organizing and election monitoring in Ukraine.

(2) STRATEGY REQUIRED.—Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall submit a strategy to carry out the activities described in paragraph (1) [to the committees specified in subsection (a)(1).] to—

(A) the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

(3) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of State \$20,000,000 for fiscal year 2015 to carry out this subsection.

(4) TRANSPARENCY REQUIREMENTS.—Any assistance provided pursuant to this subsection shall be conducted in as transparent of a manner as possible, consistent with the nature and goals of this subsection. The President shall provide a briefing on the activities funded by this subsection at the request of the committees specified in paragraph (2).

#### SEC. 10. EXPANDED BROADCASTING IN COUNTRIES OF THE FORMER SOVIET UNION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Chairman of the Broadcasting Board of Governors shall submit to Congress a plan,

including a cost estimate, for immediately and substantially increasing, and maintaining through fiscal year 2017, the quantity of Russian-language broadcasting into the countries of the former Soviet Union funded by the United States in order to counter Russian Federation propaganda.

(b) PRIORITIZATION OF BROADCASTING INTO UKRAINE, GEORGIA, AND MOLDOVA.—The plan required by subsection (a) shall prioritize broadcasting into Ukraine, Georgia, and Moldova by the Voice of America and Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty.

(c) ADDITIONAL PRIORITIES.—In developing the plan required by subsection (a), the Chairman shall consider—

(1) near-term increases in Russian-language broadcasting for countries of the former Soviet Union (other than the countries specified in subsection (b)), including Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia; and

(2) increases in broadcasting in other critical languages, including Ukrainian and Romanian languages.

(d) BROADCASTING DEFINED.—In this section, the term “broadcasting” means the distribution of media content via radio broadcasting, television broadcasting, and Internet-based platforms, among other platforms.

(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the *Broadcasting Board of Governors* \$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2015 through 2017 to carry out activities under this section.

(2) SUPPLEMENT NOT SUPPLANT.—Amounts authorized to be appropriated pursuant to paragraph (1) shall supplement and not supplant other amounts made available for activities described in this section.

#### SEC. 11. SUPPORT FOR RUSSIAN DEMOCRACY AND CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State shall, directly or through nongovernmental or international organizations, such as the *Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe*, the *National Endowment for Democracy*, and related organizations—

(1) improve democratic governance, transparency, accountability, rule of law, and anti-corruption efforts in the Russian Federation;

(2) strengthen democratic institutions and political and civil society organizations in the Russian Federation;

(3) expand uncensored Internet access in the Russian Federation; and

(4) expand free and unfettered access to independent media of all kinds in the Russian Federation, including through increasing United States Government-supported broadcasting activities, and assist with the protection of journalists and civil society activists who have been targeted for free speech activities.

(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of State \$20,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2015 through 2017 to carry out the activities set forth in subsection (a).

(c) STRATEGY REQUIREMENT.—Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall submit a strategy to carry out the activities set forth in subsection (a) to—

(1) the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate; and

(2) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

(d) TRANSPARENCY REQUIREMENTS.—Any assistance provided pursuant to this section shall be conducted in as transparent of a manner as possible, consistent with the nature and goals of



this section. The President shall provide a briefing on the activities funded by this section at the request of the committees specified in subsection (c).

**SEC. 12. REPORT ON NON-COMPLIANCE BY THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION OF ITS OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE INF TREATY.**

(a) **FINDINGS.**—Congress makes the following findings:

(1) The Russian Federation is in violation of its obligations under the Treaty between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on the Elimination of Their Intermediate-Range and Shorter-Range Missiles, signed at Washington December 8, 1987, and entered into force June 1, 1988 (commonly referred to as the “Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty” or “INF Treaty”).

(2) This behavior poses a threat to the United States, its deployed forces, and its allies.

(b) **SENSE OF CONGRESS.**—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the President should hold the Russian Federation accountable for being in violation of its obligations under the INF Treaty; and

(2) the President should demand the Russian Federation completely and verifiably eliminate the military systems that constitute the violation of its obligations under the INF Treaty.

(c) **REPORT.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and every 90 days thereafter, the President shall submit to the committees specified in subsection (d) a report that includes the following elements:

(A) A description of the status of the President’s efforts, in cooperation with United States allies, to hold the Russian Federation accountable for being in violation of its obligations under the INF Treaty and obtain the complete and verifiable elimination of its military systems that constitute the violation of its obligations under the INF Treaty.

(B) The President’s assessment as to whether it remains in the national security interests of the United States to remain a party to the INF Treaty, and other related treaties and agreements, while the Russian Federation is in violation of its obligations under the INF Treaty.

(C) Notification of any deployment by the Russian Federation of a ground launched ballistic or cruise missile system with a range of between 500 and 5,500 kilometers.

(D) A plan developed by the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Director of National Intelligence and the Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA), to verify that the Russian Federation has fully and completely dismantled any ground launched cruise missiles or ballistic missiles with a range of between 500 and 5,500 kilometers, including details on facilities that inspectors need access to, people inspectors need to talk with, how often inspectors need the accesses for, and how much the verification regime would cost.

(2) **FORM.**—The report required under paragraph (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form but may contain a classified annex.

(d) **COMMITTEES SPECIFIED.**—The committees specified in this subsection are—

(1) the Committee on Foreign Relations, the Committee on Armed Services, and the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate; and

(2) the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Committee on Armed Services, and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives.

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. President, the Banking Committee has jurisdiction over economic, trade, banking, and financial sanctions. During the last year, I have worked with my colleagues in Congress to authorize

the President to impose tough sanctions targeting President Putin and his cronies, and he has enlisted our allies in that effort. We all agree that if Putin continues to intimidate the people of Ukraine he must face intensifying economic and political isolation.

But unlike with the sanctions bill enacted earlier this year, the Foreign Relations Committee did not consult the Banking Committee on this bill prior to its markup. Even so, my staff has worked cooperatively with Foreign Relations staff in recent weeks to fix many of the most significant textual problems which would have made its implementation unworkable. Those negotiations have now progressed to a point where I have been satisfied with the changes included in the substitute amendment. While it is still not perfect and contains some provisions which in my view are unnecessary, we have made substantial progress.

The President has worked to impose punishing sanctions on Russia, maximizing their effect on Russia while minimizing their effect on the U.S. and Western allies. I heard personally from Secretary Lew the administration’s concern that the mandatory global energy sanctions in a prior version of this bill could have driven a wedge between the U.S. and our allies. They could have ensnared potentially hundreds of our allies’ businesses—including firms whose governments in Europe and elsewhere may otherwise be working with us to isolate Russia. That problem has now been resolved, and the substitute now gives the President discretion to target firms involved in these activities should he so choose. I am confident he will now be able to implement these measures in a way which is sensitive to the concerns of our allies, and which can protect innocent U.S. investors in pension funds, mutual funds, and emerging market funds which hold stock in European, Asian or other firms subject to potential sanction under the bill.

Sanctions should offer the President flexibility to continue to work with allies to maximize pressure on Russia as its economy reels under the stress of sanctions, falling world oil prices, and a falling ruble. I support the aid to Ukraine authorized in this bill, and I support further sanctions on Russia that will not drive a wedge between the U.S. and our allies, that will protect innocent U.S. investors, and that can be implemented with minimal confusion or delay. I am glad we were able finally to reach agreement on the bill and appreciate the cooperation of my colleagues in this effort.

Mr. DURBIN. I further ask unanimous consent that the committee-reported amendments be withdrawn; the Menendez-Corker substitute amendment, which is at the desk, be agreed to; the bill, as amended, be read a third

time; and the Senate proceed to vote on passage of the bill, as amended.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The committee-reported amendments were withdrawn.

The amendment (No. 4092) in the nature of a substitute was agreed to.

(The amendment is printed in today’s RECORD under “Text of Amendments.”)

The bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading and was read the third time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. If there is no further debate, the bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall it pass?

The bill (S. 2828), as amended, was passed.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

**APPROVING THE TRANSFER OF YELLOW CREEK PORT PROPERTIES IN IUKA, MISSISSIPPI**

**SAFE AND SECURE DRINKING WATER PROTECTION ACT OF 2014**

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Environment and Public Works be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 3044 and S. 2785 and the Senate proceed to their immediate consideration en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bills en bloc.

Mr. DURBIN. I ask unanimous consent that the bills be read a third time and passed and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 3044) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

The bill (S. 2785) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 2785

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This Act may be cited as the “Safe and Secure Drinking Water Protection Act of 2014”.

**SEC. 2. MICROCYSTINS IN DRINKING WATER.**

(a) **HEALTH ADVISORY.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency (referred to in this Act as the “Administrator”) shall develop and publish a health advisory including recommendations on—

(1)(A) the level of microcystins in drinking water below which the water is expected to be safe for human consumption; and

(B) feasible treatment techniques and other means for achieving that level; and  
 (2) standardized procedures for testing for microcystins in drinking water.

(b) **REPORTS.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, and each year thereafter, the Administrator shall submit to Congress a report that includes—

(1) a description of the status of the efforts of the Administrator to determine whether to regulate drinking water with respect to the level of microcystins;

(2) a description of the steps taken by the Administrator to promote testing of drinking water for microcystins in areas that have been affected by harmful algal blooms; and

(3) an analysis of available treatment techniques and other means for addressing microcystins in drinking water.

#### ENHANCING THE ABILITY OF COMMUNITY FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS TO FOSTER ECONOMIC GROWTH AND SERVE THEIR COMMUNITIES

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 3329 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the bill by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3329) to enhance the ability of community financial institutions to foster economic growth and serve their communities, boost small businesses, increase individual savings, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. DURBIN. I further ask unanimous consent that the King substitute amendment, which is at the desk, be agreed to; the bill, as amended, be read a third time and passed; and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment (No. 4093) in the nature of a substitute was agreed to, as follows:

(Purpose: In the nature of a substitute)

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

#### SECTION 1. CHANGES REQUIRED TO SMALL BANK HOLDING COMPANY POLICY STATEMENT ON ASSESSMENT OF FINANCIAL AND MANAGERIAL FACTORS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Before the end of the 6-month period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (hereafter in this Act referred to as the “Board”) shall publish in the Federal Register proposed revisions to the Small Bank Holding Company Policy Statement on Assessment of Financial and Managerial Factors (12 C.F.R. part 225 appendix C) that provide that the policy shall apply to bank holding companies and savings and loan holding companies which have pro forma consolidated assets of less than \$1,000,000,000 and that—

(1) are not engaged in significant non-banking activities either directly or through a nonbank subsidiary;

(2) do not conduct significant off-balance sheet activities (including securitization and asset management or administration) either directly or through a nonbank subsidiary; and

(3) do not have a material amount of debt or equity securities outstanding (other than trust preferred securities) that are registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

(b) **EXCLUSIONS.**—The Board may exclude any bank holding company or savings and loan holding company, regardless of asset size, from the policy statement under subsection (a) if the Board determines that such action is warranted for supervisory purposes.

#### SEC. 2. CONFORMING AMENDMENT.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Subparagraph (C) of section 171(b)(5) of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (12 U.S.C. 5371(b)(5)) is amended to read as follows:

“(C) any bank holding company or savings and loan holding company having less than \$1,000,000,000 in total consolidated assets that complies with the requirements of the Small Bank Holding Company Policy Statement on Assessment of Financial and Managerial Factors of the Board of Governors (12 C.F.R. part 225 appendix C), as the requirements of such Policy Statement are amended pursuant to section 1 of an Act entitled ‘To enhance the ability of community financial institutions to foster economic growth and serve their communities, boost small businesses, increase individual savings, and for other purposes’.”

(b) **TRANSITION PERIOD.**—Any small bank holding company that was excepted from the provisions of section 171 of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act pursuant to subparagraph (C) of section 171(b)(5) (as such subparagraph was in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act), and any small savings and loan holding company that would have been excepted from the provisions of section 171 pursuant to subparagraph (C) (as such subparagraph was in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act) if it had been a small bank holding company, shall be excepted from the provisions of section 171 until the effective date of the Small Bank Holding Company Policy Statement issued by the Board as required by section 1 of this Act.

#### SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

For the purposes of this Act:

(a) **BANK HOLDING COMPANY.**—The term “bank holding company” has the same meaning as in section 2 of the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956 (12 U.S.C. 1841).

(b) **SAVINGS AND LOAN HOLDING COMPANY.**—The term “savings and loan holding company” has the same meaning as in section 10(a) of the Home Owners’ Loan Act (12 U.S.C. 1467a(a)).

The amendment was ordered to be engrossed, and the bill to be read a third time.

The bill was read the third time.

The bill (H.R. 3329), as amended, was passed.

#### CREDIT UNION SHARE INSURANCE FUND PARITY ACT

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Banking,

Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 3468 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the bill by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3468) to amend the Federal Credit Union Act to extend insurance coverage to amounts held in a member account on behalf of another person, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. DURBIN. I further ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The bill (H.R. 3468) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

#### PROTECTING VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS AND EMERGENCY RESPONDERS ACT OF 2014—Continued

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. LEE. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. BALDWIN). Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### EXECUTIVE ACTION ON IMMIGRATION

Mr. LEE. As we all know, President Obama recently announced Executive action on immigration, what he refers to as deferred action, for millions of aliens who are here illegally but who have children who were born in the United States and by virtue of their birth in the United States are U.S. citizens.

Now the President has repeatedly assured the American people that he is not creating a pathway to citizenship for those individuals, but that isn't true. He and his administration have cleared the pathway to citizenship for millions of people who have crossed into our borders illegally. They know that is what they have done, and it is illegal. Immigration law is quite complicated, but here is the bottom line on this issue: If you are the parent of a U.S. citizen, when that child reaches the age of 21, assuming you haven't committed certain crimes or done other things that might exclude you from what the law generally allows, you can get a green card and eventually you can get citizenship. But there is a catch. If you are in an illegal status inside the United States because you crossed into our borders illegally



and that is how you became an illegal alien—that is, you entered without inspection, as that term is known in immigration circles—then in order to get back on the path to citizenship you are first required under existing law to leave the country and then to come back across the border into the country legally. Because you broke immigration laws before you came into the country, the law says you have to wait either 3 years or 10 years to return, depending on how long you were inside the country illegally before you left.

When we talk about clearing the path to citizenship for this set of immigrants—that is those who are close relatives of U.S. citizens—that is what we are talking about: getting around the rule that those who cross our border in secret must leave the country, wait a period of years outside the country because they broke our laws, and then return.

So when the President says he isn't clearing such a path to citizenship, that is Washington shorthand for, don't worry, I am not circumventing the law.

What stands between these people and citizenship is the need to enter the country lawfully, which they cannot do until they leave, wait a period of time that Congress has set by law, and then and only then come back. The President claims he is not touching this rule, but that is exactly what he is doing and exactly what he has done, and he is doing it through a program called advance parole. Advance parole is essentially a form of permission for an undocumented immigrant to travel outside the country and then return. When he gets back to the country and approaches the border, he presents an advance travel document to border officials and they will parole him into the country.

What is more, the President has announced if you leave the country under a grant of advance parole, the administration will treat you as though you never left at all, waiving the 3-year to 10-year wait mandated by Congress for people who have come here unlawfully and then left the country.

When that is done, as it turns out, the illegal immigrant will become eligible to take advantage of a different way to become a citizen: getting what is known as adjustment of status. Adjustment of status, which gives you a green card without having to leave the country, is available to parents of U.S. citizens so long as they crossed our border lawfully, which advanced parole lets them do.

So how hard will it be to get advance parole, which leads to a green card, which in turn leads to citizenship? Well, it is supposed to be very hard. Parole is kind of a temporary emergency pass that lets someone into the country for an extremely urgent reason, even though the law says that an immigrant in that circumstance cannot be admitted for one reason or another.

In fact, there is a Federal statute passed by Congress that restricts the power of the executive branch of the Federal Government to use parole to a very narrow, very confined set of circumstances. That law, INA section 212(d)(5)(a), says that the executive branch may parole individuals into the United States “only on a case-by-case basis for urgent humanitarian reasons or significant public benefit.”

That term “urgent humanitarian reasons” means conditions such as getting medical treatment or perhaps attending a funeral of a close family member. “Significant public benefit” usually means circumstances such as one being a witness in a crime and as such needing to come into the country to testify at trial.

To be clear, it is illegal—illegal—to parole people into the country who don't meet that standard. But for deferred action recipients, here is the standard the President is using: A person warranting advance parole, which again also eventually leads to citizenship, must file a form I-131 with USCIS. The instructions for this form explain that deferred action recipients can get parole for “educational purposes, employment purposes or humanitarian purposes . . .”

I continue:

Educational purposes include but are not limited to semester abroad programs or academic research;

Employment purposes include but are not limited to overseas assignments, interviews, conferences, training or meetings with clients. . . .

In no universe is a meeting with a client or a conference an urgent humanitarian reason. Nowhere in the universe are those circumstances for a significant benefit to the American public.

Imagine this scenario. Imagine that a foreign national approaches our border. The border officials ask the individual for a visa, and he says, oh, I don't have a visa, but I do have a business meeting in Denver. Can I come in, even though I don't have a visa? There is no doubt he would be turned away promptly. But for the new deferred action recipients under the President's Executive action plan, so long as you have a business meeting in Toronto or an overseas assignment in Buenos Aires, you can get permission to leave and be paroled back into the country immediately upon your return, along with the government's promise to ignore the 3-year or 10-year bar that is supposed to keep you out of the country. And once you do that, you can adjust your status and get a green card and eventually citizenship.

How do I know this? Well, in 2010 the American Spectator published a leaked Department of Homeland Security memo, a version of which purportedly reached the Secretary of Homeland Security—then-Secretary Janet Napolitano—exploring the administration's

options on immigration. That memo explicitly contemplated using parole as a way to sidestep Congress and give citizenship to illegal immigrants who are relatives to U.S. citizens.

It says “individuals could . . . be paroled into the U.S. for purposes of applying for adjustment of status to render immediate relatives of U.S. citizens eligible for parole, DHS could issue guidance establishing that family reunification constitutes a significant public benefit.”

So let me be clear. Advance parole leads to citizenship for parents of U.S. citizens. The administration knows that, and they are giving advance parole for reasons such as client meetings that clearly violate Federal law.

This is the danger of unilateral Executive action, drafted in secret and announced to the American people as a fait accompli. In our system, policies are debated in the legislature and their consequences need to be explored through debate. Here, the President's action has avoided that constitutional lawmaking process, but it has also broken existing laws passed by Congress.

Thank you, Madam President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

SERVING AS PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

Mr. LEAHY. Madam President, I have been in the Senate just a few weeks shy of 40 years. For the past 2 years I have had the distinct honor of serving this Chamber as the President pro tempore. Just four Senators from Vermont have held this title. I am the first in more than a century.

It has been among my greatest privileges to represent Vermont in the U.S. Senate, something I dreamed about as a child, and it has been day after day after day a privilege to represent my very special State of Vermont in this body.

It has also been an honor and privilege to serve as the President pro tempore in this institution, the U.S. Senate. This is an institution for which I will always have the greatest respect and affection.

When I assumed the position of President pro tempore, something I had not realized would happen, Marcelle and I welcomed into our family over time nearly 20 invaluable members of the U.S. Capitol Police. As President pro tempore and third in the line of succession, the office comes with a security detail. It is not something I had asked for. In fact, I said, well, I don't really need that, and they said: You don't get any choice in the matter.

I got to know them well. I had a background in law enforcement before I came to the Senate, but I have never served with such professionals as those who comprise this team. They sacrifice time at home. They sacrifice time with their families and weekends and holidays. I could not be more grateful for their dedication to public service and

for their professionalism and good nature. They are an example of what the best in law enforcement should be.

The U.S. Capitol should be very proud of our U.S. Capitol Police and especially of those who are in this unique dignitary protection division. Those who serve on such details are trained to blend into the background. You might forget they are there, but they are, and they miss nothing. When I try to give them credit for the work they do, they say: Well, that is just our job. It is a lot more than their job. It is true professionalism and it is something that makes everybody in law enforcement and should make everybody in the U.S. Senate proud.

I want to recognize their commitment and acknowledge their service. The members of this detail include Sergeant David Rib, Thomas Andriko, Henry Smith, Shane Powell, Eric Boggs, Robert Schultz, Antonio Carofano, Amy McDaniel, John Jastrzebski, Ryan Rayball, Ryan Andrews, Jay Schmid, Austin Reinshuttle, Sean Keating, Anthony Ravenel, Gideon Maran, John Brito, Luis Pimentel, Jose Ramirez, Jr., Robert Leh, James Melenson, Edward Wojciechowski, and Marc DeJames, who recently retired.

Next year when Congress reconvenes, we will elect a new President pro tempore, my friend Senator ORRIN HATCH. I will continue as dean of the Senate, and a future President pro tempore emeritus. I wish ORRIN HATCH the best, and I know he is going to be in safe hands with the dedicated members of the President pro tempore's security detail.

Again, having served in law enforcement, having considered that a very significant part of my career, I have never seen more professional police officers than these men and women. Every one of us as Senators should be glad they are there.

Madam President, on another matter, after 9 months of hearings and briefings, many long days and nights of negotiations, this past weekend the Appropriations Committee completed work on the fiscal year 2015 Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act.

Earlier this year many of us came to the floor and praised Chairwoman MIKULSKI for her heroic efforts to pass the fiscal year 2014 omnibus. While many in Washington thought that feat could not be repeated 2 years in a row, as the most senior Member of the Appropriations Committee I knew she would prove them wrong, and she did. Chairwoman MIKULSKI rallied her 12 subcommittees and reached across the aisle to negotiate this omnibus and avoid another shutdown. Without her, this would not have been possible.

Similar to Chairwoman MIKULSKI, my friend Senator SHELBY from Alabama, the committee's vice chairman,

also deserves a great deal of praise for the role he played. Without Senator SHELBY's recognition of the importance of passing appropriations bills rather than continuing to fund the government on autopilot, we would not have reached this point.

As chairman of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Subcommittee, I also wish to thank the ranking member, LINDSEY GRAHAM, chairwoman KAY GRANGER, and ranking member NITA LOWEY in the other body. They were always able partners, whose wealth of experience—I will emphasize that—wealth of experience is invaluable to the subcommittee's work, and it is reflected throughout the final agreement.

I look forward to working with the incoming subcommittee chairman LINDSEY GRAHAM next year to continue to fund the diplomacy and foreign aid programs that are essential to protecting U.S. interests around the world in a manner that reflects American values.

The State, Foreign Operations portion of this omnibus was negotiated with the full participation of representatives of both parties in both Houses of Congress as a balanced, bipartisan bill. Every word was discussed and agreed to by Republicans and Democrats, and our respective subcommittee bills have been publicly available since they were reported out of committee in June.

My Democratic clerk of the subcommittee, Tim Rieser, made sure everybody in both parties were kept apprised of everything we did. I want to thank him, Janet Stormes and Alex Carnes of the Democratic staff, as well as Paul Grove, the Republican clerk, and Adam Yezerski of the Republican staff. They all played an essential role.

Others who were indispensable and deserve our thanks are Valerie Hutton, Celina Inman, Elmer Barnes, and Penny Myles of the editorial and printing office, who worked long hours to produce draft after draft of the bill. They do an outstanding job.

Division J of this omnibus for the Department of State and Foreign Operations provides a total of \$51.8 billion in discretionary budget authority to protect U.S. security, humanitarian, and economic interests around the world.

Anybody who doubts that these funds are important should think about the devastation being wrought by ISIL in Syria and Iraq and its impact on neighboring Lebanon and Jordan, in addition to what is happening in the Central African Republic, South Sudan, and other areas where hundreds of thousands of people have been displaced by ethnic and tribal violence. Part of this funding will support aid for refugees and other victims of disasters, and we provide \$1.5 billion above the budget request. The bill also includes additional funds to help Ukraine and other former

Soviet republics counter Russian aggression.

It provides \$2.5 billion in emergency funding to respond to the Ebola epidemic, which reminds us all that a deadly virus is often only one airplane trip away from our shores.

The bill includes full funding for diplomatic security, which unfortunately we need today.

As far as U.N. peacekeeping, the bill provides funding and authorities to fully meet our commitments.

It includes an increase above the budget request for PEPFAR and other global health programs, which I was very pleased about considering that those increases did not require cuts to other critical programs.

The bill includes additional funding for educational and cultural exchanges. It provides funding to address the gang violence and poverty that contribute to the migration of unaccompanied children from Central America. That problem ebbs and flows but cannot be ignored. We have seen the flood of young children across our southern border, risking their lives rather than staying and being attacked and raped in their own country, or forced into gangs and made to shoot and kill and rob.

I am very pleased we were able to include the amounts requested for programs to protect biodiversity and tropical forests, support clean energy and reduce global warming, combat wildlife poaching and trafficking. These are important national security issues.

I am also pleased that provisions relating to our commitments to the international financial institutions, particularly relating to evaluations, beneficial ownership, human rights, industrial-scale logging, and financing for large dams, were included. I look forward to discussing them with the Treasury Department, State, and USAID.

The provisions relating to a Small Grants Program to provide small, multi-year USAID grants to small entities, timely feedback from beneficiaries of humanitarian assistance, and reforms to provide incentives for Foreign Service Officers to support sustainable, locally-driven development, are also important.

There is a lot more in this bill to support friends and allies so they can combat disease, hunger, poverty, strengthen the rule of law, and protect human rights. These are all programs that are directly linked to our national security. They fulfill our moral obligation as Americans, as members of the wealthiest, most powerful Nation on Earth.

There are some things that I wish were not included, particularly a House provision carried from last year that would weaken limits on carbon emissions from projects financed by the Export-Import Bank and Overseas Private Investment Corporation. Our European

partners are wisely ending public subsidies for coal in favor of cleaner, healthier, renewable energy, but the House continues to block such progress here.

I am very disappointed the Senate provision to bring the United States into compliance with the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations was rejected again this year by the House. The Bush administration spoke of the necessity of this, as has the Obama administration.

Mr. President, no bill is perfect, and this one is no exception. But the State, Foreign Operations portion of the omnibus is a whole lot better than a continuing resolution that ignores the changing global realities and challenges we face.

It was a collaborative effort from beginning to end with Republicans and Democrats alike, and it should be supported overwhelmingly.

I see my friend, the distinguished senior Senator from Texas on the floor seeking recognition, so I will yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Republican whip.

Mr. CORNYN. It is good to see the senior Senator from Vermont back and in good health. I know he has been struggling a little bit with this crazy weather we are having, and we are glad to see him back.

On November 5, 2009, a radical jihadist, by the name of Nidal Hasan, who happened to also be a major in the U.S. Army, opened fire at Fort Hood, TX, claiming the lives of 12 U.S. soldiers, one civilian, one unborn child, and wounded more than 30 other people. It was a shocking tragedy and event.

Shortly after the attack, it became clear that Hasan was motivated by the same poisonous ideology that spurred the attacks on September 11, 2001; in other words, this was an act of domestic terrorism. Yet due to the narrow and outdated definition of "international terrorism," the Fort Hood victims have not been awarded the same medals and recognition as other military victims of terrorism.

Furthermore, the Obama administration took the position of claiming that the 2009 Fort Hood victims were not eligible for Purple Hearts because this was workplace violence—believe it or not. They further said they didn't think Hasan was acting under the explicit direction of a foreign terrorist group, so they were not qualified for these Purple Hearts and this recognition.

When our men and women in uniform come under hostile fire from a terrorist, they and their families should receive the full honors and full recognition and benefits that accompany such courageous service. That is why I have authored legislation in the Senate making these victims of the November

2009 attack at Fort Hood eligible to receive the Purple Heart or the civilian equivalent.

Last week I was pleased that the House of Representatives passed the Defense authorization bill, which includes the legislation I authored awarding Purple Hearts to victims of this terrorist attack.

I wish to thank my good friends Congressmen WILLIAMS and CARTER for their steadfast dedication to seeing this to conclusion and to fruition.

While long overdue, this is welcome news to the wounded, the families of the fallen, and the entire Fort Hood community, because even after 5 years, the wounds from this horrific attack are still there, especially for the families of people such as Michael Cahill, a civilian physician's assistant and retired soldier, and Army CPT John Gaffaney, both of whom charged the shooter and sacrificed their lives to save others around them.

The close-knit community at Fort Hood has endured great loss in recent years, and I am pleased we are now just one step closer to delivering this important piece of justice to the victims and their families. It is my hope that once the Defense authorization bill clears this Chamber, that the President will act quickly in signing this legislation into law because any further delay is a continuing injustice to all of the victims from that day and indeed all of the good people at Fort Hood.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Carolina.

#### FAREWELL TO THE SENATE

Mrs. HAGAN. Madam President, it is with great honor and gratitude that I rise to reflect on the last 6 years, which have been some of the most rewarding and transformative of my life, and to thank the people who have been by my side as we worked to make our great State and this great country even better.

First and foremost, I wish to thank the people of North Carolina for allowing me to serve them in the Senate. Six years ago you sent me to Washington to fight for the priorities that make our State great, and I have put North Carolina first every single day. I have been honored to stand up for our teachers, our students, to fight for our seniors, to help create a business climate that promotes job growth, to build an economy that works for everyone, and to make sure we keep our promises to our servicemembers and to our veterans.

I am extremely proud of what we have been able to accomplish, and I am forever humbled and grateful for the opportunity to serve.

I also wish to thank my family; my husband Chip, who is my rock, and my three children, Jeanette, Tilden, and Carrie, and my two great sons-in-law, Will and Martin.

These past 6 years have been extremely full of exciting milestones for the Hagan family. Since my term began, my two daughters have both gotten married and they both had babies. I have a 1-year-old grandson Harrison and a 1-week-old granddaughter Christine. So when I said earlier that these past 6 years have been transformative, I wasn't kidding.

I also wish to thank my dad Joe Ruthven, who is one of my most trusted advisers and a constant source of inspiration for me, as is his wife Judy, my stepmom, for all of her love and support.

I wish to thank the Capitol Police here in Washington. I don't think we recognize these people enough for the incredible work they do to keep us safe.

And, of course, I wish to thank my unbelievably hard-working staff whom I consider to be a part of the official Hagan family. These folks are top-notch. Their commitment to our State and the people we serve is unmatched. They are passionate and compassionate, and I am so grateful to have had them by my side over these last 6 years. I ask unanimous consent that a list of their names be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

#### STAFF OF SENATOR KAY R. HAGAN

Michelle Adams, Ayo Adeyeye, Tyler Aiken, Natalia Aldana, Stephanie Allen, Patrick Ayers, Devan Barber, Micah Beasley, Caroline Brantley, Patrick Brennan, Nancy Brenner, Emorie Broemel, Christopher Cannon, Angelo Caravano, Bess Caughran, Marshall Cesena, Justin Clayton, Molly Conti, Carrie Cook, Perrin Cooke, Travis Cooke, Ashley Copeland, Kathryn Davidson, Curtis Davis, Andrew Devlin, Sage Dunston, Ashley Eden, Brittany Ellis, Karen Evans.

John Fain, Elizabeth Farrar, Sharon Fisher, Colleen Flanagan, Margaret Freshwater, Amanda Gabriel, Tiffany Germain, Jennifer Gradnigo, Mary Hanley, Simone Hardeman-Jones, Mike Harney, Freddie Harrill, Jenny Hartsock, David Hartzler, Christopher Hayden, Christina Henderson, David Hoffman, Julie Holzhueter, Cristina Jacome, Jennifer Johnson, Michael Jones, Rosemary Kennedy, Meenal Khajuria, Crystal King, Catherine Kuerbitz.

John Labban, Tasmaya Lagoo, Stephen Lassiter, Samuel Lau, Margaret Lawryniewicz, Caitlin Legacki, Jason Lindsay, Travis Manigan, Elizabeth Margolis, Shaniqua McClendon, Patrick McHugh, Will Medley, Kathryn Merrill, Forest Michaels, Melissa Midgett, John Minor, Joyce Mitchell, Amber Moon, Christopher Moyer, Sara Mursky-Fuller, Brian Nagle, Adeline Noger, Thomas O'Donnell, Emily Osterhus, Elizabeth Outten, Allison Parker, Tyler Patrick, Joseph Peele, Roger Pena, John Pfeiffer, Benjamin Piven, Stanley Purple.

Cierra Raleigh, Rikkia Ramsey, Hanna Raskin, Jean Reaves, Ryan Regan, Matthew Rumley, Leo Schmid, Tatyana Semyrog, Christopher Sgro, Lindsay Siler, Valarie Simpson, Leland Slade, Hannah Smith, Tremayne Smith, Aaron Suntag, Joshua Teitelbaum, Clayton Thomas, John Tillman,

Karen Wade, Brittany Wakefield, Muthoni Wambu, Brandy Warwick, Timothy Webster, Alissa Sadie Weiner, Meshia White, Andrew Wilkins, Johnnie Williams, Sue Wink, Margaret Winslow, Abigail Youngken, Tracy Zvenyach.

Mrs. HAGAN. My staff knew how important it was to me that my office be as open and as accessible as possible to the people of North Carolina, and my team worked every single day to help us reach that goal. Over the last 6 years, we held a townhall in every 100 counties across North Carolina. In DC, we have held a Carolina Coffee every Wednesday and we welcomed thousands of North Carolinians to come visit us. We have also resolved more than 36,000 constituent cases for the people of North Carolina, from helping veterans access their benefits with the VA to helping families struggling with high mortgage rates to be able to stay in their homes, to helping small businesses cut through the bureaucratic redtape.

While my North Carolina staff was there for the folks in our State day in and day out, my DC team was helping me fight for North Carolinians in Washington.

North Carolina is proud to be the most military-friendly State in the Nation. As a member of a military family, it is important to me to work every single day to keep our State the most military-friendly State. My husband is a Vietnam veteran. My dad and my brother served in the Navy. My father-in-law was a major general in the Marine Corps. I have two nephews on active duty. One is an F-15 fighter pilot and the other one is a Navy SEAL. So when I say one of my top priorities was ensuring Federal policies worked for our veterans in active-duty military, they are not just words, it is truly a personal obligation.

That is why nearly 6 years ago, when Jerry Ensminger, a retired marine, shared with me the story of his daughter Janey, my heart broke for him. Janey died of leukemia at the age of 9 because of contaminated water on the base at Camp Lejeune. He dedicated his life to seeking justice for his daughter and other Camp Lejeune victims. I found it absolutely unconscionable that the Federal Government had denied this man, who served our country, the answers he needed after all he had been through. I wanted to do whatever I could to help, and it was one of the greatest honors of my life to work alongside my North Carolina colleague Senator BURR to pass the Janey Ensminger Act, to help Jerry and the servicemembers and families affected by water contamination at Camp Lejeune and to give them the answers and the health care they deserved.

It was also important to me that all Americans remembered and understood the sacrifices made by our military and their families. During my time in the Senate, I had the opportunity to speak

on this very floor about some of the brave servicemembers from North Carolina, many of whom made the ultimate sacrifice, and many of whom lost their lives while trying to make the world a better place and safer for the rest of us. I had the opportunity to speak with many of their families and their stories were both moving and heartbreaking.

I spoke with Terry Marquez, whose son Justin died from small-arms fire wounds he received while on foot patrol in the Wardak Province in Afghanistan just 1 month after he arrived in theater. He was only 25 years old when he died.

According to Justin's mom Terry, as Justin grew up in the Army, he was like a fine wine, he just kept getting better with age. He believed in protecting others. He believed in making the world a better place. He believed in standing up so that others might not have to. Justin embodied the selflessness and courage that defines the men and women of our armed services.

Shortly after sharing Justin's story on the Senate floor, I invited his mother to be my guest at the State of the Union Address. Her presence reminded not just me but so many of the Senators that she met that night—and she knew them all—how important it is that we uphold our promises to the men and women who put their lives on the line for each and every one of us. It has been an honor to help be one of those voices for our servicemembers, veterans, and their families in Washington.

As one of 20 women in the Senate, I have also enjoyed being a voice for women and children. As women Senators, we bring a unique perspective to the policymaking dialog. We understand the issues facing women and families because we have been there. Some of us are moms and some are grandmoms. We know what it is like to balance that family checkbook and simultaneously run the business and a carpool, and to want the best possible future not only for our children but for all the children throughout the United States.

More important than that, the women of the Senate know how to bridge the partisan divide to get the job done. Together we passed the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act, the first bill I cosponsored as a U.S. Senator. We kept student loan rates from doubling. We pushed for initiatives such as my newborn screening bill to ensure that every child has a healthy start in life. I am proud of the work we have done together to support our families and to set this country on a path to a brighter future.

But the fact is we need a lot more of that in Washington. If we are going to address the biggest challenges facing our country, we have to break through the political gridlock and confront

these issues together—head on, united; not as Republicans and Democrats, but working together on behalf of the American people. We need to work together to tackle the rising cost of college that is putting higher education out of reach for too many students and then burdening them with unsustainable debt. We need to reform our education system to ensure that every child has the tools and the technology we have to have today and that we have to understand and be an expert in that technology in order to be successful in this competitive environment.

The economy is improving, but wages are stagnant. We must find ways to ensure that Americans working full time are not living in poverty.

We need to help middle-class families get ahead and ensure that working women are receiving the support they need, whether it is fair pay, affordable childcare, or time to care for new babies or seriously ill family members. There is so much work to be done. It is my hope these issues can be addressed in the 114th Congress, but doing so is going to take cooperation from all 100 Members of this body.

The men and women I have worked with during my time are some of the most dedicated, passionate people I have ever met. And there are so many, I am only going to name a few.

BARBARA MIKULSKI was my first mentor, the dean of the women. She waltzed me down the aisle to get sworn in. She is one of the greatest advocates for women and for families. And I know that PATTY MURRAY, the mom in tennis shoes, is a dynamite negotiator. MARK WARNER, one of my 2008 classmates, is a leader in seeking bipartisan solutions. SUSAN COLLINS is a great friend and a proven consensus builder. CHUCK SCHUMER is a trusted adviser who embodies what it means to be a fighter.

There are so many to name, and I love them all. But I know the Members of the Senate can make progress on these issues that matter so long as we put politics aside and work together.

One of my guiding principles is “to whom much is given, much is expected.” Six years ago, North Carolinians gave me an opportunity to be a voice in Washington, and I have put North Carolinians first every single day. I urge my colleagues to do the same—to remember who they are fighting for, not who they are fighting against, to see past the deed, to see past the d or the r, to work together in a bipartisan fashion as I have tried to do to move this country forward.

Working with all of my colleagues and serving North Carolina in the U.S. Senate is a huge honor.

God bless you all, and God bless the U.S. Senate. Thank you.

I yield the floor.

(Applause, Senators rising.)

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Illinois.

TRIBUTE TO KAY HAGAN

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, first let me commend my colleague from North Carolina, KAY HAGAN, who has been an extraordinary asset in the U.S. Senate. She has shown political bravery to the highest degree over and over again, taking what she knew were the right votes even when they were politically tough votes. I just listened to her farewell address and I couldn't agree with her more, that she put the people of North Carolina ahead of everything else in terms of her service in the U.S. Senate. It has been an honor to serve with her, to get to know her husband Chip and her family, and I wish her only the best for whatever her future undertakings may be.

DEATH IN CUSTODY REPORTING ACT

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, on Tuesday I was pleased to chair an important hearing in the Judiciary Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights and Human Rights that took a look at the state of civil rights in America today.

We heard compelling testimony from our colleagues, including Senator CORY BOOKER of New Jersey, Congressman LUIS GUTIÉRREZ of Illinois, and Congressman KEITH ELLISON of Minnesota. We also heard from civil rights leaders Wade Henderson and Laura Murphy, and from Dr. Cedric Alexander of the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives.

It was a powerful hearing. We talked about Michael Brown of Ferguson Missouri, Eric Garner of Staten Island, and the growing sentiment across our Nation that the criminal justice system needs to be improved.

In particular, we talked about challenges that our Nation faces when it comes to restoring the trust of the minority communities in our government. Every witness, every Senator at the hearing agreed. We need to do more—not just wring our hands but to hold hands together and find solutions.

One issue we discussed at the hearing was the need for law enforcement to be more transparent. We discussed important legislation—called the Death in Custody Reporting Act—that would mark a significant step forward when it comes to transparency. The Death in Custody Reporting Act would take the simple step of requiring States and Federal law enforcement agencies to report to the Department of Justice basic statistical information regarding deaths that occur in law enforcement custody. This would include information about the name of the deceased, when the death occurred, how it occurred, and which agency was involved. It would apply when a person is being arrested or detained by local, State, or Federal law enforcement and when a person is incarcerated. The bill also directs the Attorney General to study

this information and provide recommendations on how these deaths can be reduced.

It seems like such a simple matter to require accurate information to be collected. In fact, Congress used to require that information, but it expired in 2006. As a result, we have not had accurate national statistics regarding deaths in incarceration and custody.

Last week the Wall Street Journal reported that it surveyed police departments about deaths that occurred in police custody between 2007 and 2012 and found that more than 550 deaths occurred during that time and were not included in national statistics.

As we engage in a national conversation about reforming police tactics, we need accurate data in order to make the right reforms. At our hearing, our witnesses from the civil rights and law enforcement community agreed it was time to start gathering this information.

I am pleased that last night at the end of the session, the Senate passed the Death in Custody Reporting Act by unanimous consent. It is an important step forward toward transparency, accountability, and restoring confidence.

Let me give credit where it is due. For years this legislation has been championed by my friend Congressman BOBBY SCOTT of Virginia. I commend him for his dedicated efforts. I also commend my colleague Senator RICHARD BLUMENTHAL of Connecticut, who has strongly advocated for this bill in the Senate, including in our hearing on Tuesday.

Let me also give thanks to PATRICK LEAHY, chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, and House Judiciary Committee ranking member JOHN CONYERS for their support of this legislation.

This is not a partisan bill. It passed the House last year by a voice vote. Now it has cleared the Senate and is on its way to the President. The passage of this legislation shows that we can work together across the aisle and make progress. Make no mistake—we have a lot of work to do to improve the state of civil rights in America. There are many more steps we must take to restore the confidence of all Americans in our criminal justice system. The passage of this legislation by Congress is an important step in the right direction.

I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BENNET. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRIBUTES TO MARK UDALL

Mr. BENNET. Madam President, I wish to take a moment today to speak

about my friend MARK UDALL, who is soon going to be finishing his term. MARK's sister Doty describes him as an OK politician but an extraordinary public servant. I think it is fair to say that MARK could never reduce his role as a representative of the people of Colorado to just politics. It is not in his DNA.

It is with a very heavy heart that I see him leave the Senate, because he is my friend. But it is especially sad at a time when MARK's kind of leadership and constructive engagement is exactly what this place needs.

"UDALL" is a name that is synonymous with the West, and MARK and the collective service of the Udall family have come to represent the very best of our western way of life. They have embodied that pioneering and entrepreneurial spirit dating back to the days when Americans were building entirely new lives on the frontier. They have a historic love for the beauty and majesty of the West. They have spent lifetimes protecting it.

Mo and Stu Udall, MARK's uncle and father, both served our country during World War II. Stu was elected to serve the Second District of Arizona. When President Kennedy asked Stu to serve as the Secretary of Interior, Mo won Stu's seat in Congress.

Unlike his son MARK, Mo never ran for the Senate. He explained why. He said:

I told the Arizona Press Club with [Barry] Goldwater present that there were three reasons I was not running for the Senate: 1. I love the House. 2. My wife and family are against it. And 3, I have taken a poll and you are going to beat the hell out of me.

Although, he did run for President. The New Republic reported on that:

The Arizona Congressman, Morris Udall liked to tell a story about a response he got at a barber shop in Maine: He looked in at the door and, meaning to introduce himself, said "Mo Udall, running for president." "Yeah," the barber said, "we were just laughing about it this morning."

It is not hard to know where MARK acquired his self-deprecating approach to the world, just as it not hard to know where he inherited his commitment to civil rights, to conservation, and to good government.

MARK has said it was during this time that his political views were formed. He himself went on to seek office.

In 2008, when MARK was elected to represent Colorado in the Senate, his cousin TOM—Stu's son—was elected to serve the State of New Mexico and is one of our colleagues today.

MARK UDALL's connection to the West and to public service comes from both sides of his family. Mo Udall, a man of many talents, met Patricia Emory, MARK's mother, while playing baseball in Colorado. Patricia or "Sam" Udall was a sharpshooter, pilot, Peace Corps volunteer at the age of 56. She was a native Coloradan and the

person MARK credits most for his passion for the outdoors, for backpacking and climbing.

Today in the 21st century we face a profound set of challenges and a dramatic test of our democratic institution. Can what MARK UDALL often calls this glorious experiment in self-government continue to thrive into the next century and beyond?

MARK has carried the tradition of his family by serving as a moral forward-pointing compass. Throughout his career he has defended personal freedom and liberty, and he has built a legacy of conservation and preservation. As a member of the Colorado General Assembly representing Longmont and parts of Boulder County, MARK toughened the laws against poaching big game as trophy animals. As a Member of the House of Representatives, he worked across the aisle to establish the Rocky Flats Wildlife Refuge, cleaning up the former nuclear site and preserving 4,000 acres of wild land near Denver. He established the James Peak Wilderness Area, protecting 14,000 acres of some of our most scenic land in Gilpin and Grand Counties. He passed the Rocky Mountain National Park Wilderness Act to designate nearly 250,000 acres within the park as wilderness, including Longs Peak, which is actually a 14er that I have climbed. MARK UDALL has climbed all of them in Colorado, every single 14er we have, because they are included in the tallest 100 mountains that we have, each one of which has been summited by MARK UDALL. These are lands that will be protected long after any of our political careers are over and long after they remember who it was who protected those lands to begin with. But if anybody cares to check, they are going to know that it was MARK UDALL.

MARK has been vocal, active, and effective in his fight against climate change and in his promotion of renewable energy. He was the statewide co-chair of the successful 2004 campaign to pass Colorado's amendment 37. This measure required Colorado's power companies to generate most of their electricity from renewable sources. Colorado was the first State in the Union to take the issue to the voters. Amendment 37 passed. MARK UDALL was the driving force behind that effort. After his victory in the State, MARK took this issue to the House of Representatives. The House has twice passed the national renewable electricity standard championed by MARK.

During his time in the Senate, he has continued to push for a national policy, and his doggedness in standing up for Colorado's wind energy production saved thousands of good-paying jobs across the State and ensured that we will continue to lead the Nation in developing our clean energy economy.

The same is true for our ski areas, which have expanded recreation activi-

ties and summertime job opportunities thanks to a law MARK passed in this Senate.

Colorado's aerospace industry is thriving in part thanks to MARK UDALL. His work on space policy also dates back to his time in the House of Representatives as ranking member on the Space Subcommittee. MARK helped revitalize aeronautics and aviation research and development at NASA and ensure that the Hubble space telescope received service and funding.

In the Senate, MARK helped lead the Colorado delegation opposition to a proposal that would have canceled the Orion Program, costing the State 1,000 jobs. The administration backed off. Last week, with a shuttle and rocket—both built by companies based in Colorado—NASA launched a successful test flight of the Orion vehicle. We will again carry astronauts into space, traveling deeper than ever before and eventually maybe even visit Mars.

As everybody in this Chamber knows, MARK has been a staunch defender of the rights and freedoms we cherish as westerners. As a member of the Senate Armed Services and Intelligence Committees, MARK fought every single day he was here to protect the security of the American people and the Bill of Rights. He has taken on NSA and CIA when they violated our constitutional values.

In 2011 he worked on a classified level to pressure intelligence officials to dismantle a massive email collection program that affected American privacy. Administration officials were unable to provide evidence that the program was effective. It was shut down. It only became public information when the New York Times reported on it in July of 2013.

Well before Edward Snowden made headlines in 2013, MARK warned of the NSA's overreach. In 2012, on this Senate floor, he warned the American people that they would be shocked to learn about what the NSA was doing in secret. He introduced landmark, bipartisan surveillance reform legislation with Senators RON WYDEN, RICHARD BLUMENTHAL, and RAND PAUL. It became the basis for the USA FREEDOM Act, which received 58 votes just a few weeks ago. There was a time, before the relentless use of the filibuster, when a majority of votes in the Senate would have been enough to ensure passage of that bill.

Earlier this week the Intelligence Committee released the executive summary of the Senate Intelligence Committee's study of the CIA's detention and interrogation program. Nobody in this place fought harder than MARK UDALL to shed light on these tactics. His goal from day one has been holding the CIA accountable, shedding light on this dark chapter of our history, and ensuring that the neither the CIA nor any other agency or future administra-

tion would make the grievous mistakes that were made here. He accomplished his goals with respect to the process without leaking classified information but by applying pressure both politically and privately until the report was finally released. He has been effective because he has stood on consistent principle on every issue we have faced.

He voted against the PATRIOT Act. He opposed the war in Iraq. He helped lead the fight to end don't ask, don't tell.

MARK truly is the very best of what it means to be a public servant: independent, responsible, tough, focused on the future, and possessing an abiding can-do spirit. His calm presence, his unassuming nature, and his ability to see pure good in those around him are exactly what we so desperately need in our process today.

Simply put, MARK UDALL has fought for Colorado families in the most constructive way possible—by pushing thoughtful commonsense solutions—but has never ever fought to achieve a partisan political fleece.

When Colorado was struck with a series of natural disasters, from wildfires to floods, MARK was at his very best, standing up for our State and our families to lead the efforts to ensure that our communities had the support they needed to recover and better prepare for the threats we faced next. He has strengthened the way we respond to the growing threat of wildfire by emphasizing preservation efforts that will save lives, property, and tax dollars. We would expect nothing else from a man who has dedicated himself and his career to standing up for Colorado families, the middle class, and the values of the American West.

As a Senator, a Representative, a State legislator, director of the Colorado Outward Bound school, MARK has been a model public servant. He has lived up to and exceeded the high standards his family has set for more than a century. Throughout all of his work, MARK has always fought against the dysfunction that persists in Washington.

It is true, however, that MARK cannot take full credit for the work. His wife and partner Maggie Fox shares his commitment to leaving more opportunity for the next generation. She has worked as a teacher and community organizer on the Navajo and Hopi reservations of Arizona, New Mexico, and for the Colorado, North Carolina, and Northwest Outward Bound schools. She has become a leading voice in many efforts to protect our land, our air, and our water. Their partnership is a genuine one. It has made MARK's work possible.

MARK's staff has been among the finest, most professional, and most effective in the Senate. It has been a pleasure for me and for my staff to work alongside them on behalf of the people of Colorado.



Over the past few years I have learned that really there are two broad categories of people in Washington: There are those who embrace and add to the dysfunction because it serves their ideological convictions or gives them an opportunity to star on the cable news or both. Then there are the people who are actually trying to save the place. They are looking for areas of compromise to break the gridlock and to move us forward.

MARK is one of the good ones, and I have no doubt he will continue to make profound contributions to Colorado and to our Nation in a variety of ways, but we are diminished by his loss. Every one of us, for the sake of this institution, would do well to live up to the example MARK UDALL has set.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Mexico.

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Madam President, I thank Senator GRASSLEY for allowing me this time to talk about my cousin, MARK UDALL. First, let me say to Senator BENNET, I know that MARK feels he could not have had a better partner, a better friend, and someone to work with on Colorado issues and the great national issues than Senator BENNET.

Senator BENNET spoke eloquently of MARK's incredible record in public service. Two years in the Colorado legislature, 10 years in the House of Representatives, and 6 years here in the U.S. Senate. I served with MARK in the House, and here in the Senate. He is not only my cousin. He is not only an extraordinary public servant. He has been a great ally, as we have worked on the issues together.

MARK has been—and will continue to be—a champion, for the environment, for civil liberties, and for a government that is as open and good as the people we are privileged to represent.

MARK has been a courageous and outspoken leader in the fight against climate change. He knows that global warming is not just a threat to our environment, but to our national security and our economy. He and I have worked on this issue throughout our time in public service, pushing to expand clean energy production and for common sense steps to reduce pollution. He and I introduced, and got passed, a renewable electricity standard when we were both in the House to increase the use of renewable energy and create jobs across the country. When the Senate passes a similar RES, which I believe it eventually will, MARK you will share in that victory, for all your determination and hard work to make it happen.

Our dads loved the land. They taught us to love it as well. MARK doesn't just climb mountains. He protects them, so that generations to come will enjoy this legacy of natural treasures. Together we have fought for full funding

for the Land and Water Conservation Fund and for wilderness preservation. He has accomplished so much that will live on, long after we all are gone.

MARK has also been a true leader on the Senate Intelligence Committee and the Armed Services Committee. He is absolutely fearless, and undaunted, in defense of our Nation, and in defense of our liberties. We both opposed the original Patriot Act, as well as its reauthorization. MARK has been eloquent and tenacious in warning of overreaching surveillance, and secret interrogations. The Intelligence Committee released its study of the CIA's secret program this week. No one fought harder to hold our government to account, in insisting that we must not only be secure, but we must honor the values that define us. We can and must do both. History will remember his invaluable role in making it possible for the American people to have this great and necessary debate.

Madam President, my dad once said that, in the end, it is not the awards you receive, it is not the trophies in the garage, or the honors on the shelf, it is what the people who know you best really think of you. To those of us who know MARK—in our family, here in Washington, and in his beloved State of Colorado—he is the real deal.

I remember when MARK's dad, Mo, ran for President in 1976. Mo lost the nomination to Jimmy Carter. In his concession speech, he recalled the words of Will Rogers, "Live your life so that whenever you lose, you are ahead." Mo went on to say:

And I am ahead. I'm ahead in staff people who love me and believed in me. And I'm ahead because I have love, respect and admiration for all of you in this room.

That was true of Mo. It is equally true of MARK. In his years of public service, and in the years to come, that will always be said of MARK. Whatever the task, whatever the challenge, he meets it head on. In the Congress, and in his day to day life, he is practical, independent, and always generous of himself.

MARK, wherever you go, wherever you are, win or lose, you are ahead—and we all are ahead whenever you are in the room. Or I might say whenever you are on the trail, or the mountain-side. We find you out on the trail as likely as anywhere else.

But, then, that has always been the case with MARK, and with all our family. If you are a Udall, you spend a lot of time outdoors, and gladly so. And we never know when we will run into each other. A number of years ago, I was hiking up a mountain in Argentina. All of a sudden, there on the trail at 16,000 feet, was MARK, coming back from the summit. So, I never know when I'm going to run into him, but Madam President, let me say, I am always glad when I do.

MARK, for me, you have always set an example. You have always been true to

the legacy of our family. I know that will never change, whatever your endeavors. So, to you, and Maggie, and Jed and Tess, Jill and I wish you all the best, in this new chapter in your lives.

I thank Senator GRASSLEY for allowing me this courtesy. It is always wonderful to work with CHUCK. He is a first-class Senator.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

#### GREENHOUSE GASES

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, I have said before on the Senate floor that the proposed Environmental Protection Agency regulations to limit carbon dioxide are an example among far too many of Executive overreach by this administration.

Anyone who knows the history of the Clean Air Act—and I was here for the last major revision in 1990—or who has read the text of that law knows it was never intended to address greenhouse gases or climate change.

The Clean Air Act is designed to address traditional pollutants that have a direct impact on human health and the environment. However, when Congress declined to pass legislation supported by President Obama that would have created a cap-and-trade system targeted at greenhouse gases, the President gave a speech saying he would act on his own. In trying to regulate greenhouse gases under the Clean Air Act, which was not designed for that purpose, the EPA had to fit a square peg in a round hole.

As a result, when a number of key provisions in the Clean Air Act didn't say what the EPA would like them to say, the EPA simply reinterpreted those provisions to say something different or ignored them. In effect, the EPA was unconstitutionally rewriting a law passed by the Congress.

We all know what article I, section 1 of the U.S. Constitution says: "All legislative Powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States . . ."

Regardless of where you stand on climate change, we ought to be able to agree that it is not appropriate for the EPA or, for that matter, any administrative agency to twist the law passed by Congress to mean something other than what it says. This isn't a partisan position, and you don't have to take my word for it. Just listen to what President Obama's Harvard professor, renowned liberal constitutional scholar Lawrence Tribe, has written:

The defects in the Proposed Rule transcend political affiliation and policy positions and cut across partisan lines . . .

Continuing:

The central principle at stake is a rule of law—the basic premise that EPA must comply with fundamental statutory and constitutional requirements in carrying out its mission.

The Proposed Rule should be withdrawn. It is a remarkable example of executive overreach and an administrative agency's assertion of power beyond its statutory authority. Indeed, the Proposed Rule raises serious constitutional questions.

In addition to his reputation as one of the country's most prominent constitutional scholars, Professor Tribe is also a long-time Democratic Party activist. In fact, he served as a judicial adviser to President Obama's 2008 Presidential campaign, briefly worked in his administration, and has been a very vocal supporter of the President. When Professor Tribe says the Obama administration has exceeded its authority, you can take it to the bank.

I should also add, in response to concerns that the EPA regulations are not a legitimate or appropriate response to climate change, I often hear that at least EPA is doing something. Well, aside from the fact that regulatory approach is not legally justified, it is also ineffective.

As Professor Tribe points out on his treatise in this matter:

The Regulatory Impact Analysis (RIA) for the Proposed Rule states that the impact of "reduced climate effects" has been "monetized" but not "quantified." In other words, EPA does not claim that the Proposed Rule would affect the climate. The mismatch and lack of social benefit distinguish the Proposed Rule from other actions by EPA under the Clean Air Act.

This isn't news. President Obama's first EPA Administrator, Lisa Jackson, confirmed in testimony before a Senate committee that: "U.S. action alone will not impact world CO<sub>2</sub> levels."

So these regulations will have no measurable environmental benefit, but will have tremendous costs, particularly for the Midwest, given our energy mix.

The EPA rules are all pain and no gain.

This is not an argument about environmental policy. I am proud to be a leading advocate for renewable energy, and I believe there is room for some bipartisan agreement about diversifying our Nation's energy sources.

However, I want you all to know that I agree with Professor Tribe that regardless of the underlying policy goals, the rule of law must be respected and the proposed rule should be withdrawn. I hope President Obama will learn from his former Harvard professor and end with the President of the United States doing the right thing.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Michigan.

#### PREWAR IRAQ INTELLIGENCE

Mr. LEVIN. Madam President, I wish to speak for a few moments about one of the most significant events in my 36 years as a U.S. Senator, the war in Iraq. I want to speak about important historical records crucial to our understanding of why we went to war against Iraq in 2003, I want to enter into the

public record recent revelations not yet made public, and I make one more public call for a key document to be made fully public.

I will begin by renewing a request to the Director of the Central Intelligence Agency, John Brennan. It is a request I have also made to his predecessors: I ask Director Brennan to declassify fully a March 13, 2003 CIA cable debunking the contention that 9/11 hijacker Mohammad Atta had met in Prague with an Iraqi intelligence official named Ahmad al-Ani.

Earlier this year, Director Brennan wrote to me, refusing, as did his predecessors, to fully declassify the CIA cable. But in his letter to me he makes public for the first time a few lines from that document. While this is a significant addition to the public record, and I will discuss that in a moment, it is still not the full cable, and I am calling on him to declassify and release the full cable.

In order to understand why I am making that request, we need to return to early 2003.

On March 6, 2003, just two weeks before U.S. troops would cross the Iraqi border, President Bush held a prime-time televised press conference. In that press conference he mentioned the Sept. 11, 2001, terror attacks eight times, often in the same breath as Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein. There was a concerted campaign on the part of the Bush administration to connect Iraq in the public mind with the horror of the Sept. 11 attacks. That campaign succeeded. According to public polls in the week before the Iraq war, half or more of Americans believed Saddam was directly involved in the attacks. One poll taken in September 2003, 6 months after we invaded Iraq, found that nearly 70 percent of Americans believed it likely that Saddam Hussein was personally involved in the Sept. 11 attacks. Americans who believed in a link between Iraq and 9/11 overwhelmingly supported the idea of invading Iraq. Of course, connections between Saddam and 9/11 or al Qaeda were fiction.

America's intelligence community was pressed to participate in the administration's media campaign. Just a week after the President's prime-time press conference, on March 13, 2003, CIA field staff sent a cable to CIA headquarters, responding to a request for information about a report that Mohammad Atta, the leader of the Sept. 11 hijackings, had met in 2001 with an Iraqi intelligence official in the Czech capital of Prague. In stark terms, this CIA cable from the field warned against U.S. government officials citing the report of the alleged Prague meeting.

Yet the notion of such a meeting was a centerpiece of the administration's campaign to create an impression in the public mind that Saddam was in

league with the al Qaeda terrorists who attacked us on 9/11. On multiple occasions, including national television appearances, Vice President Dick Cheney cited reports of the meeting, at one point calling it "pretty well confirmed." Officials from Donald Rumsfeld's Pentagon, who set up a sort of rogue intelligence analysis operation, briefed senior officials with a presentation citing the Prague meeting as a "known contact" between Iraq and al Qaeda.

Why am I bringing up a CIA cable from more than a decade ago? Isn't this old, well-covered terrain? No, it isn't. This is about giving the American people a full account of the march to war as new information becomes available. It is about trying to hold leaders who misled the public accountable. It is about warning future leaders of this nation that they must not commit our sons and daughters to battle on the basis of false statements.

There is no more grave decision for a nation to make than the decision to go to war, and there is no more important issue for every member of Congress than the decision to authorize the use of military force—A decision to authorize force is a decision to unleash the might of our Armed Forces, the strongest military on the planet. It commits the men and women of our Armed Forces to fight, and perhaps to die, on the battlefield. The decision to go to war must be careful, considered, and based on the facts.

Such careful consideration was tragically absent in the march to war in Iraq.

Here is what the Vice President said on December 9, 2001, in an interview on "Meet the Press": "It's been pretty well confirmed that he [Atta] did go to Prague and he did meet with a senior official of the Iraqi intelligence service in Czechoslovakia last April, several months before the attack."

Far from "pretty well confirmed," there was almost no evidence that such a meeting took place. Just a single unsubstantiated report, from a single source, and a mountain of information indicating there was no such meeting, including the fact that travel and other records indicated that Atta was almost certainly in the United States at the time of the purported meeting in Prague.

It was highly irresponsible for the Vice President to make that claim. Calling a single, unconfirmed report from a single source "pretty well confirmed," as he did on Dec. 9, 2001, was a reckless statement to make on such a grave topic as war, in the face of overwhelming doubt that such a meeting occurred.

Yet Vice President Cheney's reckless statements continued, even as evidence mounted that there was no Prague meeting. In September 2002, he said Atta "did apparently travel to Prague



on a number of occasions. And on at least one occasion, we have reporting that places him in Prague with a senior Iraqi intelligence official."

The Vice President made those statements in the face of a then-classified June 2002 CIA assessment that said the alleged meeting was "not verified," called the information about it "contradictory," and described assessments of Iraqi cooperation with al Qaida terror plots as "speculative." The Vice President made those statements in the face of a July 2002 Defense Intelligence Agency analysis, which reported that there was no evidence that Atta was in the Czech Republic at the time. He made those statements despite a Defense Intelligence Agency memorandum in August 2002 rejecting the claims by a rogue intelligence analysis shop at the Pentagon that the meeting was an example of a "known contact" between Iraq and al Qaida.

That brings us to the March 13, 2003 cable. It is unfortunate that I cannot fully lay out the contents of that cable, because much of it remains classified. But as the Senate Intelligence Committee's 2006 "Phase II" report indicates, it appears that the cable was sent in response to a request from headquarters at Langley for comment on the claim that Atta and al-Ani had met in Prague because the White House was considering a reference to a Prague meeting in a speech. At that time, according to then-CIA Director George Tenet's memoir, the CIA had been given a draft of a speech by Vice President Cheney containing assertions about connections between Iraq and al Qaida. Tenet writes in his memoir that he had to object to the President that the speech went "way beyond what the intelligence shows. We cannot support the speech and it should not be given."

The text of this cable and the information surrounding it was almost entirely redacted by the CIA from the Intelligence Committee's 2006 Phase II report. A number of us objected to that redaction at the time the report was made public; indeed, the Majority Leader introduced legislation which I cosponsored that would have declassified the cable, legislation Republicans blocked. At the time of the report's release, I joined several members of the Intelligence Committee, including Ranking Member ROCKEFELLER, Senators FEINSTEIN, WYDEN, Bayh, MIKULSKI and Feingold, in concluding that the administration's decision to keep the contents of the cable classified "represents an improper use of classification authority by the intelligence community to shield the White House."

In the years since I have sought declassification of the March 2003 CIA cable on numerous occasions. Twice, in 2011 and 2012, I wrote to then-CIA Director Petraeus asking him to declassify the cable. Then in February 2013, I

asked Director Brennan during his confirmation hearing whether he would contact the Czech government to ask if they would object to declassification of the cable, and he responded, "Absolutely, Senator, I will."

Despite his commitment, I heard nothing from Director Brennan for some time. Finally, in March of this year, more than a year after his public commitment to me, I received a letter from Director Brennan.

Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that Director Brennan's March 13, 2014, letter to me be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

THE DIRECTOR,  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY,  
Washington, DC, March 13, 2014.

Hon. CARL LEVIN,  
Chairman, Committee on Armed Services,  
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: At my confirmation hearing you requested that I pursue declassification of a 2003 communication related to an alleged meeting between Mohammed Atta and an Iraqi intelligence officer, which was referenced in the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence's September 2006 report entitled *Postwar Findings about Iraq's WMD Programs and Links to Terrorism and How They Compare with Prewar Assessments*.

I understand that your principal concern is that the historical record be as complete as possible regarding this period in our history, and on this point we are in agreement. The American people deserve as full an understanding as possible of these historical events, consistent with the national security interests of the United States. Consequently, having worked with our declassification review experts, I can confirm the following information, which describes the substance of what the communication relayed with respect to the meeting at issue, without compromising national security:

On 13 March 2003, CIA headquarters received a communication from the field responding to a request that the field look into a single-source intelligence report indicating that Muhammed Atta met with former Iraqi intelligence officer al-Ani in Prague in April 2001. In that communication, the field expressed significant concern regarding the possibility of an official public statement by the United States Government indicating that such a meeting took place. The communication noted that information received after the single-source report raised serious doubts about that report's accuracy.

In particular, the field noted that while it remained possible that a meeting between Atta and al-Ani took place, investigative records subsequently placed Atta in the United States just before and just after the date on which the single-source report said the meeting was to have occurred, making it unlikely that Atta was in Prague at the time of the alleged meeting. The field also warned that both FBI and CIA had previously told foreign intelligence officials that they were skeptical that Atta was in Prague. Finally, the field observed that "identifications" like the one that was made by the source of the earlier report, during a period of high emotion four months after the September 11 attacks, could be faulty and would require further evidence. The field added that, to its knowledge, "there is not one USG [counter-

terrorism] or FBI expert that . . . has said they have evidence or 'know' that [Atta] was indeed [in Prague]. In fact, the analysis has been quite the opposite."

I hope this letter answers any outstanding questions about the correspondence in question and addresses our shared interest in creating an accurate and complete historical record.

Sincerely,

JOHN O. BRENNAN.

Mr. LEVIN. The letter contains no indication that he had asked the Czech government for its view, as he committed to do. But Director Brennan's letter includes, and therefore finally declassifies, this very clear statement from the cable: "[T]here is not one USG [counterterrorism] or FBI expert that . . . has said they have evidence or 'know' that [Atta] was indeed [in Prague]. In fact, the analysis has been quite the opposite."

Again, that cable was sent to CIA headquarters on March 13, 2003—a week before our invasion of Iraq. But the Vice President of the United States, Dick Cheney, continued to suggest the meeting may have taken place. He said the following about the meeting on "Meet the Press" on September 14, 2003—6 months after CIA received that cable: "We've never been able to develop any more of that yet either in terms of confirming it or discrediting it. We just don't know." Here is what he told the Denver Post newspaper on January 9, 2004: "We've never been able to collect any more information on that. That was the one that possibly tied the two together to 9/11." Here is what he told CNN on June 17, 2004: "We have never been able to confirm that, nor have we been able to knock it down. We just don't know."

Mr. President, those statements were simply not true. We did know. We did know that there was no evidence that such a meeting had taken place. We did know there was ample evidence it did not take place. We did know that there was, as the CIA cable says, "not one" government expert who said there was evidence that Atta met with Iraqi intelligence in Prague. The Vice President recklessly disregarded the truth, and he did so in a way calculated to maintain support for the administration's decision to go to war in Iraq.

There is a second recent revelation about how the "Prague meeting" progressed from unsubstantiated report to justification for war. It comes from Jiri Ruzek, who headed the Czech counterintelligence service on and after 9/11. Mr. Ruzek published a memoir earlier this year, which we have had translated from Czech. It recounts the days after the terror attack, including how his nation's intelligence services first reported a single-source rumor of a Prague meeting between Atta and al-Ani, how CIA officials under pressure from CIA headquarters in turn pressured him to substantiate the rumor, and how U.S. officials pressured the

Czech government when Czech intelligence officials failed to produce the confirmation that the Bush administration sought.

Mr. Ruzek writes:

It was becoming more and more clear that we had not met expectations and did not provide the 'right' intelligence output.

Mr. Ruzek continues:

The Americans showed me that anything can be violated, including the rules that they themselves taught us. Without any regard to us, they used our intelligence information for propaganda press leaks. They wanted to mine certainty from unconfirmed suspicion and use it as an excuse for military action. We were supposed to play the role of useful idiot thanks to whose initiative a war would be started.

That is chilling. We have a senior intelligence official of a friendly nation describing the pressure that he and other Czech officials were under to give the Bush administration material it could use to justify a war.

When it came to the most serious decision a government can make—the decision to commit our sons and daughters to battle—the Bush administration was playing games with intelligence. The full, still classified cable includes critically important, relevant information, and it has been redacted and denied to the public in order to protect those in the Bush White House who are responsible.

The March 13, 2003, cable is an invaluable record in helping the American people understand how their elected officials conducted themselves in going to war. Continuing to cloak this document with a veil of secrecy, revealing a few sentences at a time, allows those who misled the American people to continue escaping the full verdict of history. It deprives the American people of a complete understanding of how we came to invade Iraq. In his letter to me, Director Brennan writes, "I understand that your principal concern is that the historical record be as complete as possible regarding this period in our history, and on this point we are in agreement." But Director Brennan's apparent refusal to do what he has committed to do—to ask the Czech government if it objects to release of the cable—now takes on the character of a continuing cover-up.

I believe decisionmakers should have to face the full, unadulterated, unredacted truth about their decisions. The American people should know the full story, not just so we can understand the decisions in 2002 and 2003 that took us to war, but as a warning to future leaders against the misuse of intelligence and the abuse of power.

Very briefly, what I am doing in this statement, which is now in the record, is I am asking CIA Director Brennan to fully declassify a March 13, 2003 cable from CIA field officers to headquarters. This cable provides information about the Bush administration's campaign to

build public support for the Iraq invasion.

One part of that campaign was the repeated misleading suggestion that Mohammed Atta, leader of the 9/11 hijackers, had met with an Iraqi intelligence official in Prague.

I received a letter from Director Brennan making public for the first time some of the cable's contents. He quotes the cable as saying:

There is not one USG [counterterrorism] or FBI expert that . . . has said they have evidence or "know" that [Atta] was indeed [in Prague]. In fact, the analysis has been quite the opposite.

In my statement just entered into the RECORD, I also discussed recent revelations by the former head of the Czech intelligence agency about U.S. pressure to confirm the report of that meeting.

The American people deserve to know the full truth about this episode and particularly in light of the new revelations from a top Czech official.

I have renewed my request to Director Brennan to declassify the entire cable.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Louisiana.

#### FAREWELL TO THE SENATE

Ms. LANDRIEU. Madam President, it is my pleasure to take a few minutes on the floor to give a farewell message, and I thank you for your courtesies. I begin with a Scripture, Philippians 4:7, New American Standard Bible, that reads: "And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

Truly for the first time in my adult life I have felt that extraordinary peace about something that was unexpected, but is certainly something that I accept. It has really been amazing as a Christian, as an adult, and as a leader to find myself in this place in a time that should be a time of sadness, but all I can feel is actual joy. It is quite amazing.

It has never happened to me before, so I thought it would be wonderful to share—with so many of my friends, supporters, family, staff, and colleagues listening in—for a few minutes to say that it is absolutely true, and I am a testimony to this extraordinary peace since just a few days before the election and since then. I think it is because I feel and know that God has called me to another place.

Before being a Senator, a wife, and a daughter, I am a Christian, and my faith really is central to my life. My parents always taught me to put my faith where it belongs—in God himself. So it is really with that sense of gratitude and joy that I have been given an opportunity to serve my State, my region, and my country for now almost 34 years—which is quite amazing—having started at a very young age and still being relatively young.

So let me just share some remarks about that time, and particularly the time here in the Senate. I want to begin by thanking my family, and particularly my extraordinary husband Frank, who has been a partner and, as I said on election night, not only an encouraging and supportive partner but one who has literally egged me on. When I wanted to quit, he would say: No, you have to continue to serve. He is not only an accomplished lawyer and professional, but also an elected official in his own right, he came from a family that was dedicated to public service, having both of his parents being very active in party politics—first the Republican Party and then the Democratic Party. But that is a whole other story. They are both strong civil rights leaders—my husband as well—and always encouraging me and being willing to share the burdens of public life as well as sharing in the great joy.

Our son Connor is now 23 years old, and our daughter Mary Shannon is now 17. The reason I mention that is because Connor was 5 when we were elected to the Senate. Mary Shannon was adopted the first year we were here. On election night, she looked at me—and she is just so beautiful at 17—and she said: Mom, it is going to be a little strange. I have only known you as a Senator. So I warned her that now that I am going to be a full-time mom this is going to be a real problem for her. She is not looking forward to it.

To our new daughter-in-law Emily, and especially to our precious little Maddox Parker Snellings, who many people saw on election night—now, Maddox gets the distinction. He is 10 months old, but he gives me the most joy, and I used to keep a picture of him during all my debates. There were only three, as you all will remember, but I would keep a picture of him because my staff kept telling me: You have to smile more. I kept saying: But I can't, because I am really aggravated. They said: No, you have to smile. So my solution was to put a picture of Maddox on my podium and, of course, I then smiled through the whole debate. That is a trick for those who will be continuing to debate.

To my mother and father, who are the light of not only our family but the light of our community, the light of the Nation in many ways—they had 9 children, 37 grandchildren, and now 6 great grandchildren. They are in wonderful health, they are watching right now, and I can only say they are two of the most extraordinary individuals I have ever known. Our family is truly blessed by their sacrificial leadership.

Let me also mention my eight siblings—eight brothers and sisters: Mark, Melanie, Michelle, Mitchell, Madeleine, Martin, Melinda, and Maurice, Jr.—all m's. That is another story. There are all of our spouses, my nieces and nephews, who campaigned with me up until

the last day. My godchild Sasha literally knocked on doors with me. I was teaching her how to knock on doors before the campaign was over so the tradition could carry on in our own neighborhood where we have lived since I was 5 years old—Broadmoor in New Orleans.

When I first got here 18 years ago, I literally could not find the side door. I didn't know anything. I wasn't even expecting to be here. It was kind of like a dream that I got here, because I had run for Governor, wanted to be the Governor, and served 16 years in my State. I knew that was what I was being called to do—and I see LAMAR ALEXANDER—to change our education system, to do some coastal work, and then I landed here. But I literally knew nothing of how to be a Senator.

I stumbled a great deal in my first years. But I want to thank my chiefs of staff, Norma Jane Sabiston, Ron Faucheux, Jason Matthews, Jane Campbell, and Don Cravins. I had five of the most remarkable chiefs of staff, who, with me, learned how to do this job and to do it well. We never forget where we came from, and they are still—all of them—with me, and all of us are still working to make our State the very best that it can be and to make our country the very best that it can be.

To three staffers who have been with me for almost 20 years—Alicia Williams is the longest serving office manager, I think, in the Senate. She was here when I arrived and stayed with me. She was with Bennett Johnston. T. Bradley Keith has been with me for 22 years as a former staffer in a former life, before I was a Senator, and now as my long-time State director. And Shannon Langlois has been, I think, with the Senate for almost 30 years. She is a caseworker. She was, again, with Bennett Johnston and stayed with me. She has literally given her life to thousands, hundreds of thousands of cases in Louisiana and trained every caseworker that I had for 18 years, and they just did phenomenal work.

I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD my current staff, all of whom are here—my personal staff, my energy staff, and my homeland security staff.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

#### PERSONAL STAFF OF MARY LANDRIEU

Alexander Damato, Alex Sewell, Alicia Williams, Alyson Azodeh, Andrew Holleman, Ashley Scott, Christina Jones, Christopher Etienne, DerKirra Wilkerson, Don Cravins, Eva Kemp-Melder, Jaren Hill, James "Wes" Kungel, Jim Simpson, Katie Lewallen, Lauren Spangler, Leslie Leavoy, Libby Whitbeck, Matthew Lehner, Marianna Knister, Megan Blanco.

Rob Sawicki, Ross Nodurft, Will Harris, Whitney Reitz, Zach Butterworth, Zephrairie Buetow, Kelsey Teo, Meghann Morin, Shannon Langlois, T. Bradley Keith, Terrence

Lockett, Sherar' Hunter, Laverne Saulny, Cathleen Berthelot, Zach Monroe, Tani Bradford, LeNelle Williford, Michael Jackson, Mark Herbert, Darlene Manuel.

#### ENERGY COMMITTEE STAFF

Elizabeth "Liz" Craddock, Afton Zaunbrecher, Aisha Johnson, Allen Paul Stayman, Bryan Petit, Caroline Bruckner, Clayton Allen, Dan Adamson, Darla Ripchensky, David Brooks, David Gillers, Dominic Taylor, Elizabeth Weiner, Fayenisha Matthews, Herman Bubba Gesser, III, Jan Brunner, Jonathon Burpee, Kristen Granier, Lindsay McDonough, Mark Tiner, Megan Brewster, Meghan Conklin, Paul Davis, Renae Black, Sallie Derr, Sam Edward Fowler, Sa'Rah Hamm, Will Dempster.

#### HOMELAND APPROPRIATIONS STAFF

Stephanie Gupta, Drenan Dudley, Scott Nance, Chip Walgren, Colin MacDermott, Eric Bader.

Ms. LANDRIEU. Madam President, I want to thank Don Cravins, again, as my chief of staff; Liz Craddock, Staff Director of my energy committee; and Stephanie Gupta, head of homeland security. I know I am leaving them in good hands with what they are going to be doing in the future and with the great leadership that remains here.

I only have a few minutes, so I will just run through a couple of the highlights of some of the accomplishments that I am most proud of and really take this opportunity to thank so many who helped, because the one thing I have learned that most certainly is true, is that if you want to accomplish really big things here—really great things, generational things—you most certainly cannot do that alone. So the first thing you need to do is look for a really good partner—and I mean a partner that will be with you through thick and thin. Sometimes you are lucky enough to find those kinds of partners, and I found them on both sides of the aisle.

The first major piece of legislation I introduced was something that was in my heart for so long, and that was the Conservation and Reinvestment Act. The cosponsors of that bill, amazingly, were Frank Murkowski from Alaska, Trent Lott from Mississippi, John Breaux from Louisiana, and Senator DIANNE FEINSTEIN from California. Chris Dodd joined me a few days later after we introduced it—and RON WYDEN, Chris Bond, John Warner, and THAD COCHRAN, just to name a few.

At the end of this effort—although this particular bill didn't pass; we missed it literally by inches, and I will describe what that was in a minute—we had 4,500 organizations throughout the country, from the Sierra Club to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and everyone in between in a broad coalition to fund the Land and Water Conservation Fund—and LAMAR ALEXANDER knows more about this than I could ever know, and he will tell you one day the details about the Land and Water Conservation Fund. The Udalls and the Udalls' fathers were very instrumental

in the creation of the Land and Water Conservation Fund. It was a promise made but never kept—that this country would set aside about \$900 million a year to purchase land, to build our parks, and to secure recreational opportunities. This country is so blessed—more than any on Earth—with the amount of natural resources we have, and we have not lived up to that promise.

So I introduced this bill as a young legislator. John Breaux said you don't even know what you are doing; how are you introducing a bill like this? I said: I don't know, but I am just going for it because I believe in it. So we never passed it, but it has been in part of almost every piece of energy legislation—in pieces and parts since that day we introduced that. I am very hopeful that war will go on under Senator MURKOWSKI, the daughter of Frank Murkowski, and MARIA CANTWELL, who in many ways got to the Senate because she defeated one of the gentlemen who opposed us on this bill and used it as a platform to get here. So I know she will be committed to finishing the work.

The bill did three things. It fully funded the Land and Water Conservation Fund, a trust fund that will go on for generations. It would fully fund coastal restoration, which is so important not just to Louisiana, because we are literally falling away into the Gulf of Mexico, but it will help SHELDON WHITEHOUSE in his work. It will help DICK DURBIN along the Great Lakes, and it will help CORY BOOKER in New Jersey. If you allocate the funding correctly, it will be grants that these coastal communities can use until we figure out how to clean our atmosphere and how to stop the tremendous pressures that are coming on our coast. Louisiana knows this. We have experienced the worst disasters literally in the history of our country, and they are only getting worse. I will talk about that more in a minute.

But it was because we had laid the groundwork for CARA, Pete Domenici literally felt so sorry for me—he knew how hard we had worked and the coalition was so disappointed when we lost—that he directed, literally with the stroke of a pen, \$1 billion to the gulf coast in the energy bill for 2005. That money was divided 50 percent to Louisiana and 50 percent to the other States.

Now, I can promise everyone here that for the \$500 million that went to Louisiana, we can account for every penny of it. We know exactly where it went, and we put that down as a downpayment to restoring our coast, which doesn't just belong to us—it belongs to the whole Nation. This is the greatest, the seventh largest delta on the planet. It is what Thomas Jefferson leveraged the whole entire Treasury of the United States to purchase. It is something worth fighting for. We would not

be a country without the Mississippi Delta, and we could never have found our way west if we couldn't have supplied the great center of this Nation with the commerce they needed.

Every State along this river—19 of them—use this river and understand what I am talking about. AMY KLOBUCHAR understands this. She is at the top of this river, and I am at the bottom, and we have talked a lot about how important that corridor is. That needs to continue.

Then there was the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act, which I finally passed with Pete Domenici's help, who was my dear friend and one of the most wonderful leaders I have ever worked with. He came from a family with eight children. We had nine, and we are both Catholic and came from the same sort of background. He served with such passion. So he joined with me in passing the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act, which finally secured a permanent stream of revenue for coastal restoration and protection.

But as LAMAR ALEXANDER knows, it left out the land and water, and it left out wildlife. We just couldn't lift it all, so that needs to be corrected.

Finally, there is the RESTORE Act, which I worked on with my colleagues when the BP oil spill killed 11 people in the gulf and spilled 5 million barrels of oil in the gulf. Thanks go to BARBARA BOXER, this extraordinary woman who has been a partner with me. We think very differently about the world. We see things very differently. California is very different from Louisiana. But I will say one thing about BARBARA BOXER. If I had to be in a foxhole with someone, I would want to be with her because she never stops fighting. She and I are very much alike in that regard. Once we set our minds to something there is no dividing us.

People asked why did I send her money for her reelection? Why did I raise so much money from Louisiana? I said that I would do it again because when no one would stand up—well, not no one, but if she hadn't stood up when that BP oil spill went down, and said, I am chair of this committee and I believe the gulf coast deserves this funding, we just wouldn't have had it. It is as simple as that. People do not know how powerful a chairman is here. When a chairman makes up their mind and they say this is what we are going to do, the rest of the committee, for the most part, goes along. And so BARBARA said that.

With Senator VITTER, of course, who is the ranking member on that committee put his shoulder to the wheel, and we were able to get—well, it is still in court, but we think—a serious downpayment to recover from one of the great ecological disasters of our State, of our country, which is the loss of the gulf coast. This just isn't in Louisiana. This is Texas and Mississippi, and it is

going to affect parts of the whole country. But we are on the mend.

I came here to do that work. I came to find money. I found it, and we are going to continue that work. I am thrilled to work with so many of you to get that done.

On education—LAMAR has to leave, but I am glad he is here because I found a great soulmate in LAMAR ALEXANDER—former Secretary of Education, former Governor, a Presidential candidate, and absolutely extraordinarily committed to finding a better way for our children in America to be educated. As proud as we are of the public school system, at the turn of the century, when people in the world were wondering how to build the middle class in the world and lots of countries were struggling with how to do that, America knew. America knew that if you educated your citizens—women, boys, and girls; not just boys, which is what half the world still does, which is a tragedy—if we open up our schools for universal, free education, along with other things, it would lift your country to greatness unsurpassed in the history of the world.

What breaks my heart is to walk into schools today—and MARK WARNER knows this because he was Governor of Virginia—and see children's eyes just completely dulled, sitting there completely bored, teachers who are just sort of going through the motions. It breaks my heart because I know that not only does it limit their lives but it limits the potential of our Nation.

With LAMAR ALEXANDER and a handful of Democrats, I was proud to work with Presidents Bill Clinton and George Bush to pass a series of laws. Evan Bayh comes to mind, Joe Lieberman, John Breaux, and a group of us stood up and said: It is time to stop sending money to the States without accountability. If we need to send money, we need to hold States accountable, and we need to give opportunities for choice to parents and public charter schools.

I am reluctant to go too far on vouchers. You have heard my speech on that. You heard Senator FEINSTEIN's speech on that. But both of us have agreed to support some kinds of strategic vouchers that help poor kids get out of failing schools until we can fix them.

Most importantly, I support high-performing public charter schools, and I will continue to fight that for the rest of my days. I thank all of you who helped on that and particularly TOM CARPER on the Democratic side and LAMAR ALEXANDER. CORY BOOKER has been an amazing leader and will hopefully continue on that. I thank DICK DURBIN, who is on Appropriations. I had to twist his arm a little bit on some of it, but he ended up coming around and has been an amazing fighter for the right kinds of public schools

that serve the children first and the bureaucracy and administration second. I respect teachers. I respect administrators. But our schools should work for the children and their families who so desperately want them to have a great education.

The third issue I wish to speak about, which is a legacy issue, is adoption. I hope I can get through this without tearing up. I don't know why I have always had such passion for this issue.

My mother had nine children without one single problem. As a young child, I remember my aunt adopted two children. I think it might have been that; I can't remember exactly. I started to think about all the children in the world who don't have parents. Maybe I was just always so proud when I filled out those forms in Catholic school. I can remember sitting there filling them out: Are your parents divorced or married? I loved checking "married." How many siblings do you have? I loved putting "eight." I was always so proud of my family.

I thought, what do children without parents do? I just could not imagine. So I got very passionate about it. I ended up, of all things, marrying an orphan. My husband was adopted out of an orphanage. So I thought, yes, this is going in the right direction. I thought I would adopt children. I thought he could not say no since he himself was adopted, and so this would work out. Sure enough, we ended up adopting two children.

But this was my passion before I met my husband and before I even thought about adopting. It was as if God put this in my heart, so I have taken it and carried it.

I thank DAVE CAMP; Jim Oberstar, who is deceased; Tom Bliley from Virginia, who is a great leader among us; Larry Craig, who is no longer here, who served as my cochair; and Senator Jesse Helms. Amazingly, I didn't know to be afraid of Jesse Helms; I thought he was a really nice guy. Later, everybody had to tell me how hard he was to get along with. But I went up to him, and I thought he would surely want to help because he had adopted a child. I don't think a lot of people realize that. Sure enough he did, and we passed a great treaty together that serves as the model for international adoption today. JOE BIDEN was the ranking member on the committee. With Jesse Helms's and JOE BIDEN's support, we passed a great treaty years ago, and we are still in the process of making that possible and working it through.

The accomplishments are really quite long, so I am going to submit them for the RECORD. I will only say that the adoption tax credit which BOB CASEY worked on and took up that cause when he got here—I am thrilled and hope we can keep it. I would like to say to AMY KLOBUCHAR how much I appreciate her agreeing to step in and

take over the leadership of the adoption caucus on this side and ROY BLUNT, who I think will take it up on the Republican side and continue this great work.

There are over 100,000 children who are waiting for families in the United States. There are over 500,000 children in foster care. These children think it is their fault they are there, and it is not. It is not their fault that their family disintegrated around them. It is not their fault that they got pregnant at 11 and were kicked out of their house. Instead of the family wrapping that child in their arms and helping them to grow, they just kicked them out on the street. It is not their fault.

We need to realize that God does not make trash. He never has, and he never will. Everybody he has made has a purpose and dignity, and we need to honor that and do better work. I have spent a lot of time here on it. I am going to continue to do so. I will never stop working on it. I am very proud of the work we have done.

I will put the rest into the RECORD.

On energy very quickly and then finally disaster recovery, I couldn't have been prouder when I became the chair of this committee. It was quite a miracle. I didn't expect it. I never thought I would last long enough to become the chair because there were so many people ahead of me. It kind of worked out when Max Baucus left to go to China and TIM JOHNSON was retiring that it fell to me. It has been my great joy for 9 months to serve as chair, with LISA MURKOWSKI as my ranking member. Of course, I worked with her father. I didn't sit next to him because I was a junior member, but I worked with him closely, and it has been wonderful working with her. I am so proud that MARIA CANTWELL will step up and take that leadership. I know the two of them work beautifully together. They do see the world differently, but they are two women who know how to compromise and who will be respectful of each other and find a way for our country to move forward.

I can tell you all that in my whole life—which isn't that long, but it has been a pretty good run in public office—there has never been a time when America has been closer to energy independence. What that means to our country is beyond description. We don't have to listen to parts of the world that don't hold our values. We can lift up our country. We can move forward. And it has to be with a combination of fossil fuels, weaning our way to a greener, cleaner environment, and manufacturing right here in America.

I hope you all will put down the swords and pick up the plow and really plow together because this is an amazing opportunity for our country. I sure hope we don't miss it. It is going to benefit and make the whole country,

not just our part of the country, more prosperous.

People desperately want to move up into the middle class and stay there and not feel so fragile and feel as if they can have the manufacturing jobs and good energy jobs and really eliminate some of the geopolitical nightmares we have been in, fighting wars for oil. It has to come to an end.

Finally, I will say a word about disaster recovery. When I got to the Senate, my husband and I were looking at each other saying: How did we even end up here? We had no idea. When Katrina hit, it became very clear that this is why I needed to be here.

I had been an appropriator since I was 23 years old. I knew a little bit about budgets. I knew a little bit about how the system worked. I knew how the State and local governments depended on the Federal Government so much funding. I understood the power of HUD and the power of housing and the power of building schools and levees and the Corps of Engineers. So I was perfectly positioned to be able to lead the effort for my State, and they desperately needed a leader. I wasn't perfect. I made lots of mistakes. But I wasn't afraid to try because that is all you can do.

The devastation was so great and it was so unbelievable. Eighty percent of the east bank of the city and much of Jefferson Parish—not quite as bad as New Orleans—and all of St. Bernard—67,000 people in St. Bernard lost everything. Everyone in the Lower Ninth Ward lost everything, which is like a small city unto itself. In New Orleans east, which is like a small city unto itself, 60,000 people lost every school, every house. It was unbelievable.

I say to my colleagues: Thank you for being there for us. I know I aggravated you to death. I know I never stopped asking. But you were the only hope because there was just no way these communities could recover. New Orleans has been there for 300 years. You have heard me say this: We didn't move down there recently to go sunbathing or to build condos; we have been down there for 300 years. The city is going to stay there. The region is going to stay there. And had this government just invested a little bit of the money back that we have given it over time—from our energy resources, from our manufacturing, from the wealth we have created along that great mouth of the river—if the country had just given us a little bit of money—\$500 million here, \$500 million there—and built levees that wouldn't have broken in 52 places, we wouldn't have had \$140 billion in damage.

So when I came to Robert Byrd because President Bush was not that forward-leaning—I will just leave it at that. There will be a lot more in my book about it, but I will just leave it at that, not very forward-leaning. The

person I went to was Robert Byrd. In his old age, he was so wise. He just looked at me. He didn't say much at that time, but he just took my hand and he said: I will be there with you.

He was the chair of the Appropriations Committee, so that meant something. Boy, he was. He helped me write things in a bill that could probably never be possible today. That was when chairmen understood the power to help people to heal wounds and to bring hope and to be compassionate. That is what government is there to do. If government is not there when you have lost everything, then what in the heck is the use of having it?

So we hope we will be able to repay this country for the investments that have been made, and we will. We will do our best. With all of the people who come to New Orleans and all the conventions that come—and we hope we bring joy and happiness when people come—we hope to pay our way and to pay this back over time for what you have done to help us. We are doing a good job of helping ourselves by planning better, doing more smart-growth, sustainable development, building our levees to the point where they won't break again, and we will continue to do that.

So those are some of the legacy pieces I have worked on. It is kind of amazing that these were the things that were in my heart when I was a little girl. I didn't learn this when I was a Senator. I can remember taking a bus when I was in the eighth grade down to the coast and looking at LaFourche Parish for the first time, and for a girl from the poor part of uptown, I kept looking at the nuns who took me, and I said: What world is this? I had no idea about Bayou LaFourche.

When I got to be a Senator, I remembered LaFourche, the bayou, and I remembered how fragile it looked to me even as a child, and I thought, if I can do anything to save this place, I will. I have spent a lot of my time saving it, and it is stronger now. It is still not completely safe, but it is much stronger now.

I tutored in public school. My passion started when the nuns of Ursuline sent me to tutor in a public school, and the little girl whom I tutored, who was my age, couldn't read. I can remember going home to my mother and saying: This is the strangest thing. I just met a little girl. She is my age, and she can't read. Mama, is that possible, that children don't know how to read?

I can remember her sitting me down and explaining to me why some children couldn't read, and I said: That doesn't seem right to me. I made up my mind then that I would work.

The reason I say this is because there are a lot of young people listening to this, and I just want you to know, just listen to your heart because God puts these things in your heart at very

young ages. If you don't block it out, if you are not cynical and if you hope and live openly, those dreams can come true. Then you can make a profound difference in rebuilding a school system, which I am continuing to work on, or make sure every orphan in the world knows that they are loved and that we are going to work hard to find them a family; to build this great gulf coast, where I spent my life growing up as a child and knowing that it is worth saving. It may not be as sexy as the west coast or as prosperous as the east coast, but the gulf coast is really worth fighting for. It is a very special place in our country. I learned to love it as a child, and I will fight for it as an adult.

Finally, let me just say a few thank-yous in closing. A thank-you to my mentor Lindy Boggs, who coached me every step of the way; to my mentor John Breaux, who got me into this gig in the first place.

I thank Bennett Johnston, who taught me about being a proud member of the Energy Committee; Senator Tom Daschle, who saved my skin more times than I can tell you; Kent Conrad, who taught me about the budget; Chris John and Jim McCreery and Richard Baker in my delegation, who were Democrats and Republicans—we worked together to do amazing things. I also thank CEDRIC RICHMOND, who still works closely with me, and CHARLES BOUSTANY, whom I admire a lot. I thank other Members who are no longer here: Olympia Snowe—we were the first two women to chair a major committee—well, actually a minor committee, the small business committee; and LISA and I were the first to chair and be a ranking member of a major committee. I couldn't have worked with two more remarkable women. I thank Senator Joe Lieberman, who was a leader of the DLC and a great mentor of mine on foreign policy issues; Senator Ted Stevens, who was as grumpy as could be but really did take me under his wing and teach me a lot; Senator Danny Inouye; Senator Robert Byrd. And I am going to put others into the RECORD: Senators MIKULSKI, CARPER, HEITKAMP, MANCHIN, CANTWELL, BEGICH, PRYOR, and HAGAN.

I want to say a special word to the Black Caucus. I represent 30 percent African Americans in my State. You know, all groups of people are hard to represent, and my State is so diverse, and I have tried so hard to be respectful of all the different groups in my State.

I thank the Black Caucus—both the local elected officials and the National Black Caucus—for being such a great partner with me and helping me to understand about compassion, forgiveness, faithfulness, and for trust. Their spiritual strength is so amazing. I thank them very much for coming down to help me.

I thank labor, who brought me here. They encouraged me to run when I was 23 years old, and I tried to never leave them. Only 8 percent of my State is now organized. I have never left them. I think you should leave with the people who brought you to the dance, and they most certainly did.

I thank HARRY REID, who has been an amazing friend to me and who, most importantly, has been a great friend to my family. He has honored us in so many small ways, and I just love him for his tenacity and his leadership.

I thank you all. I hope I didn't leave anyone out. It has been a joy, but I know God is calling me to a different place. I am not the least bit sad and I am not the least bit afraid because it has been a remarkable opportunity to serve with all of you, and I thank you very much.

(Applause, Senators rising.)

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. WALSH). The Senator from Louisiana.

TRIBUTE TO MARY LANDRIEU

Mr. VITTER. Mr. President, I rise to thank Senator LANDRIEU for her tireless service in the U.S. Senate to our State and to the country. I have had the pleasure of knowing MARY for a long time. She was in her second year of service in the Senate when I first came to Washington to the U.S. House, but it is far longer than that, probably longer than anyone in this Chamber realizes. Both sets of my grandparents live all of 3 blocks from where MARY grew up, and I grew up all of 10 blocks from there. MARY and my brother Jeff were grammar school classmates starting at kindergarten.

Of course, here in the Senate I had the honor of working with MARY on so many important issues and challenges. From the moment we worked together on key Louisiana issues, we determined on those issues to put aside any partisan concerns when those crucial priorities were at stake.

As she alluded to, the most challenging and trying time in all of that experience was just a few months after I first came to the Senate when Hurricanes Katrina and Rita struck. Neither of us could have ever imagined facing the challenges our State and Mississippi and others faced and facing the challenges we faced in the Senate trying to respond in a robust and full and responsible way. I am sure it was the most trying work for both of us in our careers.

Louisiana faced unprecedented disaster and desperation, and that brought us together all the more to work for those crucial Louisiana needs and priorities. We traveled together, of course, to see the damage and meet with our neighbors and local leaders all around the State. Her staff and mine worked directly together around-the-clock, really, for months, sometimes in my office, sometimes in hers, always with the same goal of doing everything

possible to help our neighbors and Louisiana citizens get through that disaster and get through to a full recovery.

Those trials, of course, didn't end with Katrina and Rita. There were other similar challenges which brought us together and on which MARY was a distinguished leader. She was always a champion for domestic energy production, and Louisiana will enjoy a far fairer share of oil and gas revenue under the legislation commonly referred to as Domenici-Landrieu.

After the infamous BP oilspill in 2010, MARY pushed for the RESTORE Act legislation to dedicate revenue from the fines to oilspill recovery in the affected areas.

As Louisiana fights continually against the loss of coastal wetlands, major restoration work is moving forward because of MARY's years of hard work directly related to that.

Due to MARY's strong support of our Nation's military, our fighting men and women are better off. The bases in Louisiana, which are important to our communities and to the Nation's defense, continue to have what they need for their vital mission. Our veterans face challenges and most recently faced the crying need for new health care clinics in Louisiana, and MARY helped make those finally happen, finally move forward, including pushing the case fervently and directly to administration officials.

In a very personal and dramatic way, MARY is enthusiastic in promoting children's welfare and supporting adoption. Her dedication internationally was recognized when Russia banned her travel after her direct and well-founded criticism of Russia's action to curb adoption by Americans.

In all of this work, one thing is always crystal clear—certainly crystal clear to me—with Senator LANDRIEU: Louisiana has always been first in her heart and her top motivation, and she has had a distinguished career of service in the Senate on all of those issues I mentioned and many more. All of us in Louisiana gives her our sincere thanks for that.

Thank you, Mr. President. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oregon.

Mr. MERKLEY. Thank you, Mr. President.

With Senator MARY LANDRIEU's permission, I want to do a quick interlude to send a bill over to the House.

#### CENTRAL OREGON JOBS AND WATER SECURITY ACT

Mr. MERKLEY. I ask unanimous consent that the energy committee be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 2640 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.



The clerk will report the bill by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 2640) to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to adjust the Crooked River boundary, to provide water certainty for the City of Prineville, Oregon, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the substitute amendment, which is at the desk, be agreed to; the bill, as amended, be read a third time and passed; and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment (No. 4094) in the nature of a substitute was agreed to.

(The amendment is printed in today's RECORD under "Text of Amendments.")

The amendment was ordered to be engrossed, and the bill to be read a third time.

The bill was read the third time.

The bill (H.R. 2640), as amended, was passed.

#### PROTECTING VOLUNTEER FIRE-FIGHTERS AND EMERGENCY RESPONDERS ACT OF 2014—Continued

##### TRIBUTES TO MARY LANDRIEU

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, I will just say a couple words before I turn it over to the Chair and to my colleague from West Virginia.

When I think of MARY LANDRIEU, I think of the most tenacious person in the Senate standing here, holding court, fighting for her cause, fighting for her values, fighting for her State. I think particularly of the hard work she did on flood insurance, on this issue that was so critical to the State of Louisiana and very important to my State of Oregon and to our other States but particularly Louisiana. She was determined. Every time I was on the floor, she would say: JEFF, have you done this and JEFF, have you done that. She would grab someone else, and she would say: And now we have to do this. That is how legislation gets done.

Senator LANDRIEU really drives things through the Senate. It is one thing to be here and express your ideas in kind of a social manner—well, wouldn't this be nice or wouldn't that be nice; it is another to stand here and say: I am going to make this happen because it is important to my constituents and important to our Nation. I have seen MARY LANDRIEU do that on issue after issue, and certainly for all who came in with my class 6 years ago, it has been a wonderful education on how to make maximum use and effectiveness from this privilege of serving in the Senate.

Thank you for everything you have done, MARY LANDRIEU. It is an honor to

serve with you, and we are going to miss you greatly.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from West Virginia.

Mr. MANCHIN. All of us came here at one time or another, and the first impression you have is how they kind of ingratiate you and bring you into the fold. I am often asked—I am sure most of our colleagues are asked the same question—whom do you consider your best and closest friend and whom do you associate with and whom do you feel comfortable with? In any category, without a doubt, it is always MARY LANDRIEU. We come from a similar background—rural States. We come from the same culture—hard-working people who basically don't ask for an awful lot and give a lot more back. Both of us come from large Catholic families, and we have an awful lot in common. We and our spouses have bonded, and we have done things together. That was the way I heard the place used to work, that you build relationships and there is camaraderie and you share dinners at people's homes. It is such a different atmosphere when that happens because you really do forge a bond that is so much missing in this body.

Let me say one other thing. The great losers in this whole election process we just had were the great people of Louisiana. They lost a champion. They lost a fighter. That is what Senator MERKLEY said. There is nobody who said: I think you ought to be careful about that because I think MARY is interested. We knew there could be problems.

With that being said, the best thing to do is to go talk to MARY on this subject or issue, and we would work through it. How do we compromise and bring everybody together? And MARY would say: We will work through it.

Coming from an energy State and MARY having an energy State and the two of us being Democrats, on our side sometimes our individual caucus is not as large as we would like for it to be—let's put it that way—but we talk an awful lot about how we are moving an energy policy. As MARY said, we need it all in this country. We should be totally energy independent. We shouldn't be looking to other countries and buying their products and giving them the resources to be used against us, and we don't have to do that. We can do it in a sensible and balanced way with the economy and the environment. MARY has always had the economy and environment first and foremost. That type of balance is hard to find, and it is definitely hard to find in Washington.

So I just want her to know that there is nobody who is going to miss MARY LANDRIEU more than I, being in this body, going shoulder to shoulder with her and trying to bring an even keel to this whole process.

MARY, I feel for the people of Louisiana. I truly do. I am hoping some-

body can come along and have the same spirit and fight that you have, but no one is going to be able to replace you and what you have been able to do and what you have been able to make us aware of.

My little State was involved in helping Katrina, helping the State of Louisiana. The State of West Virginia came immediately. When that happened, we were so proud to be part of that, and we now have a lot of people from Louisiana living in West Virginia today because of that effort.

There has been a wonderful relationship and a wonderful friendship, but more importantly, there has been a wonderful person who has graced the Halls in this tremendous body for 18 years who will not be replaced in this Senate and this body. Again, the people of Louisiana should be extremely proud to have someone who is a fighter, who gave every drop she had of public service for her State and never forgot where she come from. So with that, that is a tremendous tribute in itself.

I say to my dear friend, thank you for your service on behalf of the great State of Louisiana. Thank you for all the important work you have done for our country. God bless you, and I love you.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Minnesota.

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, you can see that MARY LANDRIEU has a lot of friends on both sides of the aisle, and that is because MARY has stood up and been a mentor to so many of us. She taught us how to fight for our own States because that is what she has done every day for Louisiana.

I was thinking about our States earlier. MARY mentioned in her talk about how Minnesota is at the top of the Mississippi and Louisiana is at the bottom and how hard we fought for river issues and barges and locks and dams. We will actually have success at the end of the year with the ABLE Act, which is really important for other reasons, but we are going to finally start the funding for lock and dam improvements, and that kind of work would not have happened without MARY and the work and support she has provided with the RIVER Act. So a river doesn't divide us, it unites us, and MARY is a uniter and brings people together on so many issues.

She said before that she was going to put some things on the RECORD about adoption, but I thought I would take the opportunity to fill people in.

First of all, MARY established the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute. If you have not gone to some of the events where she literally brings the angels—people who have adopted children in the most dire circumstances—to Washington to celebrate these adoptions and talk about the policy changes that need to be made.



Anyone who has adopted one of the foster kids or brought them into an office and adopted them—the reason you can do that is because MARY LANDRIEU started that program so that foster children, who otherwise would not have the connections and wherewithal to be able to get a job for the summer, spring, or fall in Washington, DC, would be able to work, and then she has all of these kids to her house every single year.

MARY doesn't just fight for adopted kids at home, she fights for them all over the world. I would hate to be the bureaucrat in Guatemala when MARY LANDRIEU shows up to fight them off. I see her staff, and some of them were probably with her on that trip. I think she knew the name of every child who was waiting to be adopted in Guatemala.

How can we forget the meeting with the Russians when they started to use these poor little children as pawns in a political game? MARY stood up to them. As a result, as many of us know, she has now been banned from the country of Russia. I don't think everybody knows that the reason she was banned was because she was fighting for these kids who were waiting to be adopted. Many of the parents are in my State, and they actually have siblings and they are trying to adopt the other sibling. That is a very sad story and MARY stood up for them. In the words of her dad, Putin didn't like it, and so MARY was banned. I guess that is not where she is going on vacation after we are done here.

The other thing about MARY I will never forget—how kind and sweet and fun she is for her friends in the Senate—is the time when we had a bet on the Saints-Vikings game in the playoffs. We bet some food from our States. If anybody remembers that amazing playoff game, the Vikings lost, and I had to wear a Drew Brees jersey and walk over to MARY's office with a pot of gumbo, which is really hard to make. When I got to her office, all of her New Orleans press was there, and when she tried that gumbo, she said, this is Minnesota gumbo. This gumbo just needs something special. She got out an enormous bottle of hot sauce from her desk drawer—as only a Louisiana Senator would have—and dumped it in my Minnesota gumbo. That is the spice that MARY has added to all of our lives.

What we have learned from her we will never forget. As I said, she is a role model for so many of us on how to fight for our States.

We see it in the eyes of those little adopted children and the great success we are starting to see on the coast because of all the recovery you brought to your State. We know you will never be forgotten and we want you to keep fighting.

Thank you, MARY.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Jersey.

Mr. BOOKER. Mr. President, I can't leave the floor without speaking to MARY. MARY has been such an incredible inspiration to me. I have been in the Senate now for 13 months, and I have had a number of conversations with her, but the best way to teach somebody is to show somebody.

Senator LANDRIEU is prodigiously persuasive, tirelessly tenacious, doggedly determined. Just to watch Senator LANDRIEU is to watch what every American should hope for in a Senator—someone who is unyielding in their work and service to them.

If you look at the myriad of interests in the State of Louisiana, I was amazed by what I saw firsthand. MARY stood up and fought for the people who were loud and ornery but still had a good cause as well as the people who were voiceless and humble. MARY stood up for them. MARY stood up for people in her community who were from every different background and from every different race. MARY stood up to them in a way that is a model to my State.

I heard my senior Senator mention you by name about how essential you were when my State had its back against the wall and crushed by a superstorm. When there were battles to get my State's funding, and MARY had no skin in that game, my senior Senator mentioned you as a champion for New Jersey and that is what blows me away about you.

I yearn for a government that has moral courage, more than we have now, people who will risk popularity for purpose and will risk substance for some kind of celebrity. Senator LANDRIEU has done things against her political interests, but that were for the people. That is why I have a great deal of reverence for you and why I travel down to your State.

Now the Senator knows this because I must have said it hundreds of times when I was down in Louisiana, that that is my ancestral State. I will end by saying this: My granddaddy was born in Monroe. He was born poor. As my family likes to say, he was so poor he couldn't afford to be poor, he was poor. He was born to a single mama. He was born Black at a time of immense segregation, when people who walked the hallways of power couldn't give a damn about him. He taught me love for your State, and more importantly, the urgency to stand up and fight for those people that most folks won't fight for.

I am telling you right now, my granddaddy died during my first big election, but if he knew you, he would be so proud of your service.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

Mr. BEGICH. I wish to echo all the comments people said today, but I have

to be honest. When I was elected, I was scared of MARY. People said very politely that you should check with MARY to see if she has an issue with something. I was terrified of what people told me she would do if I was not on her side.

If you remember, when I came in, we doubled the oil and gas caucus in the Democratic caucus by me just joining, and so we had an immediate connection, which was unique in itself. Our connection was not just that, but also, as MARY mentioned, her mentor, Lindy Boggs, and our family knows the Boggsses very well.

I can still remember a call I got when I won my mayor's race in 2003 from this woman in Louisiana. My staff came in and said some woman from Louisiana is calling, and we don't know who she is, but she wants to talk to you, and so I said, OK. I took the phone call, and it was Lindy Boggs. You know how she would start a conversation with "Hi, darlin', I just want to check in with you and see how you are doing, and congratulations." Then she said, "One moment, someone is at my door." She came back and said, "The terminator is here," and that is classic Lindy Boggs.

What was so real about her—and I can see it in MARY's style—and that is she is real. The work MARY has done—and I didn't know it until I came to the Senate—for foster kids and adoption is remarkable. AMY KLOBUCHAR went into great detail about that, and it shows that it is not always about the policy and fights on the floor here, but there is so much that individuals do outside this Chamber. What MARY has done outside of the Chamber is to use this position to make a difference for young people, and that is powerful. As MARY has said, we fight over policies and issues, but every one of those young people has been touched in some way. I guarantee—and I am sure you have seen it over the years where someone might come up to you and say, I don't know if you remember me, and then they tell you the story of how you met them when they were a foster kid and just getting adopted or when you were at one of the ceremonies or one of the events they were at. Those are the things I will remember about you.

The tenacity that people talked about—there is no question about it. I was glad when I got on the Appropriations Committee because I thought, finally, I will be on there with someone who will chew it up with me, and I just had to hang on to your coattails when you were fighting on issues.

When we sat in on those leadership meetings on Tuesday morning, I was always thankful when you came in. You were right across from me. I don't know if they all figured it out—maybe, again, as I said, it is a little bit of confession—we had our signals, or maybe eye contact, and then we went to work. You were really incredible.

When you were in caucus—and many people don't see those, except as Members—you were always passionate about what was important to Louisiana. You never forgot what was important to Louisiana.

People made the comment that you are tenacious. I would say that any time something did move in the Congress, you were a part of it in some way. When we were trying to figure out how to fix the health care bill, you were right there. You didn't hesitate. You knew it was a hot potato, but it was also something that we knew we had to make better, not just for people but for decades to come. You were not afraid of that even though you said you knew it could cost you your election because you knew generationally it would have an impact.

It wasn't about the moment, it was about 10, 15, 20 years, you could look back and say you helped make that happen, and you did, every time you tried to move in and push an item or idea. Even though we will not be serving here, you will have an impact.

I could tell, as we were shaking hands here, it was amazing to watch you, you never stop. You were already talking to each person about the work they need to be doing. When I shook your hand, you were talking about fisheries. I am like, MARY, just relax. But you are already working it, and that is what is so unique about you. You will not be in this body, but you will be in this body because of the way you do your work. It is not about being in this office, it is about caring about Louisiana, and as I said, I saw it just in this last moment here. It is unbelievable. You will never give up on the people of Louisiana because you care so deeply.

It has been an honor to know you.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Indiana.

Mr. COATS. I wish to make some remarks about the Senator from Louisiana. I had the pleasure of serving as ranking member of the Homeland Security Appropriations Committee, and MARY LANDRIEU was the chairman. I wasn't sure about what to expect when I joined that committee. I knew of MARY's passion and her persuasion, which is given in a gentle but effective way. She reaches out. I thought, she is going to convince me out of just about everything. I will not be able to hold my own with her, but she was so gracious in terms of working together with me as we worked through some very tough issues.

She was a knowledgeable and effective leader. She couldn't ask enough questions, couldn't gain enough information, making wise decisions, given the limitations that we had relative to appropriations and given the process that, unfortunately, was not the way the Appropriations Committee should go forward. Nevertheless, working to-

gether on that and on a whole number of issues turned out to be a very pleasant experience because of the nature of the leader of the committee and their willingness to work together.

You get to learn something about someone when you spend 3 days trekking along the southern border on the immigration issue. We climbed into tunnels, driving along fences, talking to Border Patrol agents, looking at the enormous channels that exist relative to that border and our Border Patrol people and immigration control people. Both of us were right there in blue jeans and tennis shoes in hot weather, and learning firsthand the challenges this country faces relative to dealing with immigration.

Her passion for children and her State has been talked about. I think the word that best describes MARY is passion. She has passion for the engagement in anything that she engages in and doing it in a way that is relentless and reaches results. I think it is a great tribute to her character and to the kind of person she is.

One thing we will not be able to do is meet together somewhere in Russia. I have been banned from Russia and MARY has been banned from Russia. I was banned because I took significant exception to the Russian takeover of Crimea and its activities in Ukraine. I was surprised by that. MARY was banned for an unnecessary reason, and that was trying to help Russian children who were trying to find adoptive parents. Obviously she was successful, and obviously she was as relentless there as she was on all the other issues because Russia saw that as a threat. Here is someone reaching out for all the right reasons and doing something for all the right reasons—passion for children and finding them a home.

I wish MARY the very best going forward in her next chapter of life. I can testify to you from personal experience that there is life after Congress, and it can be a pleasant life. Knowing you, you will be engaged in something very significant—whether for your State or your country. Your life of service, and your family's life of service, is well recognized. So I wish the Senator from Louisiana the very best as she goes forward. It has been a pleasure working with her.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MARKEY). The Senator from Virginia.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I wish to follow the comments of my friend, the Senator from Indiana, although I do think the RECORD should be corrected. I would say to my colleague I have also dealt with the Senator from Louisiana a number of times on a number of issues, and I have thought of lots of words to describe her style, but "gentle" would not be one to come to mind.

I know this is a day to pay tribute, so I wish to echo some of the comments of the Senator from Indiana.

I first met part of the Landrieu family when I had a chance to meet MARY's dad when he was serving as the Secretary of HUD and I was a young staff person. MARY talks a lot about her family. Her family was kind enough to host me a variety of times when I was in Louisiana. She has a great family, a great tradition.

So many folks have spoken about specific issues regarding MARY's service in the Senate. I am not going to talk about her focus on issues and the relentlessness she brings, but I wish to acknowledge her generosity and heart and spirit. She and Frank would always open their home for whatever cause. Again, I heard the comments about her enormous heart and commitment for adoption. I think about so many events that we go to, but those Angels of Adoption events at her house touched all of us in a way that is not often the case. I also can acknowledge now that she has a great love for the Commonwealth of Virginia and has spent some time there due to her love of horses and her daughter's riding and her own riding. As has been mentioned by so many—and I know from our own conversations—this is not somebody who wants to look backward but is clearly already looking forward. I know life holds for you and Frank a number of extraordinarily exciting additional chapters. I hope I have the opportunity to be a part of those chapters and to be subject to that gentle persuasion on whatever issue comes to mind as you go forward.

I know I speak for so many of our colleagues when I say we all have a lot of unique characteristics, but with MARY LANDRIEU they broke the mold.

I yield the floor to my good friend the Senator from Maryland.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland.

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, one of the truly nice things about serving in the Senate is the people we meet. Myrna and I consider Frank and MARY to be our friends. She is an incredible person and has given incredible service. I am sorry the people of Louisiana could not see MARY in our caucuses as she fought on different issues for the people of Louisiana and what she did as an advocate on behalf of people who otherwise would not have had their voices heard. She did it in a very effective way.

I heard some of the conversations about what happened with Katrina and the people of New Orleans. MARY LANDRIEU brought us down to Louisiana for us to see firsthand. It was incredible for me, not to just see the physical devastation, but thanks to MARY LANDRIEU, we saw the people. We saw the spirit in the people, but we saw people who needed help. It is that type of emotional involvement that MARY gives to every cause she believes in.

So I want the Senator from Louisiana to know how much I deeply respect your model of public service and the people you stood up for.

Senator LANDRIEU spoke about the adoption issue. She got into it because she has such a big family. I think I got into it because of her. She is pretty persuasive. We all feel better because of that. Senator LANDRIEU is the one who really led us in those efforts. What an incredible legacy.

I want to speak a minute about small business issues. Senator LANDRIEU chaired that committee during a particularly important time. I want to relate a couple of stories to my colleagues. There are many times I was in the Democratic caucus and we would be talking about an issue and Senator LANDRIEU would stand and say, Well, how about small businesses? Under her leadership we brought some major initiatives to the floor to help small businesses because of MARY LANDRIEU and her ability to put together a common-sense package. She understood small businesses are the growth engine of America. That is how jobs are created and that is where innovation takes place. I can tell my colleagues—I worked with her. I know what we got done. I know how we took on our own governmental agencies to make sure they did right for small businesses and how we fought the bundling. Contract officers love to take small contracts and make them into big ones because it is less headache for them but less opportunity for small businesses. MARY LANDRIEU stopped that practice and put a spotlight on it. It was an incredible experience for me because it showed me that each of us can make a difference.

I knew what I was trying to do. One of the issues I got involved with was to raise the surety bond issues and I didn't see much chance of getting it done and MARY gave me the opportunity to get it done. She coached me on how to get it done, and that is now a permanent law of the land.

She made us all relevant on the committee, individually and collectively. We have a great legacy to help small businesses in this country, thanks to the leadership of Senator LANDRIEU.

To the people of Louisiana, they could not have had a stronger advocate, a stronger friend, a person who accomplished more for that State during some extremely challenging times. To the people of this country and the work MARY LANDRIEU did on the Appropriations Committee for our national security and standing up for and protecting and defending our own country, the record of Senator LANDRIEU is incredible. To those who are voiceless but had MARY LANDRIEU to speak for them, the disadvantaged; to small businesses—and the list goes on and on and on—this is one incredible legislator. She is a model to many of us. I thank

her so much for her service and her commitment to public life. It will always be an inspiration to me, the fact that I was given the honor to serve with you in the Senate of the United States.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. WALSH). The Senator from Massachusetts.

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. President, I rise to add my words of admiration for this great person, for this great legislator. Just to tell a brief story, it was back in 2006, in a lameduck session just like this. The Democrats had won and were about to take over the Senate. The Democrats had just won and were about to take over the House—a different passage in time. But throughout all of 2006, even in the minority, MARY LANDRIEU was moving a bill to open up a vast new area in the Gulf of Mexico for drilling for oil and natural gas.

I was over in the House. I was from Massachusetts. I did not want this bill to pass. I wanted to actually save it for 2007 when the Democrats were in control. We could pass it in an energy bill by the end of 2007, which would have included this provision. MARY passed it through the Senate—bipartisan, as usual. If we look up bipartisan, if we Google it, MARY's picture actually comes up.

Over in the House, because of all of her momentum, I lost and that bill passed. Again, tens of thousands of new jobs fell to Louisiana through MARY LANDRIEU.

It was about a week later when I was out shopping and here comes MARY right toward me with her daughter in her riding outfit.

MARY said: I want to introduce you to Congressman MARKEY.

I said to her daughter: Well, you have to add a few additional words because your mother just defeated me quite badly just last week and passed a big bill for Louisiana, for whom your mother always calls her people, the people of Louisiana.

There isn't anybody who understands better the spirit of legislating, about protecting your home State and respecting those who are maybe not in agreement with you but are not your enemy but somebody whom you try to work with.

After the BP spill in the Gulf of Mexico I was the lead Democrat in the House on the Natural Resources Committee with jurisdiction over that, and MARY again was outraged that such damage could be done to her fishermen, to her tourism industry, to her people in Louisiana. She worked hard to make sure billions of dollars would ultimately go back into the gulf to ensure that her fishermen, her tourism industry, and her people were protected.

Then, after having served in the House for 37 years, I arrived in the Senate with a great concern that a bill I had been working on in Massachusetts,

which was the dramatic rise in the insurance rates for homeowners and businesses right along the coastline of Massachusetts, and I had to introduce legislation not only to work on the issue, but when I arrived in the Senate, MARY LANDRIEU was already here, already working on that bill, all ready to protect her homeowners, her small business people from outrageous increases in insurance rates that would have basically made their homes unaffordable.

Throughout my career, all I can tell my colleagues is one constant is this great, legendary legislator, somebody who embodies all the best of what this institution stands for. I just want to let her know how proud I have been to be able to serve with her here and how proud I am to be able to tell a story of the time when she just beat me flat-out because that is just how she plays. She plays it for her State every time, and no waiting if it is Louisiana. I know all the people of Louisiana know that about her.

So congratulations on your great career.

I yield the floor.

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. HEINRICH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MARKEY). Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. HEINRICH. Mr. President, as I start my comments on the land title legislation before us, I would be remiss if I did not mention the incredible work our chair MARY LANDRIEU has done on this legislation. As we just heard from the tribute to her service over the last few minutes, as the Presiding Officer said in his comments, if you Google "bipartisan," there will be a picture of MARY LANDRIEU. I think this title sort of embodies that. We owe great gratitude to Chairman LANDRIEU and to Ranking Member MURKOWSKI for the incredible negotiation and work they have put into this package.

We stand on the cusp of passing one of the most significant pieces of public land legislation since the omnibus bill of 2009. I stand here to speak on behalf of this well-balanced package which is absolutely critical for jobs across the Western United States and particularly from the perspective of my home State of New Mexico.

I want to say that absolutely none of this would be possible were it not for the years of effort and support from the local communities that helped to craft this legislation. Thanks to their work, New Mexico's critical public land-based economic engine will continue to grow and the energy, tourism, and sporting and recreation sectors.

New wilderness and National Park Service units will continue to make New Mexico an unmatched destination for world travelers as well as to the local families who have known for centuries that New Mexico truly is the land of enchantment.

I wish to start by talking a little bit about a place that is located in the Carson National Forest in northern New Mexico.

This is a picture of Lobo Peak, which is part of this area called Columbine Hondo. Lobo Peak is 12,000 feet and change. It is quite a spectacular view—the kind of view most people associate with Montana or Colorado or Wyoming. The Sangre de Cristo mountains in northern New Mexico are unmatched or could match any of those mountain ranges in States found farther north in the Rockies.

Columbine Hondo has been managed as a wilderness study area since 1980. It is an area that is cherished by all who know it and is a key attraction for the local tourism and outdoor recreation economy.

When I was a young outfitter guide and the executive director of the Cottonwood Gulch Foundation, Columbine Hondo was one of the spectacular destinations where our students backpacked and slept under the stars and learned to navigate in the backcountry. This area has some of the best elk, mule deer, and bighorn sheep habitat in New Mexico. People come from across the Nation to experience a true wilderness elk hunt in its aspen and fir forests.

Fishermen will tell you that it is home to some of the last, best habitat for our native Rio Grande cutthroat trout, which is, coincidentally, New Mexico's State fish as well.

Columbine Hondo is home to the headwaters of the Red River and the Rio Hondo. There is nothing more precious in a State such as New Mexico than our water. Those are major tributaries of the Rio Grande. The snowmelt from Lobo Peak, seen here, and from Gold Hill provide critical irrigation water to local acequia associations that carry on centuries-old agricultural traditions.

For millennia now, these mountains, rivers, and wildlife have supported New Mexico's traditional communities. The first evidence of human habitation here stretches back 11,000 years. Nearby Taos Pueblo has been continuously inhabited for more than 1,000 years. Spanish settlers first came to the area in the 16th century. Hispanic families have relied on these mountains and their bounty for their way of life ever since.

Today Columbine Hondo is a central attraction to visitors to Taos County, where outdoor recreation and tourism drive the local economy and contribute to a 68,000-job-strong public land recreation industry in our State.

In addition to finally designating Columbine Hondo as a full-fledged wilderness area, this package would also expand the Wheeler Peak Wilderness by approximately 650 additional acres while modifying a boundary in order to create a loop trail accessible by mountain bikes along the Lost Lake Trail from Taos Ski Valley, to the East Fork Trail, to Red River.

This proposal has broad community support, including Taos Pueblo, many local government leaders, hunters, fishermen, business owners, land grant heirs, ranchers, acequia parcientes, conservationists, mountain bikers, veterans, and literally the list could go on and on.

In October, on my birthday—I could not have asked for a better birthday gift—I was able to join the Columbine Hondo Wilderness Coalition as well as regional stakeholders and local elected officials for a hike into the area to highlight the conservation and water initiatives they support. Local residents discussed why they support permanently protecting Columbine Hondo and what the area means to them and their livelihoods and their lives.

Esther Garcia, an acequia commissioner and the former mayor of Questa, expressed her support well when she said:

Columbine Hondo is very important to all of us. To preserve this beautiful wilderness area, we preserve our hunting, our pinon picking, our herb gathering.

I thank all of the residents of Taos County who have worked hard for decades—literally decades—to make this wilderness area a reality.

Also included in this public land package is a provision to transition the Valles Caldera National Preserve in New Mexico to new management to increase public access. This proposal was developed after extensive input from local residents, sportsmen, business owners, elected officials, and is supported by a number of local chambers of commerce. Together they decided that a national preserve, managed by the Park Service, with a mandate for hunting and fishing to remain central to the management of the area, was the best way to ensure expanded public access while preserving the incredible landscape for future generations.

As you can see from this photo, Valles Caldera is often called New Mexico's Yellowstone for a reason. It is literally an area that was created as a collapsed supervolcano, where cinder cones rise up out of the high-elevation grassland and where the cinder cones and the mountains that encircle this collapsed crater are covered in Douglas-fir and fir and aspen forests. It is a spectacular landscape. The Caldera is home to crystal-clear trout streams and some of the best elk habitat in the country.

Since this area was transitioned to public ownership, the preserve has been

managed by a board of trustees charged with generating enough revenue from user fees and other sources to make the preserve financially self-sustaining—literally the same model used for the Presidio in San Francisco, but, as you can see, this is not San Francisco. This management regime has led to drastically limited public access, with relatively high entrance and permit fees, blocking many New Mexicans and other Americans out of this public land. By shifting to Park Service management, we can open the Valles Caldera to the public while conserving the incredible, really one-of-a-kind unique resources that are found here.

As someone who has been lucky enough to draw an elk tag in the Caldera, expanding hunting opportunities for the public is one of the primary reasons I am supporting this proposal. The preserve model ensures that hunting and fishing remain a central activity for the public to enjoy. National Park Service management will help balance expanded public access with conserving both the natural and the incredible cultural resources that are found in this area.

Park Service management will also help bring more visitors and will raise the national profile of the preserve for visitors from outside New Mexico. The increase in visitors at the preserve is expected to bring more than 200 jobs and \$8 million in wages to the local communities in the region. That is great news for places such as Los Alamos, Espanola, and Jemez Springs.

We have seen elsewhere how protecting public lands spurs economic development. According to Headwaters Economics, rural counties with protected Federal lands such as national parks and preserves saw a 345-percent increase in jobs over the last four decades, whereas rural counties without commensurate protected public lands saw job increases of only 83 percent in the same period.

I thank the local communities and all the elected officials who have worked so hard for decades to make this proposal possible. I thank Senator TOM UDALL and former Senator Jeff Bingaman for their leadership on this issue.

We all literally stand on the shoulders of giants in this community effort, as it was Senator Clinton P. Anderson of New Mexico who helped pass the Wilderness Act and who first proposed National Park Service management of the Valles Caldera in the early 1960s.

Additionally, as the son of a Navy sailor who literally saw the last of the aboveground atom bomb explosions and the first of the hydrogen bomb explosions firsthand, I am especially pleased to see that the Manhattan Project National Historical Park Act, which was introduced by Senator MARIA CANTWELL, is also included in this title. It will establish three different educational sites—one in Los Alamos, NM,

one at Oak Ridge in Tennessee, and one at Hanford in Washington. Los Alamos, NM, has made incredible contributions to our Nation's nuclear history. These parks will conserve historic sites and artifacts that played a key role in the dawn of the nuclear era, while telling the story of the creation of the world's first atomic bomb and exploring its consequences for our society and our world.

Finally, I would like to mention the provision in this package that will benefit New Mexico's energy economy. It is one that I know Senator LANDRIEU was very supportive and excited about. It is a bill that I cosponsored, but it was authored by my colleague Senator TOM UDALL, who championed this effort to ensure that the Bureau of Land Management has the staff it needs to streamline the oil and gas drilling permit process, while at the same time strengthening the review system that helps them meet important environmental and safety standards.

Thousands of jobs and a sizable portion of our State's economy are supported in New Mexico by the oil and gas industry. Increasing cooperation among Federal agencies and business is an important way to boost job creation, while at the same time expanding domestic energy production.

Like other Americans who value our shared lands as assets to be utilized, to be enjoyed, and to be passed along to future generations, these are all things worth fighting for. I am committed to carry on my State's rich conservation history, and this legislation makes an enormous contribution to that ever-evolving story.

I yield the floor to my colleague the Senator from Montana.

Mr. TESTER. I thank the Senator from New Mexico for his comments on the land portion of the national defense authorization. I very much appreciate the work he has done and his hard work fighting for the people of New Mexico since his time in the Senate.

We thank you very much for your leadership, Senator HEINRICH.

Mr. President, 1 million people live in the great State of Montana. We are home to farmers, ranchers, working families, small business owners, and to bold sports men and women who explore until they are too exhausted to take another step.

Our lands are famous worldwide, from Glacier National Park and Yellowstone National Park to wild and scenic rivers such as the North Fork of the Flathead River. We attract the best explorers, the best hunters and anglers, and all those who simply want to get away from it all.

But our outdoors just aren't for out-of-staters. Montanans deeply value our land. Many Montanans remember their first hunting trip. Many recall where they landed their first trout. I remember riding horses with my father in the Bear Paw Mountains.

Montanans come with a lot of opinions, but one issue that unites us is taking care of our public lands and keeping our public lands in public hands. We want to make sure our kids and grandkids can hike in the Bob Marshall Wilderness, that they can catch their first fish in the clean waters of the Madison River, and that our outdoor traditions remain strong for generations to come.

As a Senator from Montana, it is my responsibility to make sure we preserve these treasured places, that we responsibly use our lands to advance the interests of our State and of our country. That is why I am proud to support the Montana lands bills that will probably be voted on tomorrow.

These bills are a product of years of negotiations. Ranchers and conservationists started working on the Rocky Mountain Front Heritage Act before I became Senator. These bills are a product of compromise led by folks on the ground—the folks who live and breathe Montana's outdoors every day—and these bills are a product of Montana's congressional delegation working together to move Montana forward.

We all know Congress fails to agree on much these days. Gridlock and roadblocks are common. Few people are willing to compromise, but when you give a little, you get a lot. That is how Montana's lands bills became a part of this legislation.

These bills have been vetted on the ground by Montana ranchers such as Dusty Crary, Karl Rappold, and many others. They have been approved by committees and negotiated for many years. They not only deliver on our promises to Montana's ranchers but also to the outdoors men and women, business owners, and Native American tribes. They are Montana-made bills.

Take the Rocky Mountain Front Heritage Act for example. This bill protects public access along the Rocky Mountain Front for hunters, anglers, outdoors men and women. The Front is a special place in Montana lore. It is where the Rocky Mountains shoot straight out from the plains into the sky. It is a breathtaking, magnificent sight.

It is an ecosystem like none other in the lower 48 States. The heritage act designates 208,000 Front acres as a conservation management area, adds another 67,000 acres to the Bob Marshall Wilderness, and supports a noxious weed management plan.

At the same time, it allows for continued grazing access for Montana ranchers, follows BLM recommendations on approximately 14,000 acres of wilderness study areas, and requires new assessments of oil and gas potential in two others.

Some will question the details of this bill and others in the package, but Montanans know how to responsibly manage our lands. We know what irresponsible development looks like.

More than 100 years ago mining corporations pillaged our lands in their search for copper, silver, and other minerals. Not only did they turn our mountains inside out and pollute our waters, they ignored workers' rights and bought influence over Montana's elected leaders.

In response, Montana passed legislation to limit corporate influence in elections in 1912. We followed that in the 1970s with one of the most progressive State constitutions to date, enshrining protections for a clean and healthy environment into law.

A fellow by the name of Max Baucus got his first taste of politics during that Constitutional Convention, the same Max Baucus who worked on and introduced the Rocky Mountain Front Heritage Act in 2011. Passing this land bill helps fulfill Max's legacy in Montana and honors the hard work of his staff and the bill's many supporters.

Before Max introduced this bill, he received a letter from a rancher along the Front. Ben Pierce was his name. Ben told Max he wanted to see the Front remain a place with both well-managed working ranches and vibrant wildlife values.

Ben supported the bill because he knew that preserving the ranching culture was critical to Montana's economy and our way of life, but he also supported the bill because he knows we must preserve Montana's most special places.

That is because Montana's outdoor treasures are not only symbols of our heritage, they are also incredible economic drivers. Montana's outdoor economy, thanks to places such as Glacier and Yellowstone, creates or sustains some 64,000 jobs and contributes nearly \$6 billion to the State's economy every year. That is impressive in a State of just 1 million people.

From outdoor stores to park cafes, Montana's economy thrives when Montana's outdoors are preserved and accessible. Preservation and access are also the cornerstones of the North Fork Protection Act, another legacy of Senator Baucus. The bill permanently protects the American side of the North Fork of the Flathead River watershed by barring future mining or drilling.

The land is adjacent to Glacier National Park. It is bound by snow-capped mountains, ringed by awe-inspiring valleys, and bisected by beautiful blue-green waters that are home to some of the Nation's best white-water rafting.

Its Canadian cousin across the border is already protected. Thanks to this bill, the American side of the watershed will be protected from oil and gas development forever.

Preserving the North Fork is not only good for the wildlife or the hiker who enjoys it, it is also good for our economy and our nearby communities.

That is why this bipartisan bill is supported by the local chamber of commerce and by the mayor of nearby Whitefish, who said this bill's passage "means permanent protection of our community's water supply," and we all know how important water is.

These two measures are not the only bills that will benefit Montana in this lands package.

My Cabin Fee Act provides economic certainty for folks who have seen their fees skyrocket on Forest Service cabins. Many of these cabins pass from generation to generation, and this bill makes sure family cabins can be enjoyed by those who cherish them.

This package also does right by our Native American friends. The Northern Cheyenne Lands Act restores the tribe's mineral rights to 5,000 acres within its boundaries, strengthening the tribe's control over its lands, resources, and trust funds.

It corrects an error that was made by the Federal Government more than 100 years ago. That, in and of itself, makes it a worthy endeavor.

But there are other areas where we can work together. Just as these bills are Montana-made solutions, we can—and I believe we will—come together over Montana-made solutions to better manage our forests.

For decades folks in Montana have argued over our lands, battled over access, and we have fought over resource development. We have sued and countersued over logging, but in Montana we haven't had a new wilderness designation in 31 years. Why? Because we haven't been able to compromise, but now we have. It means progress for Montana.

This agreement is bipartisan, and I was proud to work with Senator WALSH and Senator-elect DAINES to bring it to reality. I hope we can find more ways to compromise over lands issues and other legislation moving forward because, after all, it is the future that matters most. Whether this body is debating immigration reform or an education system, how to rebuild infrastructure, we must always look to the future.

We want the best for ourselves and for our communities. We want to leave this world in better shape than we inherited it, and we want to pass down our treasured lands and outdoor traditions to our kids and our grandkids wherever they may live. Places such as the Rocky Mountain Front and the North Fork are living legacies to Montana's greatness.

There are many reasons to preserve these places, but the best I have heard comes from Gene Sentz, who hails from Choteau, MT. Gene wrote a book about the Rocky Mountain Front. In it he quoted another Montanan who said: "Some places on Earth should be left alone, even if solid gold lies beneath it them."

I couldn't agree more. Montana is home to sky-touching mountains and beautiful plains that roll on as far as the eye can see. It is home to many hard-working men and women and to Native Americans with deep connections to the land.

But it is the last best place because we are all of these things and because we are willing to work together to preserve and strengthen them.

I am very proud of this historic agreement, and today I am particularly proud to be a Montanan.

I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Ms. HEITKAMP. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### VIETNAM VETERANS

Ms. HEITKAMP. Mr. President, I was struck by the last two great speakers, Senator HEINRICH and Senator TESTER, showing us amazing pictures of the beauty of the Western part of our wonderful country. I thought, well, those are really beautiful pictures—not quite as beautiful as North Dakota, but we will acknowledge that these are areas that will open your soul, open your eyes, and make it possible for you to see the beauty that is this great country and the resilience of the people who settled in the areas of the West.

It made me think—and I think, more importantly, understand—that all of what we are in this country is only possible because men and women, for centuries, have stepped up to serve our country and to serve our country in the Armed Forces.

I rise to talk about an issue that hasn't gotten a lot of attention in this country, this quiet thing that is going on in the VFW halls, the AMVETS, the DAVs, and the American Legion halls in my State.

I am talking about not only that kind of sacrifice but recognizing and moving to a special recognition this year. So I want to talk about North Dakotans because we are all extraordinarily proud of our States, but we know in North Dakota that North Dakotans have always answered the call to serve, in particular, my friends within the Native American community, who have answered that call to service in record numbers.

I have made it a priority during my time in the Senate to meet as many of my State veterans as I can. I want to hear their stories, and I want to learn about the challenges of their everyday lives and what we need to do to fulfill our obligation and our sacred trust to live up to the commitments we made, as they lived up to the commitments they made to serve our country and to

protect our freedoms on the battlefields around the world.

Through these trips I have met a lot of wonderful veterans—World War II veterans and their proud stories of their service in the Pacific and Europe. I have met Korean war veterans with memories of what is often referred to as the forgotten war. It may be forgotten by others, but it is not forgotten by me or the people in my great State of North Dakota.

Then there are our newest veterans, with new challenges, from the conflicts in Iraq, Afghanistan, and the overall war against terror. These young veterans, men and women, face difficult challenges, and I think many different challenges than perhaps their counterparts from previous service relationships. But I think they are helping change the way our Nation sees our veterans.

All of these veterans, without a doubt, deserve a place of honor in our society. All of them served and deserve our thanks for their service and their sacrifice. Together, they have protected our freedoms and allowed our Nation to flourish. But today—today—I want to talk and focus on America's Vietnam veterans—North Dakota's Vietnam veterans.

We are in the midst—and I am not sure a lot of people know this—of a remembrance of the 50-year anniversary of the Vietnam war. On May 25, 2012, President Obama issued a proclamation. I have the proclamation here. This proclamation was issued to honor our Vietnam vets—those brave servicemen who gave their lives—and their families. It is to honor all the veterans' service, but particularly to recognize those who lost their lives. I want to quote from this proclamation:

As a grateful Nation, we honor more than 58,000 patriots—their names etched in black granite—

That monument is not too far from this symbol of American democracy, our Nation's Capitol.

—who sacrificed all they had and all they would ever know. We draw inspiration from the heroes who suffered unspeakably as prisoners of war, yet who returned home with their heads held high. We pledge to keep faith with those who were wounded and still carry the scars of war, seen and unseen.

This special period of honoring our Vietnam veterans runs through 2025, since our involvement in the war stretched through 1975. That is the period which we are going to recognize as the 50-year commemoration and anniversary as this period continues.

It remains important to talk about the Vietnam war and its veterans as much as possible. The Vietnam war represents a difficult time in our Nation's history. By taking time to thank our Vietnam vets and honor their service, our Nation makes another great attempt to bind up the unhealed wounds left behind.

In North Dakota, there have already been a number of veterans events related to the 50th anniversary of Vietnam. I am sure such events are happening in many other States. In fact, there is a Web site—if you want to check it out—where you can look at what is happening in every State across the Union honoring Vietnam veterans in ceremonies being prepared and mainly driven by veterans groups. Hopefully—and one of the purposes in coming here is to urge my colleagues to participate in those events—to participate as they do every day in saying thank you to our Iraqi war vets and our Afghanistan war vets—participate in any event that you can to say thank you to our Vietnam veterans and to the families of those people in your State who lost their loved ones in service to their country.

For myself, I plan to host an event to honor all Vietnam veterans throughout North Dakota next year. Through this effort I hope to help make our Nation remember and never forget the needs of our Vietnam veterans. The Congress needs to make policy decisions so the VA can meet the needs of the next generation of veterans, but we can't forget the unique needs of our Vietnam era veterans.

I have spent hours talking to Vietnam veterans who tell me repeatedly: When I got out of the service, the last thing I wanted to do was go to the VA. And there are a lot of reasons for that. In the 1970s, the VA wasn't a place where people thought they could go for quality health care, where they thought they could go for help. They wanted to forget that part of their service. So a lot of those unseen wounds of servicemen from the Vietnam war went unhealed, and it manifests itself in a high rate of homelessness, a high rate of poverty, a high rate of substance abuse, and a high rate of despair.

We are seeing now that our Vietnam veterans—in both those who have lived incredibly fruitful lives and are now aging into the system—coming back to our VAs across the country, coming back to our community-based outreach clinics, coming back to our VA hospitals, and for the first time asking for access to service. They are finding they do not always see the level of service they are entitled to.

I recently worked to restore and provide the appropriate paperwork so a Vietnam veteran who had clearly earned a Purple Heart actually received the benefits of a recipient of the Purple Heart in the VA. All of these issues will now begin to work their way through the VA. They will continue to work their way through our veterans service organizations.

It is time, I think, to take a pause, as the President did in this proclamation. And to understand the basis of this, it was required by a bill similar to the

one we are debating today—NDAA—to begin this commemoration. It was a mandate from this Congress—not this particular Congress, but from the U.S. Congress—to begin to have this ceremony.

I was struck by the fact that when our veterans have lost their lives in Iraq and Afghanistan, most of us have pictures in our offices. We have a poster or some kind of commemoration in our office of that sacrifice. Yet we have never seen that kind of commemoration or that kind of depiction for our Vietnam veterans. So along with the AMVETS in the great city of Bismarck, which has done tons of research in collecting pictures and collecting images of the 198 veterans, the 198 servicemen from North Dakota who lost their lives in Vietnam, I thought it an appropriate commemoration for my office to have something that we walk by every day and, therefore, say to the families of all these young men who are on this poster that every day we honor their sacrifice, we honor your loss, and we honor the fact that we will never know what these 198 young men could have been had they survived this war. We don't know if they could have been standing here giving a speech instead of me. We don't know if they would have been mayors of our small towns or the industrial leaders who invented a product as lucrative and as innovative as the Bobcat, which originated in North Dakota. It was invented in North Dakota, and it is manufactured in North Dakota. We will never know.

But one thing we do know—the one thing we do know—about all of these men is they lost their lives and sacrificed to the greatest extent that one can sacrifice in honor and service of this country, and they deserve to have this period of remembrance. They deserve to have a recognition, and their families deserve to have the United States of America pause—pause for a period of time to say thank you—thank you from a grateful nation.

So posters like this will be in every one of my offices across North Dakota and certainly here in the Nation's Capitol. I know for States such as that of the Presiding Officer's State of Massachusetts, just looking at the numbers, it is probably not possible to have a photographic image of every Vietnam veteran or every person who served in Vietnam and who, unfortunately, lost their life, but it is possible to have a place of remembrance where they can be honored during this time period mandated by this body and approved and proclaimed by the President of the United States. It is possible to have a place of honor and remembrance.

So I intend, over the next year, to come and talk a little bit about the lives of each one of these young men, to talk about the challenges of Viet-

nam veterans, to talk about what it is we need to do today to make up for past sins of this country in not recognizing this service. I challenge the other Members of this body to do the same thing during this period of remembrance and recognition and honor, and to think about not just the past but to think about the future; think about the amazing sacrifice of 198 North Dakotans who gave their lives in service to our State and in service to our country and for the betterment of all humankind.

With that, Mr. President, the challenge is issued.

I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. HEITKAMP). Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### JUSTICE AGAINST SPONSORS OF TERRORISM ACT

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of Calendar No. 560, S. 1535.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1535) to deter terrorism, provide justice for victims, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on the Judiciary, with an amendment to strike all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof the following:

S. 1535

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

*This Act may be cited as the "Justice Against Sponsors of Terrorism Act".*

#### SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) International terrorism is a serious and deadly problem that threatens the vital interests of the United States.

(2) The Constitution confers upon Congress the power to punish crimes against the law of nations and therefore Congress may by law impose penalties on those who provide material support to foreign organizations engaged in terrorist activity, and allow for victims of international terrorism to recover damages from those who have harmed them.

(3) International terrorism affects the interstate and foreign commerce of the United States by harming international trade and market stability, and limiting international travel by United States citizens as well as foreign visitors to the United States.

(4) Some foreign terrorist organizations, acting through affiliated groups or individuals, raise significant funds outside of the United States for conduct directed and targeted at the United States.

(5) It is necessary to recognize the substantive causes of action for aiding and abetting and



conspiracy liability under the Anti-Terrorism Act of 1987 (22 U.S.C. 5201 et seq.).

(6) The decision of the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia in *Halberstam v. Welch*, 705 F.2d 472 (D.C. Cir. 1983), which has been widely recognized as the leading case regarding Federal civil aiding and abetting and conspiracy liability, including by the Supreme Court of the United States, provides the proper legal framework for how such liability should function in the context of the Anti-Terrorism Act of 1987 (22 U.S.C. 5201 et seq.).

(7) The United Nations Security Council declared in Resolution 1373, adopted on September 28, 2001, that all countries have an affirmative obligation to “[r]efrain from providing any form of support, active or passive, to entities or persons involved in terrorist acts,” and to “[e]nsure that any person who participates in the financing, planning, preparation or perpetration of terrorist acts or in supporting terrorist acts is brought to justice”.

(8) Consistent with these declarations, no country has the discretion to engage knowingly in the financing or sponsorship of terrorism, whether directly or indirectly.

(9) Persons, entities, or countries that knowingly or recklessly contribute material support or resources, directly or indirectly, to persons or organizations that pose a significant risk of committing acts of terrorism that threaten the security of nationals of the United States or the national security, foreign policy, or economy of the United States, necessarily direct their conduct at the United States, and should reasonably anticipate being brought to court in the United States to answer for such activities.

(10) The United States has a vital interest in providing persons and entities injured as a result of terrorist attacks committed within the United States with full access to the court system in order to pursue civil claims against persons, entities, or countries that have knowingly or recklessly provided material support or resources, directly or indirectly, to the persons or organizations responsible for their injuries.

(b) **PURPOSE.**—The purpose of this Act is to provide civil litigants with the broadest possible basis, consistent with the Constitution of the United States, to seek relief against persons, entities, and foreign countries, wherever acting and wherever they may be found, that have provided material support, directly or indirectly, to foreign organizations or persons that engage in terrorist activities against the United States.

### SEC. 3. FOREIGN SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY.

Section 1605(a) of title 28, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by amending paragraph (5) to read as follows:

“(5) not otherwise encompassed in paragraph (2), in which money damages are sought against a foreign state arising out of physical injury or death, or damage to or loss of property, occurring in the United States and caused by the tortious act or omission of that foreign state or of any official or employee of that foreign state while acting within the scope of the office or employment of the official or employee (regardless of where the underlying tortious act or omission occurs), including any statutory or common law tort claim arising out of an act of extrajudicial killing, aircraft sabotage, hostage taking, terrorism, or the provision of material support or resources for such an act, or any claim for contribution or indemnity relating to a claim arising out of such an act, except this paragraph shall not apply to—

“(A) any claim based upon the exercise or performance of, or the failure to exercise or perform, a discretionary function, regardless of whether the discretion is abused; or

“(B) any claim arising out of malicious prosecution, abuse of process, libel, slander, mis-

representation, deceit, interference with contract rights, or any claim for emotional distress or derivative injury suffered as a result of an event or injury to another person that occurs outside of the United States; or”;

(2) by inserting after subsection (d) the following:

“(e) **DEFINITIONS.**—For purposes of subsection (a)(5)—

“(1) the terms ‘aircraft sabotage’, ‘extrajudicial killing’, ‘hostage taking’, and ‘material support or resources’ have the meanings given those terms in section 1605A(h); and

“(2) the term ‘terrorism’ means international terrorism and domestic terrorism, as those terms are defined in section 2331 of title 18.”.

### SEC. 4. AIDING AND ABETTING LIABILITY FOR CIVIL ACTIONS REGARDING TERRORIST ACTS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 2333 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(d) **LIABILITY.**—In an action under subsection (a) for an injury arising from an act of international terrorism committed, planned, or authorized by an organization that had been designated as a foreign terrorist organization under section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1189), as of the date on which such act of international terrorism was committed, planned, or authorized, or that was so designated as a result of such act of international terrorism, liability may be asserted as to any person or entity that aided, abetted, or conspired with the person who committed such an act of international terrorism.

“(e) **NON-APPLICABILITY OF LAW OF PRECLUSION.**—Any civil action or claim that seeks recovery under this chapter for conduct that was the basis of a civil action or claim previously dismissed for lack of subject matter jurisdiction for failure to meet the requirements for an exception under section 1605(a) of title 28 is not subject to dismissal under the law of preclusion.”.

(b) **EFFECT ON FOREIGN SOVEREIGN IMMUNITIES ACT.**—Nothing in the amendments made by this section affects immunity of a foreign state, as that term is defined in section 1603 of title 28, United States Code, from jurisdiction under other law.

### SEC. 5. PERSONAL JURISDICTION FOR CIVIL ACTIONS REGARDING TERRORIST ACTS.

Section 2334 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting at the end the following:

“(e) **PERSONAL JURISDICTION.**—The district courts shall have personal jurisdiction, to the maximum extent permissible under the 5th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, over any person who commits or aids and abets an act of international terrorism or otherwise sponsors such act or the person who committed such act, for acts of international terrorism in which any national of the United States suffers injury in his or her person, property, or business by reason of such an act in violation of section 2333.”.

### SEC. 6. LIABILITY FOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS IN CIVIL ACTIONS REGARDING TERRORIST ACTS.

Section 2337 of title 18, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

#### “§2337. Suits against Government officials

“No action may be maintained under section 2333 against—

“(1) the United States;

“(2) an agency of the United States; or

“(3) an officer or employee of the United States or any agency of the United States acting within the official capacity of the officer or employee or under color of legal authority.”.

### SEC. 7. SEVERABILITY.

If any provision of this Act or any amendment made by this Act, or the application of a provi-

sion or amendment to any person or circumstance, is held to be invalid, the remainder of this Act and the amendments made by this Act, and the application of the provisions and amendments to any other person not similarly situated or to other circumstances, shall not be affected by the holding.

### SEC. 8. EFFECTIVE DATE.

The amendments made by this Act shall apply to any civil action—

(1) pending on, or commenced on or after, the date of enactment of this Act; and

(2) arising out of an injury to a person, property, or business on or after September 11, 2001.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the committee-reported substitute be considered; that a Schumer amendment, which is at the desk, be agreed to; the committee substitute, as amended, be agreed to; the bill, as amended, be read a third time and passed; and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment (No. 4096) was agreed to, as follows:

(Purpose: In the nature of a substitute)

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted, insert the following:

### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Justice Against Sponsors of Terrorism Act”.

### SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.

(a) **FINDINGS.**—Congress finds the following:

(1) International terrorism is a serious and deadly problem that threatens the vital interests of the United States.

(2) The Constitution confers upon Congress the power to punish crimes against the law of nations and therefore Congress may by law impose penalties on those who provide material support to foreign organizations engaged in terrorist activity, and allow for victims of international terrorism to recover damages from those who have harmed them.

(3) International terrorism affects the interstate and foreign commerce of the United States by harming international trade and market stability, and limiting international travel by United States citizens as well as foreign visitors to the United States.

(4) Some foreign terrorist organizations, acting through affiliated groups or individuals, raise significant funds outside of the United States for conduct directed and targeted at the United States.

(5) It is necessary to recognize the substantive causes of action for aiding and abetting and conspiracy liability under the Anti-Terrorism Act of 1987 (22 U.S.C. 5201 et seq.).

(6) The decision of the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia in *Halberstam v. Welch*, 705 F.2d 472 (D.C. Cir. 1983), which has been widely recognized as the leading case regarding Federal civil aiding and abetting and conspiracy liability, including by the Supreme Court of the United States, provides the proper legal framework for how such liability should function in the context of the Anti-Terrorism Act of 1987 (22 U.S.C. 5201 et seq.).

(7) The United Nations Security Council declared in Resolution 1373, adopted on September 28, 2001, that all countries have an affirmative obligation to “[r]efrain from providing any form of support, active or passive,

to entities or persons involved in terrorist acts,” and to “[e]nsure that any person who participates in the financing, planning, preparation or perpetration of terrorist acts or in supporting terrorist acts is brought to justice”.

(8) Consistent with these declarations, no country has the discretion to engage knowingly in the financing or sponsorship of terrorism, whether directly or indirectly.

(9) Persons, entities, or countries that knowingly or recklessly contribute material support or resources, directly or indirectly, to persons or organizations that pose a significant risk of committing acts of terrorism that threaten the security of nationals of the United States or the national security, foreign policy, or economy of the United States, necessarily direct their conduct at the United States, and should reasonably anticipate being brought to court in the United States to answer for such activities.

(10) The United States has a vital interest in providing persons and entities injured as a result of terrorist attacks committed within the United States with full access to the court system in order to pursue civil claims against persons, entities, or countries that have knowingly or recklessly provided material support or resources, directly or indirectly, to the persons or organizations responsible for their injuries.

(b) **PURPOSE.**—The purpose of this Act is to provide civil litigants with the broadest possible basis, consistent with the Constitution of the United States, to seek relief against persons, entities, and foreign countries, wherever acting and wherever they may be found, that have provided material support, directly or indirectly, to foreign organizations or persons that engage in terrorist activities against the United States.

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(1) by amending paragraph (5) to read as follows:

“(5) not otherwise encompassed in paragraph (2), in which money damages are sought against a foreign state arising out of physical injury or death, or damage to or loss of property, occurring in the United States and caused by the tortious act or omission of that foreign state or of any official or employee of that foreign state while acting within the scope of the office or employment of the official or employee (regardless of where the underlying tortious act or omission occurs), including any statutory or common law tort claim arising out of an act of extrajudicial killing, aircraft sabotage, hostage taking, terrorism, or the provision of material support or resources for such an act, or any claim for contribution or indemnity relating to a claim arising out of such an act, except this paragraph shall not apply to—

“(A) any claim based upon the exercise or performance of, or the failure to exercise or perform, a discretionary function, regardless of whether the discretion is abused; or

“(B) any claim arising out of malicious prosecution, abuse of process, libel, slander, misrepresentation, deceit, interference with contract rights, or any claim for emotional distress or derivative injury suffered as a result of an event or injury to another person that occurs outside of the United States; or”; and

(2) by inserting after subsection (d) the following:

“(e) **DEFINITIONS.**—For purposes of subsection (a)(5)—

“(1) the terms ‘aircraft sabotage’, ‘extrajudicial killing’, ‘hostage taking’, and

‘material support or resources’ have the meanings given those terms in section 1605A(h); and

“(2) the term ‘terrorism’ means international terrorism and domestic terrorism, as those terms are defined in section 2331 of title 18.”.

### SEC. 4. AIDING AND ABETTING LIABILITY FOR CIVIL ACTIONS REGARDING TERRORIST ACTS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 2333 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(d) **LIABILITY.**—In an action under subsection (a) for an injury arising from an act of international terrorism committed, planned, or authorized by an organization that had been designated as a foreign terrorist organization under section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1189), as of the date on which such act of international terrorism was committed, planned, or authorized, or that was so designated as a result of such act of international terrorism, liability may be asserted as to any person who aided, abetted, or conspired with the person who committed such an act of international terrorism.”.

(b) **EFFECT ON FOREIGN SOVEREIGN IMMUNITIES ACT.**—Nothing in the amendments made by this section affects immunity of a foreign state, as that term is defined in section 1603 of title 28, United States Code, from jurisdiction under other law.

### SEC. 5. PERSONAL JURISDICTION FOR CIVIL ACTIONS REGARDING TERRORIST ACTS.

Section 2334 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting at the end the following:

“(e) **PERSONAL JURISDICTION.**—The district courts shall have personal jurisdiction, to the maximum extent permissible under the 5th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, over any person who commits or aids and abets an act of international terrorism or otherwise sponsors such act or the person who committed such act, for acts of international terrorism in which any national of the United States suffers injury in his or her person, property, or business by reason of such an act in violation of section 2333.”.

### SEC. 6. LIABILITY FOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS IN CIVIL ACTIONS REGARDING TERRORIST ACTS.

Section 2337 of title 18, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

#### “§ 2337. Suits against Government officials

“No action may be maintained under section 2333 against—

“(1) the United States;

“(2) an agency of the United States; or

“(3) an officer or employee of the United States or any agency of the United States acting within the official capacity of the officer or employee or under color of legal authority.”.

### SEC. 7. SEVERABILITY.

If any provision of this Act or any amendment made by this Act, or the application of a provision or amendment to any person or circumstance, is held to be invalid, the remainder of this Act and the amendments made by this Act, and the application of the provisions and amendments to any other person not similarly situated or to other circumstances, shall not be affected by the holding.

### SEC. 8. EFFECTIVE DATE.

The amendments made by this Act shall apply to any civil action—

(1) pending on, or commenced on or after, the date of enactment of this Act; and

(2) arising out of an injury to a person, property, or business on or after September 11, 2001.

The committee-reported amendment in the nature of a substitute, as amended, was agreed to.

The bill (S. 1535), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I rise today on a very important bipartisan bill that has just been approved by this body unanimously, the Justice Against Sponsors of Terrorism Act, or JASTA.

I thank my cosponsor and partner in this and many other issues, I am happy to say, Senator CORNYN, the Senator from Texas; and I thank Chairman LEAHY, our chairman of the Judiciary Committee. Under his leadership, it has twice been passed by the Senate Judiciary Committee.

I feel so strongly about this bill because it would allow the victims of 9/11 to pursue some small measure of justice by giving them a legal avenue to hold foreign sponsors of terrorism accountable for their actions. This bill, quite simply, does right by the 9/11 victims.

We New Yorkers can never forget the terrible day 13 years ago when terrorists attacked our city and murdered more than 2,700 of our friends, neighbors, and relatives. We were shocked and our hearts were broken. The whole Nation mourned with us.

But I am proud to say that New York—and America—came back stronger after that horrific attack. I am also proud to say that Congress and Presidents Bush and Obama have been there to help New York heal, but never forget.

From the first days after 9/11, it has always been the families of those we lost who have been at the vanguard of advocacy. The families have accomplished so much along the way in terms of remembrance, and justice and change in national security policies. I so salute them, not only those who worked with me on this legislation but all the families who have worked on so many bills.

When something so evil and so terrible befalls you—when you lose a loved one through an abject act of evil, such as was committed on 9/11/2001—the natural reaction is to curse the dark, to say: Why me? Why was this so unjust? But the Bible tells us that it is the great part of humanity, almost saint-like, to light a candle, to try and rectify the injustice that you can never undo for the loved one you lost but might undo for others.

These families—and I know them well. I have cried with them, worked with them, and struggled with them—have all lit candles. They are amazing. They are saint-like. And there are so many families and loved ones who have

stepped up and petitioned for help after 9/11. As I said, it would be easy for them to sit and curse the dark, but they have instead chosen to light that candle and shine a way forward—not back. The bill I hope the Senate will pass today helps victims of terrorism seek justice, one of our most cherished American values.

Let me tell you about Ms. Terry Strada, who is seeking justice for her husband Tom. Tom lost his life in the north tower on September 11. Terry didn't just lose a husband, she lost a father to a young son of 7, a daughter of 4, and a newborn baby boy. She lost a loving father and her best friend.

But Terry Strada is strong. She is a profile in courage, and she seeks what we all would be compelled to seek if we suffered such loss at the hands of hate and evil. She seeks justice.

Terry and her three children have championed this bill for over a decade now. I thank them and all the other families for their tireless advocacy and patience.

Of course, no amount of compensation will ever repair the broken hearts of a family who lost a loved one to mindless hate. But right now these families are being denied the ability to hold accountable foreign sponsors of terrorism because of a major loophole in our legal system.

The courts in New York have dismissed the 9/11 victims' claims against certain foreign entities alleged to have helped fund the 9/11 attacks. The courts are following what I believe is a nonsensical reading of the Foreign Sovereign Immunities Act. But for the sake of these families, I want to make clear, without a shadow of a doubt, that every entity, including foreign states, will be held accountable if they are found to be sponsors of heinous acts such as 9/11.

Our bipartisan legislation that Senator CORNYN and I are so proud to support closes that loophole and amends the Foreign Sovereign Immunity Act to allow victims and their families to sue foreign states and financial partners of terrorism.

Terrorists need an unfathomable amount of hate in them—but they also need a great deal of money and material support—to carry out attacks such as what occurred on 9/11. And, unfortunately, some countries provide that lifeblood with no legal repercussions.

For countries to aid the evil of terrorism and walk away scot-free while families suffer silently every day with the loss of loved ones is wrong, it is unfair, and it is unjust. It adds insult to an unimaginable injury to these families.

JASTA, our bill, hopefully to become law soon, will finally help the victims of 9/11 pursue justice by allowing them to sue countries that fund terrorist groups such as Al Qaeda. The Foreign Sovereign Immunity Act has been

amended, and amended again, in its relatively short life, in order to continue to strike the proper balance between our interests abroad and the rights of our citizens to obtain redress when they are a victim of wrongdoing, no matter who the perpetrator is.

Specifically, our bill brings the Foreign Sovereign Immunity Act closer to that balance by ensuring that victims of terror inside the United States receive the same protections of victims of terror outside the United States; that liability clearly exists for aiders and abettors of terrorism; and that foreign states that commit terrorist acts can be held accountable under the Anti-Terrorism Act.

Cognizant of that ideal balance I just mentioned, we have extended legal protections for victims and expanded liability in a very focused way.

In response to concerns from the business community as well as Members of Congress, we have made substantial changes to the bill so that those who are liable under the changes to the Foreign Sovereign Immunity Act are only the really bad actors.

We have worked hard so this bipartisan bill enhances the original aim of the Foreign Service Immunity Act: to create a uniform and predictable means for protecting the immunity of sovereign states with limited exceptions that are consistent with our own national, as well as international, norms.

JASTA is a long overdue fix—a responsible fix—to a law that has extended too large a shield to foreign actors who finance and enable terrorism on a massive scale. The victims of 9/11 and other terrorist attacks have suffered such pain—physical pain and heartache—but they will not be denied justice.

The Justice Against Sponsors of Terrorism Act will take measured steps toward making sure these bad actors are held accountable and that victims can pursue justice where justice is to be had. I look forward to working with my colleagues to see that it becomes law.

I know Senator CORNYN will want to say a few words, but first I wish to enter into a colloquy with my friend from Texas because it is important to underscore one point: The purpose of the Justice Against Sponsors of Terrorism Act is to hold foreign sponsors of terrorism that target the United States accountable in Federal courts.

One thing that has come up in our discussions of this bill is whether the bill's provisions would extend civil liability under the Anti-Terrorism Act to situations where someone has been forced to make payments or provide aid to a foreign terrorist organization under genuine duress or, for example, as ransom payments for the release of someone taken hostage. This type of conduct is outside the scope of tradi-

tional aiding and abetting liability, and our bill does not seek to change that.

I recognize Senator CORNYN.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Republican whip.

Mr. CORNYN. Madam President, I thank the senior Senator from New York, my friend, Senator SCHUMER, for working on this bipartisan legislation. It is a good example of the kinds of things we can do working together. Even though he and I come from different parts of the country and different political parties, he has been a good partner on a number of things that we have worked on together, and I am hoping we are setting in place some good habits that will continue on in the next Congress.

I agree with Senator SCHUMER that JASTA is a good example of the kind of good work we can do together to solve problems facing our Nation. This bill passed out of the Senate Judiciary Committee without opposition because of the careful work we were able to do to ensure the bill accomplished its goals while addressing concerns about unintended consequences.

So I appreciate our work together and look forward to continuing both for the duration of the 113th Congress and the 114th Congress.

Mr. SCHUMER. I thank Senator CORNYN for his good work.

I yield the floor.

Mr. SCHATZ. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SCHATZ. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### PROTECTING VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS AND EMERGENCY RESPONDERS ACT OF 2014—Continued

DODD-FRANK

Mr. SCHATZ. The House is now considering the funding bill for fiscal year 2015, and the risks of not passing it are extremely high. But tucked into this must-pass bill is yet another attempt by Republicans in the House of Representatives to gut Dodd-Frank. What is really scary about this is that this is just the beginning. We can expect much more of this in the 114th Congress.

Dodd-Frank was designed to reduce the systemic risks that large banks posed to our financial system. It was meant to prevent another taxpayer bailout of these massive institutions that were and continue to be too big to fail. By chipping away at Dodd-Frank we are once again letting special interests prevail over the safety of the financial system and protection for consumers.

There were many roots of the financial crisis, but economists agree that the unregulated and pervasive trading of derivatives was a major contributing factor. We permitted financial institutions to gamble and regulators looked the other way. When these financial institutions made bad bets and nearly took down the financial system, we had to bail them out on the taxpayers' dime. Working families who are struggling in a slow economic recovery are still paying the price.

So one of the goals of Dodd-Frank was to get the banks to go back to doing the normal business of banks—to collect deposits and extend credit. That means no longer allowing banks to leverage FDIC-insured deposits and their access to the Federal Reserve for speculative trade. In part, Dodd-Frank accomplished this through the swap push-out rule. The swap push-out rule, which is section 716 of Dodd-Frank, makes federally insured institutions move their swap trades into a separate uninsured entity that does not have access to the Federal Reserve discount window or other fed assistance. These trades are incredibly complex and risky, and there is no public policy justification for the government to effectively subsidize them.

Before we even passed section 716, the biggest financial institutions were able to water it down. They wanted exemptions for swaps for "hedging purposes" which could be interpreted to mean a wide range of activity. But that was not enough. Now they want to do away with section 716 by making the exemptions so broad that the rule becomes meaningless.

Let's be very clear. This change primarily benefits the five biggest financial firms in the country. They account for well over 90 percent of swap transactions. These activities net them over \$4 billion in profits. Before the crisis, swaps brought in over \$7 billion. One of these firms actually wrote the language in the House bill. These financial institutions and their lobbyists know what they are doing, and they are doing just fine. They know that when something as important as funding of the government is on the line, they can convince Republicans to slip their priorities into a must-pass bill at the last hour. But again, this is just the beginning. Make no mistake about it. This portends much worse things when it comes to the Republicans taking over the majority in the Senate and the 114th Congress.

This is a big problem because we have been down this path before. We know where it leads. We let risk build in our financial system before, and the fallout was disastrous for our economy and the well-being of working families. It is on us to hold back against special interests. We have a responsibility to protect the public from this attempt to roll back Dodd-Frank. We cannot take

our eye off the ball. We have to continue to guard against systemic risks in our financial system, and we have to put a stop to the practice of holding the government hostage over the pet issues of special interest groups.

The House is in a recess subject to the call of the Chair, and they are trying to round up votes for the omnibus spending bill which contains this provision. But they have another option. They can strip this provision. If they find that they don't have sufficient votes, they don't have to pass a 3-month continuing resolution. They can simply remove this provision from the omnibus bill which was negotiated in good faith with both parties in both chambers. Remove this provision, and I have no doubt we will have a resounding bipartisan supermajority in both Chambers. We should remove section 716, and pass the omnibus properly.

Madam President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Jersey.

Mr. BOOKER. I really appreciate the words of Senator SCHATZ, which are spot-on. People are so frustrated right now with Congress, and it does not take a Ph.D. in political science to figure out why common Americans of all backgrounds are frustrated with Congress. It is because people are frustrated with business as usual here in the Senate and the House. In this case, as Senator SCHATZ points to, here we are at the end of the 113th Congress facing a \$1 trillion spending bill—a bill with funding that is critical to our national defense. It is critical to the health and well-being of Americans. It is critical to the strength of our community.

I know the sincerity and passion with which Senate and House negotiators have been working to get this done. They have been focusing on making sure the American public has those critical services that we need. I give tribute to many of the leadership in this body for working on it. Senate leaders should get credit, also—BARBARA MIKULSKI for holding the line on so many critical priorities, for putting in this trillion dollar spending plan some very important items that should arouse the gratitude of many people. They also stood up against, fought, and prevented from getting into this some very extreme proposals. But to the many people watching this unfold in New Jersey, in Hawaii, and across this country, what they are also seeing, unfortunately, is a bill passed with policies pushed by very connected special interests—special interests with armies of high paid lobbyists looking out for their own protection. There are special interests with armies of high-paid lobbyists looking out for their own protections and looking to roll back common-sense protections for people who cannot hire those high-priced lobbyists or make donations to political candidates and elected officials.

This omnibus—this CRomnibus, as it is called—is a jagged, bitter pill for anyone to swallow.

I will start with the provision that Senator SCHATZ mentioned, the provision that is rolling back aspects of Dodd-Frank. Risky transactions involving asset-backed derivatives were at the heart of a 2008 fiscal crisis. Economists at the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas estimated that the financial crisis cost the United States between \$6 and \$14 trillion. This amounts to \$50,000 to \$120,000 for every U.S. household or the equivalent of 40 to 90 percent of 1 year's economic output. It was cataclysmic.

I don't need economists to describe the pain that Americans felt. I saw it myself. I felt it as a mayor of a big city in America—Newark, NJ—New Jersey's largest city. When the Nation goes through a recession, rural and urban areas, vulnerable populations, people living at the margins go through a cataclysmic depression. Many Americans, even today, remain unemployed or underemployed and are still struggling to make ends meet because of the risky behaviors we saw within the financial industry.

Now, Dodd-Frank—this Wall Street protection act—was passed to enhance consumer protection and increase safeguards against risky activities so we, as a country, do not go through this again. Dodd-Frank is not perfect. I am the first to admit there are ways to change it and improve it and implement its provisions, frankly, that still have yet to be fully implemented.

Changes to financial regulations should be done through a much more transparent process and in the public eye. We should openly debate these issues on the floor of the House and the Senate. It should not be done like this was, behind closed doors and definitely through what they call a must-pass omnibus bill. This is wrong.

Here we are in the last moments on an omnibus spending bill with a provision which goes to the heart of protecting American taxpayers from the risky, reckless schemes that helped to launch the crisis in the first place.

This provision is literally called the Prohibition Against the Federal Government Bailouts of Swap Entities, which ensures taxpayer dollars will not be used for the more risky Wall Street speculation and gambling. It looks to make sure that Americans are on the hook for the risky gambling of a few people seeking to make extraordinary gains.

I am outraged. I am frustrated that we are not on the floor debating this, and, instead, are having this put into a bill that everyone says must pass.

There are arguments on both sides that we should be having. If the provisions of Dodd-Frank come up, we should discuss them. The public should see it and know about it.

I will not condemn the entire financial services industry, and, indeed, we need in this country a robust network of financial institutions that support the vibrant economic activity in the United States. However, we must ensure that the necessary and important protections that shield taxpayers and our economy from the failures of 2008 remain in place.

I rebuke the slick and secretive ways that this has been done, and I will echo the concerns of people all over New Jersey that this kind of business as usual must end.

But there are other concerns that should be out in the public eye. Take, for example, truck safety. There is this "hours of service" language which protects America's highways, but now the language that protects us has been changed and altered in this bill. It was inserted through the appropriations process. This language suspends the administration's rules designed to prevent driver fatigue.

I will read from the rule that is now being suspended under the omnibus. It states:

Only drivers who drive nights and work more than 60 or 70 hours in a week will be impacted. . . . Drivers who will be impacted by this provision work heavy and irregular schedules that include some nighttime driving. . . . The limitation reduces maximum time during which a driver may drive up to an average of 70 hours in 7 days, a decrease from the 82-hour average allowed under the 2003 rule. . . . Working long daily and weekly hours on a continuing basis is associated with chronic fatigue, a high risk of crashes, and a number of serious chronic health conditions.

These right here are commonsense rules put in place to protect Americans who are driving to and from work with their families or to church to protect them against these heavy, irregular vehicles barreling down the highway that might now have an overfatigued driver.

These regulations were put in place to try to limit those drivers from straining human endurance, but now they are being suspended within this omnibus bill.

These rules are based on years of sound scientific study, and I am outraged that despite the efforts of my colleagues and the safety community, the provisions to suspend these safety rules were included in this omnibus bill.

Each year nearly 4,000 Americans are killed in truck accidents, and over 100,000 Americans are injured on our highways in truck accidents. These drivers who drive trucks are hard-working men and women, and they have, unfortunately, been pushed to tread on the limits of human endurance.

The number of fatalities caused by truck accidents has risen 16 percent since 2009, and the number of people injured in these crashes has increased 40

percent. At a time when accidents are on such a savage rise, we are in no position to be crippling existing safety measures designed to keep our roads safe. For the sake of our Nation's security and the untold anguish and loss that comes from these highway accidents, this provision should be taken out of the bill.

There is more in this omnibus, and I feel compelled to mention another objectionable thing. The very idea of taxation without representation and self-determination is at the core of our democratic ideals as a nation. Yet, despite this, Washington, DC, with a population larger than two of our States, sees the constant undermining of this very principle. I believe it is an offense to Americans of all States, to Americans in the District of Columbia, and to all those who believe in our cherished ideals that this is done so.

When the District of Columbia votes, just as in Colorado, Washington, Oregon, and Alaska, to change marijuana laws—when Washington, DC, is grappling with the devastating impact of the drug war and sees the pain and the challenges and the struggles involved therein, when the people of the District come together and decide to try a different way forward—should we not honor their results? Should we not respect their self-determination as is going on in other States? This provision in this omnibus, undermining the democratic will of the District of Columbia—these great Americans—should be taken out.

My list of concerns in this bill could go on. I could continue. We should be having a discussion and debate on issues of this magnitude.

Take, for example, the rules on pensions that will slash benefits for thousands of retirees. Make no mistake. We need to address the state of multi-employer pension plans, and we need to discuss the tough choices that have to be made, but this is not the way to do it—not business as usual with no discussion and no debate.

This bill also includes provisions that roll back protections for wildlife and endangered species. This is not how we should do this—business as usual with no discussion and no debate.

There are provisions that keep the USDA from addressing an array of fraudulent, deceptive, anticompetitive, and retaliatory practices which will now undermine important protections for farmers against unfair practices. This is not the way to do it—business as usual, no discussion, no debate.

When people wonder how Washington does things in such a manner that is skewed in favor of the connected, skewed in favor of high-priced lobbyists, and skewed in favor of special interests, when they see how the common good and common sense gets undermined, this is how it happens. This is how it happens.

I have been in this body for a little over 12 months, and the way we are doing this is offensive. The American people deserve better. We should do better.

I object to so much being put in this that deserves to be on this floor, discussed and debated in the light of the public. This is no way to run the globe's greatest democracy.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland.

TRIBUTE TO KELLY MCKELLOGG SWAINE

Mr. CARDIN. Madam President, I ask that my colleagues join me in thanking my State Department foreign policy fellow, Kelly McKellogg Swain, for her exemplary service to the Senate and to wish her well as she returns to the State Department as her fellowship in my office comes to an end.

I think the Presiding Officer would agree with me that, the fellows program we have here in the Senate is so valuable. We get people who are real experts in their areas from the State Department who serve in our office and can advise us and work with us and give us the expertise we need in order to make the right policy.

I think it also helps the State Department because they will have an individual on their staff who will have a better working understanding as to how the Senate operates so that the Senate and the State Department can work closer together on the foreign policy considerations of our country. That has certainly been my experience during this past year with Kelly.

Kelly has been an incredibly valuable member of my staff, advising us on so many important issues that we have to deal with, and she has really stepped in to be a valuable member of my staff.

The uncertain working hours has placed a strain on her family, and I thank her very much for being willing to entertain these long hours.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank her husband Brian and son Finley for sharing her with the Senate.

Kelly has been a key member of my foreign policy and national security team over the last year. Before she joined my office, she was the Deputy Director in the Office of Public Affairs in the Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs at the U.S. Department of State.

She brought her expertise in matters pertaining to East Asia and the Pacific, and her expertise and counsel has been critical to me. Over the last 2 years, I have chaired the East Asian and Pacific Affairs Subcommittee of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

This has been a particularly busy year, as President Obama has moved forward on his policy to rebalance Asia, recognizing that Asia is critically important to the United States for our security interests, our economic interests, and our environmental interests.

Kelly has been an extremely important part of our team, working on the East Asian and Pacific Affairs Subcommittee in carrying out that responsibility during this past year.

Kelly's hard work enabled us to hold five subcommittee hearings ranging from "Economic Engagement in the Asia Pacific" to "Combating Forced Labor and Modern Day Slavery in East Asia and the Pacific." In addition to developing and executing my subcommittee agenda, she ensured that I was up-to-date on the latest regional developments and more than adequately prepared for office visits with foreign officials on my trips to the region. So she gave me the expertise I needed.

During this past year, we have had significant challenges in East Asia. We have had maritime security issues involving China and Vietnam. We have had the current crisis in Hong Kong. We have had North Korea and the problems it has created. We have had the relationship between two of our close allies that have been strained—Japan and the Republic of Korea. In each of these instances, Kelly gave me the type of help I needed so the Senate was properly exercising its functions on foreign policy.

Kelly's outstanding work does not stop there. When my permanent foreign policy adviser went on maternity leave this summer, Kelly stepped into that role. Within the first few weeks of her expanded role, Malaysian Air flight 17 was shot down in Ukraine, Israel and Hamas went to war, and militants for the Islamic State in Iraq and ISIL terrorist groups were expanding their siege over Iraq and Syria. All that happened when my staff person went on maternity leave, and Kelly stepped right in and took on the responsibilities and helped our office meet our responsibilities. This summer was a particularly busy and challenging time around the world, and not surprisingly Kelly rose to the occasion.

This fall I had a chance to get to know Kelly even better when I went to the United Nations General Assembly in my capacity as the United Nations delegate. I represented the Senate along with Senator JOHNSON at the 69th session of the United Nations General Assembly. Kelly not only accompanied me for the trip and prepared me for all of my high-level meetings, but she also became a trusted adviser. As I told my colleagues just a little while ago, as I walked through the halls of the United Nations, my ego was a little bit affected because more people knew Kelly than knew me, but that was all right. She was incredibly important to me in carrying out my responsibilities in the U.S. delegation to the United Nations. While Kelly came to the Senate with a background in East Asia and Pacific matters, she has demonstrated to me and to the Senate, too, that her foreign policy extends far beyond that region.

My staff and I will miss Kelly's calm demeanor, sense of humor, and extraordinary work ethic. She has been a tremendous asset not just to my office but to the Foreign Relations Committee and the entire Senate. I urge my colleagues to join me in thanking Kelly for her long service to our Nation. We are fortunate to have such people devote their life to public service. It has been incredibly helpful to us in the Senate and I know she is going to go back to the State Department and continue to serve her country. I thank her.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. HATCH. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### NOMINATION OF CAROLYN COLVIN

Mr. HATCH. Madam President, I wish to take a few minutes to speak about the nomination of Carolyn Colvin to be the Commissioner of the Social Security Administration.

In recent weeks a number of disturbing facts have come to light about Ms. Colvin and her tenure as the Acting Social Security Commissioner. These revelations, coupled with the fact that there is an ongoing investigation of the conduct of people in her immediate office, raise serious questions about whether she is qualified to serve in this position.

Let me make one thing clear. My doubts about Ms. Colvin's nomination have nothing to do with partisanship. I, along with 20 of my colleagues on the Senate Finance Committee, voted to report her nomination out of the committee in September. At that time I believed she had the necessary qualifications for the job and saw no reason to oppose her nomination. I have to say I liked her personally, but as I said, since that time, new facts have come to light that are extremely disconcerting.

Just days before Ms. Colvin appeared before the Finance Committee, we became aware of allegations concerning potential waste and mismanagement at the SSA, as well as allegations regarding the possible coverup of that waste and mismanagement. Several sources, including the House Ways and Means Subcommittee on Social Security and the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, and individual whistleblowers reported that SSA had, over a 6-year period, burned through \$300 million in a failed attempt to develop and implement the Disability Case Processing System or DCPS.

These sources derived their information from a report issued in June by a private contractor commissioned by SSA. This report was subsequently pro-

vided to Congress by SSA whistleblowers.

According to the report, mismanagement and poor planning at the SSA stalled the development of the DCPS. This, in turn, resulted in the substantial waste of taxpayer dollars.

Once again, the amount was, I am informed, roughly \$300 million. These allegations were just breaking when Ms. Colvin appeared before the Finance Committee, but I did mention them during the hearing.

Needless to say, as we have learned more details about the failure surrounding the DCPS, the picture has only gotten even cloudier. At a minimum, these allegations call into question the quality of SSA's overall management and the leadership skills of those managing the agency. It certainly calls into question their commitment to preventing waste and preserving SSA's already scarce resources.

Sadly, it gets worse. On July 23, 2014, the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform sent a letter to Ms. Colvin that raised even more issues about the failures of SSA, partially under Ms. Colvin's leadership as Acting Commissioner, including possible actions by agency officials designed to intentionally mislead Congress and the IG's office about the deficiencies and the development of the DCPS. Indeed, the allegation is that Congress may have been intentionally misled so as to facilitate approval of Ms. Colvin's nomination to be the next Social Security Administration Commissioner.

Subsequently, on November 18, 2014, a press release from the House Ways and Means Subcommittee on Social Security indicated that the "results of a criminal investigation regarding the implementation of DCPS is still pending."

In addition, whistleblowers have informed the Senate Finance Committee that the ongoing IG investigation has centered on high-level officials at the SSA, including members of Ms. Colvin's immediate office, and that alleged criminal conduct may extend to irregularities in the award of contracts for the DCPS project. This is a serious problem. I do not know how the Senate can with good conscience vote to confirm anyone with this type of ongoing investigation going on around their immediate office. It may very well turn out that Ms. Colvin did nothing wrong, but we need to know for sure.

This is a very important position. That is why I, along with all of the Republican members of the Senate Finance Committee, sent a letter to Ms. Colvin last week asking for more details about the DCPS and her office's conduct. She has since responded claiming that she is not responsible for any mismanagement of the DCPS project and that she committed no criminal conduct. As I said, that may very well be the case. I hope it is. But



the specter of an ongoing investigation still hangs over her nomination; therefore, I do not believe the Senate should proceed toward confirming her until this matter is resolved. I want to be fair to her, but this is an important problem that needs to be resolved.

I want to make one thing clear: This is about more than just mismanagement of funds or bureaucratic incompetence; this is about an ongoing investigation of people in Ms. Colvin's direct office for contract issues and allegations that they purposefully misled Congress in order to move her nomination through.

Once again, this is not partisan. I supported Ms. Colvin's nomination in committee and continue to believe she has the right credentials and experience for this important job. Of course, if these allegations prove to be true, my assessment of her qualifications will most certainly change.

Put simply, with this investigation—which may very well have a criminal element to it—still ongoing, I cannot support moving forward on Carolyn Colvin's nomination. I hope this matter can be resolved quickly and cleanly, but until such time, I plan to vote against confirming her as the next Social Security Commissioner unless we resolve these matters beforehand.

I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. WARNER). The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### RURAL HEALTH CARE

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I have visited hospitals many times in our State. In fact, there are 128 community hospitals in Kansas, and I have visited each and every one of them once and, in many instances, two or three times. In fact, last weekend while I was home in Kansas, I visited my hometown hospital, Mercy, in Manhattan, KS.

It is a very useful exercise. I would encourage my colleagues to spend time with health care providers. In the case of hospitals, it gives you the opportunity to visit with hospital administrators, the CEOs, the opportunity to visit with the nurses, patients, with physicians, and get a feel for what is going on in the delivery of health care in your State. I certainly know how valuable that is to me.

One of the interests I have in serving in Congress is a belief that the way we live our lives at home in Kansas is something very special, and it is something that is worth trying to make certain is around for many years to come—in fact, for generations to come.

One of my early conclusions, in looking at public policy and looking at the

future of the communities of Kansas and the people who live there, is the access to health care, to affordable health care, is critical. It is a component in which many communities will not continue to exist if there is not access to hospital care, a physician, a hometown pharmacy—all the things that make up the opportunity for someone to be cared for in every aspect of their lives related to their health. I know this from my own circumstance, my hometown of Plainville with a population of about 2,000.

My parents called Plainville home into their nineties. My parents are no longer living, but I know well before the time in which they passed, my sister and I would have had a conversation with my parents talking about: Mom, Dad, I am sorry, but you need to move, and you need to move where you can have adequate health care. You need to move where there is a good hospital and a set of physicians who will care for you.

But because that exists in my hometown and continues to exist in my hometown, those kinds of conversations are not necessary. Wherever the place that you are telling your parents they have to move to access health care—wherever that place is—and it may be a very desirable place, but it is not home. My parents would have lived someplace in which they had not lived all of their lives, would not have been surrounded by the people they know and who knew them—particularly as they lived, my dad, until the age of 98. They would not have had the people who checked in on them, made sure they were doing OK each and every day, gave them the opportunity to continue to live at home, the people who would have given them a hug and a pat, and the pharmacist who said to my dad: Ray, you probably need to have your blood pressure taken. Those are very special things about many places many of us come from.

In the absence of those kinds of opportunities for health care, our communities—certainly across my State and across the country—especially in rural America begin to disappear, the point being that in the absence of access to health care, the ability to keep a community together to encourage senior citizens to remain at home in their hometowns and for us to be able to recruit and encourage young families to move to our communities is not going to happen, is not going to be available, unless we have access to health care.

In the discussions I have with those health care providers, the doctors, the nurses, the CEOs, the administrators of the hospital—including the patients—they continued to remind me that what is going on in our Nation's Capitol, in Congress, and certainly in the administration, are barriers, are burdens to the chances of that hospital and those

health care providers continuing to be in business.

Every visit involves the raising of concerns to me. Often it is: What you are doing about this, Senator MORAN? What are you doing to reduce the Federal regulatory burden that our hospital faces? Are you working to make certain we are able to provide the health care our local residents need?

Last month I introduced legislation that was bipartisan, a resolution that unanimously passed the Senate. It recognized the importance of access to hospitals and other health care providers, particularly in rural areas of our country. It indicated how special they were and how important they were to the success and survival of the communities in our country.

The point I would make about that resolution is it passed unanimously. While the importance of rural providers is overwhelmingly acknowledged, as evidenced by the unanimous passage of that resolution, the Affordable Care Act and unnecessarily burdensome Federal regulations fail to demonstrate that we follow through on that understanding of the importance of hometown health care.

Among the regulatory concerns I hear about in those hospital visits, serious flaws with what is called RAC, the Medicare Recovery Audit Contractor Program, is it is causing many problems for hospitals and providers across Kansas.

Our hospitals and health care providers have been required to divert significant resources away from caring for patients, their mission to appeal incorrect audit decisions that are almost always ultimately overturned through an appeals process. This broken RAC Program places a tremendous burden on the providers, and it has created a 2-year appeal in backlogs within the Department of Health and Human Services. This program diverts the resources hospitals are devoting to caring for patients, to going through the process of trying to get their money back. That is certainly a problem and increasing the expense of providing health care. But the other aspect of that is often the hospital's money is tied up for 2 years, held by CMS, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, while it is adjudicated. Again, the overwhelming number of cases is decided ultimately in favor of the hospital, but it is certainly diverting resources and increasing costs.

I met with Secretary Burwell at Health and Human Services to discuss what is an urgent need to improve the Medicare RAC Program. I have requested from HHS a timeline and objectives, measurable objectives, to address the RAC problems and the appeals backlog that is in existence now.

Another concern in addition to the RAC audits is the Federal Government's inflexible supervision rules.



CMS passed a rule that was delayed but now ultimately put in place. It requires that many pretty routine services that occur in a hospital—that includes things such as a drug infusion or blood infusions, cardiac and pulmonary rehabilitation—that they require supervision. That is just not an option in many rural hospital health care settings. There is a lack of understanding and a lack of common sense as to what a small hospital in a small town faces when CMS puts this regulation in place. They make it difficult for those hospitals to continue to provide those necessary services.

Fortunately, we have had some success in addressing this issue. Congress passed legislation that prevents the Federal Government from enforcing that regulation through the near future. I have introduced original legislation to make that change, that regulatory prohibition, permanent. I will reintroduce that legislation in January in the new Congress as we try to capitalize upon the temporary success we have had in fighting back this regulation from CMS to make it permanent so that when the temporary prohibition expires that we will have the opportunity to keep them from reintroducing that provision.

I will say that hospital administrators and employees, when I have a conversation with them, the discussion typically involves serious and strong opposition to a number of proposals that come from the Obama administration each year.

One of those is to change the number of miles that you must be apart from another hospital in order to qualify to be a critical access hospital. It is a program under Medicare and Medicaid Services that allows for a reimbursement that is more based upon cost than otherwise would be the case.

Also the administration has continued to propose a 1-percent reduction in the funding for those critical access hospitals.

Those are pretty much life-and-blood issues for community hospitals across Kansas and around the country. That critical access hospital designation in receiving that cost-based reimbursement means that a hospital with few patients, one that doesn't have hundreds of patients each day, can still be reimbursed at a rate in which they can almost make ends meet, that they can cover their costs but still rarely is there any profit or extra revenue generated from that so-called cost-based reimbursement.

Cutting reimbursements to the hospitals, removing them from the critical access program, I have little doubt but that it would eliminate many, if not most, of those hospitals currently in that critical access hospital program. There would be no place else for them to go, no other category within Medicare that would allow them to survive.

I believe the number now is 88 of Kansas's 128 hospitals are those critical access hospitals.

The other topics of conversation that arise in those conversations in visiting with health care providers at a hospital—the physician, the nurses, the physical therapists, the CEO of the hospital, the trustees, the board of directors of the hospital—is the Affordable Care Act.

Again, we symbolically say we care a lot about rural health care providers, but the reality is the Affordable Care Act is creating significant problems, challenges, for the survival of hospitals, particularly the smallest hospitals in my State and across the country.

The Kansas Hospital Association projects that the Affordable Care Act will cost Kansas health care providers approximately \$1.3 billion in Medicare funding over the next 10 years. These Affordable Care Act cuts include reductions to hospitals' Medicare reimbursements and a payment called disproportionate share that the hospital receives in order to cover the high level of uninsured patients.

These cuts are taking place on top of what Congress and the President agreed to under sequestration—a 2-percent across-the-board cut—that many, if not all, of our providers are now receiving. So what was supposed to be cost-based reimbursement, which nearly never covered the cost, is being reduced by another 2 percent as a result of sequestration. Again, this is something this Congress—and if not this Congress, the new Congress that begins in January—needs to deal with, the issue of sequestration.

For this and for other reasons sequestration is a significant problem. While I certainly support the reduced spending aspects—what the goal was of sequestration—the idea that we would do across-the-board cuts is irresponsible. We ought to be establishing the priorities—the things Congress, on behalf of the American people, thinks are the most important and beneficial to the American people, the things that are allowed for under our Constitution. Those are the things we ought to be funding, as compared to taking a step back and just having automatic cuts because we don't have the ability to decide in a responsible way what we can afford and what we cannot afford.

Further, I would say the Affordable Care Act forced States to adopt—the original act as passed by Congress—an expansion of Medicaid. The U.S. Supreme Court, in its 2012 ruling, indicated that Medicaid expansion was optional, not mandatory under the Constitution. So that portion of the Affordable Care Act was determined to be unconstitutional.

States are now faced with the difficult decision that involves Medicaid and long-term costs associated with po-

tential expansions, and hospitals face tremendous uncertainty about how they will care for an increased number of patients while they are already absorbing the Affordable Care Act's Medicare cuts. So States are struggling to figure out what to do about expansion of Medicaid.

Hospitals are suffering from the consequence of not having additional Medicaid dollars. That is on top of the cuts that occur as a result of changes in Medicare. Really, in most hospitals across my State, two components are so important: Medicaid and Medicare cover a significant portion of the number of patients that are admitted to a hospital, and in many instances there are not many private pay patients who have their own health insurance to add additional revenue to the hospital's revenue stream.

This scenario of Medicare and Medicaid both creating problems, being squeezed from both programs, presents significant problems for rural hospitals. Again, those reimbursements—Medicare and Medicaid—make up about 60 percent of those hospitals' revenues.

The Affordable Care Act also put hospitals in the difficult position of having to balance increasing regulatory burden with reduced revenues. So in addition to the Medicare-Medicaid pressure, there is also the problem of increasing costs associated with more and more regulations emanating from the Department of Health and Human Services and other places across the Federal Government at the same time the reimbursement rates are declining. So increased cost, reduced revenue—again, a significant problem.

In 2011, the average Medicare margin for hospitals in Kansas was a negative—not enough to cover the cost—4.9 percent. These losses have to be offset somewhere, and that often results in a reduction in staffing. It sometimes means a reduction of services. The end result is a hospital that is not always able to meet the needs of their citizens—their patients.

In many instances it is the hospital that may be among the largest employer in a county or community in our State. In addition to reduced staffing, an inability to buy equipment, and reducing certain specialty programs offered at the hospital, we are also seeing a significant depletion in their cash reserves and a freeze on capital expenditures. This circumstance is just not sustainable, and so we are seeing hospitals close.

Since about 1990, the number of rural hospitals across the country has remained stable at around 2,000, but last year 15 rural hospitals closed. We have to be concerned there are more to follow. This is an alarming trend. These hospitals play a vital role in health care to those rural communities. It can determine whether a community has a

future—whether individuals and families will decide to live there. The loss of a hospital has huge ripple effects and it harms patients. Their primary purpose is to save lives and improve health care, but it is also a tremendous loss to the community itself.

I outlined problems that I believed would occur for hospitals with the passage of ObamaCare long before the law became law. I also would say it doesn't mean I don't believe there aren't significant improvements to be made to our health care delivery system, but I think the reality is that the Affordable Care Act causes more problems—significantly more problems—than those it solves.

Many Kansas hospitals struggle to meet the needs of the aging population in their States and the Affordable Care Act cuts are an exacerbation of their circumstance. Again, the Affordable Care Act had the promise of: If you like your plan, you can keep it. If you like your health insurance plan, you can keep it. If you like your physician, you can keep him or her. That didn't turn out to be true.

In fact, if you liked your policy, you were probably not able to keep it, and that something else now—that replacement policy—often involves increased copayments and deductibles. That certainly is a problem for the policyholder and his or her family. It is a problem for the business and their employees. But we may have forgotten it is a huge problem for the health care provider.

Almost every hospital I have visited, now that the Affordable Care Act is being implemented, will tell me about the increasing amount of unpaid hospital bills—the amount of money that is owed that is attempting to be recovered. The reason that occurs is because the copayments and deductibles are so significantly higher that patients don't have the ability to pay a \$5,000 copayment or even a \$1,000 copayment. So the hospital's bad debt is increasing because patients don't have the necessary amount of money to pay for their portion of what their health care insurance policy now requires of them.

Again, this comes from a law that was described to us as going to increase the affordability and the availability of health care. I guess what I would point out is, in the circumstance we are now in, the policies are so expensive, so much more costly both in premiums and copayments and deductibles, that the affordability is a problem again and not just for the patient, not for the policyholder but for the hospital that is now left holding the bag because so many of their patients can't pay the copayments or the deductibles.

When the Affordable Care Act passed, the President's own Medicare Chief Actuary noted that the cuts would cause as many as 15 percent of hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, and home health agencies to be unprofitable by

2019. While that point in time may have seemed a long time away, 2019 is now just about 5 years away. If ObamaCare remains in place, the estimated percentage of unprofitable providers is projected to increase, reaching roughly 25 percent in 2030 and 40 percent in 2050. So by 2030 25 percent of the hospitals, health care providers, will be unprofitable, and by 2050 40 percent—nearly half—of the health care providers will be unprofitable.

Again, in particularly rural communities, if you can't make it on the revenues that come from patients, from providing health care to individuals, often the option is to increase taxes—property taxes, sales tax—or something to keep your hospital doors open. That ought not be the consequence of legislation passed by Congress—to require taxes to be raised for a Federal program called Medicare because it is failing to meet the needs of American citizens, our patients. These providers, our hospitals, just simply can't sustain in the circumstance they find themselves in. The Affordable Care Act has put us on a path that I think is dangerous for individuals, for businesses, and now for the health care providers themselves.

In addition to the bad debt experience, many of the new health care plans have limited or restrictive provider networks, so that a local hospital may be eliminated from their network. This means that while under their previous insurance policy they could see a hometown physician or be admitted to their hometown hospital, because of these network restrictions they must go someplace out of town to access health care. This again is a terrible consequence for the individual, for the patient, but also something that drives revenues away from the hometown provider, much to the detriment of everybody who would want to make certain that provider, that doctor, remains in the community and that the hospital doors remain open.

There is lots of evidence that the problems we are facing are real. They demand attention. Access to affordable health care is something that still deserves our attention. I look forward to trying to make certain we have that opportunity. Again, that is nothing that is going to happen in the next few days, but we have a responsibility to see that the things that are reducing the access to affordable health care are addressed. The efforts that resulted from the Affordable Care Act are exacerbating the problem, not solving the problem.

I look at elections as like a new year. There is this optimism that maybe something good can come from a new Congress; that we can establish our New Year's resolutions and we can begin working, and I certainly make the offer to my colleagues throughout the Senate—all 99 of my colleagues—to be someone who wants to be problem

solving, oriented toward finding solutions, and working together to make sure those health care providers that are so important to our lives, our safety, to our health, are around for a long time to come and that the communities that depend upon those hospitals—those 128 hospitals in my home State—have a viable future.

We have to get the regulatory environment under control, we have to resolve the problems created by the Affordable Care Act, and we need to make certain that health care is an opportunity for people who live in places across my State to still have the opportunity to see the hometown physician, to have a prescription filled by the hometown pharmacist, and to make certain those hometown hospital doors remain open for today and for future generations of communities across my State.

I appreciate the opportunity to address the Senate this afternoon, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. KING. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### CYBERSECURITY ACT

Mr. KING. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 490, S. 1353.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1353) to provide for an ongoing, voluntary public-private partnership to improve cybersecurity, and to strengthen cybersecurity research and development, workforce development and education, and public awareness and preparedness, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with an amendment to strike all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof the following:

S. 1353

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) *SHORT TITLE.*—This Act may be cited as the “Cybersecurity Act of 2013”.

(b) *TABLE OF CONTENTS.*—The table of contents of this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

Sec. 2. Definitions.

Sec. 3. No regulatory authority.

#### TITLE I—PUBLIC-PRIVATE

##### COLLABORATION ON CYBERSECURITY

Sec. 101. Public-private collaboration on cybersecurity.

#### TITLE II—CYBERSECURITY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

Sec. 201. Federal cybersecurity research and development.

Sec. 202. Computer and network security research centers.

### TITLE III—EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Sec. 301. Cybersecurity competitions and challenges.

Sec. 302. Federal cyber scholarship-for-service program.

Sec. 303. Study and analysis of education, accreditation, training, and certification of information infrastructure and cybersecurity professionals.

### TITLE IV—CYBERSECURITY AWARENESS AND PREPAREDNESS

Sec. 401. National cybersecurity awareness and preparedness campaign.

## SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) **CYBERSECURITY MISSION.**—The term “cybersecurity mission” means activities that encompass the full range of threat reduction, vulnerability reduction, deterrence, international engagement, incident response, resiliency, and recovery policies and activities, including computer network operations, information assurance, law enforcement, diplomacy, military, and intelligence missions as such activities relate to the security and stability of cyberspace.

(2) **INFORMATION INFRASTRUCTURE.**—The term “information infrastructure” means the underlying framework that information systems and assets rely on to process, transmit, receive, or store information electronically, including programmable electronic devices, communications networks, and industrial or supervisory control systems and any associated hardware, software, or data.

(3) **INFORMATION SYSTEM.**—The term “information system” has the meaning given that term in section 3502 of title 44, United States Code.

## SEC. 3. NO REGULATORY AUTHORITY.

Nothing in this Act shall be construed to confer any regulatory authority on any Federal, State, tribal, or local department or agency.

### TITLE I—PUBLIC-PRIVATE COLLABORATION ON CYBERSECURITY

## SEC. 101. PUBLIC-PRIVATE COLLABORATION ON CYBERSECURITY.

(a) **CYBERSECURITY.**—Section 2(c) of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act (15 U.S.C. 272(c)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (15) through (22) as paragraphs (16) through (23), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (14) the following:

“(15) on an ongoing basis, facilitate and support the development of a voluntary, industry-led set of standards, guidelines, best practices, methodologies, procedures, and processes to reduce cyber risks to critical infrastructure (as defined under subsection (e)).”.

(b) **SCOPE AND LIMITATIONS.**—Section 2 of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act (15 U.S.C. 272) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(e) **CYBER RISKS.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—In carrying out the activities under subsection (c)(15), the Director—

“(A) shall—

“(i) coordinate closely and continuously with relevant private sector personnel and entities, critical infrastructure owners and operators, sector coordinating councils, Information Sharing and Analysis Centers, and other relevant industry organizations, and incorporate industry expertise;

“(ii) consult with the heads of agencies with national security responsibilities, sector-specific agencies, State and local governments, the governments of other nations, and international organizations;

“(iii) identify a prioritized, flexible, repeatable, performance-based, and cost-effective approach, including information security measures and controls, that may be voluntarily adopted by owners and operators of critical infrastructure to help them identify, assess, and manage cyber risks;

“(iv) include methodologies—

“(I) to identify and mitigate impacts of the cybersecurity measures or controls on business confidentiality; and

“(II) to protect individual privacy and civil liberties;

“(v) incorporate voluntary consensus standards and industry best practices;

“(vi) align with voluntary international standards to the fullest extent possible;

“(vii) prevent duplication of regulatory processes and prevent conflict with or superseding of regulatory requirements, mandatory standards, and related processes; and

“(viii) include such other similar and consistent elements as the Director considers necessary; and

“(B) shall not prescribe or otherwise require—

“(i) the use of specific solutions;

“(ii) the use of specific information or communications technology products or services; or

“(iii) that information or communications technology products or services be designed, developed, or manufactured in a particular manner.

“(2) **LIMITATION.**—Information shared with or provided to the Institute for the purpose of the activities described under subsection (c)(15) shall not be used by any Federal, State, tribal, or local department or agency to regulate the activity of any entity.

“(3) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this subsection:

“(A) **CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE.**—The term ‘critical infrastructure’ has the meaning given the term in section 1016(e) of the USA PATRIOT Act of 2001 (42 U.S.C. 5195c(e)).

“(B) **SECTOR-SPECIFIC AGENCY.**—The term ‘sector-specific agency’ means the Federal department or agency responsible for providing institutional knowledge and specialized expertise as well as leading, facilitating, or supporting the security and resilience programs and associated activities of its designated critical infrastructure sector in the all-hazards environment.”.

(c) **STUDY AND REPORT.**—

(1) **STUDY.**—The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study that assesses—

(A) the progress made by the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology in facilitating the development of standards and procedures to reduce cyber risks to critical infrastructure in accordance with section 2(c)(15) of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act, as added by this section;

(B) the extent to which the Director’s facilitation efforts are consistent with the directive in such section that the development of such standards and procedures be voluntary and led by industry representatives;

(C) the extent to which sectors of critical infrastructure (as defined in section 1016(e) of the USA PATRIOT Act of 2001 (42 U.S.C. 5195c(e))) have adopted a voluntary, industry-led set of standards, guidelines, best practices, methodologies, procedures, and processes to reduce cyber risks to critical infrastructure in accordance with such section 2(c)(15);

(D) the reasons behind the decisions of sectors of critical infrastructure (as defined in subparagraph (C)) to adopt or to not adopt the voluntary standards described in subparagraph (C); and

(E) the extent to which such voluntary standards have proved successful in protecting critical infrastructure from cyber threats.

(2) **REPORTS.**—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, and every 2

years thereafter for the following 6 years, the Comptroller General shall submit a report, which summarizes the findings of the study conducted under paragraph (1), to—

(A) the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate;

(B) the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives; and

(C) the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives.

### TITLE II—CYBERSECURITY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

## SEC. 201. FEDERAL CYBERSECURITY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.

(a) **FUNDAMENTAL CYBERSECURITY RESEARCH.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy, in coordination with the head of any relevant Federal agency, shall build upon programs and plans in effect as of the date of enactment of this Act to develop a Federal cybersecurity research and development plan to meet objectives in cybersecurity, such as—

(A) how to design and build complex software-intensive systems that are secure and reliable when first deployed;

(B) how to test and verify that software and hardware, whether developed locally or obtained from a third party, is free of significant known security flaws;

(C) how to test and verify that software and hardware obtained from a third party correctly implements stated functionality, and only that functionality;

(D) how to guarantee the privacy of an individual, including that individual’s identity, information, and lawful transactions when stored in distributed systems or transmitted over networks;

(E) how to build new protocols to enable the Internet to have robust security as one of the key capabilities of the Internet;

(F) how to determine the origin of a message transmitted over the Internet;

(G) how to support privacy in conjunction with improved security;

(H) how to address the growing problem of insider threats;

(I) how improved consumer education and digital literacy initiatives can address human factors that contribute to cybersecurity;

(J) how to protect information processed, transmitted, or stored using cloud computing or transmitted through wireless services; and

(K) any additional objectives the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy, in coordination with the head of any relevant Federal agency and with input from stakeholders, including appropriate national laboratories, industry, and academia, determines appropriate.

(2) **REQUIREMENTS.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The Federal cybersecurity research and development plan shall identify and prioritize near-term, mid-term, and long-term research in computer and information science and engineering to meet the objectives under paragraph (1), including research in the areas described in section 4(a)(1) of the Cyber Security Research and Development Act (15 U.S.C. 7403(a)(1)).

(B) **PRIVATE SECTOR EFFORTS.**—In developing, implementing, and updating the Federal cybersecurity research and development plan, the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy shall work in close cooperation with industry, academia, and other interested stakeholders to ensure, to the extent possible, that Federal cybersecurity research and development is not duplicative of private sector efforts.

(3) **TRIENNIAL UPDATES.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The Federal cybersecurity research and development plan shall be updated triennially.

(B) **REPORT TO CONGRESS.**—The Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy shall submit the plan, not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, and each updated plan under this section to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives.

(b) **CYBERSECURITY PRACTICES RESEARCH.**—The Director of the National Science Foundation shall support research that—

(1) develops, evaluates, disseminates, and integrates new cybersecurity practices and concepts into the core curriculum of computer science programs and of other programs where graduates of such programs have a substantial probability of developing software after graduation, including new practices and concepts relating to secure coding education and improvement programs; and

(2) develops new models for professional development of faculty in cybersecurity education, including secure coding development.

(c) **CYBERSECURITY MODELING AND TEST BEDS.**—

(1) **REVIEW.**—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director of the National Science Foundation, in coordination with the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy, shall conduct a review of cybersecurity test beds in existence on the date of enactment of this Act to inform the grants under paragraph (2). The review shall include an assessment of whether a sufficient number of cybersecurity test beds are available to meet the research needs under the Federal cybersecurity research and development plan.

(2) **ADDITIONAL CYBERSECURITY MODELING AND TEST BEDS.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—If the Director of the National Science Foundation, after the review under paragraph (1), determines that the research needs under the Federal cybersecurity research and development plan require the establishment of additional cybersecurity test beds, the Director of the National Science Foundation, in coordination with the Secretary of Commerce and the Secretary of Homeland Security, may award grants to institutions of higher education or research and development non-profit institutions to establish cybersecurity test beds.

(B) **REQUIREMENT.**—The cybersecurity test beds under subparagraph (A) shall be sufficiently large in order to model the scale and complexity of real-time cyber attacks and defenses on real world networks and environments.

(C) **ASSESSMENT REQUIRED.**—The Director of the National Science Foundation, in coordination with the Secretary of Commerce and the Secretary of Homeland Security, shall evaluate the effectiveness of any grants awarded under this subsection in meeting the objectives of the Federal cybersecurity research and development plan under subsection (a) no later than 2 years after the review under paragraph (1) of this subsection, and periodically thereafter.

(d) **COORDINATION WITH OTHER RESEARCH INITIATIVES.**—In accordance with the responsibilities under section 101 of the High-Performance Computing Act of 1991 (15 U.S.C. 5511), the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy shall coordinate, to the extent practicable, Federal research and development activities under this section with other ongoing research and development security-related initiatives, including research being conducted by—

- (1) the National Science Foundation;
- (2) the National Institute of Standards and Technology;
- (3) the Department of Homeland Security;
- (4) other Federal agencies;
- (5) other Federal and private research laboratories, research entities, and universities;

- (6) institutions of higher education;
- (7) relevant nonprofit organizations; and
- (8) international partners of the United States.

(e) **NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION COMPUTER AND NETWORK SECURITY RESEARCH GRANT AREAS.**—Section 4(a)(1) of the Cyber Security Research and Development Act (15 U.S.C. 7403(a)(1)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (H), by striking “and” at the end;

(2) in subparagraph (I), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(J) secure fundamental protocols that are integral to inter-network communications and data exchange;

“(K) secure software engineering and software assurance, including—

“(i) programming languages and systems that include fundamental security features;

“(ii) portable or reusable code that remains secure when deployed in various environments;

“(iii) verification and validation technologies to ensure that requirements and specifications have been implemented; and

“(iv) models for comparison and metrics to assure that required standards have been met;

“(L) holistic system security that—

“(i) addresses the building of secure systems from trusted and untrusted components;

“(ii) proactively reduces vulnerabilities;

“(iii) addresses insider threats; and

“(iv) supports privacy in conjunction with improved security;

“(M) monitoring and detection;

“(N) mitigation and rapid recovery methods;

“(O) security of wireless networks and mobile devices; and

“(P) security of cloud infrastructure and services.”

(f) **RESEARCH ON THE SCIENCE OF CYBERSECURITY.**—The head of each agency and department identified under section 101(a)(3)(B) of the High-Performance Computing Act of 1991 (15 U.S.C. 5511(a)(3)(B)), through existing programs and activities, shall support research that will lead to the development of a scientific foundation for the field of cybersecurity, including research that increases understanding of the underlying principles of securing complex networked systems, enables repeatable experimentation, and creates quantifiable security metrics.

#### **SEC. 202. COMPUTER AND NETWORK SECURITY RESEARCH CENTERS.**

Section 4(b) of the Cyber Security Research and Development Act (15 U.S.C. 7403(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (3), by striking “the research areas” and inserting the following: “improving the security and resiliency of information infrastructure, reducing cyber vulnerabilities, and anticipating and mitigating consequences of cyber attacks on critical infrastructure, by conducting research in the areas”;

(2) by striking “the center” in paragraph (4)(D) and inserting “the Center”; and

(3) in paragraph (5)—

(A) by striking “and” at the end of subparagraph (C);

(B) by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (D) and inserting a semicolon; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(E) the demonstrated capability of the applicant to conduct high performance computation integral to complex computer and network security research, through on-site or off-site computing;

“(F) the applicant's affiliation with private sector entities involved with industrial research described in subsection (a)(1);

“(G) the capability of the applicant to conduct research in a secure environment;

“(H) the applicant's affiliation with existing research programs of the Federal Government;

“(I) the applicant's experience managing public-private partnerships to transition new technologies into a commercial setting or the government user community;

“(J) the capability of the applicant to conduct interdisciplinary cybersecurity research, basic and applied, such as in law, economics, or behavioral sciences; and

“(K) the capability of the applicant to conduct research in areas such as systems security, wireless security, networking and protocols, formal methods and high-performance computing, nanotechnology, or industrial control systems.”

#### **TITLE III—EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT**

##### **SEC. 301. CYBERSECURITY COMPETITIONS AND CHALLENGES.**

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary of Commerce, Director of the National Science Foundation, and Secretary of Homeland Security, in consultation with the Director of the Office of Personnel Management, shall—

(1) support competitions and challenges under section 105 of the America COMPETES Reauthorization Act of 2010 (124 Stat. 3989) or any other provision of law, as appropriate—

(A) to identify, develop, and recruit talented individuals to perform duties relating to the security of information infrastructure in Federal, State, and local government agencies, and the private sector; or

(B) to stimulate innovation in basic and applied cybersecurity research, technology development, and prototype demonstration that has the potential for application to the information technology activities of the Federal Government; and

(2) ensure the effective operation of the competitions and challenges under this section.

(b) **PARTICIPATION.**—Participants in the competitions and challenges under subsection (a)(1) may include—

(1) students enrolled in grades 9 through 12;

(2) students enrolled in a postsecondary program of study leading to a baccalaureate degree at an institution of higher education;

(3) students enrolled in a postbaccalaureate program of study at an institution of higher education;

(4) institutions of higher education and research institutions;

(5) veterans; and

(6) other groups or individuals that the Secretary of Commerce, Director of the National Science Foundation, and Secretary of Homeland Security determine appropriate.

(c) **AFFILIATION AND COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.**—Competitions and challenges under this section may be carried out through affiliation and cooperative agreements with—

(1) Federal agencies;

(2) regional, State, or school programs supporting the development of cyber professionals;

(3) State, local, and tribal governments; or

(4) other private sector organizations.

(d) **AREAS OF SKILL.**—Competitions and challenges under subsection (a)(1)(A) shall be designed to identify, develop, and recruit exceptional talent relating to—

(1) ethical hacking;

(2) penetration testing;

(3) vulnerability assessment;

(4) continuity of system operations;

(5) security in design;

(6) cyber forensics;

(7) offensive and defensive cyber operations; and

(8) other areas the Secretary of Commerce, Director of the National Science Foundation, and Secretary of Homeland Security consider necessary to fulfill the cybersecurity mission.

(e) **TOPICS.**—In selecting topics for competitions and challenges under subsection (a)(1), the

Secretary of Commerce, Director of the National Science Foundation, and Secretary of Homeland Security—

(1) shall consult widely both within and outside the Federal Government; and

(2) may empanel advisory committees.

(f) **INTERNSHIPS.**—The Director of the Office of Personnel Management may support, as appropriate, internships or other work experience in the Federal Government to the winners of the competitions and challenges under this section.

**SEC. 302. FEDERAL CYBER SCHOLARSHIP-FOR-SERVICE PROGRAM.**

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Director of the National Science Foundation, in coordination with the Director of the Office of Personnel Management and Secretary of Homeland Security, shall continue a Federal Cyber Scholarship-for-Service program to recruit and train the next generation of information technology professionals, industrial control system security professionals, and security managers to meet the needs of the cybersecurity mission for Federal, State, local, and tribal governments.

(b) **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION AND COMPONENTS.**—The Federal Cyber Scholarship-for-Service program shall—

(1) provide scholarships to students who are enrolled in programs of study at institutions of higher education leading to degrees or specialized program certifications in the cybersecurity field;

(2) provide the scholarship recipients with summer internship opportunities or other meaningful temporary appointments in the Federal information technology workforce; and

(3) provide a procedure by which the National Science Foundation or a Federal agency, consistent with regulations of the Office of Personnel Management, may request and fund security clearances for scholarship recipients, including providing for clearances during internships or other temporary appointments and after receipt of their degrees.

(c) **SCHOLARSHIP AMOUNTS.**—Each scholarship under subsection (b) shall be in an amount that covers the student's tuition and fees at the institution under subsection (b)(1) and provides the student with an additional stipend.

(d) **SCHOLARSHIP CONDITIONS.**—Each scholarship recipient, as a condition of receiving a scholarship under the program, shall enter into an agreement under which the recipient agrees to work in the cybersecurity mission of a Federal, State, local, or tribal agency for a period equal to the length of the scholarship following receipt of the student's degree.

(e) **HIRING AUTHORITY.**—

(1) **APPOINTMENT IN EXCEPTED SERVICE.**—Notwithstanding any provision of chapter 33 of title 5, United States Code, governing appointments in the competitive service, an agency shall appoint in the excepted service an individual who has completed the academic program for which a scholarship was awarded.

(2) **NONCOMPETITIVE CONVERSION.**—Except as provided in paragraph (4), upon fulfillment of the service term, an employee appointed under paragraph (1) may be converted noncompetitively to term, career-conditional or career appointment.

(3) **TIMING OF CONVERSION.**—An agency may noncompetitively convert a term employee appointed under paragraph (2) to a career-conditional or career appointment before the term appointment expires.

(4) **AUTHORITY TO DECLINE CONVERSION.**—An agency may decline to make the noncompetitive conversion or appointment under paragraph (2) for cause.

(f) **ELIGIBILITY.**—To be eligible to receive a scholarship under this section, an individual shall—

(1) be a citizen or lawful permanent resident of the United States;

(2) demonstrate a commitment to a career in improving the security of information infrastructure; and

(3) have demonstrated a high level of proficiency in mathematics, engineering, or computer sciences.

(g) **REPAYMENT.**—If a scholarship recipient does not meet the terms of the program under this section, the recipient shall refund the scholarship payments in accordance with rules established by the Director of the National Science Foundation, in coordination with the Director of the Office of Personnel Management and Secretary of Homeland Security.

(h) **EVALUATION AND REPORT.**—The Director of the National Science Foundation shall evaluate and report periodically to Congress on the success of recruiting individuals for scholarships under this section and on hiring and retaining those individuals in the public sector workforce.

**SEC. 303. STUDY AND ANALYSIS OF EDUCATION, ACCREDITATION, TRAINING, AND CERTIFICATION OF INFORMATION INFRASTRUCTURE AND CYBERSECURITY PROFESSIONALS.**

(a) **STUDY.**—The Director of the National Science Foundation, the Director of the Office of Personnel Management, and the Secretary of Homeland Security shall undertake to enter into appropriate arrangements with the National Academy of Sciences to conduct a comprehensive study of government, academic, and private-sector education, accreditation, training, and certification programs for the development of professionals in information infrastructure and cybersecurity. The agreement shall require the National Academy of Sciences to consult with sector coordinating councils and relevant governmental agencies, regulatory entities, and nongovernmental organizations in the course of the study.

(b) **SCOPE.**—The study shall include—

(1) an evaluation of the body of knowledge and various skills that specific categories of professionals in information infrastructure and cybersecurity should possess in order to secure information systems;

(2) an assessment of whether existing government, academic, and private-sector education, accreditation, training, and certification programs provide the body of knowledge and various skills described in paragraph (1);

(3) an evaluation of—

(A) the state of cybersecurity education at institutions of higher education in the United States;

(B) the extent of professional development opportunities for faculty in cybersecurity principles and practices;

(C) the extent of the partnerships and collaborative cybersecurity curriculum development activities that leverage industry and government needs, resources, and tools;

(D) the proposed metrics to assess progress toward improving cybersecurity education; and

(E) the descriptions of the content of cybersecurity courses in undergraduate computer science curriculum;

(4) an analysis of any barriers to the Federal Government recruiting and hiring cybersecurity talent, including barriers relating to compensation, the hiring process, job classification, and hiring flexibility; and

(5) an analysis of the sources and availability of cybersecurity talent, a comparison of the skills and expertise sought by the Federal Government and the private sector, an examination of the current and future capacity of United States institutions of higher education, including community colleges, to provide current and future cybersecurity professionals, through education and training activities, with those skills sought by the Federal Government, State and local entities, and the private sector.

(c) **REPORT.**—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the National

Academy of Sciences shall submit to the President and Congress a report on the results of the study. The report shall include—

(1) findings regarding the state of information infrastructure and cybersecurity education, accreditation, training, and certification programs, including specific areas of deficiency and demonstrable progress; and

(2) recommendations for further research and the improvement of information infrastructure and cybersecurity education, accreditation, training, and certification programs.

**TITLE IV—CYBERSECURITY AWARENESS AND PREPAREDNESS**

**SEC. 401. NATIONAL CYBERSECURITY AWARENESS AND PREPAREDNESS CAMPAIGN.**

(a) **NATIONAL CYBERSECURITY AWARENESS AND PREPAREDNESS CAMPAIGN.**—The Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (referred to in this section as the “Director”), in consultation with appropriate Federal agencies, shall continue to coordinate a national cybersecurity awareness and preparedness campaign, such as—

(1) a campaign to increase public awareness of cybersecurity, cyber safety, and cyber ethics, including the use of the Internet, social media, entertainment, and other media to reach the public;

(2) a campaign to increase the understanding of State and local governments, institutions of higher education, and private sector entities of—

(A) the benefits of ensuring effective risk management of the information infrastructure versus the costs of failure to do so; and

(B) the methods to mitigate and remediate vulnerabilities;

(3) support for formal cybersecurity education programs at all education levels to prepare skilled cybersecurity and computer science workers for the private sector and Federal, State, and local government; and

(4) initiatives to evaluate and forecast future cybersecurity workforce needs of the Federal government and develop strategies for recruitment, training, and retention.

(b) **CONSIDERATIONS.**—In carrying out the authority described in subsection (a), the Director, in consultation with appropriate Federal agencies, shall leverage existing programs designed to inform the public of safety and security of products or services, including self-certifications and independently verified assessments regarding the quantification and valuation of information security risk.

(c) **STRATEGIC PLAN.**—The Director, in cooperation with relevant Federal agencies and other stakeholders, shall build upon programs and plans in effect as of the date of enactment of this Act to develop and implement a strategic plan to guide Federal programs and activities in support of the national cybersecurity awareness and preparedness campaign under subsection (a).

(d) **REPORT.**—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, and every 5 years thereafter, the Director shall transmit the strategic plan under subsection (c) to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives.

**IMPORTANT ASPECTS OF S. 1353**

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. President, I ask consent to engage in a colloquy with Senator ROCKEFELLER, Chairman of the Senate Commerce Committee, regarding important aspects of S. 1353, the Cybersecurity Enhancement Act of 2014.

Yesterday I held a hearing on the importance of improving information

sharing between agencies on cyber security. As I said yesterday, law enforcement, the intelligence community, Treasury, and financial regulators each may have different missions, but in addressing cyber security concerns they all must be united in what some call a “whole government” approach. Cyber security is one of the most important issues facing the financial system and I hope next Congress can work together to pass a comprehensive cyber security bill. I thank my colleague, the Senator from West Virginia, for his work on this important matter and for strengthening the public-private collaboration on cyber security with this bill.

However, I would like to ensure that the language in this bill does not have unintended consequences on the abilities of financial regulators to effectively oversee our financial system. As chairman of the Banking Committee, I am mindful of the importance of strong regulators examining and supervising our financial institutions. This is particularly important in the case of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, the agency that was created in 2010 to police areas of the financial market that previously were not regulated at the federal level, as well as the prudential regulators. A provision in S. 1353 states that information shared with the National Institute of Standards and Technology (known as NIST), may not be used by a government agency to regulate the activity of any entity. However, other existing statutes and regulations provide government agencies with the authority to require entities they regulate to provide them with information.

Moreover, a regulatory agency may discover such information on its own, through the entity, or through other sources. For example, a bank regulatory agency may discover cyberthreat information during a routine examination of a bank and, might want to exercise its existing legal authority to require the bank to adjust its systems to protect against future cyberthreats. I seek clarification from the Senator from West Virginia with respect to the provision in the proposed legislation.

Can my colleague from West Virginia confirm that this provision is not intended to prohibit an agency from taking regulatory action, if the agency independently obtains such information pursuant to other statutory or regulatory authority, even if a regulated entity has shared this information with NIST?

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. I thank Senator JOHNSON for his interest and support for this legislation and for his shared interest in strengthening cyber security. I also thank my colleague from South Dakota for drawing attention to the potential impact of this provision on financial regulatory authorities

under the Banking Committee's jurisdiction, including those of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau and the prudential regulators. I would like to assure the Senator that the consensus-based voluntary process for developing cyber security standards established in Title I of this bill is not intended to alter or limit financial regulatory agencies' regulatory authority in any way. Title I, particularly new section (e)(2) of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act, encourages private entities to participate in NIST's standards development process, but is in no way a “safe harbor” for participants who are subject to the jurisdiction of financial regulatory agencies. An entity that participates in the standards development process established in Title I is still fully subject to the regulations, supervision, and other requirements of its financial regulatory agency. Sharing information with NIST as part of the process established in Title I is not a valid basis for withholding information from a regulator, including information about cyber threats.

NIST is the Federal government's premier science and standards agency. It is not a regulatory agency, nor is it a national or homeland security agency. NIST's unique role is to bring together knowledgeable players from government and industry and to build consensus around common technical standards. NIST has no authority to require any private entity to follow standards it develops. The cybersecurity standards development process established in Title I is therefore not a rulemaking process. It in no way imposes new or duplicative regulations on entities that are subject to the authority of financial regulatory agencies, and it in no way disturbs or diminishes agencies' authority to exercise their important oversight duties.

It is not intended to prohibit an agency from taking a regulatory action, such as an action to require an individual entity to protect against future cyber threats, if the agency independently obtains such information pursuant to other statutory or regulatory authority—even if an entity has shared this information with NIST. Nothing in this bill is intended to modify, limit, or otherwise affect the authority of the federal financial regulators under any other provision of law.

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. I thank the Senator from West Virginia for his work on this important matter and for working with me to clarify the scope of this bill.

Mr. KING. I ask unanimous consent that the committee-reported substitute be agreed to, the Rockefeller-Thune substitute be agreed to, the bill, as amended, be read a third time and passed, and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The committee-reported amendment in the nature of a substitute was agreed to.

The amendment (No. 4097) in the nature of a substitute was agreed to.

(The amendment is printed in today's RECORD under “Text of Amendments.”)

The bill (S. 1353), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

Mr. KING. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SESSIONS. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### PROTECTING VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS AND EMERGENCY RESPONDERS ACT OF 2014—Continued

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak as in morning business.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### TRIBUTE TO DEPARTING SENATORS

##### TOM COBURN

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I would like to make some remarks about Senator COBURN.

TOM COBURN is one of the more remarkable Senators who have served in this body—certainly since I have been here. He is a man with absolute courage, conviction, and dedication to make this country better. He didn't come here to go through the job and go through the motions; he came here to invest his great skills and his great intellectual ability and to pour his drive and effort into making America a better place. It is very special. It is unusual. I have not seen anything like it, as I said, since I have been here.

I always had great reluctance to disagree or oppose anything TOM offered. They were not always perfect, but basically I opposed them so seldom because I agreed with him time and time again. I always hated to vote no because I knew he had studied the issue, understood it, and was doing what he believed was right.

His whole philosophy and approach to government, had it been more effectively followed by other Members of this body, would have led us to a better country. To support what he said, I think in a way, was supporting high ideals for America.

I want to say I am going to miss him. People have no idea how many times he has stopped or altered bad legislation to make it better and less problematic and more principled. He believes that ours is a constitutionally



limited government. He didn't just believe that, he acted on it and has acted on it consistently.

I understand, and I have no doubt of this—we don't need to run a test—but I understand and have no doubt that he has offered more amendments since I have been in the Senate than any other Senator. They have been amendments to stop waste, fraud, and abuse, to make the government more efficient, leaner, to consolidate multiple programs that should be consolidated for efficiency.

He has worked across the aisle on a host of issues. He has sought bipartisan support for matters that are small and large. It is remarkable. I have to say that we are going to lose someone who is of great value. He would easily have been reelected had he run again.

I remember him saying one time—and this is his philosophy—if you want to be reelected, don't worry about being reelected, just do the right thing, and you won't have any difficulties. He never had any difficulties in his election, because people trusted him. They knew every day, night and day, long hours, whatever, he was working to advance the common interest of our country. They trusted that he was not seduced, bought out, compromised by the powers that be in Washington, DC, and he remained true to those who sent him here.

I would say this: Part of the strength he has—as a matter of fact, maybe the greatest part of his strength he has is his faith. He is intelligent, sophisticated, knowledgeable, a scientist, a doctor, but a man of simple Christian faith which impacts his life as much as anybody in this body. He understands the true meaning of life, and he gives himself to others in a most remarkable way.

Thank you and colleagues for the opportunity for me to share these remarks. We are going to miss our friend TOM COBURN, who is going to object to those bills that require a lot of effort to make them better or stop some that are so bad they cannot be passed. A lot of us are going to have to pick up the slack.

Maybe TOM would say, "What are you doing down here, JEFF, wasting time talking about me when you ought to be studying this bill and finding some of the bogus spending that is in it? You should be spending your time fixing it."

But every now and then I think we should stop and recognize an extraordinary life and an extraordinary Senator.

I wanted to share these remarks.

I thank the Chair and yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

CLAY HUNT SAV ACT

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, Mr. Clay Hunt is a marine veteran who committed suicide in March of 2011 at the age of 28. Clay enlisted in the Marine Corps in May of 2005 and deployed to the Al Anbar Province near Fallujah in January of 2007. He was shot in the wrist by a sniper's bullet that barely missed his head, and it earned him the Purple Heart.

Clay recuperated at Twentynine Palms, CA, and then graduated from Marine Corps scout sniper school in March of 2008, and he was redeployed in southern Afghanistan a few weeks later. His unit returned to the United States in late October 2008 and he was honorably discharged from the marines in April 2009.

After he returned home, Clay suffered from post-traumatic stress disorder, PTSD. He struggled for many years and he struggled with inadequate care from his local VA hospital before taking his own life.

The Clay Hunt Suicide Prevention Act passed the House of Representatives a little while ago this week. I believe this is an important piece of legislation. I serve on the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee and we had testimony related to suicide prevention, suicide among our veterans, a few weeks back, and it is so clear in Kansas and across the country that many veterans and their families deserve something much more than we are able to provide—than we are providing now—and this legislation which will help in that regard deserves swift passage by the U.S. Senate.

This bill, the Clay Hunt Suicide Prevention Act, would be instrumental in developing a VA system capable of offering first-class, first-rate mental health care services as well as utilizing the expertise of outside organizations to provide support for those struggling with the invisible wounds of service.

The legislation would require third parties to conduct an annual evaluation of suicide prevention programs within the Department of Veterans Affairs and within the Department of Defense. It would also provide for a new Web site that would offer veterans information regarding available mental health care services, and it would create a joint pilot loan repayment program for VA psychiatrists. There is a tremendous shortage of VA professionals that this would help alleviate, and it will improve the exchange of training, best practices, and other resources among the VA veterans service organizations and not-for-profit mental health organizations to enhance the cooperation of their efforts in suicide prevention.

During that Veterans' Affairs Committee hearing on November 19, last month, we were honored to hear Clay's

story from his mom, Susan Selke. Susan shared her son's story of reliving the traumatic experiences of war and his disappointment when the VA failed to offer him the care he needed to treat his stress disorder.

In fact, it was one of the most compelling—again, I have served on the Veterans' Affairs Committee since I came to Congress, and this mother's testimony was one of the most important pieces of information I have heard from a witness during the committee hearing. What she indicated was that in her belief—and she indicated that she believed her son thought this as well—that it was the VA bureaucracy, the inability, the unwillingness, the falling through the cracks, the culture that we have heard described in the Department of Veterans Affairs that was the straw that broke the camel's back and that caused her son to commit suicide.

We have ranted, we have raved, we highlighted, we pointed out, we have discussed the VA and its problems, its bureaucracy, its culture, its failure of leadership, its service to the VA as compared to its service to veterans many times over many years. We often bemoan bureaucracy among all Federal agencies, but it is especially important at the Department of Veterans Affairs, because while it is easy to talk about the bureaucracy, the paperwork, the shuffling, the falling through the cracks, this mother's testimony about the death of her son indicated that it is not just about bureaucracy, it is not just about paperwork, it is not just about a culture. Those circumstances contributed to the death of a human being. In this case it contributed to the death of one who served our country nobly.

So we can bemoan the bureaucracy, but we need to remember that it is that circumstance that causes the loss of life. Suicide is something that needs to be addressed. We need to have a concerted effort, and legislation that is now pending before the Senate that needs to be passed before this Senate concludes is one step we can take to make certain there are less circumstances in which a soldier or a veteran commits suicide.

I cannot imagine the heartache, the difficulty, the challenge, that comes from a mom who comes to DC to testify about the suicide death of her son. I don't know how to put myself in that position, but I know it has to be a tremendously difficult, traumatic experience. The reason she must do that is because she wants to make certain that other sons of other parents of other mothers have a different experience than the one she, her family, and her son, experienced.

It is clear we have a problem. It is critical that the VA follow through on its commitment and its responsibilities to our Nation's veterans. It is critical



that they must follow through to those veterans who are just returning home, those who have been home a long time, and to their families who need to have the love and support and care of the VA and the American people. We have to keep working to find solutions to the issues of mental health our service men and women and veterans now face, and we must hold the VA accountable for their responsibilities when it comes to providing for the needs of those veterans. And that care and treatment must be provided in a timely, high quality, and in a specialized way that meets the needs of each individual veteran and their family.

My presence on the Senate floor this evening is to highlight the importance of the message of the Clay Hunt Suicide Prevention Act, to pay honor and tribute to Clay Hunt and to his family, and to the hundreds of individuals and families across the country who have faced similar circumstances, and call us to the point that we recognize that steps taken today can make certain there are no more Clay Hunts, no more mothers who face the circumstance of the loss of their son, and that America lives up to its commitment to those we have called to duty.

I urge my colleagues to make certain that this legislation passes the U.S. Senate before we recess for this holiday period.

Mr. President, thank you for the opportunity to speak this evening. I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SESSIONS. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRIBUTE TO DEPARTING SENATORS  
JAY ROCKEFELLER

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I wish to share a few remarks as we mark the end of the long tenure of Senator JAY ROCKEFELLER and his service to his country and to the Senate. He has served in the Senate for 30 years. He served two terms as Governor of West Virginia, and served as Secretary of State, and in the House of Delegates.

He came to the State of West Virginia as a young VISTA volunteer. I have heard him tell the story about that, how he really wanted to participate and reach out and help others. He came to West Virginia as a young man and stayed. He worked with people in a small mining community. His heart was right to try to be helpful. He came from a prestigious family, but he wanted to help others.

He has been a remarkable Member of the Senate for now 30 years. He has a brilliant mind, capable of grasping all sorts of thoughts, but he also has the

ability to delight in little things. One of those is sports. He has a tremendous capacity to have in that brain of his sports trivia. He likes the Atlanta Braves. He knows Southeastern Conference football. I have been pleased to be able to chat with him on occasion on the floor.

It just goes to show a lot of times people don't realize that we get along pretty well in this body personally. We may disagree on issues, but we care about one another. JAY ROCKEFELLER has always been nice to me. He has always been a friend. He has always been courteous. He has always been collegial to me, and I have appreciated that over the years. So I wish to thank him for his service to his country, his commitment to others, and I wish him Godspeed in his further endeavors.

I thank the Chair, I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SAXBY CHAMBLISS

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I wish to share a few thoughts about the service in the Senate of our good friend and colleague SAXBY CHAMBLISS.

SAXBY is one of the best liked and most respected Senators in this body. Every Member knows him. Every Member likes him. Every Member respects him. I truly share that view. And on matters particularly related to national security, intelligence issues, and terrorism, I consistently want to know what SAXBY has to say about it.

He has done a whole lot of things in this Senate. He has been a participant and a contributor on many issues. He worked really hard to try to create a bipartisan solution to our debt crisis. That didn't quite develop, but it was a positive part of the discussion this Senate went through.

What I really want to say is that as Chairman or Vice Chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee, and having been a longtime Member of the House Intelligence Committee, and here in the Senate, he has become the go-to person with regard to the sensitive issues relating to the security of our country. I consistently have looked to him because I trust his judgment, trust his integrity, and trust his wisdom to help sort through all the political news articles and debates and hot issues, and to distill down to the bottom of what is important, what we should be focused on, and what the right thing is for America.

Truly, he has been a remarkable Senator. We are going to miss SAXBY. I am going to miss SAXBY, as so many of us will. He is the son of an Episcopalian minister. He is a man of faith.

He has a delightful wife, Julianne. My wife is a good judge of character and she thinks Julianne hung the Moon, and that is so true. They are a great family and great partners.

SAXBY has given so much to the Senate. Georgia has produced some great Senators, particularly Senators known for their commitment to national security and the defense of America: Richard Russell, for whom the Russell Senate Office Building is named; Sam Nunn, who was so long a leader in the Congress with regard to national defense.

SAXBY CHAMBLISS is in that category. That is the kind of Senator he has been—from defending America to helping his colleagues sift through difficult issues and make good, wise decisions. It has been a great pleasure for me to serve with him. I wish him every success in his future endeavors and look forward to seeing him back in this area many times.

I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MARK BEGICH

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I would also just say that we will be losing a good friend, MARK BEGICH. MARK and I served on the Armed Services Committee together for a number of years. We were very active. I was Ranking Member and he was Chairman of the Armed Services Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, dealing with missile defense, which Alaska was deeply involved with as a state.

MARK was an expert on those issues. We dealt with nuclear issues and outer space and satellite issues. That was a particularly good time together. I believe every committee—every decision we reached—was a bipartisan decision that came out of committee. We supported the Subcommittee report that was made a part of the Armed Services bill and then became law. For the most part I think not too many changes were made in it.

I think a lot of people may not appreciate that Senators do get along. We do work together on issues important to the country, such as space and military space necessities that are so valuable to our men and women as they are in harm's way, to be able to produce a missile defense system that ensures that this country is not vulnerable to attack by a missile from an adversary.

That system is up, standing, and operating today. It was great to work with MARK in establishing it. He is a delightful person to work with, always with a positive attitude. I know he will

be successful in whatever future endeavors he undertakes. He was mayor of Anchorage. Anybody who has been a mayor has learned some things and has had to deal with constituents face-to-face. He loved actually meeting his constituents and talking with them.

I wish MARK every success in his future endeavors and would like to express my appreciation to him for the courtesies he has shown me and the effort we made together to improve the defense of the United States.

I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### HOURS OF SERVICE REGULATIONS

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, at this time of year, Thanksgiving and the holidays that are upcoming, a lot of Americans are on our roads. A lot of us know that Americans are on the roads because my colleagues and I travel using the highways of our States so frequently.

We know as parents, as family members, that in the back of our minds when a son or daughter is driving, there is a tiny bit of apprehension and anxiety about safety. It is safety not only concerning people on our roads but also on our railways. As a member of the commerce committee, where the Presiding Officer served, I know he has young children and he probably has the same apprehensions and anxieties that all of us share when our family members are driving, particularly late at night, early in the morning, hours when weariness, fatigue, and tiredness are one of the main enemies—particularly when the weather is bad.

The omnibus funding measure, soon to be under debate, has many good provisions, but it also has a provision that is antithetical and deeply destructive to the principle of road safety because it affects truck drivers who are on the roads for long periods of time. I am referring to section 133 of division K, one paragraph. I am here to talk about it, to ask that my colleagues oppose it. If there is any way to strip it from the bill, I urge that it be done. It is a provision that is virtually incomprehensible to the average American on the roads or in their homes as to what it means and what its ramifications are and what its consequences may be to their safety and the safety of others in their families on the road.

The fact is that nearly 4,000 people who are killed each year in truck crashes and the nearly 100,000 each year who are injured show the toll of fatigue and weariness of our truck drivers.

According to NHTSA, truck crash injuries in fact increased by 40 percent between 2009 to 2012. We all have seen the consequences of fatigue on the roads when we drive—the truck driver who may pull his rig in front of us or slide over into our side of the road, not because he is not well trained, experienced, able. In fact, the vast majority of truck drivers are experienced and able and well trained and extraordinarily prudent in the way they drive.

But fatigue is an enemy to them as it is to all of us who drive. Many of the headlines we have seen recently have concerned hours of service regulations governing truck drivers, as many truck crashes involve tired truck drivers. There are rules that have been enacted by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, rules that have been implemented to curb the number of fatigued truck drivers on our roads, implemented after years of rulemaking and analysis and study and even litigation. They are fact-based rules. They are supported by science. They are rules that move American roads and drivers in the right direction, truly, literally on the right path.

I am not the only one who supports these rules. They are supported by the Secretary of Transportation. Secretary Foxx is to be commended for his steadfast, strong, courageous defense of these rules. His integrity and intellect in support of these rules I greatly appreciate. But he is not alone any more than I am alone. The folks who are most adamant and passionate about it are the truck drivers themselves.

The Teamsters and the United Transportation Union, they have inspired me to be as passionate and steadfast as I am on these rules. They are not alone either. Law enforcement, the International Association of Chiefs of Police, the National Troopers Coalition, the National Sheriffs' Association, the Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance, and the Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association all support these rules.

They are also supported by consumer and public health groups and safety groups such as Advocates for Highway and Auto Safety, Citizens for Reliable and Safe Highways, the Consumer Federation of America, the American Public Health Association, the John Lindsay Foundation, the Truck Safety Coalition, KidsAndCars.org, the Trauma Foundation, and Public Citizen. These are the preeminent public and safety consumer advocacy groups in this country. They all support these rules.

Tragically and unfortunately, there are organizations representing victims such as Parents Against Tired Truckers and Roadsafe America which also have been inspired to support these rules. I say tragically and unfortunately, because none of us welcome the fact that there are victims of crashes resulting from tired truckers. Most re-

gretful are the truckers themselves, which is why they are supporting these rules. But the families and loved ones of victims of these crashes support the rules, and even many trucking companies like those represented by the Trucking Alliance support these rules.

The fact is there is good reason for the rules and there is good reason to strip the bill of a provision that negates, in effect, undercuts, and eviscerates these rules, section 133 of Division K. There is good reason. The 2005 study conducted by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration demonstrated that before the current rules were implemented, 65 percent of drivers reported feeling drowsy while driving and 48 percent admitted to falling asleep while driving at some point the previous year.

But under the current rules, the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration says that it will save 19 lives, prevent about 1,400 crashes, 560 injuries each year, see an estimated \$280 million in savings from fewer large truck crashes, and see \$470 million in savings from improved driver health.

These are dry, abstract statistics, but they measure compelling losses in human lives and in dollars.

Unfortunately, the folks who want to stop these rules have found a home in the omnibus appropriations bill that may be coming over from the House later today. In addition, while the rules are blocked, the language in the House bill would also require that this issue be studied further.

The rules have been studied a lot. If there is a need for further study, fine. I am completely on board with study and factfinding. But in the meantime, let's keep the rules as they are, as prescribed by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration. They are in the business of safety. They have said these rules are necessary. Let's keep the rules implemented, but we can study them. If we are going to make any changes, it should be done with proper analysis and debate—not in a spending bill. It ought to be in the committee with jurisdiction, the commerce committee, where I serve.

That is why in late July my subcommittee held a hearing on truck safety and this issue featured prominently. We gave everyone a chance to testify, to debate all points of view. Until then, the only discussion was in the context of appropriations and spending bills, not in the context of real policy.

The hearing I held highlighted some real issues. First, with these changes, drivers will be able to drive nearly 80 hours a week. In other words, if this provision is adopted, if the rules are rolled back, drivers will be able to drive nearly 80 hours a week and hundreds more a year.

It is more likely that trucking companies will push their drivers to drive

the maximum limit, which is about twice the average American workweek. That is exactly what the rules are designed to prevent, truck drivers being forced to work too many hours, getting exhausted, and then endangering themselves and other drivers on the road.

All we are trying to do with the rules is take tired truckers off the roads—not tell them when they must sleep or what they must do while they are off the roads. It is about taking tired trucker drivers off the road. The changes in the omnibus would enable drivers to drive nearly 80 hours a week and hundreds more hours a year and would really impede truck drivers' resting, which they should be doing instead of driving more.

The rules implemented by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration were the result of compromise. To roll them back further undermines that compromise. If anything, we ought to be instituting greater safeguards.

If there is factfinding that justifies stronger precaution and protection, we welcome that study. But in the meantime, allow the rules to work and protect drivers, truck drivers and other drivers on the road. Americans are in favor of these rules. They are in favor of truck safety.

Polling data released in October shows why so many Americans are concerned about allowing drivers to be on the roads while they are fatigued. Americans simply don't want these large trucks, which in many respects operate like missiles zooming down the road. A missile out of control can do huge, humongous, enduring damage to life and limb and to the futures of people whose lives may be transformed by a fatal or serious crash.

Let's make sure we have a real conversation about this issue in the commerce committee. Let's make sure we do the factfinding and have the rules in place while that factfinding takes place. Let's make sure that Americans are protected against weary and tired truckdrivers. Let's give them the same attention and care as we would want for our families during this season, on the roads, while they are driving late at night, maybe in bad weather, because there are going to be storms as there are, inevitably, in December, January, and February.

But every day, every season, these rules deserve to be in place. That is why this provision, which would roll back those rules—making changes endangering the lives of ordinary Americans on the road—is so antithetical to safety and such an anathema to the values of saving and preserving life and increasing the safety of our drivers on the road.

I yield the floor and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. DONNELLY). The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

CLAY HUNT SAV ACT

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, I wish to inform my colleagues, although the hour is late, that the Clay Hunt bill, H.R. 5059, has been cleared on the Democratic side and I hope we will have unanimous consent to move it tomorrow in the session that we have on Friday.

This bill is of tremendous importance to not only me as a member of the Veterans' Affairs Committee and my colleagues—many of them including, I believe, Senator MCCAIN, who introduced an updated and improved version of the Suicide Prevention for American Veterans Act, but also to the families who have been affected, I want to say in particular to Susan Selke, who testified before the Veterans' Affairs Committee—and I was there for her testimony, speaking on behalf of herself and her husband, Richard, as the mother of Clay Hunt, a marine combat victim who died by suicide in March of 2011 at the age of 28.

I am not going to speak at length about the reasons of why we need more assistance and support to prevent more wonderful young men and women like Clay Hunt, who served and sacrificed for our Nation, the kind of resources and support that are necessary to prevent them from becoming victims at this time of tragic circumstances.

We owe it to Susan Selke, Clay Hunt's mom, and all the families who lose loved ones to suicide, to do better, to do more, and do it now.

The reforms and programs directed by this legislation hopefully will enable the VA to better serve and treat veterans suffering from the hidden or invisible injuries of war, and the mental health and other conditions that ought to be addressed to save young men and women such as Clay Hunt.

I will seek to move this bill tomorrow by unanimous consent, and I hope my colleagues will enable me to do so.

I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, I wish to speak on the bill we are on—the National Defense Authorization Act—by taking a look at the condition of the world today. This is an important time to do it, as we enter the end of this year and begin to look forward to the

new year. We should take a moment to take a snapshot of the world and the threats that exist around us and the complexities in the world because I think they are directly on point as to what our military capabilities are going to need to be in the 21st century.

I note that the tendencies have often been on a number of occasions, even in my lifetime, where we have tried to take, for lack of a better term, what is known as a peace dividend—the end of the Cold War, for example, and then again after the events of 9/11—it is the idea that somehow the threats around the world and the challenges we face have somehow ebbed and it is time to nation build at home. I am always in favor of nation building at home. The problem is that today, now, in the 21st century more than ever, there is no such thing as a remote problem. There is no such thing as any issue that is of major importance abroad that doesn't somehow impact us here at home. This has always been true, but it has never been more true than it is today because of the global nature of our economy.

As we look around the world—and I want to take a brief moment to go over some of the parts of the world—we start to see what the need for American leadership is and the need for a strong national defense capability on the part of the United States and how important it is in this new global economy.

Let's begin by looking at the Middle East, the most troubled region of the world, and that has been true for a very long time. We begin by talking about the negotiations that are going on with Iran. Look, I would hope—we all do, I think—to wake up one day to the news that Iran has decided to walk away from sponsoring terrorism, that Iran has walked away from its desire to blow up Israel, that Iran has rejected the human rights violations it commits against its own people, and that they have abandoned their nuclear ambitions. We would all love to see that happen. That is the ideal outcome. It is also, frankly, the least likely.

The truth is, while we shouldn't root against the negotiations that are going on with Iran, we shouldn't be naive enough to believe they have a serious chance at success, and I say this for a couple of very different but simple reasons.

The first is because I think Iran looks at what has happened with North Korea—a country that barely has an economy; it is not even a country in the sense we think of, having a government. It is really an area of land run by a criminal syndicate. Iran has seen how North Korea, because it has a nuclear weapon, has been able to be immune to international pressures, up to a certain point. Then Iran looks to Libya and it looks to Iraq and it says: Look what happens to people who don't have nuclear weapons. So I am convinced the Supreme Leader wants that

nuclear capability. Whether he will ever actually build the weapon—it may not be something they have decided yet, but the ability to build that weapon—I have no doubt that is what they want.

I have no doubt—and I believe the administration knows this to be true—that they have gone into these negotiations with a very clear objective; that is, we want you, negotiator, to get rid of as many sanctions as possible without agreeing to any irreversible concessions.

It is an interesting plan because their idea is to get rid of the sanctions, thinking they will do what they need to do in the short term—whatever that may be, as long as they are not irreversible—and at some point in the future they will restart the weapons program. It is going to be easier for Iran to restart the weapons program than it is going to be for the United States and the nations of the world to reimpose sanctions. So I think they have figured that out, and that is what their mandate has been. But even that has its limits because when we look to these negotiators—and there is a history of this, when we look to these negotiators—there have been times in the past when Iranian negotiators might have agreed to something at the table, but then they have to come back and pull the offer because when they take it to the Supreme Leader, he says no.

We have to understand that the Supreme Leader is an isolated individual. This is not a person who travels the world or interacts with other national leaders of other nations. This is a person who is an ideologue, a religious fanatic. And I don't care what the negotiators agree to or what the President of Iran agrees to, ultimately it is the Supreme Leader's decision. I hate to say this, but they are not going to agree to any sort of deal that is good for the national security of the United States. I believe that to be true, and we need to be prepared for that.

I hope one of the first items we take up in this Chamber in the new year, in the new Congress, will be a bill to require congressional authorization for any deal, and I think we should also consider putting in place sanctions for the day when that deal fails.

In the meantime, as we talk about those negotiations that are going on—and Iran has already acquired a concession on the part of the West that they can leave in place some level of the infrastructure they need to enrich uranium and reprocess plutonium—they are still expanding their missile capability, they are still sponsoring terrorism all over the world, they are still deeply embedded and aligned with Shia militias in Iraq who pose a danger to the United States—and I will touch more upon that in a moment—and they still have plans to one day destroy Israel. So we should not be naive about

the situation with Iran, and I hope in the new year more clarity will come to that.

The second issue that directly touches upon our national security is the conflict between Iraq and Syria with regard to ISIL and the speed by which they have spread throughout two countries. Their goals are very simple. The goal of ISIL is to establish an Islamic caliphate that stretches from Europe—literally from Spain all the way through the Middle East, into India and Afghanistan, and in through north Africa. That is their very clear goal. They have said so. That is their plan, and it began in Syria, and it is spreading to Iraq. They made some pretty impressive gains before they started getting hit from the air. But even with that, they are the best funded and the best armed terrorist organization in modern history.

We already are beginning to see the spread of ISIL. One place to keep an eye on is Libya. They control an entire province in Libya. An affiliate of theirs, a group who has pledged allegiance to them, now controls an entire province in Libya, and here is what is dangerous about that. For a group such as this to prosper and grow, they need an ungoverned space. They need a piece of territory where no one is shooting at them, where no one is protesting their presence and they have no one to fight against them. That is why al Qaeda was able to grow so fast in Afghanistan—because the Taliban gave them that ungoverned space. That is why ISIL was able to grow so quickly out of Syria and into Iraq—because they were able to carve out an ungoverned space where the Syrian Government wasn't.

In Libya they have no one to fight. There is no functional government right now. There are no rival rebel groups to shoot at them. And they are going to use that ungoverned space to grow their capability. In fact, it would not surprise me, unfortunately, if in a few months, maybe a year, the hub of ISIL's activities is located largely in that province of Libya and beyond.

By the way, ISIL's presence isn't just a threat to Iraq and Syria; their immediate threat as well is to the Kingdom of Jordan, a critical U.S. ally. And if they are a threat to Jordan, they are a threat to Israel and, ultimately, to Saudi Arabia. They are a threat to Turkey already. They are a threat to Lebanon, and, as I said, they are present in north Africa as we speak. This is a very dangerous development, and it must be dealt with seriously.

We also can't anticipate the alliances that ISIL might make. We have to understand what is happening. As they make these gains—or supposed gains—they have also become very good at propaganda. They are convincing young, radicalized individuals—including here in the United States—that they are the preeminent jihadist group

on the planet, that they are the most successful jihadist group on the planet, that they will inevitably succeed, and that they are an unsurmountable force. They are convincing people to abandon other groups and join them. They are convincing donors to stop giving money to other groups and give to them. We don't know what this is going to develop into, but we can foresee in the very near future where other groups begin to align themselves with them just to remain relevant.

By the way, as a side note, there is an additional danger to ISIL's spread, and that is that the other jihadist groups in the world, who are now losing donors and losing recruits, are now feeling an urgency to go out and carry out some spectacular attack, such as here in the homeland against American interests or air travel somewhere. They now have an interest in carrying out a spectacular attack because they need to do something to reattract donors and reattract members.

But back to my original point. The danger is that these new groups, in order to remain relevant and not lose their fighters, may decide they are going to pledge their allegiance to ISIL. The host of groups already exploring that are dangerous—the Taliban in Afghanistan, the Taliban in Pakistan, the Haqqani Network that is in both Afghanistan and Pakistan, and there are other groups in north Africa as well that at least nominally have pledged some level of allegiance and support for what ISIL is doing. We need to keep an eye on this threat because a year ago, if I had stood on this floor and said we need to take ISIL seriously, no one would have known what I was talking about. That is how quickly this threat has spread, and we have no idea what it can morph into in the next few years, not to mention the next few months.

There is one additional point I wish to make. The city of Mosul has a university with a significant research capability, and one thing for us to be very cautious about is that ISIL is not using that university and its research capabilities to develop rockets or, God forbid, chemical weapons or even a dirty bomb. That is something to keep an eye on in the months and weeks to come. That is another example of the complex national security threats our Nation faces.

Our ally Israel—their struggles and their challenges are well documented. It begins with Iran. We have talked about the fact that single greatest threat facing Israel today is the prospect of a nuclear Iran and what it would mean to Israel's security in the long term. They face a very difficult challenge with the Palestinian Authority.

There was a poll I read about this morning that talked about a large majority of people—Palestinians—who believe it is morally right to kill Israelis,

to kill Jews. I am not saying that I believe all Palestinians think that, but it bears noting what that poll found. It should not surprise us when the educational institutions of the Palestinian Authority—not to mention what is being taught in Gaza—teaches people that not only is it right, it is heroic to kill Jews and to be an anti-Semite.

Then they are being pressured, including by this administration—Israel is—to enter into a peace agreement with these individuals, with those so-called leaders. How can you enter into a peace agreement with people who want to destroy you? How could you possibly enter into a peace agreement with an organization that wants to eradicate you? What are you going to negotiate—the terms of your destruction?

I don't know of any nation on Earth that wants peace more than Israel does. What do they have to gain from this constant conflict? How can you have peace with an organization, with a group that is committed to their destruction?

Instead of saying: Israel, your No. 1 problem right now is—we know what it is—the threat of an Iranian nuclear weapon, this administration and some political leaders even in this Chamber believe we should be pressuring them that their No. 1 objective should be entering into some sort of peace agreement with an organization that wants to destroy them, that in some quarters won't even recognize their right to exist, an organization that harbors individuals who deny that Jews were ever present on the Temple Mount in Jerusalem, which is absurd. Of course, I would just encourage them to do a little archeological research to confirm the longstanding Jewish presence in the region.

Suffice it to say that Israel is our strongest ally in the region. It is everything we wish the Middle East was—a prosperous, free enterprise economy, a stable democracy with a vibrant political process, and a loyal friend to the United States in international forums. I wish there were more countries in the world like that. We should do everything we can to support Israel and stop putting pressure on them because every time we put pressure on them on these things, we create daylight between the United States and Israel, we imperil their security, and we encourage their enemies to become even more aggressive.

The last point I will make about Israel: Let there be no doubt that there is a global effort to delegitimize their right to exist as a Jewish state. It has infiltrated throughout Europe, and we are starting to see it rear its ugly head in academia here in the United States. We should not let that stand. We should speak out against it and condemn it for what it is.

As if the Middle East were not complicated enough, we turn our focus to

Europe and the threat Russia now poses. Interestingly enough, a year and a half ago, Mitt Romney, the former Governor of Massachusetts, the Republican Presidential nominee, said that Russia was our most serious geopolitical threat in the short term. He was universally mocked by elitists and the press, even by some here in Washington—many here in Washington. It turns out he was right, as were many of us who were saying the same thing.

The truth is that Vladimir Putin many years ago concluded that the United States was a threat to Russia, many years ago concluded that he wanted Russia to be reestablished as a world power and that the only way he could achieve that was by confronting the United States and being seen as a counterbalance to the United States on the global stage, and we see that in place after place. In international forums, when it comes to Syria, on issue after issue Russia is against us because Putin believes it gives them relevancy on the global stage.

But there is a second issue and do not take this lightly. We don't spend all day obsessed about Russia. We don't spend all night thinking the Russians are going to invade us. But they do. There are leaders in the Russian Government who believe the United States wants to get into a military conflict with them, and they increasingly believe that now more than ever. We can see it in the military moves they are making. These are not just provocations. This is an all-out change to their defense posturing, to their defense theory, a defense theory that is increasingly looking like a Cold War one, a defense theory that is increasingly looking like they need to have the ability to prevent a U.S. first strike or to somehow be able to react to a U.S. first strike.

I know for us it sounds absurd that the United States would ever launch a nuclear attack against Russia. But there are Russian leaders at very high levels that believe that is plausible, and we are seeing it rear its head in every part of the world. Not a day goes by that there is not a report of a Russian intrusion here or a submarine appearing somewhere or an airplane—Russian bombers that have been intercepted by NATO or even the United States. These are not just provocations. They are muscle flexing.

This is a change in their defense theory, and it is a very dangerous change, not to mention the fact that I believe evidence now exists that Russia is in violation of multiple treaties they have signed with the United States, and there needs to be consequences for that.

Then, of course, as part of that strategy they believe they need strategic depth, which means they need all the countries that border them, especially the former Soviet Republics, to be in

their camp. They don't want anyone near them turning toward the West. The best example of that is what is happening in Ukraine.

What is happening in Ukraine is easy to understand. As Ukraine turned westward, Russia said that was unacceptable; they invaded Crimea and took it, and they are now engaged openly in a conflict with Ukraine that is, by the way, an outrageous one.

First of all, Russian troops have entered Ukrainian territory. Maybe they were disguised as something else, but Russian troops have made incursions into Ukraine territory and carried out combat operations against the Ukrainian Armed Forces.

The Russians are supplying the Ukrainians with weapons and armored vehicles.

They will claim: No; these armored vehicles are armored vehicles we seized, and they are clever about the armored vehicles they supply them with. They are only supplying them with armored vehicles that look like the ones the Ukrainians already have in their current stockpiles. But they are arming, equipping, and training Ukrainian separatists, and their goal is to achieve one of two things:

Their first objective, plan A, is to force Ukraine, because of the pressure they are putting on them through these separatists, because of the economic levers they hold on a very fragile Ukrainian economy through energy and exports and so forth—their first objective is to force Ukraine into a federation system of government; basically, a system of government that gives those eastern provinces and areas more autonomy because that would keep the country sufficiently divided so it can never turn toward Europe and the West.

If that doesn't work, however, then plan B that they are perfectly comfortable with is to freeze the status quo, to basically freeze the current conflict as the status quo for the long term. After the next 15 or 20 years, there will be armed and trained separatists, supported by Russia, carrying out combat operations against the Ukrainian Government in the eastern parts of the country.

Plan A is the federation; plan B is to freeze the status of the current conflict. That is the reality we are facing.

What is interesting is here is what Russia is banking on. They are banking on the sanctions which have been imposed will not be sustained; that eventually, after a couple of years, Europe will say: OK. It is time to accept what has happened and move on and that sanctions will be lifted. In fact, that is what Putin is probably telling his inner circle and the people around him: Don't worry. We are going to get through this. These sanctions will eventually be lifted off of us, and everything will be back to normal.

But those sanctions are hurting right now. I would hope those sanctions don't fall apart. I would hope the European nations understand what a direct threat this poses to them if Russia could just invade a country and take it over. But time will tell.

I think a strong American leadership is critical. I think a reinvigoration of NATO is critical. That is why it is so important that we focus on our defense capability.

But that is Putin telling everyone around him: Don't worry about these sanctions. They are going to be gone in a while. We will get through this.

Interestingly, to give some insight into Putin, the inner circle around him, the elites who are closest to him, they are being shielded from the impact of these sanctions to a certain point. In fact, one of the people, Igor Sechin, who was specifically sanctioned by the sanctions that were passed here and in Europe—he actually convinced Putin to indict an energy rival of his, take his property and his assets, and give it to Igor Sechin as compensation. That is how cynical this has become.

So the elites that surround and are closest to Putin, they are being protected by the impact of the sanctions. Everybody else is paying a terrible price, not the least of which are the people.

I also think there is clear evidence that Putin is increasingly isolated in terms of whom he listens to, whom he takes advice from, and whom he consults with, and it is going to have a devastating impact on Russia. Next year their economy is predicted to contract. Yet despite this—just to give a true indication of where Russia is headed and to give insight as to where we should be headed—contraction of their economy, despite the collapse of oil prices which has been devastating to their economy, Putin just announced budget cuts throughout every part of their government except for one—the one part of the budget they are holding harmless—military spending. I hope that gives some insight as to where they are heading.

My last point on Russia is they are increasingly present in the Western Hemisphere. They are actively seeking lease agreements in Nicaragua, Venezuela, and Cuba to be able to have naval assets and aircraft stationed in our own backyard, in the Western Hemisphere.

Let's talk about Asia for a moment, another place that poses some very significant national security and military implications for the United States.

I talked about North Korea earlier. I think it bears repeating. North Korea doesn't have a government. It is a nation or is a territory governed by a criminal syndicate run by an insane and erratic leader—but an insane and erratic leader with nuclear weapons, an

insane and erratic leader who is developing long-range missile capabilities, and an insane and erratic leader that may end up overestimating his military capabilities, miscalculating, and trigger a dispute with South Korea that could quickly escalate and implicate the United States, which has a very strong and important military and defense agreement arrangement with South Korea and our allies in the south. It bears watching.

Let's focus for a moment on China. First of all, we cannot ignore their aggressive territorial claims against both the Philippines and Japan. Interestingly, they picked on the Philippines first, a nation that doesn't have much of a military to speak of. This is the first nation they have gotten into a sort of conflict with, but they have them also with Japan and with Vietnam, and they have been pretty aggressive about it. To understand that, we have to understand a little bit about history.

For thousands of years, China was the dominant nation in that region. For them, the last 200 years is an aberration, and their increasing assertiveness is an indication that they believe it is time to go back to normal, which is their dominance of the region. Their dominance, by the way, doesn't mean they are going to invade these countries and take them over. They are not going to invade the Philippines. They are not going to invade Japan.

What they believe is that all these countries should be tributary states, that all these countries should fold underneath China's leadership, that all these countries should recognize China is big and they are small, and they should listen to China's directives and orders.

So we see the silk road initiative. We see them trying to come up with an alternative to the other global institutions that have served the world so well since the end of World War II. They want to displace the United States and the global order that existed since the end of World War II with their own order, run by China to China's advantages, and that begins with territorial claims.

The next time you have a chance to see in some Chinese passports, they have a map that indicates the nine-dash line. The nine-dash line is what they think the world looks like in terms of territories. If we look at what that means, they basically believe the entire South China Sea is their territory. That is why they have made these aggressive moves against these islands. Let me tell you how the strategy works.

They send fishermen to these areas to fish or others to exploit resources. The other countries send out their coast guard to defend it. They send out their coast guard or navy to push back. They basically show you: Even if you

wanted to fight against us, there is nothing you can do about it.

Eventually what they want these nations to conclude is: There is no point in fighting China because we can't win. The United States is not going to come to our defense. So we might as well cut a deal with them and accept their dominance.

That is their plan, slowly but surely to change the facts on the ground, to assert themselves, to convince these other countries there is nothing they can do about it. They can't count on the United States anymore, and eventually these countries will say: Fine, China. We will do whatever you want and cave. That is their plan and they are carrying it out.

They have also shown their true colors in Hong Kong. When the agreement was signed to turn Hong Kong over from the United Kingdom to the Chinese, one of the things that was important in that agreement was autonomy; that Hong Kong couldn't have its own foreign policy, but it could have its own domestic system of government autonomous from the Chinese system.

But now things have changed. Now the Chinese basically want to have veto power over who can run for office and who can lead Hong Kong. In fact, the criteria they have established is: You have to love the nation. But I will translate what that means: You have to love the Chinese Communist Party and do what they want you to do. So this is an important development that we need to keep an eye on.

Beyond that, going back to military affairs for a moment—because we are on the NDAA—just look at what China is doing in its military expenditures: dramatic increases in military expenditures, the true nature of which we don't know because China doesn't pass a budget like ours for public knowledge. We know what they have spent, but we don't know how much more they have spent than what they have declared. But we can tell you they are developing anti-access/anti-area denial weapons, anti-access weapons. They have tested supersonic missiles fired off their ships designed to penetrate U.S. missile defense.

Here is why they develop these: They want us to know that if we were to somehow encroach upon these territories, if there was a conflict in Asia and the United States responded militarily, the Chinese can destroy one of our aircraft carriers. The Chinese could destroy one of our expensive naval capabilities. That is what they want to be able to prove to us. What they hope the calculation will be is that the United States goes: Look. If one day China invades Taiwan, there is nothing we can do about it because we are not going to lose two aircraft carriers over a conflict.

So that is why they are investing so much in these denial capabilities.

They are also investing in space warfare, the ability to blow up our satellites because they know how dependent American national security is on having technological advantage. So China is racing to militarize space. It is a very serious threat to keep an eye on.

A couple more points on the military. I will close by talking about the Western Hemisphere. The Western Hemisphere poses its own set of challenges as outlined earlier.

Let's start with Venezuela. We took up a bill this week on Venezuela. It was an important bill and I am glad we passed it. It is on the way to the President's desk. It sanctions human rights violations.

The Government of Venezuela is not an ally of the United States. They vote against this country in every international forum they can. They actively undermine U.S. national security interests. They are serial human rights violators at home, and we passed a bill that is going to sanction the human rights violators. The President has indicated he is going to sign it, and I think they are going to have a real impact.

But Venezuela is headed for catastrophe. This is a rich country, by the way, headed toward economic catastrophe. Basic goods such as toothpaste and toilet paper are unavailable in Venezuela. The Venezuelan economy today resembles the Cuban economy. By the way, there is no embargo against Venezuela. It just shows socialism doesn't work. They have run out of things to give away.

It is not a democracy. Venezuela is no longer a democracy. They have something called the National Electoral Commission, and they are actively, as we speak, trying to replace people not loyal to the government on that commission with people loyal to the governing party.

The second thing I predict you are going to see is that the current President of Venezuela, Maduro, is going to move up the elections to July or June of this year because he knows the longer this crisis goes on, the less and less popular the government party is going to be. So I predict that the Venezuelan elections are going to be moved up, but I also predict financial disaster.

In fact, here is a curious thing that we received calls about in the last few days. Venezuela is now begging the Petrocaribe nations, the Mercosur nations, and the Alba nations to buy Venezuelan products. In fact, they are going to the Petrocaribe nations and saying: Instead of paying us back in cash, you can pay us by buying our products.

There is going to be a financial disaster in Venezuela. The price of oil and its collapse is not helping them.

What I predict is not just financial disaster but severe depression, and I

predict that in the year 2015 we are going to see severe human rights violations, severe repression on the part of the Maduro Government and everything that goes with it, all the impact that it is going to have on the region. It is something we need to be beginning to think about because that will lead to mass migration into Colombia and into the United States. That is going to lead to instability in the region that could potentially lead to armed conflict between the professional armed services of Venezuela and the Cuban agents who now for all intents and purposes run the Cuban Government.

Talking about Cuba—a nation I talk a lot about because my parents came from there—I live in a community of people who came from there and had to leave for a free economy.

Let me begin by saying that Alan Gross is still a hostage. Alan Gross committed no crime. He did nothing wrong. He is a hostage in a Cuban prison, a hostage the Cubans are holding because they want to exchange him for five Cuban spies convicted in the courts of the United States. Alan Gross is not a spy. All he wanted to do was help a small Jewish community in Cuba, and for that he was jailed. It is outrageous. It shows the true nature of this government.

We shouldn't be surprised. They still detain as a matter of course innocent people who disagree. Every Sunday they beat up and harass the Ladies in White, which is a group of mothers who have sons in jail or fathers who have been killed or husbands who have been killed or jailed, who every Sunday march and dress in white to protest the government, and every Sunday the government thugs come after them. It is shameful that the people know this and look the other way, but that is the reality that is happening every single day in Cuba. It is still going on. It is the most repressive government in the Western Hemisphere and one of the most repressive governments in the world.

They are also a violator of international agreements. We know for a fact that a ship going through the Panama Canal from Cuba to North Korea was carrying equipment and material in violation of the U.N. sanctions on North Korea. The U.N., which is not an easy place to get to condemn Cuba, found the exact same thing. And our response to that has been nothing—absolutely nothing. The Cuban Government assisted North Korea in evading U.N. sanctions, and we have done nothing about it.

On the contrary, we have people who are saying: Let's lift the embargo and normalize relations—which leads me to a point directly related to this, which is the nomination of Tony Blinken that is before this Senate. I would use every procedural method available to me to ensure that this Senate will have to

take as long as possible to confirm him, and I will tell you why. On three separate occasions I asked Mr. Blinken: Is your government going to ignore U.S. law and unilaterally change policy toward Cuba? And he would not answer my question. So until I get a clear answer on that, I intend to hold his nomination as long as the rules allow me to.

I would like to make one more point about Cuba. In addition to being the ally to every tyrant on the planet—from Assad, to Iran, to Qadhafi before he fell and died—by the way, Cuba is the home of a significant number of Medicare fugitives, people who have come to the United States and stolen money from Medicare. That is a subject for another day, but Medicare fraud in South Florida is rampant. It is out of control. In fact, law enforcement officials in South Florida will tell you that if you are only willing to steal \$200,000 a month, they will never catch you. An inordinate number of people are coming from Cuba, stealing from Medicare, and then when they are about to get caught, they go back to Cuba with all that money. There are numerous Medicare fugitives in Cuba. It is hard to believe that they came here and were able to mount such operations so quickly without assistance from somebody.

Now we see signals from the White House that we are going to invite Cuba—that we are open to them being invited to the Summit of the Americas—the Summit of the Americas is a forum for democracy, not for 20th-century relics such as the Cuban Government. And now there is talk of unilateral policy changes. I want us to change policy toward Cuba, but the first step that has to happen is from the Cuban Government. They have to change first.

Let me tell you what would happen if we lifted the embargo on Cuba tomorrow. What would happen is what is happening now with China. We passed a bill today out of Foreign Relations on the issue of Hong Kong, and I am getting phone calls in my office from American companies that do business in China that are saying: Hey, why don't you guys drop that? What they are really saying is: Hey, why don't you guys drop that? It is bad for the deal we have going with the Chinese.

That is the same thing that will happen. If we lift the embargo, American companies will become invested in whatever deal the regime gives them, and they will come to DC and lobby on behalf of the interests of that regime without any interest of the freedom and liberty of the Cuban people.

I will fight with all the marrow in my bones against any sort of unilateral change in U.S. policy toward Cuba.

From a military perspective, Cuba is not a benign country, although they don't have the military they once had. In fact, there have been open source reports that Cuba is looking to restart,



with Russian cooperation, an intelligence-gathering station in the city of Lourdes in Cuba whose sole purpose is to collect intelligence against the United States, particularly Southern Command in South Florida. So as we look at the NDAA, that is something to keep in mind.

I would close with four points that we should think about as we get into the new year and we debate this bill on national security and national defense.

The first is this: We should stop confusing tactics with strategy. We had a debate today in the Foreign Relations Committee about authorizing the use of military force. Everyone wants to debate tactics: Should it be 3 years or 1 year? Should we have ground troops or no ground troops? Should we define the geography of where it is and where it isn't?

Tactics are not the same thing as strategy, and time and again around the world with many of these problems, this administration has not articulated a strategy. They are telling us what we are tactically doing. We are doing airstrikes, imposing sanctions. But they don't tell us what the strategy is. What is the strategy behind all these things? The strategy should be clear.

We are in favor of a world that is free and a world that is prosperous, where more people than ever live in a prosperous middle class so they can buy the things we sell and invent and innovate and make and the services we offer. We want there to be peace and prosperity throughout the world, and we believe the best system for that is an international order that respects human rights and democracy and freedom and the dignity of every individual. That is our overlying aim, and of course the security of the United States is deeply tied to all of this.

In each region of the world, we would have a strategy—a strategy that, because it is backed up by strong national defense, tells our partners in Asia that we are here for the long haul. And not only are we here to pivot to Asia, we have something to pivot with through our military capability that tells NATO: You still do have a purpose, and that purpose is to ensure the territorial integrity of the nations of Europe; a military strategy that tells our partners in the Middle East: We stand with you, and we will do what we need to do to defeat radical jihadists and prevent Iran from having a nuclear weapon. So that is important.

The second thing is that we have to spend money on these things. The sequester cuts to the military are unsustainable. At a time when the world has gotten more complicated, where the threats that this Nation faces have gotten more complicated and more difficult to deal with than ever before, we are severely cutting back our military spending in an unsustainable way. In fact, no one be-

lieved that the budget cuts we are facing in the military now were realistic or sane, for that matter. That is why they put them in that bill I voted against—because they thought these budget cuts were so bad, they would force them to actually do something about the debt. They underestimated the willingness of this Congress to do bad things, because those cuts are here to stay, and we have the smallest Air Force and Navy at least since the end of World War II, while our potential adversaries are ramping up military spending and their military capabilities.

My third point is directly related to national defense and national security. We cannot continue to try to erode our intelligence-gathering capabilities. The threats we face around the world are real and they are significant. They are threats from nation states such as Russia and China. They are threats from rogue states such as Iran and North Korea. They are threats from nonstate actors such as al Qaeda and ISIL. They are threats from transnational criminal groups who steal the personal data of Americans and who could potentially conduct other cyber attacks against our infrastructure.

These threats are real, and I hope the day will never come, but if it does and if another major attack occurs here in the homeland—perhaps one even worse than 9/11—the first question people are going to ask will be, Why didn't we know about it and why weren't we able to stop it? And the answer cannot be because we took apart our intelligence-gathering capabilities, because we took down our ability to identify these threats, and we took them down because of conspiracy theories, because we have people running around telling people that all their phone calls are being listened to, that all their cell phone calls are being tracked. That is false. That is categorically and patently false. That is not true. Yet we are prepared to dismantle our ability to acquire information that could prevent those sorts of attacks.

By the way, these are intelligence capabilities that also give us a strategic advantage over potential adversaries and intelligence-gathering abilities that also inform our diplomacy. Yet there are people advocating taking that apart. In fact, just today we had someone come to the floor of the Senate and divulge classified information on the floor of the Senate. Unprecedented, outrageous, irresponsible, and unacceptable.

Last but not least, we have to truly believe with all our hearts that the world is a safer and better place when America is the strongest military power in the world. No nation is perfect. Ours never has claimed to be. But I know of no nation that has used its power more benevolently than we have. It is Americans who have sent their

sons and daughters abroad to fight for the freedom and liberty of other people. It is America that has gone abroad to fight against communism and radical Islam and nazism and Imperial Japan and other threats to human dignity and the survival of mankind, and we did so without taking a single inch of territory. We didn't turn Iraq into the 51st State. We didn't turn Afghanistan into a U.S. territory.

This is a nation that, after we defeated Japan and Germany in World War II, helped to rebuild those countries. Today they are among our strongest allies. This is the country that, even after a ceasefire in the Korean war, still stands so many years later on the frontlines of South Korea protecting her freedom and territorial integrity to a point where South Korea—a nation that just two decades ago was a beneficiary of global aid—is now a donor; a country that has gone from having an economy smaller than North Korea's to now having one of the top 10 economies in the world. This is the Nation that did that.

We are not perfect, but I challenge you to find another nation in human history that has used its military power for the good of mankind more than we have. The world knows that too. When you talk about national defense, it is not just about bombs and bullets.

Let me close with a story I picked up earlier this year when I traveled to Asia. I went to the Philippines, an area badly hit by the storm last year. This area was devastated. These people were already poor to begin with, and the typhoon made things even worse.

I got to speak to some of the people. I asked them: When did you finally know there was hope? Was it when the humanitarian aid groups showed up or when the U.N. got here? When was it that you finally thought that there is hope here?

A gentleman turned to me and said: Do you know when I knew there was actually some hope? When I woke up one morning and looked to the horizon and there was a U.S. aircraft carrier. That is when I started to believe that maybe we are going to make it, maybe things are going to be OK.

That aircraft carrier didn't stay long, but it stayed long enough to make a difference in those early days after that storm, and it stayed long enough to give people hope. It is the same aircraft carrier they saw off the coast of Haiti after the terrible earthquake. It is the same aircraft carrier they saw off the coast of Japan after they had a nuclear accident. That is also America's military power. That is also what we have done with our national defense capabilities.

We have not been perfect, but America has been a source for good in the world. No nation in the history of mankind has ever done more good for the

planet and for the people of this Earth than we have, and we should be proud of that. Now is not the time to dismantle that capability. The world needs a strong America today and now more than it ever has.

With that, I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. BALDWIN). The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Madam President, we are going to pass, sometime tonight, before 12 o'clock, a resolution that will ensure that the government does not shut down. The House passed the omnibus. It was by a nice margin—not overwhelmingly, but a nice margin. As a result of that, we will take up the long-term spending bill tomorrow.

Senators who want to debate this legislation will have that opportunity. The Senate will vote on the long-term funding bill as soon as possible. In the Senate, “as soon as possible” could be tomorrow, it could be 2 days after cloture is filed on it, it could be a lot of different times.

But we are going to work as hard as we can to expedite things around here. But if we are going to do this tomorrow, we need cooperation from everyone. As I indicated, we had a number of things we had to do. We had to keep the government functioning. We are going to do that tonight. We are going to do a short-term extension, as I have indicated, until we finish this bill. I think the extension will be for 2 days. That means we have to finish this bill in the next 2 days.

We have to finish the defense bill that is now before the body. That time runs out tomorrow afternoon. No one can stop us from the time running out tomorrow afternoon. We hope to be able to expedite that. There are conversations going on now to make that so we can finish that sometime early tomorrow afternoon.

I want to take this time, though, to spread on the RECORD my admiration for the work done by Senator BARBARA MIKULSKI, the chairwoman of the Senate Appropriations Committee. This good woman came to the Senate when I came. We came together. I was fortunate to be on that Appropriations Committee as a freshman. That was really a big deal for this young Senator. Seniority-wise, there was always one person ahead of me, and that was BARBARA MIKULSKI. She has done a remarkably good job as a Senator. I have said many times, when we came to the Senate together, she was it. There was no other woman here. Look at what she has done as the matriarch of this body. Ev-

erybody looks up to her—men and women. She is someone who is admired by everyone. Her taking over this Appropriations Committee was something she had wanted to do for a long time. She has done such a good job.

She is proud of the committee. She is trying to reestablish the committee to what it used to be. We as legislators have to recognize we have three separate branches of government. In terms of the Constitution they are supposed to be equal. We have had a lot of our power taken from us by the executive branch of government. BARBARA MIKULSKI is trying to reestablish that so we have three separate, equal branches of government.

What took place in the House today, a few minutes ago, will help her establish the Appropriations Committee for what it should be. We have an obligation as legislators to have congressionally directed spending. That is in the Constitution. All the decisions as to where the money goes should not be made down at 16th and Pennsylvania Avenue.

So the bill that she and Congressman ROGERS worked on is not a perfect bill. But as the Presiding Officer knows as a legislator, there are no perfect bills. There are some people who are upset about items in this bill. To be candid with you, I am kind of upset about some items in the bill. But this bill is so much better than a short-term CR. It would have been—when I say “short term” I mean 3 months and do it all over and over again, threatening the government to shut down, especially about the same time we have to raise the debt ceiling again. So I want to end by saying this would never ever have happened but for BARBARA MIKULSKI.

Tomorrow should be a very interesting day. With a little bit of good fortune, we could complete the spending bill for the country for the fiscal year that is fast upon us. We could finish the defense bill and then look to do the tax extenders and completing the work on TRIA, whatever that may be.

From that point forward we would work on nominations. We could be out of here fairly quickly. But everyone is going to have to work together to get this done.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland.

#### OMNIBUS SPENDING BILL

Ms. MIKULSKI. I rise to speak on the omnibus spending bill for fiscal year 2015.

I wish to thank the Democratic leader, the majority leader, for his kind words. But it is not only about his kind words about me, it has been his advocacy to make sure that as we look at the need for funding for the entire government that there would be no government shutdown and no government on autopilot.

Just a few minutes ago, the House of Representatives did their part. They

passed the omnibus spending bill, passing it 219 to 206. It was well debated and the vote speaks for itself. It now comes to the Senate, and I am here tonight to kick off that debate.

For hours after hours after hours in the past several days, I have heard what is wrong with this bill. I don't dispute my colleagues' analysis, I will debate it, but now we have to start talking about what are the good aspects of this bill and why we did this bill in the first place. Tonight I want to remind people what we are doing.

First, we are funding the entire U.S. Government's discretionary spending. We have \$550 billion in the bill for national defense, to stand for America, to make sure our troops have the best weapons, the best support, and the best medical treatment—\$550 billion, for more money for peacekeeping, for money to fight ISIL, to refuel an aircraft carrier. We did our job. You will hear more about that.

We wanted to also fight Ebola, which had the American people near panic this summer. We said we have a plan, working with the administration, and some of the best scientists and thinkers in our own country, and brave and gallant people such as Doctors Without Borders over there. While they make the cover of Time magazine, they are now going to make the Federal checkbook in the United States of America.

We have \$5.4 billion to deal with Ebola, a huge sum of money to fight it in Africa. It is also to make sure we are ready for any pandemic in the United States.

We also have a Samaritan set of money to deal—that is my word—with the Samaritan communities who were willing to take the Ebola patients, care for them, treat them, and make sure there was security for them and their surrounding communities. Millions of dollars were spent, whether it was in Nebraska, whether it was in Georgia at Emory.

My own home State is home to the National Institutes of Health, where a patient flew in to a small rural airport. They were ready to accept and provide the security down route 270 to get them to the beds at NIH. Those communities need to be recognized. We do that.

We have money in the bill for national security, but we also have money for veterans. Oh, we love our veterans. We love to sing songs, we love to wear yellow ribbons, we love to go to concerts. We even love to vote for an authorizing bill. I did it. But without money in the Federal checkbook, it is a hollow opportunity.

So guess what. Your Appropriations Committee, on a bipartisan basis, said we are going to do something that was never done before. We are going to put in the money not only to meet what we said we would do—to reform health care. No more wait lists, no more backlogs. No more them being a victim of

the dysfunctional Congress if there is a shutdown or a gridlock.

We then did something. We, working with the veterans service organizations and the authorizing committee, by Senator SANDERS, we have advanced appropriations. So even if there is a shutdown or delay, our veterans will be taken care of.

There is more money in there for research. There is more money in there for care. There is an extra \$40 million to add to the close to \$2 billion to deal with the backlog. These numbers are mind-numbing, but the results are not.

We have that money and we also increased the DOD defense money for medical research for prosthetic devices, for stunning achievements such as in my own Johns Hopkins where they did a limb transplant. Working with Department of Defense dollars, our gifted and talent surgeon was able to take a veteran and reinstitute limbs, muscle, and nerve endings.

This enables them to also come up with a technique to prevent the rejection that often comes with transplants. It is stunning. That man will be able to have the use of his arms because of this type of work that we do here and what we do to help him will be able to help hundreds, and one day we will be able to help thousands.

That is what we do in appropriations. We take good intentions and make them as big dreams as possible. We are very proud of that.

The other item we are proud of is on a bipartisan basis we passed the child care and development block grant. Working with Senators RISCH and BURR of North Carolina, I led that. With the superb help of Senators ALEXANDER and HARKIN, we passed it.

But we also wanted to reform our quality standards, regulation without strangulation. We now know that we are going to have fire and safety inspection facilities, better training for providers, and background checks to make sure our vulnerable populations are protected. But for everything that we ask, we put in \$75 million to be able to deal with this. I think that is pretty impressive.

The other issue we worked out was how we worked out the college affordability. In this program that we passed, we will increase the maximum Pell grant by \$100 for a total maximum of \$58,530, \$100 more. That means you will be able to buy a book, you will be able to pay that lab fee if you want to be a nurse or an inhalation therapist, a surgical tech, and so on. But we also reformed the Pell grants, so any student who simultaneously is working on a GED and a college degree would be eligible for Pell grants.

As part of the listening tours that Senator CARDIN and I had, we found out that there were many people who at a certain point in life dropped out of school. They made a particular choice

that they now are trying to compensate for. So they are working on their GED, making great progress. They have to show that, but simultaneously they are eligible for that Pell grant so they don't lose time. We have been able to do that.

There are other aspects related to college affordability, but we also wanted to focus on safety issues. We have money now for the 149 air traffic control facilities in rural communities. Those 149 air traffic controllers—we have the Maryland 5: Salisbury, Easton, Frederick, Hagerstown, and Baltimore County. I know the Presiding Officer has them in Wisconsin. That is taken care of.

We also wanted to look at other areas of safety such as food safety. Thanks to what we have done in this bill, we have funded the FDA so they can meet the new food safety standards we are concerned about.

I am also particularly happy and proud of what we did for women. I won't go into all the discussions on ObamaCare, the usual provocative topic such as funding for abortion and very special circumstances. Yes, we will talk about that tomorrow.

Do you know what I am happy about? What we did for victims of violence. This legislation has \$430 million for the Violence Against Women Act. It is at an all-time high. Again, taking what the authorizers wanted—but they all do conference calls in their home State. We actually put money into the Federal checkbook.

We also paid special attention to the situation of what happens to rape victims. Very often—and I know you talk with the rape victims in your own State or those who are their advocates—they feel doubly victimized. They often feel there was a violent attack on them—so repugnant I don't want even to talk about it on the Senate floor, which is horrible enough. But when they turn to the system, they often find that the very forensics that are needed to go after the perpetrator are either stuck in a crime lab somewhere in a backlog or, even worse, sitting in a police locker instead of being tested. So they wait days, weeks, months, and even years.

We have gotten into this, thanks to our Vice President, JOE BIDEN, who was the originator of the Violence Against Women Act. He asked the Justice Department to go to police departments and say where is this evidence and why isn't it being processed?

They found there were over 400,000 sexual assault kits sitting in police lockers instead of getting tested. Can you imagine? Four hundred thousand.

Thanks again to the advocates, the best ideas come from the people—I think somebody is calling me now about it.

What we have now is we have added a \$40 million grant program, again a bi-

partisan effort, to go work with local police departments to bring down—where we already know where they have gotten underway with existing funds, they are finding that some of these predators have been serial rapists. Some of their cases go back 5, 10, 15 years because of the DNA things we can do. We can do this. We are going to change it.

There are other issues I can talk about, droughts, forest fires, all of these kinds of things. I will talk about them more tomorrow, but I just wanted to show the American people tonight, as we kick off this debate, while we focus on three items—and I don't minimize their importance, I don't minimize the value to debate them. I want people to know what is in this bill.

When we had to deal with the omnibus, we had to deal with \$1 trillion because we were stiff-armed, and also we couldn't bring up the bills one at a time, so we have to bring all but the Homeland Security up now.

We faced 98 riders, some of which were highly controversial. We did the best we could with them, and I will have more to say about those tomorrow.

But while everybody talks about one item or this item, I wanted to talk about some of these items. I really hope we pass this omnibus bill, because when we do, our country will be safer because of threats over there. We will be safer because of threats at home.

But I believe the biggest threats we face are gridlock, deadlock, and the way we paralyze ourselves by making the perfect the enemy of the good. No piece of legislation is perfect. I will be the first to say that in this bill.

By the way, people might say: Boy, this is a big bill, Senator MIKULSKI. It really is. It is discretionary funding for our entire Federal Government, but it is also on the Web site. People can go to our individual subcommittees in Defense, Labor-HHS, Interior, Transportation and Housing, and read about what we did.

I had to summarize here. I was prepared to read them all night, but I know we are anxious to bring this evening to a close. But I wanted to open the debate today to talk about how we tried to govern on a bipartisan basis.

We have reached across the aisle and we have reached across the Capitol dome. The House has done its job. Now I hope we do our job and that within the next 24 hours we pass the omnibus spending bill and show that we can govern, that we will not have government shutdown, we will not have government on autopilot, and we will be able to fund our responsibilities, protect America, and really prepare America for both today and the rest of the 21st century.

I look forward to working with my colleagues.

I yield the floor.

Mr. LEAHY. Madam President, once again, the Senate has an opportunity to consider the National Defense Authorization Act. This bill is named for the two retiring chairmen of the Senate and House Armed Services Committees, Senator CARL LEVIN and Congressman BUCK MCKEON. CARL LEVIN has been a fierce defender of Michigan, strong advocate for the men and women of our armed services, and a friend. When the Senate passes this bill, and the President signs it into law, it will be a fitting tribute to Senator LEVIN's storied legacy of public service.

This compromise—a comprehensive authorization of the Nation's military arm—is far from perfect. No bill is. But this authorization provides support and resources for the men and women who serve in the Armed Forces, who defend our Nation, and whose families sacrifice so much in the name of public service. The bill prepares our country to face future challenges, and promotes the goals and values that have become a hallmark of our national defense.

Of primary importance to me, this defense authorization bill protects the Leahy law, the requirements by which we vet the individuals and units of foreign security forces we train and equip. While one component of the Leahy law, traditionally incorporated annually in the Department of State and Foreign Operations appropriations bill as it relates to the activities of the State Department, was made permanent in 2012 as section 620M of the Foreign Assistance Act, this Defense authorization bill makes the component of the law as it relates to Defense Department activities permanent law.

This provision permits human rights training, which is narrowly defined, for individuals who are members of units of foreign security forces that have been deemed ineligible under the Leahy law. However, those individuals must not have been involved in violations, the training must have the concurrence of the State Department, it may only occur in the individuals' home countries, the State Department must be consulted on the content, methodology, and intended beneficiaries, and the training is not sufficient for meeting the accountability requirement for purposes of the exception in the law.

Some in the Pentagon have suggested that the Leahy law has impeded their ability to engage with foreign security forces. Not only do the facts prove otherwise, that is the same discredited claim of those who have argued that the CIA's torture of prisoners was legal and made us safer.

The United States may have the most powerful military, but that power is immeasurably weakened if we fail to uphold the values and principles this Nation was founded on: due process, re-

spect for the rule of law, and respect for the laws of war.

We should learn from history. When we abandon those values and principles and support or associate ourselves with foreign forces who commit atrocities, we pay a heavy price.

This defense authorization also includes a provision I authored with Senator LINDSEY GRAHAM to establish a commission on the future of the army. The President's fiscal year 2015 budget proposal reflected many tough choices about the future size and shape of each of the services. It also included decisions about the U.S. Army that would irreversibly change the nature of that branch. Most dramatically, the proposal included a plan to eliminate the Nation's reserve of Apache helicopters by consolidating all of them within the active component. Such a move raises serious questions about the ability to sustain long-term operations or be ready for unexpected contingencies. As cochair of the Senate National Guard Caucus, Senator GRAHAM and I, with the support of 47 other Senators, proposed legislation to minimize the budgetary impact of these decisions by providing for additional review while allowing tough, but noncontroversial changes to go forward. I am grateful to Senator LEVIN and our partners in the House for supporting its inclusion in this broader bill.

This authorization bill will provide important support to the men and women of our Armed Forces and their families. While I do not support some of the included changes to benefits, those that are part of this final bill are far less severe than originally proposed. With the Military Compensation and Retirement Commission soon to report, I hope we can finally put an end to what has become an annual effort by the Department of Defense to draw back benefits already earned by our servicemembers. There should be no bait and switch.

Unrelated to defense policy, I am grateful that this legislation includes an important designation for Vermont. The National Wild and Scenic Rivers System recognizes and preserves rivers with remarkable scenic and recreational value. With the passage of this legislation, Vermont will join 40 other States with designated national wild and scenic rivers. This designation of the Upper Missisquoi and Trout Rivers is the capstone of more than 7 years of work, including intense study and planning by the local communities that want to protect the natural, cultural, and recreational qualities of these rivers.

This defense authorization bill is not perfect; politics as much as policy makes that the case. I am disappointed that this authorization fails to build on important progress made last year to streamline the transfer of detainees from Guantanamo Bay and move closer

to finally shuttering the detention facility there. This compromise bill will maintain the status quo by continuing to prohibit the transfer of detainees to the United States for detention or trial. I am disappointed that a provision contained in the Senate Armed Services Committee version of the authorization that would have provided exceptions to this prohibition was removed during negotiations. However, I am pleased that the bill does not contain the statutory ban on detainee transfers to Yemen that also was contained in the Senate bill.

As long as the detention facility at Guantanamo remains open, it serves as a recruitment tool for terrorists, and tarnishes America's historic role as a champion of human rights. The prison facility at Guantanamo remains a tremendous waste of taxpayer dollars—costing this country billions of dollars at a time when budgets are tight and that money is needed elsewhere. Closing Guantanamo is the morally responsible thing to do; my commitment on that has not wavered.

With regard to some of the provisions included in this bill that relate to combatting the so-called Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS), I expect the Department of Defense to abide by the Leahy law. These terrorists pose a threat to the United States and to our partners; they must be stopped and brought to justice. But we cannot ignore our own laws or permit the United States to be implicated, either directly or indirectly, in gross violations of human rights when we support either governments or irregular forces in the fight against ISIS.

There have been multiple reports that some in the Iraqi Army and the militias they fight alongside engage in reprehensible conduct similar to the barbaric crimes of ISIS. As a matter of law and policy, we must condemn this. I cannot—and will not—support any effort to weaken the application of the Leahy law to the Iraqi Army or to any entity it is aligned with.

As in every defense authorization bill, there are things in here that I support and things I wish were not in here. Compromise is inherent in this process. But we cannot forsake our principles and ideals when it comes to supporting our national defense and the men and women who serve. I will support this compromise bill and remain committed to ensuring that we preserve the values that make this Nation a beacon of civil and human rights around the globe.

Madam President, I am grateful that the fiscal year 15 National Defense Authorization Act includes an important designation for Vermont. The National Wild and Scenic Rivers system recognizes and preserves rivers with remarkable scenic and recreational value. With the passage of this legislation, Vermont will join 40 other States with designated National Wild and Scenic

Rivers. Designation of the Upper Missisquoi and Trout Rivers is the capstone of more than 7 years of work, including intense study and planning by the local communities who want to protect the natural, cultural and recreational qualities of these rivers.

This has not been a Federal-led initiative; instead it was an occasion for Vermont citizens to work together. The communities along the rivers contacted me in 2006 to request the initial Federal study for this designation. The decision to move ahead was made by local communities that agreed to specific goals and priorities for these two rivers. This designation was put to a vote at the communities' town meetings and was approved by every town that is included in the legislation.

National Wild and Scenic status for these rivers will help the local communities promote recreational use, while also protecting the rights and values of landowners who make their homes and livings on the banks of these rivers. I am proud that this process has been driven by the impacted communities, working to ensure that the Upper Missisquoi and Trout Rivers will forever be enjoyed by fishermen, hunters, and paddlers and that water quality will be protected. The benefits will extend downstream as far as Lake Champlain and beyond.

Ms. MIKULSKI. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### MAKING FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of H.J. Res. 130, the short-term, 2-day continuing resolution, which was received from the House and is now at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the joint resolution by title.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A joint resolution (H.J. Res. 130) making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2015, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the joint resolution.

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the joint resolution be read three times and the Senate proceed to vote on passage of the joint resolution.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The joint resolution was ordered to a third reading, and was read the third time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate?

If not, the joint resolution having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the joint resolution pass?

The joint resolution (H.J. Res. 130) was passed.

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the motion to consider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### PROTECTING VOLUNTEER FIRE-FIGHTERS AND EMERGENCY RESPONDERS ACT OF 2014—Continued

##### ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. REID. Madam President, I now ask unanimous consent that at noon on Friday, December 12, tomorrow, all postcloture time on the motion to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 3979 be considered expired; that it be in order, notwithstanding cloture having been invoked, for Senator COBURN to offer a motion to refer the House message; that there be 3 hours of debate, 1 hour each for Senators COBURN and REID, or their designees, and 30 minutes each for Senators MURKOWSKI and INHOFE, or their designees, prior to a vote in relation to the motion to refer; that the Coburn motion to refer be subject to a 60-affirmative vote threshold; that if the Coburn motion to refer is not agreed to, Senator COBURN be recognized for the purposes of making a motion; that following disposition of the Coburn motion, the pending motion to concur with a further amendment be withdrawn; that the Senate proceed to vote on the motion to concur; that no motions other than the Coburn motions, motions to waive or motions to table be in order; that the vote on the motion to concur be subject to a 60-affirmative vote threshold; finally, that if the motion to concur is agreed to, the Senate proceed to the consideration of the following concurrent resolutions en bloc: H. Con. Res. 121, to correct the enrollment of H.R. 3979, providing a new title to the bill; and H. Con. Res. 123, to correct the enrollment of H.R. 3979; that the concurrent resolutions be agreed to and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

##### UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that following disposition of the House message with respect to H.R. 3979, the Senate proceed to executive session to consider Calendar Nos. 697, 632, 1055, 542, 637, 1051, 1057, 791, 1102; that there be 2 minutes for debate equally divided between the two leaders or their designees prior to each vote; that upon the

use or yielding back of time the Senate proceed to vote with no intervening action or debate on the nominations in the order listed; that any rollcall votes, following the first in the series, be 10 minutes in length; that if any nomination is confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order to the nomination; that any statements related to the nomination be printed in the RECORD; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action and the Senate then resume legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. PRYOR. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. WARREN). Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. PRYOR. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### TRIBUTE TO JOHN WALSH

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I want to take a few moments to thank a Senator who will be leaving at the end of this term: Senator JOHN WALSH of Montana.

Though only in the Senate a brief time, Senator WALSH brought his wealth of experience to the work here and fought the good fight. Serving 33 years in the Montana Army National Guard, he brought his bravery and courage into the Senate. JOHN WALSH supported the Paycheck Fairness Act and was one of the original cosponsors of the Bring Jobs Home Act. He lived up to the values he was fighting for in the military by standing for workers here.

I thank him for his service and friendship and wish him the best in all his future endeavors.

#### TRIBUTE TO NANCY ERICKSON AND SHEILA DWYER

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President I would like to take a moment to thank a woman whom most Americans do not know but whose name is well-known to every employee of the United States Senate because—among other reasons—she signs our paychecks. Nancy Erickson will be leaving the Senate at the end of this session.

For the last 7 years, Nancy has served as the Secretary of the United States Senate. All told, she has worked for the Senate for 26 years.

For those who may not know, the Secretary of the Senate is this body's top appointed position. It is like being CEO of a large corporation. The Secretary oversees two dozen departments—from payroll and printing to the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. Nancy Erickson is the 32nd person—and the sixth woman—to hold that position. Nancy is a consummate professional who has won the respect of Senators on both sides of the aisle. She is unfailingly cheerful and unflappable.

Nancy Erickson loves the United States Senate even more than she loves the Green Bay Packers—and that is saying a lot. Nancy got the political bug early. As a fifth grader in Brandon, SD, she campaigned door-to-door for South Dakota Senator George McGovern in his 1972 Presidential campaign. She moved to Washington, DC, after college to work for the Government Accountability Office, which was then known as the General Accounting Office. After 2 years of desperate homesickness, she was ready to pack her bags and head back to South Dakota when she got a better offer.

A young South Dakota congressman with a bright future offered her a job as his scheduler. His name was Tom Daschle. Over the next 16 years Tom Daschle moved from serving as a House Member to Senator to Senate majority leader. Nancy moved up the ladder, too, eventually becoming Senator Daschle's deputy chief of staff. When Senator Daschle left the Senate in 2005, Senator REID immediately snapped Nancy up to serve as his representative to the Senate Sergeant at Arms. Two years later Senator REID became majority leader and asked Nancy to serve as the Secretary of the Senate. Nancy calls being Secretary of the Senate her "pinch me job."

Over the course of her 26-year Senate career, there have been traumatic moments. On the morning of September 11, 2001, Nancy was at her desk in the Capitol when Capitol Police rushed in and ordered that the building be evacuated immediately, fearful that the Capitol was under terrorist attack.

One month later Nancy was one of 28 people in the Senate who were exposed to anthrax when a letter carrying the deadly bacteria was opened in Senator Daschle's office. Experts estimated that the affected staffers were exposed to between 1,000 and 3,000 times the lethal dose of anthrax. Fortunately, with expert medical assistance, no one in the Senate was seriously injured in the anthrax attack.

To walk back into the Capitol the day after 9/11 took courage. To keep coming back after living through a potentially deadly anthrax attack required not just courage but a true devotion to public service and a love of this Senate.

You can see Nancy's love of this Senate and its history in the exquisitely

restored Old Senate Chamber, whose renovation occurred on Nancy's watch. You can see her love of the Senate in the ongoing restoration of the Capitol's magnificent Brumidi Corridors, a project that Nancy has championed.

You can see Nancy Erickson's reverence for the U.S. Senate in a massive portrait of one of the giants of Senate history, former Kentucky Senator Henry Clay. That painting, measuring 11 by 7 feet, was discovered a few years ago in a storage room in New York State. The paint was peeling, and there were holes in the canvas created when a high school had used it as a basketball backboard. Nancy spearheaded the effort to procure and restore that lost masterpiece. Today, the painting of the Senate's "Great Compromiser" hangs just off the Senate floor—a reminder to all of us of the noble art of principled compromise. We thank you, Nancy, for that reminder and for your many years of service to this Senate and to America.

I also want to take a moment to acknowledge Sheila Dwyer, who has served as Assistant Secretary of the Senate since 2007. Majority Leader HARRY REID, who paid tribute to Sheila on the Senate floor yesterday, appointed her to this post. Sheila has done an outstanding job overseeing the departments within the Office of the Secretary and assisting in the day-to-day legislative, financial, and administrative operations of the Senate. Sheila never forgets the little touches, or as any Democratic Senator can tell you, the meals that make the U.S. Senate an enjoyable place to work.

Sheila first came to Washington, DC, in 1980 as a House page for Speaker Tip O'Neil. Immediately after graduating from Suffolk University in Boston, she returned to DC and was hired to work in New York Governor Mario Cuomo's Washington office. She went on to work for Senators Charles Robb and Daniel Patrick Moynihan.

Sheila was responsible for logistics for not one—but two—Democratic national conventions. The first was in 1992 in New York City. Then at the 1996 convention in Chicago, I chaired the Illinois Delegation as a candidate for the U.S. Senate, and Sheila Dwyer once again kept the logistics for the event moving smoothly.

It has been an honor to work with Sheila for all these years, and I wish her the best as she begins a new chapter in her life.

To Nancy and to Sheila, thank you for sharing so much of your time and talent with this Senate. We will miss you both.

#### TRIBUTE TO KAY HAGAN

Ms. HEITKAMP. Madam President, I rise today to honor my colleague from North Carolina, Senator KAY HAGAN, who is departing from the Senate at

the end of this year. Senator HAGAN has been a strong voice for North Carolina's families, first during her decade in the North Carolina State Senate and during her service here in the United States Senate. Over the last two years, I have been consistently impressed with Senator HAGAN's compassion for and advocacy on behalf of her constituents and her willingness to forge the tough, bipartisan compromises that our country needs.

KAY actually first came to the Senate in the 1970s as an intern in the Capitol, where she operated the elevator that continues to carry Senators to and from the Chamber. After finishing her college education and pursuing her law degree, KAY became an attorney for North Carolina National Bank and eventually became a vice president in the estates and trust division.

Senator HAGAN's business and banking experience has been a tremendous asset during her time as a member of the banking committee, where we serve together. Senator HAGAN's understanding of the housing finance system and commitment to affordable housing was invaluable as she and I worked together with a bipartisan group of committee members to draft and advance legislation reforming the system to make sure the American taxpayer is protected and made whole. During the debate Senator HAGAN used her expert knowledge of the industry to craft a commonsense, bipartisan solution. Our proposal makes sure taxpayers are never left holding the bill again, while preserving the 30-year mortgage and supporting affordable housing—a huge accomplishment.

Senator HAGAN comes from a family and a State with a rich military history. Her father and brother both served in the Navy, and her husband, Chip, is a Navy Vietnam veteran. She has diligently supported and honored servicemembers and veterans as a member of the Armed Services Committee. She visited North Carolina troops in the Middle East to better understand their mission and needs, and she helped found the Military Family Caucus to raise awareness of the difficulties faced by those with loved ones abroad. In conjunction with her work on the small business committee, she introduced legislation to reduce veteran unemployment by providing employers a work opportunity tax credit for hiring a member of the National Guard.

As a member of the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee and Chair of the Subcommittee on Children and Families, Senator HAGAN has consistently fought to make sure America's children have the education, tools, and resources to build a better tomorrow. In fact, Senator HAGAN's first bill was on a subject very dear to me—financial literacy. Far too many young Americans fall victim to financial scams or take out too many loans

because they haven't been given an adequate education on personal finances. Senator HAGAN's legislation—which she has pressed every Congress—would have helped States integrate financial literacy into middle-and high school curriculums. That is the kind of commonsense legislation Senator HAGAN is known for and Congress should be passing.

Senator HAGAN has been an outstanding public servant for the people of North Carolina. Although I am saddened to see such a well-respected female colleague depart from the Senate, I know KAY will continue to be a champion for North Carolina's families in the years ahead, and I wish her all the best.

#### AMENDING CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF THE FAA MODERNIZATION AND REFORM ACT

Mr. BROWN. Madam President, I join my colleague Senator INHOFE in the passage of S. 2614. This legislation corrects a glitch in the law that was doing great harm to 100,000 American Airlines employees, including approximately 10,000 employees working out of or residing in Ohio. Ninety-five percent of these workers were unionized.

We are talking about pilots, flight attendants, mechanics, ramp workers, and dispatchers, all unionized. Part of the collective bargaining agreement was a defined benefit pension plan. These are plans where you earn benefits through your hard work, and those benefits provide you with annuitized income for life.

When American Airlines went bankrupt, these workers all received a single lump sum payment. For pilots, these payments were as much as \$162,000, but the average payment was \$120,000. For other workers, these payments were much, much less.

Now, \$162,000 may sound like a lot of money, and it is a lot. But not when it is meant to take the place of your entire pension for what could easily be a 20- or 30-year retirement. What we have done in the past for employees at United, Delta, Northwest, and US Airways is allow them to roll this entire amount over into an Individual Retirement Account or IRA.

It is important to understand what this is. When you roll over, you generally do not pay tax on it until you withdraw it from the new plan. The assets in the account continue to grow tax deferred. Deferred is the operative word.

This does not mean that the employees do not pay taxes. It means they will pay them as they make withdrawals to finance their own retirement. This bill is needed to give the American Airlines' employees that same opportunity. It is a simple fix, and it is the least we can do for workers who work hard and play by the

rules, but lost their pensions through no fault of their own.

#### TRIBUTE TO BRIAN AHLBERG

Mr. HARKIN. Madam President, as I prepare to depart the Senate, I would like to take a few minutes to express my deep appreciation to Brian Ahlberg, my chief of staff for the last decade. Of course, every Senator knows that the title "chief of staff" encompasses a vast range of roles and responsibilities—counselor, confidant, kibitzer, trouble-shooter, day-to-day manager, strategic planner, and, in Brian's case, trusted friend. Brian has excelled in all of these critical roles, and I am very grateful to him.

Knute Rockne was fond of saying: "I've found that prayers work best when you have big players." As Senators, we know that it is not enough to be on the side of the angels; we have got to have big players. For me, that means big intellect, big work ethic, big heart. And those are qualities that Brian Ahlberg possesses in superabundance.

Brian originally joined my staff in 2003 as legislative director, after a decade of service in that role and others for my great friend Senator Paul Wellstone. In short order, I promoted him to chief of staff, and he has served in that role with enormous skill and professionalism ever since.

Staff directors on committees have the challenge of managing large staffs. As chief of staff, Brian has had what is arguably an even bigger challenge: managing me. He has done so with great loyalty, intelligence, tact, and consistently good judgment. He is the proverbial calm amidst every storm. When my Irish is up, Brian's Norwegian cool serves as a calming counterweight. He has never hesitated to speak up when he thinks I am wrong or misguided—an invaluable service. He has done a great job of allowing me, as Senator, to get into just enough trouble to be effective in my own job.

It has been said, perhaps only half jokingly, that Senators are a constitutional impediment to the smooth functioning of staff. I long ago learned to get out of Brian's way and let him manage my far-flung operation. We call ourselves Team Harkin—staffers on my Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee, on my Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies, and on my personal staff, both in Washington and back in Iowa. Brian is the impresario who skillfully coordinates their work as a single, collaborative team, skillfully resolving conflicts and keeping people focused on the mission at hand. I believe that Brian's skill in this role is a major reason for Team Harkin's remarkable legislative productivity over the last decade.

Brian has a great way of keeping my staff and me focused on what is truly important and strategic, avoiding detours and sidetracks. In meetings and one-on-one, he functions like a whetstone—his aim is to make things sharper, and to cut to the heart of an issue or task.

I also appreciate the way Brian interacts with staff. He helps me to hire seasoned professionals, and then he empowers them to do what they do best, giving them confidence that he will be there to back them up when the going gets tough. His authoritative but soft-spoken, even-tempered approach seems to bring out the best in people around him.

Brian's focus is always on the task, not his ego. Washington is to self-promotion what Iowa is to corn and soybeans; but self-promotion is the opposite of Brian's style. He is always quick to spread the credit around, especially if that is what it takes to strengthen the team or seal the deal.

The questions you can always count on Brian to ask are: "How does this help people in Iowa?" and "How does this give a hand up to people who truly need it and deserve it?"

Over the years, Brian Ahlberg has become a consummate Washington player. But he remains a Midwesterner through and through, a passionate progressive like his early mentor Paul Wellstone, with a passion for fairness and justice, a determination to make life better for ordinary working Americans.

Finally, I want to note that Brian has always been wonderfully attentive to my staff members' family needs, doing everything possible to accommodate them in times of sickness, bereavement, or emergency. Certainly, family comes first in Brian's own life. On that score, I realize that Brian's wife Jodi and sons Anders and Lucas have sacrificed because of his long hours at work, and for that I owe them a debt of gratitude.

Brian Ahlberg is my colleague, my confidant, my trusted friend. He is also a wonderful public servant. I will always be grateful to him for the personal sacrifices he has made to help me advance my agenda here in the Senate. Likewise, I will always be grateful to him for his extraordinary service to the people of Iowa and, more broadly, the people of the United States. I wish Brian and his family much happiness and success in the years ahead.

#### TRIBUTE TO DEREK MILLER

Mr. HARKIN. Madam President, as I prepare to relinquish the gavel as chair of the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, I would like to take a few minutes to express my deep gratitude to our staff director, Derek Miller, for his sterling service in one of the Senate's most demanding staff positions.



Knute Rockne was fond of saying: "I've found that prayers work best when you have big players." Successful committee chairs in the Senate have the same approach. We know that it is not enough to be on the side of the angels; we have got to have big players. Here in the Senate, that means big intellect, work ethic, big heart. Those are qualities that Derek Miller possesses in superabundance.

Derek originally came to work for me in 2003, during my tenure as chair of the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, where he was the lead staffer in our efforts to address the childhood obesity epidemic by improving the nutritional content of foods available in schools. Derek's goal and mine, simply put, was to get junk food out of our schools and to get healthy foods in. Our efforts came to fruition with passage of the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010, which reformed the school lunch program and established national nutrition standards for all foods sold in schools, including foods sold in vending machines, school snack bars, and à la carte cafeteria lines.

In addition, in the 2008 farm bill, Derek was instrumental in dramatically expanding a program I created in the 2002 farm bill to provide fresh produce free of charge to students in elementary schools that have a high proportion of children from low-income families. Also in that 2008 farm bill, he spearheaded important reforms to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, formerly known as the food stamp program.

In 2010, Derek moved to my personal office as legislative director, where he proved himself to be a gifted parliamentary strategist and where he combined equal measures of humor and commitment to progressive policy to successfully advance my agenda. It is my hope that his weekly email summations of the Senate floor activity live on in posterity.

Early this year I tapped him to lead the staff of the HELP Committee.

The "P" in the HELP Committee abbreviation stands for "pensions." But we also like to think it stands for "people." Traditionally, the HELP Committee has been a powerhouse of progressive legislation—legislation to give people a hand up, provide a ladder of opportunity, and expand access to health care and a secure retirement.

Under Derek's skilled leadership, the committee has been true to that great progressive tradition. He has played a critical role in passing important bipartisan legislation to meet the everyday needs of working Americans. Indeed, amidst a Senate too often mired in partisanship, I thank Derek for helping our committee to chart a very different course—a course of bipartisanship and accomplishment. In this 113th Congress, the HELP Committee has

passed a remarkable 23 bills signed into law by the President, distinguishing our Committee as the Senate's most productive.

But beyond legislative accomplishments, I want to pay tribute to Derek's excellence as a manager, as not just staff director but a true staff leader. Derek's colleagues respect that he has no ego, he has only a job to get done—and that is so rare here on the Hill, where empire-building and self-aggrandizement are all too common.

Derek is respected by staff because his approach is to empower those around him, to support them in every way, but to give them plenty of room to do what they do best.

He sees the professionals on the HELP Committee as people first, and as staffers second. If there is an illness, a pregnancy, or some other challenging circumstance, Derek will move heaven and earth to give the staffer the support he or she needs.

Derek is attentive to his colleagues' family needs because, in his own life, family comes first. Inevitably, Derek's wife Sun and his son Philip have paid a price because of Derek's long hours at work, and for that I owe them a debt of gratitude.

On behalf of my Senate colleagues, and in particular on behalf of members and staff on the HELP Committee, I thank Derek for his dedicated service to the people of the United States. I wish him much happiness and success in the years ahead.

#### TRIBUTE TO ZACHARY SCHECHTER-STEINBERG

Mr. HARKIN. Madam President. I wish to pay tribute and to extend my thanks to one of my smartest and most passionate staff members Zachary Schechter Steinberg. A native of Iowa City, IA, Zach started with the office as an intern in the summer of 2007. He became an official staff member immediately upon his graduation from Wesleyan University in 2008. Just 6 years later he serves as the Economic Policy Adviser for the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions and my most trusted advisor on tax, budget and banking issues. Zach is perhaps the strongest and most knowledgeable staff voice in the Senate on effectively preserving Social Security and on the critical importance of maintaining and strengthening the Social Security Disability Insurance program.

Zach has the ability to quickly develop a full understanding of very complicated issues and to work with other staff to forge policy solutions. This is perhaps best illustrated with his work on the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act. Although newly promoted to legislative assistant, when I was appointed to the conference committee to resolve differences between the House and Senate

bills, he advised me on many narrow convoluted issues. He not only performed well, but won the respect of many of the committee's professional staff for his ideas. Zach also understands that passage of provisions into law is but one step, and has remained a stalwart advocate of successful implementation of the bill.

As many of you here in the Senate know last year saw the retirement of Richard Bender, my longest serving staff member and a Senate institution in his own right. It is my firmly held opinion that Richard only allowed himself to begin his retirement because he was leaving Zach to handle his portfolio. I am also quite certain that Zach is the only staff member during Richard's 35 year tenure that he would have felt comfortable leaving in charge.

That is because not only does Zach possess a keen intelligence, a work ethic second to none and an innate ability to translate arcane tax and budget data into understandable prose—but he has the heart of a true progressive. Zach cares deeply about the people of Iowa, about the future of the middle class in this country and about making sure that every American has a fair shot at economic security.

It has been a pleasure to watch Zach grow personally and professionally over the past 6 years—as he transformed from a headstrong intern to one of the most skilled and able staffers in the Senate, from a new college graduate to a senior advisor newly married to Sarah this past summer.

This week I am concluding my 40 years in public office. It has been an amazing ride. One of the things that makes it easier to say goodbye is that I am leaving behind talented people like Zach from whom I know I can expect great things in the future.

#### TRIBUTE TO JOHN S. PISTOLE

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Madam President, it is my great privilege to recognize the distinguished career of John S. Pistole, on the occasion of his retirement as the Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration. He has been a dedicated public servant and leader for the past 31 years. Next year, John will take on an exciting new leadership role when he returns to his alma mater, Anderson University, as its president.

I am privileged to have worked with John and received his counsel on important issues like addressing the terrorist threats facing our Nation in the post-9/11 era, and helping to guide the FBI and TSA to successfully meet the challenges brought on by those threats. Throughout his career, John has taken on many of the most challenging roles in law enforcement. He's fought against organized crime in the FBI and led frontline counterterrorism efforts

as head of the TSA. However, for a person who has had to maintain a tough exterior in these roles, John has remained thoughtful, compassionate, and courteous—important traits which he demonstrated in his appearances before the Commerce Committee.

After earning his law degree at Indiana University in 1981 and spending 2 years in private law practice, John decided to enter public service by joining the FBI. John rose through the ranks as a special agent in Minneapolis and New York. He worked hard—first becoming a supervisor at FBI Headquarters, where he was recognized as a role model for new FBI agents, and then chosen to be an instructor at the FBI Academy. A few years later, John was recognized for his capabilities with an opportunity to teach the first sessions at a new International Law Enforcement Academy in Budapest.

In the late 1990s, John got involved with the FBI's efforts to fight white-collar crime. In Indianapolis, he created task forces fighting fraud and public corruption, and was promoted to Assistant Special Agent in Charge at the Boston Field Office. When Egypt Air Flight 990 crashed off the coast of Rhode Island, John investigated this aviation attack that would serve as a prelude to his post-9/11 roles.

When our Nation was attacked on September 11, 2001, John had just been assigned to the Inspections Division at FBI Headquarters though he was quickly reassigned to help build FBI's Counterterrorism Division. He rose steadily through the ranks, eventually serving as the FBI's Deputy Director for more than 5 years. John's exemplary service in that role, combined with his experience in counterterrorism and excellent management of and care for the FBI workforce, culminated in 2010 when he was nominated to be the TSA Administrator.

John assumed the leadership of TSA at a time when the agency had been without a confirmed administrator for a year and a half. During this time, the agency had been grappling with the fallout from the Christmas Day attack of 2009, and had become a political and media punching bag. TSA needed a strong leader to take on the formidable task of improving the agency's stature. TSA needed to be effective in its duty to protect our Nation, while also finding a way to respond to the public outcry over onerous and invasive search procedures. TSA needed to deal with dissatisfaction within its own ranks, while navigating a tough fiscal environment. We were fortunate when John accepted the President's nomination and was confirmed by the Senate unanimously to this important role.

Under John's exceptional leadership, the TSA has maintained a compelling track record in preventing terrorist attacks against our Nation's transportation networks. The agency has taken

a more risk-based approach to security so as to lessen the burden on the average American traveler. Many people point to the TSA's successful PreCheck program, which I signed up for last week, as an example of John's great work. PreCheck is popular because it makes airport security more convenient and predictable, while freeing up TSA resources so the agency can be more focused on high-risk areas.

While John was improving both TSA's effectiveness and the security experience for the traveling public, he was simultaneously focusing on improving the TSA workforce. By exemplifying the traits he expected of his officers, and by taking the time to meet with his workforce and address their concerns, he earned their loyalty.

John took important steps to implement policies that would hold TSA staff accountable, and he also demonstrated that security interests can be safeguarded while allowing officers to unionize. This was a great step forward for officers' labor rights, and has provided a constructive way to handle officers' concerns.

Appointed from outside the organization, John quickly earned the respect of TSA employees, who then supported him in reforming outdated policies. When TSA moved away from its one-size-fits-all approach, his workforce overcame many challenges to implement a more complex risk-based security process. Without the support John earned from TSA employees, that shift would not have been possible. We will always want better security and more convenience for less cost, and John has done better than anyone yet at striking the right balance.

John Pistole has long shone as a beacon of integrity in government service. Today it gives me great pleasure to commend him—and thank him—for his enormous contributions to improving the Nation's security. I am grateful for his service to this country and it is an honor to call him a friend. I wish John and his family the best as he embarks on a new chapter in his distinguished career.

#### TRIBUTE TO DANIELLE HANSON

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, today I recognize Danielle Hanson, a legislative aide in my Washington, DC, office, for the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota.

Danielle is a native of Rapid City, SD, and is a graduate of Benedictine College. Upon graduation from Benedictine, Dani moved from Atchison, NE, to Washington, DC, to become a member of my personal office staff. In her 2½ years on my staff, Dani has worked as a staff assistant, legislative correspondent, and legislative aide.

I extend my sincere appreciation to Dani for her hard work and dedication

and wish her continued success in the years to come.

#### TRIBUTE TO DEVEN SCOTT

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, today I recognize Deven Scott, the deputy scheduler in my Washington, DC, office, for the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota.

Deven is a native of Aberdeen, SD, and is a graduate of the University of South Dakota. Upon graduation from USD, Deven moved from Vermillion, SD, to Washington, DC, to become a member of my personal office staff. In her 1½ years on my staff, Deven has worked as a staff assistant, legislative correspondent, and deputy scheduler.

I extend my sincere appreciation to Deven for her hard work and dedication and wish her continued success in the years to come.

#### RECOGNIZING WILLIAM "BILL" LOVELADY, JR.

Mr. WICKER. Madam President, I wish to recognize Mr. William "Bill" Lovelady, Jr., for his 34 years of service in the U.S. Army. Bill has worked on behalf of our Nation as a civil servant, rising to chief counsel for the U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center, or ERDC. Throughout his career, he has displayed leadership, professionalism, initiative, and dedication. His accomplishments will have a significant and lasting impact on the Corps of Engineers' laboratory community, the Army, and our Nation. Today, in recognition of his retirement, I offer thanks and congratulations.

Prior to Bill's 22 years as counsel to the ERDC and Waterways Experiment Station, he served as assistant division counsel to the Lower Mississippi Valley Division and Corps of Engineers. He also worked for the Vicksburg District of the Corps as a trial attorney. In these capacities, Bill played an instrumental role in the successful execution of the command's missions, particularly regarding research and development. In fact, he is acknowledged as the Corps' leading legal authority in this mission area.

Bill's accomplishments do not end there. He has been recognized by chief counsels as an example for other legal managers in the command, including his selection as a charter member of the Chief Counsel's Managing Partners Group, board of directors. This group, comprised of senior Corps attorneys, is responsible for recommendations to improve the delivery of legal services. Bill's exceptional legal advice, acumen, and sound judgment were no doubt of immense value to this group.

Bill has also served as an advisor to the ERDC Installation Planning Board,

ERDC Program Budget Advisory Committee, ERDC-Vicksburg Site Partnership Council, ERDC Special Recognition Committee, and ERDC Senior Anti-Terrorism Steering Committee. He is a member of the Federal Laboratory Consortium Legal Support Subcommittee and an active participant in the Department of Defense, DOD, Technology Transfer Integrated Project Team.

In 1999, Bill worked tirelessly in the reorganization of the Corps' laboratories to establish the ERDC. He helped develop plans, worked to implement them, and solved numerous leadership, administrative, labor-management, and legal challenges. In reviewing all aspects of the reorganization plans, he ensured that R&D leadership was advised of potential legal concerns and solutions through the process. Moreover, he effectively assumed leadership over the geographically dispersed and formerly independent legal assets of the Corps' laboratory system. Because of the legal team's substantial contributions, ERDC's structure and operating mode have served as a model for delivery of legal services across the Corps.

Bill has always been a proven manager and adviser. In 1998, a new human resources system was instituted under one of nine congressionally authorized science and technology laboratory personnel management demonstration projects. Bill applied his leadership and legal experience to identifying the distinctions between the features of the project and the basic Federal personnel system. His advice was critical to implementation strategies and problem-solving during the transition.

Bill is the coauthor of the "Research & Development Partnering Handbook," a comprehensive guide that collected all R&D partnering authorities, pursuant to the Technology Transfer Act. He has assisted in the negotiation and resolution of complicated legal issues involving the licensing of ERDC-developed technologies. He also has played a key role in supporting ERDC's laboratories with the drafting and negotiating of domestic and international patent licenses, cooperative research and development agreements, education and interagency partnership agreements, and service agreements. These instruments have seen ERDC partner with State and local governments, other Federal agencies, colleges, universities, and private companies.

Since the early 1990s, Bill has also provided legal advice and assistance for the Department of Defense's High Performance Supercomputing Modernization Plan. He was essential to the establishment of DOD's first High Performance Computing Resource Center and recently addressed issues involving access to DOD's high performance supercomputing facilities.

In short, Bill has been vital to the Engineer Research and Development Center management team and its success. His friendly, outgoing personality only adds to his professionalism. On a personal note, I would add that he has been a close friend of mine for over four decades and his wife Dianne has been a lifelong friend. I wish them both the best in this new chapter of their lives.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### RECOGNIZING SUN WOO PARK

• Ms. AYOTTE. Madam President, today I wish to recognize Portsmouth resident grand master Sun Woo Park—an exceptional New Hampshire citizen who has devoted his life to teaching martial arts and serving his community.

Sun Woo Park immigrated to the United States from Korea in 1985. Shortly after settling in Portsmouth, he opened Park's Taekwondo School, a world-class taekwondo training center. In fact, Park's is one of the only taekwondo schools in the world to have eight practicing Masters who learned under the same grand master.

During his nearly three decades of teaching taekwondo, thousands of seacoast area students have developed self-esteem, self-control, confidence, and fitness through studying the key elements of martial arts. Sun Woo Park even brought taekwondo to the University of New Hampshire, founding a taekwondo club there in 1995.

On June 16, 2000, Sun Woo Park proudly became a U.S. citizen. True citizenship means serving your country, your community, and your fellow citizens, and Sun Woo Park has done just that.

He is a founding member and the current president of the Korean American Society of New Hampshire. Every year since 1987, he has organized an event to honor the brave service and sacrifice of New Hampshire's Korean War veterans. He has even been honored by the President of the Republic of Korea, Noh Moo Hyun, for his service on behalf of Korean war veterans.

Sun Woo Park has also been quietly helping his local community in many other ways. He has held numerous fundraisers in support of the Saint Charles Children's Home in Rochester, NH, as well as many other local schools and nonprofits.

I am pleased to join the citizens of New Hampshire and all of grand master Sun Woo Park's students in wishing him all the best in his future endeavors. We thank him for his many years of teaching and service to the State of New Hampshire.●

##### TRIBUTE TO GARY FROST

• Ms. AYOTTE. Madam President, today I wish to recognize an out-

standing New Hampshire citizen, Mr. Gary Frost. Gary will retire at the end of this year after serving as the CEO of the Boys and Girls Club of Manchester for 26 years.

Gary grew up in Keene and graduated from the University of New Hampshire. He has devoted his life to improving the lives of children and New Hampshire citizens in need. In his 37-year tenure at the Boys and Girls Club of Manchester, it has become a safe and welcoming place for Manchester's youth to study, play and find a hot meal.

When Gary first joined the organization, the club was housed in one building on the corner of Union and Lowell Streets in Manchester. One of his greatest accomplishments was spearheading the \$7.2 million dollar capital campaign to renovate and expand the Union Street Club House so that the organization could serve more children. Today, under Gary's capable leadership and steady hand, the Boys and Girls Club now extends across an entire city block and serves over 600 children a day.

Those who work with Gary describe his deep commitment to and compassion for the children he works with and his community.

In addition to his work transforming the Boys and Girls Club, Gary has served Manchester in many other ways. He was an integral member of the committee that brought the Verizon Wireless Arena to Manchester, an important addition to the city's cultural offerings. He's also been a longtime member of the Manchester Rotary Club.

I hope Gary enjoys retirement at his camp on Newfound Lake and spending time with his wife Dotti and his two daughters, Abby and Kara. I join the City of Manchester and residents across the Granite State in thanking Gary for his service and wishing him all the best for a long, happy and fulfilling retirement.●

##### TRIBUTE TO FRANK BIGGER

• Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam President, I wish to honor Frank Bigger, who will retire as the Pocahontas Mayor after 4 years of public service to the citizens of Arkansas in this elected position.

Frank was inspired to run for city mayor at 67, the first political office he has held. Frank ran on the platform of economic prosperity and job creation. In that light, he fought hard alongside the Chamber of Commerce and the Intermodal Authority to bring a Poultry, Egg Company, PECO, processing facility to the county. This created more than 1,000 local jobs and led to improved infrastructure to accommodate the business.

Frank helped the community overcome the worst flooding residents remember. Highways, bridges and businesses were closed because of several

feet of water from a levee breach of the Black River. Under Frank's leadership, Pocahontas recovered.

Before serving as mayor, Frank graduated from Arkansas State University and served on the Black River Technical College board of trustees. In 1996, he retired as president from what is now Pinnacle Frame and Accent, and has also worked as a part-time bank owner and has owned local cattle farms.

My staff and I have enjoyed working with Mayor Bigger on the projects important to Pocahontas. I am truly grateful for his years of honorable service and dedication to the community.●

#### REMEMBERING LEO MOSKOVITZ

● Mr. CASEY. Madam President, Jermyn and Northeastern Pennsylvania lost a long-treasured member of the community when Leo Moskovitz passed away on November 24 at the age of 109. Although he lived for well over a century, his death feels premature to his family and his community. His wife of 45 years, Ann, described him as one of a kind, a fantastic man in every sense of the word. His contributions to the Commonwealth, both public and private, are many and will not be soon forgotten. As one of Northeastern Pennsylvania's true pioneers, he helped transform the region's economic and cultural outlook over the past century. Those who knew him likened him to a real-life history book, reciting stories from 80 or 90 years ago as if they had happened the day before. On any day of the week, he could catalogue the many evolutions the greater Scranton region went through with perfect detail.

As founder and president of the First National Bank of Jermyn, Leo presided over significant growth in the bank's assets, while always offering opportunity to the small business owners and people of Lackawanna County. He was a banker who bet on people and usually won for all concerned. Leo was ahead of his time in many ways, including promoting women in an era when such a practice was far from commonplace. From the vocational schools he helped establish, to the numerous art and cultural organizations he and his wife supported throughout the region, Leo Moskovitz's love and compassion for his community and its people endured for over a century, and will continue to shine for many years to come.●

#### FAR EXCEPTION THREE

● Mr. CHAMBLISS. Madam President, the Mercer Engineering Research Center, or MERC, is the nonprofit, research and applied engineering arm of Mercer University, a private university founded in 1833 and located in a state-of-the-art research facility in Warner Robins, GA; just a short drive from

Robins Air Force Base. For over 175 years, the University has served Georgia as a highly respected educational institution.

In 1984, the School of Engineering was established at the Macon, GA, campus with the charter class beginning studies in 1985. Two years later, MERC was established under the School of Engineering to provide locally available engineering and scientific services with critical specialized skills to the Warner Robins Air Logistics Center, while simultaneously providing a workload support-base to the Mercer School of Engineering in its development of high-technology skills in the Middle Georgia area.

MERC has a highly qualified professional staff, complex tools and test equipment, and extensive technical capability in the fields of aircraft structural analysis and design, flight test instrumentation, reverse engineering and prototyping, laboratory structural testing, electronic warfare software algorithm development, web deployed applications with integrated database access, industrial engineering and logistics.

MERC also employs engineering interns providing an avenue for students to get real world, Air Force-related experience, and today they are the largest source of entry-level engineers for Robins Air Force Base while also providing superior support to all other military services, large and small businesses, and other research agencies.

MERC has been able to maintain a successful, strategic relationship with Robins Air Force Base because of its Ph.D-level knowledge of sponsors' requirements and problems; its developing capability; its broad corporate knowledge and quick response capability; independence and objectivity; freedom from conflicts of interest; and lower costs. Their demonstrated ability to provide efficient, cost effective solutions to pressing research and development problems established MERC as the preferred source of real solutions to real problems.

Over the last few years, however, the Air Force and the Robins Air Force Base Small Business Office have emphasized increasing the percentage of small business contract awards; an initiative not without merit for sure. However, their interpretation and application of the Federal Acquisition Regulations, or FAR, has resulted in MERC essentially being barred from providing contracted services the likes of which they have provided with unmatched efficiency and significant savings for the Air Force for almost 30 years.

Since nonprofit research organizations by definition cannot be small businesses, they are excluded by law from competing for small business set-asides. However, the FAR offers seven equal and independent statutory au-

thorities the U.S. government can apply which authorize, under certain conditions, contracting without providing for full and open competition.

Senior Air Force leadership at Robins Air Force Base have long supported the use of those exceptions, specifically, the so-called "Exception Three" which allowed for contacting without providing for full and open competition "when it is necessary to award the contract to a particular source or sources in order to establish or maintain an essential engineering, research, or development capability to be provided by an educational or other nonprofit institution or a federally funded research and development center."

That application of the FAR allowed Robins AFB to maintain the essential engineering capabilities of MERC to augment their own because under FAR Exception Three, MERC received sole source contracts when their expertise, flexibility and lower costs demanded it.

In recent years, however, the Small Business Office at Robins Air Force Base has approved the use of only one of the FAR exceptions, that being when "only one responsible source and no other supplies or services will satisfy agency requirements."

This application of the FAR, or misapplication if you will, makes it virtually impossible for the Robins Air Force Base to award certain contracts to any entity other than small businesses. It translates to higher costs and greater inefficiencies. Robins Air Force Base continues to seek MERC's unique expertise and essential engineering skills, but is forced to pass money through small and large businesses to MERC adding time and cost to the product/service delivery. By demanding more awards go to small businesses, the government also suffers a loss of intellectual property, IP, since MERC transfers ownership of all said property back to the U.S. Government, while small businesses can retain IP for future revenue.

You would be hard pressed to find any bigger supporter of small businesses in the Senate than myself. However, when it comes to ensuring our men and women fighting overseas for our freedom have what they need to get the job done, there are only three things I care about: cost, schedule, and performance. Our men and women in uniform deserve that.

In this era of defense spending austerity, the Air Force can ill afford the unintended consequences of precluding entities that supply vital complex engineering solutions, along with the added benefit of cross pollination of educational experience between government employees, both civilian and military, and the best in the academic engineering community, from receiving business simply to meet a set-aside quota.

This issue is about ensuring Robins Air Force Base maintains essential engineering capabilities to supplement their own and their ability to swiftly and inexpensively select the most capable organization to provide the best product or service at the best value to the government. The Small Business Office at Warner Robins, in their attempt to carry out the Air Forces' broader goal of increasing small businesses participation, is jeopardizing the very survival of institutions provided for and protected by the FAR.

By selectively applying the FAR exceptions, the Air Force is ignoring the intent of the acquisition regulations. It is certain to destroy these few vital educational links between academic institutions and government engineers that need that level of expertise. More importantly, by ignoring FAR Exception Three, the government is limiting its ability to pursue the best solutions at the best price. We can ill-afford such consequences in this period of economic austerity, simply in the name of fostering the growth of small businesses.

I was encouraged in September when the Air Force took a step in the right direction with their approval of a Justification and Approval, J&A, for the use of other than full and open competition for an engineering, research and development contract in support of technologies and methodologies applicable to aging aircraft and support equipment. The contract will maintain essential engineering, research, and development capabilities at Robins AFB through support provided by MERC.

I am hopeful this recent development is indicative of a new way of doing business at Warner Robins. In case it is not, I urge my colleagues here in the Senate to remain vigilant in their oversight responsibilities, and I renew my call to the Secretary of the Air Force to ensure local commands apply the FAR as written so as to guarantee our men and women in uniform have exactly what they need, when they need it, and at a price that is in keeping with our responsibilities as stewards of the American tax dollar.●

#### REMEMBERING MARY ANN MOBLEY

● Mr. COCHRAN. Madam President, my State has lost one of our finest citizens. Mary Ann Mobley, a friend to many and one of our best known Mississippians, passed away Tuesday. Mary Ann was the first young woman from Mississippi to be crowned Miss America, an accomplishment that was a source of great pride to my State. I got to know Mary Ann at the University of Mississippi, where she was really a superstar and a fine actress. Incidentally, we were cast in a University Players production of "Tiger at the Gates" at Ole Miss. She made Mis-

issippians proud of her success as an entertainer in Hollywood and a person who kept our State close to her heart throughout her career.

I ask unanimous consent that a December 11, 2014, article from the Clarion-Ledger newspaper titled "Mary Ann Mobley 'never forgot her roots'" be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Clarion-Ledger, Dec. 11, 2014]

MARY ANN MOBLEY 'NEVER FORGOT HER ROOTS'

(By Billy Watkins)

They danced in the streets of Brandon the night one of their own, Mary Ann Mobley, was crowned the 1959 Miss America.

"That's not just a saying, that's a fact," said Waymon Tigrett, 70, who grew up with Mobley and has owned Brandon Discount Drugs the past 46 years. "They put a jukebox out by the statue in the middle of Main Street, ran an extension cord out to it and that thing blared music all night. People danced and carried on for hours. It was a true celebration.

"You have to remember, Brandon was only about 2,000 people back then. It was a small, isolated town. And all of a sudden, a girl we all know is on television and winning Miss America. That was a huge deal back then. And still is to us."

Mobley, Mississippi's first Miss America, died Tuesday after a long battle with breast cancer. She was 77.

Services will be 1 p.m. Monday at Christ United Methodist Church in Jackson. Visitation will be Sunday from 4-6 p.m. at Parkway Funeral Home in Ridgeland.

Mobley won the crown in September 1958, the same year she graduated from the University of Mississippi.

"She never forgot her roots, where she came from," said Tigrett, who lived four houses down from Mobley on what is known now as Mary Ann Drive. "Rankin County used to own Rankin General Hospital, and we had a big benefit every year. Affair of the Heart, to raise money for it. Mary Ann would come back from Hollywood and emcee it.

"She remembered everybody. She treated us just the same. She never got too big for us. She was the same girl who used to ride palomino horses in the pasture behind her house."

Judy Trott, former dean of students at Ole Miss, said Mobley "was always generous with her time when it came to Ole Miss."

"She would come back and oversee the Miss University pageant—the one she won to send her to Miss America—the Parade of Beauties, another pageant that we still hold," she said.

Trott wasn't surprised Mobley went on to become a popular film and TV actress.

"Mary Ann was groomed for it," she said. "She had great talent, a great voice. Her mother would often come to pageants up here with her, and she was outgoing and bubbly. I guess that's where Mary Ann got her personality."

"I remember after one of the pageants taking Mary Ann and her mother down to the Holka, a place you could get cake and coffee. We were in there for three hours that night. It wasn't just the students talking to Mary Ann, it was Mary Ann talking to the students. She was interested in them, wanted to know their plans, their goals. She was extremely warm and outgoing. It was easy to love her."

Hometown friends, saddened by her death, quietly reminisced Wednesday.

Mobley not only battled breast cancer in recent years but suffered carpal tunnel syndrome in both hands and arms. Emails became shorter as every letter of every word required effort.

Phone calls to check on the people of her hometown also became shorter, but no more infrequent. If the conversation ever turned toward her own problems, Mobley would laugh and find a way to quickly change the subject.

Some of the memories stirred laughter. Such as the time Mobley was to perform at Brandon High School but the family car wouldn't crank. Her mother saddled a horse for the 5-mile ride, and she and Mary Ann made it there in time.

And the night Brandon folks danced in the street, the celebration spread to the capital city. A few town residents decided it would be a good idea to take the volunteer fire department's truck and drive it up and down Jackson's Capitol Street with the siren blaring. Jackson police eventually tired of the racket and impounded the truck.

Mobley also became a filmmaker, producing documentaries in Cambodia, Ethiopia, Mozambique, Somalia, Kenya, Zimbabwe and the Sudan.

Mobley's husband of 45 years, TV personality Gary Collins, died in 2012. The couple had one daughter, Clancy Collins-White.

Collins-White phoned friends Tuesday in Brandon to tell them of Mobley's death.

Three other Mississippians have won the Miss America crown: Lynda Lee Mead of Natchez, 1960; Cheryl Prewitt of Ackerman, 1980; and Susan Akin of Meridian, 1986.●

#### RECOGNIZING THE NATIONAL FINALS RODEO

● Mr. HELLER. Madam President, today I wish to recognize the annual National Finals Rodeo, which takes place at the Thomas & Mack Center on the campus of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. The National Finals Rodeo has been held in Las Vegas for the past 30 years of the event's 55 year history. Often noted as the foremost championship rodeo event in the United States, I, along with my fellow Nevadans, am proud that it has called the Silver State home for so many years.

The National Finals Rodeo was established in 1958 by the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association in order to determine the world champions in various events from bull riding to tie-down roping. First held in Dallas in 1959, the National Finals Rodeo was held in many different cities until 1984, when Las Vegas became its permanent home. An integral part of the Las Vegas community for 30 years, the National Finals Rodeo has brought more than 170,000 fans annually to see some of our Nation's toughest cowboys and cowgirls compete in 10 days of competition. This event has become a yearly tradition not only for Nevadans, but for people across the nation and the world. As rodeo lovers and horse enthusiasts, my wife Lynne and I were thrilled to attend this year's event.

The National Finals Rodeo offers Nevadans and rodeo goers nationwide a place to truly experience the gritty, energetic entertainment the Wild West is best known for. In one of the hardest hit regions during the recession, this event plays an integral role in Nevada's tourism economy. Tourism continues to be a prominent economic driver within the Silver State, and I am thrilled to learn this event will be a part of the Las Vegas community through 2024.

I ask my colleagues to join me and all Nevadans in recognizing the National Finals Rodeo, a special event that has proudly called Las Vegas home for the past 30 years, and I would like to offer the best of luck to all who are participating in this year's events.●

#### TRIBUTE TO BRIAN KROLICKI

● Mr. HELLER: Madam President, I wish to congratulate Lieutenant Governor Brian Krolicki, of Stateline, for his decades of service to the State of Nevada. After most recently serving as Nevada's lieutenant governor for 8 years, he will be retiring on January 5, 2015. It gives me great pleasure to congratulate my friend and colleague on his 24 years of hard work and dedication to the Silver State.

While serving as Nevada's Secretary of State, I came to know Lieutenant Governor Krolicki not only as a trusted colleague, but also as a dear friend. While attending Stanford University, Lieutenant Governor Krolicki fell in love with Lake Tahoe, NV. After earning a bachelor's degree in political science, he moved to Nevada. While maintaining his Silver State residence, he went on to become an investment banker in New York City and San Francisco. Lieutenant Governor Krolicki's public service career began in 1990 when he was tapped to serve as chief deputy treasurer to then-State treasurer Bob Seale. His many years of financial experience made him an ideal candidate for State treasurer after the retirement of Treasurer Seale. Upon being sworn in as treasurer in 1999, he began to tirelessly devote his efforts to the people of Nevada. He created the Nevada college savings plans, and was responsible for the successful rollout and administration of the Governor Guinn Millennium Scholarship. Under his leadership, Nevada saw its first upgrade in credit ratings in nearly 30 years.

After serving 8 years as treasurer, he sought the lieutenant governorship in 2006 and won by a sizeable margin. During Lieutenant Governor Krolicki's two terms of service, he has ably focused on advancing the Silver State's tourism industry all over the Nation and around the globe. Lieutenant Governor Krolicki has served as chairman of the Reno Tahoe Winter Games Coalition since 2006, and is actively fighting

for northern Nevada to host the 2026 Olympic Games. This year, my wife Lynne and I were honored to participate in Nevada's 150th anniversary celebrations. As chairman of the Nevada Sesquicentennial Commission that successfully carried out over 500 events, Lieutenant Governor Krolicki has once more shown his dedication to the State of Nevada.

As a devoted husband and proud father to three girls, Lieutenant Governor Krolicki stands as a shining example of someone who has dedicated his life to serving his community. I am grateful for his dedication and commitment to the people of the State of Nevada. He exemplifies the highest standards of leadership and community service and should be proud of his long and meaningful career. Today, I ask that all of my colleagues join me in thanking Lieutenant Governor Krolicki for his service to the Silver State and I offer my deepest appreciation for all that he has done to make Nevada an even better place. I offer my best wishes for many successful and fulfilling years to come.●

#### TRIBUTE TO MR. THOMAS WELCH

● Mr. KING: Madam President, I wish to honor the career of a dear friend and former colleague, Mr. Thomas Welch, who is set to retire this year as Chairman of the Maine Public Utilities Commission. Tom's tremendous 35-year career bridged both the public and private sectors and has always been defined by a steadfast dedication to service and, of course, an unwavering love for the State of Maine.

As Governor, I had the privilege of calling on Tom to lead the Maine Public Utilities Commission, also known as the MPUC, and that is the same position that he was again nominated for and currently holds under Governor Paul LePage.

Serving as Chairman of the MPUC is, at times, a thankless job, but it is also one of monumental importance. Tom's job is central to keeping the lights on, the water flowing, the heat coming, and the people of Maine connected through reliable phone and Internet services. In my administration—just as he does today—Tom performed those tasks and so much more with outstanding acumen, keen judgment, and, I might add, with one eye always towards the future. In fact, it is no exaggeration to say that Tom, perhaps more than anyone else across the State, played a pivotal role in ushering Maine's public utilities into the 21st century.

A generation of Maine's young minds can thank Tom for laying the groundwork that hastened their journey into the digital age. Tom recognized early on that the Internet was quickly evolving into a more dynamic and powerful tool that, when placed in the hands of

our students and our communities, could become a catalyst for digital learning, a driver of economic growth, and an architect of intra-personal connections that were no longer limited by geographic constraints. With that immense potential in mind, he worked tirelessly to implement the Federal E-Rate program, which delivered Internet access to schools and libraries across the State—and with that newfound Internet access, he delivered new and unprecedented opportunities to people all across Maine, an achievement so fundamental and so critical to our daily lives that it simply cannot be understated.

As high energy prices across Maine continued to weigh heavily on the pockets and minds of people across the State, Tom endeavored mightily to deregulate Maine's electric industry to lower energy prices, and most recently, he lead the charge to expand natural gas capacity throughout the region.

In conclusion, I should point out that I often to refer to Tom as "SMIM"—the Smartest Maine in Maine. He possesses a vast knowledge of law and public policy that is matched by very few and that has helped inform and shape Maine's telecommunications and energy framework for nearly a decade. Indeed, one would be hard-pressed to find an individual with a deeper understanding of our State's public utilities infrastructure. But perhaps more important is his genuine ability to teach and share that knowledge with others. These characteristics not only make Tom a remarkable public servant, but a valued role model as well.

I, of course, am saddened to see Tom enter retirement because his departure will be a loss for Maine—but, I, along with the people of Maine, am forever grateful for his many years of service on behalf of our state.

Tom, congratulations and thank you. I hope your retirement is as restful and relaxing as it is well-deserved.●

#### TRIBUTE TO KATHERINE GRANT-DAVIS

● Mr. MENENDEZ: Madam President, I am honored to recognize Ms. Katherine Grant-Davis on the occasion of her retirement from the New Jersey Primary Care Association, NJPCA, after many years of remarkable service to the Garden State.

Kathy has admirably acted as the President and CEO of NJPCA, a non-profit organization that represents New Jersey's Federally-Qualified Health Centers, FQHC. Under her leadership, New Jersey's FQHC's have grown in both size and capability while modeling high standards of care for all ages and income levels. She represents the best of what NJPCA has accomplished in addressing the primary care needs of our friends and neighbors, and we owe her a debt of gratitude.



While New Jersey is home to 20 community health centers operating 121 sites throughout the State, this robust network would not be possible without Kathy's tremendous contributions. Under her leadership, FQHCs in New Jersey have come to represent quality, comprehensive, and most importantly, accessible care for more than 495,000 patients.

In addition to these and many more accomplishments during her tenure at the NJPCA, Kathy has also honorably served under two New Jersey Governors within the State's Department of Health and Senior Services. Throughout her career, Kathy has demonstrated an innate ability to get the job done without losing sight of the need to ensure the well-being of all. Whether working to develop new pharmaceutical funding initiatives, directing the New Jersey WIC Program, or helping to implement Title XX funding, her dedication and commitment has earned her the respect and admiration of her peers and colleagues.

In 2012, I was honored to recognize Kathy's efforts with the Evangelina Menendez Trailblazer Award, an honor bestowed upon the strong women of New Jersey who distinguish themselves in our communities each and every day. I am not alone in recognizing and honoring Kathy for the work she had done, as she has received commendations from the National Association of Community Health Centers, the NJ Biz Power 50 in Health Care, and NJ Citizen Action, among others.

While the Affordable Care Act brought the importance of access to high quality, accessible and affordable care to the forefront of the national conversation, it was an issue Kathy had already been working on for years. Her insight and counsel during the debate on health reform, as well as her constant vigilance on the law's implementation, has proven invaluable to me and of immeasurable benefit to FQHCs and their patients, not only in New Jersey but throughout the country. With our health care system evolving to focus on wellness, prevention and access to primary care, Kathy's work building New Jersey's network of community health centers into a nationally-recognized model ensures communities in New Jersey will flourish well into the future.

I congratulate Kathy on her retirement and would like to once again recognize, commend and applaud her legacy of extraordinary dedication to the New Jersey Primary Care Association and her unwavering service to the people of New Jersey.●

#### RECOGNIZING LA PLAZA

● Mr. RISCH. Madam President, millions of American businesses have found their start in the living rooms, backyards, and garages of aspiring en-

trepreneurs. Harnessing individual creativity and work ethic, a talent can grow into a lasting enterprise. I wish to honor La Plaza, a restaurant from my home State of Idaho, whose hard work and dedication to quality has seen growth and prosperity while enhancing the local community.

Founded in 2003, La Plaza offers unique and traditional Mexican fare, including an assortment of moles made with chocolate and dried peppers, to diners and visitors in southern Idaho. Guadalupe "Lupe" Loza and her husband, Chon, originally from Aguascalientes, Mexico, never planned to own a restaurant until their infant son required long-term hospitalization and they needed to fund his medical bills. As a self-taught chef, Lupe Loza started making tamales and empanadas in her kitchen and selling the food directly to local dairy workers and observers on local soccer fields. As her fans multiplied, and driven by the philosophy that "farmers can dig the dirt and plant the seeds, but they can't make the plants grow," Lupe Loza took a leap of faith and opened the restaurant in a converted two-car garage, where customers sat at folding tables and ate off paper plates.

Today, La Plaza operates out of a 1,992 square foot space on Buhl's Main Street, located on the old Oregon Trail in the western half of Twin Falls County. The Lozas are dedicated to creating and serving authentic Mexican cuisine and making customers feel like they are eating at home with family. It is not surprising that after 11 years, La Plaza has received overwhelming praise from its diners and the larger community. The from-scratch food and "grandmother's house" feel have made La Plaza a local staple and traveler's destination. The small, yet diverse menu is updated frequently, accommodating customer feedback, requests, and favorites. From carne asada tacos to bacon-wrapped cheesy jalapeno bites, customers drive many miles out of their way to sample La Plaza's authentic Mexican cuisine. The restaurant has also expanded to cater at local venues, including the annual Cinco de Mayo celebration for the Latinos Unidos at the College of Southern Idaho. The Lozas dedication to excellence has earned La Plaza a five-star rating on Yelp, the second-highest rated restaurant in Buhl on Trip Advisor, and a 90 percent customer satisfaction rate on Urban Spoon.

Over the past 11 years, La Plaza has doubled in size, and the homemade ranchoer fajitas are now served on china plates instead of paper plates. I hope La Plaza's story will inspire others around the country to chase the American Dream. I congratulate the Loza family and the entire La Plaza team on their success, continued growth, and exemplary reputation for quality. La Plaza represents the best aspects of

American entrepreneurship and is a credit to both Idaho and the Nation.●

#### TRIBUTE TO CARTER ADAMS

● Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I recognize Carter Adams, a 2014 summer intern in my Washington, DC office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Carter is a junior at the University of Central Florida, currently majoring in political science. He is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Carter for all the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

#### TRIBUTE TO MADELINE AHERN

● Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I recognize Madeline Ahern, a 2014 spring intern in my Washington, DC, office for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Madeline is currently a rising senior at the Madeira School in McLean, VA. She is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Madeline for all the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

#### TRIBUTE TO NATALIE BARRERO

● Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I recognize Natalie Barrero, a 2013 fall intern in my Washington, DC, office for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Natalie is a graduate of the Catholic University of America, having majored in international business. She is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Natalie for all the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

#### TRIBUTE TO MOISES BENHABIB

● Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I recognize Moises Benhabib, a 2014 spring intern in my Washington, DC, office for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Moises is a graduate of the University of Tampa where he majored in government and world affairs. He is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of his internship experience.



I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Moises for all the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

#### TRIBUTE TO BARR BENYAMIN

● Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I recognize Barr Benyamin, a 2014 spring intern in my Washington, DC, office for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Barr is a graduate of the University of Southern California in Los Angeles, CA, having majored in political science and business administration. He is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Barr for all the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

#### TRIBUTE TO MAT BOWERS

● Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I recognize Mat Bowers, a 2014 summer intern in my Washington, DC office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Mat is a senior at Cornell University, currently majoring in biology with a concentration in animal physiology. He is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Mat for all the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

#### TRIBUTE TO KATIE BULLEK

● Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I recognize Katie Bullek, a 2014 spring intern in my Washington, DC office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Katie is a rising senior at the College the Holy Cross in Worcester, MA. Currently, Katie is majoring in economics and political science. She is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Katie for all the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

#### TRIBUTE TO JOHN BURKE

● Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I recognize John Burke, a 2014 spring intern in my Washington, DC, office for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

John is a graduate of the George Washington University where he ma-

jored in international affairs. He is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to him for all the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

#### TRIBUTE TO ALYSON CUERVO

● Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I recognize Alyson Cuervo, a 2013 fall intern in my Washington, DC, office for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Alyson is a rising junior at the George Washington University in Washington, DC. Currently, Alyson is majoring in international affairs. She is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Alyson for all the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

#### TRIBUTE TO JOEL DENNIS

● Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I recognize Joel Dennis, a 2014 summer intern in my Washington, DC office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Joel is a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, having majored in history and political science. He is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Joel for all the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

#### TRIBUTE TO RACHEL EILERS

● Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I recognize Rachel Eilers, a 2014 summer intern in my Washington, DC office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Rachel is a student at Auburn University, currently majoring in political science and communication. She is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Rachel for all the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

#### TRIBUTE TO ABBIE FREY

● Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I recognize Abbie Frey, a 2014 summer

intern in my Washington, DC office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Abbie is a junior at Cornell University, currently majoring in industrial and labor relations. She is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Abbie for all the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

#### TRIBUTE TO AMELIA GARCIA

● Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I recognize Amelia Garcia, a 2014 summer intern in my Washington, DC office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Amelia is a sophomore at the University of Virginia, currently majoring in commerce. She is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Amelia for all the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

#### TRIBUTE TO EMERSON GEORGE

● Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I recognize Emerson George, a 2014 summer intern in my Washington, DC office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Emerson is a senior at the University of Mississippi, currently majoring in political science and business. He is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Emerson for all the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

#### TRIBUTE TO CORINNE HUSTON

● Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I recognize Corinne Huston, a 2013 fall intern in my Washington, DC office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Corinne is a graduate of the University of South Florida in political science. She is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Corinne for all the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

## TRIBUTE TO HELENA JOO

• Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I recognize Helena Joo, a 2014 summer intern in my Washington, DC office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Helena is a junior at University of Maryland, currently majoring in health administration and public policy. She is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Helena for all the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

## TRIBUTE TO VANESSA MICHAUD

• Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I recognize Vanessa Michaud, a 2014 summer intern in my Washington, DC office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Vanessa is a senior at the University of Miami, currently majoring in international finance and marketing. She is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Vanessa for all the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

## TRIBUTE TO WONGANI MTIKA

• Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I recognize Wongani Mtika, a 2014 summer intern in my Washington, DC office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Wongani is a sophomore at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, currently majoring in nutrition pre-med. She is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Wongani for all the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

## TRIBUTE TO STEPHANIE NAVARRO

• Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I recognize Stephanie Navarro, a 2014 summer intern in my Washington, DC office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Stephanie is a student at University of Central Florida, currently majoring in physics. She is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Stephanie for all the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

## TRIBUTE TO CALEB ORR

• Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I recognize Caleb Orr, a 2014 summer intern in my Washington, DC office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Caleb is a sophomore at Abilene Christian University, currently majoring in political science and sociology. He is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Caleb for all the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

## TRIBUTE TO PATRICK O'BRYANT

• Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I recognize Patrick O'Bryant, a 2014 intern in my Tallahassee, FL, office for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Patrick is a senior at Florida State University, where he is majoring in applied economics and political science. He is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Patrick for all the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

## TRIBUTE TO BRIAN O'CONNER

• Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I recognize Brian O'Connor, a 2014 summer intern in my Washington, DC office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Brian is a junior at Saint Anselm College, currently majoring in political science. He is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Brian for all the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

## TRIBUTE TO GRAZIELLA PASTOR

• Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I recognize Graziella Pastor, a 2014 summer intern in my Washington, DC office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Graziella is a freshman at New York University, currently majoring in business and political economics. She is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Graziella for all the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

## TRIBUTE TO NICOLAS PEDREIRA

• Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I recognize Nicolas Pedreira, a 2013 fall intern in my Washington, DC, office for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Nicolas is a rising senior at the George Washington University in Washington, DC. Currently, he is majoring in political science and international affairs. Nicolas is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Nicolas for all the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

## TRIBUTE TO OLIVIA PEREZ-CUBAS

• Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I recognize Olivia Perez-Cubas, a 2013 fall intern in my Washington, DC, office for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Olivia is a graduate of Florida State University, having majored in political science and communications. Currently, she is studying for a master's degree in journalism at Georgetown University. Olivia is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Olivia for all the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

## TRIBUTE TO TYSON PETERSON

• Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I recognize Tyson Peterson, a 2014 summer intern in my Washington, DC office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Tyson is a senior at the University of North Florida, currently majoring in political science. He is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Tyson for all the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

#### TRIBUTE TO BETHANY POULOS

• Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I recognize Bethany Poulos, a 2014 summer intern in my Washington, DC office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Bethany is a graduate of Liberty University, having majored in international relations. She is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Bethany for all the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

#### TRIBUTE TO JAIRO RIVERA

• Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I recognize Jairo Rivera, a 2013 fall intern in my Washington, DC, office for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Jairo is a graduate of Florida International University, having majored in political science. Jairo is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Jairo for all the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

#### TRIBUTE TO JONATHAN RIVERAS

• Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I recognize Jonathan Riveras, a 2014 summer intern in my Washington, DC office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Jonathan is a junior at Florida International University, currently majoring in political science. He is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Jonathan for all the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

#### TRIBUTE TO DOUGAL ROBINSON

• Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I recognize Dougal Robinson, a 2014 spring intern in my Washington, DC, office for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Dougal is a graduate of Sydney University, where he majored in government and international relations. He is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Dougal for all the fine

work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

#### TRIBUTE TO PETER SCATURRO

• Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I recognize Peter Scaturro, a 2014 summer intern in my Washington, DC office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Peter is a junior at University of Virginia, currently majoring in political science. He is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Peter for all the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

#### TRIBUTE TO RACHAEL ANN SOLOWAY

• Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I recognize Rachael Ann Soloway, a 2014 summer intern in my Washington, DC office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Rachael is a senior at the University of South Florida, currently majoring in communications. She is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Rachael for all the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

#### TRIBUTE TO CHELSIE SUMNER

• Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I recognize Chelsie Sumner, a 2013 fall intern in my Washington, DC, office for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Chelsie is a graduate of Davidson College, having majored in English. She is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Chelsie for all the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

#### TRIBUTE TO ARI TEPLER

• Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I recognize Ari Tepler, a 2014 summer intern in my Washington, DC office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Ari is a freshman at Yeshiva University, currently majoring in political science. He is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to get-

ting the most out of his internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Ari for all the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

#### TRIBUTE TO JACKIE VARAS

• Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I recognize Jackie Varas, a 2014 summer intern in my Washington, DC office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Jackie is a senior at the University of Florida, currently majoring in economics and political science. She is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Jackie for all the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

#### TRIBUTE TO COURTNEY VEATCH

• Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I recognize Courtney Veatch, a 2014 summer intern in my Washington, DC office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Courtney is a graduate of the University of North Florida, having majored in English and history. She is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Courtney for all the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

#### TRIBUTE TO FRANCISCO VELEZ

• Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I recognize Francisco Velez, a 2014 summer intern in my Washington, DC office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Francisco is a senior at the University of Florida, currently majoring in political science. He is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Francisco for all the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

#### TRIBUTE TO SEVERIN WALSTAD

• Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I recognize Severin Walstad, a 2013 fall intern in my Washington, DC, office for all of the hard work he has done for

me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Severin is a graduate of the University of Florida, having majored in public relations. Severin is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Severin for all the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

#### TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL ZINGALI

● Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I recognize Michael Zingali, a 2014 spring intern in my Washington, DC, office for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Michael is a rising junior at the Catholic University of America in Washington, DC. Currently, Michael is majoring in business management. He is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Michael for all the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:32 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, with an amendment, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

S. 2244. An act to extend the termination date of the Terrorism Insurance Program established under the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act of 2002, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House agrees to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 1204) to amend title 49, United States Code, to direct the Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security (Transportation Security Administration) to establish an Aviation Security Advisory Committee, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House agrees to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2719) to require the Transportation Security Administration to implement best practices and improve transparency with regard to technology acquisition programs, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House agrees to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 4681) to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2014 and 2015 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House agrees to the amendment of

the Senate to the preamble of the resolution (H. Con. Res. 107) denouncing the use of civilians as human shields by Hamas and other terrorist organizations in violation of international humanitarian law, also, that the House agrees to the amendment of the Senate to the text of the concurrent resolution, further, that the House agrees to the amendment of the Senate to the title of the concurrent resolution.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bills, without amendment:

S. 1000. An act to require the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to prepare a crosscut budget for restoration activities in the Chesapeake Bay watershed, and for other purposes.

S. 1683. An act to provide for the transfer of naval vessels to certain foreign recipients, and for other purposes.

S. 1691. An act to amend title 5, United States Code, to improve the security of the United States border and to provide for reforms and rates of pay for border patrol agents.

S. 2142. An act to impose targeted sanctions on persons responsible for violations of human rights of antigovernment protesters in Venezuela, to strengthen civil society in Venezuela, and for other purposes.

S. 2270. An act to clarify the application of certain leverage and risk-based requirements under the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act.

S. 2444. An act to authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard for fiscal year 2015, and for other purposes.

S. 2521. An act to amend chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code, to provide for reform to Federal information security.

S. 2651. An act to repeal certain mandates of the Department of Homeland Security Office of Inspector General.

The message further announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 5656. An act to authorize a comprehensive strategic approach for United States foreign assistance to developing countries to reduce global poverty and hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, promote sustainable agricultural-led economic growth, improve nutritional outcomes, especially for women and children, build resilience among vulnerable populations, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5810. An act to amend the United States Cotton Futures Act to exclude certain cotton futures contracts from coverage under such Act.

H.R. 5816. An act to extend the authorization for the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolutions, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 123. Concurrent resolution directing the Clerk of the House of Representatives to make a correction in the enrollment of the bill H.R. 3979.

H. Con. Res. 124. Concurrent resolution providing for a correction in the enrollment of H.R. 5771.

The message further announced that pursuant to section 306(k) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 242k), and

the order of the House of January 3, 2013, the Speaker reappoints the following individual on the part of the House of Representatives to the National Committee on Vital and Health Statistics for a term of 4 years: Dr. Vickie M. Mays of Los Angeles, California.

At 2:30 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, without amendment:

S. 2519. An act to codify an existing operations center for cybersecurity.

The message further announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 5742. An act to provide to the Secretary of the Interior a mechanism to cancel contracts for the sale of materials CA-20139 and CA-22901, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House agrees to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 1281) to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize programs under part A of title XI of such Act.

At 10:21 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Chiappardi, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following joint resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.J. Res. 130. Joint resolution making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2015, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 122. Concurrent resolution providing for a correction in the enrollment of H.R. 83.

The message also announced that the House agrees to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 83) to require the Secretary of the Interior to assemble a team of technical, policy, and financial experts to address the energy needs of the insular areas of the United States and the Freely Associated States through the development of energy action plans aimed at promoting access to affordable, reliable energy, including increasing use of indigenous clean-energy resources, and for other purposes, with an amendment, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate.

#### ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

At 10:46 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

S. 1000. An act to require the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to prepare a crosscut budget for restoration activities in the Chesapeake Bay watershed, and for other purposes.

S. 1683. An act to provide for the transfer of naval vessels to certain foreign recipients, and for other purposes.

S. 1691. An act to amend title 5, United States Code, to improve the security of the United States border and to provide for reforms and rate of pay for border patrol agents.

S. 2142. An act to impose targeted sanctions on persons responsible for violations of human rights of antigovernment protesters in Venezuela, to strengthen civil society in Venezuela, and for other purposes.

S. 2270. An act to clarify the application of certain leverage and risk-based requirements under the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act.

S. 2444. An act to authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard for fiscal year 2015, and for other purposes.

S. 2519. An act to codify an existing operations center for cybersecurity.

S. 2521. An act to amend chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code, to provide for reform to Federal information security.

S. 2651. An act to repeal certain mandates of the Department of Homeland Security Office of Inspector General.

S. 2759. An act to release the City of St. Clair, Missouri, from all restrictions, conditions, and limitations on the use, encumbrance, conveyance, and closure of the St. Clair Regional Airport.

H.R. 1067. An act to make revisions in title 36, United States Code, as necessary to keep the title current and make technical corrections and improvements.

H.R. 1204. An act to amend title 49, United States Code, to direct the Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security (Transportation Security Administration) to establish an Aviation Security Advisory Committee, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1281. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize programs under part A of title XI of such Act.

H.R. 1447. An act to encourage States to report to the Attorney General certain information regarding the deaths of individuals in the custody of law enforcement agencies, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2719. An act to require the Transportation Security Administration to implement best practices and improve transparency with regard to technology acquisition programs, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2952. An act to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to assess the cybersecurity workforce of the Department of Homeland Security and develop a comprehensive workforce strategy, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3044. An act to approve the transfer of Yellow Creek Port properties in Iuka, Mississippi.

H.R. 3374. An act to provide for the use of savings promotion raffle products by financial institutions to encourage savings, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3468. An act to amend the Federal Credit Union Act to extend insurance coverage to amounts held in a member account on behalf of another person, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4007. An act to recodify and reauthorize the Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards Program.

H.R. 4193. An act to amend title 5, United States Code, to change the default investment fund under the Thrift Savings Plan, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4199. An act to name the Department of Veterans Affairs medical center in Waco, Texas, as the "Doris Miller Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center".

H.R. 4681. An act to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2014 and 2015 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4926. An act to designate a segment of Interstate Route 35 in the State of Minnesota as the "James L. Oberstar Memorial Highway".

H.R. 5705. An act to modify certain provisions relating to the Propane Education and Research Council.

#### ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION SIGNED

At 11:26 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled joint resolution:

H.J. Res. 130. Joint resolution making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2015, and for other purposes.

The enrolled joint resolution was subsequently signed by the Acting President pro tempore (Mr. PRYOR).

#### MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 4573. An act to protect children from exploitation, especially sex trafficking in tourism, by providing advance notice of intended travel by registered child-sex offenders outside the United States to the government of the country of destination, requesting foreign governments to notify the United States when a known child-sex offender is seeking to enter the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

#### EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-8083. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller), transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department of Defense Response to the Government Accountability Office B-321387 relative to Antideficiency Act violations; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC-8084. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "National Poultry Improvement Plan and Auxiliary Provisions; Technical Amendment" ((RIN0579-AD83) (Docket No. APHIS-2011-0101)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 4, 2014; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-8085. A communication from the Assistant Director, Senior Executive Management Office, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Assistant to the Secretary of Defense (Nuclear, Chemical, and Biological Defense Programs), Department of Defense, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 4, 2014; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-8086. A communication from the Assistant Director, Senior Executive Management Office, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary of the Army (Financial Management), Department of the Army, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 4, 2014; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-8087. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting the report of an officer authorized to wear the insignia of the grade of rear admiral in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-8088. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Updated Statements of Legal Authority for the Export Administration Regulations" (RIN0694-AG39) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 4, 2014; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-8089. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendments to Existing Validated End-User Authorization in the People's Republic of China: Lam Research Service Co., Ltd." (RIN0694-AG36) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 4, 2014; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-8090. A communication from the General Counsel of the National Credit Union Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Unfair or Deceptive Acts or Practices; Technical Amendments" (RIN3133-AE42) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 4, 2014; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-8091. A communication from the Director, Office of Financial Research, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Office of Financial Research's 2014 Annual Report to Congress; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-8092. A communication from the Director, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Report to Congress on the Recovery of Threatened and Endangered Species Fiscal Years 2011-2012"; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-8093. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Energy Conservation Program: Test Procedures for Commercial Clothes Washers" ((RIN1904-AC93) (Docket No. EERE-2013-BT-TP-0002)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 3, 2014; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-8094. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safe Harbor Explanations—Eligible Rollover Distributions" (Notice 2014-74) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 4, 2014; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-8095. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch,

Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Rulings and Determination Letters" (Rev. Proc. 2015-7) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 4, 2014; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-8096. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Notice: Tier 2 Tax Rates 2015" received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 4, 2014; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-8097. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Realignment of Technical Work between the Tax Exempt and the Government Entities Division of Associate Chief Counsel (Tax Exempt and Government Entities)" (Announcement 2014-34) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 4, 2014; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-8098. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "2015 Section 1274A CPI Adjustments" (Rev. Rul. 2014-30) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 4, 2014; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-8099. A communication from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Case-Zablocki Act, 1 U.S.C. 112b, as amended, the report of the texts and background statements of international agreements, other than treaties (List 2014-0162—2014-0176); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-8100. A communication from the Director of Regulations and Policy Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Content and Format of Labeling for Human Prescription Drug and Biological Products; Requirements for Pregnancy and Lactation Labeling" ((RIN0910-AF11) (Docket No. FDA-2006-N-0515; formerly Docket No. 2006N-0467)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 8, 2014; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-8101. A communication from the Acting District of Columbia Auditor, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Certification of Fiscal Year 2015 Total Local Source General Fund Revenue Estimate (Net of Dedicated Taxes) in Support of the District's Issuance of General Obligation Bonds (Series 2014C and 2014D)"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-8102. A communication from the Chairman of the Broadcasting Board of Governors, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Board's Performance and Accountability Report for fiscal year 2014; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-8103. A communication from the Chief Financial Officer, National Labor Relations Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Performance and Accountability Report for Fiscal Year 2014"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-8104. A communication from the Board Members, Railroad Retirement Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Railroad Re-

tirement Board's Performance and Accountability Report for Fiscal Year 2014, including the Office of Inspector General's Auditor's Report; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-8105. A communication from the Secretary of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department's Semiannual Report to Congress on Audit Follow-up for the period of April 1, 2014 through September 30, 2014; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-8106. A communication from the Chairman of the Broadcasting Board of Governors, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Office of Inspector General's Semiannual Report for the period of April 1, 2014 through September 30, 2014; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-8107. A communication from the Chief Executive Officer, Corporation for National and Community Service, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Semiannual Report of the Inspector General and the Corporation for National and Community Service's Response and Report on Final Action for the period from April 1, 2014 through September 30, 2014; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-8108. A joint communication from the Chairman and the General Counsel, National Labor Relations Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Office of Inspector General Semiannual Report for the period of April 1, 2014 through September 30, 2014; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-8109. A communication from the Chairman, Federal Maritime Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from April 1, 2014 through September 30, 2014; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-8110. A communication from the Special Counsel, United States Office of the Special Counsel, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Office of Special Counsel's Performance and Accountability Report for fiscal year 2014; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-8111. A communication from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Section 73.202(b), Table of Allotments, FM Broadcast Stations. (Rough Rock, Arizona)" ((MB Docket No. 14-46) (DA 14-1334)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 4, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8112. A communication from the Departmental Freedom of Information and Privacy Act Officer, Office of the Secretary, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Public Information, Freedom of Information Act and Privacy Act Regulations; Correction" (RIN0605-AA33) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 4, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8113. A communication from the Departmental Freedom of Information and Privacy Act Officer, Office of the Secretary, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Public Information, Freedom of Information Act and Privacy Act Regulations" (RIN0605-AA33) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 4, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8114. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone; Elizabeth River; Portsmouth, VA" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2014-0693)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 4, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8115. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone; University of Cincinnati Bearcats Football Fireworks; Ohio River, Mile 470.4-470.8; Cincinnati, OH" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2014-0419)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 4, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8116. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone; Natchez Specialties New Year's Eve Firework Display, Lower Mississippi River, Mile Marker, (MM) 363.5 to 364.5" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2014-0242)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 4, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8117. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone; Carquinez Strait Cable Repair Operation, Martinez, CA" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2014-0950)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 4, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8118. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Regulated Navigation Area, Lake Michigan; Chicago Harbor Lock, Chicago, IL to Calumet Harbor, Chicago, IL" ((RIN1625-AA11) (Docket No. USCG-2014-0592)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 4, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8119. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Drawbridge Operation Regulation; Darby Creek, Essington, PA" ((RIN1625-AA09) (Docket No. USCG-2014-0367)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 4, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8120. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Changes to the Inland Navigation Rules, Technical, Organizational, and Conforming Amendments" ((RIN1625-AB88) (Docket No. USCG-2012-0102)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 4, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8121. A communication from the Senior Counsel, Wireless Telecommunications Commission, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "2004 and 2006 Biennial Regulatory Reviews—Streamlining and Other Revisions of Parts 1 and 17 of the Commission's Rules Governing Construction, Marking and Lighting of Antenna Structures; Amendments to Modernize and Clarify

Part 17 of the Commission's Rules Concerning Construction, Marking and Lighting of Antenna Structures" ((WT Docket No. 10-88; RM 11349) (FCC 14-117)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 5, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8122. A communication from the Administrator, Transportation Security Administration, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Administration's decision to enter into a contract with a private security screening company to provide screening services at Sarasota-Bradenton International Airport (SRQ); to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8123. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone; Pier Removal, WI Central Railroad Bridge, Fox River, Green Bay, WI" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2014-0902)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 4, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8124. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone; Salvage Operations, Lake Michigan, Navy Pier, Chicago, IL" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2014-0980)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 4, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8125. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone; Upper Mississippi River between mile 44 and 46; Thebes, IL" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2014-0878)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 4, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8126. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone; Upper Mississippi River between mile 38.0 and 46.0, Thebes IL; and between mile 78.0 and 81.0, Grand Tower, IL" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2014-0907)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 4, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8127. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone; Salvage Operations, Chicago River, Chicago, IL" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2014-0951)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 4, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8128. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Security Zone; USCGC Hamilton Commissioning Ceremony, Charleston Harbor, Charleston, SC" ((RIN1625-AA87) (Docket No. USCG-2014-0698)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 4, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8129. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources in the Gulf of Mexico and Atlantic Region; Framework Amendment 1" ((RIN0648-BE31) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 4, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8130. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources in the Gulf of Mexico and Atlantic Region; Framework Action" ((RIN0648-BD58) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 4, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8131. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "International Fisheries; Western and Central Pacific Fisheries for Highly Migratory Species; Fishing Effort Limits in Purse Seine Fisheries for 2014" ((RIN0648-BD94) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 4, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8132. A communication from the Acting Director of the Regulation Policy and Management Office of the General Counsel, Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Home Improvements and Structural Alterations (HISA) Benefits Program" ((RIN2900-AO17) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 3, 2014; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-8133. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Hexythiazox; Pesticide Tolerance for Emergency Exemptions" (FRL No. 9919-69) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 9, 2014; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-8134. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "C.I. Pigment Yellow 1; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance" (FRL No. 9919-40) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 9, 2014; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-8135. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Disopropanolamine; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance" (FRL No. 9919-34) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 9, 2014; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-8136. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule en-

titled "Alpha-cypermethrin; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL No. 9919-88) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 9, 2014; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-8137. A communication from the Director of Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Deletion of Certification Requirement Regarding Separation of Duties of Senior Leaders" ((RIN0750-AI48) (DFARS Case 2015-D003)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 10, 2014; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-8138. A communication from the Director of Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Foreign Commercial Satellite Services" ((RIN0750-AI32) (DFARS Case 2014-D010)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 10, 2014; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-8139. A communication from the Director of Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: State Sponsors of Terrorism" ((RIN0750-AI34) (DFARS Case 2015-D014)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 10, 2014; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-8140. A communication from the Director of Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Update Contractor and Government Entity (CAGE) Code Information" ((RIN0750-AI44) (DFARS Case 2014-D013)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 10, 2014; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-8141. A communication from the Director of Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Elimination of Quarterly Reporting of Actual Performance Outside the United States" ((RIN0750-AI47) (DFARS Case 2015-D001)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 10, 2014; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-8142. A communication from the Director of Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Animal Welfare" ((RIN0750-AI22) (DFARS Case 2015-D038)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 10, 2014; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-8143. A communication from the Director of Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Use of Military Construction Funds in Countries Bordering the Arabian Sea" ((RIN0750-AI33) (DFARS Case 2015-D016)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 10, 2014; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-8144. A communication from the Director of Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Forward Pricing Rate Proposal Adequacy Checklist" ((RIN0750-AH86)



(DFARS Case 2015-D035) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 10, 2014; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-8145. A communication from the Under Secretary for Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, a Foreign Policy Report entitled "Report to the Congress: Expansion of the Microprocessor Military End Use and End User Control"; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-8146. A communication from the Senior Counsel, Bureau of the Fiscal Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Regulations Governing Retirement Savings Bonds" (31 CFR Part 347) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 10, 2014; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-8147. A communication from the Secretary of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the export to the People's Republic of China of items not detrimental to the U.S. space launch industry; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-8148. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, Office of the General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Department of Transportation, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 9, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8149. A communication from the Federal Register Officer, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Consumer Price Index Adjustments of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 Limit of Liability for Offshore Facilities" (RIN1010-AD87) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 9, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8150. A communication from the Director, Office of Surface Mining, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "North Dakota Regulatory Program" ((SATS No. ND-052-FOR) (Docket No. OSM-2012-0021)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 10, 2014; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-8151. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Wisconsin; Nitrogen Oxide Combustion Turbine Alternative Control Requirements for the Milwaukee-Racine Former Nonattainment Area" (FRL No. 9920-20-Region 5) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 9, 2014; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-8152. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revisions to the California State Implementation Plan, Antelope Valley Air Quality Management District and South Coast Air Quality Management District" (FRL No. 9919-76-Region 9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 9, 2014; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-8153. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division,

Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Indiana; Open Burning Rule" (FRL No. 9920-15-Region 5) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 9, 2014; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-8154. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans and Designation of Areas for Air Quality Planning Purposes; Indiana; Redesignation of Lake and Porter Counties to Attainment of the 2008 Eight-Hour Ozone Standard" (FRL No. 9920-14-Region 5) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 9, 2014; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-8155. A communication from the Secretary of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department of Labor's Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from April 1, 2014 through September 30, 2014; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. NELSON, from the Special Committee on Aging:

Special Report entitled "Fighting Fraud: Lessons Learned from the Senate Aging Committee's Consumer Hotline" (Rept. No. 113-305).

By Mr. NELSON, from the Special Committee on Aging:

Special Report entitled "Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Benefit: Increasing Use and Access of Affordable Prescription Drugs" (Rept. No. 113-306).

By Ms. LANDRIEU, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 1784. A bill to improve timber management on Oregon and California Railroad and Coos Bay Wagon Road grant land, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 113-307).

By Mrs. BOXER, from the Committee on Environment and Public Works, without amendment:

S. 1463. A bill to amend the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 to prohibit importation, exportation, transportation, sale, receipt, acquisition, and purchase in interstate or foreign commerce, or in a manner substantially affecting interstate or foreign commerce, of any live animal of any prohibited wildlife species (Rept. No. 113-308).

By Mr. MENENDEZ, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, without amendment:

H.R. 4573. An act to protect children from exploitation, especially sex trafficking in tourism, by providing advance notice of intended travel by registered child-sex offenders outside the United States to the government of the country of destination, requesting foreign governments to notify the United States when a known child-sex offender is seeking to enter the United States, and for other purposes.

By Mr. MENENDEZ, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute and with an amended preamble:

S. Res. 595. A resolution recognizing Nobel Laureates Kailash Satyarthi and Malala Yousafzai for their efforts to end the financial exploitation of children and to ensure the right of all children to an education.

By Mr. MENENDEZ, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, without amendment and with a preamble:

S. Res. 597. A resolution commemorating and supporting the goals of World AIDS day.

By Mr. MENENDEZ, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, with an amendment:

S. 2922. A bill to reinstate reporting requirements related to United States-Hong Kong relations.

By Mr. MENENDEZ, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. Con. Res. 38. A Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that Warren Weinstein should be returned home to his family.

#### EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Ms. LANDRIEU for the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

\*Colette Dodson Honorable, of Arkansas, to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for the remainder of the term expiring June 30, 2017.

By Mr. MENENDEZ for the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Leslie Berger Kiernan, of Maryland, as an Alternate Representative of the United States of America, to the Sixty-ninth Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations.

Antony Blinken, of New York, to be Deputy Secretary of State.

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, for the Committee on Foreign Relations I report favorably the following nomination list which was printed in the RECORD on the date indicated, and ask unanimous consent, to save the expense of reprinting on the Executive Calendar that this nomination lie at the Secretary's desk for the information of Senators.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Foreign Service nominations beginning with Melinda Masonis and ending with Jeffrey R. Zihlman, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 10, 2014.

By Mr. LEAHY for the Committee on the Judiciary.

Joan Marie Azrack, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York.

Elizabeth K. Dillon, of Virginia, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Virginia.

Loretta Copeland Biggs, of North Carolina, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of North Carolina.

Michael P. Botticelli, of the District of Columbia, to be Director of National Drug Control Policy.

\*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

### INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. VITTER:

S. 2998. A bill to allow for the portability of funds under title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself and Mr. GRASSLEY):

S. 2999. A bill to reauthorize and improve the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. HATCH:

S. 3000. A bill to establish the Hurricane Sand Dunes National Recreation Area in the State of Utah, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. TESTER (for himself and Mr. MORAN):

S. 3001. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide leave to any new Federal employee who is a veteran with a service-connected disability rated at 30 percent or more for purposes of undergoing medical treatment for such disability, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. STABENOW (for herself, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. BROWN, and Ms. BALDWIN):

S. 3002. A bill to control the spread of aquatic invasive species between the Great Lakes basin and the Mississippi River basin, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. COBURN:

S. 3003. A bill to protect the Social Security Disability Insurance program and provide other support for working disabled Americans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. HATCH (for himself and Mr. BENNET):

S. 3004. A bill to promote the development of meaningful treatments for patients; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. CARDIN:

S. 3005. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for a progressive consumption tax and to reform the income tax, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MORAN:

S. 3006. A bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to use existing authorities to furnish health care at non-Department of Veterans Affairs facilities to veterans who live more than 40 miles driving distance from the closest medical facility of the Department that furnishes the care sought by the veteran; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. HEINRICH):

S. 3007. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security act to extend the application of the Medicare payment rate floor to primary care services furnished under Medicaid and to apply the rate floor to additional providers of primary services; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. WHITEHOUSE:

S. 3008. A bill to extend temporarily the extended period of protection for members of uniformed services relating to mortgages, mortgage foreclosure, and eviction, and for other purposes; considered and passed.

### SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. TOOMEY (for himself and Mr. CASEY):

S. Res. 599. A resolution recognizing the 100-year anniversary of Big Brothers Big Sisters Southeastern Pennsylvania; considered and agreed to.

### ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 313

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) was added as a cosponsor of S. 313, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the tax treatment of ABLE accounts established under State programs for the care of family members with disabilities, and for other purposes.

S. 1445

At the request of Mr. PRYOR, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1445, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for the participation of optometrists in the National Health Service Corps scholarship and loan repayment programs, and for other purposes.

S. 1695

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1695, a bill to designate a portion of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge as wilderness.

S. 2301

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2301, a bill to amend section 2259 of title 18, United States Code, and for other purposes.

S. 2828

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the names of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 2828, a bill to impose sanctions with respect to the Russian Federation, to provide additional assistance to Ukraine, and for other purposes.

S. 2930

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, the names of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS), the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE) and the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) were added as cosponsors of S. 2930, a bill to direct the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide for the conduct of an evaluation of mental health care and suicide prevention programs of the Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Affairs, to require a pilot program on loan repayment for psychia-

trists who agree to serve in the Veterans Health Administration of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

S. 2941

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. KIRK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2941, a bill to combat human trafficking.

S. 2990

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2990, a bill to establish a State Trade and Export Promotion Grant Program.

S. RES. 595

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 595, a resolution recognizing Nobel Laureates Kailash Satyarthi and Malala Yousafzai for their efforts to end the financial exploitation of children and to ensure the right of all children to an education.

S. RES. 597

At the request of Mr. COONS, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 597, a resolution commemorating and supporting the goals of World AIDS day.

AMENDMENT NO. 4091

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the names of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) and the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 4091 intended to be proposed to H.R. 3979, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to ensure that emergency services volunteers are not taken into account as employees under the shared responsibility requirements contained in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

### STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. COBURN:

S. 3003. A bill to protect the Social Security Disability Insurance program and provide other support for working disabled Americans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. COBURN. Mr. President, as a father, grandfather, and doctor, there are few issues that are more important to me than making sure Social Security benefits are protected for both current and future generations. While both the Social Security Disability Insurance program and the Social Security Insurance program will be exhausted during my kids' lifetime, the disability program's finances are particularly dire.

Since 2005, the disability trust fund has paid out more in benefits each year than taxpayers pay back in. Last year alone the shortfall was \$32 billion. As a result, the trust fund will run out of

money by 2016, after which the Social Security Administration, the “Agency,” will only be able to pay 81 percent of disability benefits to the 11 million Americans currently dependent on them. This outcome is unacceptable.

Faced with the impending insolvency of the disability program, politicians have debated the principal causes of the trust fund’s rapidly expanding shortfall. Some argue the program does not need reform, believing that the increase in the disability rolls is due to factors beyond our control. Citing aging baby-boomers and the rise of women in the workplace, opponents of reform argue that dramatically rising disability spending was and is unavoidable.

That is simply wrong. Since 1989, the percentage of working-age Americans receiving disability benefits has more than doubled, while the percentage of Americans reporting a work limitation has remained fairly stable. A paper published by the Center for American Progress and the Brookings Institution noted that even among middle-aged men, the fraction receiving disability benefits has risen by 45 percent since 1988.

A significant driver of the program’s increased cost is fraud, waste, and abuse. Over the past 4 years, the U.S. Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, the “committee”, and the U.S. Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, the “subcommittee” have conducted several bipartisan investigations into aspects of the Agency’s disability programs and uncovered significant problems with the program that Congress and the Agency need to correct.

In 2012, the subcommittee looked at a random sample of 300 disability cases and found that one-quarter of the decisions made by the Agency were not supported by the medical record. Much of this was the result of the Agency’s poor supervision of its 1,500 Administrative Law Judges “ALJs”. This was not just the subcommittee’s judgment; the Agency agreed. After conducting its own study, SSA similarly found that 23 percent of ALJ decisions nationally were not supported by the record.

In 2013, the Committee issued a report showing how the disability programs could be gamed by attorneys, doctors, and ALJs. The report detailed how attorney Eric C. Conn, ALJ David Daugherty, and several doctors conspired to manufacture fraudulent medical evidence to award benefits. Mr. Conn got rich and also paid a few doctors millions of dollars to sign fraudulent medical evidence, which Judge Daugherty then used to approve claims without a hearing. The result of their plan was millions in potentially fraudulent disability awards. Mr. Conn became the third highest-paid disability

attorney in the country, and we found a number of large, unexplained cash deposits in Judge Daugherty’s bank accounts that were not reported on his taxes or his public disclosures.

Both reports highlighted how the Agency’s push to reduce the hearings backlog came with significant costs: the Agency paid little regard to the quality of decisions being made by ALJs, and focused only on encouraging ALJs to decide as many cases as possible.

The Agency’s Office of Inspector General recently issued a report estimating that a group of high-approving judges granted at least \$2 billion in improper benefits. As a result, the Agency will pay out another \$273 million in improper benefits each year.

This is only a sample of the work the Committee and Subcommittee have done in the last few years, and it does not crack the surface of the excellent work done by the Agency’s Office of Inspector General, including uncovering huge fraud schemes in New York and Puerto Rico.

The program’s antiquated, subjective, and ambiguous rules make it easier for lawyers, doctors and claimants to game the system.

Changes in program criteria used to determine eligibility for benefits has made determinations less objective. Researchers at the National Bureau of Economic Research attributed 53 percent of growth for men and 38 percent of growth for women not to age, workforce participation, or economic factors, but to weakened eligibility criteria.

Since changes by Congress in 1984, the Social Security Administration no longer makes benefit decisions based strictly on medical evidence, but instead determines whether vocational factors such as age, education, and skills prevent an individual from working “any job in the national economy,” a standard that should be hard to meet. But the number of applicants approved based on this standard has more than doubled.

Eligibility criteria are not the only rules that can be gamed. Most recently, I examined how some claimant representatives systematically withhold medical evidence from the Agency to help their clients win benefits and engage in other misconduct to pad their pockets and clog the disability program.

What I found is a program that offers backward incentives for everyone from the applicant and representatives to the beneficiaries. Because the program accepts applicants only after they quit their job, and provides them with rehabilitation services only after they start receiving benefits, applicants must leave their job and often go years before they receive services they need. Because beneficiaries will lose their benefits if they make too much money,

there are discouraged from working to their abilities. Because the program rewards representatives only if they win, and awards greater fees the longer the case sits, representatives hide bad evidence, delay decisions, and provide poor representation to disabled Americans.

For most Americans, disability benefits should not continue indefinitely for their lifetime. Yet only one-half of 1 percent of individuals on disability rolls leave because they have returned to work and earned over the amount allowable by the Agency.

Additionally, scholars believe 23 percent of applicants are on the margin of program entry—that is, whether they are awarded benefits depends on who reviews their case. Accordingly, there is a relatively high percentage of beneficiaries that can work, but choose not to, either because they do not want to lose their benefits, both monetary and Medicare, or because they need supports that are not currently offered to them.

Our Federal laws, including the Americans with Disabilities Act and dozens of Federal work programs, are designed to assist disabled Americans in leading integrated, self-sufficient lives. Yet we have failed to target and coordinate the resources they need before they have to leave their jobs. The Social Security Advisory Board, SSAB attributes Ticket to Work’s low success rate to the fact that intervention “comes too late in the process—after the individual’s connection to employment has been severed and frequently after the individual has undergone a lengthy process of proving inability to work.”

According to the SSAB, “focusing all of the return-to-work efforts inside the structure of the disability program seems to be too late for many individuals. In order for the intervention to be effective, it needs to occur before the individual comes to SSA, before he applies for SSDI or SSI, and before the attachment to the workforce is lost.” The SSAB has advocated for comprehensive front-end services, arguing they are “a real chance to access tailored services that can enhance return to work efforts.”

When the trust fund is exhausted in 2016, many Members of Congress will say we just need to move funds from the Social Security retirement program

Let me be clear: this is not a solution; it is a Band-Aid, a temporary fix that takes money away from seniors and will eventually hurt taxpayers when both funds go broke in 2033.

I hope there will be a rigorous debate in the next year about how we can better serve disabled Americans with a program that gives them the resources they need to work to the extent they are able and protects benefits for those who are forced to rely on them. The

disability program is an important safety net, but it does not serve the disabled or the taxpayers to treat it like an early retirement program or long-term unemployment.

This is a conversation that will take place after I have left the Senate. Accordingly, after 4 years of research, investigations, and thoughtful meetings with other interested, engaged parties, today I am offering a bill I believe can be used as a blueprint to shore up the fund before its exhaustion in 2016, fix systemic problems with the program, and provide targeted resources for the millions of disabled Americans who want to work to the best of their abilities.

The Protecting Social Security Disability Act of 2014 was drafted with three goals in mind: first, to make systemic changes to the program that preserve it for future generations; second, to ensure benefits are adequate and quickly available for those who need them by adding program integrity measures that root out fraud, waste and abuse; and third, to provide resources and incentives to those disabled Americans who want to work and have the ability to do so.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the section-by-section summary of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

## II. SECTION-BY-SECTION SUMMARY OF THE BILL

*Title: To protect the Social Security Disability Insurance program and provide other support for working disabled Americans, and for other purposes.*

*Short Title: Protecting Social Security Disability Act of 2014*

### TITLE I—ENSURING THE LONG-TERM SOLVENCY OF THE DISABILITY INSURANCE TRUST FUND

#### *Sec. 101. Application of actuarial reduction for disabled beneficiaries who attain early retirement age.*

Requires that disabled worker beneficiaries be converted to retired worker status at the Earliest Eligibility Age.

Any individuals who are categorized as Medical Improvement Not Expected (see below) are exempt.

#### *Sec. 102. Reviews and time-limiting of disability benefits.*

Disability Classifications. Mandates that all beneficiaries be classified as follows when they are admitted on to the rolls:

Medical Improvement Expected (MIE, improvement within 1-2 years);

Medical Improvement Likely (MIL, improvement within 3-5 years);

Medical Improvement Possible (MIP, improvement not likely to be within 5 years, but improvement is possible); and

Medical Improvement Not Expected (MINE, there is no known effective treatment). Age may not be used as a factor to categorize someone in the MINE category who otherwise would not be.

Continuing Disability Reviews.

MILs and MIPs will have mandatory full medical continuing disability reviews during the 5th year and 7th year of benefits, respectively.

Any individual may be subject to an earlier review if the Commissioner of Social Security has reason to believe the individual is not under a disability, but such a review cannot be initiated on the basis of income earned under Section 301 (below).

Reviews under this paragraph are in addition to, and do not substitute for, other reviews required by the Social Security Act.

The standard of review will be the same as conducted for an initial determination, rather than the medical improvement standard, except that any income the individual is now earning under Section 301 (below) will not be considered.

Time-limiting Disability Benefits for MIE Individuals.

Benefits will be time-limited to 3 years for MIEs.

MIEs may file a timely reapplication for benefits during the last twelve to fourteen months of their benefit period.

Notwithstanding the above, a reapplication may be deemed timely if the individual can show good cause for failure to submit during the period described above and it is submitted no later than 6 months before the end of the termination month applicable.

There will be no waiting period for benefits/Medicare if an individual's timely reapplication is approved.

If an initial decision has not been made on a timely reapplication when the individual's benefit term ends, the individual's benefits will continue until an initial determination is made.

If a final decision has not been made on a timely reapplication when the individual's benefit term ends, and the individual requests a hearing to review an unfavorable initial decision, the individual may request to have benefits extended until a hearing decision is made. If the individual is determined not to be disabled, any benefits paid after benefit term has ceased will be considered overpayments.

A previous award of benefits shall have no bearing on the reapplication, and the continuing disability review rules do not apply.

#### *Sec. 103. Adjustment of age criteria for social security disability insurance medical-vocational guidelines.*

Age cannot be considered as a factor using the grids for any individual aged less than the Normal Retirement Age minus 12 years. This means every time the Normal Retirement Age is increased, so too will the age for disability purposes.

SSA must consider the share and ages of individuals currently participating in the labor force and the number and types of jobs available in the current economy when considering vocational factors.

Starting in two years, and every year thereafter, SSA must keep a current jobs list so examiners are considering the current economy when determining whether an individual can work any job in the national economy.

#### *Sec. 104. Mandatory collection of negotiated civil monetary penalties.*

Mandates SSA collect the penalties negotiated by the Inspector General in cases of fraud by beneficiaries.

#### *Sec. 105. Required electronic filing of wage withholding returns.*

Requires that all W-2s be submitted electronically but provides a hardship exemption for small businesses with 25 employees or less for the first five years, and then moving to 5 employees or less after that.

### TITLE II—PROGRAM INTEGRITY: REFORMING STANDARDS AND PROCEDURES FOR DISABILITY HEARINGS, MEDICAL EVIDENCE, AND CLAIMANT REPRESENTATIVES

#### *Sec. 201. Elimination of reconsideration review level for an initial adverse determination of an application for disability insurance benefits.*

Removes the reconsideration review in the remaining states that still have it so cases can move quickly to a hearing before an ALJ.

#### *Sec. 202. Deadline for submission of medical evidence; exclusion of certain medical evidence.*

Closing the Record. Prevents SSA from considering evidence submitted less than 5 days before a hearing with an ALJ and provides a "good cause" standard for failing to meet that deadline that is the same as used in federal court. In no case can evidence be submitted if it was obtained after the ALJ's decision or submitted 1 year after an ALJ's decision.

Applicants, their representative, or a disability hearing attorney (defined in section 203 below) may request that a hearing be postponed to complete the record for no more than 30 days if it is made at least 7 days prior to the hearing date and if the party shows good cause.

Exclusion of Medical Evidence. Makes it clear that claimants and their representatives must submit all known, relevant medical evidence to SSA, whether the evidence is favorable or unfavorable, and requires that claimants certify to the ALJ at a hearing that they have done so. Evidence may not be considered otherwise. There is an exception for attorney-client privileged communications. It also provides clear civil and criminal penalties for the failure to follow these rules.

Prohibits SSA from considering evidence furnished by a physician who is not licensed, has been sanctioned, or is under investigation for ethical misconduct.

#### *Sec. 203. Non-adversarial disability hearing attorneys.*

Creates a disability hearing attorney position to develop the record, represent the government in hearings where the claimant has representation, recommend on the record decisions where clearly warranted, and to refer cases to the Appeals Council if they disagree with the ALJ's grant of benefits.

Requires the Agency to properly vet and train the staff.

#### *Sec. 204. Procedural rules for hearings.*

Requires SSA to create and publish procedural rules for hearings.

Allows ALJs to impose certain fines and other sanctions for failure to follow these rules.

#### *Sec. 205. Prohibits attorneys who have relinquished a license to practice in the face of an ethics investigation from serving as a claimant representative.*

Any representative seeking payment for their services has an affirmative burden of certifying to SSA they meet the rules.

Attorneys must certify to SSA they have never been disbarred or suspended from any court or relinquished a license to practice in the face of a misconduct investigation.

#### *Sec. 206. Applying judicial code of conduct to administrative law judges.*

This makes ALJs subject to the Judicial Code of Conduct.

#### *Sec. 207. Evaluating medical evidence.*

Removes the controlling weight standard given to opinion evidence provided by treating physicians.

For any healthcare providers filling out a Residual Functional Capacity form, the claimant has to provide them with a Medical Consultant Acknowledgement Form (created by SSA) that discloses how medical evidence will be used by SSA, instructions on filling out RFC forms, and information on the legal and ethical obligations of a practitioner providing such an assessment. The practitioner must sign and certify they read and understand the contents of the form and include it with the RFC or the evidence cannot be considered by SSA. This also provides penalties for forging the certification.

Allows ALJs to request and use Symptom Validity Tests and social media and requires SSA provide training on how to weigh such evidence.

*Sec. 208. Reforming fees paid to attorneys and other claimant representatives.*

Representatives must account for work performed on a case even if there is a valid fee agreement.

SSA can no longer reimburse representatives for travel expenses.

The IG must perform annual reviews of the highest-earning claimant representatives that look for repetitive language in their evidence, any licensing problems, and whether there is a disproportionate number of the representatives' cases being determined by a particular ALJ.

Representatives cannot receive fees from the Equal Access to Justice Act for: (1) hearings before an ALJ; and (2) if they submitted new evidence after the hearing.

*Sec. 209. Strengthening the administrative law judge quality review process.*

The Division of Quality shall conduct an annual review on a sample of cases by "outlier" ALJs (those with 85% or higher approvals and 700 or more cases that year) and report to SSA on its findings.

Any cases determined to be granted in error must have a continuing disability review within six months.

*Sec. 210. Permitting data matching by the Inspector General of the Social Security Administration.*

Exempts Inspectors General from the applicable Computer Matching and Privacy Protection Act of 1988 restrictions, which mandate cumbersome rules to approve agreements with other agencies to share records for investigations.

*Sec. 211. Accounting for Social Security Program Integrity Spending.*

Amounts made available for program integrity spending shall be in a separate account within the federal budget and funded in a separate account in the appropriations bill.

*Sec. 212. Use of the National Directory of New Hires.*

Mandates that SSA consult the National Directory of New Hires when determining whether an individual is making above the substantial gainful activity limits.

**TITLE III—PROVIDING SUPPORT FOR WORKING, DISABLED AMERICANS**

*Sec. 301. Encouraging work through the Work Incentive Benefit System.*

Removes Ticket to Work.

Implements the Work Incentive Benefit Program created by Dr. Jagadeesh Gokhale, member of the Social Security Advisory Board. The program incentivizes disability beneficiaries to go back to work to the extent they are able by allowing them to keep more of what they earn while receiving diminished benefits. The program is different

from the Benefit Offset National Demonstration (BOND) in that it uses a sliding scale (similar to the Earned Income Tax Credit) to encourage beneficiaries to maximize their earnings.

Puts in place a reimbursement structure for state vocational rehabilitation agencies that shares the savings accrued when a beneficiary returns to work under the Work Incentive Benefit Program and thus receives a lower benefit. The share of these savings state VR agencies are entitled to will increase based on the severity of the disability, to ensure VR agencies are targeting those who need the most help.

*Sec. 302. Early-intervention demonstration project and study.* Requires SSA to implement two projects to:

Identify disability applicants who have not yet entered the program but who are highly likely to be approved, yet who would have some work capacity if given the appropriate supports. Directs the Commissioner to provide targeted vocational rehabilitation, as well as the possibility of health benefits and cash stipends, to selected individuals who voluntarily suspend their disability application in exchange for these supports; and

Study the feasibility of incentives for employers to provide private disability insurance and other support services by reimbursing a portion of payroll taxes when employers can reduce their disability rates (voluntary experience rating).

By Mr. CARDIN:

S. 3005. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for a progressive consumption tax and to reform the income tax, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I am pleased to introduce the Progressive Consumption Tax Act of 2014.

We need a tax code that is fair for American employers and fair for American families. We need a tax code that makes our U.S.-based businesses more competitive. Finally, we need a tax code that allows us to responsibly and reliably collect reasonable revenues.

I applaud the contributions of my colleagues in both the Senate and the House for their efforts in also trying to achieve these goals in tax reform. However, I am adding this bill to the tax reform debate, because I think we need to seriously reconsider the framework for that debate.

Today, we seem to be stuck on 1986-style tax reform—lower the income tax rate, and broaden the base by eliminating tax preferences.

The 1986 reform was a tremendous effort. But, I would argue that that reform lasted less than one year before Congress began tinkering with our income taxes once again. Since then, innumerable changes have made our tax code more and more complicated and, for many taxpayers, less and less fair.

Another issue with reform efforts focusing on our current tax system is this—the extent to which we rely on income taxes is very out of step with the rest of the world.

Compared to other countries that are in the OECD—developed countries with advanced economies, countries that we

want to be competitive with—all taxes as a percentage of GDP in the United States are low.

But, the U.S. is not a low income tax country. Our income tax revenues as a percentage of GDP are higher than the OECD countries. As many of my colleagues have pointed out, we have some of the highest statutory income tax rates in the world.

What accounts for the difference is that all OECD countries except the U.S. have a consumption tax. In fact, about 150 countries now have a consumption tax, many of which were enacted decades ago.

Unlike the U.S., these countries can tax imports and subsidize exports by rebating their consumption taxes for exports—without violating current World Trade Organization, WTO, rules. As important, these countries can sustain reductions in their corporate income tax rates, because they have an alternative and more pro-growth revenue source—a consumption tax.

The Progressive Consumption Tax Act puts this country on a level playing field by providing for a broad-based progressive consumption tax, or PCT, at a rate of 10 percent. The PCT would generate revenue by taxing goods and services, rather than income.

This is not simply an add-on tax. The revenues generated by the Act would be used to eliminate an income tax liability for a significant number of households. Those who do still have an income tax liability would see a much simplified income tax with their marginal rates reduced—the top marginal individual income tax rate, applying to taxable income over \$500,000 for joint filers, would be 28 percent. The current top marginal rate, applying to taxable income over approximately \$450,000 for joint filers, is 39.6 percent.

The act would also slice our corporate rate by more than half, to 17 percent.

Finally, the act would provide rebates to lower- and moderate-income families to counteract their consumption tax burden and to replace essential support programs like the Earned Income Tax Credit and Child Tax Credit. Like the EITC and CTC, Individuals and families who do not have an income tax liability would still be able to receive these rebates.

A key part of the act is progressivity. By eliminating an income tax liability for a significant number of households and providing rebates, the Act is meant to be at least as progressive as the current system.

The act is also meant to responsibly produce reasonable revenues. I know that some have concerns that the act would just provide a new lever for the government to raise funds. That is why the act contains a revenue "circuit breaker" mechanism that returns excess PCT revenues to taxpayers if a certain threshold is met.

Overall, the Progressive Consumption Tax Act has many advantages compared to our current reform efforts.

First, it encourages saving. Under current law, families and individuals are taxed on income, which includes savings. Under the act, most households would be exempt from the income tax, and thus would be able to save tax free.

The act enhances U.S. economic competitiveness. The U.S. corporate income tax rate would be lowered to 17 percent, encouraging multinational corporations to locate here, not abroad. OECD countries currently attracting U.S. multinationals often impose higher consumption or corporate tax rates than those envisioned by the act.

For instance, this year, we heard of many companies that were considering relocating to the U.K. That country's corporate income tax rate is 21 percent and its general consumption tax rate is 20 percent. Under the Act, the U.S. corporate tax rate would become 17 percent and the consumption tax rate would be only 10 percent.

In fact, if the Progressive Consumption Tax Act became law, every top statutory rate in the United States—our individual income tax rate, our corporate tax rate, our consumption tax rate—would be at least five percentage points lower than the OECD average.

The act encourages economic growth. In study that examined 35 years of data on 21 OECD countries, consumption taxes were found to be more growth-friendly than both personal income taxes and corporate income taxes. Corporate income taxes, especially, appear to have the most negative effect on GDP per capita. Growth-oriented tax reform should move away from income tax revenues and towards consumption tax revenues, as the act does.

The act also enhances U.S. trade competitiveness. Countries with consumption taxes can adjust their taxes at the border by rebating exports. That means that these countries can agree to reduced tariffs under trade agreements, can still tax imports with their consumption taxes, and can export their own goods without a full tax load. Because the PCT is border-adjusted, the U.S. would be able to maintain export and import tax parity in the same way as these other countries.

The act reduces income tax compliance costs. Most households would not have an income tax liability under the act—although they would need to provide key pieces of information to the IRS in order to obtain their rebates.

Finally, the act protects low- and middle-income families from an unfair tax burden. Through the income tax exemption and rebate feature, the Progressive Consumption Tax Act aims to ensure that this new tax system is at least as progressive as the current income tax system.

When my colleagues and others talk to me about comprehensive, responsible, pro-growth tax reform, this to me is what we need to do.

That's why I am pleased to introduce Progressive Consumption Tax Act in this Congress. The Act is meant as an opening for serious discussion on this type of reform. We can't just stand by, fight the same tax reform fights we did nearly 30 years ago, and in the meantime watch American jobs move overseas and our income tax system become further riddled with loopholes. I hope we will stand for what is right in our tax code, and enact the type of reform that allows our country to have among the lowest tax rates in the industrialized world, and the fairest system for all Americans.

#### SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

##### SENATE RESOLUTION 599—RECOGNIZING THE 100-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS SOUTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA

Mr. TOOMEY (for himself and Mr. CASEY) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 599

Whereas Big Brothers Big Sisters Southeastern Pennsylvania is a nonprofit organization that provides children facing adversity with strong, enduring, and professionally supported one-to-one mentor relationships;

Whereas Big Brothers Big Sisters Southeastern Pennsylvania serves children who are—

- (1) living in areas with a high poverty rate, areas with a high incidence of juvenile arrests, or single-parent households;
- (2) impacted by homelessness or familial incarceration; or
- (3) attending a struggling school;

Whereas mentors serving as advisors, role models, or friends can diminish risk factors, enhance protective factors, and make a lasting impact on the lives of children;

Whereas Big Brothers Big Sisters Southeastern Pennsylvania supports and enriches the lives of children and promotes and reinforces positive activities, behaviors, and attitudes by working with donors, partners, family members, volunteers, and advocates;

Whereas the Big Brothers Big Sisters Southeastern Pennsylvania mentor program is proven to help at-risk children reach their potential;

Whereas the Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence at the University of Colorado classifies the Big Brothers Big Sisters Southeastern Pennsylvania mentor program as a "blueprint" model intervention program for effectively reducing adolescent violent crime, aggression, delinquency, and substance abuse;

Whereas "blueprint" programs have the highest standards and meet the most rigorous tests of effectiveness and replicability in the field of helping at-risk children;

Whereas children who participate in the Big Brothers Big Sisters Southeastern Pennsylvania mentor program perform better in

school and develop better relationships with their families and peers;

Whereas Big Brothers Big Sisters Southeastern Pennsylvania makes meaningful, monitored matches between adult volunteers, known as "Bigs", and at-risk children, known as "Littles", throughout Chester County, Delaware County, Montgomery County, and Philadelphia County;

Whereas Big Brothers Big Sisters Southeastern Pennsylvania supports nearly 3,000 mentor matches each year;

Whereas an estimated 250,000 underserved children in southeastern Pennsylvania remain at risk for academic failure; and

Whereas Big Brothers Big Sisters Southeastern Pennsylvania is committed to bringing life-changing work to the children in the region who need it the most: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate recognizes the 100-year anniversary of Big Brothers Big Sisters Southeastern Pennsylvania.

#### AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 4092. Mr. DURBIN (for Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself and Mr. CORKER)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 2828, to impose sanctions with respect to the Russian Federation, to provide additional assistance to Ukraine, and for other purposes.

SA 4093. Mr. DURBIN (for Mr. KING (for himself, Mr. MORAN, and Mr. WARNER)) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 3329, to enhance the ability of community financial institutions to foster economic growth and serve their communities, boost small businesses, increase individual savings, and for other purposes.

SA 4094. Mr. MERKLEY proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2640, to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to adjust the Crooked River boundary, to provide water certainty for the City of Prineville, Oregon, and for other purposes.

SA 4095. Ms. WARREN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 3979, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to ensure that emergency services volunteers are not taken into account as employees under the shared responsibility requirements contained in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4096. Mr. SCHUMER (for himself and Mr. CORNYN) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1535, to deter terrorism, provide justice for victims, and for other purposes.

SA 4097. Mr. KING (for Mr. ROCKEFELLER (for himself and Mr. THUNE)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1353, to provide for an ongoing, voluntary public-private partnership to improve cybersecurity, and to strengthen cybersecurity research and development, workforce development and education, and public awareness and preparedness, and for other purposes.

SA 4098. Mr. COBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 3979, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to ensure that emergency services volunteers are not taken into account as employees under the shared responsibility requirements contained in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4099. Mr. VITTER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 83, to require the Secretary of the Interior to assemble a team of technical, policy, and financial experts to address the energy needs of the insular areas of the United



States and the Freely Associated States through the development of energy action plans aimed at promoting access to affordable, reliable energy, including increasing use of indigenous clean-energy resources, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

#### TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

**SA 4092.** Mr. DURBIN (for Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself and Mr. CORKER)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 2828, to impose sanctions with respect to the Russian Federation, to provide additional assistance to Ukraine, and for other purposes; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This Act may be cited as the “Ukraine Freedom Support Act of 2014”.

(b) **TABLE OF CONTENTS.**—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
- Sec. 2. Definitions.
- Sec. 3. Statement of policy regarding Ukraine.
- Sec. 4. Sanctions relating to the defense and energy sectors of the Russian Federation.
- Sec. 5. Sanctions on Russian and other foreign financial institutions.
- Sec. 6. Major non-NATO ally status for Ukraine, Georgia, and Moldova.
- Sec. 7. Increased military assistance for the Government of Ukraine.
- Sec. 8. Expanded nonmilitary assistance for Ukraine.
- Sec. 9. Expanded broadcasting in countries of the former Soviet Union.
- Sec. 10. Support for Russian democracy and civil society organizations.
- Sec. 11. Report on non-compliance by the Russian Federation of its obligations under the INF Treaty.
- Sec. 12. Rule of construction.

#### SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) **ACCOUNT; CORRESPONDENT ACCOUNT; PAYABLE-THROUGH ACCOUNT.**—The terms “account”, “correspondent account”, and “payable-through account” have the meanings given those terms in section 5318A of title 31, United States Code.

(2) **APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.**—The term “appropriate congressional committees” means—

(A) the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives.

(3) **DEFENSE ARTICLE; DEFENSE SERVICE; TRAINING.**—The terms “defense article”, “defense service”, and “training” have the meanings given those terms in section 47 of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2794).

(4) **FINANCIAL INSTITUTION.**—The term “financial institution” means a financial institution specified in subparagraph (A), (B), (C), (D), (E), (F), (G), (H), (I), (J), (M), or (Y) of section 5312(a)(2) of title 31, United States Code.

(5) **FOREIGN FINANCIAL INSTITUTION.**—The term “foreign financial institution” has the meaning given that term in section 561.308 of title 31, Code of Federal Regulations (or any corresponding similar regulation or ruling).

(6) **FOREIGN PERSON.**—The term “foreign person” means any individual or entity that

is not a United States citizen, a permanent resident alien, or an entity organized under the laws of the United States or any jurisdiction within the United States.

(7) **KNOWINGLY.**—The term “knowingly”, with respect to conduct, a circumstance, or a result, means that a person has actual knowledge, or should have known, of the conduct, the circumstance, or the result.

(8) **RUSSIAN PERSON.**—The term “Russian person” means—

(A) an individual who is a citizen or national of the Russian Federation; or

(B) an entity organized under the laws of the Russian Federation.

(9) **SPECIAL RUSSIAN CRUDE OIL PROJECT.**—The term “special Russian crude oil project” means a project intended to extract crude oil from—

(A) the exclusive economic zone of the Russian Federation in waters more than 500 feet deep;

(B) Russian Arctic offshore locations; or

(C) shale formations located in the Russian Federation.

#### SEC. 3. STATEMENT OF POLICY REGARDING UKRAINE.

It is the policy of the United States to further assist the Government of Ukraine in restoring its sovereignty and territorial integrity to deter the Government of the Russian Federation from further destabilizing and invading Ukraine and other independent countries in Central and Eastern Europe, the Caucasus, and Central Asia. That policy shall be carried into effect, among other things, through a comprehensive effort, in coordination with allies and partners of the United States where appropriate, that includes economic sanctions, diplomacy, assistance for the people of Ukraine, and the provision of military capabilities to the Government of Ukraine that will enhance the ability of that Government to defend itself and to restore its sovereignty and territorial integrity in the face of unlawful actions by the Government of the Russian Federation.

#### SEC. 4. SANCTIONS RELATING TO THE DEFENSE AND ENERGY SECTORS OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION.

(a) **SANCTIONS RELATING TO THE DEFENSE SECTOR.**—

(1) **ROSOBORONEXPORT.**—Except as provided in subsection (d), not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall impose 3 or more of the sanctions described in subsection (c) with respect to Rosoboronexport.

(2) **RUSSIAN PRODUCERS, TRANSFERORS, OR BROKERS OF DEFENSE ARTICLES.**—Except as provided in subsection (d), on and after the date that is 45 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall impose 3 or more of the sanctions described in subsection (c) with respect to a foreign person the President determines—

(A) is an entity—

(i) owned or controlled by the Government of the Russian Federation or owned or controlled by nationals of the Russian Federation; and

(ii) that—

(I) knowingly manufactures or sells defense articles transferred into Syria or into the territory of a specified country without the consent of the internationally recognized government of that country;

(II) transfers defense articles into Syria or into the territory of a specified country without the consent of the internationally recognized government of that country; or

(III) brokers or otherwise assists in the transfer of defense articles into Syria or into the territory of a specified country without

the consent of the internationally recognized government of that country; or

(B) knowingly, on or after the date of the enactment of this Act, assists, sponsors, or provides financial, material, or technological support for, or goods or services to or in support of, an entity described in subparagraph (A) with respect to an activity described in clause (ii) of that subparagraph.

(3) **SPECIFIED COUNTRY DEFINED.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—In this subsection, the term “specified country” means—

(i) Ukraine, Georgia, and Moldova; and

(ii) any other country designated by the President as a country of significant concern for purposes of this subsection, such as Poland, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, and the Central Asia republics.

(B) **NOTICE TO CONGRESS.**—The President shall notify the appropriate congressional committees in writing not later than 15 days before—

(i) designating a country as a country of significant concern under subparagraph (A)(ii); or

(ii) terminating a designation under that subparagraph, including the termination of any such designation pursuant to subsection (h).

(b) **SANCTIONS RELATED TO THE ENERGY SECTOR.**—

(1) **DEVELOPMENT OF SPECIAL RUSSIAN CRUDE OIL PROJECTS.**—Except as provided in subsection (d), on and after the date that is 45 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President may impose 3 or more of the sanctions described in subsection (c) with respect to a foreign person if the President determines that the foreign person knowingly makes a significant investment in a special Russian crude oil project.

(2) **AUTHORIZATION FOR EXTENSION OF LICENSING LIMITATIONS ON CERTAIN EQUIPMENT.**—The President, through the Bureau of Industry and Security of the Department of Commerce or the Office of Foreign Assets Control of the Department of the Treasury, as appropriate, may impose additional licensing requirements for or other restrictions on the export or reexport of items for use in the energy sector of the Russian Federation, including equipment used for tertiary oil recovery.

(3) **CONTINGENT SANCTION RELATING TO GAZPROM.**—If the President determines that Gazprom is withholding significant natural gas supplies from member countries of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, or further withholds significant natural gas supplies from countries such as Ukraine, Georgia, or Moldova, the President shall, not later than 45 days after making that determination, impose the sanction described in subsection (c)(7) and at least one additional sanction described in subsection (c) with respect to Gazprom.

(c) **SANCTIONS DESCRIBED.**—The sanctions the President may impose with respect to a foreign person under subsection (a) or (b) are the following:

(1) **EXPORT-IMPORT BANK ASSISTANCE.**—The President may direct the Export-Import Bank of the United States not to approve the issuance of any guarantee, insurance, extension of credit, or participation in the extension of credit in connection with the export of any goods or services to the foreign person.

(2) **PROCUREMENT SANCTION.**—The President may prohibit the head of any executive agency (as defined in section 133 of title 41, United States Code) from entering into any contract for the procurement of any goods or services from the foreign person.



(3) **ARMS EXPORT PROHIBITION.**—The President may prohibit the exportation or provision by sale, lease or loan, grant, or other means, directly or indirectly, of any defense article or defense service to the foreign person and the issuance of any license or other approval to the foreign person under section 38 of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2778).

(4) **DUAL-USE EXPORT PROHIBITION.**—The President may prohibit the issuance of any license and suspend any license for the transfer to the foreign person of any item the export of which is controlled under the Export Administration Act of 1979 (50 U.S.C. App. 2401 et seq.) (as in effect pursuant to the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.)) or the Export Administration Regulations under subchapter C of chapter VII of title 15, Code of Federal Regulations.

(5) **PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS.**—The President may, pursuant to such regulations as the President may prescribe, prohibit any person from—

(A) acquiring, holding, withholding, using, transferring, withdrawing, transporting, or exporting any property that is subject to the jurisdiction of the United States and with respect to which the foreign person has any interest;

(B) dealing in or exercising any right, power, or privilege with respect to such property; or

(C) conducting any transaction involving such property.

(6) **BANKING TRANSACTIONS.**—The President may, pursuant to such regulations as the President may prescribe, prohibit any transfers of credit or payments between financial institutions or by, through, or to any financial institution, to the extent that such transfers or payments are subject to the jurisdiction of the United States and involve any interest of the foreign person.

(7) **PROHIBITION ON INVESTMENT IN EQUITY OR DEBT OF SANCTIONED PERSON.**—The President may, pursuant to such regulations as the President may prescribe, prohibit any United States person from transacting in, providing financing for, or otherwise dealing in—

(A) debt—

(i) of longer than 30 days' maturity of a foreign person with respect to which sanctions are imposed under subsection (a) or of longer than 90 days' maturity of a foreign person with respect to which sanctions are imposed under subsection (b); and

(ii) issued on or after the date on which such sanctions are imposed with respect to the foreign person; or

(B) equity of the foreign person issued on or after that date.

(8) **EXCLUSION FROM THE UNITED STATES AND REVOCATION OF VISA OR OTHER DOCUMENTATION.**—In the case of a foreign person who is an individual, the President may direct the Secretary of State to deny a visa to, and the Secretary of Homeland Security to exclude from the United States, the foreign person, subject to regulatory exceptions to permit the United States to comply with the Agreement regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations, signed at Lake Success June 26, 1947, and entered into force November 21, 1947, between the United Nations and the United States, or other applicable international obligations.

(9) **SANCTIONS ON PRINCIPAL EXECUTIVE OFFICERS.**—In the case of a foreign person that is an entity, the President may impose on the principal executive officer or officers of the foreign person, or on individuals performing

similar functions and with similar authorities as such officer or officers, any of the sanctions described in this subsection applicable to individuals.

(d) **EXCEPTIONS.**—

(1) **IMPORTATION OF GOODS.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The authority to block and prohibit all transactions in all property and interests in property under subsection (c)(5) shall not include the authority to impose sanctions on the importation of goods.

(B) **GOOD DEFINED.**—In this paragraph, the term “good” has the meaning given that term in section 16 of the Export Administration Act of 1979 (50 U.S.C. App. 2415) (as continued in effect pursuant to the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.)).

(2) **ADDITIONAL EXCEPTIONS.**—The President shall not be required to apply or maintain the sanctions under subsection (a) or (b)—

(A) in the case of procurement of defense articles or defense services under existing contracts, subcontracts, or other business agreements, including ancillary or incidental contracts for goods, or for services or funding (including necessary financial services) associated with such goods, as necessary to give effect to such contracts, subcontracts, or other business agreements, and the exercise of options for production quantities to satisfy requirements essential to the national security of the United States—

(i) if the President determines in writing that—

(I) the foreign person to which the sanctions would otherwise be applied is a sole source supplier of the defense articles or services;

(II) the defense articles or services are essential;

(III) alternative sources are not readily or reasonably available; and

(IV) the national interests of the United States would be adversely affected by the application or maintenance of such sanctions; or

(ii) if the President determines in writing that—

(I) such articles or services are essential to the national security under defense co-production agreements; and

(II) the national interests of the United States would be adversely affected by the application or maintenance of such sanctions;

(B) in the case of procurement, to eligible products, as defined in section 308(4) of the Trade Agreements Act of 1979 (19 U.S.C. 2518(4)), of any foreign country or instrumentality designated under section 301(b)(1) of that Act (19 U.S.C. 2511(b)(1));

(C) to products, technology, or services provided under contracts, subcontracts, or other business agreements (including ancillary or incidental contracts for goods, or for services or funding (including necessary financial services) associated with such goods, as necessary to give effect to such contracts, subcontracts, or other business agreements) entered into before the date on which the President publishes in the Federal Register the name of the foreign person with respect to which the sanctions are to be imposed;

(D) to—

(i) spare parts that are essential to United States products or production;

(ii) component parts, but not finished products, essential to United States products or production; or

(iii) routine servicing and maintenance of United States products, to the extent that alternative sources are not readily or reasonably available;

(E) to information and technology essential to United States products or production; or

(F) to food, medicine, medical devices, or agricultural commodities (as those terms are defined in section 101 of the Comprehensive Iran Sanctions, Accountability, and Divestment Act of 2010 (22 U.S.C. 8511)).

(e) **NATIONAL SECURITY WAIVER.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The President may waive the application of sanctions under subsection (a) or (b) with respect to a foreign person if the President—

(A) determines that the waiver is in the national security interest of the United States; and

(B) submits to the appropriate congressional committees a report on the determination and the reasons for the determination.

(2) **FORM OF REPORT.**—The report required by paragraph (1)(B) shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex.

(f) **TRANSACTION-SPECIFIC NATIONAL SECURITY WAIVER.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The President may waive the application of sanctions under subsection (a) or (b) with respect to a specific transaction if the President—

(A) determines that the transaction is in the national security interest of the United States; and

(B) submits to the appropriate congressional committees a detailed report on the determination and the specific reasons for the determination that a waiver with respect to the transaction is necessary and appropriate.

(2) **FORM OF REPORT.**—The report required by paragraph (1)(B) shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex.

(g) **IMPLEMENTATION; PENALTIES.**—

(1) **IMPLEMENTATION.**—The President may exercise all authorities provided under sections 203 and 205 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1702 and 1704) to carry out the purposes of this section.

(2) **PENALTIES.**—The penalties provided for in subsections (b) and (c) of section 206 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1705) shall apply to a person that violates, attempts to violate, or conspires to violate, or causes a violation of, subsection (a) or (b) of this section, or an order or regulation prescribed under either such subsection, to the same extent that such penalties apply to a person that commits an unlawful act described in section 206(a) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act.

(h) **TERMINATION.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Except as provided in paragraph (2), this section, and sanctions imposed under this section, shall terminate on the date on which the President submits to the appropriate congressional committees a certification that the Government of the Russian Federation has ceased ordering, controlling, or otherwise directing, supporting, or financing, significant acts intended to undermine the peace, security, stability, sovereignty, or territorial integrity of Ukraine, including through an agreement between the appropriate parties.

(2) **APPLICABILITY WITH RESPECT TO SYRIA.**—The termination date under paragraph (1) shall not apply with respect to the provisions of subsection (a) relating to the transfer of defense articles into Syria or sanctions imposed pursuant to such provisions.

**SEC. 5. SANCTIONS ON RUSSIAN AND OTHER FOREIGN FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS.**

(a) **FACILITATION OF CERTAIN DEFENSE- AND ENERGY-RELATED TRANSACTIONS.**—The President may impose the sanction described in subsection (c) with respect to a foreign financial institution that the President determines knowingly engages, on or after the date of the enactment of this Act, in significant transactions involving activities described in subparagraph (A)(ii) or (B) of section 4(a)(2) or paragraph (1) or (3) of section 4(b) for persons with respect to which sanctions are imposed under section 4.

(b) **FACILITATION OF FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS ON BEHALF OF SPECIALLY DESIGNATED NATIONALS.**—The President may impose the sanction described in subsection (c) with respect to a foreign financial institution if the President determines that the foreign financial institution has, on or after the date that is 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, knowingly facilitated a significant financial transaction on behalf of any Russian person included on the list of specially designated nationals and blocked persons maintained by the Office of Foreign Assets Control of the Department of the Treasury, pursuant to—

- (1) this Act;
- (2) Executive Order 13660 (79 Fed. Reg. 13,493), 13661 (79 Fed. Reg. 15,535), or 13662 (79 Fed. Reg. 16,169); or
- (3) any other executive order addressing the crisis in Ukraine.

(c) **SANCTION DESCRIBED.**—The sanction described in this subsection is, with respect to a foreign financial institution, a prohibition on the opening, and a prohibition or the imposition of strict conditions on the maintaining, in the United States of a correspondent account or a payable-through account by the foreign financial institution.

(d) **NATIONAL SECURITY WAIVER.**—The President may waive the application of sanctions under this section with respect to a foreign financial institution if the President—

- (1) determines that the waiver is in the national security interest of the United States; and
- (2) submits to the appropriate congressional committees a report on the determination and the reasons for the determination.

(e) **IMPLEMENTATION; PENALTIES.**—

(1) **IMPLEMENTATION.**—The President may exercise all authorities provided under sections 203 and 205 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1702 and 1704) to carry out the purposes of this section.

(2) **PENALTIES.**—The penalties provided for in subsections (b) and (c) of section 206 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1705) shall apply to a person that violates, attempts to violate, or conspires to violate, or causes a violation of, subsection (a) or (b) of this section, or an order or regulation prescribed under either such subsection, to the same extent that such penalties apply to a person that commits an unlawful act described in section 206(a) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act.

(f) **TERMINATION.**—This section, and sanctions imposed under this section, shall terminate on the date on which the President submits to the appropriate congressional committees the certification described in section 4(h).

**SEC. 7. INCREASED MILITARY ASSISTANCE FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF UKRAINE.**

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The President is authorized to provide defense articles, defense serv-

ices, and training to the Government of Ukraine for the purpose of countering offensive weapons and reestablishing the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine, including anti-tank and anti-armor weapons, crew weapons and ammunition, counter-artillery radars to identify and target artillery batteries, fire control, range finder, and optical and guidance and control equipment, tactical troop-operated surveillance drones, and secure command and communications equipment, pursuant to the provisions of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2751 et seq.), the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2151 et seq.), and other relevant provisions of law.

(b) **REPORT REQUIRED.**—Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall submit a report detailing the anticipated defense articles, defense services, and training to be provided pursuant to this section and a timeline for the provision of such defense articles, defense services, and training, to—

(1) the Committee on Foreign Relations, the Committee on Appropriations, and the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate; and

(2) the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Committee on Appropriations, and the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives.

(c) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of State \$100,000,000 for fiscal year 2015, \$125,000,000 for fiscal year 2016, and \$125,000,000 for fiscal year 2017 to carry out activities under this section.

(2) **AVAILABILITY OF AMOUNTS.**—Amounts authorized to be appropriated pursuant to paragraph (1) shall remain available for obligation and expenditure through the end of fiscal year 2018.

(d) **AUTHORITY FOR THE USE OF FUNDS.**—The funds made available pursuant to subsection (c) for provision of defense articles, defense services, and training may be used to procure such articles, services, and training from the United States Government or other appropriate sources.

(e) **PROTECTION OF CIVILIANS.**—It is the sense of Congress that the Government of Ukraine should take all appropriate steps to protect civilians.

**SEC. 8. EXPANDED NONMILITARY ASSISTANCE FOR UKRAINE.**

(a) **ASSISTANCE TO INTERNALLY DISPLACED PEOPLE IN UKRAINE.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit a plan, including actions by the United States Government, other governments, and international organizations, to meet the need for protection of and assistance for internally displaced persons in Ukraine, to—

(A) the Committee on Foreign Relations, the Committee on Appropriations, and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Committee on Appropriations, and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives.

(2) **ELEMENTS.**—The plan required by paragraph (1) should include, as appropriate, activities in support of—

- (A) helping to establish a functional and adequately resourced central registration system in Ukraine that can ensure coordination of efforts to provide assistance to internally displaced persons in different regions;
- (B) encouraging adoption of legislation in Ukraine that protects internally displaced

persons from discrimination based on their status and provides simplified procedures for obtaining the new residency registration or other official documentation that is a prerequisite to receiving appropriate social payments under the laws of Ukraine, such as pensions and disability, child, and unemployment benefits; and

(C) helping to ensure that information is available to internally displaced persons about—

- (i) government agencies and independent groups that can provide assistance to such persons in various regions; and
- (ii) evacuation assistance available to persons seeking to flee armed conflict areas.

(3) **ASSISTANCE THROUGH INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS.**—The President shall instruct the United States permanent representative or executive director, as the case may be, to the relevant United Nations voluntary agencies, including the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, and other appropriate international organizations, to use the voice and vote of the United States to support appropriate assistance for internally displaced persons in Ukraine.

(b) **ASSISTANCE TO THE DEFENSE SECTOR OF UKRAINE.**—The Secretary of State and the Secretary of Defense should assist entities in the defense sector of Ukraine to reorient exports away from customers in the Russian Federation and to find appropriate alternative markets for those entities in the defense sector of Ukraine that have already significantly reduced exports to and cooperation with entities in the defense sector of the Russian Federation.

(c) **ASSISTANCE TO ADDRESS THE ENERGY CRISIS IN UKRAINE.**—

(1) **EMERGENCY ENERGY ASSISTANCE.**—

(A) **PLAN REQUIRED.**—The Secretary of State and the Secretary of Energy, in collaboration with the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development and the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, shall work with officials of the Government of Ukraine to develop a short-term emergency energy assistance plan designed to help Ukraine address the potentially severe short-term heating fuel and electricity shortages facing Ukraine in 2014 and 2015.

(B) **ELEMENTS.**—The plan required by subparagraph (A) should include strategies to address heating fuel and electricity shortages in Ukraine, including, as appropriate—

- (i) the acquisition of short-term, emergency fuel supplies;
- (ii) the repair or replacement of infrastructure that could impede the transmission of electricity or transportation of fuel;
- (iii) the prioritization of the transportation of fuel supplies to the areas where such supplies are needed most;
- (iv) streamlining emergency communications throughout national, regional, and local governments to manage the potential energy crisis resulting from heating fuel and electricity shortages;
- (v) forming a crisis management team within the Government of Ukraine to specifically address the potential crisis, including ensuring coordination of the team's efforts with the efforts of outside governmental and nongovernmental entities providing assistance to address the potential crisis; and
- (vi) developing a public outreach strategy to facilitate preparation by the population and communication with the population in the event of a crisis.

(C) ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary of State, the Secretary of Energy, and the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development are authorized to provide assistance in support of, and to invest in short-term solutions for, enabling Ukraine to secure the energy safety of the people of Ukraine during 2014 and 2015, including through—

- (i) procurement and transport of emergency fuel supplies, including reverse pipeline flows from Europe;
- (ii) provision of technical assistance for crisis planning, crisis response, and public outreach;
- (iii) repair of infrastructure to enable the transport of fuel supplies;
- (iv) repair of power generating or power transmission equipment or facilities;
- (v) procurement and installation of compressors or other appropriate equipment to enhance short-term natural gas production;
- (vi) procurement of mobile electricity generation units;
- (vii) conversion of natural gas heating facilities to run on other fuels, including alternative energy sources; and
- (viii) provision of emergency weatherization and winterization materials and supplies.

(2) REDUCTION OF UKRAINE'S RELIANCE ON ENERGY IMPORTS.—

(A) PLANS REQUIRED.—The Secretary of State, in collaboration with the Secretary of Energy and the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, shall work with officials of the Government of Ukraine to develop medium- and long-term plans to increase energy production and efficiency to increase energy security by helping Ukraine reduce its dependence on natural gas imported from the Russian Federation.

(B) ELEMENTS.—The medium- and long-term plans required by subparagraph (A) should include strategies, as appropriate, to—

- (i) improve corporate governance and unbundling of state-owned oil and gas sector firms;
- (ii) increase production from natural gas fields and from other sources, including renewable energy;
- (iii) license new oil and gas blocks transparently and competitively;
- (iv) modernize oil and gas upstream infrastructure; and
- (v) improve energy efficiency.

(C) PRIORITIZATION.—The Secretary of State, the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, and the Secretary of Energy should, during fiscal years 2015 through 2018, work with other donors, including multilateral agencies and nongovernmental organizations, to prioritize, to the extent practicable and as appropriate, the provision of assistance from such donors to help Ukraine to improve energy efficiency, increase energy supplies produced in Ukraine, and reduce reliance on energy imports from the Russian Federation, including natural gas.

(D) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated \$50,000,000 in the aggregate for fiscal years 2016 through 2018 to carry out activities under this paragraph.

(3) SUPPORT FROM THE OVERSEAS PRIVATE INVESTMENT CORPORATION.—The Overseas Private Investment Corporation shall—

- (A) prioritize, to the extent practicable, support for investments to help increase energy efficiency, develop domestic oil and natural gas reserves, improve and repair

electricity infrastructure, and develop renewable and other sources of energy in Ukraine; and

(B) implement procedures for expedited review and, as appropriate, approval, of applications by eligible investors (as defined in section 238 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2198)) for loans, loan guarantees, and insurance for such investments.

(4) SUPPORT BY THE WORLD BANK GROUP AND THE EUROPEAN BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT.—The President shall, to the extent practicable and as appropriate, direct the United States Executive Directors of the World Bank Group and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development to use the voice, vote, and influence of the United States to encourage the World Bank Group and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development and other international financial institutions—

(A) to invest in, and increase their efforts to promote investment in, projects to improve energy efficiency, improve and repair electricity infrastructure, develop domestic oil and natural gas reserves, and develop renewable and other sources of energy in Ukraine; and

(B) to stimulate private investment in such projects.

(d) ASSISTANCE TO CIVIL SOCIETY IN UKRAINE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State and the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development shall, directly or through nongovernmental or international organizations, such as the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, the National Endowment for Democracy, and related organizations—

(A) strengthen the organizational and operational capacity of democratic civil society in Ukraine;

(B) support the efforts of independent media outlets to broadcast, distribute, and share information in all regions of Ukraine;

(C) counter corruption and improve transparency and accountability of institutions that are part of the Government of Ukraine; and

(D) provide support for democratic organizing and election monitoring in Ukraine.

(2) STRATEGY REQUIRED.—Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall submit a strategy to carry out the activities described in paragraph (1) to—

(A) the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

(3) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of State \$20,000,000 for fiscal year 2016 to carry out this subsection.

(4) TRANSPARENCY REQUIREMENTS.—Any assistance provided pursuant to this subsection shall be conducted in as transparent of a manner as possible, consistent with the nature and goals of this subsection. The President shall provide a briefing on the activities funded by this subsection at the request of the committees specified in paragraph (2).

#### SEC. 9. EXPANDED BROADCASTING IN COUNTRIES OF THE FORMER SOVIET UNION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Chairman of the Broadcasting Board of Governors shall submit to Congress a plan, including a cost estimate, for immediately and substantially increasing, and maintain-

ing through fiscal year 2017, the quantity of Russian-language broadcasting into the countries of the former Soviet Union funded by the United States in order to counter Russian Federation propaganda.

(b) PRIORITIZATION OF BROADCASTING INTO UKRAINE, GEORGIA, AND MOLDOVA.—The plan required by subsection (a) shall prioritize broadcasting into Ukraine, Georgia, and Moldova by the Voice of America and Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty.

(c) ADDITIONAL PRIORITIES.—In developing the plan required by subsection (a), the Chairman shall consider—

(1) near-term increases in Russian-language broadcasting for countries of the former Soviet Union (other than the countries specified in subsection (b)), including Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia; and

(2) increases in broadcasting in other critical languages, including Ukrainian and Romanian languages.

(d) BROADCASTING DEFINED.—In this section, the term “broadcasting” means the distribution of media content via radio broadcasting, television broadcasting, and Internet-based platforms, among other platforms.

(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Broadcasting Board of Governors \$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2016 through 2018 to carry out activities under this section.

(2) SUPPLEMENT NOT SUPPLANT.—Amounts authorized to be appropriated pursuant to paragraph (1) shall supplement and not supplant other amounts made available for activities described in this section.

#### SEC. 10. SUPPORT FOR RUSSIAN DEMOCRACY AND CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State shall, directly or through nongovernmental or international organizations, such as the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, the National Endowment for Democracy, and related organizations—

(1) improve democratic governance, transparency, accountability, rule of law, and anti-corruption efforts in the Russian Federation;

(2) strengthen democratic institutions and political and civil society organizations in the Russian Federation;

(3) expand uncensored Internet access in the Russian Federation; and

(4) expand free and unfettered access to independent media of all kinds in the Russian Federation, including through increasing United States Government-supported broadcasting activities, and assist with the protection of journalists and civil society activists who have been targeted for free speech activities.

(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of State \$20,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2016 through 2018 to carry out the activities set forth in subsection (a).

(c) STRATEGY REQUIREMENT.—Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall submit a strategy to carry out the activities set forth in subsection (a) to—

(1) the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate; and

(2) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

(d) TRANSPARENCY REQUIREMENTS.—Any assistance provided pursuant to this section shall be conducted in as transparent of a manner as possible, consistent with the nature and goals of this section. The President

shall provide a briefing on the activities funded by this section at the request of the committees specified in subsection (c).

**SEC. 11. REPORT ON NON-COMPLIANCE BY THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION OF ITS OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE INF TREATY.**

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following findings:

(1) The Russian Federation is in violation of its obligations under the Treaty between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on the Elimination of Their Intermediate-Range and Shorter-Range Missiles, signed at Washington December 8, 1987, and entered into force June 1, 1988 (commonly referred to as the “Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty” or “INF Treaty”).

(2) This behavior poses a threat to the United States, its deployed forces, and its allies.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the President should hold the Russian Federation accountable for being in violation of its obligations under the INF Treaty; and

(2) the President should demand the Russian Federation completely and verifiably eliminate the military systems that constitute the violation of its obligations under the INF Treaty.

(c) REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and every 90 days thereafter, the President shall submit to the committees specified in subsection (d) a report that includes the following elements:

(A) A description of the status of the President's efforts, in cooperation with United States allies, to hold the Russian Federation accountable for being in violation of its obligations under the INF Treaty and obtain the complete and verifiable elimination of its military systems that constitute the violation of its obligations under the INF Treaty.

(B) The President's assessment as to whether it remains in the national security interests of the United States to remain a party to the INF Treaty, and other related treaties and agreements, while the Russian Federation is in violation of its obligations under the INF Treaty.

(C) Notification of any deployment by the Russian Federation of a ground launched ballistic or cruise missile system with a range of between 500 and 5,500 kilometers.

(D) A plan developed by the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Director of National Intelligence and the Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA), to verify that the Russian Federation has fully and completely dismantled any ground launched cruise missiles or ballistic missiles with a range of between 500 and 5,500 kilometers, including details on facilities that inspectors need access to, people inspectors need to talk with, how often inspectors need the accesses for, and how much the verification regime would cost.

(2) FORM.—The report required under paragraph (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form but may contain a classified annex.

(d) COMMITTEES SPECIFIED.—The committees specified in this subsection are—

(1) the Committee on Foreign Relations, the Committee on Armed Services, and the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate; and

(2) the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Committee on Armed Services, and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives.

**SEC. 12. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**

Nothing in this Act or an amendment made by this Act shall be construed as an authorization for the use of military force.

**SA 4093.** Mr. DURBIN (for Mr. KING (for himself, Mr. MORAN, and Mr. WARNER)) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 3329, to enhance the ability of community financial institutions to foster economic growth and serve their communities, boost small businesses, increase individual savings, and for other purposes; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

**SECTION 1. CHANGES REQUIRED TO SMALL BANK HOLDING COMPANY POLICY STATEMENT ON ASSESSMENT OF FINANCIAL AND MANAGERIAL FACTORS.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Before the end of the 6-month period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (hereafter in this Act referred to as the “Board”) shall publish in the Federal Register proposed revisions to the Small Bank Holding Company Policy Statement on Assessment of Financial and Managerial Factors (12 C.F.R. part 225 appendix C) that provide that the policy shall apply to bank holding companies and savings and loan holding companies which have pro forma consolidated assets of less than \$1,000,000,000 and that—

(1) are not engaged in significant non-banking activities either directly or through a nonbank subsidiary;

(2) do not conduct significant off-balance sheet activities (including securitization and asset management or administration) either directly or through a nonbank subsidiary; and

(3) do not have a material amount of debt or equity securities outstanding (other than trust preferred securities) that are registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

(b) EXCLUSIONS.—The Board may exclude any bank holding company or savings and loan holding company, regardless of asset size, from the policy statement under subsection (a) if the Board determines that such action is warranted for supervisory purposes.

**SEC. 2. CONFORMING AMENDMENT.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (C) of section 171(b)(5) of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (12 U.S.C. 5371(b)(5)) is amended to read as follows:

“(C) any bank holding company or savings and loan holding company having less than \$1,000,000,000 in total consolidated assets that complies with the requirements of the Small Bank Holding Company Policy Statement on Assessment of Financial and Managerial Factors of the Board of Governors (12 C.F.R. part 225 appendix C), as the requirements of such Policy Statement are amended pursuant to section 1 of an Act entitled ‘To enhance the ability of community financial institutions to foster economic growth and serve their communities, boost small businesses, increase individual savings, and for other purposes’.”

(b) TRANSITION PERIOD.—Any small bank holding company that was excepted from the provisions of section 171 of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act pursuant to subparagraph (C) of section 171(b)(5) (as such subparagraph was in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act), and any small savings and

loan holding company that would have been excepted from the provisions of section 171 pursuant to subparagraph (C) (as such subparagraph was in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act) if it had been a small bank holding company, shall be excepted from the provisions of section 171 until the effective date of the Small Bank Holding Company Policy Statement issued by the Board as required by section 1 of this Act.

**SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

For the purposes of this Act:

(a) BANK HOLDING COMPANY.—The term “bank holding company” has the same meaning as in section 2 of the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956 (12 U.S.C. 1841).

(b) SAVINGS AND LOAN HOLDING COMPANY.—The term “savings and loan holding company” has the same meaning as in section 10(a) of the Home Owners' Loan Act (12 U.S.C. 1467a(a)).

**SA 4094.** Mr. MERKLEY proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2640, to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to adjust the Crooked River boundary, to provide water certainty for the City of Prineville, Oregon, and for other purposes; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This Act may be cited as the “Crooked River Collaborative Water Security and Jobs Act of 2014”.

**SEC. 2. WILD AND SCENIC RIVER; CROOKED, OREGON.**

Section 3(a) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (16 U.S.C. 1274(a)) is amended by striking paragraph (72) and inserting the following:

“(72) CROOKED, OREGON.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The 14.75-mile segment from the National Grassland boundary to Dry Creek, to be administered by the Secretary of the Interior in the following classes:

“(i) The 7-mile segment from the National Grassland boundary to River Mile 8 south of Opal Spring, as a recreational river.

“(ii) The 7.75-mile segment from a point ¼-mile downstream from the center crest of Bowman Dam, as a recreational river.

“(B) HYDROPOWER.—In any license or lease of power privilege application relating to non-Federal hydropower development (including turbines and appurtenant facilities) at Bowman Dam, the applicant, in consultation with the Director of the Bureau of Land Management, shall—

“(i) analyze any impacts to the scenic, recreational, and fishery resource values of the Crooked River from the center crest of Bowman Dam to a point ¼-mile downstream that may be caused by the proposed hydropower development, including the future need to undertake routine and emergency repairs;

“(ii) propose measures to minimize and mitigate any impacts analyzed under clause (i); and

“(iii) propose designs and measures to ensure that any access facilities associated with hydropower development at Bowman Dam shall not impede the free-flowing nature of the Crooked River below Bowman Dam.”

**SEC. 3. CITY OF PRINEVILLE WATER SUPPLY.**

Section 4 of the Act of August 6, 1956 (70 Stat. 1058; 73 Stat. 554; 78 Stat. 954) is amended—

(1) by striking “SEC. 4. In order” and inserting the following:

**“SEC. 4. CITY OF PRINEVILLE WATER SUPPLY.**

“(a) IN GENERAL.—In order”;

(2) in subsection (a) (as so designated), by striking “during those months” and all that follows through “purpose of the project”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(b) ANNUAL RELEASE.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Without further action by the Secretary of the Interior, beginning on the date of enactment of the Crooked River Collaborative Water Security and Jobs Act of 2014, 5,100 acre-feet of water shall be annually released from the project to serve as mitigation for City of Prineville groundwater pumping, pursuant to and in a manner consistent with Oregon State law, including any shaping of the release of the water.

“(2) PAYMENTS.—The City of Prineville shall make payments to the Secretary of the Interior for the water released under paragraph (1), in accordance with applicable Bureau of Reclamation policies, directives, and standards.

“(c) ADDITIONAL QUANTITIES.—Consistent with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.), the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.), and other applicable Federal laws, the Secretary of the Interior may contract exclusively with the City of Prineville for additional quantities of water, at the request of the City of Prineville.”

#### SEC. 4. ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS.

The Act of August 6, 1956 (70 Stat. 1058; 73 Stat. 554; 78 Stat. 954), is amended by adding at the end the following:

#### “SEC. 6. FIRST FILL STORAGE AND RELEASE.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Other than the 10 cubic feet per second release provided for in section 4, and subject to compliance with the flood curve requirements of the Corps of Engineers, the Secretary shall, on a ‘first fill’ priority basis, store in and when called for in any year release from Prineville Reservoir, whether from carryover, infill, or a combination of both, the following:

“(1) Not more than 68,273 acre-feet of water annually to fulfill all 16 Bureau of Reclamation contracts existing as of January 1, 2011.

“(2) Not more than 2,740 acre-feet of water annually to supply the McKay Creek land, in accordance with section 5 of the Crooked River Collaborative Water Security and Jobs Act of 2014.

“(3) Not more than 10,000 acre-feet of water annually, to be made available first to the North Unit Irrigation District, and subsequently to any other holders of Reclamation contracts existing as of January 1, 2011 (in that order) pursuant to Temporary Water Service Contracts, on the request of the North Unit Irrigation District or the contract holders, consistent with the same terms and conditions as prior such contracts between the Bureau of Reclamation and District or contract holders, as applicable.

“(4) Not more than 5,100 acre-feet of water annually to mitigate the City of Prineville groundwater pumping under section 4, with the release of this water to occur not based on an annual call, but instead pursuant to section 4 and the release schedule developed pursuant to section 7(b).

“(b) CARRYOVER.—Except for water that may be called for and released after the end of the irrigation season (either as City of Prineville groundwater pumping mitigation or as a voluntary release, in accordance with section 4 of this Act and section 6(c) of the Crooked River Collaborative Water Security and Jobs Act of 2014, respectively), any water stored under this section that is not called for and released by the end of the irrigation season in a given year shall be—

“(1) carried over to the subsequent water year, which, for accounting purposes, shall

be considered to be the 1-year period beginning October 1 and ending September 30, consistent with Oregon State law; and

“(2) accounted for as part of the ‘first fill’ storage quantities of the subsequent water year, but not to exceed the maximum ‘first fill’ storage quantities described in subsection (a).

#### “SEC. 7. STORAGE AND RELEASE OF REMAINING STORED WATER QUANTITIES.

“(a) AUTHORIZATION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall store in and release from Prineville Reservoir sufficient quantities of remaining stored quantities to be released pursuant to the annual release schedule under subsection (b) and to provide instream flows consistent, to the maximum extent practicable, with the recommendations for in-channel strategies in the plan prepared by the Northwest Power and Conservation Council entitled ‘Deschutes Subbasin Plan’ and dated March 24, 2005, for flow between Bowman Dam and Lake Billy Chinook.

“(2) REQUIREMENTS.—In calculating the quantity of released water under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall—

“(A) comply with the flood curve requirements of the Corps of Engineers; and

“(B) credit toward the requirements of paragraph (1) the instream flow benefits provided by—

“(i) the quantities released under section 4;

“(ii) the ‘first fill’ quantities released under section 6; and

“(iii) any quantities released to comply with the flood curve requirements of the Corps of Engineers.

“(3) USE OF UNCONTRACTED WATER.—If a consultation conducted under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.) or an order of a court in a proceeding under that Act requires releases of stored water from Prineville Reservoir for fish and wildlife downstream of Bowman Dam, the Secretary shall use uncontracted water under paragraph (1).

“(4) STATE WATER LAW.—All releases and downstream uses authorized under paragraph (1) shall be in accordance with Oregon State water law.

“(b) ANNUAL RELEASE SCHEDULE.—The Commissioner of Reclamation, in consultation with the Assistant Administrator of Fisheries of the National Marine Fisheries Service and the Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, shall develop annual release schedules for the remaining stored water quantities (including the quantities described in subsection (a) and the water serving as mitigation for City of Prineville groundwater pumping pursuant to section 4) that maximizes, to the maximum extent practicable, benefits to downstream fish and wildlife.

“(c) CARRYOVER.—Any water stored under subsection (a) in 1 water year that is not released during the water year—

“(1) shall be carried over to the subsequent water year; and

“(2)(A) may be released for downstream fish and wildlife resources, consistent with subsection (b), until the reservoir reaches maximum capacity in the subsequent water year; and

“(B) once the reservoir reaches maximum capacity under subparagraph (A), shall be credited to the ‘first fill’ storage quantities, but not to exceed the maximum ‘first fill’ storage quantities described in section 6(a).

“(d) EFFECT.—Nothing in this section affects the authority of the Commissioner of Reclamation to perform all other traditional and routine activities associated with the Crooked River Project.

#### “SEC. 8. RESERVOIR LEVELS.

“The Commissioner of Reclamation shall—

“(1) project reservoir water levels over the course of the year; and

“(2) make the projections under paragraph (1) available to—

“(A) the public (including fisheries groups, recreation interests, and municipal and irrigation stakeholders);

“(B) the Assistant Administrator of Fisheries of the National Marine Fisheries Service; and

“(C) the Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

#### “SEC. 9. EFFECT.

“Except as otherwise provided in this Act, nothing in this Act—

“(1) modifies contractual rights that may exist between contractors and the United States under Reclamation contracts;

“(2) amends or reopens contracts referred to in paragraph (1); or

“(3) modifies any rights, obligations, or requirements that may be provided or governed by Federal or Oregon State law.”

#### SEC. 5. OCHOCO IRRIGATION DISTRICT.

(a) EARLY REPAYMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding section 213 of the Reclamation Reform Act of 1982 (43 U.S.C. 390mm), any landowner within Ochoco Irrigation District, Oregon (referred to in this section as the “district”), may repay, at any time, the construction costs of the project facilities allocated to the land of the landowner within the district.

(2) EXEMPTION FROM LIMITATIONS.—Upon discharge, in full, of the obligation for repayment of the construction costs allocated to all land of the landowner in the district, the land shall not be subject to the ownership and full-cost pricing limitations of Federal reclamation law (the Act of June 17, 1902 (32 Stat. 388, chapter 1093), and Acts supplemental to and amendatory of that Act (43 U.S.C. 371 et seq.)).

(b) CERTIFICATION.—Upon the request of a landowner who has repaid, in full, the construction costs of the project facilities allocated to the land of the landowner within the district, the Secretary of the Interior shall provide the certification described in section 213(b)(1) of the Reclamation Reform Act of 1982 (43 U.S.C. 390mm(b)(1)).

(c) CONTRACT AMENDMENT.—On approval of the district directors and notwithstanding project authorizing authority to the contrary, the Reclamation contracts of the district are modified, without further action by the Secretary of the Interior—

(1) to authorize the use of water for instream purposes, including fish or wildlife purposes, in order for the district to engage in, or take advantage of, conserved water projects and temporary instream leasing as authorized by Oregon State law;

(2) to include within the district boundary approximately 2,742 acres in the vicinity of McKay Creek, resulting in a total of approximately 44,937 acres within the district boundary;

(3) to classify as irrigable approximately 685 acres within the approximately 2,742 acres of included land in the vicinity of McKay Creek, with those approximately 685 acres authorized to receive irrigation water pursuant to water rights issued by the State of Oregon if the acres have in the past received water pursuant to State water rights; and

(4) to provide the district with stored water from Prineville Reservoir for purposes of supplying up to the approximately 685 acres of land added within the district boundary and classified as irrigable under

paragraphs (2) and (3), with the stored water to be supplied on an acre-per-acre basis contingent on the transfer of existing appurtenant McKay Creek water rights to instream use and the issuance of water rights by the State of Oregon for the use of stored water.

(d) **LIMITATION.**—Except as otherwise provided in subsections (a) and (c), nothing in this section—

(1) modifies contractual rights that may exist between the district and the United States under the Reclamation contracts of the district;

(2) amends or reopens the contracts referred to in paragraph (1); or

(3) modifies any rights, obligations, or relationships that may exist between the district and any owner of land within the district, as may be provided or governed by Federal or Oregon State law.

#### **SEC. 6. DRY-YEAR MANAGEMENT PLANNING AND VOLUNTARY RELEASES.**

(a) **PARTICIPATION IN DRY-YEAR MANAGEMENT PLANNING MEETINGS.**—The Bureau of Reclamation shall participate in dry-year management planning meetings with the State of Oregon, the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon, municipal, agricultural, conservation, recreation, and other interested stakeholders to plan for dry-year conditions.

(b) **DRY-YEAR MANAGEMENT PLAN.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Bureau of Reclamation shall develop a dry-year management plan in coordination with the participants referred to in subsection (a).

(2) **REQUIREMENTS.**—The plan developed under paragraph (1) shall only recommend strategies, measures, and actions that the irrigation districts and other Bureau of Reclamation contract holders voluntarily agree to implement.

(3) **LIMITATIONS.**—Nothing in the plan developed under paragraph (1) shall be mandatory or self-implementing.

(c) **VOLUNTARY RELEASE.**—In any year, if North Unit Irrigation District or other eligible Bureau of Reclamation contract holders have not initiated contracting with the Bureau of Reclamation for any quantity of the 10,000 acre feet of water described in subsection (a)(3) of section 6 of the Act of August 6, 1956 (70 Stat. 1058) (as added by section 4), by June 1 of any calendar year, with the voluntary agreement of North Unit Irrigation District and other Bureau of Reclamation contract holders referred to in that paragraph, the Secretary may release that quantity of water for the benefit of downstream fish and wildlife as described in section 7 of that Act.

#### **SEC. 7. HYDROPOWER DECISION.**

Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commissioner of Reclamation shall determine the applicability of the jurisdiction of the Commissioner of Reclamation to non-Federal hydropower development pursuant to—

(1) the Memorandum of Understanding between the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and the Bureau of Reclamation, Department of the Interior, entitled “Establishment of Processes for the Early Resolution of Issues Related to the Timely Development of Non-Federal Hydroelectric power at the Bureau of Reclamation Facilities” and signed November 6, 1992 (58 Fed. Reg. 3269); or

(2) any memorandum of understanding that is subsequent or related to the memorandum of understanding described in paragraph (1).

#### **SEC. 8. RELATION TO EXISTING LAWS AND STATUTORY OBLIGATIONS.**

Nothing in this Act (or an amendment made by this Act)—

(1) provides to the Secretary the authority to store and release the “first fill” quantities provided for in section 6 of the Act of August 6, 1956 (70 Stat. 1058) (as added by section 4) for any purposes other than the purposes provided for in that section, except for—

(A) the potential instream use resulting from conserved water projects and temporary instream leasing as provided for in section 5(c)(1);

(B) the potential release of additional amounts that may result from voluntary actions agreed to through the dry-year management plan developed under section 6(b); and

(C) the potential release of the 10,000 acre feet for downstream fish and wildlife as provided for in section 6(c); or

(2) alters any responsibilities under Oregon State law or Federal law, including section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1536).

**SA 4095.** Ms. WARREN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 3979, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to ensure that emergency services volunteers are not taken into account as employees under the shared responsibility requirements contained in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle G of title X, add the following:

#### **SEC. 1080. PREVENTION AND TREATMENT OF PROBLEM GAMBLING BEHAVIOR.**

(a) **FINDINGS.**—Congress makes the following findings:

(1) Gambling addiction is a public health disorder characterized by increasing preoccupation with gambling, loss of control, restlessness, or irritability when attempting to stop gambling, and continuation of the gambling behavior in spite of mounting serious, negative consequences.

(2) Over 6,000,000 adults met criteria for a gambling problem in 2013.

(3) According to the National Council on Problem Gambling, it is estimated that between 36,000 and 48,000 active duty military members meet criteria for a gambling problem.

(4) The Department of Defense operates an estimated 3,000 slot machines at military installations overseas that are available to members of the Armed Forces and their families.

(5) It is estimated that these slot machines generate over \$100,000,000 in revenue for the Department of Defense, which is used for further recreational activities for service members.

(6) The United States Army operates bingo games on military installations in the United States, which generate millions of dollars per year.

(7) The Department of Defense does not currently have treatment programs for service members with problem gambling behaviors, while it does operate treatment programs for alcohol abuse, illegal substance abuse, and tobacco addiction.

(8) Individuals with problem gambling behavior have higher incidences of bankruptcy, domestic abuse, and suicide.

(9) People who engage in problem gambling have high rates of co-occurring substance abuse and mental health disorders.

(10) The Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (Fifth Edition, published in May 2013) includes gambling addiction as a behavioral addiction. This reflects research findings that gambling disorders are similar to substance-related disorders in clinical expression, brain origin, comorbidity, physiology, and treatment.

(b) **POLICY AND PROGRAMS TO PREVENT AND TREAT GAMBLING PROBLEMS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary of Defense shall develop a policy and programs on prevention, education, and treatment of problem gambling, including the following elements:

(A) Prevention programs for members of the Armed Forces and their dependents.

(B) Responsible gaming education for all members of the Armed Forces and their dependents.

(C) Establishment of a center of excellence for the residential treatment of the most severe cases of gambling addiction among members of the Armed Forces.

(D) Policy and programs to integrate gambling addiction into existing mental health and substance abuse programs in order to—

(i) prevent problem gambling behavior among members of the Armed Forces and their families;

(ii) provide responsible gaming educational materials to members of the Armed Forces and their family members who gamble; and

(iii) train existing substance abuse and mental health counselors to provide gambling addiction treatment within current mental health and substance abuse treatment programs for members of the Armed Forces and veterans.

(E) Assessment of gambling problems and factors related to the development of such problems (including co-occurring disorders such as substance use, post-traumatic stress disorder, traumatic brain injury, stress, and sensation seeking), and the social, health, and financial impacts of gambling on members of the Armed Forces by incorporating questions on problem gambling behavior into ongoing research efforts as appropriate, including restoring them into the Health Related Behaviors Survey of Active Duty Military Personnel.

(2) **CONSULTATION.**—The Secretary of Defense shall develop the policies described in paragraph (1) in coordination with the Interagency Task Force on Military and Veterans Mental Health.

(3) **REPORT.**—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report on efforts undertaken pursuant to paragraph (1).

(c) **COMPTROLLER GENERAL STUDY ON GAMBLING AND PROBLEM GAMBLING IN THE ARMED FORCES.**—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct and submit to the congressional defense committees a study on the number, type, and location of gambling installations (including bingo) operated by each branch of the Armed Forces, the total amount of cash flow through the gambling installations, the amount of revenue generated, and how the revenue is spent. In addition, the study shall include an assessment of the prevalence of problem gambling in the Armed Forces, including recommendations for military policy and programs to address it.

**SA 4096.** Mr. SCHUMER (for himself and Mr. CORNYN) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1535, to deter terrorism, provide justice for victims, and for other purposes; as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted, insert the following:

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This Act may be cited as the “Justice Against Sponsors of Terrorism Act”.

**SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.**

(a) **FINDINGS.**—Congress finds the following:

(1) International terrorism is a serious and deadly problem that threatens the vital interests of the United States.

(2) The Constitution confers upon Congress the power to punish crimes against the law of nations and therefore Congress may by law impose penalties on those who provide material support to foreign organizations engaged in terrorist activity, and allow for victims of international terrorism to recover damages from those who have harmed them.

(3) International terrorism affects the interstate and foreign commerce of the United States by harming international trade and market stability, and limiting international travel by United States citizens as well as foreign visitors to the United States.

(4) Some foreign terrorist organizations, acting through affiliated groups or individuals, raise significant funds outside of the United States for conduct directed and targeted at the United States.

(5) It is necessary to recognize the substantive causes of action for aiding and abetting and conspiracy liability under the Anti-Terrorism Act of 1987 (22 U.S.C. 5201 et seq.).

(6) The decision of the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia in *Halberstam v. Welch*, 705 F.2d 472 (D.C. Cir. 1983), which has been widely recognized as the leading case regarding Federal civil aiding and abetting and conspiracy liability, including by the Supreme Court of the United States, provides the proper legal framework for how such liability should function in the context of the Anti-Terrorism Act of 1987 (22 U.S.C. 5201 et seq.).

(7) The United Nations Security Council declared in Resolution 1373, adopted on September 28, 2001, that all countries have an affirmative obligation to “[r]efrain from providing any form of support, active or passive, to entities or persons involved in terrorist acts,” and to “[e]nsure that any person who participates in the financing, planning, preparation or perpetration of terrorist acts or in supporting terrorist acts is brought to justice”.

(8) Consistent with these declarations, no country has the discretion to engage knowingly in the financing or sponsorship of terrorism, whether directly or indirectly.

(9) Persons, entities, or countries that knowingly or recklessly contribute material support or resources, directly or indirectly, to persons or organizations that pose a significant risk of committing acts of terrorism that threaten the security of nationals of the United States or the national security, foreign policy, or economy of the United States, necessarily direct their conduct at the United States, and should reasonably anticipate being brought to court in the United States to answer for such activities.

(10) The United States has a vital interest in providing persons and entities injured as a result of terrorist attacks committed within the United States with full access to the court system in order to pursue civil claims

against persons, entities, or countries that have knowingly or recklessly provided material support or resources, directly or indirectly, to the persons or organizations responsible for their injuries.

(b) **PURPOSE.**—The purpose of this Act is to provide civil litigants with the broadest possible basis, consistent with the Constitution of the United States, to seek relief against persons, entities, and foreign countries, wherever acting and wherever they may be found, that have provided material support, directly or indirectly, to foreign organizations or persons that engage in terrorist activities against the United States.

**SEC. 3. FOREIGN SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY.**

Section 1605(a) of title 28, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by amending paragraph (5) to read as follows:

“(5) not otherwise encompassed in paragraph (2), in which money damages are sought against a foreign state arising out of physical injury or death, or damage to or loss of property, occurring in the United States and caused by the tortious act or omission of that foreign state or of any official or employee of that foreign state while acting within the scope of the office or employment of the official or employee (regardless of where the underlying tortious act or omission occurs), including any statutory or common law tort claim arising out of an act of extrajudicial killing, aircraft sabotage, hostage taking, terrorism, or the provision of material support or resources for such an act, or any claim for contribution or indemnity relating to a claim arising out of such an act, except this paragraph shall not apply to—

“(A) any claim based upon the exercise or performance of, or the failure to exercise or perform, a discretionary function, regardless of whether the discretion is abused; or

“(B) any claim arising out of malicious prosecution, abuse of process, libel, slander, misrepresentation, deceit, interference with contract rights, or any claim for emotional distress or derivative injury suffered as a result of an event or injury to another person that occurs outside of the United States; or”;

and

(2) by inserting after subsection (d) the following:

“(e) **DEFINITIONS.**—For purposes of subsection (a)(5)—

“(1) the terms ‘aircraft sabotage’, ‘extrajudicial killing’, ‘hostage taking’, and ‘material support or resources’ have the meanings given those terms in section 1605A(h); and

“(2) the term ‘terrorism’ means international terrorism and domestic terrorism, as those terms are defined in section 2331 of title 18.”.

**SEC. 4. AIDING AND ABETTING LIABILITY FOR CIVIL ACTIONS REGARDING TERRORIST ACTS.**

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 2333 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(d) **LIABILITY.**—In an action under subsection (a) for an injury arising from an act of international terrorism committed, planned, or authorized by an organization that had been designated as a foreign terrorist organization under section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1189), as of the date on which such act of international terrorism was committed, planned, or authorized, or that was so designated as a result of such act of international terrorism, liability may be asserted as to any person who aided, abetted, or con-

spired with the person who committed such an act of international terrorism.”.

(b) **EFFECT ON FOREIGN SOVEREIGN IMMUNITIES ACT.**—Nothing in the amendments made by this section affects immunity of a foreign state, as that term is defined in section 1603 of title 28, United States Code, from jurisdiction under other law.

**SEC. 5. PERSONAL JURISDICTION FOR CIVIL ACTIONS REGARDING TERRORIST ACTS.**

Section 2334 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting at the end the following:

“(e) **PERSONAL JURISDICTION.**—The district courts shall have personal jurisdiction, to the maximum extent permissible under the 5th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, over any person who commits or aids and abets an act of international terrorism or otherwise sponsors such act or the person who committed such act, for acts of international terrorism in which any national of the United States suffers injury in his or her person, property, or business by reason of such an act in violation of section 2333.”.

**SEC. 6. LIABILITY FOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS IN CIVIL ACTIONS REGARDING TERRORIST ACTS.**

Section 2337 of title 18, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

**“§ 2337. Suits against Government officials**

“No action may be maintained under section 2333 against—

“(1) the United States;

“(2) an agency of the United States; or

“(3) an officer or employee of the United States or any agency of the United States acting within the official capacity of the officer or employee or under color of legal authority.”.

**SEC. 7. SEVERABILITY.**

If any provision of this Act or any amendment made by this Act, or the application of a provision or amendment to any person or circumstance, is held to be invalid, the remainder of this Act and the amendments made by this Act, and the application of the provisions and amendments to any other person not similarly situated or to other circumstances, shall not be affected by the holding.

**SEC. 8. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

The amendments made by this Act shall apply to any civil action—

(1) pending on, or commenced on or after, the date of enactment of this Act; and

(2) arising out of an injury to a person, property, or business on or after September 11, 2001.

**SA 4097.** Mr. KING (for Mr. ROCKEFELLER (for himself and Mr. THUNE)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1535, to provide for an ongoing, voluntary public-private partnership to improve cybersecurity, and to strengthen cybersecurity research and development, workforce development and education, and public awareness and preparedness, and for other purposes; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

(a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This Act may be cited as the “Cybersecurity Enhancement Act of 2014”.

(b) **TABLE OF CONTENTS.**—The table of contents of this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.



- Sec. 2. Definitions.  
 Sec. 3. No regulatory authority.  
 Sec. 4. No additional funds authorized.

#### TITLE I—PUBLIC-PRIVATE

##### COLLABORATION ON CYBERSECURITY

- Sec. 101. Public-private collaboration on cybersecurity.

#### TITLE II—CYBERSECURITY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

- Sec. 201. Federal cybersecurity research and development.  
 Sec. 202. Computer and network security research centers.  
 Sec. 203. Cybersecurity automation and checklists for government systems.  
 Sec. 204. National Institute of Standards and Technology cybersecurity research and development.

#### TITLE III—EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

- Sec. 301. Cybersecurity competitions and challenges.  
 Sec. 302. Federal cyber scholarship-for-service program.

#### TITLE IV—CYBERSECURITY AWARENESS AND PREPAREDNESS

- Sec. 401. National cybersecurity awareness and education program.

#### TITLE V—ADVANCEMENT OF CYBERSECURITY TECHNICAL STANDARDS

- Sec. 501. Definitions.  
 Sec. 502. International cybersecurity technical standards.  
 Sec. 503. Cloud computing strategy.  
 Sec. 504. Identity management research and development.

#### SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) **CYBERSECURITY MISSION.**—The term “cybersecurity mission” means activities that encompass the full range of threat reduction, vulnerability reduction, deterrence, international engagement, incident response, resiliency, and recovery policies and activities, including computer network operations, information assurance, law enforcement, diplomacy, military, and intelligence missions as such activities relate to the security and stability of cyberspace.

(2) **INFORMATION SYSTEM.**—The term “information system” has the meaning given that term in section 3502 of title 44, United States Code.

#### SEC. 3. NO REGULATORY AUTHORITY.

Nothing in this Act shall be construed to confer any regulatory authority on any Federal, State, tribal, or local department or agency.

#### SEC. 4. NO ADDITIONAL FUNDS AUTHORIZED.

No additional funds are authorized to carry out this Act, and the amendments made by this Act, and the amendments made by this Act, shall be carried out using amounts otherwise authorized or appropriated.

#### TITLE I—PUBLIC-PRIVATE

##### COLLABORATION ON CYBERSECURITY

#### SEC. 101. PUBLIC-PRIVATE COLLABORATION ON CYBERSECURITY.

(a) **CYBERSECURITY.**—Section 2(c) of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act (15 U.S.C. 272(c)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (15) through (22) as paragraphs (16) through (23), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (14) the following:

“(15) on an ongoing basis, facilitate and support the development of a voluntary, consensus-based, industry-led set of standards,

guidelines, best practices, methodologies, procedures, and processes to cost-effectively reduce cyber risks to critical infrastructure (as defined under subsection (e));”.

(b) **SCOPE AND LIMITATIONS.**—Section 2 of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act (15 U.S.C. 272) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(e) **CYBER RISKS.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—In carrying out the activities under subsection (c)(15), the Director—

“(A) shall—

“(i) coordinate closely and regularly with relevant private sector personnel and entities, critical infrastructure owners and operators, and other relevant industry organizations, including Sector Coordinating Councils and Information Sharing and Analysis Centers, and incorporate industry expertise;

“(ii) consult with the heads of agencies with national security responsibilities, sector-specific agencies and other appropriate agencies, State and local governments, the governments of other nations, and international organizations;

“(iii) identify a prioritized, flexible, repeatable, performance-based, and cost-effective approach, including information security measures and controls, that may be voluntarily adopted by owners and operators of critical infrastructure to help them identify, assess, and manage cyber risks;

“(iv) include methodologies—

“(I) to identify and mitigate impacts of the cybersecurity measures or controls on business confidentiality; and

“(II) to protect individual privacy and civil liberties;

“(v) incorporate voluntary consensus standards and industry best practices;

“(vi) align with voluntary international standards to the fullest extent possible;

“(vii) prevent duplication of regulatory processes and prevent conflict with or superseding of regulatory requirements, mandatory standards, and related processes; and

“(viii) include such other similar and consistent elements as the Director considers necessary; and

“(B) shall not prescribe or otherwise require—

“(i) the use of specific solutions;

“(ii) the use of specific information or communications technology products or services; or

“(iii) that information or communications technology products or services be designed, developed, or manufactured in a particular manner.

“(2) **LIMITATION.**—Information shared with or provided to the Institute for the purpose of the activities described under subsection (c)(15) shall not be used by any Federal, State, tribal, or local department or agency to regulate the activity of any entity. Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to modify any regulatory requirement to report or submit information to a Federal, State, tribal, or local department or agency.

“(3) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this subsection:

“(A) **CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE.**—The term ‘critical infrastructure’ has the meaning given the term in section 1016(e) of the USA PATRIOT Act of 2001 (42 U.S.C. 5195c(e)).

“(B) **SECTOR-SPECIFIC AGENCY.**—The term ‘sector-specific agency’ means the Federal department or agency responsible for providing institutional knowledge and specialized expertise as well as leading, facilitating, or supporting the security and resilience programs and associated activities of its designated critical infrastructure sector in the all-hazards environment.”.

(c) **STUDY AND REPORTS.**—

(1) **STUDY.**—The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study that assesses—

(A) the progress made by the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology in facilitating the development of standards and procedures to reduce cyber risks to critical infrastructure in accordance with section 2(c)(15) of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act, as added by this section;

(B) the extent to which the Director’s facilitation efforts are consistent with the directive in such section that the development of such standards and procedures be voluntary and led by industry representatives;

(C) the extent to which other Federal agencies have promoted and sectors of critical infrastructure (as defined in section 1016(e) of the USA PATRIOT Act of 2001 (42 U.S.C. 5195c(e))) have adopted a voluntary, industry-led set of standards, guidelines, best practices, methodologies, procedures, and processes to reduce cyber risks to critical infrastructure in accordance with such section 2(c)(15);

(D) the reasons behind the decisions of sectors of critical infrastructure (as defined in subparagraph (C)) to adopt or to not adopt the voluntary standards described in subparagraph (C); and

(E) the extent to which such voluntary standards have proved successful in protecting critical infrastructure from cyber threats.

(2) **REPORTS.**—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, and every 2 years thereafter for the following 6 years, the Comptroller General shall submit a report, which summarizes the findings of the study conducted under paragraph (1), to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives.

#### TITLE II—CYBERSECURITY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

##### SEC. 201. FEDERAL CYBERSECURITY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.

(a) **FUNDAMENTAL CYBERSECURITY RESEARCH.**—

(1) **FEDERAL CYBERSECURITY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIC PLAN.**—The heads of the applicable agencies and departments, working through the National Science and Technology Council and the Networking and Information Technology Research and Development Program, shall develop and update every 4 years a Federal cybersecurity research and development strategic plan (referred to in this subsection as the “strategic plan”) based on an assessment of cybersecurity risk to guide the overall direction of Federal cybersecurity and information assurance research and development for information technology and networking systems. The heads of the applicable agencies and departments shall build upon existing programs and plans to develop the strategic plan to meet objectives in cybersecurity, such as—

(A) how to design and build complex software-intensive systems that are secure and reliable when first deployed;

(B) how to test and verify that software and hardware, whether developed locally or obtained from a third party, is free of significant known security flaws;

(C) how to test and verify that software and hardware obtained from a third party correctly implements stated functionality, and only that functionality;

(D) how to guarantee the privacy of an individual, including that individual's identity, information, and lawful transactions when stored in distributed systems or transmitted over networks;

(E) how to build new protocols to enable the Internet to have robust security as one of the key capabilities of the Internet;

(F) how to determine the origin of a message transmitted over the Internet;

(G) how to support privacy in conjunction with improved security;

(H) how to address the problem of insider threats;

(I) how improved consumer education and digital literacy initiatives can address human factors that contribute to cybersecurity;

(J) how to protect information processed, transmitted, or stored using cloud computing or transmitted through wireless services; and

(K) any additional objectives the heads of the applicable agencies and departments, in coordination with the head of any relevant Federal agency and with input from stakeholders, including appropriate national laboratories, industry, and academia, determine appropriate.

#### (2) REQUIREMENTS.—

(A) CONTENTS OF PLAN.—The strategic plan shall—

(i) specify and prioritize near-term, mid-term, and long-term research objectives, including objectives associated with the research identified in section 4(a)(1) of the Cyber Security Research and Development Act (15 U.S.C. 7403(a)(1));

(ii) specify how the near-term objectives described in clause (i) complement research and development areas in which the private sector is actively engaged;

(iii) describe how the heads of the applicable agencies and departments will focus on innovative, transformational technologies with the potential to enhance the security, reliability, resilience, and trustworthiness of the digital infrastructure, and to protect consumer privacy;

(iv) describe how the heads of the applicable agencies and departments will foster the rapid transfer of research and development results into new cybersecurity technologies and applications for the timely benefit of society and the national interest, including through the dissemination of best practices and other outreach activities;

(v) describe how the heads of the applicable agencies and departments will establish and maintain a national research infrastructure for creating, testing, and evaluating the next generation of secure networking and information technology systems; and

(vi) describe how the heads of the applicable agencies and departments will facilitate access by academic researchers to the infrastructure described in clause (v), as well as to relevant data, including event data.

(B) PRIVATE SECTOR EFFORTS.—In developing, implementing, and updating the strategic plan, the heads of the applicable agencies and departments, working through the National Science and Technology Council and Networking and Information Technology Research and Development Program, shall work in close cooperation with industry, academia, and other interested stakeholders to ensure, to the extent possible, that Federal cybersecurity research and development is not duplicative of private sector efforts.

(C) RECOMMENDATIONS.—In developing and updating the strategic plan the heads of the applicable agencies and departments shall solicit recommendations and advice from—

(i) the advisory committee established under section 101(b)(1) of the High-Performance Computing Act of 1991 (15 U.S.C. 5511(b)(1)); and

(ii) a wide range of stakeholders, including industry, academia, including representatives of minority serving institutions and community colleges, National Laboratories, and other relevant organizations and institutions.

(D) IMPLEMENTATION ROADMAP.—The heads of the applicable agencies and departments, working through the National Science and Technology Council and Networking and Information Technology Research and Development Program, shall develop and annually update an implementation roadmap for the strategic plan. The implementation roadmap shall—

(i) specify the role of each Federal agency in carrying out or sponsoring research and development to meet the research objectives of the strategic plan, including a description of how progress toward the research objectives will be evaluated;

(ii) specify the funding allocated to each major research objective of the strategic plan and the source of funding by agency for the current fiscal year;

(iii) estimate the funding required for each major research objective of the strategic plan for the following 3 fiscal years; and

(iv) track ongoing and completed Federal cybersecurity research and development projects.

(3) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—The heads of the applicable agencies and departments, working through the National Science and Technology Council and Networking and Information Technology Research and Development Program, shall submit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives—

(A) the strategic plan not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act;

(B) each quadrennial update to the strategic plan; and

(C) the implementation roadmap under subparagraph (D), and its annual updates, which shall be appended to the annual report required under section 101(a)(2)(D) of the High-Performance Computing Act of 1991 (15 U.S.C. 5511(a)(2)(D)).

(4) DEFINITION OF APPLICABLE AGENCIES AND DEPARTMENTS.—In this subsection, the term “applicable agencies and departments” means the agencies and departments identified in clauses (i) through (x) of section 101(a)(3)(B) of the High-Performance Computing Act of 1991 (15 U.S.C. 5511(a)(3)(B)) or designated under clause (xi) of that section.

(b) CYBERSECURITY PRACTICES RESEARCH.—The Director of the National Science Foundation shall support research that—

(1) develops, evaluates, disseminates, and integrates new cybersecurity practices and concepts into the core curriculum of computer science programs and of other programs where graduates of such programs have a substantial probability of developing software after graduation, including new practices and concepts relating to secure coding education and improvement programs; and

(2) develops new models for professional development of faculty in cybersecurity education, including secure coding development.

(c) CYBERSECURITY MODELING AND TEST BEDS.—

(1) REVIEW.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director the National Science Foundation, in coordi-

nation with the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy, shall conduct a review of cybersecurity test beds in existence on the date of enactment of this Act to inform the grants under paragraph (2). The review shall include an assessment of whether a sufficient number of cybersecurity test beds are available to meet the research needs under the Federal cybersecurity research and development strategic plan. Upon completion, the Director shall submit the review to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives.

#### (2) ADDITIONAL CYBERSECURITY MODELING AND TEST BEDS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—If the Director of the National Science Foundation, after the review under paragraph (1), determines that the research needs under the Federal cybersecurity research and development strategic plan require the establishment of additional cybersecurity test beds, the Director of the National Science Foundation, in coordination with the Secretary of Commerce and the Secretary of Homeland Security, may award grants to institutions of higher education or research and development non-profit institutions to establish cybersecurity test beds.

(B) REQUIREMENT.—The cybersecurity test beds under subparagraph (A) shall be sufficiently robust in order to model the scale and complexity of real-time cyber attacks and defenses on real world networks and environments.

(C) ASSESSMENT REQUIRED.—The Director of the National Science Foundation, in coordination with the Secretary of Commerce and the Secretary of Homeland Security, shall evaluate the effectiveness of any grants awarded under this subsection in meeting the objectives of the Federal cybersecurity research and development strategic plan not later than 2 years after the review under paragraph (1) of this subsection, and periodically thereafter.

(d) COORDINATION WITH OTHER RESEARCH INITIATIVES.—In accordance with the responsibilities under section 101 of the High-Performance Computing Act of 1991 (15 U.S.C. 5511), the Director the Office of Science and Technology Policy shall coordinate, to the extent practicable, Federal research and development activities under this section with other ongoing research and development security-related initiatives, including research being conducted by—

(1) the National Science Foundation;

(2) the National Institute of Standards and Technology;

(3) the Department of Homeland Security;

(4) other Federal agencies;

(5) other Federal and private research laboratories, research entities, and universities;

(6) institutions of higher education;

(7) relevant nonprofit organizations; and

(8) international partners of the United States.

(e) NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION COMPUTER AND NETWORK SECURITY RESEARCH GRANT AREAS.—Section 4(a)(1) of the Cyber Security Research and Development Act (15 U.S.C. 7403(a)(1)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (H), by striking “and” at the end;

(2) in subparagraph (I), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(J) secure fundamental protocols that are integral to inter-network communications and data exchange;

“(K) secure software engineering and software assurance, including—

“(i) programming languages and systems that include fundamental security features;

“(ii) portable or reusable code that remains secure when deployed in various environments;

“(iii) verification and validation technologies to ensure that requirements and specifications have been implemented; and

“(iv) models for comparison and metrics to assure that required standards have been met;

“(L) holistic system security that—

“(i) addresses the building of secure systems from trusted and untrusted components;

“(ii) proactively reduces vulnerabilities;

“(iii) addresses insider threats; and

“(iv) supports privacy in conjunction with improved security;

“(M) monitoring and detection;

“(N) mitigation and rapid recovery methods;

“(O) security of wireless networks and mobile devices; and

“(P) security of cloud infrastructure and services.”

(f) **RESEARCH ON THE SCIENCE OF CYBERSECURITY.**—The head of each agency and department identified under section 101(a)(3)(B) of the High-Performance Computing Act of 1991 (15 U.S.C. 5511(a)(3)(B)), through existing programs and activities, shall support research that will lead to the development of a scientific foundation for the field of cybersecurity, including research that increases understanding of the underlying principles of securing complex networked systems, enables repeatable experimentation, and creates quantifiable security metrics.

#### **SEC. 202. COMPUTER AND NETWORK SECURITY RESEARCH CENTERS.**

Section 4(b) of the Cyber Security Research and Development Act (15 U.S.C. 7403(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (3), by striking “the research areas” and inserting the following: “improving the security and resiliency of information technology, reducing cyber vulnerabilities, and anticipating and mitigating consequences of cyber attacks on critical infrastructure, by conducting research in the areas”;

(2) by striking “the center” in paragraph (4)(D) and inserting “the Center”; and

(3) in paragraph (5)—

(A) by striking “and” at the end of subparagraph (C);

(B) by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (D) and inserting a semicolon; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(E) the demonstrated capability of the applicant to conduct high performance computation integral to complex computer and network security research, through on-site or off-site computing;

“(F) the applicant’s affiliation with private sector entities involved with industrial research described in subsection (a)(1);

“(G) the capability of the applicant to conduct research in a secure environment;

“(H) the applicant’s affiliation with existing research programs of the Federal Government;

“(I) the applicant’s experience managing public-private partnerships to transition new technologies into a commercial setting or the government user community;

“(J) the capability of the applicant to conduct interdisciplinary cybersecurity research, basic and applied, such as in law, economics, or behavioral sciences; and

“(K) the capability of the applicant to conduct research in areas such as systems secu-

rity, wireless security, networking and protocols, formal methods and high-performance computing, nanotechnology, or industrial control systems.”

#### **SEC. 203. CYBERSECURITY AUTOMATION AND CHECKLISTS FOR GOVERNMENT SYSTEMS.**

Section 8(c) of the Cyber Security Research and Development Act (15 U.S.C. 7406(c)) is amended to read as follows:

“(c) **SECURITY AUTOMATION AND CHECKLISTS FOR GOVERNMENT SYSTEMS.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology shall, as necessary, develop and revise security automation standards, associated reference materials (including protocols), and checklists providing settings and option selections that minimize the security risks associated with each information technology hardware or software system and security tool that is, or is likely to become, widely used within the Federal Government, thereby enabling standardized and interoperable technologies, architectures, and frameworks for continuous monitoring of information security within the Federal Government.

“(2) **PRIORITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT.**—The Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology shall establish priorities for the development of standards, reference materials, and checklists under this subsection on the basis of—

“(A) the security risks associated with the use of the system;

“(B) the number of agencies that use a particular system or security tool;

“(C) the usefulness of the standards, reference materials, or checklists to Federal agencies that are users or potential users of the system;

“(D) the effectiveness of the associated standard, reference material, or checklist in creating or enabling continuous monitoring of information security; or

“(E) such other factors as the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology determines to be appropriate.

“(3) **EXCLUDED SYSTEMS.**—The Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology may exclude from the application of paragraph (1) any information technology hardware or software system or security tool for which such Director determines that the development of a standard, reference material, or checklist is inappropriate because of the infrequency of use of the system, the obsolescence of the system, or the lack of utility or impracticability of developing a standard, reference material, or checklist for the system.

“(4) **DISSEMINATION OF STANDARDS AND RELATED MATERIALS.**—The Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology shall ensure that Federal agencies are informed of the availability of any standard, reference material, checklist, or other item developed under this subsection.

“(5) **AGENCY USE REQUIREMENTS.**—The development of standards, reference materials, and checklists under paragraph (1) for an information technology hardware or software system or tool does not—

“(A) require any Federal agency to select the specific settings or options recommended by the standard, reference material, or checklist for the system;

“(B) establish conditions or prerequisites for Federal agency procurement or deployment of any such system;

“(C) imply an endorsement of any such system by the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology; or

“(D) preclude any Federal agency from procuring or deploying other information

technology hardware or software systems for which no such standard, reference material, or checklist has been developed or identified under paragraph (1).”

#### **SEC. 204. NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY CYBERSECURITY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.**

Section 20 of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act (15 U.S.C. 278g-3) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (e) as subsection (f); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (d) the following:

“(e) **INTRAMURAL SECURITY RESEARCH.**—As part of the research activities conducted in accordance with subsection (d)(3), the Institute shall, to the extent practicable and appropriate—

“(1) conduct a research program to develop a unifying and standardized identity, privilege, and access control management framework for the execution of a wide variety of resource protection policies and that is amenable to implementation within a wide variety of existing and emerging computing environments;

“(2) carry out research associated with improving the security of information systems and networks;

“(3) carry out research associated with improving the testing, measurement, usability, and assurance of information systems and networks;

“(4) carry out research associated with improving security of industrial control systems;

“(5) carry out research associated with improving the security and integrity of the information technology supply chain; and

“(6) carry out any additional research the Institute determines appropriate.”

#### **TITLE III—EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT**

##### **SEC. 301. CYBERSECURITY COMPETITIONS AND CHALLENGES.**

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary of Commerce, Director of the National Science Foundation, and Secretary of Homeland Security, in consultation with the Director of the Office of Personnel Management, shall—

(1) support competitions and challenges under section 24 of the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3719) (as amended by section 105 of the America COMPETES Reauthorization Act of 2010 (124 Stat. 3989)) or any other provision of law, as appropriate—

(A) to identify, develop, and recruit talented individuals to perform duties relating to the security of information technology in Federal, State, local, and tribal government agencies, and the private sector; or

(B) to stimulate innovation in basic and applied cybersecurity research, technology development, and prototype demonstration that has the potential for application to the information technology activities of the Federal Government; and

(2) ensure the effective operation of the competitions and challenges under this section.

(b) **PARTICIPATION.**—Participants in the competitions and challenges under subsection (a)(1) may include—

(1) students enrolled in grades 9 through 12;

(2) students enrolled in a postsecondary program of study leading to a baccalaureate degree at an institution of higher education;

(3) students enrolled in a postbaccalaureate program of study at an institution of higher education;

(4) institutions of higher education and research institutions;

(5) veterans; and

(6) other groups or individuals that the Secretary of Commerce, Director of the National Science Foundation, and Secretary of Homeland Security determine appropriate.

(c) **AFFILIATION AND COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.**—Competitions and challenges under this section may be carried out through affiliation and cooperative agreements with—

(1) Federal agencies;

(2) regional, State, or school programs supporting the development of cyber professionals;

(3) State, local, and tribal governments; or

(4) other private sector organizations.

(d) **AREAS OF SKILL.**—Competitions and challenges under subsection (a)(1)(A) shall be designed to identify, develop, and recruit exceptional talent relating to—

(1) ethical hacking;

(2) penetration testing;

(3) vulnerability assessment;

(4) continuity of system operations;

(5) security in design;

(6) cyber forensics;

(7) offensive and defensive cyber operations; and

(8) other areas the Secretary of Commerce, Director of the National Science Foundation, and Secretary of Homeland Security consider necessary to fulfill the cybersecurity mission.

(e) **TOPICS.**—In selecting topics for competitions and challenges under subsection (a)(1), the Secretary of Commerce, Director of the National Science Foundation, and Secretary of Homeland Security—

(1) shall consult widely both within and outside the Federal Government; and

(2) may empanel advisory committees.

(f) **INTERNSHIPS.**—The Director of the Office of Personnel Management may support, as appropriate, internships or other work experience in the Federal Government to the winners of the competitions and challenges under this section.

**SEC. 302. FEDERAL CYBER SCHOLARSHIP-FOR-SERVICE PROGRAM.**

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Director of the National Science Foundation, in coordination with the Director of the Office of Personnel Management and Secretary of Homeland Security, shall continue a Federal cyber scholarship-for-service program to recruit and train the next generation of information technology professionals, industrial control system security professionals, and security managers to meet the needs of the cybersecurity mission for Federal, State, local, and tribal governments.

(b) **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION AND COMPONENTS.**—The Federal Cyber Scholarship-for-Service Program shall—

(1) provide scholarships through qualified institutions of higher education, including community colleges, to students who are enrolled in programs of study at institutions of higher education leading to degrees or specialized program certifications in the cybersecurity field;

(2) provide the scholarship recipients with summer internship opportunities or other meaningful temporary appointments in the Federal information technology workforce; and

(3) prioritize the employment placement of scholarship recipients in the Federal Government.

(c) **SCHOLARSHIP AMOUNTS.**—Each scholarship under subsection (b) shall be in an amount that covers the student's tuition and fees at the institution under subsection (b)(1) for not more than 3 years and provides the student with an additional stipend.

(d) **POST-AWARD EMPLOYMENT OBLIGATIONS.**—Each scholarship recipient, as a condition of receiving a scholarship under the program, shall enter into an agreement under which the recipient agrees to work in the cybersecurity mission of a Federal, State, local, or tribal agency for a period equal to the length of the scholarship following receipt of the student's degree.

(e) **HIRING AUTHORITY.**—

(1) **APPOINTMENT IN EXCEPTED SERVICE.**—Notwithstanding any provision of chapter 33 of title 5, United States Code, governing appointments in the competitive service, an agency shall appoint in the excepted service an individual who has completed the eligible degree program for which a scholarship was awarded.

(2) **NONCOMPETITIVE CONVERSION.**—Except as provided in paragraph (4), upon fulfillment of the service term, an employee appointed under paragraph (1) may be converted noncompetitively to term, career-conditional or career appointment.

(3) **TIMING OF CONVERSION.**—An agency may noncompetitively convert a term employee appointed under paragraph (2) to a career-conditional or career appointment before the term appointment expires.

(4) **AUTHORITY TO DECLINE CONVERSION.**—An agency may decline to make the noncompetitive conversion or appointment under paragraph (2) for cause.

(f) **ELIGIBILITY.**—To be eligible to receive a scholarship under this section, an individual shall—

(1) be a citizen or lawful permanent resident of the United States;

(2) demonstrate a commitment to a career in improving the security of information technology;

(3) have demonstrated a high level of proficiency in mathematics, engineering, or computer sciences;

(4) be a full-time student in an eligible degree program at a qualified institution of higher education, as determined by the Director of the National Science Foundation; and

(5) accept the terms of a scholarship under this section.

(g) **CONDITIONS OF SUPPORT.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—As a condition of receiving a scholarship under this section, a recipient shall agree to provide the qualified institution of higher education with annual verifiable documentation of post-award employment and up-to-date contact information.

(2) **TERMS.**—A scholarship recipient under this section shall be liable to the United States as provided in subsection (i) if the individual—

(A) fails to maintain an acceptable level of academic standing at the applicable institution of higher education, as determined by the Director of the National Science Foundation;

(B) is dismissed from the applicable institution of higher education for disciplinary reasons;

(C) withdraws from the eligible degree program before completing the program;

(D) declares that the individual does not intend to fulfill the post-award employment obligation under this section; or

(E) fails to fulfill the post-award employment obligation of the individual under this section.

(h) **MONITORING COMPLIANCE.**—As a condition of participating in the program, a qualified institution of higher education shall—

(1) enter into an agreement with the Director of the National Science Foundation, to

monitor the compliance of scholarship recipients with respect to their post-award employment obligations; and

(2) provide to the Director of the National Science Foundation, on an annual basis, the post-award employment documentation required under subsection (g)(1) for scholarship recipients through the completion of their post-award employment obligations.

(i) **AMOUNT OF REPAYMENT.**—

(1) **LESS THAN 1 YEAR OF SERVICE.**—If a circumstance described in subsection (g)(2) occurs before the completion of 1 year of a post-award employment obligation under this section, the total amount of scholarship awards received by the individual under this section shall—

(A) be repaid; or

(B) be treated as a loan to be repaid in accordance with subsection (j).

(2) **1 OR MORE YEARS OF SERVICE.**—If a circumstance described in subparagraph (D) or (E) of subsection (g)(2) occurs after the completion of 1 or more years of a post-award employment obligation under this section, the total amount of scholarship awards received by the individual under this section, reduced by the ratio of the number of years of service completed divided by the number of years of service required, shall—

(A) be repaid; or

(B) be treated as a loan to be repaid in accordance with subsection (j).

(j) **REPAYMENTS.**—A loan described subsection (i) shall—

(1) be treated as a Federal Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan under part D of title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087a et seq.); and

(2) be subject to repayment, together with interest thereon accruing from the date of the scholarship award, in accordance with terms and conditions specified by the Director of the National Science Foundation (in consultation with the Secretary of Education) in regulations promulgated to carry out this subsection.

(k) **COLLECTION OF REPAYMENT.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—In the event that a scholarship recipient is required to repay the scholarship award under this section, the qualified institution of higher education providing the scholarship shall—

(A) determine the repayment amounts and notify the recipient and the Director of the National Science Foundation of the amounts owed; and

(B) collect the repayment amounts within a period of time as determined by the Director of the National Science Foundation, or the repayment amounts shall be treated as a loan in accordance with subsection (j).

(2) **RETURNED TO TREASURY.**—Except as provided in paragraph (3), any repayment under this subsection shall be returned to the Treasury of the United States.

(3) **RETAIN PERCENTAGE.**—A qualified institution of higher education may retain a percentage of any repayment the institution collects under this subsection to defray administrative costs associated with the collection. The Director of the National Science Foundation shall establish a single, fixed percentage that will apply to all eligible entities.

(l) **EXCEPTIONS.**—The Director of the National Science Foundation may provide for the partial or total waiver or suspension of any service or payment obligation by an individual under this section whenever compliance by the individual with the obligation is impossible or would involve extreme hardship to the individual, or if enforcement of such obligation with respect to the individual would be unconscionable.

(m) **EVALUATION AND REPORT.**—The Director of the National Science Foundation shall evaluate and report periodically to Congress on the success of recruiting individuals for scholarships under this section and on hiring and retaining those individuals in the public sector workforce.

#### **TITLE IV—CYBERSECURITY AWARENESS AND PREPAREDNESS**

##### **SEC. 401. NATIONAL CYBERSECURITY AWARENESS AND EDUCATION PROGRAM.**

(a) **NATIONAL CYBERSECURITY AWARENESS AND EDUCATION PROGRAM.**—The Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (referred to in this section as the “Director”), in consultation with appropriate Federal agencies, industry, educational institutions, National Laboratories, the Networking and Information Technology Research and Development program, and other organizations shall continue to coordinate a national cybersecurity awareness and education program, that includes activities such as—

- (1) the widespread dissemination of cybersecurity technical standards and best practices identified by the Director;
- (2) efforts to make cybersecurity best practices usable by individuals, small to medium-sized businesses, educational institutions, and State, local, and tribal governments;
- (3) increasing public awareness of cybersecurity, cyber safety, and cyber ethics;
- (4) increasing the understanding of State, local, and tribal governments, institutions of higher education, and private sector entities of—

(A) the benefits of ensuring effective risk management of information technology versus the costs of failure to do so; and

(B) the methods to mitigate and remediate vulnerabilities;

(5) supporting formal cybersecurity education programs at all education levels to prepare and improve a skilled cybersecurity and computer science workforce for the private sector and Federal, State, local, and tribal government; and

(6) promoting initiatives to evaluate and forecast future cybersecurity workforce needs of the Federal Government and develop strategies for recruitment, training, and retention.

(b) **CONSIDERATIONS.**—In carrying out the authority described in subsection (a), the Director, in consultation with appropriate Federal agencies, shall leverage existing programs designed to inform the public of safety and security of products or services, including self-certifications and independently verified assessments regarding the quantification and valuation of information security risk.

(c) **STRATEGIC PLAN.**—The Director, in cooperation with relevant Federal agencies and other stakeholders, shall build upon programs and plans in effect as of the date of enactment of this Act to develop and implement a strategic plan to guide Federal programs and activities in support of the national cybersecurity awareness and education program under subsection (a).

(d) **REPORT.**—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, and every 5 years thereafter, the Director shall transmit the strategic plan under subsection (c) to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives.

#### **TITLE V—ADVANCEMENT OF CYBERSECURITY TECHNICAL STANDARDS**

##### **SEC. 501. DEFINITIONS.**

In this title:

(1) **DIRECTOR.**—The term “Director” means the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology.

(2) **INSTITUTE.**—The term “Institute” means the National Institute of Standards and Technology.

##### **SEC. 502. INTERNATIONAL CYBERSECURITY TECHNICAL STANDARDS.**

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Director, in coordination with appropriate Federal authorities, shall—

(1) as appropriate, ensure coordination of Federal agencies engaged in the development of international technical standards related to information system security; and

(2) not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, develop and transmit to Congress a plan for ensuring such Federal agency coordination.

(b) **CONSULTATION WITH THE PRIVATE SECTOR.**—In carrying out the activities specified in subsection (a)(1), the Director shall ensure consultation with appropriate private sector stakeholders.

##### **SEC. 503. CLOUD COMPUTING STRATEGY.**

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Director, in coordination with the Office of Management and Budget, in collaboration with the Federal Chief Information Officers Council, and in consultation with other relevant Federal agencies and stakeholders from the private sector, shall continue to develop and encourage the implementation of a comprehensive strategy for the use and adoption of cloud computing services by the Federal Government.

(b) **ACTIVITIES.**—In carrying out the strategy described under subsection (a), the Director shall give consideration to activities that—

(1) accelerate the development, in collaboration with the private sector, of standards that address interoperability and portability of cloud computing services;

(2) advance the development of conformance testing performed by the private sector in support of cloud computing standardization; and

(3) support, in coordination with the Office of Management and Budget, and in consultation with the private sector, the development of appropriate security frameworks and reference materials, and the identification of best practices, for use by Federal agencies to address security and privacy requirements to enable the use and adoption of cloud computing services, including activities—

(A) to ensure the physical security of cloud computing data centers and the data stored in such centers;

(B) to ensure secure access to the data stored in cloud computing data centers;

(C) to develop security standards as required under section 20 of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act (15 U.S.C. 278g-3); and

(D) to support the development of the automation of continuous monitoring systems.

##### **SEC. 504. IDENTITY MANAGEMENT RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.**

The Director shall continue a program to support the development of voluntary and cost-effective technical standards, metrology, testbeds, and conformance criteria, taking into account appropriate user concerns—

(1) to improve interoperability among identity management technologies;

(2) to strengthen authentication methods of identity management systems;

(3) to improve privacy protection in identity management systems, including health information technology systems, through authentication and security protocols; and

(4) to improve the usability of identity management systems.

**SA 4098.** Mr. COBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 3979, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to ensure that emergency services volunteers are not taken into account as employees under the shared responsibility requirements contained in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

#### **DIVISION E—EFFECT OF CERTAIN PROVISIONS**

##### **SEC. 5001. SEALASKA LAND ENTITLEMENT FINALIZATION.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, section 3002 shall have no force or effect.

##### **SEC. 5002. BLACKSTONE RIVER VALLEY NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, section 3031 shall have no force or effect.

##### **SEC. 5003. COLTSVILLE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, section 3032 shall have no force or effect.

##### **SEC. 5004. FIRST STATE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, section 3033 shall have no force or effect.

##### **SEC. 5005. HINCHLIFFE STADIUM ADDITION TO PATERSON GREAT FALLS NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, section 3037 shall have no force or effect.

##### **SEC. 5006. MANHATTAN PROJECT NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, section 3039 shall have no force or effect.

##### **SEC. 5007. VALLES CALDERA NATIONAL PRESERVE, NEW MEXICO.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, section 3043 shall have no force or effect.

##### **SEC. 5008. VICKSBURG NATIONAL MILITARY PARK.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, section 3044 shall have no force or effect.

##### **SEC. 5009. REVOLUTIONARY WAR AND WAR OF 1812 AMERICAN BATTLEFIELD PROTECTION PROGRAM.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, section 3050 shall have no force or effect.

##### **SEC. 5010. SPECIAL RESOURCE STUDIES.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, section 3051 shall have no force or effect.

##### **SEC. 5011. NATIONAL HERITAGE AREAS AND CORRIDORS.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, section 3052 shall have no force or effect.

##### **SEC. 5012. COMMISSION TO STUDY THE POTENTIAL CREATION OF A NATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY MUSEUM.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, section 3056 shall have no force or effect.

**SEC. 5013. ALPINE LAKES WILDERNESS ADDITIONS AND PRATT AND MIDDLE FORK SNOQUALMIE RIVERS PROTECTION.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, section 3060 shall have no force or effect.

**SEC. 5014. COLUMBINE-HONDO WILDERNESS.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, section 3061 shall have no force or effect.

**SEC. 5015. HERMOSA CREEK WATERSHED PROTECTION.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, section 3062 shall have no force or effect.

**SEC. 5016. NORTH FORK FEDERAL LANDS WITHDRAWAL AREA.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, section 3063 shall have no force or effect.

**SEC. 5017. PINE FOREST RANGE WILDERNESS.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, section 3064 shall have no force or effect.

**SEC. 5018. ROCKY MOUNTAIN FRONT CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT AREA AND WILDERNESS ADDITIONS.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, section 3065 shall have no force or effect.

**SEC. 5019. WOVOKA WILDERNESS.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, section 3066 shall have no force or effect.

**SEC. 5020. WITHDRAWAL AREA RELATED TO WOVOKA WILDERNESS.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, section 3067 shall have no force or effect.

**SEC. 5021. ILLABOT CREEK, WASHINGTON, WILD AND SCENIC RIVER.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, section 3071 shall have no force or effect.

**SEC. 5022. MISSISQUOI AND TROUT WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS, VERMONT.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, section 3072 shall have no force or effect.

**SEC. 5023. WHITE CLAY CREEK WILD AND SCENIC RIVER EXPANSION.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, section 3073 shall have no force or effect.

**SEC. 5024. STUDIES OF WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, section 3074 shall have no force or effect.

**SEC. 5025. MISCELLANEOUS ISSUES RELATED TO LAS VEGAS VALLEY PUBLIC LAND AND TULE SPRINGS FOSSIL BEDS NATIONAL MONUMENT.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, section 3092 shall have no force or effect.

**SEC. 5026. REFINANCING OF PACIFIC COAST GROUND FISH FISHING CAPACITY REDUCTION LOAN.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, section 3095 shall have no force or effect.

**SEC. 5027. PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAXES.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, section 3096 shall have no force or effect.

**SA 4099.** Mr. VITTER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 83, to require the Secretary of the Interior to assemble a team of technical, policy, and financial

experts to address the energy needs of the insular areas of the United States and the Freely Associated States through the development of energy action plans aimed at promoting access to affordable, reliable energy, including increasing use of indigenous clean-energy resources, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

**SEC. \_\_\_\_ . LOCAL CONTROL OF EDUCATION.**

(a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This section may be cited as the “Local Control of Education Act”.

(b) **GENERAL ESEA PROHIBITION.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 9527 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7907) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(e) **PROHIBITION OF FEDERAL GOVERNMENT MANDATING COMMON STANDARDS, PROGRAMS OF INSTRUCTION, CURRICULA, ASSESSMENTS, OR ACADEMIC STANDARDS.**—An officer or employee of the Federal Government shall not directly or indirectly, through grants, contracts, or other cooperative agreements under this Act (including waivers under section 9401)—

“(1) mandate, direct, or control a State, local educational agency, or school’s specific instructional content or any specific academic standard, assessment, curriculum, or program of instruction, including through any requirement, direction, condition, or mandate to adopt—

“(A) the Common Core State Standards developed under the Common Core State Standards Initiative, any other academic standards common to a number of States, or any specific statewide or nationally recognized content standards; or

“(B) any assessment, instructional content, or curriculum aligned to, or based on, specific academic standards, including any of the standards described in subparagraph (A);

“(2) incentivize a State, local educational agency, or school to adopt any specific instructional content, academic standard, assessment, curriculum, commonality of standards or assessments, or program of instruction described in paragraph (1), which shall include providing any priority, preference, or special consideration during the application process based on any specific content, standard, assessment, curriculum, commonality, or program; or

“(3) make financial support available in a manner that is conditioned upon a State, local educational agency, or school’s adoption of any specific instructional content, academic standard, assessment, curriculum, commonality of standards or assessments, or program of instruction described in paragraph (1), even if such requirements are specified in section 14006 or 14007 of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Public Law 111–5; 123 Stat. 281) or any other Act.”.

(2) **CONFORMING AMENDMENT.**—Section 9527(a) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7907(a)) is amended by striking “curriculum, program of instruction, or”.

(c) **PROHIBITION ON REQUIRING ADOPTION OF COMMON STANDARDS WITH RESPECT TO WAIVERS.**—Section 9401 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7861) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(h) **PROHIBITION ON REQUIRING CERTAIN STANDARDS FOR WAIVERS.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall not require that a State, local educational agency, Indian tribe, or school adopt, as a prerequisite or condition for any waiver under this section, any specific instructional content, academic standard, assessment, curriculum, or program of instruction, including—

“(A) the Common Core State Standards developed under the Common Core State Standards Initiative, any other academic standards common to a number of States, or any specific statewide or nationally recognized content standards; or

“(B) any assessment, instructional content, or curriculum aligned to, or based on, any specific academic standards, including any of the standards described in subparagraph (A).

“(2) **EFFECT ON PREVIOUSLY ISSUED WAIVERS.**—

“(A) **IN GENERAL.**—Any requirement described in paragraph (1) that was required for a waiver provided to a State, local educational agency, Indian tribe, or school under this section before the date of enactment of the Local Control of Education Act shall be void and have no force of law.

“(B) **PROHIBITED ACTIONS.**—The Secretary shall not—

“(i) enforce any requirement that is void pursuant to subparagraph (A); and

“(ii) require the State, local educational agency, Indian tribe, or school to reapply for a waiver, or to agree to any other conditions to replace any requirements that is void pursuant to subparagraph (A), until the end of the period of time specified under the waiver.

“(C) **NO EFFECT ON OTHER PROVISIONS.**—Any other provisions or requirements of a waiver provided under this section before the date of enactment of the Local Control of Education Act that are not affected by subparagraph (A) shall remain in effect for the period of time specified under the waiver.”.

(d) **PROHIBITION IN RACE TO THE TOP FUNDING.**—Title XIV of division A of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Public Law 111–5) is amended by inserting after section 14007 the following:

**“SEC. 14007A. PROHIBITION ON REQUIRING OR PREFERRING COMMON STANDARDS.**

“The prohibitions of section 9527(e) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 shall apply to each grant awarded under section 14006 or 14007 in the same manner as such prohibitions apply to a grant awarded under such Act.”.

**NOTICES OF INTENT TO SUSPEND THE RULES**

Mr. COBURN. Mr. President, I submit the following notice in writing: In accordance with Rule V of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby give notice in writing that it is my intention to move to suspend Rule XXII, for the purpose of proposing and considering amendment No. 4003 to bill H.R. 3979, as follows:

At the end of subtitle J of title XXX of division B, add the following:

**SEC. 30 \_\_\_\_ . DEFERRED MAINTENANCE BACKLOG ON FEDERAL LAND.**

Section 7(a) of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965 (16 U.S.C. 4601–9(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(4) To address the maintenance backlog on Federal land.”.

Mr. COBURN. Mr. President, I submit the following notice in writing: In accordance with Rule V of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby give notice in writing that it is my intention to move to suspend Rule XXII, for the purpose of proposing and considering amendment No. 4098 to bill H.R. 3979, as follows:

At the end, add the following:

**DIVISION E—EFFECT OF CERTAIN PROVISIONS**

**SEC. 5001. SEALASKA LAND ENTITLEMENT FINALIZATION.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, section 3002 shall have no force or effect.

**SEC. 5002. BLACKSTONE RIVER VALLEY NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, section 3031 shall have no force or effect.

**SEC. 5003. COLTSVILLE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, section 3032 shall have no force or effect.

**SEC. 5004. FIRST STATE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, section 3033 shall have no force or effect.

**SEC. 5005. HINCHLIFFE STADIUM ADDITION TO PATERSON GREAT FALLS NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, section 3037 shall have no force or effect.

**SEC. 5006. MANHATTAN PROJECT NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, section 3039 shall have no force or effect.

**SEC. 5007. VALLES CALDERA NATIONAL PRESERVE, NEW MEXICO.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, section 3043 shall have no force or effect.

**SEC. 5008. VICKSBURG NATIONAL MILITARY PARK.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, section 3044 shall have no force or effect.

**SEC. 5009. REVOLUTIONARY WAR AND WAR OF 1812 AMERICAN BATTLEFIELD PROTECTION PROGRAM.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, section 3050 shall have no force or effect.

**SEC. 5010. SPECIAL RESOURCE STUDIES.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, section 3051 shall have no force or effect.

**SEC. 5011. NATIONAL HERITAGE AREAS AND CORRIDORS.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, section 3052 shall have no force or effect.

**SEC. 5012. COMMISSION TO STUDY THE POTENTIAL CREATION OF A NATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY MUSEUM.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, section 3056 shall have no force or effect.

**SEC. 5013. ALPINE LAKES WILDERNESS ADDITIONS AND PRATT AND MIDDLE FORK SNOQUALMIE RIVERS PROTECTION.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, section 3060 shall have no force or effect.

**SEC. 5014. COLUMBINE-HONDO WILDERNESS.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, section 3061 shall have no force or effect.

**SEC. 5015. HERMOSA CREEK WATERSHED PROTECTION.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, section 3062 shall have no force or effect.

**SEC. 5016. NORTH FORK FEDERAL LANDS WITHDRAWAL AREA.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, section 3063 shall have no force or effect.

**SEC. 5017. PINE FOREST RANGE WILDERNESS.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, section 3064 shall have no force or effect.

**SEC. 5018. ROCKY MOUNTAIN FRONT CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT AREA AND WILDERNESS ADDITIONS.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, section 3065 shall have no force or effect.

**SEC. 5019. WOVOKA WILDERNESS.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, section 3066 shall have no force or effect.

**SEC. 5020. WITHDRAWAL AREA RELATED TO WOVOKA WILDERNESS.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, section 3067 shall have no force or effect.

**SEC. 5021. ILLABOT CREEK, WASHINGTON, WILD AND SCENIC RIVER.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, section 3071 shall have no force or effect.

**SEC. 5022. MISSISQUOI AND TROUT WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS, VERMONT.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, section 3072 shall have no force or effect.

**SEC. 5023. WHITE CLAY CREEK WILD AND SCENIC RIVER EXPANSION.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, section 3073 shall have no force or effect.

**SEC. 5024. STUDIES OF WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, section 3074 shall have no force or effect.

**SEC. 5025. MISCELLANEOUS ISSUES RELATED TO LAS VEGAS VALLEY PUBLIC LAND AND TULE SPRINGS FOSSIL BEDS NATIONAL MONUMENT.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, section 3092 shall have no force or effect.

**SEC. 5026. REFINANCING OF PACIFIC COAST GROUND FISH FISHING CAPACITY REDUCTION LOAN.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, section 3095 shall have no force or effect.

**SEC. 5027. PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAXES.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, section 3096 shall have no force or effect.

**AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET**

**COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on December 11, 2014, in room S-219 of the Capitol Building.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

**COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS AND COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS**

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Environment and Public Works and the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on December 11, 2014, at 9:30 a.m., in room SD-406 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to hold a joint hearing entitled, "Oversight of the Implementation of the President's Executive Order on Improving Chemical Facility Safety and Security."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

**COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS**

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on December 11, 2014, at 10 a.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

**COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY**

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate, on December 11, 2014, at 10 a.m., in room SD-226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct an executive business meeting.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

**PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR**

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Lewis Sorvillo, my defense legislative fellow, be granted floor privileges for the duration of the consideration of the NDAA and/or the 113th Congress.

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that floor privileges be granted to Kelly McKellogg Swaine, the Deputy Director of the Office of Public Affairs at the State Department's Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs, who is currently serving on my staff as a Brookings LEGIS fellow, for the duration of today's session of the Senate.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**EXECUTIVE CALENDAR**

Mr. PRYOR. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider the following nominations: Calendar Nos. 1112 through and including 1137, and all nominations placed on the Secretary's desk in the Air Force, Army, Marine Corps, and Navy; that the nominations be confirmed en bloc; the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order to any



of the nominations; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action and the Senate then resume legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The nominations considered and confirmed en bloc are as follows:

#### IN THE ARMY

The following named officer for appointment in the Reserve of the Army to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 12203:

##### *To be major general*

Brig. Gen. Margaret C. Wilmoth

#### IN THE MARINE CORPS

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Marine Corps to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

##### *To be lieutenant general*

Maj. Gen. James B. Laster

#### IN THE NAVY

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Navy to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

##### *To be vice admiral*

Rear Adm. James G. Foggo, III

#### IN THE AIR FORCE

The following named officer for appointment in the Reserve of the Air Force to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 12203:

##### *To be major general*

Brig. Gen. Derek P. Rydholm

#### IN THE ARMY

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Army to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

##### *To be lieutenant general*

Maj. Gen. Larry D. Wyche

The following named officer for appointment in the Reserve of the Army to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 12203:

##### *To be brigadier general*

Col. Lawrence F. Thoms

#### IN THE NAVY

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Navy to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

##### *To be admiral*

Adm. Harry B. Harris, Jr.

#### IN THE AIR FORCE

The following Air National Guard of the United States officer for appointment in the Reserve of the Air Force to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., sections 12203 and 12212:

##### *To be brigadier general*

Col. Shelley R. Campbell

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

##### *To be lieutenant general*

Maj. Gen. Mark C. Nowland

#### IN THE ARMY

The following Army National Guard of the United States officers for appointment in the Reserve of the Army in the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., sections 12203 and 12211:

##### *To be brigadier general*

Colonel Michael G. Amundson  
Colonel Charles K. Aris  
Colonel Tommy H. Baker  
Colonel Joe G. Barnard, Jr.  
Colonel Brian B. Barrontine  
Colonel Barry K. Beach  
Colonel Michael R. Berry  
Colonel Thomas H. Blackstock, Jr.  
Colonel William B. Blaylock, II  
Colonel Daniel J. Bochicchio  
Colonel Christopher P. Callahan  
Colonel Lloyd P. Caviness, Jr.  
Colonel Fred M. Chesbro  
Colonel David L.G. Collins  
Colonel James D. Craig  
Colonel Thomas G. Croymans  
Colonel Zachary F. Doser  
Colonel Gordon L. Ellis  
Colonel William J. Freidel  
Colonel Daniel J. Fuhr  
Colonel Troy D. Galloway  
Colonel Jeffrey L. Gaylord  
Colonel David E. Graetz  
Colonel Matthew J. Hearon  
Colonel William J. Hersh  
Colonel Thomas F. Heslin, Jr.  
Colonel Michael T. Heston  
Colonel Mark C. Jackson  
Colonel Bert S. Kozen  
Colonel Christopher F. Lawson  
Colonel Tim C. Lawson  
Colonel Collier H. Lippie  
Colonel Joane K. Mathews  
Colonel Kenneth L. McCreary  
Colonel Anthony V. Mohatt  
Colonel Adrian B. Nettles  
Colonel Tracy R. Norris  
Colonel Stephen B. Owens  
Colonel Lawrence R. Powell  
Colonel John M. Prine  
Colonel Helen E. Rogers  
Colonel Paul D. Rogers  
Colonel Robert A. Sparing  
Colonel Mark C. Strong  
Colonel Brian R. Trenda  
Colonel Bryan A. Tutko  
Colonel William J. Walker  
Colonel Steven H. Warnstadt  
Colonel Ronald A. Westfall  
Colonel Clifford W. Wilkins

The following named officer for appointment to the grade indicated in the United States Army under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

##### *To be major general*

Brig. Gen. Darsie D. Rogers, Jr.

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Army to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

##### *To be lieutenant general*

Maj. Gen. Frederick S. Rudesheim

The following named officer for appointment in the Reserve of the Army to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 12203:

##### *To be brigadier general*

Col. Stephen J. Hager

The following named officer for appointment in the Reserve of the Army to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 12203:

##### *To be brigadier general*

Col. Eugene J. LeBoeuf

The following Army National Guard of the United States officer for appointment in the Reserve of the Army to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., sections 12203 and 12211:

##### *To be major general*

Brig. Gen. John C. Harris

The following named officer for appointment in the Reserve of the Army to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 12203:

##### *To be major general*

Brig. Gen. Lewis G. Irwin

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Army to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

##### *To be lieutenant general*

Maj. Gen. David E. Quantock

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Army to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

##### *To be lieutenant general*

Maj. Gen. Anthony R. Ierardi

#### IN THE MARINE CORPS

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Marine Corps to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

##### *To be lieutenant general*

Maj. Gen. Vincent R. Stewart

#### IN THE AIR FORCE

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

##### *To be lieutenant general*

Lt. Gen. Andrew E. Busch

#### IN THE ARMY

The following named officer for appointment to the grade indicated in the United States Army under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

##### *To be major general*

Brig. Gen. Richard D. Clarke, Jr.

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Army to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

##### *To be lieutenant general*

Lt. Gen. John F. Mulholland, Jr.

The following named officer for appointment in the Reserve of the Army to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 12203:

##### *To be brigadier general*

Col. Aaron T. Walter

The following named officer for appointment in the Reserve of the Army to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 12203:

##### *To be brigadier general*

Col. David W. Ling

#### IN THE NAVY

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Navy to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

##### *To be vice admiral*

Rear Adm. Troy M. Shoemaker

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Navy to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

*To be admiral*

Vice Adm. Scott H. Swift

#### IN THE AIR FORCE

PN1712-2 AIR FORCE nominations (2) beginning TAFT OWEN AUJERO, and ending JEFFERY LYNN RICHARD, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 15, 2014.

PN1952 AIR FORCE nominations (1193) beginning PETER BRIAN ABERCROMBIE, II, and ending JASON C. ZUMWALT, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 31, 2014.

PN2031 AIR FORCE nominations (5) beginning GEORGE W. CLIFFORD, III, and ending YOUNG J. JUN, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 15, 2014.

PN2147 AIR FORCE nominations (105) beginning TRAVIS K. ACHESON, and ending PAUL C. ZURKOWSKI, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 13, 2014.

PN2148 AIR FORCE nomination of Jennifer C. Alexander, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 13, 2014.

PN2149 AIR FORCE nomination of Joyce P. Fiedler, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 13, 2014.

PN2194 AIR FORCE nominations (24) beginning ROBERT B.O. ALLEN, and ending KEITH M. VOLLENWEIDER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 3, 2014.

PN2195 AIR FORCE nominations (57) beginning RICHARD Y. BAIRD, and ending JEROME L. VINLUAN, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 3, 2014.

PN2196 AIR FORCE nominations (2) beginning RICHARD M. BURGON, and ending JOSHUA N. SCOTT, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 3, 2014.

PN2197 AIR FORCE nomination of Allyson M. Yamaki, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 3, 2014.

PN2198 AIR FORCE nominations (66) beginning AARON J. AGIRRE, and ending GREGORY S. ZILINSKI, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 3, 2014.

PN2199 AIR FORCE nominations (249) beginning ERIKA S. ABRAHAM, and ending FEI ZHANG, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 3, 2014.

PN2200 AIR FORCE nominations (26) beginning RHETT B. CASPER, and ending STACEY ELIZABETH ZAIKOSKI, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 3, 2014.

PN2201 AIR FORCE nominations (137) beginning JOSE C. AGUIRRE, and ending SANDY K. YIP, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 3, 2014.

PN2202 AIR FORCE nominations (10) beginning JASON D. EITUTIS, and ending BRIAN K. WYRICK, which nominations were received

by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 3, 2014.

PN2203 AIR FORCE nominations (12) beginning SARAHANN BEAL, and ending CAROL C. WALTERS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 3, 2014.

PN2208 AIR FORCE nominations (43) beginning DAVID P. ABBOTT, and ending KEVIN D. UNDERWOOD, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 3, 2014.

PN2209 AIR FORCE nominations (159) beginning MOHAMMED H. ALJALLAD, and ending ANITA M. YATES, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 3, 2014.

#### IN THE ARMY

PN1674-2 ARMY nomination of KIMBERELY DEROUENSLAVEN, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 7, 2014.

PN1927 ARMY nomination of Barry C. Busby, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 22, 2014.

PN2032-1 ARMY nominations (142) beginning LAMAR D. ADAMS, and ending G001317, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 15, 2014.

PN2033-1 ARMY nominations (102) beginning ERIC C. ANDERSON, and ending D011466, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 15, 2014.

PN2034 ARMY nominations (18) beginning RANDY L. BRANDT, and ending KENNETH R. WILLIAMS, JR., which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 15, 2014.

PN2036-1 ARMY nominations (234) beginning MICHAEL D. ACORD, and ending D006516, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 15, 2014.

PN2037 ARMY nomination of Darrell R. V. Tran, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 15, 2014.

PN2038 ARMY nominations (5) beginning GEORGE W. MASON, III, and ending ALVIN D. WILSON, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 15, 2014.

PN2039 ARMY nominations (5) beginning JOHN W. BOZICEVIC, and ending JAMES E. SCALF, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 15, 2014.

PN2046 ARMY nomination of Patrick M. McGrath, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 17, 2014.

PN2047 ARMY nominations (3) beginning PEGGY E. D. MCGILL, and ending ELENA M. SCARBROUGH, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 17, 2014.

PN2048 ARMY nominations (7) beginning DELROY A. BROWN, and ending RICHARD G. SCHMID, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 17, 2014.

PN2049-1 ARMY nominations (11) beginning BRIAN R. COLEMAN, and ending ROBERT W. THOMPSON, JR., which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 17, 2014.

PN2050 ARMY nominations (12) beginning VANCE J. ARGO, and ending GREGORY W. TEISAN, which nominations were received

by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 17, 2014.

PN2051 ARMY nominations (7) beginning SCOTT A. ARCAND, and ending WILLIAM D. WEAVER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 17, 2014.

PN2052-1 ARMY nominations (2) beginning DAWN M. FLYNN, and ending SANDRA J. HETZEL, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 17, 2014.

PN2053-1 ARMY nominations (7) beginning SCOTT B. BYERS, and ending CHARLENE A. WEINGARTEN, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 17, 2014.

PN2054-1 ARMY nominations (28) beginning DONNA K. AYERS, and ending MARY E. WOODARD, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 17, 2014.

PN2055-1 ARMY nominations (42) beginning FELIX J. E. ANDUJAR, and ending TERENCE R. WOODS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 17, 2014.

PN2056-1 ARMY nominations (26) beginning BRYAN D. BROWN, and ending NICHOLAS D. YOUNG, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 17, 2014.

PN2057 ARMY nominations (5) beginning ANTHONY J. LABADIA, and ending JOSEPH F. TOMMASINO, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 17, 2014.

PN2058-1 ARMY nominations (3) beginning MARTA E. ACHA, and ending RICORD W. TORGERSON, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 17, 2014.

PN2059 ARMY nominations (7) beginning ZENAIDA M. COFIE, and ending TODD L. STEWART, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 17, 2014.

PN2150 ARMY nomination of Joseph T. Morris, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 13, 2014.

PN2151 ARMY nomination of Richard T. Knowlton, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 13, 2014.

PN2152 ARMY nominations (14) beginning ROBERT A. BORCHERDING, and ending DEAN L. WHITFORD, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 13, 2014.

PN2153 ARMY nomination of Steven E. Baker, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 13, 2014.

PN2154 ARMY nomination of Arun Sharma, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 13, 2014.

PN2155 ARMY nomination of James M. Brumit, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 13, 2014.

PN2156 ARMY nominations (24) beginning SAMUEL AGOSTOSANTIAGO, and ending JOHN R. WILT, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 13, 2014.

PN2157 ARMY nominations (12) beginning EDWIN B. BALES, and ending RYAN M. ZIPF, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 13, 2014.

PN2158 ARMY nominations (2) beginning PAUL P. MCBRIDE, and ending PAUL E. REYNOLDS, JR., which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 13, 2014.

PN2159 ARMY nomination of John E. Atwood, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 13, 2014.

PN2160 ARMY nominations (3) beginning DANIEL H. ALDANA, and ending DAVID R. NAVLAUSKA, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 13, 2014.

PN2161 ARMY nomination of Eric Graham, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 13, 2014.

PN2162-1 ARMY nominations (2) beginning SUSAN DAVIS, and ending MATTHEW G. STLAURENT, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 13, 2014.

PN2163 ARMY nominations (3) beginning SHELLEY P. HONNOLD, and ending NEAL E. WOOLLEN, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 13, 2014.

PN2164-1 ARMY nominations (19) beginning SUSAN J. ARGUETA, and ending JASON S. WINDSOR, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 13, 2014.

PN2165-1 ARMY nominations (37) beginning JOHN R. BAILEY, and ending D004653, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 13, 2014.

PN2166 ARMY nominations (2) beginning GARY L. GROSS, and ending CRAIG D. SHRIVER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 13, 2014.

PN2167 ARMY nominations (6) beginning MELISSA R. BEAUMAN, and ending MICHAEL W. STEPHENS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 13, 2014.

PN2182 ARMY nomination of Richard M. Hester, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 17, 2014.

PN2190 ARMY nomination of Jay E. Clasing, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 19, 2014.

PN2211-1 ARMY nominations (32) beginning SCOTT J. ANDERSON, and ending STEFANIA V. WILCOX, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 3, 2014.

PN2212-1 ARMY nominations (65) beginning RACHEL R. ANTHONY, and ending D011532, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 3, 2014.

PN2213 ARMY nominations (186) beginning NADINE M. ALONZO, and ending D012299, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 3, 2014.

PN2214-1 ARMY nominations (144) beginning MARK ACOPAN, and ending TIMOTHY R. YOURK, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 3, 2014.

PN2215 ARMY nominations (84) beginning KATHARINE M. E. ADAMS, and ending HANS P. ZELLER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 3, 2014.

PN2216 ARMY nominations (48) beginning ROBERT J. ABBOTT, and ending D011857, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 3, 2014.

#### IN THE MARINE CORPS

PN2042 MARINE CORPS nomination of Timothy E. Robertson, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 15, 2014.

PN2174 MARINE CORPS nomination of Christopher E. Hall, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 13, 2014.

#### IN THE NAVY

PN2040 NAVY nomination of Angela M. Rowell, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 15, 2014.

PN2041 NAVY nomination of Gregory L. Koontz, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 15, 2014.

PN2168 NAVY nomination of Timothy S. Roush, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 13, 2014.

PN2169 NAVY nomination of Kimberly M. Freitas, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 13, 2014.

PN2170 NAVY nomination of Adam B. Yost, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 13, 2014.

PN2171 NAVY nomination of Charles S. Eisenberg, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 13, 2014.

PN2172 NAVY nomination of Jack W.L. Tsao, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 13, 2014.

PN2173 NAVY nomination of James M. Ross, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 13, 2014.

PN2183 NAVY nomination of Lakeeva B. Gunderson, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 17, 2014.

PN2184 NAVY nominations (38) beginning TRAVIS S. ANDERSON, and ending JULIAN G. WILSON III, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 17, 2014.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will now resume legislative session.

#### MICHAEL D. RESNICK TERRORIST SCREENING CENTER

Mr. PRYOR. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the EPW Committee be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 3096, and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the bill by title. The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3096) to designate the building occupied by the Federal Bureau of Investigation located at 801 Follin Lane, Vienna, Virginia, as the "Michael D. Resnick Terrorist Screening Center."

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. PRYOR. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read three times and passed and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 3096) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

#### DESIGNER ANABOLIC STEROID CONTROL ACT OF 2014

Mr. PRYOR. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 4771, and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the bill by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 4771) to amend the Controlled Substances Act to more effectively regulate anabolic steroids.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. PRYOR. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed, and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 4771) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

#### AMENDING THE ENERGY POLICY AND CONSERVATION ACT

Mr. PRYOR. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the energy committee be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 5057 and the Senate proceed to its consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the bill by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 5057) to amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to permit exemptions for external power supplies from certain efficiency standards, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. PRYOR. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 5057) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

# FORECLOSURE RELIEF AND EXTENSION FOR SERVICEMEMBERS ACT OF 2014

Mr. PRYOR. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. 3008, which was introduced earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 3008) to extend temporarily the extended period of protection for members of uniformed services relating to mortgages, mortgage foreclosure, and eviction, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. PRYOR. Madam President, I further ask unanimous consent that the bill be read three times and passed and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (S. 3008) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 3008

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

## SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Foreclosure Relief and Extension for Servicemembers Act of 2014”.

## SEC. 2. TEMPORARY EXTENSION OF EXTENDED PERIOD OF PROTECTIONS FOR MEMBERS OF UNIFORMED SERVICES RELATING TO MORTGAGES, MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE, AND EVICTION.

Section 710(d) of the Honoring America's Veterans and Caring for Camp Lejeune Families Act of 2012 (Public Law 112-154; 126 Stat. 1208) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking “December 31, 2014” and inserting “December 31, 2015”; and

(2) in paragraph (3), by striking “January 1, 2015” and inserting “January 1, 2016”.

## UNITED STATES ANTI-DOPING AGENCY REAUTHORIZATION ACT

Mr. PRYOR. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 608, S. 2338.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2338) to reauthorize the United States Anti-Doping Agency, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. PRYOR. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (S. 2338) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 2338

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

## SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “United States Anti-Doping Agency Reauthorization Act”.

## SEC. 2. PROHIBIT PERFORMANCE-ENHANCING METHODS.

Section 701 of title VII of the Office of National Drug Control Policy Reauthorization Act of 2006 (21 U.S.C. 2001) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking paragraph (4); and

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by inserting “and be recognized worldwide as the independent national anti-doping organization for the United States” after “Committee”;

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking “, or performance-enhancing genetic modifications accomplished through gene-doping” and inserting “or prohibited performance-enhancing methods adopted by the Agency”;

(C) in paragraph (3), by striking “, or performance-enhancing genetic modifications accomplished through gene-doping” and inserting “or prohibited performance-enhancing methods adopted by the Agency”;

(D) in paragraph (4), by striking “and the prevention of use of performance-enhancing drugs, or performance-enhancing genetic modifications accomplished through gene-doping by United States amateur athletes; and” and inserting “, and the prevention of use by United States amateur athletes of performance-enhancing drugs or prohibited performance-enhancing methods adopted by the Agency.”; and

(E) by striking paragraph (5).

## SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

Section 703 of title VII of the Office of National Drug Control Policy Reauthorization Act of 2006 (21 U.S.C. 2003) is amended to read as follows:

### “SEC. 703. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

“There are authorized to be appropriated to the United States Anti-Doping Agency—

“(1) for fiscal year 2014, \$11,300,000;

“(2) for fiscal year 2015, \$11,700,000;

“(3) for fiscal year 2016, \$12,300,000;

“(4) for fiscal year 2017, \$12,900,000;

“(5) for fiscal year 2018, \$13,500,000;

“(6) for fiscal year 2019, \$14,100,000; and

“(7) for fiscal year 2020, \$14,800,000.”.

## U.S. MERCHANT MARINE ACADEMY IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2014

Mr. PRYOR. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce be discharged from further consideration of S. 2983 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the bill by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2983) to allow for a contract for operation of Melville Hall of United States Merchant Marine Academy after gift by United States Merchant Marine Academy Alumni Association and Foundation, Inc., for renovation of such hall and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. PRYOR. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (S. 2983) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 2983

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

## SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “U.S. Merchant Marine Academy Improvement Act of 2014”.

## SEC. 2. MELVILLE HALL OF UNITED STATES MERCHANT MARINE ACADEMY.

(a) GIFT TO THE MERCHANT MARINE ACADEMY.—The Maritime Administrator may accept a gift of money from the Foundation under section 51315 of title 46, United States Code, for the purpose of renovating Melville Hall on the campus of the United States Merchant Marine Academy.

(b) COVERED GIFTS.—A gift described in this subsection is a gift under subsection (a) that the Maritime Administrator determines exceeds the sum of—

(1) the minimum amount that is sufficient to ensure the renovation of Melville Hall in accordance with the capital improvement plan of the United States Merchant Marine Academy that was in effect on the date of enactment of this Act; and

(2) 25 percent of the amount described in paragraph (1).

(c) OPERATION CONTRACTS.—Subject to subsection (d), in the case that the Maritime Administrator accepts a gift of money described in subsection (b), the Maritime Administrator may enter into a contract with the Foundation for the operation of Melville Hall to make available facilities for, among other possible uses, official academy functions, third-party catering functions, and industry events and conferences.

(d) CONTRACT TERMS.—The contract described in subsection (c) shall be for such period and on such terms as the Maritime Administrator considers appropriate, including a provision, mutually agreeable to the Maritime Administrator and the Foundation, that—

(1) requires the Foundation—

(A) at the expense solely of the Foundation through the term of the contract to maintain Melville Hall in a condition that is as good as or better than the condition Melville Hall was in on the later of—

(i) the date that the renovation of Melville Hall was completed; or

(ii) the date that the Foundation accepted Melville Hall after it was tendered to the Foundation by the Maritime Administrator; and

(B) to deposit all proceeds from the operation of Melville Hall, after expenses necessary for the operation and maintenance of Melville Hall, into the account of the Regimental Affairs Non-Appropriated Fund Instrumentality or successor entity, to be used solely for the morale and welfare of the cadets of the United States Merchant Marine Academy; and

(2) prohibits the use of Melville Hall as lodging or an office by any person for more than 4 days in any calendar year other than—

(A) by the United States; or

(B) for the administration and operation of Melville Hall.

(e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) CONTRACT.—The term “contract” includes any modification, extension, or renewal of the contract.

(2) FOUNDATION.—In this section, the term “Foundation” means the United States Merchant Marine Academy Alumni Association and Foundation, Inc.

(f) RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section may be construed under section 3105 of title 41, United States Code, as requiring the Maritime Administrator to award a contract for the operation of Melville Hall to the Foundation.

#### RECOGNIZING THE 100-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS SOUTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA

Mr. PRYOR. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 599, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 599) recognizing the 100-year anniversary of Big Brothers Big Sisters Southeastern Pennsylvania.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. PRYOR. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 599) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

#### APPOINTMENTS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair announces, on behalf of the majority leader, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 104-191, the reappointment of the following individual to the National Committee on Vital and Health Statistics: Dr. Raj Chanderraj of Nevada for a term of four years.

The Chair announces, on behalf of the majority leader, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 107-12, the appointment of the following individual to serve as a member of the Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor Review Board: Michael Haley of Nevada.

#### SIGNING AUTHORITY

Mr. PRYOR. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that from Thursday, December 11 through Friday, December 12, Senator PRYOR be author-

ized to sign duly-enrolled bills or joint resolutions.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### ORDERS FOR FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2014

Mr. PRYOR. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m. on Friday, December 12, 2014; that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; that following any leader remarks, the Senate resume consideration of the motion to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to accompany H.R. 3979 postcloture.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### PROGRAM

Mr. PRYOR. For the information of all Senators, if all debate time is used, there will be up to four rollcall votes in relation to the Defense authorization bill and the Saperstein nomination at 3 p.m. We hope to yield back some of the debate time.

#### ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. PRYOR. Madam President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it adjourn under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 11:30 p.m., adjourned until Friday, December 12, 2014, at 10 a.m.

#### CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate December 11, 2014:

##### IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

##### To be major general

BRIG. GEN. MARGARET C. WILMOTH

##### IN THE MARINE CORPS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

##### To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. JAMES B. LASTER

##### IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

##### To be vice admiral

REAR ADM. JAMES G. FOGGO III

##### IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

##### To be major general

BRIG. GEN. DEREK P. RYDHOLM

##### IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

##### To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. LARRY D. WYCHE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

##### To be brigadier general

COL. LAWRENCE F. THOMS

##### IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

##### To be admiral

ADM. HARRY B. HARRIS, JR.

##### IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING AIR NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12212:

##### To be brigadier general

COL. SHELLEY R. CAMPBELL

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

##### To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. MARK C. NOWLAND

##### IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY IN THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

##### To be brigadier general

COLONEL MICHAEL G. AMUNDSON  
COLONEL CHARLES K. ARIS  
COLONEL TOMMY H. BAKER  
COLONEL JOE G. BARNARD, JR.  
COLONEL BRIAN B. BARRONTINE  
COLONEL BARRY K. BEACH  
COLONEL MICHAEL R. BERRY  
COLONEL THOMAS H. BLACKSTOCK, JR.  
COLONEL WILLIAM B. BLAYLOCK II  
COLONEL DANIEL J. BOCHICCHIO  
COLONEL CHRISTOPHER P. CALLAHAN  
COLONEL LLOYD P. CAVINESS, JR.  
COLONEL FRED M. CHESBRO  
COLONEL DAVID L.G. COLLINS  
COLONEL JAMES D. CRAIG  
COLONEL THOMAS G. CROYMANS  
COLONEL ZACHARY F. DOSER  
COLONEL GORDON L. ELLIS  
COLONEL WILLIAM J. FREIDEL  
COLONEL DANIEL J. FUHR  
COLONEL TROY D. GALLOWAY  
COLONEL JEFFREY L. GAYLORD  
COLONEL DAVID E. GRAETZ  
COLONEL MATTHEW J. HEARON  
COLONEL WILLIAM J. HERSH  
COLONEL THOMAS F. HESLIN, JR.  
COLONEL MICHAEL T. HESTON  
COLONEL MARK C. JACKSON  
COLONEL BERT S. KOZEN  
COLONEL CHRISTOPHER F. LAWSON  
COLONEL TIM C. LAWSON  
COLONEL COLLIER H. LIPPLE  
COLONEL JOANE K. MATHEWS  
COLONEL KENNETH L. MCCREARY  
COLONEL ANTHONY V. MOHATT  
COLONEL ADRIAN B. NETTLES  
COLONEL TRACY R. NORRIS  
COLONEL STEPHEN B. OWENS  
COLONEL LAWRENCE R. POWELL  
COLONEL JOHN M. PRINE  
COLONEL HELEN E. ROGERS  
COLONEL PAUL D. ROGERS  
COLONEL ROBERT A. SPARING  
COLONEL MARK C. STRONG  
COLONEL BRIAN E. TRENDIA  
COLONEL BRYAN A. TUTKO  
COLONEL WILLIAM J. WALKER  
COLONEL STEVEN H. WARNSTADT  
COLONEL RONALD A. WESTFALL  
COLONEL CLIFFORD W. WILKINS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

##### To be major general

BRIG. GEN. DARSIE D. ROGERS, JR.

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

*To be lieutenant general*

MAJ. GEN. FREDERICK S. RUDESHEIM

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

*To be brigadier general*

COL. STEPHEN J. HAGER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

*To be brigadier general*

COL. EUGENE J. LEBOEUF

THE FOLLOWING ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

*To be major general*

BRIG. GEN. JOHN C. HARRIS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

*To be major general*

BRIG. GEN. LEWIS G. IRWIN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

*To be lieutenant general*

MAJ. GEN. DAVID E. QUANTOCK

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

*To be lieutenant general*

MAJ. GEN. ANTHONY R. IERARDI

IN THE MARINE CORPS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

*To be lieutenant general*

MAJ. GEN. VINCENT R. STEWART

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

*To be lieutenant general*

LT. GEN. ANDREW E. BUSCH

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be major general*

BRIG. GEN. RICHARD D. CLARKE, JR.

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

*To be lieutenant general*

LT. GEN. JOHN F. MULHOLLAND, JR.

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

*To be brigadier general*

COL. AARON T. WALTER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

*To be brigadier general*

COL. DAVID W. LING

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

*To be vice admiral*

REAR ADM. TROY M. SHOEMAKER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED

WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

*To be admiral*

VICE ADM. SCOTT H. SWIFT

IN THE AIR FORCE

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH TAFT OWEN AUJERO AND ENDING WITH JEFFERY LYNN RICHARD, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 15, 2014.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH PETER BRIAN ABERCROMBIE II AND ENDING WITH JASON C. ZUMWALT, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 31, 2014.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH GEORGE W. CLIFFORD III AND ENDING WITH YOUNG J. JUN, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 15, 2014.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH TRAVIS K. ACHESON AND ENDING WITH PAUL C. ZURKOWSKI, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON NOVEMBER 13, 2014.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF JENNIFER C. ALEXANDER, TO BE COLONEL.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF JOYCE P. FIEDLER, TO BE COLONEL.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ROBERT B. O. ALLEN AND ENDING WITH KEITH M. VOLLENWEIDER, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON DECEMBER 3, 2014.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH RICHARD Y. BAIRD AND ENDING WITH JEROME L. VINLUAN, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON DECEMBER 3, 2014.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH RICHARD M. BURGON AND ENDING WITH JOSHUA N. SCOTT, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON DECEMBER 3, 2014.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF ALLYSON M. YAMAKI, TO BE MAJOR.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH AARON J. AGIRRE AND ENDING WITH GREGORY S. ZILINSKI, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON DECEMBER 3, 2014.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ERIKA S. ABRAHAM AND ENDING WITH FEI ZHANG, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON DECEMBER 3, 2014.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH RHETT B. CASPER AND ENDING WITH STACEY ELIZABETH ZAIKOSKI, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON DECEMBER 3, 2014.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JOSE C. AGUIRRE AND ENDING WITH SANDY K. YIP, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON DECEMBER 3, 2014.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JASON D. EITTUTIS AND ENDING WITH BRIAN K. WYRICK, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON DECEMBER 3, 2014.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH SARAHANN BEAL AND ENDING WITH CAROL C. WALTERS, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON DECEMBER 3, 2014.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH DAVID P. ABBOTT AND ENDING WITH KEVIN D. UNDERWOOD, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON DECEMBER 3, 2014.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH MOHAMMED H. ALJALLAD AND ENDING WITH ANITA M. YATES, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON DECEMBER 3, 2014.

IN THE ARMY

ARMY NOMINATION OF KIMBERLY DEROUENSLAVEN, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF BARRY C. BUSBY, TO BE MAJOR. ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH LAMAR D. ADAMS AND ENDING WITH G00137, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 15, 2014.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ERIC C. ANDERSON AND ENDING WITH D011466, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 15, 2014.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH RANDY L. BRANDT AND ENDING WITH KENNETH R. WILLIAMS, JR., WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 15, 2014.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH MICHAEL D. ACORD AND ENDING WITH D006516, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 15, 2014.

ARMY NOMINATION OF DARRELL R. V. TRAN, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH GEORGE W. MASON III AND ENDING WITH ALVIN D. WILSON, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 15, 2014.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JOHN W. BOZICEVIC AND ENDING WITH JAMES E. SCALF, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 15, 2014.

ARMY NOMINATION OF PATRICK M. MCGRATH, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH PEGGY E. D. MCGILL AND ENDING WITH ELENA M. SCARBROUGH, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 17, 2014.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH DELROY A. BROWN AND ENDING WITH RICHARD G. SCHMID, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 17, 2014.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH BRIAN R. COLEMAN AND ENDING WITH ROBERT W. THOMPSON, JR., WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 17, 2014.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH VANCE J. ARGO AND ENDING WITH GREGORY W. TEISAN, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 17, 2014.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH SCOTT A. ARCAD AND ENDING WITH WILLIAM D. WEAVER, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 17, 2014.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH DAWN M. FLYNN AND ENDING WITH SANDRA J. HETZEL, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 17, 2014.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH SCOTT B. BYERS AND ENDING WITH CHARLENE A. WEINGARTEN, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 17, 2014.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH DONNA K. AYERS AND ENDING WITH MARY E. WOODARD, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 17, 2014.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH FELIX J. E. ANDUJAR AND ENDING WITH TERENCE R. WOODS, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 17, 2014.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH BRYAN D. BROWN AND ENDING WITH NICHOLAS D. YOUNG, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 17, 2014.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ANTHONY J. LABADIA AND ENDING WITH JOSEPH F. TOMMASINO, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 17, 2014.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH MARTA E. ACHA AND ENDING WITH RICORD W. TORGERSON, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 17, 2014.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ZENAIDA M. COFIE AND ENDING WITH TODD L. STEWART, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 17, 2014.

ARMY NOMINATION OF JOSEPH T. MORRIS, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF RICHARD T. KNOWLTON, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ROBERT A. BORCHERDING AND ENDING WITH DEAN L. WHITFORD, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON NOVEMBER 13, 2014.

ARMY NOMINATION OF STEVEN E. BAKER, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF ARUN SHARMA, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF JAMES M. BRUMIT, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH SAMUEL AGOSTOSANTIAGO AND ENDING WITH JOHN R. WILT, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON NOVEMBER 13, 2014.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH EDWIN B. BALES AND ENDING WITH RYAN M. ZIPF, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON NOVEMBER 13, 2014.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH PAUL P. MCBRIDE AND ENDING WITH PAUL E. REYNOLDS, JR., WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON NOVEMBER 13, 2014.

ARMY NOMINATION OF JOHN E. ATWOOD, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH DANIEL H. ALDANA AND ENDING WITH DAVID R. NAVORSKA, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON NOVEMBER 13, 2014.

ARMY NOMINATION OF ERIC GRAHAM, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH SUSAN DAVIS AND ENDING WITH MATTHEW G. STLAURENT, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON NOVEMBER 13, 2014.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH SHELLEY P. HONNOLD AND ENDING WITH NEAL E. WOOLLEN, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON NOVEMBER 13, 2014.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH SUSAN J. ARGUETA AND ENDING WITH JASON S. WINDSOR, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON NOVEMBER 13, 2014.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JOHN R. BAILEY AND ENDING WITH D004653, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON NOVEMBER 13, 2014.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH GARY L. GROSS AND ENDING WITH CRAIG D. SHRIVER, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON NOVEMBER 13, 2014.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH MELISSA R. BEAUMAN AND ENDING WITH MICHAEL W. STEPHENS, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON NOVEMBER 13, 2014.

ARMY NOMINATION OF RICHARD M. HESTER, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF JAY E. CLASING, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH SCOTT J. ANDERSON AND ENDING WITH STEFANIA V. WILCOX, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON DECEMBER 3, 2014.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH RACHEL R. ANTHONY AND ENDING WITH D011532, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON DECEMBER 3, 2014.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH NADINE M. ALONZO AND ENDING WITH D012299, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON DECEMBER 3, 2014.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH MARK ACOPAN AND ENDING WITH TIMOTHY R. YOURK, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON DECEMBER 3, 2014.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH KATHARINE M. E. ADAMS AND ENDING WITH HANS P. ZELLER, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON DECEMBER 3, 2014.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ROBERT J. ABOTT AND ENDING WITH D011857, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON DECEMBER 3, 2014.

#### IN THE MARINE CORPS

MARINE CORPS NOMINATION OF TIMOTHY E. ROBERTSON, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATION OF CHRISTOPHER E. HALL, TO BE MAJOR.

#### IN THE NAVY

NAVY NOMINATION OF ANGELA M. ROWELL, TO BE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.

NAVY NOMINATION OF GREGORY L. KOONTZ, TO BE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.

NAVY NOMINATION OF TIMOTHY S. ROUSH, TO BE CAPTAIN.

NAVY NOMINATION OF KIMBERLY M. FREITAS, TO BE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.

NAVY NOMINATION OF ADAM B. YOST, TO BE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.

NAVY NOMINATION OF CHARLES S. EISENBERG, TO BE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.

NAVY NOMINATION OF JACK W.L. TSAO, TO BE CAPTAIN.

NAVY NOMINATION OF JAMES M. ROSS, TO BE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.

NAVY NOMINATION OF LAKEEVA B. GUNDERSON, TO BE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH TRAVIS S. ANDERSON AND ENDING WITH JULIAN G. WILSON III, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON NOVEMBER 17, 2014.



## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES—Thursday, December 11, 2014

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. KINGSTON).

### DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,  
December 11, 2014.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JACK KINGSTON to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

JOHN A. BOEHNER,  
*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

### PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer: God of the universe, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

As the Members of the people's House gather on this final day of the 113th Congress, we ask Your blessing upon them.

May our Nation's citizens be grateful for their service rendered these past 2 years but also justified in their hope that those returning for the new Congress and those joining them will move toward ever greater accomplishments to benefit our great Nation.

For the failures of the past 2 years, whatever their cause, we ask Your forgiveness and seek Your assurance that it is Your love that calls us to correcting all failures, not fear of Your anger.

Bless as well those who leave Congress this day. May they be successful and productive in whatever are their future endeavors.

May all that is done this day be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. JOHNSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to five requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

### THANK YOU, CAROLINE DELLENNEY

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, for over 6 years, the constituents of the Second Congressional District of South Carolina have been extremely fortunate to have Caroline Delleney working for them. Caroline began as scheduler in the office in 2008 and, over the last 3 years, has served tirelessly as communications director. When tasked with this challenge, Caroline not only succeeded, but excelled. She established and fulfilled the goal of being accessible and accountable.

At the end of the year, Caroline will be returning to South Carolina to coordinate communications for the incoming speaker of the State house, Jay Lucas of Hartsville. While I will miss Caroline's dedication to the job and ever-cheerful personality, I know she will do a great job for Speaker Lucas and the people of South Carolina.

Caroline is truly a credit to her dedicated parents, Becky and Greg Delleney of Chester, South Carolina.

As she moves to the capital city of Columbia, home of her alma mater, the

University of South Carolina, I wish her the absolute best. I know she will do a great job, and I look forward to serving her, as she will now be a constituent of the Second District.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and the President by his actions should never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

### TRAGEDIES IN BANGLADESH

(Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, on April 24, 2013, the world witnessed the deadliest disaster in the history of the garment industry. That morning Rana Plaza, an eight-story building housing five garment factories just outside Bangladesh's capital of Dhaka, collapsed. 1,138 people were killed and over 2,500 more were injured.

Just 5 months earlier, at least 112 people were killed, and scores more were injured when they leapt from a burning building at the Tazreen Fashions factory.

These tragedies laid bare the broken system, ineffective government oversight, and failed corporate responsibility and the powerlessness of the garment workers.

They also left nearly 4,000 survivors, families of the victims in need of long-term compensation. Many of the survivors are unable to find work, struggling with physical disabilities and mental trauma that could last for a lifetime. The injured workers and their families who lost loved ones—for many of them, their only income earner—are now trying to survive economic impoverishment in addition to the painful memories.

In the wake of these disasters, the International Labor Organization helped set up compensation funds for victims and families. Labor groups, the Bangladeshi Government, and several prominent retailers and brands who sourced from Bangladesh have committed funds to the survivors of Rana Plaza. Two years after the Tazreen fire, an agreement has also been reached on compensation for these survivors.

The Rana Plaza Donors Trust Fund needs an estimated \$40 million to provide for Rana Plaza survivors and victims' families, but as of last month the fund only had collected \$22 million, barely half the amount.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Injured workers and victims' families are being shortchanged. Nearly 40 global garment brands had recent or current orders in the five garment factories in Rana Plaza when it collapsed. They owe better compensation to the victims of their carelessness.

#### RECOGNIZING WILL CROCKER

(Mr. HOLDING asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HOLDING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Will Crocker, long-time Johnston County clerk of superior court, who is retiring this month after decades of public service.

For over 36 years, Will helped thousands of people, judges, and attorneys navigate the court system in Johnston County. He first began his job in 1959 as clerk of Selma recorder court, then later as assistant clerk of court in 1967. Will served with professionalism since winning his first election in 1978 and is the longest serving clerk in the State of North Carolina.

Mr. Speaker, Will is truly the "Will of the people." His knowledge of Johnston County history and politics is second to none, and when Will isn't eating at the Coffee Pot in Smithfield, he is enjoying his favorite pastime at night—watching C-SPAN.

Mr. Speaker, Will is one of a kind and leaves a lasting legacy in the history of Johnston County. I wish him good health and happiness in his retirement.

#### SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF NEWTOWN TRAGEDY

(Ms. ESTY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ESTY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart, to honor and remember the 20 innocent children and six brave educators gunned down at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown in my district 2 years ago.

The community of Newtown has asked us all to honor their memory with acts of kindness. They have asked us to honor with action. So I urge you to take a moment out of this busy holiday season and to volunteer at a local soup kitchen or to buy holiday gifts for needy families.

Let's honor with action, with acts of kindness this week, and with action in Congress that makes our world safer for all our children. Our hearts are broken, but our spirit is not.

#### A STORY FROM OHIO

(Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the hard-working people of eastern and southeastern Ohio to share their stories since they began experiencing President Obama's health care law.

I have heard from many of those I represent who have seen an increase in their health care premiums, lost their doctors, and were forced out of the plans that they liked, even after they were told by President Obama that if they liked their health plan they could keep it.

Alice of Dennison, Ohio, contacted my office and let me know that her insurance premium went from \$235 to \$520 a month, more than doubling. Alice told me that she goes to bed at night wondering how she will pay for the increased premiums. But Alice isn't alone. Her story is just one of the many stories from Ohio I have received.

We must continue to fight this misguided law and work to return control and choice of health care to the American people. Hardworking Americans deserve better than ObamaCare.

#### RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF DR. PAMELA TRANSUE

(Mr. KILMER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KILMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding service of Dr. Pamela Transue, who has served as Tacoma Community College's president for 17 years.

President Transue has established an effective and successful learning environment that has opened doors of opportunity for its students. Under her tenure, Tacoma Community College has become a more vibrant and modern place, and her efforts have brought the college national recognition. As a former board member of Tacoma Community College, I saw firsthand how she helped shape the lives of countless students.

Alongside her service as president, she has also been actively engaged in the community, whether giving a speech at the Metropolitan Development Council breakfast or participating in a local economic development association. Dr. Transue has long recognized that education and job growth and self-sufficiency all go hand in hand.

Dr. Transue will retire at the close of this year, and with her retirement, she will be one of the longest serving presidents in higher education in Washington State's history, serving as Tacoma Community College's president for almost one-third of the college's existence.

Her nearly two decades as president of Tacoma Community College have impacted our region's economy and

generations of students young and old. I am pleased to recognize her service today in the United States Congress.

#### RECOGNIZING PHIL HOGAN, JOSH ALLEN, JAMES WESTON ABBOTT, AND SHEA LASSETER

(Mr. WESTMORELAND asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to recognize Phil Hogan, Josh Allen, James Weston Abbott, and Shea Lasseter for their work for Coweta-Fayette electric cooperative, located in my district, and Habersham electric cooperative.

Coweta-Fayette initiated a partnership with Habersham for these gentlemen to travel to Costa Rica as volunteers for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association International Foundation. They helped construct an electric distribution system and worked alongside employees at Coopeguanacaste, the electric co-op in the town of Guanacaste.

Their volunteer efforts included extending access to electricity for families in this community. Electricity is a critical element in improving the quality of life. It enables better health care, education, clean water, and other vital services. These men also shared safety and best construction practices with the Costa Rican cooperative employees.

NRECA International has been active in rural electrification development in Costa Rica since 1963. The four electric cooperatives in Costa Rica serve approximately 750,000 folks. Thanks to these volunteers, more families in the world now have a chance for a better life.

Thank you, Phil Hogan, Josh Allen, James Weston Abbott, and Shea Lasseter for your hard work and dedication.

□ 0915

#### SOUTH SUDAN CONFLICT

(Ms. LEE of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, December 15 will mark the 1-year anniversary of the conflict in South Sudan. Since fighting broke out last December, a humanitarian crisis has plagued this young nation. Almost 2 million people have been displaced, and an estimated 50,000 civilian deaths have occurred. And the situation is only likely to get worse in the coming months.

The United States has played a vital role in supporting an independent South Sudan, and we have a vital role moving forward to ensure that the conflict does not deteriorate.

As we have seen in protracted crises around the world, such as in Sudan and

the Democratic Republic of Congo, the longer that a conflict continues and tears at the social fabric of a country, the more difficult reconciliation becomes.

As cochairs of the bipartisan Caucus on Sudan and South Sudan, Mr. McCaul of Texas, Mr. Capuano of Massachusetts, and myself are urging Members to sign a letter with us to the administration requesting the President to increase his political and diplomatic efforts to help bring this conflict to an end and to prevent further bloodshed.

With 1.5 million people experiencing food insecurity in South Sudan, now is the time to ensure that we use diplomacy to bring this crisis to an end. So we are asking you to join us in this effort because we must continue to work in a bipartisan way with the administration to increase our political and diplomatic efforts.

#### THE PRESIDENT'S LAWLESS IMMIGRATION OVERREACH

(Mrs. BLACK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. BLACK. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, President Obama came to Nashville to defend his unconstitutional immigration overreaches, but Tennesseans aren't buying it.

I asked my constituents what questions they would ask the President during his visit to the Volunteer State, and the response was overwhelming. Penny in Springfield asked, "Why has he chosen to ignore the voice of the people on the immigration issue?"

Janice in Gordonsville asked, "What does he say to the legal immigrants who obeyed the law to become citizens?"

And Kimberly in White House simply says, "I want to know why our laws are no longer valid."

My constituents said it best. We are a Nation of laws, and this lawless immigration overreach must not stand.

#### WHERE IS OUR AUTHORIZATION FOR USE OF MILITARY FORCE?

(Ms. FRANKEL of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on August 8 of this year, we went to war with ISIL. Since that day, we have launched over 1,700 airstrikes, we have put thousands of men and women in harm's way, we have committed billions of dollars, and the President has said this effort will take years.

Many of my colleagues and I have waited patiently for Congress to deliberate on the Authorization for Use of Military Force; yet all of these months later, we have not had a single debate.

We recessed this summer without debate. We passed a defense bill last week without debate. And now, once again, we are leaving town without debate.

Mr. Speaker, it is the duty of this Congress to make determinations of war and peace, and we are shamefully ducking this responsibility. America deserves better.

#### AUTHORITY TO FILE REPORTS

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all committees may have until 5 p.m. on December 30, 2014, to file reports to accompany measures.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Washington?

There was no objection.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken later.

#### SOLEDAD CANYON SETTLEMENT ACT

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5742) to provide to the Secretary of the Interior a mechanism to cancel contracts for the sale of materials CA-20139 and CA-22901, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5742

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Soledad Canyon Settlement Act".

#### SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) CITY OF SANTA CLARITA.—The term "City of Santa Clarita" means the City of Santa Clarita, California.

(2) CITY OF VICTORVILLE.—The term "City of Victorville" means the City of Victorville, California.

(3) CONTRACTS.—The term "contracts" means the Bureau of Land Management mineral contracts numbered CA-20139 and CA-22901.

(4) CONTRACT HOLDER.—The term "contract holder" means the private party to the contracts, and any successors that hold legal interests in the contracts.

(5) COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO.—The term "County of San Bernardino" means the County of San Bernardino, California.

(6) MAP.—The term "Map" means the map entitled "Victorville disposal area, California" and dated March 2011.

(7) SECRETARY.—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Interior.

(8) VICTORVILLE DISPOSAL AREA.—The term "Victorville disposal area" means the 10,206.05 acres of land identified for disposal in the West Mojave Land Management Plan (2006) of the Bureau of Land Management and depicted on the Map.

#### SEC. 3. APPRAISAL; COMPENSATION TO CONTRACT HOLDER.

(a) APPRAISALS.—

(1) CONTRACT APPRAISAL.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall determine by mineral appraisal, using the discounted cash flow method of appraisal (in accordance with the appraisal guidelines for appraisals of large quantities of mineral materials contained in section IV(E) of BLM Mineral Material Appraisal Handbook H-3630)—

(i) the fair market value of the contracts; and

(ii) the amount of royalties the Federal Government would receive under the contracts over the 10-year period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act.

(B) CONSIDERATIONS.—In making the determination under subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall assume that—

(i) the contract holder has obtained all the permits and entitlements necessary to mine, produce, and sell sand and gravel under the contract; and

(ii) mining operations under the contract have commenced at the time of the determination, with maximum annual production volumes that—

(I) are based on the projected supply and demand outlook at the time of determination; and

(II) reflect depletion of the reserves that are subject to the contract within the effective periods of the contract.

(C) DONATION.—The Secretary shall provide to the contract holder and the City of Santa Clarita a list of approved appraisers from which the parties shall select and provide the funding to cover the costs of the appraisal under subparagraph (A).

(2) LAND APPRAISAL.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall determine by appraisal standards under existing laws and regulations, the fair market value of the Victorville disposal area on a net present value basis.

(B) DONATION.—The Secretary shall provide to the contract holder and the City of Santa Clarita a list of approved appraisers from which the parties shall select and provide the funding to cover the costs of the appraisal under subparagraph (A).

(b) COMPENSATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), not later than 30 days after completion of the appraisals under subsection (a), the Secretary shall offer the contract holder compensation for the cancellation of the contracts.

(2) CONDITIONS ON OFFER.—An offer made by the Secretary under paragraph (1) shall be subject to the following conditions:

(A) The cancellation of the contracts and the provision of compensation shall be contingent on the availability of funds from the sale of the Victorville disposal area under section 4, and any additional compensation provided under subparagraph (D), as determined necessary by the Secretary.

(B) The amount of compensation offered by the Secretary under this subsection shall be equal to or less than the fair market value of

the contracts, as determined under subsection (a)(1)(A)(i).

(C) The amount of compensation offered by the Secretary under this subsection shall be equal to or less than the projected revenues generated by the sale of the Victorville disposal area under section 4, less the projected lost royalties to the Federal Government over the 10-year period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act, as determined under subsection (a)(1)(A)(ii).

(D) If the amount of projected revenues described in subparagraph (C) is less than the fair market value determined under subsection (a)(1)(A)(i), the Secretary shall, not later than 60 days after the date on which the Director of the Bureau of Land Management determines the projected revenues under subparagraph (C), negotiate an agreement with the contract holder and the City of Santa Clarita to provide to the Secretary amounts equal to the difference, in the form of—

(i) compensation to be received by the contract holder; and

(ii) compensation in a form acceptable to the Secretary to be provided by the City of Santa Clarita.

(3) ACCEPTANCE OF OFFER.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The contract holder shall have 60 days from the later of the date on which the Secretary makes the offer under paragraph (1) or an agreement is negotiated under paragraph (2)(D) to accept the offer or agreement.

(B) FAILURE TO ACCEPT OFFER.—If the contract holder does not accept the offer under paragraph (1) or if an agreement is not negotiated under paragraph (2)(D) within the time period described in subparagraph (A), the contracts shall remain in effect and no further actions shall be taken pursuant to this Act.

**SEC. 4. SALE OF LAND NEAR VICTORVILLE, CALIFORNIA.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding sections 202 and 203 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1712, 1713) and subject to subsections (b) through (f), not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall place on the market and offer for sale by competitive bidding and in a manner designed to obtain the highest price possible, all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the Victorville disposal area.

(b) AVAILABILITY OF MAP.—The Secretary shall keep the Map on file and available for public inspection in—

(1) the office of the Director of the Bureau of Land Management; and

(2) the district office of the Bureau of Land Management located in Barstow, California.

(c) RIGHT OF LOCAL LAND USE AUTHORITY TO PURCHASE CERTAIN LAND.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Before a sale of land under subsection (a), the Secretary shall provide to the applicable local land use authority an exclusive preemptive right, as determined under State law, to purchase any right, title, or interest of the United States in and to any portion of the parcels of land identified as “Area A” and “Area B” on the Map that is located within the jurisdiction of the local land use authority.

(2) TIMING.—A preemptive right under paragraph (1) shall be in effect for a period of 30 days before the land is sold under subsection (a).

(3) AUTHORITY.—During the period described in paragraph (2), the local land use authority may purchase some or all of the right, title, and interest of the United States, as provided in subsection (a), in and

to the land to be offered for sale at fair market value, as determined by an appraisal conducted by the Secretary.

(4) EXERCISING RIGHT.—If the local land use authority exercises the preemptive right under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall convey the land to the local land use authority immediately on payment by the local land use authority of the entire purchase price of the applicable parcel of land.

(5) FAILURE TO PAY.—Failure by the local land use authority to purchase and pay for the right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the land described in paragraph (1) within the time period described in paragraph (2) and to comply with any other terms and conditions as the Secretary may require shall terminate the preemptive right of the local land use authority with respect to the right, title, and interest offered for sale.

(d) WITHDRAWAL AND RESERVATION.—

(1) WITHDRAWAL.—Subject to valid existing rights, the land described in subsection (a) is withdrawn from—

(A) entry, appropriation, or disposal under the public land laws;

(B) location, entry, and patent under the mining laws; and

(C) operation of the mineral leasing, mineral materials, and geothermal leasing laws.

(2) RESERVATION.—In any sale or other disposal of land under this section, there shall be reserved by the United States the right of the United States to prospect for, mine, and remove minerals from the conveyed land.

(e) CONSULTATION.—In addition to any consultation otherwise required by law, before initiating efforts to dispose of land under this section, the Secretary shall consult with the City of Victorville, the County of San Bernardino, and surface owners in the jurisdiction in which the land is located regarding the potential impact of the disposal and other appropriate aspects of the disposal.

(f) ACCOUNT.—The gross proceeds of a sale of land under subsection (a) shall be deposited in an account acceptable to the Secretary and available only for the purposes of carrying out this Act.

**SEC. 5. CANCELLATION OF CONTRACTS.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—On completion of the compensation to the contract holder for the value of each contract in accordance with subsection (b), the Secretary shall cancel the contracts and withdraw those areas that were subject to the contracts from further mineral entry under all mineral leasing and sales authorities available to the Secretary.

(b) COMPENSATION; CANCELLATION; RETENTION OF FUNDS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (3), the Secretary shall provide to the contract holder the compensation agreed to under section 3(b) by disbursement of amounts from the account, in 4 equal payments, as funds are available;

(2) CANCELLATION.—

(A) CONTRACT CA-20139.—On completion of the first 2 payments to the contract holder under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall cancel contract CA-20139.

(B) CONTRACT CA-22901.—On completion of the remaining 2 payments to the contract holder under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall cancel contract CA-22901.

(3) RETENTION OF FUNDS.—The Secretary shall retain sufficient funds to cover the projected lost royalties determined under section 3(a)(1)(A)(ii).

(c) RELEASE AND WAIVER.—Upon acceptance and receipt of compensation under subsection (b), the contract holder shall waive all claims against the United States arising

out of, or relating to, the cancellation of the contracts.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) and the gentleman from California (Mr. SHERMAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Washington.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Washington?

There was no objection.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, we are here today to address the Soledad Canyon Settlement Act, H.R. 5742, as introduced by our colleague from California (Mr. McKEON). This bipartisan bill will solve a longstanding controversy surrounding a pair of sand and gravel leases located near the community of Santa Clarita, California.

In 1990, the Bureau of Land Management, or BLM, issued two leases for sand and gravel mines to CEMEX. At the time, this area was much more remote than it is today. As CEMEX was preparing a plan of operation, it became clear to all parties involved that local community development had made the project incompatible with the local community. Local community leaders, the region's congressional delegation, and the company have all worked for more than a decade to find a legislative solution to make the company and Federal Government whole while returning the lease to the Federal Government.

As a result, we are here today to move forward with a plan to cancel these leases while at the same time making both the contract holder and the Federal Government whole. This legislation has the strong support of State and local communities, the contract holder, and the regional congressional delegation.

Now while this bill has just recently been introduced, it is the product of years of hard work and careful communication and review by the committee. The gentleman from California (Mr. McKEON) has been a tireless advocate on behalf of his local communities. He has demonstrated patience and diligence in pursuing a workable solution that the Congress can successfully act upon. I am confident that the community of Santa Clarita already knows just how fortunate they have been to have had Mr. McKEON as their Congressman for 11 terms.

Now, it is also my understanding, Mr. Speaker, that the gentlewoman from

California, Senator BOXER, shares Mr. McKEON's commitment to this legislation, and I hope that she will be able to follow his lead before the end of this Congress by shepherding this bill through the Senate. This bill deserves the support of both the House and the Senate.

With that, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the bill and would like to hear from the gentleman from California (Mr. McKEON), so I will reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from California (Mr. McKEON), the author of this legislation, the chairman of the Armed Services Committee.

Mr. McKEON. I thank Chairman HASTINGS for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, it is a great privilege to speak on my bill, H.R. 5742, the Soledad Canyon Settlement Act. I appreciate the opportunity to appear before the House, and I want to thank Speaker BOEHNER, Majority Leader MCCARTHY, and Chairman HASTINGS for their steadfast support of this legislation. Without their support, we wouldn't be standing here today on the floor with this bill.

I would also like to thank the gentleman from California, Senator BOXER, for her efforts in finding an agreeable solution for the inclusion of language that brought the score of the bill to zero. And I second the remarks of Chairman HASTINGS and hope that she will be able to bring this to a conclusion in the final days that the Senate is in session. One of the things that Senator BOXER added to this bill was introducing legislation that brought the cost of this bill to zero. Crossing that hurdle has moved us to this point now in solving this intractable issue.

Finally, I would like to thank the gentleman from California, Congressman SHERMAN, for his support of my legislation. I continue to believe in bipartisanship as the way to address critical issues for our constituents, and we have shown time and again that we can find common ground if we try.

Mr. Speaker, the Soledad Canyon mine, operated by CEMEX, is located just outside the city of Santa Clarita, California, in the 25th Congressional District that I have had the opportunity to represent now for the last 22 years. Under two current contracts held by CEMEX, they are authorized to extract approximately 56 million tons of sand and gravel over a 20-year period, with two 10-year contracts.

Residents of my congressional district and city leaders have been expressing their concerns for the past 24 years about a large mine operating in close proximity to where they live. And, as the chairman mentioned, this

has become much closer over the years. They fear the effects of pollution, increased truck traffic, and environmental health issues on their families and the community. Throughout my 22 years in Congress, I have worked endlessly to find a solution. I have engaged with civic leaders, residents of my district, environmental leaders, the county of Los Angeles, CEMEX, BLM, the Department of the Interior, Chairman HASTINGS, and the leadership of our conference.

Mr. Speaker, allow me to give just a bit of background on the situation that has arisen in my district. In 1990, two privately held valid Federal contracts were awarded to Transit Mixed Concrete. Southdown, the parent company of Transit Mixed Concrete, was acquired by CEMEX in 2000, resulting in CEMEX holding the Federal contracts.

The Bureau of Land Management approved a mining plan of operations and prepared a draft environmental impact statement with respect to the Soledad Canyon mine, which was released on May 6, 1999. The environmental impact statement was subsequently modified to address the growing concerns among Santa Clarita residents about the impact that mining operations in Soledad Canyon have on air quality and health, truck traffic, and declining property values in Santa Clarita. The final environmental impact statement was released to the public on June 2, 2000, with a list of eight alternatives for mining the Soledad Canyon site.

Under the California Environmental Quality Act, the county of Los Angeles completed the environmental impact report in 2001 and subsequently voted in 2002 to deny the permit, citing the right and responsibility of the county to impose reasonable environmental and resource protection and regulation on mining in Soledad Canyon.

Numerous lawsuits were filed between 2002 and 2004 involving the city of Santa Clarita, the county of Los Angeles, the Center for Biological Diversity, and CEMEX. A consent decree resulted from the settlement of CEMEX, Inc. v. County of Los Angeles in 2004. The consent decree contains the mitigation agreement between CEMEX and the county of Los Angeles, which lists 40 conditions that CEMEX is required to meet in order to mitigate the environmental, health, traffic, endangered species, and safety concerns raised by the county, local residents, and the city of Santa Clarita.

Mr. Speaker, as I mentioned before, I have worked throughout my entire congressional career to bring all parties together to work out a deal that is mutually beneficial. I have introduced eight bills on this issue over the years, each of which took a different approach to dealing with the mine as new issues arose.

In the 106th Congress, I introduced H.R. 3060, which would have withdrawn

specified lands from the operation of Federal mining and mineral leasing laws and would have nullified any existing permits issued on those lands. The same bill was introduced as H.R. 679 in the 107th Congress. In the 108th Congress, I introduced H.R. 3529, the Soledad Canyon Mine Lease Cancellation Act. This legislation would have canceled the two mining permits for the Soledad Canyon mine and would have prohibited the Secretary of the Interior from issuing permits for mining above historical levels in Soledad Canyon.

In the 109th Congress, I introduced H.R. 5471, the Soledad Canyon Mine Leases Adjustment Act. This legislation would have canceled the two mining permits for the Soledad Canyon mine, directed the Secretary of the Interior to provide additional financial and mineral production opportunities in exchange for the economic value invested to that date on the two permits, and would have prohibited the Secretary of the Interior from issuing permits for mining above historical levels in Soledad Canyon.

In the 110th Congress, I introduced H.R. 5887, the Soledad Canyon Mine Act. This legislation would have authorized the Secretary of the Interior to cancel the two mining contracts, prohibited future mining in Soledad Canyon, provided a means for CEMEX to recover just compensation for the cancellation of the contracts, provided the Bureau of Land Management with the necessary tools to verify the expenses incurred by CEMEX, provided relief to CEMEX for such expenses, and provided for a dispute resolution process.

□ 0930

In the 111th Congress, I introduced H.R. 4332, the Soledad Canyon High Desert, California Public Lands Conservation and Management Act of 2009. This legislation had a similar set of actions as H.R. 5887, but added two notable ones: it provided a mechanism to offer for sale, by competitive bidding, lands identified for disposition near Victorville, California; and to acquire environmentally-sensitive land and collect the proceeds of the sale of lands near Victorville, California.

Finally, in the 112th Congress, I introduced H.R. 6469, the Soledad Canyon Mine Mitigation and Relocation Act of 2012. This legislation would have begun a study of the legal and administrative steps—including obtaining sufficient funding—necessary to carry out the goals of the Soledad Canyon High Desert, California Public Lands Conservation and Management Act of 2009, H.R. 4332.

I mention each of these in order to illustrate how the tug and pull of all parties influenced the legislative process. Each party gave ideas to further perfect legislation that would finally

solve this vexing issue that affects the residents of my district.

I believe because of all our joint efforts, we have reached a critical mass on this issue. It is time for a solution once and for all. I am looking forward to the full House acting on H.R. 5742 today, a solution that would take the mine out of commission and lift this two decades' long burden off the backs of my constituents.

This is a solution borne from the great compromise between the city of Santa Clarita and CEMEX, who each offered to put up the difference in cost to bring the cost of the bill to zero. This zero score is critical to the bill's success and couldn't have been achieved without the partnership that has developed over the many years of action on this matter.

The bill achieves all the aims of my previous legislation, particularly H.R. 4332, with the solution to the vexing issue of how to ensure there is no cost to the Federal Government.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation. I thank the gentleman again for allowing me the time to explain this critical issue in my district and thanks again to our House leadership and Chairman HASTINGS for bringing this legislation to the floor.

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Soledad Canyon Settlement Act. This act is a testament to bipartisanship, fiscal responsibility, environmental stewardship, local consensus building, and tireless tenacity for the public good.

Bipartisanship: Here in this House, the bill is introduced, carried, and written by our colleague, BUCK McKEON. In the Senate, the same language has been introduced by Senator BARBARA BOXER and is supported by Senator FEINSTEIN. You can't get any more bipartisan than that.

Fiscal responsibility: CBO says this bill costs the government zero dollars and zero cents. You can't get a lower cost estimate on a bill than that.

Environmental stewardship: this bill is supported by the Sierra Club, and this land will become the gateway to the new San Gabriel Mountains National Monument.

Local consensus building: this bill has the support of local leaders and legislators, Governor Jerry Brown, CEMEX, the local lease owner, and virtually everyone involved in public life in Santa Clarita, which is Los Angeles County's third largest city.

Tireless tenacity: Mr. Speaker, tireless tenacity for the public good is exemplified by our friend, BUCK McKEON, 22 years in Congress and I believe 22 years focused on this problem, and now, on what may very well be his last legislative day, we have a chance to

solve this problem in a way that I think exemplifies what we should be trying to do here in Congress.

In addition to Buck's tireless tenacity, I want to commend the city leaders of Santa Clarita, many-time Mayor Laurene Weste, who I believe is now a city council member and has been mayor of that city so often; Bob Keller, now the mayor pro tem; Ken Striplin, the city manager; and hundreds and thousands of people in Santa Clarita and the immediate area.

Mr. Speaker, this is a bill that is needed because it will stop the mining of 56 million tons of sand and gravel, which is now incompatible with a city that has grown to more than double its size when the project was originally planned, and now constitutes an area of well more than a quarter million people.

This sand and gravel mining operation is incompatible with the new population of the area, and it is also incompatible with the roads and traffic which is busy not only at rush hour, but throughout the day.

I want to commend the gentleman from Santa Clarita for his decades of work for his district, and all the people of California.

Mr. Speaker, I urge an "aye" vote on the Soledad Canyon Settlement Act, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of the time.

Mr. Speaker, as Mr. McKEON pointed out, this has been a long process for a vexing problem in Santa Clarita, and Mr. SHERMAN pointed out very well that Mr. McKEON is to be commended for this, and this would be kind of the capstone on the career that he has.

All that is left if this House adopts this measure is very simply for the other body to take it up, and with the interests that Senator BOXER has shown on this issue, I hope that she can move this legislation through the Senate.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5742.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### CHEMICAL FACILITY ANTI-TERRORISM STANDARDS PROGRAM AUTHORIZATION AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2014

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and concur in the

Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 4007) to recodify and reauthorize the Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards Program.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the Senate amendment is as follows:

Senate amendment:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted, insert the following:

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Protecting and Securing Chemical Facilities from Terrorist Attacks Act of 2014".

#### SEC. 2. CHEMICAL FACILITY ANTI-TERRORISM STANDARDS PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 101 et se.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

#### "TITLE XXI—CHEMICAL FACILITY ANTI-TERRORISM STANDARDS

##### "SEC. 2101. DEFINITIONS.

"In this title—

"(1) the term 'CFATS regulation' means—

"(A) an existing CFATS regulation; and

"(B) any regulation or amendment to an existing CFATS regulation issued pursuant to the authority under section 2107;

"(2) the term 'chemical facility of interest' means a facility that—

"(A) holds, or that the Secretary has a reasonable basis to believe holds, a chemical of interest, as designated under Appendix A to part 27 of title 6, Code of Federal Regulations, or any successor thereto, at a threshold quantity set pursuant to relevant risk-related security principles; and

"(B) is not an excluded facility;

"(3) the term 'covered chemical facility' means a facility that—

"(A) the Secretary—

"(i) identifies as a chemical facility of interest; and

"(ii) based upon review of the facility's Top-Screen, determines meets the risk criteria developed under section 2102(e)(2)(B); and

"(B) is not an excluded facility;

"(4) the term 'excluded facility' means—

"(A) a facility regulated under the Maritime Transportation Security Act of 2002 (Public Law 107–295; 116 Stat. 2064);

"(B) a public water system, as that term is defined in section 1401 of the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300f);

"(C) a Treatment Works, as that term is defined in section 212 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1292);

"(D) a facility owned or operated by the Department of Defense or the Department of Energy; or

"(E) a facility subject to regulation by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, or by a State that has entered into an agreement with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission under section 274 b. of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2021(b)) to protect against unauthorized access of any material, activity, or structure licensed by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission;

"(5) the term 'existing CFATS regulation' means—

"(A) a regulation promulgated under section 550 of the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2007 (Public Law 109–295; 6 U.S.C. 121 note) that is in effect on the day before the date of enactment of the Protecting and Securing Chemical Facilities from Terrorist Attacks Act of 2014; and

"(B) a Federal Register notice or other published guidance relating to section 550 of the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2007 that is in effect on the day before the date of enactment of the Protecting and Securing Chemical Facilities from Terrorist Attacks Act of 2014;



“(6) the term ‘expedited approval facility’ means a covered chemical facility for which the owner or operator elects to submit a site security plan in accordance with section 2102(c)(4);

“(7) the term ‘facially deficient’, relating to a site security plan, means a site security plan that does not support a certification that the security measures in the plan address the security vulnerability assessment and the risk-based performance standards for security for the facility, based on a review of—

“(A) the facility’s site security plan;

“(B) the facility’s Top-Screen;

“(C) the facility’s security vulnerability assessment; or

“(D) any other information that—

“(i) the facility submits to the Department; or

“(ii) the Department obtains from a public source or other source;

“(8) the term ‘guidance for expedited approval facilities’ means the guidance issued under section 2102(c)(4)(B)(i);

“(9) the term ‘risk assessment’ means the Secretary’s application of relevant risk criteria identified in section 2102(e)(2)(B);

“(10) the term ‘terrorist screening database’ means the terrorist screening database maintained by the Federal Government Terrorist Screening Center or its successor;

“(11) the term ‘tier’ has the meaning given the term in section 27.105 of title 6, Code of Federal Regulations, or any successor thereto;

“(12) the terms ‘tie ring’ and ‘tie ring methodology’ mean the procedure by which the Secretary assigns a tier to each covered chemical facility based on the risk assessment for that covered chemical facility;

“(13) the term ‘Top-Screen’ has the meaning given the term in section 27.105 of title 6, Code of Federal Regulations, or any successor thereto; and

“(14) the term ‘vulnerability assessment’ means the identification of weaknesses in the security of a chemical facility of interest.

**“SEC. 2102. CHEMICAL FACILITY ANTI-TERRORISM STANDARDS PROGRAM.**

“(a) PROGRAM ESTABLISHED.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—There is in the Department a Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards Program.

“(2) REQUIREMENTS.—In carrying out the Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards Program, the Secretary shall—

“(A) identify—

“(i) chemical facilities of interest; and

“(ii) covered chemical facilities;

“(B) require each chemical facility of interest to submit a Top-Screen and any other information the Secretary determines necessary to enable the Department to assess the security risks associated with the facility;

“(C) establish risk-based performance standards designed to address high levels of security risk at covered chemical facilities; and

“(D) require each covered chemical facility to—

“(i) submit a security vulnerability assessment; and

“(ii) develop, submit, and implement a site security plan.

“(b) SECURITY MEASURES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—A facility, in developing a site security plan as required under subsection (a), shall include security measures that, in combination, appropriately address the security vulnerability assessment and the risk-based performance standards for security for the facility.

“(2) EMPLOYEE INPUT.—To the greatest extent practicable, a facility’s security vulnerability assessment and site security plan shall include input from at least 1 facility employee and, where applicable, 1 employee representative from the bargaining agent at that facility, each of whom possesses, in the determination of the

facility’s security officer, relevant knowledge, experience, training, or education as pertains to matters of site security.

“(c) APPROVAL OR DISAPPROVAL OF SITE SECURITY PLANS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—

“(A) REVIEW.—Except as provided in paragraph (4), the Secretary shall review and approve or disapprove each site security plan submitted pursuant to subsection (a).

“(B) BASES FOR DISAPPROVAL.—The Secretary—

“(i) may not disapprove a site security plan based on the presence or absence of a particular security measure; and

“(ii) shall disapprove a site security plan if the plan fails to satisfy the risk-based performance standards established pursuant to subsection (a)(2)(C).

“(2) ALTERNATIVE SECURITY PROGRAMS.—

“(A) AUTHORITY TO APPROVE.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may approve an alternative security program established by a private sector entity or a Federal, State, or local authority or under other applicable laws, if the Secretary determines that the requirements of the program meet the requirements under this section.

“(ii) ADDITIONAL SECURITY MEASURES.—If the requirements of an alternative security program do not meet the requirements under this section, the Secretary may recommend additional security measures to the program that will enable the Secretary to approve the program.

“(B) SATISFACTION OF SITE SECURITY PLAN REQUIREMENT.—A covered chemical facility may satisfy the site security plan requirement under subsection (a) by adopting an alternative security program that the Secretary has—

“(i) reviewed and approved under subparagraph (A); and

“(ii) determined to be appropriate for the operations and security concerns of the covered chemical facility.

“(3) SITE SECURITY PLAN ASSESSMENTS.—

“(A) RISK ASSESSMENT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES.—In approving or disapproving a site security plan under this subsection, the Secretary shall employ the risk assessment policies and procedures developed under this title.

“(B) PREVIOUSLY APPROVED PLANS.—In the case of a covered chemical facility for which the Secretary approved a site security plan before the date of enactment of the Protecting and Securing Chemical Facilities from Terrorist Attacks Act of 2014, the Secretary may not require the facility to resubmit the site security plan solely by reason of the enactment of this title.

“(4) EXPEDITED APPROVAL PROGRAM.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—A covered chemical facility assigned to tier 3 or 4 may meet the requirement to develop and submit a site security plan under subsection (a)(2)(D) by developing and submitting to the Secretary—

“(i) a site security plan and the certification described in subparagraph (C); or

“(ii) a site security plan in conformance with a template authorized under subparagraph (H).

“(B) GUIDANCE FOR EXPEDITED APPROVAL FACILITIES.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of the Protecting and Securing Chemical Facilities from Terrorist Attacks Act of 2014, the Secretary shall issue guidance for expedited approval facilities that identifies specific security measures that are sufficient to meet the risk-based performance standards.

“(ii) MATERIAL DEVIATION FROM GUIDANCE.—If a security measure in the site security plan of an expedited approval facility materially deviates from a security measure in the guidance for expedited approval facilities, the site security plan shall include an explanation of how such

security measure meets the risk-based performance standards.

“(iii) APPLICABILITY OF OTHER LAWS TO DEVELOPMENT AND ISSUANCE OF INITIAL GUIDANCE.—During the period before the Secretary has met the deadline under clause (i), in developing and issuing, or amending, the guidance for expedited approval facilities under this subparagraph and in collecting information from expedited approval facilities, the Secretary shall not be subject to—

“(I) section 553 of title 5, United States Code;

“(II) subchapter I of chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code; or

“(III) section 2107(b) of this title.

“(C) CERTIFICATION.—The owner or operator of an expedited approval facility shall submit to the Secretary a certification, signed under penalty of perjury, that—

“(i) the owner or operator is familiar with the requirements of this title and part 27 of title 6, Code of Federal Regulations, or any successor thereto, and the site security plan being submitted;

“(ii) the site security plan includes the security measures required by subsection (b);

“(iii)(I) the security measures in the site security plan do not materially deviate from the guidance for expedited approval facilities except where indicated in the site security plan;

“(II) any deviations from the guidance for expedited approval facilities in the site security plan meet the risk-based performance standards for the tier to which the facility is assigned; and

“(III) the owner or operator has provided an explanation of how the site security plan meets the risk-based performance standards for any material deviation;

“(iv) the owner or operator has visited, examined, documented, and verified that the expedited approval facility meets the criteria set forth in the site security plan;

“(v) the expedited approval facility has implemented all of the required performance measures outlined in the site security plan or set out planned measures that will be implemented within a reasonable time period stated in the site security plan;

“(vi) each individual responsible for implementing the site security plan has been made aware of the requirements relevant to the individual’s responsibility contained in the site security plan and has demonstrated competency to carry out those requirements;

“(vii) the owner or operator has committed, or, in the case of planned measures will commit, the necessary resources to fully implement the site security plan; and

“(viii) the planned measures include an adequate procedure for addressing events beyond the control of the owner or operator in implementing any planned measures.

“(D) DEADLINE.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days after the date described in clause (ii), the owner or operator of an expedited approval facility shall submit to the Secretary the site security plan and the certification described in subparagraph (C).

“(ii) DATE.—The date described in this clause is—

“(I) for an expedited approval facility that was assigned to tier 3 or 4 under existing CFATS regulations before the date of enactment of the Protecting and Securing Chemical Facilities from Terrorist Attacks Act of 2014, the date that is 210 days after the date of enactment of that Act; and

“(II) for any expedited approval facility not described in subclause (I), the later of—

“(aa) the date on which the expedited approval facility is assigned to tier 3 or 4 under subsection (e)(2)(A); or

“(bb) the date that is 210 days after the date of enactment of the Protecting and Securing



Chemical Facilities from Terrorist Attacks Act of 2014.

“(iii) NOTICE.—An owner or operator of an expedited approval facility shall notify the Secretary of the intent of the owner or operator to certify the site security plan for the expedited approval facility not later than 30 days before the date on which the owner or operator submits the site security plan and certification described in subparagraph (C).

“(E) COMPLIANCE.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—For an expedited approval facility submitting a site security plan and certification in accordance with subparagraphs (A), (B), (C), and (D)—

“(I) the expedited approval facility shall comply with all of the requirements of its site security plan; and

“(II) the Secretary—

“(aa) except as provided in subparagraph (G), may not disapprove the site security plan; and

“(bb) may audit and inspect the expedited approval facility under subsection (d) to verify compliance with its site security plan.

“(ii) NONCOMPLIANCE.—If the Secretary determines an expedited approval facility is in compliance with the requirements of the site security plan or is otherwise in violation of this title, the Secretary may enforce compliance in accordance with section 2104.

“(F) AMENDMENTS TO SITE SECURITY PLAN.—

“(i) REQUIREMENT.—

“(I) IN GENERAL.—If the owner or operator of an expedited approval facility amends a site security plan submitted under subparagraph (A), the owner or operator shall submit the amended site security plan and a certification relating to the amended site security plan that contains the information described in subparagraph (C).

“(II) TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.—For purposes of this clause, an amendment to a site security plan includes any technical amendment to the site security plan.

“(ii) AMENDMENT REQUIRED.—The owner or operator of an expedited approval facility shall amend the site security plan if—

“(I) there is a change in the design, construction, operation, or maintenance of the expedited approval facility that affects the site security plan;

“(II) the Secretary requires additional security measures or suspends a certification and recommends additional security measures under subparagraph (G); or

“(III) the owner or operator receives notice from the Secretary of a change in tiering under subsection (e)(3).

“(iii) DEADLINE.—An amended site security plan and certification shall be submitted under clause (i)—

“(I) in the case of a change in design, construction, operation, or maintenance of the expedited approval facility that affects the security plan, not later than 120 days after the date on which the change in design, construction, operation, or maintenance occurred;

“(II) in the case of the Secretary requiring additional security measures or suspending a certification and recommending additional security measures under subparagraph (G), not later than 120 days after the date on which the owner or operator receives notice of the requirement for additional security measures or suspension of the certification and recommendation of additional security measures; and

“(III) in the case of a change in tiering, not later than 120 days after the date on which the owner or operator receives notice under subsection (e)(3).

“(G) FACIALLY DEFICIENT SITE SECURITY PLANS.—

“(i) PROHIBITION.—Notwithstanding subparagraph (A) or (E), the Secretary may suspend the authority of a covered chemical facility to certify a site security plan if the Secretary—

“(I) determines the certified site security plan or an amended site security plan is facially deficient; and

“(II) not later than 100 days after the date on which the Secretary receives the site security plan and certification, provides the covered chemical facility with written notification that the site security plan is facially deficient, including a clear explanation of each deficiency in the site security plan.

“(ii) ADDITIONAL SECURITY MEASURES.—

“(I) IN GENERAL.—If, during or after a compliance inspection of an expedited approval facility, the Secretary determines that planned or implemented security measures in the site security plan of the facility are insufficient to meet the risk-based performance standards based on misrepresentation, omission, or an inadequate description of the site, the Secretary may—

“(aa) require additional security measures; or

“(bb) suspend the certification of the facility.

“(II) RECOMMENDATION OF ADDITIONAL SECURITY MEASURES.—If the Secretary suspends the certification of an expedited approval facility under subclause (I), the Secretary shall—

“(aa) recommend specific additional security measures that, if made part of the site security plan by the facility, would enable the Secretary to approve the site security plan; and

“(bb) provide the facility an opportunity to submit a new or modified site security plan and certification under subparagraph (A).

“(III) SUBMISSION; REVIEW.—If an expedited approval facility determines to submit a new or modified site security plan and certification as authorized under subclause (II)(bb)—

“(aa) not later than 90 days after the date on which the facility receives recommendations under subclause (II)(aa), the facility shall submit the new or modified plan and certification; and

“(bb) not later than 45 days after the date on which the Secretary receives the new or modified plan under item (aa), the Secretary shall review the plan and determine whether the plan is facially deficient.

“(IV) DETERMINATION NOT TO INCLUDE ADDITIONAL SECURITY MEASURES.—

“(aa) REVOCATION OF CERTIFICATION.—If an expedited approval facility does not agree to include in its site security plan specific additional security measures recommended by the Secretary under subclause (II)(aa), or does not submit a new or modified site security plan in accordance with subclause (III), the Secretary may revoke the certification of the facility by issuing an order under section 2104(a)(1)(B).

“(bb) EFFECT OF REVOCATION.—If the Secretary revokes the certification of an expedited approval facility under item (aa) by issuing an order under section 2104(a)(1)(B)—

“(AA) the order shall require the owner or operator of the facility to submit a site security plan or alternative security program for review by the Secretary review under subsection (c)(1); and

“(BB) the facility shall no longer be eligible to certify a site security plan under this paragraph.

“(V) FACIAL DEFICIENCY.—If the Secretary determines that a new or modified site security plan submitted by an expedited approval facility under subclause (III) is facially deficient—

“(aa) not later than 120 days after the date of the determination, the owner or operator of the facility shall submit a site security plan or alternative security program for review by the Secretary under subsection (c)(1); and

“(bb) the facility shall no longer be eligible to certify a site security plan under this paragraph.

“(H) TEMPLATES.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may develop prescriptive site security plan templates with

specific security measures to meet the risk-based performance standards under subsection (a)(2)(C) for adoption and certification by a covered chemical facility assigned to tier 3 or 4 in lieu of developing and certifying its own plan.

“(ii) APPLICABILITY OF OTHER LAWS TO DEVELOPMENT AND ISSUANCE OF INITIAL SITE SECURITY PLAN TEMPLATES AND RELATED GUIDANCE.—During the period before the Secretary has met the deadline under subparagraph (B)(i), in developing and issuing, or amending, the site security plan templates under this subparagraph, in issuing guidance for implementation of the templates, and in collecting information from expedited approval facilities, the Secretary shall not be subject to—

“(I) section 553 of title 5, United States Code; “(II) subchapter I of chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code; or

“(III) section 2107(b) of this title.

“(iii) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this subparagraph shall be construed to prevent a covered chemical facility from developing and certifying its own security plan in accordance with subparagraph (A).

“(I) EVALUATION.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of the Protecting and Securing Chemical Facilities from Terrorist Attacks Act of 2014, the Secretary shall take any appropriate action necessary for a full evaluation of the expedited approval program authorized under this paragraph, including conducting an appropriate number of inspections, as authorized under subsection (d), of expedited approval facilities.

“(ii) REPORT.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of the Protecting and Securing Chemical Facilities from Terrorist Attacks Act of 2014, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives a report that contains—

“(I)(aa) the number of eligible facilities using the expedited approval program authorized under this paragraph; and

“(bb) the number of facilities that are eligible for the expedited approval program but are using the standard process for developing and submitting a site security plan under subsection (a)(2)(D);

“(II) any costs and efficiencies associated with the expedited approval program;

“(III) the impact of the expedited approval program on the backlog for site security plan approval and authorization inspections;

“(IV) an assessment of the ability of expedited approval facilities to submit facially sufficient site security plans;

“(V) an assessment of any impact of the expedited approval program on the security of chemical facilities; and

“(VI) a recommendation by the Secretary on the frequency of compliance inspections that may be required for expedited approval facilities.

“(d) COMPLIANCE.—

“(I) AUDITS AND INSPECTIONS.—

“(A) DEFINITIONS.—In this paragraph—

“(i) the term ‘nondepartmental’—

“(I) with respect to personnel, means personnel that is not employed by the Department; and

“(II) with respect to an entity, means an entity that is not a component or other authority of the Department; and

“(ii) the term ‘nongovernmental’—

“(I) with respect to personnel, means personnel that is not employed by the Federal Government; and

“(II) with respect to an entity, means an entity that is not an agency, department, or other authority of the Federal Government.

“(B) **AUTHORITY TO CONDUCT AUDITS AND INSPECTIONS.**—The Secretary shall conduct audits or inspections under this title using—

- “(i) employees of the Department;
- “(ii) nondepartmental or nongovernmental personnel approved by the Secretary; or
- “(iii) a combination of individuals described in clauses (i) and (ii).

“(C) **SUPPORT PERSONNEL.**—The Secretary may use nongovernmental personnel to provide administrative and logistical services in support of audits and inspections under this title.

“(D) **REPORTING STRUCTURE.**—

“(i) **NONDEPARTMENTAL AND NONGOVERNMENTAL AUDITS AND INSPECTIONS.**—Any audit or inspection conducted by an individual employed by a nondepartmental or nongovernmental entity shall be assigned in coordination with a regional supervisor with responsibility for supervising inspectors within the Infrastructure Security Compliance Division of the Department for the region in which the audit or inspection is to be conducted.

“(ii) **REQUIREMENT TO REPORT.**—While an individual employed by a nondepartmental or nongovernmental entity is in the field conducting an audit or inspection under this subsection, the individual shall report to the regional supervisor with responsibility for supervising inspectors within the Infrastructure Security Compliance Division of the Department for the region in which the individual is operating.

“(iii) **APPROVAL.**—The authority to approve a site security plan under subsection (c) or determine if a covered chemical facility is in compliance with an approved site security plan shall be exercised solely by the Secretary or a designee of the Secretary within the Department.

“(E) **STANDARDS FOR AUDITORS AND INSPECTORS.**—The Secretary shall prescribe standards for the training and retraining of each individual used by the Department as an auditor or inspector, including each individual employed by the Department and all nondepartmental or nongovernmental personnel, including—

- “(i) minimum training requirements for new auditors and inspectors;
- “(ii) retraining requirements;
- “(iii) minimum education and experience levels;
- “(iv) the submission of information as required by the Secretary to enable determination of whether the auditor or inspector has a conflict of interest;
- “(v) the proper certification or certifications necessary to handle chemical-terrorism vulnerability information (as defined in section 27.105 of title 6, Code of Federal Regulations, or any successor thereto);
- “(vi) the reporting of any issue of non-compliance with this section to the Secretary within 24 hours; and
- “(vii) any additional qualifications for fitness of duty as the Secretary may require.

“(F) **CONDITIONS FOR NONGOVERNMENTAL AUDITORS AND INSPECTORS.**—If the Secretary arranges for an audit or inspection under subparagraph (B) to be carried out by a nongovernmental entity, the Secretary shall—

- “(i) prescribe standards for the qualification of the individuals who carry out such audits and inspections that are commensurate with the standards for similar Government auditors or inspectors; and
- “(ii) ensure that any duties carried out by a nongovernmental entity are not inherently governmental functions.

“(2) **PERSONNEL SURETY.**—

“(A) **PERSONNEL SURETY PROGRAM.**—For purposes of this title, the Secretary shall establish and carry out a Personnel Surety Program that—

- “(i) does not require an owner or operator of a covered chemical facility that voluntarily par-

ticipates in the program to submit information about an individual more than 1 time;

“(ii) provides a participating owner or operator of a covered chemical facility with relevant information about an individual based on vetting the individual against the terrorist screening database, to the extent that such feedback is necessary for the facility to be in compliance with regulations promulgated under this title; and

“(iii) provides redress to an individual—

“(I) whose information was vetted against the terrorist screening database under the program; and

“(II) who believes that the personally identifiable information submitted to the Department for such vetting by a covered chemical facility, or its designated representative, was inaccurate.

“(B) **PERSONNEL SURETY PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION.**—To the extent that a risk-based performance standard established under subsection (a) requires identifying individuals with ties to terrorism—

“(i) a covered chemical facility—

“(I) may satisfy its obligation under the standard by using any Federal screening program that periodically vets individuals against the terrorist screening database, or any successor program, including the Personnel Surety Program established under subparagraph (A); and

“(II) shall—

“(aa) accept a credential from a Federal screening program described in subclause (I) if an individual who is required to be screened presents such a credential; and

“(bb) address in its site security plan or alternative security program the measures it will take to verify that a credential or documentation from a Federal screening program described in subclause (I) is current;

“(ii) visual inspection shall be sufficient to meet the requirement under clause (i)(II)(bb), but the facility should consider other means of verification, consistent with the facility's assessment of the threat posed by acceptance of such credentials; and

“(iii) the Secretary may not require a covered chemical facility to submit any information about an individual unless the individual—

“(I) is to be vetted under the Personnel Surety Program; or

“(II) has been identified as presenting a terrorism security risk.

“(C) **RIGHTS UNAFFECTED.**—Nothing in this section shall supersede the ability—

“(i) of a facility to maintain its own policies regarding the access of individuals to restricted areas or critical assets; or

“(ii) of an employing facility and a bargaining agent, where applicable, to negotiate as to how the results of a background check may be used by the facility with respect to employment status.

“(3) **AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION.**—The Secretary shall share with the owner or operator of a covered chemical facility any information that the owner or operator needs to comply with this section.

“(e) **RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE SECRETARY.**—

“(1) **IDENTIFICATION OF CHEMICAL FACILITIES OF INTEREST.**—In carrying out this title, the Secretary shall consult with the heads of other Federal agencies, States and political subdivisions thereof, relevant business associations, and public and private labor organizations to identify all chemical facilities of interest.

“(2) **RISK ASSESSMENT.**—

“(A) **IN GENERAL.**—For purposes of this title, the Secretary shall develop a security risk assessment approach and corresponding tiering methodology for covered chemical facilities that incorporates the relevant elements of risk, including threat, vulnerability, and consequence.

“(B) **CRITERIA FOR DETERMINING SECURITY RISK.**—The criteria for determining the security risk of terrorism associated with a covered chemical facility shall take into account—

- “(i) relevant threat information;
- “(ii) potential severe economic consequences and the potential loss of human life in the event of the facility being subject to attack, compromise, infiltration, or exploitation by terrorists; and
- “(iii) vulnerability of the facility to attack, compromise, infiltration, or exploitation by terrorists.

“(3) **CHANGES IN TIERING.**—

“(A) **MAINTENANCE OF RECORDS.**—The Secretary shall document the basis for each instance in which—

“(i) tiering for a covered chemical facility is changed; or

“(ii) a covered chemical facility is determined to no longer be subject to the requirements under this title.

“(B) **REQUIRED INFORMATION.**—The records maintained under subparagraph (A) shall include information on whether and how the Secretary confirmed the information that was the basis for the change or determination described in subparagraph (A).

“(4) **SEMIANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORTING.**—Not later than 6 months after the date of enactment of the Protecting and Securing Chemical Facilities from Terrorist Attacks Act of 2014, and not less frequently than once every 6 months thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives a report that includes, for the period covered by the report—

“(A) the number of covered chemical facilities in the United States;

“(B) information—

“(i) describing—

“(I) the number of instances in which the Secretary—

“(aa) placed a covered chemical facility in a lower risk tier; or

“(bb) determined that a facility that had previously met the criteria for a covered chemical facility under section 2101(3) no longer met the criteria; and

“(II) the basis, in summary form, for each action or determination under subclause (I); and

“(ii) that is provided in a sufficiently anonymized form to ensure that the information does not identify any specific facility or company as the source of the information when viewed alone or in combination with other public information;

“(C) the average number of days spent reviewing site security or an alternative security program for a covered chemical facility prior to approval;

“(D) the number of covered chemical facilities inspected;

“(E) the average number of covered chemical facilities inspected per inspector; and

“(F) any other information that the Secretary determines will be helpful to Congress in evaluating the performance of the Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards Program.

“**SEC. 2103. PROTECTION AND SHARING OF INFORMATION.**

“(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, information developed under this title, including vulnerability assessments, site security plans, and other security related information, records, and documents shall be given protections from public disclosure consistent with the protection of similar information under section 70103(d) of title 46, United States Code.

“(b) **SHARING OF INFORMATION WITH STATES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS.**—Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the sharing of

information developed under this title, as the Secretary determines appropriate, with State and local government officials possessing a need to know and the necessary security clearances, including law enforcement officials and first responders, for the purpose of carrying out this title, provided that such information may not be disclosed pursuant to any State or local law.

**“(c) SHARING OF INFORMATION WITH FIRST RESPONDERS.—**

**“(1) REQUIREMENT.—**The Secretary shall provide to State, local, and regional fusion centers (as that term is defined in section 210A(j)(1)) and State and local government officials, as the Secretary determines appropriate, such information as is necessary to help ensure that first responders are properly prepared and provided with the situational awareness needed to respond to security incidents at covered chemical facilities.

**“(2) DISSEMINATION.—**The Secretary shall disseminate information under paragraph (1) through a medium or system determined by the Secretary to be appropriate to ensure the secure and expeditious dissemination of such information to necessary selected individuals.

**“(d) ENFORCEMENT PROCEEDINGS.—**In any proceeding to enforce this section, vulnerability assessments, site security plans, and other information submitted to or obtained by the Secretary under this title, and related vulnerability or security information, shall be treated as if the information were classified information.

**“(e) AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION.—**Notwithstanding any other provision of law (including section 552(b)(3) of title 5, United States Code), section 552 of title 5, United States Code (commonly known as the ‘Freedom of Information Act’) shall not apply to information protected from public disclosure pursuant to subsection (a) of this section.

**“(f) SHARING OF INFORMATION WITH MEMBERS OF CONGRESS.—**Nothing in this section shall prohibit the Secretary from disclosing information developed under this title to a Member of Congress in response to a request by a Member of Congress.

**“SEC. 2104. CIVIL ENFORCEMENT.**

**“(a) NOTICE OF NONCOMPLIANCE.—**

**“(1) NOTICE.—**If the Secretary determines that a covered chemical facility is not in compliance with this title, the Secretary shall—

**“(A) provide the owner or operator of the facility with—**

**“(i) not later than 14 days after date on which the Secretary makes the determination, a written notification of noncompliance that includes a clear explanation of any deficiency in the security vulnerability assessment or site security plan; and**

**“(ii) an opportunity for consultation with the Secretary or the Secretary’s designee; and**

**“(B) issue to the owner or operator of the facility an order to comply with this title by a date specified by the Secretary in the order, which date shall be not later than 180 days after the date on which the Secretary issues the order.**

**“(2) CONTINUED NONCOMPLIANCE.—**If an owner or operator remains noncompliant after the procedures outlined in paragraph (1) have been executed, or demonstrates repeated violations of this title, the Secretary may enter an order in accordance with this section assessing a civil penalty, an order to cease operations, or both.

**“(b) CIVIL PENALTIES.—**

**“(1) VIOLATIONS OF ORDERS.—**Any person who violates an order issued under this title shall be liable for a civil penalty under section 70119(a) of title 46, United States Code.

**“(2) NON-REPORTING CHEMICAL FACILITIES OF INTEREST.—**Any owner of a chemical facility of interest who fails to comply with, or knowingly

submits false information under, this title or the CFATS regulations shall be liable for a civil penalty under section 70119(a) of title 46, United States Code.

**“(c) EMERGENCY ORDERS.—**

**“(1) IN GENERAL.—**Notwithstanding subsection (a) or any site security plan or alternative security program approved under this title, if the Secretary determines that there is an imminent threat of death, serious illness, or severe personal injury, due to a violation of this title or the risk of a terrorist incident that may affect a chemical facility of interest, the Secretary—

**“(A) shall consult with the facility, if practicable, on steps to mitigate the risk; and**

**“(B) may order the facility, without notice or opportunity for a hearing, effective immediately or as soon as practicable, to—**

**“(i) implement appropriate emergency security measures; or**

**“(ii) cease or reduce some or all operations, in accordance with safe shutdown procedures, if the Secretary determines that such a cessation or reduction of operations is the most appropriate means to address the risk.**

**“(2) LIMITATION ON DELEGATION.—**The Secretary may not delegate the authority under paragraph (1) to any official other than the Under Secretary responsible for overseeing critical infrastructure protection, cybersecurity, and other related programs of the Department appointed under section 103(a)(1)(H).

**“(3) LIMITATION ON AUTHORITY.—**The Secretary may exercise the authority under this subsection only to the extent necessary to abate the imminent threat determination under paragraph (1).

**“(4) DUE PROCESS FOR FACILITY OWNER OR OPERATOR.—**

**“(A) WRITTEN ORDERS.—**An order issued by the Secretary under paragraph (1) shall be in the form of a written emergency order that—

**“(i) describes the violation or risk that creates the imminent threat;**

**“(ii) states the security measures or order issued or imposed; and**

**“(iii) describes the standards and procedures for obtaining relief from the order.**

**“(B) OPPORTUNITY FOR REVIEW.—**After issuing an order under paragraph (1) with respect to a chemical facility of interest, the Secretary shall provide for review of the order under section 554 of title 5 if a petition for review is filed not later than 20 days after the date on which the Secretary issues the order.

**“(C) EXPIRATION OF EFFECTIVENESS OF ORDER.—**If a petition for review of an order is filed under subparagraph (B) and the review under that paragraph is not completed by the last day of the 30-day period beginning on the date on which the petition is filed, the order shall vacate automatically at the end of that period unless the Secretary determines, in writing, that the imminent threat providing a basis for the order continues to exist.

**“(d) RIGHT OF ACTION.—**Nothing in this title confers upon any person except the Secretary or his or her designee a right of action against an owner or operator of a covered chemical facility to enforce any provision of this title.

**“SEC. 2105. WHISTLEBLOWER PROTECTIONS.**

**“(a) PROCEDURE FOR REPORTING PROBLEMS.—**

**“(1) ESTABLISHMENT OF A REPORTING PROCEDURE.—**Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of the Protecting and Securing Chemical Facilities from Terrorist Attacks Act of 2014, the Secretary shall establish, and provide information to the public regarding, a procedure under which any employee or contractor of a chemical facility of interest may submit a report to the Secretary regarding a violation of a requirement under this title.

**“(2) CONFIDENTIALITY.—**The Secretary shall keep confidential the identity of an individual

who submits a report under paragraph (1) and any such report shall be treated as a record containing protected information to the extent that the report does not consist of publicly available information.

**“(3) ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RECEIPT.—**If a report submitted under paragraph (1) identifies the individual making the report, the Secretary shall promptly respond to the individual directly and shall promptly acknowledge receipt of the report.

**“(4) STEPS TO ADDRESS PROBLEMS.—**The Secretary—

**“(A) shall review and consider the information provided in any report submitted under paragraph (1); and**

**“(B) may take action under section 2104 of this title if necessary to address any substantiated violation of a requirement under this title identified in the report.**

**“(5) DUE PROCESS FOR FACILITY OWNER OR OPERATOR.—**

**“(A) IN GENERAL.—**If, upon the review described in paragraph (4), the Secretary determines that a violation of a provision of this title, or a regulation prescribed under this title, has occurred, the Secretary may—

**“(i) institute a civil enforcement under section 2104(a) of this title; or**

**“(ii) if the Secretary makes the determination under section 2104(c), issue an emergency order.**

**“(B) WRITTEN ORDERS.—**The action of the Secretary under paragraph (4) shall be in a written form that—

**“(i) describes the violation;**

**“(ii) states the authority under which the Secretary is proceeding; and**

**“(iii) describes the standards and procedures for obtaining relief from the order.**

**“(C) OPPORTUNITY FOR REVIEW.—**After taking action under paragraph (4), the Secretary shall provide for review of the action if a petition for review is filed within 20 calendar days of the date of issuance of the order for the action.

**“(D) EXPIRATION OF EFFECTIVENESS OF ORDER.—**If a petition for review of an action is filed under subparagraph (C) and the review under that subparagraph is not completed by the end of the 30-day period beginning on the date the petition is filed, the action shall cease to be effective at the end of such period unless the Secretary determines, in writing, that the violation providing a basis for the action continues to exist.

**“(6) RETALIATION PROHIBITED.—**

**“(A) IN GENERAL.—**An owner or operator of a chemical facility of interest or agent thereof may not discharge an employee or otherwise discriminate against an employee with respect to the compensation provided to, or terms, conditions, or privileges of the employment of, the employee because the employee (or an individual acting pursuant to a request of the employee) submitted a report under paragraph (1).

**“(B) EXCEPTION.—**An employee shall not be entitled to the protections under this section if the employee—

**“(i) knowingly and willfully makes any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement or representation; or**

**“(ii) uses any false writing or document knowing the writing or document contains any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement or entry.**

**“(b) PROTECTED DISCLOSURES.—**Nothing in this title shall be construed to limit the right of an individual to make any disclosure—

**“(1) protected or authorized under section 2302(b)(8) or 7211 of title 5, United States Code;**

**“(2) protected under any other Federal or State law that shields the disclosing individual against retaliation or discrimination for having made the disclosure in the public interest; or**

**“(3) to the Special Counsel of an agency, the inspector general of an agency, or any other employee designated by the head of an agency to**

receive disclosures similar to the disclosures described in paragraphs (1) and (2).

“(c) **PUBLICATION OF RIGHTS.**—The Secretary, in partnership with industry associations and labor organizations, shall make publicly available both physically and online the rights that an individual who discloses information, including security-sensitive information, regarding problems, deficiencies, or vulnerabilities at a covered chemical facility would have under Federal whistleblower protection laws or this title.

“(d) **PROTECTED INFORMATION.**—All information contained in a report made under this subsection (a) shall be protected in accordance with section 2103.

**“SEC. 2106. RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER LAWS.**

“(a) **OTHER FEDERAL LAWS.**—Nothing in this title shall be construed to supersede, amend, alter, or affect any Federal law that—

“(1) regulates (including by requiring information to be submitted or made available) the manufacture, distribution in commerce, use, handling, sale, other treatment, or disposal of chemical substances or mixtures; or

“(2) authorizes or requires the disclosure of any record or information obtained from a chemical facility under any law other than this title.

“(b) **STATES AND POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS.**—This title shall not preclude or deny any right of any State or political subdivision thereof to adopt or enforce any regulation, requirement, or standard of performance with respect to chemical facility security that is more stringent than a regulation, requirement, or standard of performance issued under this section, or otherwise impair any right or jurisdiction of any State with respect to chemical facilities within that State, unless there is an actual conflict between this section and the law of that State.

**“SEC. 2107. CFATS REGULATIONS.**

“(a) **GENERAL AUTHORITY.**—The Secretary may, in accordance with chapter 5 of title 5, United States Code, promulgate regulations or amend existing CFATS regulations to implement the provisions under this title.

“(b) **EXISTING CFATS REGULATIONS.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Notwithstanding section 4(b) of the Protecting and Securing Chemical Facilities from Terrorist Attacks Act of 2014, each existing CFATS regulation shall remain in effect unless the Secretary amends, consolidates, or repeals the regulation.

“(2) **REPEAL.**—Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of the Protecting and Securing Chemical Facilities from Terrorist Attacks Act of 2014, the Secretary shall repeal any existing CFATS regulation that the Secretary determines is duplicative of, or conflicts with, this title.

“(c) **AUTHORITY.**—The Secretary shall exclusively rely upon authority provided under this title in—

“(1) determining compliance with this title; and

“(2) identifying chemicals of interest; and

“(3) determining security risk associated with a chemical facility.

**“SEC. 2108. SMALL COVERED CHEMICAL FACILITIES.**

“(a) **DEFINITION.**—In this section, the term ‘small covered chemical facility’ means a covered chemical facility that—

“(1) has fewer than 100 employees employed at the covered chemical facility; and

“(2) is owned and operated by a small business concern (as defined in section 3 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632)).

“(b) **ASSISTANCE TO FACILITIES.**—The Secretary may provide guidance and, as appropriate, tools, methodologies, or computer software, to assist small covered chemical facilities in developing the physical security, cybersecurity, recordkeeping, and reporting procedures required under this title.

“(c) **REPORT.**—The Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives a report on best practices that may assist small covered chemical facilities in development of physical security best practices.

**“SEC. 2109. OUTREACH TO CHEMICAL FACILITIES OF INTEREST.**

“Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of the Protecting and Securing Chemical Facilities from Terrorist Attacks Act of 2014, the Secretary shall establish an outreach implementation plan, in coordination with the heads of other appropriate Federal and State agencies, relevant business associations, and public and private labor organizations, to—

“(1) identify chemical facilities of interest; and

“(2) make available compliance assistance materials and information on education and training.”

(b) **CLERICAL AMENDMENT.**—The table of contents in section 1(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (Public Law 107-196; 116 Stat. 2135) is amended by adding at the end the following:

**“TITLE XXI—CHEMICAL FACILITY ANTI-TERRORISM STANDARDS**

**“Sec. 2101. Definitions.**

**“Sec. 2102. Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards Program.**

**“Sec. 2103. Protection and sharing of information.**

**“Sec. 2104. Civil enforcement.**

**“Sec. 2105. Whistleblower protections.**

**“Sec. 2106. Relationship to other laws.**

**“Sec. 2107. CFATS regulations.**

**“Sec. 2108. Small covered chemical facilities.**

**“Sec. 2109. Outreach to chemical facilities of interest.”**

**SEC. 3. ASSESSMENT; REPORTS.**

(a) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section—

(1) the term “Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards Program” means—

(A) the Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards program initially authorized under section 550 of the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2007 (Public Law 109-295; 6 U.S.C. 121 note); and

(B) the Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards Program subsequently authorized under section 2102(a) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as added by section 2;

(2) the term “Department” means the Department of Homeland Security; and

(3) the term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Homeland Security.

(b) **THIRD-PARTY ASSESSMENT.**—Using amounts appropriated to the Department before the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall commission a third-party study to assess vulnerabilities of covered chemical facilities, as defined in section 2101 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (as added by section 2), to acts of terrorism.

(c) **REPORTS.**—

(1) **REPORT TO CONGRESS.**—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives a report on the Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards Program that includes—

(A) a certification by the Secretary that the Secretary has made significant progress in the identification of all chemical facilities of interest under section 2102(e)(1) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as added by section 2, including—

(i) a description of the steps taken to achieve that progress and the metrics used to measure the progress;

(ii) information on whether facilities that submitted Top-Screens as a result of the identification of chemical facilities of interest were tiered and in what tiers those facilities were placed; and

(iii) an action plan to better identify chemical facilities of interest and bring those facilities into compliance with title XXI of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as added by section 2;

(B) a certification by the Secretary that the Secretary has developed a risk assessment approach and corresponding tiering methodology under section 2102(e)(2) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as added by section 2;

(C) an assessment by the Secretary of the implementation by the Department of the recommendations made by the Homeland Security Studies and Analysis Institute as outlined in the Institute’s Tiering Methodology Peer Review (Publication Number: RP12-22-02); and

(D) a description of best practices that may assist small covered chemical facilities, as defined in section 2108(a) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as added by section 2, in the development of physical security best practices.

(2) **ANNUAL GAO REPORT.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—During the 3-year period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to Congress an annual report that assesses the implementation of this Act and the amendments made by this Act.

(B) **INITIAL REPORT.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General shall submit to Congress the first report under subparagraph (A).

(C) **SECOND ANNUAL REPORT.**—Not later than 1 year after the date of the initial report required under subparagraph (B), the Comptroller General shall submit to Congress the second report under subparagraph (A), which shall include an assessment of the whistleblower protections provided under section 2105 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as added by section 2, and—

(i) describes the number and type of problems, deficiencies, and vulnerabilities with respect to which reports have been submitted under such section 2105;

(ii) evaluates the efforts of the Secretary in addressing the problems, deficiencies, and vulnerabilities described in subsection (a)(1) of such section 2105; and

(iii) evaluates the efforts of the Secretary to inform individuals of their rights, as required under subsection (c) of such section 2105.

(D) **THIRD ANNUAL REPORT.**—Not later than 1 year after the date on which the Comptroller General submits the second report required under subparagraph (A), the Comptroller General shall submit to Congress the third report under subparagraph (A), which shall include an assessment of—

(i) the expedited approval program authorized under section 2102(c)(4) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as added by section 2; and

(ii) the report on the expedited approval program submitted by the Secretary under subparagraph (1)(ii) of such section 2102(c)(4).

**SEC. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE; CONFORMING REPEAL.**

(a) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—This Act, and the amendments made by this Act, shall take effect on the date that is 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

(b) **CONFORMING REPEAL.**—Section 550 of the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2007 (Public Law 109-295; 120 Stat. 1388), is repealed as of the effective date of this Act.

**SEC. 5. TERMINATION.**

The authority provided under title XXI of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as added by section 2(a), shall terminate on the date that is 4 years after the effective date of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from

Pennsylvania (Mr. MEEHAN) and the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. THOMPSON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and insert any extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Pennsylvania?

There was no objection.

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4007, which is the Protecting and Securing Chemical Facilities From Terrorist Attacks Act of 2014. This bipartisan legislation went through regular order, and it passed the House in July by voice vote.

It now returns to us from the Senate where, yesterday, it passed by unanimous consent. H.R. 4007 is enthusiastically supported by the industry stakeholders it most directly impacts, as well as the Department of Homeland Security which is responsible for its implementation.

While it was in the Senate, the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee of the Senate made improvements to the House-passed version of the bill that take into account the interests of the labor unions who staff many facilities while, at the same time, strengthening the program overall and making it more workable and more effective for all parties involved. These changes were thoroughly vetted with industry, labor, and the Department itself, and they are widely endorsed.

As a result, Mr. Speaker, H.R. 4007 represents the culmination of a productive collaboration between my colleagues on the other side of the aisle and those in my conference, the House and the Senate, industry, labor, and the Federal Government.

Over the course of the past year, through multiple hearings and countless meetings, all of us have worked in partnership to take an honest look at the CFATS program to look at its strengths and shortcomings and to develop a straightforward, practically-minded piece of legislation to improve the program overall.

Mr. Speaker, prior to the attacks of September 11, Congress had established an array of laws aimed at preventing environmental disasters at facilities that produce or store potentially dangerous chemicals.

While those laws remain, Congress and the Department of Homeland Security developed CFATS specifically to prevent an intentional attack on chemical facilities. The CFATS program re-

quires DHS to develop a set of vulnerability assessment standards for chemical plants and to implement a corresponding set of regulations to protect the highest-risk facilities from a physical attack.

Despite what we would all agree are the best intentions, it is no secret that CFATS struggled in its earlier years from implementation problems to management flaws to insufficient feedback from the facilities. These were highlighted in the aftermath of the devastating explosion at a chemical facility in West, Texas. CFATS had a rocky start.

To make matters worse, for the past 4 years, CFATS has relied on appropriations for its existence with no authorization from Congress and no official guidance. This bill is a major breakthrough; CFATS will be reauthorized for the very first time.

With that authorization, both Chambers of Congress are finally able to provide smart, binding guidelines to improve the operation of the program, measure progress, and enhance security.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud of this legislation. I am particularly grateful for the bipartisan support. I know that there have been moments of disagreement, and there may continue to be points in which there are some modicum of issues of disagreement, but the overall collective bipartisan work on this issue, taking into account the efforts of management, labor, government, and industry, has resulted in what I believe to be a very substantial and important piece of legislation.

I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to send H.R. 4007 to the President's desk so we can ensure that proper measures are in place to secure the Nation's vast network of chemical facilities and to keep our facilities safe from harm.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise in very reluctant support of the Senate amendment to H.R. 4007 and yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 4007 authorizes the Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards, or CFATS, program through 2017 and came through regular order.

As a lead author of the original legislation to establish DHS' chemical security program, I have consistently supported efforts for this committee to advance freestanding authorizing legislation to ensure that the program, which was stood up pursuant to a paragraph in the 2007 appropriations bill, was fully authorized.

Until today, the closest Congress has come to replacing that appropriations language with a more detailed and comprehensive bill was in 2010, when the House unanimously approved legis-

lation I authored with then-Energy and Commerce Chairman HENRY WAXMAN.

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H.R. 4007 bears little resemblance to that measure. However, there are a few provisions that are in the spirit of the prior bill, such as worker participation in the development of security plans and the provision of basic whistleblower protections to workers who risk their jobs to come forward to report security issues.

I appreciate the contributions made to the legislation by the chairman of the Senate Homeland Security Committee, particularly with respect to whistleblower rights and the personnel surety program, two areas championed by subcommittee Ranking Member CLARKE and committee Democrats.

I am pleased that Democratic efforts to prevent regulatory overreach by DHS with respect to personnel surety ultimately prevailed so that under this bill facilities would have a range of options for how to ensure that individuals accessing their facilities are vetted.

The bill also grants DHS new authorities to identify and bring into compliance facilities that willfully ignore this Federal regulatory program, putting their workers and surrounding communities at risk. This so-called outlier provision is in direct response to Chemical Safety Board findings regarding the deadly fire and damaging explosions at the West Fertilizer Company in Texas in April 2013. The board determined that they were preventable and that it was due in part to the "inability of Federal, State, and local regulatory agencies to identify a serious hazard and correct it."

Though I support a multiyear authorization for CFATS and there are a number of provisions in the bill that I fully support, there is one in the bill, as considered today, that could very well undermine the effectiveness of the entire program. I am, of course, speaking of the language authored by the ranking member of the Senate Homeland Security Committee that directs DHS to establish a so-called expedited approval program, or, as I have come to see it, a self-certification program.

Yes, you heard me right. Under this bill, some facilities would be able to self-certify that they are in compliance with the risk-based performance standards under the program. The population of facilities that would be eligible for this scheme represents about 70 percent of all facilities subject to this regulatory program.

The inclusion of this provision which requires DHS within 180 days to issue guidance to facilities on how to access self-certification has not gone through the rigor of intensive and balanced bicameral legislative debate or discussions. It lacks a legislative history. Allowing certain CFATS-covered facilities to independently certify that the

security plans they developed meet statutory requirements is an inherently risky approach that leaves DHS with few options.

Given the resource challenges and chronic backlog challenges in the CFATS program, I have trouble believing that self-certified facilities would receive timely inspections where misrepresentations, omissions, and inadequacies with the plan could be identified. Defenders of this provision have argued that my concerns about turning back the clock on security are misplaced. I certainly hope so.

If this measure is enacted into law, as I expect will occur, we will know within a very short period of time if the CFATS office can effectively design and launch a new program within its program that is consistent with risk-based and performance-based standards.

H.R. 4007 certainly has the potential to be an oversight gold mine, giving the Committee on Homeland Security plenty to dig into during the next Congress. Despite my deep concerns with the self-certification program, I will be voting in favor of H.R. 4007. I will be casting an "aye" vote to get the CFATS program off the erratic appropriations cycle and give some predictability to the facilities that are regulated under the program and the men and women that look to DHS to partner effectively with the facilities to help keep them secure.

Mr. Speaker, as I mentioned before, I plan to vote in favor of H.R. 4007, but will do so with deep reservations. By including the self-certification program, I am troubled by the message that this measure may send to the American public about how serious we are about ensuring that facilities comply with the CFATS security program. If a company misrepresents its size in a self-certification to the Small Business Administration to improperly access small business set asides, truly eligible small businesses could be harmed.

If a company misrepresents its chemical holdings and how it is protecting them against sabotage in a self-certification to the Department of Homeland Security to secure CFATS compliance certification, the results could be dangerous, even deadly. I certainly hope that DHS runs all the traps to reduce the likelihood that the program will be exploited.

I plan to vote for this bill to put the CFATS program on a more stable and secure footing, to ensure that chemical workers have whistleblower rights, and to stop DHS from putting in place onerous and unnecessarily burdensome personnel surety vetting requirements. Again, Mr. Speaker, I plan to vote for this bill even with my reservations. It is a good start, and I compliment the chairman of the subcommittee for his work on it. It has been a labor of love. I wish we could have done more, but in

the interest of getting us moving, I will support this bill.

I yield back the balance of my time. Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I want to express my deep appreciation to my colleagues on the other side of the aisle, the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. THOMPSON) and the gentlewoman from New York, whom I had the good privilege to serve with on the subcommittee which originally authored this important legislation.

I appreciate the leadership that the ranking member had initiated in this area prior to my tenure on the committee. It was during the bipartisan effort to look at this when both sides of our committee realized that we would not write the perfect bill, but it was critically important that collectively we could get to a very good bill which would do the most important thing, which is to authorize the capacity for DHS to have this meaningful role in this very, very important area.

I do appreciate the issue with respect to self-certification. We recognized as we were dealing with this issue, as well, that one of the real problems in the beginning was the heightened expectations that were created, particularly with those smaller facilities, about responsiveness from DHS. And so responsible entities would go through the work and the steps of creating site security plans, awaiting and awaiting and awaiting DHS to get there to help approve the work that they were doing. By creating that unrealistic expectation, we also created not just the appearance but the reality of looking like an underperforming Department of Homeland Security in this critical area.

I think that the work that has been done has been focused on trying to get this right. This will require that any self-certification be done with templates that are being put together by Homeland Security, and there will be strict deadlines for conformance, and the failure to conform will put them right back into oversight. But I respect and genuinely appreciate the points made by the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. THOMPSON).

This is significant because passage of this bill will allow us to know where these chemicals are, and that, in and of itself, is significant. To be a firefighter and to not know what might be in the building that you are responding to is inexcusable. That was the circumstance in which those brave firefighters found themselves in West, Texas. This begins to create the kinds of protections to avoid that kind of uncertainty. We owe it to our brave firefighters and others on the front lines.

Most significantly, this has been a program in which there have been a number of responsible companies that have taken it upon themselves to ensure that they are doing the right

thing in terms of identifying the chemicals they have and securing them appropriately to protect against any kind of misapplication.

Without this kind of legislation, what it does is rewards the outliers who are not taking those responsible steps. This will give DHS the authority to ensure that there is oversight over the entirety of the chemical stock. It is important, it is timely, and it will allow us to have appropriate oversight over DHS as well, who I have confidence can step up to the job.

So in light of all of those points, I urge all Members to join me in supporting this bipartisan bill, H.R. 4007.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Senate amendments to H.R. 4007, the Protecting and Securing Chemical Facilities from Terrorist Attacks Act.

I am an original co-sponsor of this important legislation which will finally authorize the CFATS program in federal code and not through the appropriations process.

Last October, during the government shutdown, the American people saw that without authorization of the CFATS program, there were no legally binding regulations in place to protect our nation's chemical facilities from criminal and terrorist attacks once appropriations expired.

I have the honor of representing north and east Harris County and the Houston Ship Channel, at the heart of our nation's petrochemical industry. The expiration of the CFATS program puts the safety of my constituents who work in and live in the communities that surround these facilities in danger and it is obligation, as the people's elected representatives, to do everything we can to protect them from harm's way.

This measure passed the House in July by voice vote.

I backed the House-version of this measure because the bill will solve the personnel surety issue by allowing workers who have TWIC or HME cards to have access to chemical facilities without having to get another federal credential.

This is important to my constituents who already have TWIC cards and work in our petrochemical plants and drive the trucks to deliver raw materials and products they produce.

I am supportive of some of the changes the Senate made to this legislation. In particular, I am supportive of measures that will add greater worker participation into plant security plans and provide greater whistleblower protections for plant employees who want to report unsafe conditions at a plant.

I do have some concerns with allowing smaller facilities to self-certify, as added in by the Senate, because even smaller facilities, as we have unfortunately seen in Texas in recent years, can be dangerous and the American people deserve full assurance that facilities near them are safe.

Nonetheless, the underlining legislation is still sound and needs to be enacted. I urge my colleagues to join DHS Secretary Jeh Johnson, and impacted stakeholders and vote in support of the Senate amendments to H.R. 4007.



Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, since before the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, experts have been concerned about the vulnerability of chemical plants to attack. These facilities hold large stores of industrial chemicals which pose a safety and security risk to the American people if they are released or detonated. A recent report found that more than 134 million Americans live in the vulnerability zones around chemical facilities. I have such a facility in my district, which is a very serious concern for the surrounding community.

These risks have not been adequately addressed, and this bill falls short of what is needed. The version of the bill before us now also includes a significant and unvetted change to the program that could make many high risk chemical facilities less secure. The self-certification provisions have not been evaluated in hearings or piloted. I am concerned about these provisions and I caution my colleagues that their implementation will require close oversight from Congress.

But this bill is a step forward. For far too long, this important program has been authorized in the appropriations process for the Department of Homeland Security. During last year's government shutdown, the authority for this program lapsed. Looking ahead to next Congress, the risk of another lapse is too great. When we voted on a previous version of this bill in July, I expressed my hope that the Senate could improve the legislation to strengthen this important program.

On some issues, the Senate was successful. The bill now includes an expanded role for workers and labor unions in developing site security plans and some important whistleblower protections.

However, this bill would leave significant problems in the underlying program in place.

The Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards program at the Department of Homeland Security has not been successful. The original rider that created the program blocked effective enforcement, leading to a lack of compliance. We saw the dangers of noncompliance when the West Fertilizer Company facility in West, Texas, exploded. Unfortunately, those limitations on enforcement would be preserved by this bill.

The original statute blocked the Department from requiring measures to reduce the consequences of a terrorist attack, and in the process created serious obstacles to disapproving site security plans that failed to meet the program's standards. This led to an approval process so complicated that it took more than five years for the Department to complete its review of the first facility. This bill preserves those obstacles.

Both of these challenges may be complicated further by the new self-certification program.

I expect this bill to pass today, and I welcome this step forward. But I call upon all of my colleagues who will be here in the next Congress to continue the important oversight of this program to provide the American people with the protection they expect and deserve.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr.

MEEHAN) that the House suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendment to the bill, H.R. 4007.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the Senate amendment was concurred in.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ADVANCEMENT ACT OF 2014

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendments to the bill (H.R. 2952) to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to make certain improvements in the laws relating to the advancement of security technologies for critical infrastructure protection, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the Senate amendments is as follows:

Senate amendments:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

*This Act may be cited as the "Cybersecurity Workforce Assessment Act".*

#### SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

*In this Act—*

(1) the term "Cybersecurity Category" means a position's or incumbent's primary work function involving cybersecurity, which is further defined by Specialty Area;

(2) the term "Department" means the Department of Homeland Security;

(3) the term "Secretary" means the Secretary of Homeland Security; and

(4) the term "Specialty Area" means any of the common types of cybersecurity work as recognized by the National Initiative for Cybersecurity Education's National Cybersecurity Workforce Framework report.

#### SEC. 3. CYBERSECURITY WORKFORCE ASSESSMENT AND STRATEGY.

(a) WORKFORCE ASSESSMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter for 3 years, the Secretary shall assess the cybersecurity workforce of the Department.

(2) CONTENTS.—The assessment required under paragraph (1) shall include, at a minimum—

(A) an assessment of the readiness and capacity of the workforce of the Department to meet its cybersecurity mission;

(B) information on where cybersecurity workforce positions are located within the Department;

(C) information on which cybersecurity workforce positions are—

(i) performed by—

(I) permanent full-time equivalent employees of the Department, including, to the greatest extent practicable, demographic information about such employees;

(II) independent contractors; and

(III) individuals employed by other Federal agencies, including the National Security Agency; or

(ii) vacant; and

(D) information on—

(i) the percentage of individuals within each Cybersecurity Category and Specialty Area who received essential training to perform their jobs; and

(ii) in cases in which such essential training was not received, what challenges, if any, were

encountered with respect to the provision of such essential training.

(b) WORKFORCE STRATEGY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall—

(A) not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, develop a comprehensive workforce strategy to enhance the readiness, capacity, training, recruitment, and retention of the cybersecurity workforce of the Department; and

(B) maintain and, as necessary, update the comprehensive workforce strategy developed under subparagraph (A).

(2) CONTENTS.—The comprehensive workforce strategy developed under paragraph (1) shall include a description of—

(A) a multi-phased recruitment plan, including with respect to experienced professionals, members of disadvantaged or underserved communities, the unemployed, and veterans;

(B) a 5-year implementation plan;

(C) a 10-year projection of the cybersecurity workforce needs of the Department;

(D) any obstacle impeding the hiring and development of a cybersecurity workforce in the Department; and

(E) any gap in the existing cybersecurity workforce of the Department and a plan to fill any such gap.

(c) UPDATES.—The Secretary submit to the appropriate congressional committees annual updates on—

(1) the cybersecurity workforce assessment required under subsection (a); and

(2) the progress of the Secretary in carrying out the comprehensive workforce strategy required to be developed under subsection (b).

#### SEC. 4. CYBERSECURITY FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM.

Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on the feasibility, cost, and benefits of establishing a Cybersecurity Fellowship Program to offer a tuition payment plan for individuals pursuing undergraduate and doctoral degrees who agree to work for the Department for an agreed-upon period of time.

Amend the title so as to read: "An Act to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to assess the cybersecurity workforce of the Department of Homeland Security and develop a comprehensive workforce strategy, and for other purposes."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MEEHAN) and the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. THOMPSON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Pennsylvania?

There was no objection.

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2952, the Cybersecurity Workforce Assessment Act. H.R. 2952 was originally passed by the House as the Critical Infrastructure Research and Development Act of 2014. The updated legislation passed this week by our Senate



colleagues adds important cybersecurity workforce provisions to the bill from what is known as McCaul-Meehan, H.R. 3696.

As cyber attacks by hackers from around the world grow increasingly sophisticated, it is more urgent than ever to improve our ability to stop them. Currently, the Department of Homeland Security's National Cybersecurity Communications and Integration Center, NCCIC, must compete with big technology companies and cybersecurity firms for cybersecurity workforce, while DHS is limited in its ability to attract talented and well-trained cyber warriors.

H.R. 2952 will require the Secretary to assess the cybersecurity workforce currently in DHS and develop a strategy to enhance it. The assessment would look at cyber positions, readiness, training, types of positions, and its ability to carry out its cyber mission, with the ultimate goal of enhancing these capabilities and produce a recruitment and implementation plan. Finally, the bill also requires the Secretary to submit a report on the feasibility of establishing a cybersecurity fellowship program.

This legislation along with the others we have brought up today are important pieces in improving the overall capabilities of the Department of Homeland Security and its ability to carry out its cybersecurity mission. This is a critically important piece of legislation which enables the Department of Homeland Security to compete for what are very, very in-demand individuals with talent in the area of cybersecurity and protections.

Most significantly, it allows us to have the kinds of quality of individuals who can work in an equal capacity with the best of those who are in our other governmental institutions, and particularly those who are now working in the private sector. I believe that the capacity for DHS to attract these workers is critical to its mission. I continue to encourage the growth and development of that expertise.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the Senate amendment to H.R. 2952 that attaches the Cybersecurity Workforce Assessment Act.

For the Department of Homeland Security to be effective in its cybersecurity mission, it must have a workforce in place to meet this challenge. Yesterday, the House considered legislation to grant DHS special hiring authority to secure talent in the competitive cybersecurity employment marketplace.

The measure before you today includes language, authored by the gentlewoman from New York (Ms.

CLARKE), that requires DHS to develop and issue a comprehensive workforce strategy for the Department's cybersecurity missions, and includes a 5-year implementation plan and a 10-year projection of the cybersecurity workforce needs of the Department.

Cybersecurity is a complex mission for the Department and requires a wide range of talent at all levels. Given the urgent nature of DHS' recruitment efforts, it is essential that the Department have this strategy in place.

Secondly, the bill requires the Department to assess the readiness and capacity of its workforce to meet its cybersecurity missions.

Lastly, the urgent need to fill critical national security positions often leads to an overreliance on contractors.

To encourage students to come to work for the government in this vital arena, this legislation also directs DHS to develop a plan to create a cybersecurity fellowship program. Under such a program, DHS would pay a promising student's tuition in exchange for a commitment to serve for a fixed period of time at the Department in a cybersecurity position.

For all these reasons, I urge my colleagues to vote for H.R. 2952, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I have no more speakers, and I am prepared to close once the gentleman does.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. CLARKE), the ranking member of the Subcommittee on Cybersecurity, Infrastructure Protection, and Security Technologies, who actually—this legislation is what she has been about.

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Senate amendment to H.R. 2952.

As my ranking member, Mr. THOMPSON, has said, for the Department of Homeland Security to be effective in its cybersecurity mission, it must have a workforce in place to meet this challenge. A longstanding interest of mine has been how best to help DHS meet its cyber workforce needs.

To that end, I have authored legislation that the committee unanimously approved in October to help ensure that DHS has the "boots on the ground" it needs to meet its diverse cybersecurity mission.

I would like to thank Chairman MEEHAN for the support you have shown for my efforts and the spirit of collaboration that you have shown.

This legislation requires DHS to develop and issue a comprehensive workforce strategy for the Department's cybersecurity missions. The Department is required to develop a 5-year implementation plan for that strategy and a

10-year projection of the cybersecurity workforce needs of the Department.

Before developing a strategy and implementation plan, it is important that DHS conduct a workforce assessment to get a sense of the readiness and capacity of the Department's cyber workforce.

It is also important that the Department determine where these positions are located within the Department and whether these positions are filled by permanent employees, independent contractors, detailees from other Federal agencies, or are vacant.

The workforce assessment required under this bill requires DHS to do just that.

Finally, I am glad that it directs DHS to develop a plan to establish a cybersecurity fellowship program under which talented undergraduates and doctoral candidates who sign on to work for the Department for an agreed-upon period would be provided tuition assistance.

Establishment of just such a program could help encourage students to come to work for the government in this vital arena.

I urge all of my colleagues to vote for the Senate amendment to H.R. 2952.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

In closing, the legislation under consideration today is a product of bipartisan, bicameral negotiations. It has two parts: the core bill, which addresses the overall direction of Federal physical security and cybersecurity technology research and development efforts for protecting critical infrastructure; and the Clarke cybersecurity workforce amendment.

The language in both parts went through regular order and was approved by the House.

Therefore, I urge passage of H.R. 2952.

Before I yield back, in case Ms. CLARKE leaves, our committee has the unfortunate task next year of losing the chair and ranking member of this fine subcommittee, and I want to personally say that I really appreciate the manner in which they worked together on not just hearings but bringing forth good legislation to the full committee and, ultimately, this legislation we are dealing with today. So, I compliment both of them and we will miss them.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I want to thank the gentleman for his kind words and for his cooperation. The ranking member helped to set a tone for the collaboration on the committee, along with the leadership of our chairman of the committee, the gentleman from Texas. From the beginning, our focus was on working together to find solutions to the important issues which don't have a Democrat or a Republican unique perspective. It is an American perspective for

us to put the priority on protecting our homeland.

I want to particularly express my appreciation to the ranking member of our subcommittee, the gentlewoman from New York, for all of her collaboration and the delightful manner in which we had to work through difficult issues together but, ultimately, got to compromise into important resolutions on these issues and matters of importance.

I appreciate her foresight on this particular provision, which I am pleased to strongly endorse. The reason for that is we are facing a very challenging time globally with the issue of cybersecurity. We not only have to worry about the impacts that can happen with cyber issues for the kinds of materials that we have got in the private sector, that they can be impacted, but we are also dealing in a very unsafe world in which threats are not only the theft of information or interference with systems, but the ability now for those who want to do us harm to use the cyber network to carry out that harm. Therefore, it is more critical than ever that we are able to attract to the Department of Homeland Security, in fact into government, the kinds of people who are prepared to be on the front lines of this battle.

This is exactly what this provision will enable us to do—first, to attract people, and I am always inspired by them, because they have the same sense and focus of dedication to their country that so many brave men and women who sign up and serve us in uniform. While they are serving in a different capacity, their service to our Nation is every bit as real in the sense of the personal sacrifice that they make to help us attract the best and the brightest to protect our assets. You have to appreciate that many of them, once they get that expertise, are very, very desirable to corporations and others in the business world who will pay them significantly more to come to work for them.

So this idea of beginning to create the bullpen, so to speak, of the next generation of cyber-prepared warriors for our country is at the heart of what the gentlewoman is trying to do, to enable universities and others to develop these kinds of programs that support students who, in return for some support for their education, will come to work for us. That will get us the next level of individuals, and it will begin the process of training those individuals, which we will need.

So this is, again, another important piece of our overall successful approach to trying to create cybersecurity.

I urge all of the Members to join me in supporting this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr.

MEEHAN) that the House suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendment to the bill, H.R. 2952.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the Senate amendment was concurred in.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### NATIONAL CYBERSECURITY PROTECTION ACT OF 2014

Mr. MCCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 2519) to codify an existing operations center for cybersecurity.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 2519

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “National Cybersecurity Protection Act of 2014”.

#### SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act—

(1) the term “Center” means the national cybersecurity and communications integration center under section 226 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as added by section 3;

(2) the term “critical infrastructure” has the meaning given that term in section 2 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 101);

(3) the term “cybersecurity risk” has the meaning given that term in section 226 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as added by section 3;

(4) the term “information sharing and analysis organization” has the meaning given that term in section 212(5) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 131(5));

(5) the term “information system” has the meaning given that term in section 3502(8) of title 44, United States Code; and

(6) the term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Homeland Security.

#### SEC. 3. NATIONAL CYBERSECURITY AND COMMUNICATIONS INTEGRATION CENTER.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle C of title II of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 141 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

#### “SEC. 226. NATIONAL CYBERSECURITY AND COMMUNICATIONS INTEGRATION CENTER.

“(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

“(1) the term ‘cybersecurity risk’ means threats to and vulnerabilities of information or information systems and any related consequences caused by or resulting from unauthorized access, use, disclosure, degradation, disruption, modification, or destruction of information or information systems, including such related consequences caused by an act of terrorism;

“(2) the term ‘incident’ means an occurrence that—

“(A) actually or imminently jeopardizes, without lawful authority, the integrity, confidentiality, or availability of information on an information system; or

“(B) constitutes a violation or imminent threat of violation of law, security policies, security procedures, or acceptable use policies;

“(3) the term ‘information sharing and analysis organization’ has the meaning given that term in section 212(5); and

“(4) the term ‘information system’ has the meaning given that term in section 3502(8) of title 44, United States Code.

“(b) CENTER.—There is in the Department a national cybersecurity and communications integration center (referred to in this section as the ‘Center’) to carry out certain responsibilities of the Under Secretary appointed under section 103(a)(1)(H).

“(c) FUNCTIONS.—The cybersecurity functions of the Center shall include—

“(1) being a Federal civilian interface for the multi-directional and cross-sector sharing of information related to cybersecurity risks, incidents, analysis, and warnings for Federal and non-Federal entities;

“(2) providing shared situational awareness to enable real-time, integrated, and operational actions across the Federal Government and non-Federal entities to address cybersecurity risks and incidents to Federal and non-Federal entities;

“(3) coordinating the sharing of information related to cybersecurity risks and incidents across the Federal Government;

“(4) facilitating cross-sector coordination to address cybersecurity risks and incidents, including cybersecurity risks and incidents that may be related or could have consequential impacts across multiple sectors;

“(5)(A) conducting integration and analysis, including cross-sector integration and analysis, of cybersecurity risks and incidents; and

“(B) sharing the analysis conducted under subparagraph (A) with Federal and non-Federal entities;

“(6) upon request, providing timely technical assistance, risk management support, and incident response capabilities to Federal and non-Federal entities with respect to cybersecurity risks and incidents, which may include attribution, mitigation, and remediation; and

“(7) providing information and recommendations on security and resilience measures to Federal and non-Federal entities, including information and recommendations to—

“(A) facilitate information security; and

“(B) strengthen information systems against cybersecurity risks and incidents.

“(d) COMPOSITION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Center shall be composed of—

“(A) appropriate representatives of Federal entities, such as—

“(i) sector-specific agencies;

“(ii) civilian and law enforcement agencies; and

“(iii) elements of the intelligence community, as that term is defined under section 3(4) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3003(4));

“(B) appropriate representatives of non-Federal entities, such as—

“(i) State and local governments;

“(ii) information sharing and analysis organizations; and

“(iii) owners and operators of critical information systems;

“(C) components within the Center that carry out cybersecurity and communications activities;

“(D) a designated Federal official for operational coordination with and across each sector; and

“(E) other appropriate representatives or entities, as determined by the Secretary.

“(2) INCIDENTS.—In the event of an incident, during exigent circumstances the Secretary may grant a Federal or non-Federal entity immediate temporary access to the Center.

“(e) PRINCIPLES.—In carrying out the functions under subsection (c), the Center shall ensure—

“(1) to the extent practicable, that—

“(A) timely, actionable, and relevant information related to cybersecurity risks, incidents, and analysis is shared;

“(B) when appropriate, information related to cybersecurity risks, incidents, and analysis is integrated with other relevant information and tailored to the specific characteristics of a sector;

“(C) activities are prioritized and conducted based on the level of risk;

“(D) industry sector-specific, academic, and national laboratory expertise is sought and receives appropriate consideration;

“(E) continuous, collaborative, and inclusive coordination occurs—

“(i) across sectors; and

“(ii) with—

“(I) sector coordinating councils;

“(II) information sharing and analysis organizations; and

“(III) other appropriate non-Federal partners;

“(F) as appropriate, the Center works to develop and use mechanisms for sharing information related to cybersecurity risks and incidents that are technology-neutral, interoperable, real-time, cost-effective, and resilient; and

“(G) the Center works with other agencies to reduce unnecessarily duplicative sharing of information related to cybersecurity risks and incidents;

“(2) that information related to cybersecurity risks and incidents is appropriately safeguarded against unauthorized access; and

“(3) that activities conducted by the Center comply with all policies, regulations, and laws that protect the privacy and civil liberties of United States persons.

“(f) NO RIGHT OR BENEFIT.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The provision of assistance or information to, and inclusion in the Center of, governmental or private entities under this section shall be at the sole and unreviewable discretion of the Under Secretary appointed under section 103(a)(1)(H).

“(2) CERTAIN ASSISTANCE OR INFORMATION.—The provision of certain assistance or information to, or inclusion in the Center of, one governmental or private entity pursuant to this section shall not create a right or benefit, substantive or procedural, to similar assistance or information for any other governmental or private entity.”

(b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 101 note) is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 225 the following:

“Sec. 226. National cybersecurity and communications integration center.”

#### SEC. 4. RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING NEW AGREEMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit recommendations on how to expedite the implementation of information-sharing agreements for cybersecurity purposes between the Center and non-Federal entities (referred to in this section as “cybersecurity information-sharing agreements”) to—

(1) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate; and

(2) the Committee on Homeland Security and the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives.

(b) CONTENTS.—In submitting recommendations under subsection (a), the Secretary shall—

(1) address the development and utilization of a scalable form that retains all privacy and other protections in cybersecurity information-sharing agreements that are in effect as of the date on which the Secretary submits the recommendations, including Cooperative Research and Development Agreements; and

(2) include in the recommendations any additional authorities or resources that may be needed to carry out the implementation of any new cybersecurity information-sharing agreements.

#### SEC. 5. ANNUAL REPORT.

Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, and every year thereafter for 3 years, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate, the Committee on Homeland Security and the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives, and the Comptroller General of the United States a report on the Center, which shall include—

(a) information on the Center, including—

(1) an assessment of the capability and capacity of the Center to carry out its cybersecurity mission under this Act;

(2) the number of representatives from non-Federal entities that are participating in the Center, including the number of representatives from States, nonprofit organizations, and private sector entities, respectively;

(3) the number of requests from non-Federal entities to participate in the Center and the response to such requests;

(4) the average length of time taken to resolve requests described in paragraph (3);

(5) the identification of—

(A) any delay in resolving requests described in paragraph (3) involving security clearance processing; and

(B) the agency involved with a delay described in subparagraph (A);

(6) a description of any other obstacles or challenges to resolving requests described in paragraph (3) and a summary of the reasons for denials of any such requests;

(7) the extent to which the Department is engaged in information sharing with each critical infrastructure sector, including—

(A) the extent to which each sector has representatives at the Center;

(B) the extent to which owners and operators of critical infrastructure in each critical infrastructure sector participate in information sharing at the Center; and

(C) the volume and range of activities with respect to which the Secretary has collaborated with the sector coordinating councils and the sector-specific agencies to promote greater engagement with the Center; and

(8) the policies and procedures established by the Center to safeguard privacy and civil liberties.

#### SEC. 6. GAO REPORT.

Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives a report on the effectiveness of the Center in carrying out its cybersecurity mission.

#### SEC. 7. CYBER INCIDENT RESPONSE PLAN; CLEARANCES; BREACHES.

(a) CYBER INCIDENT RESPONSE PLAN; CLEARANCES.—Subtitle C of title II of the Home-

land Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 141 et seq.), as amended by section 3, is amended by adding at the end the following:

#### “SEC. 227. CYBER INCIDENT RESPONSE PLAN.

“The Under Secretary appointed under section 103(a)(1)(H) shall, in coordination with appropriate Federal departments and agencies, State and local governments, sector coordinating councils, information sharing and analysis organizations (as defined in section 212(5)), owners and operators of critical infrastructure, and other appropriate entities and individuals, develop, regularly update, maintain, and exercise adaptable cyber incident response plans to address cybersecurity risks (as defined in section 226) to critical infrastructure.

#### “SEC. 228. CLEARANCES.

“The Secretary shall make available the process of application for security clearances under Executive Order 13549 (75 Fed. Reg. 162; relating to a classified national security information program) or any successor Executive Order to appropriate representatives of sector coordinating councils, sector information sharing and analysis organizations (as defined in section 212(5)), owners and operators of critical infrastructure, and any other person that the Secretary determines appropriate.”

(b) BREACHES.—

(1) REQUIREMENTS.—The Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall ensure that data breach notification policies and guidelines are updated periodically and require—

(A) except as provided in paragraph (4), notice by the affected agency to each committee of Congress described in section 3544(c)(1) of title 44, United States Code, the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate, and the Committee on Homeland Security and the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives, which shall—

(i) be provided expeditiously and not later than 30 days after the date on which the agency discovered the unauthorized acquisition or access; and

(ii) include—

(I) information about the breach, including a summary of any information that the agency knows on the date on which notification is provided about how the breach occurred;

(II) an estimate of the number of individuals affected by the breach, based on information that the agency knows on the date on which notification is provided, including an assessment of the risk of harm to affected individuals;

(III) a description of any circumstances necessitating a delay in providing notice to affected individuals; and

(IV) an estimate of whether and when the agency will provide notice to affected individuals; and

(B) notice by the affected agency to affected individuals, pursuant to data breach notification policies and guidelines, which shall be provided as expeditiously as practicable and without unreasonable delay after the agency discovers the unauthorized acquisition or access.

(2) NATIONAL SECURITY; LAW ENFORCEMENT; REMEDIATION.—The Attorney General, the head of an element of the intelligence community (as such term is defined under section 3(4) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3003(4)), or the Secretary may delay the notice to affected individuals under paragraph (1)(B) if the notice would disrupt a law enforcement investigation, endanger national security, or hamper security remediation actions.

(3) OMB REPORT.—During the first 2 years beginning after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall, on an annual basis—

(A) assess agency implementation of data breach notification policies and guidelines in aggregate; and

(B) include the assessment described in clause (i) in the report required under section 3543(a)(8) of title 44, United States Code.

(4) EXCEPTION.—Any element of the intelligence community (as such term is defined under section 3(4) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3003(4))) that is required to provide notice under paragraph (1)(A) shall only provide such notice to appropriate committees of Congress.

(c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in the amendment made by subsection (a) or in subsection (b)(1) shall be construed to alter any authority of a Federal agency or department.

(d) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 101 note), as amended by section 3, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 226 the following:

“Sec. 227. Cyber incident response plan.

“Sec. 228. Clearances.”.

#### SEC. 8. RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.

(a) PROHIBITION ON NEW REGULATORY AUTHORITY.—Nothing in this Act or the amendments made by this Act shall be construed to grant the Secretary any authority to promulgate regulations or set standards relating to the cybersecurity of private sector critical infrastructure that was not in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act.

(b) PRIVATE ENTITIES.—Nothing in this Act or the amendments made by this Act shall be construed to require any private entity—

(1) to request assistance from the Secretary; or

(2) that requested such assistance from the Secretary to implement any measure or recommendation suggested by the Secretary.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. MCCAUL) and the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. THOMPSON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MCCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include any extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

Mr. MCCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to, first, start out by thanking—this was not one person. This was a huge team effort, both in a bipartisan way and bicameral way. I want to thank PAT MEEHAN for his great leadership on this. I want to thank YVETTE CLARKE for her great work and BENNIE THOMPSON for being willing to come together in a bipartisan way on our committee to get something good done for the American people.

I want to thank Senators CARPER and COBURN for moving forward—not something that we see much this Congress, something actually coming out of the Senate back to the House to pass out of this Congress, something we haven't seen much these days.

I also want to thank the staff. I want to thank Alex Manning, who is the staff director, and Brett DeWitt for his great work, tireless hours, and on the Democrat side of the House as well, holding over 300 meetings with the private sector, working day in and day out to get to the point where we are today on the House floor.

Mr. Speaker, I consider this to be a historic moment on the House floor, as we pass the most significant cybersecurity legislation ever passed by the Congress. This issue 10 years ago, no one would understand it. Today, people are finally starting to wake up to the fact that the threats from a cyber attack are real.

As we look at threats from China, from Russia, from Iran, we look at the theft of IP—a lot of people have been hurt personally with Home Depot and Target—we look at the theft of intellectual property from Russia and China, we look at the espionage on a daily basis, every Federal agency being hacked into, including the Pentagon, to steal things out of this Federal Government, to hurt our national security, and then, finally, we look at the most malicious threat, and that is a threat to shut things down.

We saw recently, Mr. Speaker, an attack from Iran that shut down 30,000 hard drives of Aramco, the largest energy producer in Saudi Arabia, while simultaneously hitting our financial sector. They continue to hit our financial sector every day. They are hitting them as I speak right now. We look at power grids being brought down and water and energy. This threat is real. This threat must be dealt with.

I am pleased on the very last day of this Congress that we are going to pass legislation that is going to protect America and make it safer, that is going to protect our critical infrastructures from this daily attack by foreign enemies that we have, unfortunately, across the globe.

□ 1015

How will that work? This bill will codify what is called the NCCIC. The National Cybersecurity Protection Act will create and codify a cyber command structure within DHS, the Department of Homeland Security, that is a civilian interface to the private sector which has been supported by both business groups like the Chamber and privacy groups like the ACLU.

It is amazing how we can bring this coalition together, but that is how strong this bill is: privacy and business coming together, doing what is right.

This will create a safe harbor, Mr. Speaker, where the 16 critical infra-

structures, the 16 sectors, can come together. The Federal Government can take our threat information, our malicious codes that they use to attack us, and share that with the private sector. It also allows the private sector to share the information that they have with the Federal Government in a safe harbor that is protected both businesswise and personally as well.

Eighty to 85 percent of this threat information lies in the private sector. This coalition, if you will, this partnership of information sharing will better protect our critical infrastructures, and most importantly, to have the 16 sectors on the floor at the Department of Homeland Security, at the cyber command, and at the NCCIC all on the floor together sharing information, not just public and private, but amongst the sectors themselves—which is not taking place today—will go a long way to protecting American people and our critical infrastructures.

We have great offensive capability in this country. Our military has great cyber offensive capability to shut things down; in the wrong hands, that makes us very vulnerable. Where our weakness, our vulnerability lies is our ability to defend the Nation against these cyber attacks, and they are getting worse and more malicious by countries and state actors that don't really like us and want to do us harm.

I am proud of the work that we have done. I am proud of the work we have done in a bipartisan way, the work this committee has done, and I am proud of what the Senate has finally achieved to bring this finally to the point where we can pass this bill out of the United States Congress and have it signed into law by the President of the United States.

At the end of the day, it is what we got elected here to do, and that is to do good things to govern and get good things done on behalf of the American people.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the Senate amendment to S. 2519, the National Cybersecurity Protection Act of 2014. This bipartisan measure is a product of extensive bicameral negotiations and, in many ways, the culmination of years of oversight work by this committee.

It not only sends a strong message of support for the Department of Homeland Security as the lead civilian agency for cybersecurity, but also pays special attention to the challenge of bolstering network security for critical infrastructure.

Over the past decade, Americans have come to understand the need for cybersecurity to be woven into everything that a company, government, or

an individual does, from running the most intricate machinery to everyday participation in social media.

Americans used to depend on the two oceans to protect us from invasion. Interconnectedness resulting from advancement in technology has fostered great economic, scientific, social, and cultural rewards. At the same time, their interconnectedness allows our enemies to do harm without ever stepping foot on U.S. soil.

One of the strengths of S. 2519 is that it emphasizes voluntary information sharing and collaboration between the Department and critical infrastructure owners and operators to address this national threat. Importantly, it does so in a manner that is consistent with our constitutional values and principles.

Much like the House-passed version of this measure, H.R. 3696, that was heralded by the ACLU as “pro-security and pro-privacy,” the measure under consideration today effectively avoids the privacy and civil liberties pitfalls that have plagued other cyber information-sharing legislation.

S. 2519 leverages existing private-public partnerships such as information sharing and analysis centers and sector coordinating councils to foster better information sharing and does so without dangling the controversial liability protection “carrot” before companies. The opportunity to access timely threat information from a Federal civilian agency should be carrot enough to motivate companies to engage with DHS.

The legislation before us today represents an important moment for the committee and the 113th Congress. At the beginning of this Congress, expectations were high for some legislative action in the area of cybersecurity. It has taken some time to get here, but what we have before us is something solid that sets forth what DHS must do as a lead civilian agency for cybersecurity.

We have seen cybersecurity legislation fail to become law multiple times. While President Obama’s executive order is making progress in attempts to shore up some cyber weaknesses in our Nation’s fabric, more work needs to be done.

With this cybersecurity legislation, we will be doing our part as DHS authorizers to raise the level of cybersecurity, particularly within the Federal Government and protecting our Nation’s critical infrastructure.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. McCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the distinguished gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MEEHAN).

Let me also, on a point of privilege, say what an honor it has been to serve with you, sir. We are going to miss you on this committee.

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, let me thank the gentleman again for his

leadership not just on this particular issue, but his leadership of the committee and, as I had said before, working with my colleagues on the other side in a bipartisan fashion for these important issues.

I will be brief on this, but I can tell you that it is not the brevity of my words that will instill the seriousness of this issue. When the chairman mentioned that this is some of the most important legislation we have ever done on cybersecurity, I echo that sentiment because the nature of the threat is real, growing, and constantly changing.

The ability for us to be able to be adaptive in real time to communicate with the private sector and the government facilities to protect our homeland is critical.

A second point—and that is significant as well—is very real attention was paid to the issue of privacy, recognizing the individual desire to be assured that private information is not inappropriately utilized or misapplied by anybody, let alone the government.

This bill was the product of work that was done in detail with over 300 different meetings working through the complexities of this particular issue. As has already been articulated, it is one of the few bills that I would imagine in this Congress—or any Congress—that has strong endorsement from the Chamber of Commerce and the ACLU simultaneously.

Lastly, by organizing by sector, this creates the framework. This is the important foundation. There is still so much more to be done, but this is the foundation of the house, of the structure that will allow us to create and continue to create the kind of edifice that will enable our private sector, our government sector, and indeed all of those who are engaged in this issue in the country to be better positioned to protect Americans, their information, and their safety.

I strongly endorse this, and I thank the gentleman for his leadership.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. CLARKE), the ranking member of the Subcommittee on Cybersecurity, Infrastructure Protection, and Security Technologies.

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, again, I thank the ranking member for yielding me the time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 2519, the National Cybersecurity Protection Act of 2014. We have worked long and hard to develop and describe how DHS can best accomplish its complex cybersecurity mission. I am pleased that our bipartisan and bicameral negotiations have been fruitful and look forward to the progress that the Department can make next year.

In closing, I would like to express what an honor it has been to serve

under the leadership of Ranking Member THOMPSON, Chairman McCAUL, and alongside Chairman MEEHAN in service to the homeland security mission of our Nation.

I look forward to our continued collaboration as I move to my new assignment on the Energy and Commerce Committee in the 114th Congress.

Mr. McCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this legislation and thank my principal partner in the House, Chairman McCAUL, for his unwavering commitment to this issue and willingness to work across the aisle to get it done.

I also want to recognize the contributions of the chairman and ranking member of the Cybersecurity Subcommittee, Representatives MEEHAN and CLARKE, and our Senate partners.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge staff that helped us get this to this point, Rosaline Cohen and Chris Schepis on my staff and Brett DeWitt and Alex Manning on the majority staff.

Again, let me compliment the chair for not giving up and for staying the course. Even doing it on the last day gets it done.

Mr. Speaker, I urge a “yea” vote, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. McCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I too want to recognize all the Members involved, the Senate, and staff. To my ranking member, BENNIE THOMPSON, I guess, as Churchill said:

Never, ever give up.

Here we are on the last day of this Congress getting this done. What a gratifying experience it is. What a great moment it is not just for this Congress but, more importantly, for the American people and what it represents.

Seventy-three years ago this week, this Nation was attacked at Pearl Harbor. There are a lot of people that make analogies to what would be a cyber Pearl Harbor if we are caught unprepared. I believe this bill will go a long way to defending the Nation from what would be called a cyber Pearl Harbor event.

My father served as a B-17 bombardier in the European theater. He flew over 32 missions, including the air campaign in advance of the D-day invasion and the Battle of the Bulge. They dropped kinetic bombs.

In the cyber world that we live in, we have to worry about digital bombs and how we can stop that from hurting the United States, from impacting the United States, from bringing the United States to its knees. I believe this is the first step of many, and I look forward to working on more legislation next Congress, but this is the historic first step that we have taken

in this Congress to move forward on this very important issue and get it done to protect the American people.

With that, let me again thank everyone for their efforts. This has been a great day for America.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

□ 1030

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. McCAUL) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 2519.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF THE SENATE AMENDMENT TO H.R. 83, INSULAR AREAS AND FREELY ASSOCIATED STATES ENERGY DEVELOPMENT; WAIVING REQUIREMENT OF CLAUSE 6(A) OF RULE XIII WITH RESPECT TO CONSIDERATION OF CERTAIN RESOLUTIONS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 776 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 776

*Resolved*, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 83) to require the Secretary of the Interior to assemble a team of technical, policy, and financial experts to address the energy needs of the insular areas of the United States and the Freely Associated States through the development of energy action plans aimed at promoting access to affordable, reliable energy, including increasing use of indigenous clean-energy resources, and for other purposes, with the Senate amendment thereto, and to consider in the House, without intervention of any point of order, a motion offered by the chair of the Committee on Appropriations or his designee that the House concur in the Senate amendment with an amendment consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 113-59 modified by the amendment printed in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution. The Senate amendment and the motion shall be considered as read. The motion shall be debatable for 80 minutes, with 60 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations and 20 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and the Workforce. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the motion to its adoption without intervening motion.

SEC. 2. Upon adoption of the motion specified in the first section of this resolution, House Concurrent Resolution 122 shall be considered as adopted.

SEC. 3. The chair of the Committee on Appropriations may insert in the Congressional

Record at any time during the remainder of the second session of the 113th Congress such material as he may deem explanatory of the Senate amendment and the motion specified in the first section of this resolution.

SEC. 4. The requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII for a two-thirds vote to consider a report from the Committee on Rules on the same day it is presented to the House is waived with respect to any resolution reported through the legislative day of December 12, 2014.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Oklahoma is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to my good friend, the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. SLAUGHTER), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Oklahoma?

There was no objection.

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, yesterday the Rules Committee met and reported a rule for consideration for the fiscal year 2015 omnibus appropriations bill. The resolution makes in order a motion offered by the chair of the Committee on Appropriations that the House concur in the Senate amendment of H.R. 83 with an amendment consisting of the text of the FY 2015 omnibus appropriations bill.

The rule provides 80 minutes of debate, 60 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking member of the Committee on Appropriations, and 20 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking member of the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

In addition, the rule provides the chair of the Committee on Appropriations the authority to insert any explanatory information.

Finally, the rule provides same-day authority through December 12, as is customary at the end of session.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to present to this House the culmination of the Appropriations Committee's work for the fiscal year 2015. In this legislation, 11 of the 13 appropriations bills are fully conferenced and fully funded through the end of the fiscal year. However, the Homeland Security bill is funded under a temporary continuing resolution until February 27, 2015.

Mr. Speaker, I carried the initial rule for consideration of the first two appropriations bills considered in the House back on April 30, 2014, and I believe the record of the House and the House Appropriations Committee has been good. We considered 7 out of 12 ap-

propriations bills on the floor under an open process, considered 11 of 12 appropriations bills in committee. Contrast that to the Senate, which was unable to consider even a single appropriations bill on the floor.

So I am proud, Mr. Speaker, of the work we have been able to accomplish. The omnibus legislation abides by all the terms set in the Ryan-Murray budget agreement, providing a top line funding level of \$1.013 trillion.

But at the same time, this legislation contains important policy provisions that prevent the government from reaching into the lives of ordinary American citizens, provisions like those which prevent the Army Corps of Engineers from regulating farm ponds and irrigation ditches, or provisions like those preventing the Federal Government from regulating the lead content in ammunition or fishing tackle.

This bill maintains historic pro-life provisions and includes new ones, like requiring ObamaCare plans to disclose whether they provide abortion services, and countless others.

At the same time, this omnibus enacts important commonsense priorities on the direction of this government. It cuts funding for the IRS by over \$345 million. Indeed, the IRS has been cut by more than \$1.2 billion since 2010. It prohibits the IRS from targeting groups for scrutiny based on their political beliefs. It cuts EPA funding for the fifth consecutive year, bringing staffing to the lowest level since 1989. It implements a government-wide prohibition on the painting of portraits. It makes commonsense decisions, like prohibiting funding for inappropriate videos or conferences that shouldn't be funded by taxpayers in times of surplus, much less in times of deficit.

But this legislation doesn't just cut funding from programs. It takes those cuts and reallocates them to programs that are truly in need. For example, it provides \$30 billion for the National Institutes of Health, an increase over funding from FY14, enhancing funding for Alzheimer's, cancer, and brain research.

It funds the Gabriella Miller Kids First Research Act, a bill I authored with GREGG HARPER and Eric Cantor, at \$12.6 million, shifting those dollars from funding political conventions to research into pediatric diseases.

It increases the health care and educational funding to some of our poorest and most needy constituents—Native Americans—and it provides funding to deal with crises like those associated with the outbreak of Ebola or the militant activity of ISIL, the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant.

I could go on and on with all the good things included in this bill; however, I am sure others will speak to those items.

I believe it is important to take stock in where we have come over the



last 4 years. We have taken an annual budget deficit of \$1.4 trillion and lowered it to \$468 billion, still too high, but one of the most rapid, if not the most rapid, declines of the deficit in American history. We prevented additional burdens and regulations from being foisted upon the American people.

Our work is certainly not done, however. One must always remember appropriations and appropriating is a process. The bureaucratic welfare state built by decades of Democratic control cannot be dismantled in a single blow; however, it can be reduced piece by piece, and this legislation does just that.

Some of my friends will raise objections to the process, where we are left with a frustrating choice between the passage of a large omnibus bill to fund all government or a government shutdown. To my friends, I say that I agree with you, as do my fellow members of the Appropriations Committee.

There are some things in this bill I disagree with and some, certainly, that I agree with; but I do believe that, under regular order, those with different points of views should be able to make their case to the entire House.

The House has led by example in this regard. We considered seven different appropriations bills on this floor in an open amendment process, all of which were passed by bipartisan majorities. The House would have considered even more appropriations bills had the Senate been willing to consider even a single appropriations bill on the floor. In fact, the last time the Senate passed an individual appropriations bill was November 1, 2011, more than 3 years ago.

Madam Speaker, this isn't the way to govern. I hope that in the next Congress the House will have a partner in the Senate, which is willing to consider individual appropriations bills in an open process so that we do not have to consider large omnibus packages without the opportunity for amendment. I believe we will, and I believe we will end up with a better product because of it.

I am encouraged by the work of my friend, Chairman ROGERS, and Ranking Member NITA LOWEY, and I look forward to working with them and a new Senate next year to build upon the work we have done this year.

Madam Speaker, I urge support for the rule and the underlying legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, I want to take just a moment to say I know this will be the last time you will be presiding over the House, and I want to thank you for your friendship over all these years. Working together with you has been a pleasure.

I want to thank my friend from Oklahoma for yielding me the customary time, and I yield myself such time as I may consume. Let me say about him,

he is someone I admire very greatly. But I don't admire this bill.

I have to rise to debate the rule for the final bill of the 113th Congress, which is the most closed Congress in history. The House majority has, over and over again, stifled debate, limited the ability of Members of this body to participate in the legislative process, and undermined the institution.

We have had 83 closed rules this term, the most in history, and this bill follows suit and has been, again, brought to us under a closed rule, which means that no Member will be able to offer an amendment; and the \$1.1 trillion spending bill to keep the Federal Government funded will be rushed through the legislative process because the deadline to keep the government open is 11:59 this evening.

By the same circumstance, I was doing a rule the night of the last time the government shut down, still on the floor at midnight and made the announcement that the great Government of the United States of America was closed.

We don't, obviously, none of us, want to see that again, but we do see dysfunction mirrored in the Rules Committee, because all of our meetings are now only declared emergency. That means it has not gone to any committee, has no public input, no hearing, no markups, and no time to fully consider the legislation.

The bill has been brought to us under an onerous, blatantly political process, and its contents are troubling as well. It seems to me that with every passing hour, a new alarming provision comes to light. Perhaps if the House majority had spent less time voting to undermine the health care law, taking health care away from people, or investigating a nonexistent scandal in Benghazi, we might have been able to do a budget.

While this may have averted another dangerous government shutdown, what we are doing now, this bill, is another example of the preferred method of governance—manufactured crises. We are pushed and pulled from the brink for their political games, and America suffers.

At 1,603 pages, this spending bill is a behemoth. It was submitted in the dark of night at the last minute in hopes that we wouldn't find out what is in it and serves as further proof that the majority has reneged on their pledge of transparency.

□ 1045

Speaker BOEHNER, himself, said in December of 2010, as reported by the New York Times:

I do not believe that having 2,000-page bills on the House floor serves anyone's best interest—not the House, not the Members, and certainly not the American people.

He was referring, of course, to the fact that we would have 72 hours to examine such legislation.

Madam Speaker, I submit for the RECORD the New York Times' article from December 17, 2010, entitled: "Republicans Prepare for Looming Budget Battle"—even then.

[From the New York Times, Dec. 17, 2010]

REPUBLICANS PREPARE FOR LOOMING BUDGET BATTLE

(By Carl Hulse)

WASHINGTON.—The collapse of a government-wide spending package in the final days of this Congressional session sets up a politically charged fiscal showdown early next year, testing the determination of Republicans about to take over the House with promises to slash an array of domestic programs.

As Congress struggled to assemble a stopgap measure to finance the government at least into the first months of 2011, House and Senate Republicans on Friday hailed their ability to derail a \$1.2 trillion spending measure put forward by Senate Democrats, and promised to use their new Congressional muscle to respond to public demands to shrink government.

"Beginning in January, the House is going to become the outpost in Washington for the American people and their desire for a smaller, less costly and more accountable government," said Representative John A. Boehner of Ohio, the incoming House speaker.

"I will tell you," he added, "we are going to cut spending."

With the lame-duck session entering its final days, there was an air of partisan chaos on Capitol Hill as both parties scored important legislative victories and events changed on an almost hour-to-hour basis as the end of Democratic control of the House approached.

Both President Obama and Congressional Republicans claimed credit for the package of tax cuts and unemployment pay the president signed into law Friday. Democrats also appeared poised to repeal the ban on gay and lesbian troops serving openly in the military, a long-sought goal of the party and its progressive constituency.

The House advanced a major Pentagon policy measure that had previously been tied up in the fight over the military's "don't ask, don't tell" policy. At the same time, a major immigration measure championed by Democrats and the White House seemed headed toward defeat as early as Saturday.

Republicans celebrated their blockade of the spending package, which Senator Harry Reid of Nevada, the majority leader, had to abandon after Republicans denied him the handful of votes from their side of the aisle that he was counting on to break a filibuster.

Republicans said their determination to kill the omnibus spending package even when top party lawmakers had inserted pet spending projects demonstrated that they were heeding the fervor of voters who were fed up with giant spending measures slipping through Congress in the final hours.

"The defeat of the omnibus should reassure every American that their voice is making a difference in Washington," said Senator Tom Coburn, an Oklahoma Republican and an outspoken foe of increased federal spending.

But the collapse of the Senate measure, which like its House counterpart would have financed government agencies through the end of the fiscal year on Sept. 30, means Republicans could begin the new Congress with an immediate need to resolve the spending stalemate.

With the Senate making slow progress toward a stopgap measure, the House on Friday approved a plan to keep the government



open through Tuesday and the Senate later followed suit to prevent a government shutdown after Saturday.

Aides said that behind closed doors, White House officials and some Democratic lawmakers were still trying to strike a deal to finance the government through September. But the officials said it was much more likely that government financing would be extended only into February or March.

Republicans say that timeline will allow them to quickly put their stamp on the budget for the current fiscal year, and Mr. Boehner and his leadership team have vowed to eliminate about \$100 billion in spending out of about \$400 billion in domestic programs.

Both sides say reaching that goal will mean very difficult choices and Democrats, promising to resist Republican efforts, say Republicans may find it easier to talk about cutting than actually doing it.

"They have been really good about talking about the need to cut this and cut that, but they are never specific," said Representative James P. McGovern, Democrat of Massachusetts. "I think it is going to be tough."

The 2011 spending fight could be complicated by the need to raise the federal debt limit to avoid a federal default—a vote that many new Republican lawmakers have indicated they would not make.

Republicans say the debt limit vote could also present an opportunity, allowing them to tie a package of spending reductions to the debt increase to make it more palatable.

Another complicating factor is that since Democrats retain control of the Senate, House Republicans must reconcile their spending proposals with those crafted by the Senate Appropriations Committee under the leadership of Senator Daniel K. Inouye, Democrat of Hawaii. Senator Inouye is unlikely to agree easily to Republican spending cuts, creating a climate for gridlock as the two parties face off.

On Friday, Mr. Inouye chastised Congress for jettisoning the spending package crafted by his committee, saying that simply extending current funding levels left the government on autopilot and could lead to disruptions. He said it also left too much discretion for determining spending priorities to the executive branch.

"And in two months we will find ourselves having to pass another 2,000-page bill that will cost more than \$1 trillion or once again abdicate our authority to the Obama administration to determine how our taxpayer funds should be spent," he said.

Mr. Boehner has made changing the culture of the Appropriations Committee a top interest of the new Republican majority, pressing new leaders of the panel to turn it into a center for budget cutting and stocking it with a few anti-spending advocates.

On Friday, he indicated that he would prefer that Republicans next year break up the enormous spending package that died in the Senate and pass a dozen spending bills individually to allow for better scrutiny—a process that could consume considerable time and subject the measures to multiple attacks on the floor.

"I do not believe that having 2,000-page bills on the House floor serves anyone's best interests, not the House, not for the members and certainly not for the American people," Mr. Boehner said.

Aides to Mr. Boehner later said the speaker-designate was referring to his desire to have an orderly appropriations process later in 2011 and was not referring to the spending package Republicans would have to quickly

assemble in the opening weeks of the new Congress.

Lawmakers on both sides were running out of energy and patience as the session dragged on with no certain conclusion in sight. Even House Democrats who would be turning over control to Republicans seemed ready to call it quits.

"A lot of us just want to go home," said Representative John B. Larson of Connecticut, chairman of the House Democratic Caucus.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, this bill can cause grievous harm to the Department of Homeland Security by funding it until only February of next year, and it really does endanger the Nation's safety and security because they are the people who provide border security and the TSA. I have said this in the past—but it bears repeating—that funding the government in tranches weakens, destabilizes, and undermines our Nation.

The majority's insistence on punishing the President for his executive order on immigration by toying with the funding for the Department of Homeland Security, of all things, is troubling. This maneuver will hinder how we train new officers, how we guard the border, and it will endanger the Nation's airports; but the most egregious provisions of this bill strike at the very soul of our democracy.

A last-minute, nongermane addition would fundamentally change our Republic. It gives away almost all power of the people to choose their leaders and to participate in their government by cementing the status of power donors. This provision changes campaign finance law to allow megadonors to give 10 times the amount currently allowed to political parties for housekeeping, and those of us in the political field know what it means to have the housekeeping accounts: that means it can go for absolutely anything. This change flies in the face of McCain-Feingold, and it completes the mission of the Supreme Court with their decision on Citizens United.

This tenet has been central to our democracy in that each person has equal power to influence their government by their voice and their vote. Not only has this Congress refused to reenact the Voting Rights Act, but this added provision will hasten the toxic influence of money and will further corrupt and unbalance our democracy.

Furthermore, the underlying bill includes a provision added only 2 days ago that would put our economy in danger and would roll back the gains made since the Great Recession. This most egregious provision would change the Dodd-Frank bill to give undue power back to the banks. The provision puts the taxpayers on the hook for risky behaviors by Wall Street banks, meaning, once again, that taxpayers will have to bail out the banks if they fail. It was a basic tenet of Dodd-Frank's that we would never do that again, and that will now be undone.

It has been only 5 years since the start of the Great Recession, and the economy has made great strides in adding 10.9 million private sector jobs in the last 57 months, but passing this bill would risk erasing those strides by steering us on a dangerous path toward another recession.

The former chair of the House Financial Services Committee, Barney Frank, released a statement this week, calling this inserted provision: "a substantive mistake, a terrible violation of the procedure that should be followed on this complex and important subject, and a frightening precedent that provides a roadmap for further attacks on our protection against financial instability."

He continues: "Ironically, it was a similar unrelated rider put without debate into a larger bill that played a major role in allowing irresponsible, unregulated derivative transactions to contribute to the crisis."

He is referring to the crisis of 2008.

He is warning us. He is imploring us: Don't make the same mistake twice. Our national economy cannot take this risk.

Madam Speaker, I would like to insert this article from The Wall Street Journal from December 10, 2014, entitled: "Barney Frank Criticizes Planned Rollback of Namesake Financial Law," into the RECORD.

[From the Wall Street Journal, Dec. 10, 2014]

BARNEY FRANK CRITICIZES PLANNED ROLLBACK OF NAMESAKE FINANCIAL LAW

(By Andrew Ackerman)

WASHINGTON.—Retired House Democrat Barney Frank urged his former colleagues to vote against a nearly \$1.1 trillion spending plan, saying it constitutes an attack on a Wall Street regulatory overhaul he co-authored in response to the financial crisis.

At issue is a provision included in the plan that would rollback a controversial part of the 2010 Dodd-Frank law requiring banks to "push out" some of their riskiest derivatives-trading activities into affiliates that aren't eligible for federal backstop programs. Mr. Frank is one of two namesakes of the law along with former Sen. Christopher Dodd (D., Conn.), who is also retired from Congress.

"The provision inserted into the appropriations bill is a substantive mistake, a terrible violation of the procedure that should be followed on this complex and important subject, and a frightening precedent that provides a road map for further attacks on our protection against financial instability," the Massachusetts Democrat said in a statement Wednesday.

The comments came hours after House and Senate lawmakers unveiled the plan, which would keep the federal government funded through September. The rollback of the Dodd-Frank provision was included as part of an agreement to provide modest funding increases to the two agencies primarily responsible for implementing and policing Dodd-Frank—the Securities and Exchange Commission and the Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

Sen. Sherrod Brown (D., Ohio) and other congressional Democrats also warned against the move, saying it would "open the

door to future bailouts funded by American taxpayers."

"This provision, originally written by lobbyists, has no place in a must-pass spending bill," he said in a statement.

Critics of the "push out" provision, including Federal Reserve officials as well as some Democrat and Republican lawmakers, say it doesn't strengthen the financial system and only moves potentially destabilizing activities to a different bank subsidiary. The provision could also increase costs for bank customers that use the derivatives.

Derivatives, which played a central role in the crisis, are used by firms to hedge or speculate on everything from moves in interest rates to the cost of fuel.

Mr. Frank said reasonable people can disagree on how to regulate derivatives. But he criticized the plan to change regulations through "a non-germane amendment inserted with no hearings, no chance for further modification and no chance for debate into a mammoth bill in the last days of a lame-duck Congress."

"Ironically it was a similar unrelated rider put without debate into a larger bill that played a major role in allowing irresponsible, unregulated derivative transactions to contribute to the crisis," Mr. Frank said, referring to 2000 Commodity Futures Modernization Act that essentially barred the regulation of derivatives and was signed into law as part of a larger appropriations bill.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, for these reasons and several others, Democrats should not support this bill, and I urge my colleagues to vote "no" against the rule.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from the State of Washington (Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER), my friend and distinguished colleague, for the purpose of a colloquy with the majority leader.

Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER. Madam Speaker, for over 100 years, the Federal Government has made a promise to our rural schools and counties to actively manage our forests. However, due to Federal regulations and litigation, forest management has been dramatically reduced, and our communities have suffered—thousands of people have lost jobs; counties lack the resources to pay for basic services whether it is school or fire or police; and our forest has become increasingly susceptible to forest fires, disease, and devastation. This situation is a crisis, and we in Congress must address it.

Mr. STEWART. Will the gentlewoman yield?

Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER. I yield to the gentleman from Utah.

Mr. STEWART. Madam Speaker, as my colleague from Washington has so ably noted, in areas where large tracts of land are part of the National Forest System, local school districts have relied in the past on timber harvesting receipts, shared with local governments, as an important source of revenue to support their school systems. This is a problem that was created by activists here in Washington, D.C.

When Federal policies dramatically reduced logging receipts from our na-

tional forests, those schools were hit very hard. That is why we created the Secure Rural Schools program. This is real. It affects real people. It affects real families. It has affected many people in my own State.

So I would like to ask my colleague: Are your local schools feeling the effects of a situation like mine?

Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER. Oh, yes. I have heard from many of my local districts already, and layoff notices are being prepared because of the uncertainty and the status of the funding of Secure Rural Schools. Congress must make getting this legislation through both Houses and signed into law by the President a priority in the next year.

I would, actually, like to ask the gentleman from California (Mr. MCCARTHY), the majority leader, if he can give me any assurances that extending the Secure Rural Schools program will be one of his priorities early in the next Congress.

I yield to the leader.

Mr. MCCARTHY of California. I thank my colleagues for yielding, and I share their concern on this important matter. I want to ensure my colleagues that enacting an extension of the Secure Rural Schools program is going to be an early priority for next year.

Madam Speaker, as the gentlewoman knows, in September of last year, the House passed H.R. 1526, the Restoring Healthy Forests for Healthy Communities Act, which would have allowed us to better manage our Federal forests for the benefit of our rural schools and counties. Unfortunately, the Senate was unable to act on this bill or to find a way forward on this important issue.

I believe, in the next Congress, we should find a path forward to get this important matter across the finish line, and I will work with our colleagues and with incoming Chairman BISHOP to make sure that this happens. We need to get this done, and we need to get it done early next year.

Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER. I thank the leader for his comments and assurances.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN), a valued member of the Committee on Rules.

Mr. MCGOVERN. I thank the gentlewoman.

Madam Speaker, I oppose this closed rule, and I oppose the underlying bill, which is the product of a closed and deeply flawed process.

It contains policy riders that will do great damage to this country and that have no business whatsoever being in an omnibus spending bill. It contains an airdropped earmark for politicians that would allow wealthy couples to give as much as \$3.1 million to political parties—three times as much as the current level. No hearings, no markup, no discussion—just snuck into the bill

with the hope that no one would notice. We ought to be finding ways, Madam Speaker, to get money out of politics, not the reverse.

The bill would repeal, at the request of Wall Street special interests and lobbyists, important Dodd-Frank provisions. It would allow banks to engage in the same risky behavior that caused the financial crisis of 2008.

What in the world are my Republican colleagues thinking? I know they want to do a lot of favors for their pals on Wall Street, but, please, please, do not do it at the expense of our economy.

The bill contains a provision that the trucking industry wants to allow truck drivers to work up to 80 hours a week when we know that over-tired truck drivers put all of us at risk on the roads. Unbelievable.

Finally, the bill funds new wars that Congress has not authorized. We are dropping bombs every day in Iraq and Syria. We have 3,000 troops deployed in Iraq, and we hear more and more talk about having those troops engage in direct combat.

Yet, this Republican leadership has been content to do nothing. In fact, the majority has repeatedly and routinely denied Members the right to debate the issue of war on the floor of the House of Representatives. None of us will be asked to fight another pointless war, Madam Speaker—they are not our lives on the line—but we have a constitutional responsibility to debate and vote on whether to authorize it. But no. Instead, we are leaving town. Instead, we are ducking a vote. We are not doing our jobs. It is shameful and it is inexcusable, and it is a lousy way to end this session.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I just want to make a couple of points in response to my friend.

First of all, there is much of what my friend has to say that I agree with. This is not the preferred process of the Appropriations Committee on either side of the aisle in this Chamber. Indeed, we tried to bring—and did bring—bill after bill after bill to this floor to avoid this very end.

The responsibility here lies with the leadership of the United States Senate, which did not bring a single appropriations bill to the floor. When they won't pick up and pass a bill, we can't go to conference, and we are left to fund the government in the very final days.

Now, I don't think my friend meant to suggest this, but the idea that only Republicans were involved in drafting this is just simply not the case. This bill has to go through a Democratic Senate and go to a Democratic President. It cannot pass the Senate without Democratic support or even be taken up. It cannot go into law without the President's signing it into law.

The reality is that the Democratic Senate and the administration have

been involved in these negotiations at every level, over and over. Indeed, my friends have been involved in this as well in their capacity as ranking members on the Appropriations Committee or in the leadership capacity. This bill, of which I do not particularly like the process, is, indeed, bicameral and bipartisan in its substance.

Again, I think my friend makes an excellent point in that this isn't the way to run the railroad, and we ought to work together; but I also will remind my friends that the last time they were in the majority they brought exactly two appropriations bills to the floor under closed rules. They never brought an appropriations bill here in their final year under an open process. We have done that seven times. We would have done it all 12 times, but we finally determined the United States Senate, under Democratic control, was never going to bring up an appropriations bill, at which point: Why waste the floor time, and why ask your Members to do the hard work and cast the votes?

That is something that shouldn't happen again. I pledge to work with my friend, who I know does not want to see that happen again, to make sure that we fulfill our part of the process on this side of the House; and I think the new Senate will very likely do the same thing. I am hoping our colleague who is leaving this Chamber and heading there will help us in that. She has been a wise and able Member here, and I am sure she will be equally distinguished in the United States Senate.

We look forward to improving the process—my friend is right about that—but the absence of passing this bill will shut down the government. I don't think that is something that either they or our friends in the Senate or in the administration want to do.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. CAPITO). Without objection, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. McGOVERN) will control the time.

There was no objection.

Mr. McGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Just to respond to my colleague, I should remind my colleagues here that there were five appropriations bills that never saw the light of day here on the House floor. Of the ones that we did deal with, none of them included the rollback of Dodd-Frank provisions or the rollback of campaign finance reform. We can blame the United States Senate all we want, but they have nothing to do with whether or not we bring up a resolution to authorize another war in Iraq or not.

Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS), the distinguished ranking member of the Financial Services Committee.

Ms. WATERS. Madam Chair, I have come to the floor today to stop Republican efforts to give Wall Street banks a multibillion dollar gift this Christmas.

Under the cover of must-pass legislation, big bank lobbyists are hoping that Congress will allow Wall Street to once again gamble with taxpayer money by reversing a provision that prohibits banks from using taxpayer-insured funds—bank deposits—to engage in risky derivatives trading activity.

In fact, The New York Times reported that Citigroup, a bank that stands to directly benefit to the tune of billions of dollars, authored this provision. Big banks want to use their cheap funds provided by the taxpayer backstop to undercut their competition in a "heads I win, tails the taxpayer loses" scenario.

□ 1100

We know why Republicans want it. The spending bill also quietly allows individuals such as the big banks to contribute millions more to their own reelections. This provision must be stopped. Enough is enough.

This puts taxpayers at risk. This puts consumers at risk. This provision directly weakens a provision intended to prevent future bailouts of Wall Street. The Obama administration said this provision could be disruptive and harmful. Former FDIC Chairman Sheila Bair said the provision takes reform in the wrong direction.

It is also strongly opposed by consumer, labor, and civil rights groups, and former chairman Barney Frank, who puts the Frank in Dodd-Frank, called it a frightening precedent. So I agree, and I am urging a "no" vote.

I just heard the gentleman say this is bipartisan and this is bicameral. It is neither. As a matter of fact, Democrats are not going to join in putting this bill out.

We understand that our constituents, our workers, our people out there, our consumers know that we bailed out the big banks, and they know that we would be putting them at risk one more time to bail them out if we allowed them to do this risky derivatives trading.

Dodd-Frank said you need to push out your trading activities and put them in affiliates or subsidiaries. Don't try and use the people's backstop, FDIC protection, to do this risky trading with.

If you think the American public is going to stand for a bailout of the biggest banks in America one more time, you are wrong. This bill is going nowhere because we have enough people, I believe, that are going to stand up and fight on this issue and other issues in the bill.

As the ranking member of the Financial Services Committee, I am just fo-

cusing on this one bad part of the bill because it is so outrageous.

I ask for a "no" vote on the rule, I ask for a "no" vote on the bill.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I am going to disagree with my friend from California. This bill is bipartisan and bicameral. It was negotiated with the Democratic Senate, and both sides approved it before it was ever submitted to the Rules Committee for consideration.

It has been alleged that the swaps push-out language contained in the omni was snuck into the bill, that it allows for risky trading and puts taxpayer funds at risk. None of this, in my view, is true. The language included in this omnibus is identical to H.R. 992, which passed the House with broad bipartisan support by a vote of 292-122.

The language was added to the Financial Services appropriations bill as a full committee amendment. After a public debate on the language, it was adopted by voice vote. When the Financial Services appropriations bill was considered by the full House for 3 days under an open rule, where 51 amendments were considered, there were no amendments offered on the swaps push-out language.

The omni provides a commonsense fix for section 716 of the Dodd-Frank. Risky swaps like those that brought down AIG are still required to be pushed out. The omni allows low-risk trades to continue to be conducted by depository institutions, which are regulated by banking supervisors. Without this fix, farmers and manufacturers will experience increased costs and regulatory burdens without making our financial system any more stable.

Former Fed Chairmen Ben Bernanke and Paul Volcker and former FDIC Chair Sheila Bair have all expressed a need to fix section 716 of Dodd-Frank. CBO has scored this language as having no impact on the taxpayers. So we obviously see this differently than our friends on the other side.

With that, Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. SLAUGHTER) will control the time.

There was no objection.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. THOMPSON), the distinguished ranking member of the Committee on Homeland Security.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I appreciate the time yielded by the gentlelady from New York.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my strong opposition to H.R. 83, the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act of 2015.

Just over a year ago I stood here urging the Republican majority to allow

us to vote on the legislation to reopen the government during a 16-day shutdown. At that time the majority's gimmick was called a minibus, essentially cherry-picked programs within Federal agencies to be funded one by one.

Today I am troubled to have to rise yet again to oppose another gimmicky bill that provides piecemeal funding and undermines national security. Once again, the Republican House leadership has laid before us a package that, by design, seems to promote partisan division and appeal to a faction of its party that is blindly determined to punish the Department of Homeland Security for its grievances against the President.

When we returned from Thanksgiving last week, House appropriators were hopeful that we could consider and pass a full omnibus bill. Unfortunately, today we are forced to vote on legislation that provides full-year funding for all Federal agencies except the Department of Homeland Security. In previous Congresses, such an approach would be considered absurd.

It is important that we appreciate the consequences of a short-term continuing resolution for DHS. Contracting for the final national security cutter will be delayed, potentially driving up the cost. Border security technology upgrades along the Rio Grande Valley will not happen as scheduled. This approach not only punishes Secretary Johnson and DHS headquarters, it undermines homeland security.

Madam Speaker, clearly the insertion of the financing for political parties undermines McCain-Feingold, and for that and other reasons I oppose the rule and the underlying bill.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I just want to make this point again. I agree with some of the points my good friend from Mississippi makes, but this could be avoided if the United States Senate had simply picked up appropriations bills and passed them.

This could have been long done. We could have come to an agreement many months ago. We tried on seven different occasions and did bring bills across this floor. They were under open amendment, something my friends did not do their last year in the majority, and we had multiple opportunities.

But at some point when the other body isn't moving and tells you it is not going to take up an appropriations bill, you just quit hitting your head against the wall and say, "Well, I guess we are going to have to deal with this with a big omnibus at the end of the year."

If my friends wanted a different process—and I am sure they did—they should have been talking to their colleagues in the United States Senate. That is why we are here, not because we wouldn't bring bills across but because the Senate wouldn't.

At some point, if one-half of the Congress won't work, the other half can't get its work done. That is just the process and the way it works. We are hoping the new Senate under new management will do something.

We all know in this Chamber the only reason why they did that was because they wanted to avoid tough votes. Quite frankly, that is the reason why my friends wouldn't allow an open amendment process the last time they were in the majority. It didn't work well for them in 2010; it didn't work well for their Democratic colleagues this time around in 2014.

I think the lesson both of us ought to draw from this is, let's do regular order. It actually is in the best interests of the country, the best interests of the institution. It is even in the best political interests of the two parties. Just let us go do our work.

But we can't now shut down the government because the Senate refused to do the process any other way but do it here. And, again, with all due respect to my friend's concerns on a variety of issues, some of which I share, quite frankly, there are even some parts of this bill that I like that I don't like to see passed this way. I don't think it is appropriate to be passed this way.

At the end of the day you have got to keep the government functioning. This is the last vehicle to do that.

To suggest, again, it wasn't bicameral or bipartisan—it has been. As my friends know, this has been negotiated at the top levels of leadership and on the Appropriations Committee between Democrats and Republicans in the House and the Senate.

There are some flaws in this process. There are certainly some things I don't like in this bill, but I recognize it is a gigantic compromise and one designed to allow government to continue to function, and it hasn't been the House of Representatives, either Democrat or Republican, that has gotten us to this point. This is the Democratic leadership in the Senate that has gotten us to this point.

But at the end of the day, everybody here will have a vote, both on the rule and on the bill, and the same thing will be true in the United States Senate. The President has a signature at his end of Pennsylvania Avenue, and if this process doesn't work or my friends want to bring it down, that is up to them. We would prefer not to close the government, to continue to function.

With that, Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentlewoman from Maryland (Ms. EDWARDS).

Ms. EDWARDS. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlelady from New York.

Madam Speaker, I rise in opposition to the rule that is providing for consideration of this so-called omnibus bill. Among the many troublesome elev-

enth-hour additions to the underlying 1,600-page spending bill is a provision that not only allows for another multi-billion dollar bank bailout and for taxpayers to be on the hook for that, but it gives the keys to the bank to the moneyed special interests by allowing up to \$800,000 to be contributed by one person to the Democratic and Republican Party committees.

Now, most Americans think there is already too much money in politics, but, oh, no, not House Republicans. They are just saying open up the spigots to the special interests.

Instead of passing a clean bill that funds the Federal Government and avoids another harmful shutdown, this Congress, these Republicans have chosen to bring the American people a bill that would allow for the negative opinions that they already hold of this Congress to go even further, to say the richer you are, the more access you have, the more influence that you have.

Madam Speaker, this provision has no business in a spending bill, no business in our democracy, and we can't allow the megaphones of moneyed special interests to take hold of our government.

I urge my colleagues to vote against this rule. There are a lot of reasons to oppose it, and I am just naming one. But let's not bail out the banks again, and let's not give them the keys to the bank in our pocket and let the special interests take control of this Congress.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Two quick points. As I think I pointed out earlier in the course of this debate, the language dealing with swaps was actually considered by this House in two separate pieces of language. One of those bills passed this House with a bipartisan majority. The other was the Financial Services bill, where there was no objection, no amendment, and no complaint.

Now we find at the very last minute concern and objections that were never raised earlier in the process when there were multiple opportunities to do that.

With respect to my friend's point about the political contribution issue, that is something I know a little bit about. I used to be chief of staff of the Republican National Committee. I was the executive director of the NRCC, our campaign committee, earlier in my life.

I have watched McCain-Feingold over the years, and I have seen that, frankly, it has been a failed piece of legislation. I agree with my friend's point this is not the way to do it. I would have much preferred to debate in an open process, but the idea there is not big money in politics I think is an idea that is very much out of date. There is lots of big money in politics.

We have diminished the importance of individual candidate campaigns and

the party organizations, while we have enhanced them partly through a Supreme Court ruling. So there is plenty of extra money out there, and it pours into races. To marginalize the political parties, which are actually the most accountable, most transparent, and most responsible participants in the process, is something that we ought to rethink.

Frankly, to put candidates individually at the mercy of megadonors on each side—by the way, my friends are as much at risk of this as my colleagues on this side of the aisle—is something we need to think about. Again, I suspect that is what happened here.

I wouldn't suggest this was a Republican idea. I don't know, frankly, if it was a Republican or Democratic idea. I know Democrats in the Senate consented to it and I suspect participated in it. So let's not have a lot of show that we don't like this or that and somehow this was a Republican measure. In many cases it wasn't, or it was a negotiated compromise.

In this case, again, there will be ample opportunity to deal with this both later when we vote on the final product and eventually when the Senate takes it up. But, again, if the Senate would just do its job, we wouldn't be here in this process. We wouldn't have these opportunities for people to short-circuit the normal legislative procedures that I know my friends agree with, and I certainly agree with.

With that, Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1115

Ms. SLAUGHTER. I am pleased to yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), the Democrat whip.

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding. I thank her for her leadership on the Rules Committee. I thank Mr. COLE for his remarks.

Madam Speaker, I want to rise and support Mr. COLE. This is not the way to do it. It is what he said. The good news is we have time to not do it this way. We have time to return to the Rules Committee, pass out a rule which strikes these two provisions and pass the bill. In my opinion, if that is done, then an overwhelming number of Democrats will vote to support the bill. It will go to the Senate, and I predict without any doubt that the Senate will pass that bill.

It is clear that there is disagreement on both sides of the aisle about this bill, but it is also clear there could be a significant bipartisan majority to do what is a basic responsibility of this Congress to do, and that is fund government.

Now, very frankly, neither side did its job. We did seven-twelfths of our job, and the Senate did zero-twelfths of

their job, and we can point fingers at one another which would not be very useful. What would be useful is if we give to the American people and to our economy the confidence that we can act together in a bipartisan way to pass legislation. I tell my friend, Mr. COLE, for whom I have great respect, Madam Speaker, that we can do that.

The two provisions which he has heard discussed are of great concern to my side of the aisle, there are things of great concern to his side of the aisle, and in the next 2 years, we are going to have to work together to try to accommodate, in hopefully a bipartisan fashion, having the majority in this body do reasonable things.

The gentleman is a member of the Appropriations Committee. I had the honor of serving on the Appropriations Committee for 23 years before I became the leader. The fact is that that committee has a responsibility that must be accomplished, and that is fund government enterprises, fund the dollars that we, through programs that this Congress and previous Congresses have adopted, fund those objectives we think are important for this country.

I would urge my friend, Mr. COLE, who I think is a very responsible Member of this body, to urge his side because we have agreement we think on 99.9 percent of this. These two provisions are very small provisions, but I will tell my friend they put this bill at risk.

I would urge him, therefore, to urge his side to strike these two provisions, and I will tell him in return that I am confident that the overwhelming majority of my side of the aisle will join with I think the overwhelming majority of his side of the aisle and pass this legislation which is so important.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I want to thank my friend for his very generous and kind words and remarks. There is nobody seriously I enjoy listening to more on this floor. I very much appreciate his generous offer which I know he has made to people far above my pay grade on my side of the aisle to work together and find common ground not only here in the closing days of the session, but next year as well.

I appreciate the fact that he is willing to accept over 99 percent of this bill, and I agree with his political assessment. I think we could muster strong bipartisan majorities to pass that.

The issues he raised I suspect are being considered and are a little above my pay grade to comment on, so I am not going to do that, but I do want to tell my friend how much I respect him and how much I appreciate his contribution each and every day to how this House operates. I think we would have been in a much better place here as Democrats and Republicans had the

Senate done a better job of doing its job.

Madam Speaker, I will disagree with my friend a little bit or maybe express a different opinion on saying we did seven-twelfths of our job. My friend has been a distinguished majority leader in this institution, and I think he is a master at the legislative process and knows probably better than most how difficult it is to function on one side of the rotunda of this Capitol Building when they are not functioning on the other.

You do reach a point after you have put seven bills on the floor and the other body has made it obvious that they are not going to put a single appropriations measure on the floor, your own side begins to wonder: Why are we doing this? Why are we going through this process?

Now, we did go ahead and move through full committee 11 of the 12 bills which were again done in a bipartisan fashion with consultation with our friends on the Democratic side. You do reach a point where you say: Why are we wasting the floor time? Why are we exposing our Members?

I am hopeful when our friend in the chair arrives at the other side that we are going to have partners that work with us on both sides of the aisle and engage in that normal process that I know my friend is not only a master at, but a defender and advocate for.

Mr. HOYER. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. COLE. Well, I have very little time and actually less time than my friend has, so I would prefer you to use your own time. If they are not willing to give you any time, then perhaps I will reconsider that.

With that, Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, I yield 20 seconds to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER).

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I was simply going to observe to my friend from Oklahoma that that puts an awfully heavy burden on the presiding officer.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. KILDEE).

Mr. KILDEE. I thank the gentlewoman.

Madam Speaker, I share the concern expressed by my friend, Mr. COLE, that if we don't act today, government will be shut down, so I agree that we need to act. The question that we have to ask ourselves in this body is: At what price do we keep government open?

There is a lot of good in this legislation, no question about it, but for me—and I have supported bipartisan efforts to keep government open in the past, I have only been here 2 years, and I had to do it already—but the notion that a price has to be paid in order to keep

government open—and that price is to grant greater power to the wealthiest Americans to have more influence over our political process—is just too much for me to take.

Of all the problems that we could use this moment to try to solve, are we offering help to the unemployed who lost their benefits as a part of this package? No. Are we dealing with the massive problems we have with infrastructure? No. Are we trying to balance the playing field for people who happen to be born in a ZIP Code full of poverty? No.

But what we are doing as a condition of keeping government open is deciding that the one thing we have to do is to make sure that the wealthiest Americans can now spend 10 times more money on the political process than they did last year. Seriously? This is a problem that we have to solve in order to keep government open?

I just can't imagine that this is the price we have to pay.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I want to thank my friend from Michigan because he is an exceptionally responsible Member in this body and an heir of a proud tradition in his family and somebody I enjoy working with and I think someone that makes a genuine contribution each and every day he has been here.

In terms of the bill itself, there is certainly nothing inappropriate about my friends on the other side of the aisle focusing on things they don't like, but there are some things we ought to think about that we do like. There are billions of dollars in here to fight Ebola, something that we sat down and worked with the administration and our friends on the other side and came to a common agreement.

We have disagreement sometimes and a difference of perspective. I am actually closer to Mr. McGOVERN on this, at least in terms of process, than I am to the administration.

Look, ISIL is a clear and present danger to the United States of America. The President has asked for things in here; we have put the things he asked for in here and tried to work with him on that.

I don't think anybody in this Chamber thinks that the work done at the National Institutes of Health isn't exceptionally important. There is more money in here for that particular agency in a more difficult budgetary environment than we had last year.

I know how very much my friend and his family have always been concerned with Native Americans. Nobody did more than your uncle, our beloved colleague, Mr. KILDEE, Dale Kildee, in that area, and there is substantially more money in here than the administration requested for Indian health and for school construction on Indian reservations.

There are certainly some things in here that I share some of the concerns

that my friends have, both from a process standpoint and an outcome standpoint, but I think you have to make a balance. I think you have to look at the overall bill. I think you have to look at the consequences of not passing the bill and the rule.

I think you also have to remember that this is a negotiated agreement with a Democratic Senate. I don't think we should have gotten to this point, and had they done their job in the appropriations process, we would not be at this point; but whenever either body doesn't do their job, you always get down to the end, and this is exactly the sort of thing that you end up with.

I don't know how we can avoid that in the next 24 hours, but I do know this: I hope we all from both sides of the aisle recommit ourselves to avoid being here next year. I don't blame my friends on the Democratic side for getting us here. I don't think they had anything to do with it.

They worked with us in the appropriations process in very good faith with Mrs. LOWEY. That is why we brought bills to the floor. That didn't happen in the Senate, and that is what has gotten us here. I think we should reserve our fire for the other Chamber, one thing that tends to unite us instead of divide us because that is where the problem has been.

Madam Speaker, again, under new management next year, I hope we won't see this problem.

With that, Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. SARBANES).

Mr. SARBANES. Madam Speaker, I rise in opposition to the underlying bill. There are two provisions in this bill that are deeply offensive to the American people and their sense of fairness.

Over here, you have a provision that would backstop with taxpayer money increased risky activity on the part of Wall Street. This would allow them to go out, make more money with less risk, and then if they run into a problem, the taxpayers of this country would be asked to come in and bail them out. So you have that provision for Wall Street.

Over here, you have a provision that would allow Wall Street, the wealthy, and the well-connected to pour 10 times more money into the political apparatus up here on Capitol Hill and buy influence. Over here, you have got a Wall Street giveaway, and over here, you have an opportunity for Wall Street to put more money into the political process.

These two provisions bumped into each other somewhere in the middle of the night in the corridors of Capitol Hill up here. They bumped into each other. Maybe they were introduced,

and one said, "I will be the quid," and the other one said, "I will be the quo."

Madam Speaker, I don't know which is which, but I know this is a quid pro quo, and it is the kind of quid pro quo that is corrupting the machinery of our government and is offensive to the American people. We need to get rid of the quid, we need to eliminate the quo from this bill, and we need to bring it back in a way that we can actually support it. That is what we need to do for the American people.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I yield 30 seconds to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. KINGSTON), my good friend, our distinguished parting Member and the chairman of the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Subcommittee of our Appropriations Committee.

Mr. KINGSTON. Madam Speaker, I thank the distinguished incoming chair of the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Subcommittee for the time.

Madam Speaker, I just want to say I do support this rule. I will revise and extend my remarks for the RECORD later on, but as someone who worked very long on appropriations bills, the problem has been historically that the Senate has blocked the passage of most of their bills.

This year, they did not pass a single one. This year, we passed seven before we had to shut down. None of us on appropriations want an omnibus bill. We all prefer individual, one-by-one bills, but in the absence of that, this is the aggregate of those bills added together, and I do support the rule.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. DEUTCH).

□ 1130

Mr. DEUTCH. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend, and I rise in opposition to the rule and in opposition to the underlying legislation.

Last night in the Rules Committee, I offered an amendment to strike a measure from page 1,599 of this 1,603-page spending bill that would have this Congress march hand in hand with the Supreme Court's Citizens United and McCutchen to allow America's wealthiest donors to give \$5 million every election cycle to candidates, political parties, and their committees. We had no debate about this. The people's House did not vote to undermine campaign finances, and that this 1,600-page bill already cuts Pell grants and undermines Wall Street reform proves that wealthy donors hold enough sway in Washington.

A vote for this bill is a vote for the continued dismantlement of a broken campaign finance system. It is a vote to continue shutting out the voices of everyday Americans in our political process. Our constituents want us to fight money in politics. They do not



want us to be complicit in putting our democracy up for sale.

Madam Speaker, in Washington for the special interests, they view every day as Christmas. Let's give the American people a present this holiday season: respect for our democracy and a place for them in it.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to yield 1½ minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE), a member of the Appropriations Committee.

Ms. LEE of California. Madam Speaker, I want to thank the gentlelady for yielding and for her tremendous hard work and support.

Madam Speaker, I rise in opposition to this rule and this bill for many reasons, even though the bill contains many provisions I support, such as Ebola funding; a critical \$5.67 billion for the President's emergency plan for AIDS relief; PEPFAR, which I helped write, and the Global Fund; programs I have worked on for many years and have supported.

But it also includes provisions I cannot support, such as an additional \$3.4 billion to fund an unauthorized war against ISIS in Iraq. More than 3 months after this war began, this is 3 months later, Congress has yet to have the constitutionally required mandated debate and vote on an Authorization for the Use of Military Force. We are now involved in another open-ended war in the Middle East without congressional authority.

This omnibus also includes \$73.7 billion for the overseas contingency operations fund which, quite frankly, is a slush fund.

Congress must get serious about transparency and oversight of our Nation's bloated Pentagon spending, and we can do that by auditing the Pentagon, an initiative that has bipartisan support. At the same time that this bill provides billions in war funding, my Republican colleagues included a section that will roll back key provisions of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street reform bill, putting taxpayers on the hook for Wall Street gambling.

I urge a "no" vote on the rule and a "no" vote on the bill.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to yield 1½ minutes to the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON).

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I thank my good friend for all of her hard work on this bill.

District of Columbia voters passed the most restrictive marijuana legalization law in the country, Initiative 71, allowing possession of small amounts of marijuana for personal use only. Four States have legalized mari-

juana. The city was motivated by two independent studies revealing shameful racial disparities, disparities that are endemic, by the way, in the rest of the country as well in marijuana possession arrests. Ninety percent of marijuana arrests here are of African Americans, though Blacks and Whites use marijuana at the same rate in a city that is 50-50 Black and White.

Do not expect residents to tolerate unequal treatment of the District of Columbia, a jurisdiction of Federal tax-paying Americans, and, on top of that, discrimination against African Americans who live here.

I am trying to find a way around the antidemocratic language in the bill that bullies the District of Columbia. Congress must find its way out of the local affairs of the residents of the District, who pay the highest Federal taxes per capita in the United States, while the Member who represents them must stand by and watch every Member of this House vote on a matter affecting her district, except the Member who represents the District of Columbia.

Mr. COLE. I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from Vermont (Mr. WELCH).

Mr. WELCH. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlelady.

One of the big challenges that this institution faces is to restore its credibility with the American people. This process that we have gone through, where, at the end of the negotiations between our House and Senate negotiators, two provisions of great significance were inserted into the bill—one that would provide relief from Dodd-Frank provisions to Wall Street banks, the other which would allow individuals to increase donations to \$2.5 million per cycle—had no hearings. They had no debate. No one has had any input on what the implications are of these actions that are very significant when it comes to campaign finance and when it comes to the integrity of Dodd-Frank.

We must legislate in the light of day and not use a piece of legislation that is of vital concern to the American people to attach provisions that have nothing to do with that particular bill. It is why so many people—Republicans, Democrats, and Independents—think that the political process is not on the level.

So why put these provisions in? We could pass these bills without it. These provisions would then be allowed to have hearings in committee, and then we would be responsible to vote "yes" or "no" on the campaign finance provision, on the Dodd-Frank provision, where our constituents would be able to hold each and every one of us accountable as to what our view was.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time to close.

Madam Speaker, this bill spends \$1.1 trillion to fund the Federal Government. While we may yet avert another government shutdown, a lot of our trust in the legislative process has been destroyed. If a provision to allow the United States to be mined for uranium by a company with ties to Iran can be inserted into and passed with the National Defense Authorization Act, taking away land sacred to an Indian tribe, what other deplorable and risk-laden bills are in this House majority bill? Heaven only knows what other egregious actions we will find.

The House majority continues to govern via manufactured crises. Regular appropriations bills have been replaced with temporary stopgap measures. Cliffs and brinks and fits and starts continue. The majority has another opportunity in the new Congress to do the good work of government and to provide stability to the American people with the American people put ahead of banking interests and political party interests—and I pray they do.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote "no" on the rule and the bill underlying it.

And to end the 113th Congress, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

As I reflect back on the debate today—and it is always a good exchange with my friend from New York—I want to reflect on some areas of agreement and disagreement.

The agreement is we think, like our Democratic colleagues, this is not a good way to legislate. We do not like the process. We do not like to pass bills with multiple hundreds of pages and well over \$1 trillion in spending and lots of policy riders. We prefer to legislate as we began this Congress—that is with an individual appropriations bill.

I want to thank my chairman, the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. ROGERS), and the ranking member, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. LOWEY), for the manner in which they got the process off and going this year, and I want to commend my friends on the other side of the aisle for participating.

This House was moving appropriations bills under open rules with multiple debates and passing them, usually with bipartisan votes, in the way that this system should operate. That was not true in the United States Senate.

That body, under Democratic leadership, never brought up a single appropriations bill. You simply can't operate the process if the other side of the Chamber, whose participation is constitutionally required, refuses to participate, refuses to bring bills to the



floor. And that was done for political and, I would suggest, somewhat cynical calculations. It didn't work out very well in the end; it never does. Going through regular order, we all know, is the best way to operate. But we are here now because the Senate wouldn't do its job. The House did do its job and continued to do it until it was just painfully obvious that the Senate was never going to do anything at all.

I have also listened to my friends and their concerns about a multitude of issues that are dealt with in this bill. They know we can avoid this next year by following regular order and going through the process, but there are two in particular that I want to address quickly.

The first issue is campaign finance. I probably have a different view than most of my speakers in terms of what ought to be done, but they are absolutely right in terms of the process by which this has been arrived at. Now, I will point out this idea that there is not unlimited money in politics now is just simply not true. The people who have been penalized are the candidates and the political parties. There are plenty of third-party groups on both sides that spend enormous amounts of money, people who write substantially larger checks, and that is both liberals, conservatives, Democrats, and Republicans. This is actually a measure, I would argue, to try to allow the parties who are more transparent and more accountable and, frankly, usually more professional to have the resources to compete with some of the outside groups. Be that as it may, the substance of my friend's process objections are real.

The other area is the Dodd-Frank area. Let me just say, that language was brought up under the separate legislation and considered; it was in Financial Services. So the idea it is being dropped in at the last minute is just not true.

Let me finish with two points. First, there is a great deal of good in this bill. There are a great many parts of this bill where we have worked together, worked well together, ranging from Ebola to the National Institutes of Health, the Native American issues. Those things ought to be enacted.

Madam Speaker, in closing, the continuing resolution we are currently operating under is due to expire at midnight tonight. I believe it is important to keep this government open and support this bipartisan, bicameral piece of legislation. I urge my colleagues to support the rule and the underlying legislation.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The previous question was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the resolution.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the yeas appeared to have it.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, this 15-minute vote on adoption of House Resolution 776 will be followed by 5-minute votes on the motion to suspend the rules on H.R. 5806, by the yeas and nays; and approval of the Journal, if ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 214, nays 212, not voting 9, as follows:

[Roll No. 561]

YEAS—214

Aderholt	Gowdy	Paulsen
Amodei	Granger	Pearce
Bachus	Graves (GA)	Perry
Barletta	Graves (MO)	Petri
Barr	Griffin (AR)	Pittenger
Barton	Griffith (VA)	Pitts
Benishek	Grimm	Poe (TX)
Bentivolio	Guthrie	Pompeo
Bilirakis	Hanna	Price (GA)
Bishop (UT)	Harper	Reed
Black	Harris	Reichert
Blackburn	Hartzler	Renacci
Boehner	Hastings (WA)	Ribble
Boustany	Heck (NV)	Rice (SC)
Brady (TX)	Herrera Beutler	Rigell
Bridenstine	Holding	Roby
Brooks (IN)	Hudson	Roe (TN)
Buchanan	Huizenga (MI)	Rogers (AL)
Bucshon	Hultgren	Rogers (KY)
Burgess	Hunter	Rogers (MI)
Byrne	Hurt	Rohrabacher
Calvert	Issa	Rokita
Camp	Jenkins	Rooney
Capito	Johnson (OH)	Ros-Lehtinen
Carter	Johnson, Sam	Roskam
Cassidy	Jolly	Ross
Chabot	Joyce	Rothfus
Chaffetz	Kelly (PA)	Royce
Clawson (FL)	King (NY)	Runyan
Coble	Kingston	Ryan (WI)
Coffman	Kinzinger (IL)	Sanford
Cole	Kline	Scalise
Collins (GA)	LaMalfa	Schock
Collins (NY)	Lamborn	Doggett
Conaway	Lance	Doyle
Cook	Lankford	Edwards
Cotton	Latham	Ellison
Cramer	Latta	Engel
Crawford	LoBiondo	Enyart
Crenshaw	Long	Eshoo
Culberson	Lucas	Esty
Daines	Luetkemeyer	Farr
Davis, Rodney	Lummis	Fattah
Denham	Marchant	Foster
Dent	Marino	Frankel (FL)
DeSantis	McAllister	Fudge
DesJarlais	McCarthy (CA)	Gabbard
Diaz-Balart	McCaul	Gallego
Duffy	McClintock	Garamendi
Duncan (SC)	McHenry	Garcia
Duncan (TN)	McKeon	Gohmert
Ellmers	McKinley	Gosar
Farenthold	McMorris	
Fincher	Rodgers	
Fitzpatrick	Meadows	
Fleischmann	Meehan	
Fleming	Messer	
Flores	Mica	
Forbes	Miller (FL)	
Fortenberry	Miller (MI)	
Fox	Mullin	
Franks (AZ)	Mulvaney	
Frelinghuysen	Murphy (PA)	
Gardner	Neugebauer	
Garrett	Noem	
Gerlach	Nugent	
Gibbs	Nunes	
Gibson	Nunnelee	
Gingrey (GA)	Olson	
Goodlatte	Palazzo	

Womack  
Woodall

Yoder  
Yoho

Young (AK)  
Young (IN)

NAYS—212

Adams	Grayson	Neal
Amash	Green, Al	Nolan
Bachmann	Green, Gene	Norcross
Barber	Grijalva	O'Rourke
Barrow (GA)	Gutiérrez	Owens
Bass	Hahn	Pallone
Beatty	Hanabusa	Pascarell
Becerra	Hastings (FL)	Pastor (AZ)
Bera (CA)	Heck (WA)	Payne
Bishop (GA)	Higgins	Pelosi
Bishop (NY)	Himes	Perlmutter
Blumenauer	Hinojosa	Peters (CA)
Bonamici	Holt	Peters (MI)
Brady (PA)	Honda	Peterson
Braley (IA)	Horsford	Pingree (ME)
Brat	Hoyer	Pocan
Brooks (AL)	Huelskamp	Polis
Broun (GA)	Huffman	Posey
Brown (FL)	Israel	Price (NC)
Brownley (CA)	Jackson Lee	Quigley
Bustos	Jeffries	Rahall
Butterfield	Johnson (GA)	Rangel
Capps	Johnson, E. B.	Richmond
Cárdenas	Jones	Roybal-Allard
Carney	Jordan	Ruiz
Carson (IN)	Kaptur	Ruppersberger
Cartwright	Keating	Rush
Castor (FL)	Kelly (IL)	Ryan (OH)
Castro (TX)	Kennedy	Salmon
Chu	Kildee	Sánchez, Linda
Ciçilline	Kilmer	T.
Clark (MA)	Kind	Sanchez, Loretta
Clarke (NY)	King (IA)	Sarbanes
Clay	Kirkpatrick	Schakowsky
Cleaver	Kuster	Schiff
Clyburn	Labrador	Schneider
Cohen	Langevin	Schrader
Connolly	Larsen (WA)	Schwartz
Conyers	Larson (CT)	Scott (VA)
Cooper	Lee (CA)	Scott, David
Costa	Levin	Serrano
Courtney	Lewis	Sewell (AL)
Crowley	Lipinski	Shea-Porter
Cuellar	Loeb sack	Sherman
Cummings	Lofgren	Sinema
Davis (CA)	Lowenthal	Sires
Davis, Danny	Lowe	Slaughter
DeFazio	Lujan Grisham	Speier
DeGette	(NM)	Stockman
Delaney	Lujan, Ben Ray	Swalwell (CA)
DeLauro	(NM)	Takano
DelBene	Lynch	Thompson (CA)
Deutch	Maffei	Thompson (MS)
Dingell	Maloney,	
Doggett	Carolyn	
Doyle	Maloney, Sean	
Edwards	Massie	
Ellison	Matsui	
Engel	McCarthy (NY)	
Enyart	McCollum	
Eshoo	McDermott	
Esty	McGovern	
Farr	McIntyre	
Fattah	McNerney	
Foster	Meeks	
Frankel (FL)	Meng	
Fudge	Michaud	
Gabbard	Miller, George	
Gallego	Moore	
Garamendi	Moran	
Garcia	Murphy (FL)	
Gohmert	Nadler	
Gosar	Napolitano	

NOT VOTING—9

□ 1215

Messrs. VEASEY, DINGELL, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, Messrs. GALLEGO, LARSEN of Washington, Ms. SCHWARTZ, Ms. LINDA T. SANCHEZ of California, Ms. SINEMA, Messrs. NORCROSS and CARNEY changed their vote from "yea" to "nay."

Messrs. CAMP, CASSIDY, McCLINTOCK, McALLISTER, STUTZMAN and

BENTIVOLIO changed their vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### SUPPORTING AMERICA'S CHARITIES ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5806) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify and make permanent certain expiring provisions related to charitable contributions, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CAMP) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 275, nays 149, not voting 10, as follows:

[Roll No. 562]

YEAS—275

Aderholt	Crenshaw	Hastings (WA)
Amash	Cuellar	Heck (NV)
Amodel	Culberson	Herrera Beutler
Bachmann	Daines	Holding
Bachus	Davis, Rodney	Hudson
Barber	Delaney	Huelskamp
Barletta	DelBene	Huizenga (MI)
Barr	Denham	Hultgren
Barrow (GA)	Dent	Hunter
Barton	DeSantis	Hurt
Benishkek	DesJarlais	Issa
Bentivolio	Diaz-Balart	Jenkins
Bera (CA)	Duffy	Johnson (OH)
Billirakis	Duncan (SC)	Johnson, Sam
Bishop (GA)	Duncan (TN)	Jolly
Bishop (UT)	Ellmers	Jones
Black	Enyart	Jordan
Blackburn	Esty	Joyce
Boustany	Farenthold	Keating
Brady (TX)	Fincher	Kelly (PA)
Brat	Fitzpatrick	Kilmer
Bridenstine	King (IA)	King (IA)
Brooks (AL)	Fleming	King (NY)
Brooks (IN)	Flores	Kingston
Broun (GA)	Forbes	Kinzinger (IL)
Brownley (CA)	Fortenberry	Kirkpatrick
Buchanan	Fox	Kline
Bucshon	Franks (AZ)	Kuster
Burgess	Frelinghuysen	Labrador
Bustos	Galleo	LaMalfa
Byrne	Garamendi	Lamborn
Calvert	Garcia	Lance
Camp	Gardner	Lankford
Capito	Garrett	Larson (CT)
Capps	Gerlach	Latham
Carter	Gibbs	Latta
Cassidy	Gibson	Lipinski
Castro (TX)	Gingrey (GA)	LoBiondo
Chabot	Goodlatte	Loebsack
Chaffetz	Gosar	Long
Clawson (FL)	Gowdy	Lucas
Coble	Granger	Luetkemeyer
Coffman	Graves (GA)	Lujan Grisham
Cole	Graves (MO)	(NM)
Collins (GA)	Green, Gene	Lummis
Collins (NY)	Griffin (AR)	Maffei
Conaway	Griffith (VA)	Maloney, Sean
Cook	Grimm	Marchant
Costa	Guthrie	Marino
Cotton	Hanna	Massie
Courtney	Harper	McAllister
Cramer	Harris	McCarthy (CA)
Crawford	Hartzler	McCaul

McClintock	Quigley	Smith (MO)
McHenry	Reed	Smith (NE)
McIntyre	Reichert	Smith (NJ)
McKeon	Renacci	Smith (TX)
McKinley	Ribble	Southerland
McMorris	Rice (SC)	Stewart
Rodgers	Rigell	Stivers
Meadows	Roby	Stockman
Meehan	Roe (TN)	Stutzman
Messer	Rogers (AL)	Terry
Mica	Rogers (KY)	Thompson (PA)
Michaud	Rogers (MI)	Thornberry
Miller (FL)	Rohrabacher	Tiberi
Miller (MI)	Rokita	Tipton
Mullin	Rooney	Titus
Mulvaney	Ros-Lehtinen	Turner
Murphy (FL)	Roskam	Upton
Murphy (PA)	Ross	Valadao
Neal	Rothfus	Vela
Neugebauer	Royce	Wagner
Noem	Ruiz	Walberg
Nolan	Runyan	Walden
Nugent	Ryan (WI)	Walorski
Nunes	Salmon	Walz
Nunnelee	Sánchez, Linda	Weber (TX)
Olson	T.	Webster (FL)
Owens	Sanchez, Loretta	Wenstrup
Palazzo	Sanford	Westmoreland
Paulsen	Scalise	Whitfield
Pearce	Schneider	Williams
Perry	Schock	Wilson (SC)
Peters (CA)	Schweikert	Wittman
Peters (MI)	Scott, Austin	Wolf
Petri	Sensenbrenner	Womack
Pittenger	Sessions	Woodall
Pitts	Shea-Porter	Yoder
Poe (TX)	Shimkus	Yoho
Pompeo	Shuster	Young (AK)
Posey	Simpson	Young (IN)
Price (GA)	Sinema	

NAYS—149

Adams	Gutiérrez	Pallone
Bass	Hahn	Pascarell
Beatty	Hanabusa	Pastor (AZ)
Becerra	Hastings (FL)	Payne
Bishop (NY)	Heck (WA)	Pelosi
Blumenauer	Higgins	Perlmutter
Bonamici	Himes	Peterson
Brady (PA)	Hinojosa	Pingree (ME)
Braley (IA)	Holt	Pocan
Brown (FL)	Honda	Polis
Butterfield	Horsford	Price (NC)
Cárdenas	Hoyer	Rahall
Carney	Huffman	Rangel
Carson (IN)	Israel	Richmond
Cartwright	Jackson Lee	Roybal-Allard
Castor (FL)	Jeffries	Ruppersberger
Chu	Johnson (GA)	Rush
Cicilline	Johnson, E. B.	Ryan (OH)
Clark (MA)	Kaptur	Sarbanes
Clarke (NY)	Kelly (IL)	Schakowsky
Clay	Kennedy	Schiff
Cleaver	Kildee	Schrader
Clyburn	Kind	Schwartz
Cohen	Langevin	Scott (VA)
Connolly	Larsen (WA)	Scott, David
Conyers	Lee (CA)	Serrano
Cooper	Levin	Sewell (AL)
Crowley	Lewis	Sherman
Cummings	Lofgren	Sires
Davis (CA)	Lowenthal	Slaughter
Davis, Danny	Lowey	Speier
DeFazio	Lujan, Ben Ray	Swalwell (CA)
DeGette	(NM)	Takano
DeLauro	Lynch	Thompson (CA)
Deutch	Maloney,	Thompson (MS)
Dingell	Carolyn	Tierney
Doggett	Matsui	Tonko
Doyle	McCarthy (NY)	Tsongas
Edwards	McCollum	Van Hollen
Ellison	McDermott	Vargas
Engel	McGovern	Veasey
Eshoo	McNerney	Velázquez
Farr	Meeks	Visclosky
Fattah	Meng	Wasserman
Foster	Miller, George	Schultz
Frankel (FL)	Moore	Waters
Fudge	Moran	Waxman
Gabbard	Nadler	Welch
Grayson	Napolitano	Wilson (FL)
Green, Al	Norcross	Yarmuth
Grijalva	O'Rourke	

NOT VOTING—10

Campbell	Hall	Negrete McLeod
Capuano	Hensarling	Smith (WA)
Duckworth	Matheson	
Gohmert	Miller, Gary	

□ 1226

So (two-thirds not being in the affirmative) the motion was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

#### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal, which the Chair will put de novo.

The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

#### MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment bills of the House of the following titles:

H.R. 1447. An act to encourage States to report to the Attorney General certain information regarding the deaths of individuals in the custody of law enforcement agencies, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3374. An act to provide for the use of savings promotion raffle products by financial institutions to encourage savings, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4193. An act to amend title 5, United States Code, to change the default investment fund under the Thrift Savings Plan, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4926. An act to designate a segment of Interstate Route 35 in the State of Minnesota as the “James L. Oberstar Memorial Highway”.

H.R. 5705. An act to modify certain provisions relating to the Propane Education and Research Council.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed a bill of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 2822. An act to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to conduct a study on matters relating to the burial of unclaimed remains of veterans in national cemeteries, and for other purposes.

#### SUBMISSION OF MATERIAL EXPLANATORY OF THE AMENDMENT OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE AMENDMENT OF THE SENATE TO H.R. 83

Pursuant to section 3 of House Resolution 776, the chairman of the Committee on Appropriations submitted explanatory material relating to the amendment of the House of Representatives to the amendment of the Senate to H.R. 83.

**EXPLANATORY STATEMENT SUBMITTED BY MR. ROGERS OF KENTUCKY, CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS REGARDING THE HOUSE AMENDMENT TO THE SENATE AMENDMENT ON H.R. 83**

The following is an explanation of the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2015.

This Act includes eleven regular appropriations bills for fiscal year 2015, as well as further continuing appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act. The divisions contained in the Act are as follows:

- Division A—Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2015;
- Division B—Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2015;
- Division C—Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2015;
- Division D—Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2015;
- Division E—Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2015;
- Division F—Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2015;
- Division G—Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2015;
- Division H—Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2015;
- Division I—Military Construction and Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2015;
- Division J—Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2015;
- Division K—Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2015;
- Division L—Further Continuing Appropriations, 2015;
- Division M—Expatriate Health Coverage Clarification Act of 2014; and
- Division N—Other Matters.

Section 3 of the Act states that, unless expressly provided otherwise, any reference to “this Act” contained in any division shall be treated as referring only to the provisions of that division.

Section 4 of the Act specifies that this explanatory statement shall have the same effect with respect to the allocation of funds and implementation of this legislation as if it were a joint explanatory statement of a committee of conference.

Section 5 of the Act provides a statement of appropriations.

Section 6 of the Act states that each amount designated by Congress as being for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism (OCO/GWOT), as well as each amount designated by Congress as an emergency requirement, is contingent on the President so designating all such OCO/GWOT or emergency requirement amounts, respectively, and transmitting such designations to Congress. The provision is consistent with the requirements in the Budget Control Act of 2011 for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism and emergency designations by the President.

Section 7 of the Act addresses possible technical scorekeeping differences for fiscal year 2015 between the Office of Management and Budget and the Congressional Budget Office.

Section 8 of the Act prohibits cost-of-living adjustments for Members of Congress under

the Legislative Reorganization Act during fiscal year 2015.

Sections 9 and 10 of the Act contain the text of sections 1 and 2, respectively, of the Senate amendment to H.R. 83, “An Act to require the Secretary of the Interior to assemble a team of technical, policy, and financial experts to address the energy needs of the insular areas of the United States and the Freely Associated States through the development of energy action plans aimed at promoting access to affordable, reliable energy, including increasing use of indigenous clean-energy resources, and for other purposes.”

Section 11 of the Act provides \$372,000,000 for payments in lieu of taxes under chapter 69 of title 31, United States Code. Together with an additional \$33,000,000 available for fiscal year 2015, and \$37,000,000 available on October 1, 2015, provided by section 3096 of the Carl Levin and Howard P. “Buck” McKeon National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015, a total of \$442,000,000 will be available for the program.

The Act does not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined by clause 9 of rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

**DIVISION A—AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015**

**CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTIVES**

The explanatory statement is silent on provisions that were in both the House Report (H.Rpt. 113-468) and Senate Report (S.Rpt. 113-164) that remain unchanged by this agreement, except as noted in this explanatory statement.

The agreement restates that executive branch wishes cannot substitute for Congress's own statements as to the best evidence of congressional intentions, which are the official reports of the Congress. The agreement further points out that funds in this Act must be used for the purposes for which appropriated, as required by section 1301 of title 31 of the United States Code, which provides: “Appropriations shall be applied only to the objects for which the appropriations were made except as otherwise provided by law.”

The House and Senate report language that is not changed by the explanatory statement is approved and indicates congressional intentions. The explanatory statement, while repeating some report language for emphasis, does not intend to negate the language referred to above unless expressly provided herein.

In cases in which the House or the Senate have directed the submission of a report, such report is to be submitted to both the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations no later than 60 days after enactment of this Act, unless otherwise directed.

Hereafter, in Division A of this statement, the term “the Committees” refers to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

Certain agencies under the jurisdiction of the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Subcommittees took actions that appear to violate long-standing notification requirements. This Act modifies its notification requirements and provides additional information to assist the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Drug Administration, and Farm Credit Administration in complying with the spirit and letter of the law.

For the appropriations provided by this Act and previous Acts, the departments and

agencies funded by this agreement are reminded that the Committees use the definitions for transfer, reprogramming, and program, project, and activity as defined by the Government Accountability Office (GAO) in GAO-04-261SP Appropriations Law—Vol. I and GAO-05-734SP Budget Glossary. The Committees provide additional direction in this statement.

A transfer is the shifting of funds between appropriations. It applies to (1) transfers from one agency to another, (2) transfers from one account to another within the same agency, and (3) transfers to an interagency or intra-agency working fund. In each instance, statutory authority is required.

Reprogramming is the utilization of funds in an appropriation account for purposes other than those contemplated at the time of appropriation. It is the shifting of funds from one object to another within an appropriation.

A program, project, or activity (PPA) is an element within a budget account. PPAs are identified by reference to include the most specific level of budget items identified in the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Act, 2015, accompanying Committee reports, explanatory statements, the Statement of Managers, and budget justifications. Program activity structures are intended to provide a meaningful representation of the operations financed by a specific budget account by project, activity, or organization.

For fiscal year 2015, the Committees adopt a new subsection to require advanced notification of certain agency actions. Notification will be required at least 15 days in advance of any action if (1) a major capital investment is modified; (2) an office is realigned or reorganized; and (3) activities are carried out that were not described in the budget request.

The agreement directs the Office of Budget and Program Analysis of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to provide an organizational chart for each agency funded by this Act to the division and subdivision level, as appropriate, by January 30, 2015. The agreement also directs the Food and Drug Administration, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, and the Farm Credit Administration to provide an organizational chart of each agency respectively to the division and subdivision level, as appropriate, by January 30, 2015.

**TITLE I—AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS  
PRODUCTION, PROCESSING, AND MARKETING  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)**

The agreement provides \$45,805,000 for the Office of the Secretary.

The following table reflects the agreement:

**OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY**  
(Dollars in thousands)

Office of the Secretary .....	\$5,051
Office of Tribal Relations .....	502
Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Coordination .....	1,496
Office of Advocacy and Outreach .....	1,209
Office of Assistant Secretary for Administration .....	804
Departmental Administration .....	25,124
Office of Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations .....	3,869
Office of Communications .....	7,750
<b>Total, Office of the Secretary .....</b>	<b>\$45,805</b>

The Office of the Inspector General (OIG) reported that USDA offices and agencies made an estimated \$6,200,000,000 in improper payments in fiscal year 2013. While there has been recent progress toward improving their

processes to identify, report, and reduce wasteful spending, this level of improper payment is unacceptable. The Chief Financial Officer (CFO) is directed to develop a plan to significantly reduce USDA's improper payment rate in fiscal year 2015 and to release it simultaneously with the OIG's report on improper payments for fiscal year 2014.

During the past year, certain USDA agencies and offices informed non-governmental stakeholders of important decisions and announcements before they informed the Committees. A collaborative working relationship between the Committees and agencies is necessary to ensure efficient and effective implementation of Congress's funding decisions. These actions jeopardized this relationship. As such, USDA is directed to ensure the Committees are notified of major changes to existing policies and any significant developments in its operations prior to providing non-governmental stakeholders such information.

#### EXECUTIVE OPERATIONS

##### OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ECONOMIST

The agreement provides \$17,377,000 for the Office of the Chief Economist.

The agreement reaffirms the establishment of an Under Secretary of Agriculture for Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs pursuant to Section 3208 of Public Law 113-79. The mandatory report in (b)(4) of such section to Congress is overdue. The agreement directs the Office of the Chief Economist (OCE) to oversee the completion of this report in coordination with a third-party entity, the National Academy of Public Administration, and the Committees. The agreement provides \$600,000 for this purpose and directs OCE to begin the study within 60 days of enactment and completion within 270 days of enactment.

##### NATIONAL APPEALS DIVISION

The agreement provides \$13,317,000 for the National Appeals Division.

##### OFFICE OF BUDGET AND PROGRAM ANALYSIS

The agreement provides \$9,392,000 for the Office of Budget and Program Analysis.

##### OFFICE OF THE CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

The agreement provides \$45,045,000 for the Office of the Chief Information Officer. This amount includes not less than \$28,000,000 to support cybersecurity requirements of the Department.

Recognizing that some agencies require more oversight and assistance than others, the agreement provides the Chief Information Officer (CIO) flexibility to set variable thresholds for approval of agency IT expenditures. The purpose is to tailor oversight to the unique situation of each agency while allowing the CIO to continue to exercise prudent judgment and provide expert advice regarding the expenditure of taxpayer resources on IT investments. The CIO is directed to establish a performance plan that assesses the capability of each agency against standard IT management protocols, including governance processes; experience

of the agency's CIO; prior management of major and non-major IT investments; training and certification programs; and utilization of appropriate procurement, enterprise architecture, and security systems. The plan is expected to be updated as needed but not less than every two years. The CIO is directed to submit the plan to the Committees for review prior to implementation.

##### OFFICE OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

The agreement provides \$6,028,000 for the Office of the Chief Financial Officer.

The Department continues to assess its agencies for government and department-wide activities not requested in the budget or appropriated by Congress. Therefore, most of the funding for these activities has come at the expense of the agency's mission critical programs. The CFO is encouraged to scrutinize the need for each activity, to consider its benefit to each agency, and to limit spending where possible, especially in regard to promotional, communications-related, and other activities not specifically authorized in law. The CFO is directed to provide a report to the Committees within 90 days of enactment of this Act detailing where savings can be made in these areas.

##### OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR CIVIL RIGHTS

The agreement provides \$898,000 for the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights.

##### OFFICE OF CIVIL RIGHTS

The agreement provides \$24,070,000 for the Office of Civil Rights.

##### AGRICULTURE BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES (INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides \$55,866,000 for Agriculture Buildings and Facilities. The agreement includes General Services Administration rental payments and Department of Homeland Security payments within each respective agency, as requested in the budget. The Department is reminded that rental and security payments as described in the budget constitute a PPA for the purpose of reprogrammings.

##### HAZARDOUS MATERIALS MANAGEMENT (INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides \$3,600,000 for Hazardous Materials Management.

##### OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

The agreement provides \$95,026,000 for the Office of Inspector General.

##### OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL

The agreement provides \$44,383,000 for the Office of the General Counsel.

##### OFFICE OF ETHICS

The agreement provides \$3,654,000 for the Office of Ethics.

##### OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR RESEARCH, EDUCATION, AND ECONOMICS

The agreement provides \$898,000 for the Office of the Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics.

##### ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE

The agreement provides \$85,373,000 for the Economic Research Service.

##### NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

The agreement provides \$172,408,000 for the National Agricultural Statistics Service, including up to \$47,842,000 for the Census of Agriculture.

The agreement includes requested funding for the pollinator health initiative, restoration of the fruit and vegetable in-season reports, and restoration of the chemical use survey and does not include the suspension of reports as proposed in the budget.

In fiscal year 2014, USDA was provided \$2,250,000 to conduct the Organic Production Survey. It is expected that USDA will conduct this survey as a comprehensive follow-on survey to the 2012 Census of Agriculture.

##### AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE

##### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement provides \$1,132,625,000 for the Agricultural Research Service (ARS), Salaries and Expenses.

The agreement does not accept the President's budget request regarding the termination and redirection of research programs or the closure of research stations. The agreement expects extramural research to be funded at no less than fiscal year 2014 levels. The agreement provides funding increases for forest product, pollinator, porcine virus, grazing-related sheep, and methyl bromide alternatives research.

ARS is directed to prepare a long-term facility management plan to guide capital asset construction and renovation for current ARS and university cooperator space where the cooperator or university has expressed an interest in relocating ARS researchers or facilities to alternate locations. The plan should establish a process for setting and ranking these facilities, with priority placed on current ARS facilities conducting high priority research with a low facility condition index. The report should clearly describe the proposed relocation, include estimated costs for completing the relocation, and address any legal barriers that may exist for the proposed location.

##### BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

For ARS Buildings and Facilities, the agreement provides an appropriation of \$45,000,000 for priorities identified in the USDA ARS Capital Investment Strategy, April 2012.

##### NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

##### RESEARCH AND EDUCATION ACTIVITIES

The agreement provides \$786,874,000 for the National Institute of Food and Agriculture's research and education activities.

The agreement directs that not less than 15 percent of the competitive research grant funds be used for USDA's agricultural research enhancement awards program, including USDA-EPSCoR.

The following table reflects the amounts provided by the agreement:

#### NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE RESEARCH AND EDUCATION ACTIVITIES

(Dollars in thousands)

Hatch Act .....	7 U.S.C. 361a-i .....	\$243,701
McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry Act .....	16 U.S.C. 582a through a-7 .....	33,961
Research at 1890 Institutions (Evans-Allen Program) .....	7 U.S.C. 3222 .....	52,485
Payments to the 1994 Institutions .....	7 U.S.C. 301 note .....	3,439
Education Grants for 1890 Institutions .....	7 U.S.C. 3152(b) .....	19,336
Education Grants for Hispanic-Serving Institutions .....	7 U.S.C. 3241 .....	9,219
Education Grants for Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian-Serving Institutions .....	7 U.S.C. 3156 .....	3,194
Research Grants for 1994 Institutions .....	7 U.S.C. 301 note .....	1,801
Capacity Building for Non Land-Grant Colleges of Agriculture .....	7 U.S.C. 3319i .....	4,500

## NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE RESEARCH AND EDUCATION ACTIVITIES—Continued

(Dollars in thousands)

Grants for Insular Areas .....	7 U.S.C. 3222b-2, 3362 and 3363 .....	2,000
Agriculture and Food Research Initiative .....	7 U.S.C. 450i(b) .....	325,000
Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment .....	7 U.S.C. 3151a .....	5,000
Continuing Animal Health and Disease Research Program .....	7 U.S.C. 3195 .....	4,000
Supplemental and Alternative Crops .....	7 U.S.C. 3319d .....	825
Multicultural Scholars, Graduate Fellowship and Institution Challenge Grants .....	7 U.S.C. 3152(b) .....	9,000
Secondary and 2-year Post-Secondary Education .....	7 U.S.C. 3152(j) .....	900
Aquaculture Centers .....	7 U.S.C. 3322 .....	4,000
Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education .....	7 U.S.C. 5811, 5812, 5831, and 5832 .....	22,667
Farm Business Management .....	7 U.S.C. 5925f .....	1,450
Sun Grant Program .....	7 U.S.C. 8114 .....	2,500
Minor Crop Pest Management (IR-4) .....	7 U.S.C. 450i(c) .....	11,913
Alfalfa and Forage Research Program .....	7 U.S.C. 5925 .....	1,350
Special Research Grants: .....	7 U.S.C. 450i(c) .....	
Global Change/UV Monitoring .....		1,405
Potato Research .....		1,350
Aquaculture Research .....		1,350
Total, Special Research Grants .....		4,105
Necessary Expenses of Research and Education Activities:		
Grants Management System .....		7,830
Federal Administration—Other Necessary Expenses for Research and Education Activities .....		6,387
GSA Rent and DHS Security Expenses .....		6,311
Total, Necessary Expenses .....		20,528
Total, Research and Education Activities .....		\$786,874

## NATIVE AMERICAN INSTITUTIONS ENDOWMENT FUND

The agreement provides \$11,880,000 for the Native American Institutions Endowment Fund.

## EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

The agreement provides \$471,691,000 for the National Institute of Food and Agriculture's extension activities.

The following table reflects the amounts provided by the agreement:

## NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

(Dollars in thousands)

Smith-Lever, Section 3(b) and (c) programs and Cooperative Extension .....	7 U.S.C. 343(b) and (c) and 208(c) of P.L. 93-471 .....	\$300,000
Extension Services at 1890 Institutions .....	7 U.S.C. 3221 .....	43,920
Extension Services at 1994 Institutions .....	7 U.S.C. 343(b)(3) .....	4,446
Facility Improvements at 1890 Institutions .....	7 U.S.C. 3222b .....	19,730
Renewable Resources Extension Act .....	16 U.S.C. 1671 et seq. ....	4,060
Rural Health and Safety Education Programs .....	7 U.S.C. 2662(i) .....	1,500
Food Animal Residue Avoidance Database Program .....	7 U.S.C. 7642 .....	1,250
Women and Minorities in STEM Fields .....	7 U.S.C. 5925 .....	400
Food Safety Outreach Program .....	7 U.S.C. 7625 .....	2,500
Smith-Lever, Section 3(d): .....	7 U.S.C. 343(d) .....	
Food and Nutrition Education .....		67,934
Farm Safety and Youth Farm Safety Education Programs .....		4,610
New Technologies for Agricultural Extension .....		1,550
Children, Youth, and Families at Risk .....		8,395
Federally Recognized Tribes Extension Program .....		3,039
Total, Section 3(d) .....		85,528
Necessary Expenses of Extension Activities:		
Agriculture in the K-12 Classroom .....		552
Federal Administration—Other Necessary Expenses for Extension Activities .....		7,805
Total, Necessary Expenses .....		8,357
Total, Extension Activities .....		\$471,691

## INTEGRATED ACTIVITIES

The agreement provides \$30,900,000 for the National Institute of Food and Agriculture's integrated activities.

The following table reflects the amounts provided by the agreement:

## NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE INTEGRATED ACTIVITIES

(Dollars in thousands)

Methyl Bromide Transition Program .....	7 U.S.C. 7626 .....	\$2,000
Organic Transition Program .....	7 U.S.C. 7626 .....	4,000
Regional Rural Development Centers .....	7 U.S.C. 450i(c) .....	1,000
Food and Agriculture Defense Initiative .....	7 U.S.C. 3351 .....	6,700
Crop Protection/Pest Management Program .....	7 U.S.C. 7626 .....	17,200
Total, Integrated Activities .....		\$30,900

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR  
MARKETING AND REGULATORY PROGRAMS

The agreement provides \$898,000 for the Office of the Under Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs.

ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION  
SERVICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides \$871,315,000 for the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Salaries and Expenses.

The APHIS agreement includes several programmatic increases to enhance ongoing initiatives, mitigate potential threats, and address high priority concerns. Included in the APHIS funding level are an increase of \$2,000,000 for Overseas Technical and Trade Operations activities in order to help resolve sanitary and phytosanitary trade issues that could result in the opening of new markets and retaining and expanding existing market access for U.S. agricultural products; an increase of \$250,000 for the National Veterinary Stockpile to assist in the supply of critical veterinary countermeasures that would be used for emergency preparedness and response efforts in the event of an intentional or unintentional introduction of an animal disease into the U.S. market; an increase of \$2,000,000 for the Swine Health program in support of increased biosecurity and herd management efforts for the porcine epidemic diarrhea virus; an increase of \$4,500,000 for the Citrus Health Response Program to help address the damaging effects of citrus greening disease; an increase of \$2,600,000 for Wildlife Damage Management for priority initiatives such as oral rabies vaccinations, livestock protection, predator damage management, and preventing the transport of invasive snakes and other harmful species; and an increase of \$740,000 for Biotechnology Regulatory Services to address the backlog of product petitions awaiting determination.

There continues to be concern about the time it takes the agency to review biotechnology product petitions for regulatory determination. The agency is encouraged to reduce the backlog of petitions that still remains and reduce the number of petitions awaiting determination. The agreement provides the funding necessary to ensure regulatory decisions can be made in a more timely and predictable manner.

The agreement includes no less than \$3,000,000 for cervid health activities. Within the funds provided, APHIS should give consideration to indemnity payments if warranted.

APHIS' inspection data demonstrates that there was inconsistency in conducting horse inspections during recent shows. Due to the subjective nature of the horse inspections, the agency is encouraged to provide greater transparency, more written communication with stakeholders on the rules and regulations such as the scar rule, and improved consistency to the extent possible when enforcing the Horse Protection Act.

The agreement provides \$26,000,000 under Wildlife Damage Management for national rabies management, surveillance, and eradication efforts.

APHIS recently proposed rules regarding adjustment to fees for Agricultural Quarantine Inspection services and overtime reimbursement rates that affect a wide variety of industries, including pest treatment providers, cargo and passenger vessels, international and domestic shippers, importers, and the ports. The proposed changes are significant, and it is expected that comments

received during the initial rulemaking process will be considered in drafting the final rule. The agency is directed to meet with impacted stakeholders within 30 days of enactment to share updated information about the regulatory changes prior to publishing a final rule on the matter.

The agreement includes \$6,700,000 for the National Animal Health Laboratory Network (NAHLN). Funding shall be administered in consultation with the NAHLN Coordinating Council.

The following table reflects the agreement:

ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE	
(Dollars in thousands)	
Program	Amount
Animal Health Technical Services .....	\$35,339
Aquatic Animal Health .....	2,253
Avian Health .....	52,340
Cattle Health .....	92,500
Equine, Cervid & Small Ruminant Health .....	19,500
National Veterinary Stockpile .....	3,973
Swine Health .....	24,250
Veterinary Biologics .....	16,417
Veterinary Diagnostics .....	31,540
Zoonotic Disease Management .....	9,523
Subtotal, Animal Health .....	287,635
Agricultural Quarantine Inspection (Appropriated) .....	26,900
Cotton Pests .....	11,520
Field Crop & Rangeland Ecosystems Pests .....	8,826
Pest Detection .....	27,446
Plant Protection Methods Development .....	20,686
Specialty Crop Pests .....	156,000
Tree & Wood Pests .....	54,000
Subtotal, Plant Health .....	305,378
Wildlife Damage Management .....	90,027
Wildlife Services Methods Development .....	18,856
Subtotal, Wildlife Services .....	108,883
Animal & Plant Health Regulatory Enforcement .....	16,224
Biotechnology Regulatory Services .....	18,875
Subtotal, Regulatory Services .....	35,099
Contingency Fund .....	470
Emergency Preparedness & Response .....	16,966
Subtotal, Emergency Management .....	17,436
Agriculture Import/Export .....	14,099
Overseas Technical & Trade Operations .....	22,114
Subtotal, Safe Trade .....	36,213
Animal Welfare .....	28,010
Horse Protection .....	697
Subtotal, Animal Welfare .....	28,707
APHIS Information Technology Infrastructure .....	4,251
Physical/Operational Security .....	5,146
GSA Rental and DHS Security Payments .....	42,567
Subtotal, Agency Management .....	51,964
Total, Direct Appropriation .....	\$871,315

BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

The agreement provides \$3,175,000 for Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service Buildings and Facilities.

AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

MARKETING SERVICES

The agreement provides \$81,192,000 for the Agricultural Marketing Service.

Within 15 days of final resolution, including all pending appeals, or May 1, 2015, whichever comes first, the Secretary of Agriculture, in consultation with the U.S. Trade Representative, shall submit to the Committees and the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a report that contains the Secretary's recommendations for any changes in Federal law that would be required for the establishment and implementation of a country of origin labeling program with respect to beef, pork, and poultry

that does not conflict with, or is in any manner inconsistent with, the trade obligations of the United States, taking into account the findings contained in the report of the compliance panel established by the Dispute Settlement Body of the World Trade Organization (WTO) for purposes of the WTO disputes "United States—Certain Country of Origin Labelling (COOL) Requirements (DS384 and DS386)", including the available results of all pending appeals.

There is concern that the Secretary has started a process for establishing a second beef checkoff program under the Commodity Promotion, Research, and Information Act of 1996. An overwhelming majority of cattle producers do not support paying assessments into two separate beef checkoff programs operating simultaneously. The Secretary is directed not to implement a second duplicative beef checkoff program.

LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

The agreement includes a limitation on administrative expenses of \$60,709,000.

FUNDS FOR STRENGTHENING MARKETS, INCOME,  
AND SUPPLY (SECTION 32)

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides \$20,186,000 for Funds for Strengthening Markets, Income, and Supply.

The following table reflects the status of this fund for fiscal year 2015:

ESTIMATED TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE AND BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD	
(Dollars in thousands)	
	Amount
Appropriation (30% of Customs Receipts) .....	\$9,714,923
Less Transfers:	
Food & Nutrition Service .....	-8,355,671
Commerce Department .....	-143,738
Total, Transfers .....	-8,499,409
Prior Year Appropriation Available, Start of Year .....	187,486
Unavailable for Obligations (recoveries & offsetting collections) .....	
Transfer of Prior Year Funds to FNS (F&V) .....	-119,000
Budget Authority .....	1,284,000
Rescission of Current Year Funds .....	-121,094
Appropriations Temporarily Reduced—Sequestration .....	-81,906
Unavailable for Obligations (F&V Transfer to FNS) .....	-122,000
Available for Obligation .....	959,000
Less Obligations:	
Child Nutrition Programs (Entitlement Commodities) .....	465,000
State Option Contract .....	5,000
Removal of Defective Commodities .....	2,500
Emergency Surplus Removal .....	
Small Business Support .....	
Disaster Relief .....	5,000
Additional Fruits, Vegetables, and Nuts Purchases .....	206,000
Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program .....	40,000
Estimated Future Needs .....	180,604
Total, Commodity Procurement .....	904,104
Administrative Funds:	
Commodity Purchase Support .....	34,710
Marketing Agreements and Orders .....	20,186
Total, Administrative Funds .....	54,896
Total Obligations .....	959,000
Unavailable for Obligations (F&V Transfer to FNS) .....	122,000
Balances, Collections, and Recoveries Not Available .....	
Total, End of Year Balances .....	\$122,000

PAYMENTS TO STATES AND POSSESSIONS

The agreement provides \$1,235,000 for Payments to States and Possessions.

GRAIN INSPECTION, PACKERS AND STOCKYARDS

ADMINISTRATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement provides \$43,048,000 for the Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration.

LIMITATION ON INSPECTION AND WEIGHING  
SERVICES EXPENSES

The agreement includes a limitation on inspection and weighing services expenses of \$50,000,000.

## OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR FOOD SAFETY

The agreement provides \$816,000 for the Office of the Under Secretary for Food Safety.

## FOOD SAFETY AND INSPECTION SERVICE

The agreement provides \$1,016,474,000 for the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS).

There remains concern about countering economic fraud and improving the safety of the U.S. seafood supply. FSIS, in conjunction with other USDA agencies and FDA, is encouraged to support developing technologies that will provide rapid, portable, and facile screening of food fish species at port sites and wholesale and retail centers.

The following table reflects the agreement:

## FOOD SAFETY AND INSPECTION SERVICE

(Dollars in thousands)

Federal .....	\$900,641
State .....	60,905
International .....	16,589
Codex Alimentarius .....	3,759
Public Health Data Communications Infrastructure System .....	34,580
Total, Food Safety and Inspection Service .....	\$1,016,474

## OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR FARM AND FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICES

The agreement provides \$898,000 for the Office of the Under Secretary for Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services.

## FARM SERVICE AGENCY

## SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides \$1,200,180,000 for the Farm Service Agency.

The agreement includes sufficient funding to maintain staffing levels and does not support the significant funding and staffing shifts proposed in the budget request. The agreement does not permit the closure of 250 Farm Service Agency (FSA) county offices or the elimination of 815 non-federal staff years, as proposed in the budget. The agreement reiterates dissatisfaction with the agency's budget submission. The budget request did not provide a rationale for the proposed office closures and staffing changes, did not clearly describe the effect of those proposed actions, and did not include a timeline for the implementation that demonstrates how savings could be achieved. Therefore, the agreement includes a temporary moratorium on closing offices and relocating employees until a comprehensive assessment of workload, based on new farm bill requirements, can be conducted by the agency. FSA is directed to initiate a workload analysis to assess the impact of new farm bill programs on current and future activities in county offices nationwide and complete this analysis by August 1, 2015. In addition, the agreement directs the agency to enter into a contract with an independent third-party, the National Academy of Public Administration, and includes \$900,000 to conduct this independent review of the workload analysis and determine a clear path forward to ensure the agency continues to provide the highest level of customer service. The independent review shall begin within 30 days after completion of the workload analysis by FSA and the review shall be submitted to the Committees no later than one year after FSA has contracted with the third-party entity.

The agreement includes funding for FSA's information technology (IT) needs in order for the agency to effectively and efficiently

deliver farm programs to farmers, ranchers, and producers. In response to significant concerns regarding USDA's management of certain IT projects, especially the Modernize and Innovate the Delivery of Agricultural Systems (MIDAS) program, the agreement includes statutory language that allows FSA to release funds for IT projects only after it meets certain reporting requirements. The agreement includes such controls in response to USDA's mismanagement of funds and IT projects, including the use of funds intended for salaries and expenses for MIDAS. It is important to note that USDA derived such additional funds from a hiring freeze of FSA personnel—an action unknown to and never endorsed by the Congress. The Department's mismanagement of the MIDAS program is of greatest concern. MIDAS was intended to deliver a modernized, secure, and integrated IT solution. The planning for MIDAS began over 10 years ago, and after spending over \$400 million, USDA ended the MIDAS project by redefining the scope of the project and failing to deliver what USDA had promised Congress and the agricultural community. USDA is directed to deliver a modernized functional system that: builds existing farm program applications into an integrated system; delivers increased efficiency and security; retires redundant legacy systems; eliminates the path of siloed legacy applications; capitalizes on the investment that USDA has already made in the enterprise platform; addresses the new requirements required by the 2014 farm bill; and improves upon the capabilities originally promised to Congress and the Nation's farmers and ranchers. Further, the Secretary is directed to continue monthly briefings for the Committees regarding all IT projects and activities related to farm program delivery.

The Secretary is directed to operate the marketing assistance loan program in a way that encourages redemption and minimizes forfeitures of loan commodities to the Federal government, and enables the orderly marketing of loan commodities throughout the year. Further, the Secretary shall ensure that the marketing assistance loan program remains a viable tool for all producers to use in marketing loan commodities freely and competitively.

The following table reflects the agreement:

(Dollars in thousands)

Salaries and expenses .....	\$1,200,180
Transfer from P.L. 480 .....	2,528
Transfer from Export Loans .....	354
Transfer from ACIF .....	306,998
Total, FSA Salaries and expenses .....	\$1,510,060

## STATE MEDIATION GRANTS

The agreement provides \$3,404,000 for State Mediation Grants.

## GRASSROOTS SOURCE WATER PROTECTION PROGRAM

The agreement provides \$5,526,000 for the Grassroots Source Water Protection Program.

## DAIRY INDEMNITY PROGRAM

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides \$500,000 for the Dairy Indemnity Program.

## AGRICULTURAL CREDIT INSURANCE FUND PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The following table reflects the agreement:

(Dollars in thousands)

Farm Ownership Loans:	
Direct .....	(\$1,500,000)

(Dollars in thousands)

Subsidy .....	—
Guaranteed .....	(2,000,000)
Subsidy .....	—
Farm Operating Loans:	
Direct .....	(1,252,004)
Subsidy .....	63,101
Unsubsidized Guaranteed .....	(1,393,443)
Subsidy .....	14,770
Emergency Loans .....	(34,667)
Subsidy .....	856
Indian Tribe Land Acquisition Loans .....	(2,000)
Subsidy .....	—
Conservation Loans—Guaranteed .....	(150,000)
Subsidy .....	—
Indian Highly Fractionated Land .....	(10,000)
Subsidy .....	—
Boll Weevil Eradication .....	(60,000)
Subsidy .....	—
ACIF Expenses:	
Salaries and Expenses .....	\$306,998
Administrative Expenses .....	\$7,920

## RISK MANAGEMENT AGENCY

## SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement provides \$74,829,000 for the Risk Management Agency.

## CORPORATIONS

## FEDERAL CROP INSURANCE CORPORATION FUND

The agreement provides an appropriation of such sums as may be necessary for the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation Fund.

## COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION FUND

## REIMBURSEMENT FOR NET REALIZED LOSSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides an appropriation of such sums as may be necessary for Reimbursement for Net Realized Losses of the Commodity Credit Corporation.

## HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT

(LIMITATION ON EXPENSES)

The agreement provides a limitation of \$5,000,000 for Hazardous Waste Management.

## TITLE II—CONSERVATION PROGRAMS

## OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR

## NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT

The agreement provides \$898,000 for the Office of the Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment.

## NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

## CONSERVATION OPERATIONS

The agreement provides \$846,428,000 for Conservation Operations.

The agreement provides \$9,300,000 for the Snow Survey and Water Forecasting Program; \$9,400,000 for the Plant Materials Centers; \$80,000,000 for the Soil Surveys Program; and \$747,728,000 for conservation technical assistance.

## WATERSHED REHABILITATION PROGRAM

The agreement provides \$12,000,000 for the Watershed Rehabilitation Program.

## TITLE III—RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

## OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT

The agreement provides \$898,000 for the Office of the Under Secretary for Rural Development.

## RURAL DEVELOPMENT

## SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides \$224,201,000 for Rural Development, Salaries and Expenses.

## RURAL HOUSING SERVICE

## RURAL HOUSING INSURANCE FUND PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides a total subsidy of \$510,943,000 for activities under the Rural



Housing Insurance Fund Program Account. This includes a transfer of \$415,100,000 to the Rural Development, Salaries and Expenses account.

The agreement directs the Department to provide a report to the Committees by March 1, 2015, describing in detail the proposal to charge lenders a Guaranteed Underwriting User Fee. At a minimum, the report should include information regarding the current Guaranteed Underwriting System, the need and plan to enhance and maintain the system, the lenders that will utilize the system, the effect on borrowers, the use of collected fees for enhancement and maintenance purposes, and how the Department intends to manage and account for the collected fees.

The following table indicates loan, subsidy, and grant levels provided by the agreement:

(Dollars in thousands)	
Loan authorizations:	
Single family direct (sec. 502) .....	(\$900,000)
Single family unsubsidized guaranteed .....	(24,000,000)
Housing repair (sec. 504) .....	(26,279)
Rental housing (sec. 515) .....	(28,398)
Multi-family guaranteed (sec. 538) .....	(150,000)
Credit sales of acquired property .....	(10,000)
Self-help housing land development (sec. 523) ....	(5,000)
Site development loans (sec. 524) .....	(5,000)
Farm labor housing .....	(23,602)
Total, Loan authorizations .....	(\$25,148,279)
Loan subsidies:	
Single family direct (sec. 502) .....	\$66,420
Housing repair (sec. 504) .....	3,687
Rental housing (sec. 515) .....	9,800
Farm labor housing .....	7,600
Subtotal, Loan subsidies .....	87,507
Farm labor housing grants .....	8,336
Total, loan subsidies and grants .....	95,843
Administrative expenses (transfer to RD) .....	415,100
Total, Loan subsidies, grants, and administrative expenses .....	\$510,943

#### RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The agreement provides \$1,088,500,000 for the Rental Assistance Program.

The agreement directs the Department to provide a report no later than June 1, 2015, regarding implementation of the new authority related to the Rental Assistance Program. At a minimum, the report should include information on the timeline for implementation; the contracts and properties affected; any mitigation measures the Department utilized; the status of the transition to the new process for determining rental rates; and the effect on the program as a whole.

#### MULTI-FAMILY HOUSING REVITALIZATION PROGRAM ACCOUNT

The agreement provides \$24,000,000 for the Multi-Family Housing Revitalization Program Account. This includes \$7,000,000 for vouchers and \$17,000,000 for a housing preservation demonstration program.

#### MUTUAL AND SELF-HELP HOUSING GRANTS

The agreement provides \$27,500,000 for Mutual and Self-Help Housing Grants.

#### RURAL HOUSING ASSISTANCE GRANTS

The agreement provides \$32,239,000 for Rural Housing Assistance Grants.

The following table reflects the grant levels provided by the agreement:

(Dollars in thousands)	
Very-low income housing repair grants .....	\$28,701
Housing preservation grants .....	3,538
Total, grants .....	\$32,239

#### RURAL COMMUNITY FACILITIES PROGRAM ACCOUNT

##### (INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides \$30,278,000 for the Rural Community Facilities Program Account.

The following table reflects the loan, subsidy, and grant amounts provided by the agreement:

(Dollars in thousands)	
Loan Authorizations:	
CF direct loans .....	(\$2,200,000)
CF guaranteed loans .....	(73,222)
Loan Subsidies and Grants:	
CF guaranteed loans .....	3,500
CF grants .....	13,000
Rural Community Development Initiative .....	4,000
Economic Impact Initiative .....	5,778
Tribal College Grants .....	4,000
Total, subsidies and grants .....	\$30,278

#### RURAL BUSINESS-COOPERATIVE SERVICE

##### RURAL BUSINESS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

##### (INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides \$74,000,000 for the Rural Business Program Account.

The following table reflects the loan, subsidy, and grant levels provided by the agreement:

(Dollars in thousands)	
Guaranteed loan authorization .....	(\$919,765)
Guaranteed loan subsidy .....	47,000
Rural business development grants .....	24,000
Delta Regional Authority .....	3,000
Total, subsidy and grants .....	\$74,000

#### INTERMEDIARY RELENDING PROGRAM FUND ACCOUNT

##### (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides \$10,257,000 for the Rural Development Loan Fund Program Account.

The agreement provides for a transfer of \$4,439,000 to the Rural Development, Salaries and Expenses account.

The following table reflects the loan and subsidy levels provided by the agreement:

(Dollars in thousands)	
Loan authorization .....	(\$18,889)
Loan subsidy .....	5,818
Administrative expenses (Transfer to RD) .....	4,439
Total, subsidy and administrative expenses .....	\$10,257

#### RURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT LOANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

##### (INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides \$33,077,000 for the Rural Economic Development Loans Program Account.

#### RURAL COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT GRANTS

The agreement provides \$22,050,000 for Rural Cooperative Development Grants.

#### RURAL ENERGY FOR AMERICA PROGRAM

The agreement provides \$1,350,000 for the Rural Energy for America Program.

#### RURAL UTILITIES SERVICE

#### RURAL WATER AND WASTE DISPOSAL PROGRAM ACCOUNT

##### (INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides \$464,857,000 for the Rural Water and Waste Disposal Program Account.

The following table reflects the loan, subsidy, and grant levels provided by the agreement:

(Dollars in thousands)

Loan authorizations:	
Water and waste direct loans .....	(\$1,200,000)
Water and waste guaranteed loans .....	(50,000)
Subsidies and grants:	
Guaranteed loan subsidy .....	295
Water and waste revolving fund .....	1,000
Water well system grants .....	993
Grants for Colonias, Native Americans, Alaskan Native Villages, and Hawaiian Home Lands:	66,500
Water and waste technical assistance grants .....	19,000
Circuit Rider program .....	15,919
Solid waste management grants .....	4,000
High energy cost grants .....	10,000
Water and waste disposal grants .....	347,150
Total, subsidies and grants .....	\$464,857

#### RURAL ELECTRIFICATION AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS LOANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

##### (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides \$34,478,000 for activities under the Rural Electrification and Telecommunications Loans Program Account. The agreement provides for an estimated loan level of \$6,190,000,000.

The agreement provides for a transfer of \$34,478,000 to the Rural Development, Salaries and Expenses account.

The following table indicates loan levels provided by the agreement:

(Dollars in thousands)	
Loan authorizations:	
Electric:	
Direct, FFB .....	(\$5,000,000)
Guaranteed underwriting .....	(500,000)
Subtotal .....	(5,500,000)
Telecommunications .....	(690,000)
Total, loan authorizations .....	(6,190,000)
Administrative expenses (transfer to RD) .....	34,478
Total, Loan subsidies and administrative expenses .....	\$34,478

#### DISTANCE LEARNING, TELEMEDICINE, AND BROADBAND PROGRAM

The agreement provides \$36,872,000 for the Distance Learning, Telemedicine, and Broadband Program.

The agreement provides \$22,000,000 for grants for telemedicine and distance learning services in rural areas. The agreement provides \$3,000,000 for telemedicine and distance learning grants for health needs in the Mississippi River Delta area.

The agreement provides \$10,372,000 for grants to finance broadband transmission and Internet services in unserved rural areas.

The agreement provides an estimated loan level of \$24,077,000 and \$4,500,000 in subsidy for broadband telecommunications.

#### TITLE IV—DOMESTIC FOOD PROGRAMS

##### OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR FOOD, NUTRITION, AND CONSUMER SERVICES

The agreement provides \$816,000 for the Office of the Under Secretary for Food, Nutrition, and Consumer Services.

#### FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICE

##### CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAMS

##### (INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides \$21,300,170,000 for Child Nutrition Programs. Included in the total is an appropriated amount of \$12,944,499,000 and a transfer from Section 32 of \$8,355,671,000.

Some schools are having difficulty complying with the 100 percent whole grain requirement that went into effect July 1, 2014, and there is concern about further reductions in the sodium requirements for school

meals. In lieu of the language in the House and Senate reports on School Meals, the agreement provides bill language pertaining to whole grain and sodium standards. The Secretary is directed to allow States to grant an exemption from the whole grain requirements to those school food authorities that demonstrate a hardship, including financial hardship, in procuring whole grain products. Additionally, sodium standards cannot be reduced below Target 1 until the latest scientific research establishes the reduction is beneficial for children.

The agreement directs the Secretary to use the authority under the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 to allow States to vary the frequency of monitoring and compliance reviews of each school food authority based on past school performance, with no cycle extending more than five years. The Secretary shall submit a report to the Committees that describes the Department's process for allowing States to prioritize monitoring and compliance reviews.

USDA issued a proposed rule in the Federal Register on February 4, 2014, titled "Professional Standards for State and Local School Nutrition Programs Personnel." As this process moves forward, USDA is encouraged to work with schools to ensure this regulation does not result in unintended consequences.

The agreement provides the following for Child Nutrition Programs:

**TOTAL OBLIGATIONAL AUTHORITY**  
(Dollars in thousands)

Child Nutrition Programs:	
School lunch program .....	\$11,996,089
School breakfast program .....	3,959,929
Child and adult care food program .....	3,195,866
Summer food service program .....	495,521
Special milk program .....	11,216
State administrative expenses .....	263,686
Commodity procurement .....	1,255,510
Food safety education .....	2,718
Coordinated review .....	10,000
Computer support and processing .....	11,250
CACFP training and technical assistance .....	8,137
Child Nutrition Program studies and evaluations .....	20,079
Child Nutrition payment accuracy .....	9,904
Farm to school tactical team .....	2,261
Team Nutrition .....	15,504
Healthier US Schools Challenge .....	1,500
School meals equipment grants .....	25,000
Summer EBT demonstration .....	16,000
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$21,300,170</b>

**SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM  
FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC)**

The agreement provides \$6,623,000,000 for the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC).

Based upon revised USDA estimates, the agreement fully funds all eligible WIC participants in fiscal year 2015. The agreement includes \$25,000,000 for States to continue transitioning from paper checks and vouchers to an Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) system. EBT is a proven, effective tool in combatting waste, fraud, and abuse, and all WIC state agencies are mandated to have an EBT system in place by October 1, 2020.

**SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE  
PROGRAM**

The agreement provides \$81,837,570,000 for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). The agreement includes \$3,000,000,000 to be made available for a contingency reserve. The agreement provides a funding level for SNAP benefits as reflected in OMB's mid-session review of the budget.

The agreement provides the following for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program:

**TOTAL OBLIGATIONAL AUTHORITY**  
(Dollars in thousands)

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program:	
Benefits .....	\$71,035,786
Contingency Reserve .....	3,000,000
State Administrative Costs .....	4,122,994
Nutrition Education and Obesity Prevention Grant Program .....	407,000
Employment and Training .....	447,227
Mandatory Other Program Costs .....	174,992
Discretionary Other Program Costs .....	998
Nutrition Assistance for Puerto Rico (NAP) .....	1,951,397
Nutrition Assistance for American Samoa .....	7,837
Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations .....	145,191
TEFAP Commodities .....	327,000
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands .....	12,148
Community Food Projects .....	9,000
E&T Work Pilot .....	190,000
Pilots and Demonstration Projects .....	1,000
Program Access .....	5,000
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$81,837,570</b>

**COMMODITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

The agreement provides \$278,501,000 for the Commodity Assistance Program. This total provides \$211,482,000 for the Commodity Supplemental Food Program to fully fund existing caseload in fiscal year 2015 and includes \$2,800,000 to begin service in seven additional States with approved plans. The agreement provides \$16,548,000 for the Farmers' Market Nutrition Program; \$49,401,000 for TEFAP administrative funding; and \$1,070,000 for Pacific Island Assistance.

**NUTRITION PROGRAMS ADMINISTRATION**

The agreement includes \$150,824,000 for Nutrition Programs Administration.

There is concern that the advisory committee for the 2015 Dietary Guidelines for Americans is considering issues outside of the nutritional focus of the panel. The advisory committee is showing an interest in incorporating agriculture production practices and environmental factors into their criteria for establishing the next dietary recommendations. The agreement expects the Secretary to ensure that the advisory committee focuses on nutrient and dietary recommendations based upon sound nutrition science. The agreement directs the Secretary to only include nutrition and dietary information, not extraneous factors, in the final 2015 Dietary Guidelines for Americans.

**TITLE V—FOREIGN ASSISTANCE AND  
RELATED PROGRAMS**

**FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE**

**SALARIES AND EXPENSES**

**(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)**

The agreement provides \$181,423,000 for the Foreign Agricultural Service, Salaries and Expenses and transfers of \$6,394,000.

The agreement directs the agency to incorporate the outcome-based measures for trade promotion as recommended in the Inspector General Audit Report 50601-0001-22 into its fiscal year 2016 budget justifications. In addition, the agency is directed to include budget estimates, major object class percentages, and authority for the programs, projects, and activities it carries out, including the middle-income country training programs and the Borlaug Fellowship program.

**FOOD FOR PEACE TITLE I DIRECT CREDIT AND  
FOOD FOR PROGRESS PROGRAM ACCOUNT  
(INCLUDING RESCISSION AND TRANSFER OF  
FUNDS)**

The agreement provides \$2,528,000 for administrative expenses for the Food for Peace Title I Direct Credit and Food for Progress Program Account to be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for "Farm Service Agency, Salaries and Expenses".

**FOOD FOR PEACE TITLE II GRANTS**

The agreement provides \$1,466,000,000 for Food for Peace Title II Grants.

**MCGOVERN-DOLE INTERNATIONAL FOOD FOR  
EDUCATION AND CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAM  
GRANTS**

The agreement provides \$191,626,000 for the McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program.

**COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION EXPORT  
(LOANS)**

**CREDIT GUARANTEE PROGRAM ACCOUNT**

**(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)**

The agreement provides \$6,748,000 for the Commodity Credit Corporation Export Loans Credit Guarantee Program Account.

**TITLE VI—RELATED AGENCY AND FOOD  
AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION**

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN  
SERVICES**

**FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION**

**SALARIES AND EXPENSES**

The agreement provides \$2,588,536,000 in new discretionary budget authority and \$1,854,820,000 in definite user fees for a total of \$4,443,356,000 for Food and Drug Administration, Salaries and Expenses. The agreement provides specific amounts by FDA activity as reflected in the following table:

**FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION—SALARIES &  
EXPENSES**

(Dollars in thousands)

Budget Authority:	
Foods .....	\$903,403
Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition .....	279,994
Field Activities .....	623,409
Human Drugs .....	482,287
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research .....	346,080
Field Activities .....	136,207
Biologics .....	211,382
Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research .....	171,096
Field Activities .....	40,286
Animal Drugs and Feeds .....	147,577
Center for Veterinary Medicine .....	93,505
Field Activities .....	54,072
Devices and Radiological Products .....	320,825
Center for Devices and Radiological Health .....	240,345
Field Activities .....	80,480
National Center for Toxicological Research .....	63,331
Other Activities/Office of the Commissioner .....	174,862
White Oak Consolidation .....	43,044
GSA Rent .....	168,882
Other Rent and Rent Related .....	72,943
<b>Subtotal, Budget Authority .....</b>	<b>2,588,536</b>
User Fees:	
Prescription Drug User Fee Act .....	798,000
Medical Device User Fee and Modernization Act .....	128,282
Animal Drug User Fee Act .....	22,464
Animal Generic Drug User Fee Act .....	6,944
Tobacco Product User Fees .....	566,000
Human Generic Drug User Fee Act .....	312,116
Biosimilar User Fee Act .....	21,014
<b>Subtotal, User Fees .....</b>	<b>1,854,820</b>
<b>Total, FDA Program Level .....</b>	<b>\$4,443,356</b>

The agreement includes the following increases in budget authority: \$27,500,000 for food safety; \$15,000,000 for pharmacy compounding; \$4,820,000 for counterfeit drugs; \$3,000,000 for the National Antimicrobial Resistance Monitoring System; and \$2,000,000 for foreign drug inspections. The agreement also accepts proposed administrative savings in the amount of \$15,689,000.

The agreement includes an increase of \$4,820,000 to provide FDA with additional resources to investigate counterfeit drugs both within the United States and internationally. These funds will be used to complete

undercover purchases of suspected counterfeit products for testing; to remove counterfeit products from the market; and to prosecute criminal actors. The growing marketplace for counterfeit drugs available on the Internet is particularly concerning, and these funds will allow FDA to enhance its cybercrime program, which will ultimately allow FDA to seek appropriate criminal fines and forfeitures, and to protect the public health.

The \$2,000,000 increase for foreign drug safety is provided to address the growing number of human drugs produced overseas and the increasing number of imported drug shipments in order to ensure the continued safety and quality of these products. Funds are provided to support the agency's overseas inspections, work with industry and other stakeholders on safety in manufacturing, strengthen agency relationships with foreign regulators, and analyze trends and events that might affect the safety of FDA-regulated products exported to the United States. The increased funding will supplement existing resources and not supplant base funds.

During the past year, FDA has informed non-governmental stakeholders of important decisions and announcements before they informed the Committees. A collaborative working relationship between the Committees and agency is necessary to ensure efficient and effective implementation of Congress's funding decisions. These actions jeopardized this relationship. As such, FDA is directed to ensure the Committees are notified of major changes to existing policies and any significant developments in its operations prior to providing non-governmental stakeholders such information.

On December 1, 2014, FDA published a final regulation entitled "Food Labeling: Nutrition Labeling of Standard Menu Items in Restaurants." Prior to implementation or enforcement of the regulation, FDA shall work with industry and other stakeholders to identify questions and concerns, and provide any clarification necessary, including publication of any necessary guidance, not later than March 1, 2015.

Congress is closely following the advancement of the field of mitochondrial manipulation technologies and is aware of a study commissioned from the Institute of Medicine on "Ethical and Social Policy Considerations of Novel Techniques for Prevention of Maternal Transmission of Mitochondrial DNA Diseases." FDA is directed to notify the Committees when the final report becomes available. As science progresses in this field, the agency is also directed to notify the Committees within three business days of issuing reports or press releases related to decisions on this matter, including the approval of clinical trials and future reviews.

The FDA Circular of Information for the Use of Human Blood and Blood Components states that plasma from different sources has identical clinical indications. Plasma from manual donation may be transfused, and if not needed for that indication may be sent for further manufacture into biologics such as immunoglobulin, clotting factor concentrates, and albumin. However, plasma from automated donation may be transfused but cannot be shipped for further manufacture until approximately one year after the donation. At that point, the plasma is too old to be manufactured into other biologics and is destroyed and wasted. FDA is directed to report to the Committees on the scientific or medical justification for the different

post-donation manufacturing policies and under what circumstances those policies might be adjusted to allow for the more timely use of plasma from automated donations into other biologics.

FDA issued the proposed rule "Supplemental Applications Proposing Labeling Changes for Approved Drugs and Biological Products" in November 2013 to propose changes to the current regulations and practices that govern labeling changes of an approved drug or biological product to reflect certain types of newly acquired safety information. In addition to FDA's continued review of comments submitted in response to the proposed rule, the agreement supports a listening meeting between the regulated industries and FDA within 30 days of enactment to consider alternative solutions to the proposed rule on safety labeling that will meet all public health goals relating to multisource drugs.

The agreement directs the Commissioner to finalize the Veterinary Feed Directive rule prior to April 1, 2015.

Over the past five years FDA's responsibilities have grown significantly and resources available to the agency have increased more than 60 percent. There is concern that oversight of FDA has not kept pace with the growth in the agency's regulatory authority or funding. Therefore, the agreement includes \$1,500,000 for the HHS Office of Inspector General specifically for oversight activities supported within the Inspector General's regular appropriation. The Inspector General is instructed to submit a plan to the Committees on the additional oversight activities planned with this funding and base funding for FDA oversight.

#### BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

The agreement provides \$8,788,000 for the Food and Drug Administration Buildings and Facilities.

#### INDEPENDENT AGENCY

##### FARM CREDIT ADMINISTRATION

##### LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

The agreement includes a limitation of \$60,500,000 on administrative expenses of the Farm Credit Administration.

##### TITLE VII—GENERAL PROVISIONS

##### (INCLUDING RESCISSIONS AND TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

Section 701.—The agreement includes language making funds available for the purchase, replacement, and hire of passenger motor vehicles.

Section 702.—The agreement includes language regarding transfers of funds to the Working Capital Fund of the Department of Agriculture.

Section 703.—The agreement includes language limiting funding provided in the bill to one year unless otherwise specified.

Section 704.—The agreement includes language regarding indirect cost rates on cooperative agreements between the Department of Agriculture and nonprofit institutions.

Section 705.—The agreement includes language making appropriations to the Department of Agriculture for the cost of direct and guaranteed loans available until expended to disburse certain obligations for certain Rural Development programs.

Section 706.—The agreement includes language regarding the transfer of funds to the Office of the Chief Information Officer and the acquisition of information technology systems.

Section 707.—The agreement includes language making funds available until expended to the Department of Agriculture to disburse

certain obligations for certain conservation programs.

Section 708.—The agreement includes language regarding Rural Utilities Service program eligibility.

Section 709.—The agreement includes language regarding the rescission of certain unobligated balances.

Section 710.—The agreement includes language regarding funds for information technology expenses.

Section 711.—The agreement includes language regarding the availability of funds for liquid infant formula.

Section 712.—The agreement includes language prohibiting first-class airline travel.

Section 713.—The agreement includes language regarding the availability of certain funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation.

Section 714.—The agreement includes language regarding funding for advisory committees.

Section 715.—The agreement includes language regarding the limitation on indirect costs for grants awarded by the National Institute of Food and Agriculture.

Section 716.—The agreement includes language regarding a limitation and rescission of funds.

Section 717.—The agreement includes language regarding a limitation and rescission of funds.

Section 718.—The agreement includes language regarding user fee proposals without offsets.

Section 719.—The agreement includes language regarding the reprogramming of funds and notification requirements.

Section 720.—The agreement includes language regarding fees for the guaranteed business and industry loan program.

Section 721.—The agreement includes language regarding the appropriations hearing process.

Section 722.—The agreement includes language regarding government-sponsored news stories.

Section 723.—The agreement includes language regarding details and assignments of Department of Agriculture employees.

Section 724.—The agreement includes language regarding the Department of Agriculture's mohair program.

Section 725.—The agreement includes language regarding section 1621 of Public Law 110-246.

Section 726.—The agreement includes language regarding a pilot program for certain forest lands.

Section 727.—The agreement includes language requiring spend plans.

Section 728.—The agreement includes language regarding the Food for Peace Act.

Section 729.—The agreement includes language regarding Rural Development programs.

Section 730.—The agreement includes language regarding USDA loan programs.

Section 731.—The agreement includes language regarding the Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration.

Section 732.—The agreement includes language regarding the Working Capital Fund of the Department of Agriculture.

Section 733.—The agreement includes language regarding farm disaster programs.

Section 734.—The agreement includes language regarding the Food and Drug Administration.

Section 735.—The agreement includes language regarding the limitation on certain funds.

Section 736.—The agreement includes language regarding nutrition programs.

Section 737.—The agreement includes language regarding the Water Bank Act.

Section 738.—The agreement includes language regarding the Department of Health and Human Services.

Section 739.—The agreement includes language regarding Rural Economic Area Partnership Zones.

Section 740.—The agreement includes language regarding the Emergency Community Water Assistance Grant Program.

Section 741.—The agreement includes language regarding the Food Safety and Inspection Service.

Section 742.—The agreement includes language regarding non-recurring expenses.

Section 743.—The agreement includes language regarding emergency spending.

Section 744.—The agreement includes language regarding administrative expenses.

Section 745.—The agreement includes language regarding the rescission of certain unobligated balances.

Section 746.—The agreement includes language regarding the rescission of certain unobligated balances.

Section 747.—The agreement includes language regarding the organic checkoff program.

Section 748.—The agreement includes language regarding the rescission of certain unobligated balances.

Section 749.—The agreement includes language regarding the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative.

Section 750.—The agreement includes language regarding the use of funds for certain horse inspection activities.

Section 751.—The agreement includes language regarding school meal programs.

Section 752.—The agreement includes language regarding school meal programs.

Section 753.—The agreement includes language regarding purchases made through nutrition programs.

#### TITLE VIII—EBOLA RESPONSE AND PREPAREDNESS

##### DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

##### FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION

##### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement provides \$25,000,000 for Food and Drug Administration (FDA) activities related to the ongoing response to the Ebola epidemic. FDA shall provide quarterly obligation reports by program with specific accomplishments.

FDA is reminded that the funding provided for this effort is one-time and the agency should not engage in activities that will require additional resources in future fiscal years that are not included in the budget request. FDA is further reminded that all funding provided to the agency is subject to the reprogramming requirements in section 719 of this Act.

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(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
TITLE I - AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS					
Production, Processing, and Marketing					
Office of the Secretary					
Office of the Secretary.....	5,051	5,086	5,051	---	-35
Office of Tribal Relations.....	498	502	502	+4	---
Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Coordination.....	1,496	1,507	1,496	---	-11
Office of Advocacy and Outreach.....	1,209	1,217	1,209	---	-8
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration..	804	809	804	---	-5
Departmental Administration.....	22,786	25,661	25,124	+2,338	-537
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations.....	3,869	3,897	3,869	---	-28
Office of Communications.....	8,065	8,137	7,750	-315	-387
Total, Office of the Secretary.....	43,778	46,816	45,805	+2,027	-1,011
Executive Operations:					
Office of the Chief Economist.....	16,777	16,854	17,377	+600	+523
National Appeals Division.....	12,841	13,430	13,317	+476	-113
Office of Budget and Program Analysis.....	9,064	10,292	9,392	+328	-900
Subtotal, Executive Operations.....	38,682	40,576	40,086	+1,404	-490
Office of the Chief Information Officer.....	44,031	45,199	45,045	+1,014	-154
Office of the Chief Financial Officer.....	6,213	6,080	6,028	-185	-52
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights....	893	898	898	+5	---

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	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Office of Civil Rights.....	21,400	24,236	24,070	+2,670	-166
Agriculture buildings and facilities and rental payments.....	(233,000)	(64,825)	(55,866)	(-177,134)	(-8,959)
Payments to GSA.....	164,470	---	---	-164,470	---
Department of Homeland Security.....	13,800	---	---	-13,800	---
Building operations and maintenance.....	54,730	64,825	55,866	+1,136	-8,959
Hazardous materials management.....	3,592	3,600	3,600	+8	---
Office of Inspector General.....	89,902	97,240	95,026	+5,124	-2,214
Office of the General Counsel.....	41,202	47,567	44,383	+3,181	-3,184
Office of Ethics.....	3,440	3,867	3,654	+214	-213
Total, Departmental Administration.....	526,133	380,904	364,461	-161,672	-16,443
Office of the Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics.....	893	898	898	+5	---
Economic Research Service.....	78,058	83,446	85,373	+7,315	+1,927
National Agricultural Statistics Service.....	161,206	178,999	172,408	+11,202	-6,591
Census of Agriculture.....	(44,545)	(48,044)	(47,842)	(+3,297)	(-202)
Agricultural Research Service:					
Salaries and expenses.....	1,122,482	1,104,403	1,132,625	+10,143	+28,222
Buildings and facilities.....	---	---	45,000	+45,000	+45,000
Total, Agricultural Research Service.....	1,122,482	1,104,403	1,177,625	+55,143	+73,222

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	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
National Institute of Food and Agriculture:					
Research and education activities.....	772,559	837,747	786,874	+14,315	-50,873
Native American Institutions Endowment Fund.....	(11,880)	(11,880)	(11,880)	---	---
Hispanic-Serving Agricultural Colleges and Universities Endowment Fund.....	---	(10,000)	---	---	(-10,000)
Extension activities.....	469,191	468,968	471,691	+2,500	+2,723
Integrated activities.....	35,317	28,821	30,900	-4,417	+2,079
Total, National Institute of Food and Agriculture.....	1,277,067	1,335,536	1,289,465	+12,398	-46,071
Office of the Under Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs.....	893	898	898	+5	---
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service:					
Salaries and expenses.....	821,721	834,341	871,315	+49,594	+36,974
Buildings and facilities.....	3,175	3,175	3,175	---	---
Total, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.....	824,896	837,516	874,490	+49,594	+36,974
Agricultural Marketing Service:					
Marketing Services.....	79,914	82,963	81,192	+1,278	-1,771
Standardization activities (user fees) NA.....	(64,000)	(64,000)	(64,000)	---	---
(Limitation on administrative expenses, from fees collected).....	(60,435)	(60,709)	(60,709)	(+274)	---
Funds for strengthening markets, income, and supply (Section 32):					
Permanent, Section 32.....	1,107,000	1,122,000	1,284,000	+177,000	+162,000



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	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Marketing agreements and orders (transfer from section 32).....	(20,056)	(20,317)	(20,186)	(+130)	(-131)
Payments to States and Possessions.....	1,363	1,235	1,235	-128	---
Total, Agricultural Marketing Service program...	1,248,712	1,266,907	1,427,136	+178,424	+160,229
Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration:					
Salaries and expenses.....	40,261	44,017	43,048	+2,787	-969
Limitation on inspection and weighing services....	(50,000)	(50,000)	(50,000)	---	---
Office of the Under Secretary for Food Safety.....	811	816	816	+5	---
Food Safety and Inspection Service.....	1,010,689	1,001,402	1,016,474	+5,785	+15,072
Lab accreditation fees.....	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	---	---
Total, Production, Processing, and Marketing....	6,231,666	6,175,033	6,392,383	+160,717	+217,350

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	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
<b>Farm Assistance Programs</b>					
Office of the Under Secretary for Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services.....	893	898	898	+5	---
<b>Farm Service Agency:</b>					
Salaries and expenses.....	1,177,926	1,139,323	1,200,180	+22,254	+60,857
(Transfer from Food for Peace (P.L. 480)).....	(2,735)	(2,528)	(2,528)	(-207)	---
(Transfer from export loans).....	(354)	(354)	(354)	---	---
(Transfer from ACIF).....	(306,998)	(306,998)	(306,998)	---	---
Subtotal, transfers from program accounts.....	(310,087)	(309,880)	(309,880)	(-207)	---
Total, Salaries and expenses.....	(1,488,013)	(1,449,203)	(1,510,060)	(+22,047)	(+60,857)
State mediation grants.....	3,782	3,404	3,404	-378	---
Grassroots source water protection program.....	5,526	---	5,526	---	+5,526
Dairy indemnity program.....	250	500	500	+250	---
Subtotal, Farm Service Agency.....	1,187,484	1,143,227	1,209,610	+22,126	+66,383
<b>Agricultural Credit Insurance Fund (ACIF) Program</b>					
Account:					
Loan authorizations:					
Farm ownership loans:					
Direct.....	(575,000)	(1,500,000)	(1,500,000)	(+925,000)	---
Guaranteed.....	(2,000,000)	(2,000,000)	(2,000,000)	---	---
Subtotal.....	(2,575,000)	(3,500,000)	(3,500,000)	(+925,000)	---

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	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
<b>Farm operating loans:</b>					
Direct.....	(1,195,620)	(1,252,004)	(1,252,004)	(+56,384)	---
Unsubsidized guaranteed.....	(1,500,000)	(1,393,443)	(1,393,443)	(-106,557)	---
Subtotal.....	(2,695,620)	(2,645,447)	(2,645,447)	(-50,173)	---
<b>Emergency loans:</b>					
Indian tribe land acquisition loans.....	(34,658)	(34,667)	(34,667)	(+9)	---
Conservation loans:	(2,000)	(2,000)	(2,000)	---	---
Guaranteed.....	(150,000)	(150,000)	(150,000)	---	---
Indian Highly Fractionated Land Loans.....	(10,000)	(10,000)	(10,000)	---	---
Boll weevil eradication loans.....	(60,000)	(60,000)	(60,000)	---	---
Total, Loan authorizations.....	(5,527,278)	(6,402,114)	(6,402,114)	(+874,836)	---
<b>Loan subsidies:</b>					
Farm ownership loans:					
Direct.....	4,428	---	---	-4,428	---

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	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Farm operating loans:					
Direct.....	65,520	63,101	63,101	-2,419	---
Unsubsidized guaranteed.....	18,300	14,770	14,770	-3,530	---
Subtotal.....	83,820	77,871	77,871	-5,949	---
Emergency Loans.....	1,698	856	856	-842	---
Indian Highly Fractionated Land Loans.....	68	---	---	-68	---
Individual development account grants.....	---	2,500	---	---	-2,500
Total, Loan subsidies and grants.....	90,014	81,227	78,727	-11,287	-2,500
ACIF administrative expenses:					
Salaries and expense (transfer to FSA)....	306,998	306,998	306,998	---	---
Administrative expenses.....	7,721	7,920	7,920	+199	---
Total, ACIF expenses.....	314,719	314,918	314,918	+199	---
Total, Agricultural Credit Insurance Fund... (Loan authorization).....	404,733 (5,527,278)	396,145 (6,402,114)	393,645 (6,402,114)	-11,088 (+874,836)	-2,500
Total, Farm Service Agency.....	1,592,217	1,539,372	1,603,255	+11,038	+63,883

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	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
<b>Risk Management Agency:</b>					
Administrative and operating expenses.....	71,496	76,779	74,829	+3,333	-1,950
Total, Farm Assistance Programs.....	1,664,606	1,617,049	1,678,982	+14,376	+61,933
<b>Corporations</b>					
<b>Federal Crop Insurance Corporation:</b>					
Federal crop insurance corporation fund.....	9,502,944	8,666,022	8,666,022	-836,922	---
Commodity Credit Corporation Fund:					
Reimbursement for net realized losses.....	12,538,880	9,067,281	13,444,728	+905,848	+4,377,447
Hazardous waste management (limitation on expenses).....	(5,000)	(5,000)	(5,000)	---	---
Total, Corporations.....	22,041,824	17,733,303	22,110,750	+68,926	+4,377,447
<b>Total, Title I, Agricultural Programs.....</b>					
(By transfer).....	29,938,096	25,525,365	30,182,115	+244,019	+4,656,730
(Loan authorization).....	(330,143)	(330,197)	(330,066)	(-77)	(-131)
(Limitation on administrative expenses).....	(5,527,278)	(6,402,114)	(6,402,114)	(+874,836)	---
	(115,435)	(115,709)	(115,709)	(+274)	---

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	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
TITLE II - CONSERVATION PROGRAMS					
Office of the Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment.....	893	898	898	+5	---
Natural Resources Conservation Service:					
Conservation operations.....	812,939	814,772	846,428	+33,489	+31,656
Farm Security and Rural Investment program (transfer authority).....	---	(732,819)	---	---	(-732,819)
Total, Public Lands Conservation operations.	812,939	1,547,591	846,428	+33,489	-701,163
Watershed rehabilitation program.....	12,000	---	12,000	---	+12,000
Total, Natural Resources Conservation Service...	824,939	814,772	858,428	+33,489	+43,656
Total, Title II, Conservation Programs.....	825,832	815,670	859,326	+33,494	+43,656

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	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
TITLE III - RURAL DEVELOPMENT					
Office of the Under Secretary for Rural Development...	893	898	898	+5	---
Rural Development:					
Rural development expenses:					
Salaries and expenses.....	203,424	225,101	224,201	+20,777	-900
(Transfer from RHIF).....	(415,100)	(397,296)	(415,100)	---	(+17,804)
(Transfer from RDLFP).....	(4,439)	(4,249)	(4,439)	---	(+190)
(Transfer from Healthy Foods, HNI).....	---	(750)	---	---	(-750)
(Transfer from RETLP).....	(34,478)	(33,000)	(34,478)	---	(+1,478)
Subtotal, Transfers from program accounts.	(454,017)	(435,295)	(454,017)	---	(+18,722)
Total, Rural development expenses.....	(657,441)	(660,396)	(678,218)	(+20,777)	(+17,822)
Rural Housing Service:					
Rural Housing Insurance Fund Program Account:					
Loan authorizations:					
Single family direct (Sec. 502).....	(900,000)	(360,000)	(900,000)	---	(+540,000)
Unsubsidized guaranteed.....	(24,000,000)	(24,000,000)	(24,000,000)	---	---
Subtotal, Single family.....	(24,900,000)	(24,360,000)	(24,900,000)	---	(+540,000)



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	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Housing repair (Sec. 504).....	(26,280)	(26,279)	(26,279)	(-1)	---
Rental housing (Sec. 515).....	(28,432)	(28,432)	(28,398)	(-34)	(-34)
Multi-family housing guarantees (Sec. 538)	(150,000)	(150,000)	(150,000)	---	---
Site development loans (Sec. 524).....	(5,000)	(5,000)	(5,000)	---	---
Single family housing credit sales.....	(10,000)	(10,000)	(10,000)	---	---
Self-help housing land develop. (Sec. 523)	(5,000)	---	(5,000)	---	(+5,000)
Farm Labor Housing (Sec.514).....	(23,855)	(23,854)	(23,602)	(-253)	(-252)
Total, Loan authorizations.....	(25,148,567)	(24,603,565)	(25,148,279)	(-288)	(+544,714)
Loan subsidies:					
Single family direct (Sec. 502).....	24,480	26,568	66,420	+41,940	+39,852
Housing repair (Sec. 504).....	2,176	3,687	3,687	+1,511	---
Rental housing (Sec. 515).....	6,656	9,812	9,800	+3,144	-12
Farm labor housing (Sec.514).....	5,656	7,681	7,600	+1,944	-81
Total, Loan subsidies.....	38,968	47,748	87,507	+48,539	+39,759
Farm labor housing grants.....	8,336	8,336	8,336	---	---
RHIF administrative expenses (transfer to RD):	415,100	397,296	415,100	---	+17,804
Total, Rural Housing Insurance Fund program. (Loan authorization).....	462,404 (25,148,567)	453,380 (24,603,565)	510,943 (25,148,279)	+48,539 (-288)	+57,563 (+544,714)

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	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Rental assistance program:					
Rental assistance (Sec. 521).....	1,110,000	1,088,500	1,088,500	-21,500	---
Multi-Family Housing Revitalization Program Account:					
Rural housing voucher program.....	12,575	8,000	7,000	-5,575	-1,000
Multi-family housing revitalization program.....	20,000	20,000	17,000	-3,000	-3,000
Total, Multi-family housing revitalization...	32,575	28,000	24,000	-8,575	-4,000
Mutual and self-help housing grants.....	25,000	10,000	27,500	+2,500	+17,500
Rural housing assistance grants.....	32,239	25,000	32,239	---	+7,239
Rural community facilities program account:					
Loan authorizations:					
Community facility:					
Direct.....	(2,200,000)	(2,200,000)	(2,200,000)	---	---
Guaranteed.....	(59,543)	---	(73,222)	(+13,679)	(+73,222)
Total, Loan authorizations.....	(2,259,543)	(2,200,000)	(2,273,222)	(+13,679)	(+73,222)

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	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
<b>Loan subsidies and grants:</b>					
<b>Community facility:</b>					
Guaranteed.....	3,775	---	3,500	-275	+3,500
Grants.....	13,000	17,000	13,000	---	-4,000
Rural community development initiative.....	5,967	---	4,000	-1,967	+4,000
Economic impact initiative grants.....	5,778	---	5,778	---	+5,778
Tribal college grants.....	4,000	4,000	4,000	---	---
<b>Total, RCFP Loan subsidies and grants...</b>	<b>32,520</b>	<b>21,000</b>	<b>30,278</b>	<b>-2,242</b>	<b>+9,278</b>
<b>Subtotal, grants and payments.....</b>	<b>89,759</b>	<b>56,000</b>	<b>90,017</b>	<b>+258</b>	<b>+34,017</b>
<b>Total, Rural Housing Service.....</b>	<b>1,694,738</b>	<b>1,625,880</b>	<b>1,713,460</b>	<b>+18,722</b>	<b>+87,580</b>
(Loan authorization).....	(27,408,110)	(26,803,565)	(27,421,501)	(+13,391)	(+617,936)
<b>Rural Business--Cooperative Service:</b>					
<b>Rural Business Program Account:</b>					
(Guaranteed business and industry loans).....	(958,097)	(590,802)	(919,765)	(-38,332)	(+328,963)
<b>Loan subsidies and grants:</b>					
Guaranteed business and industry subsidy...	66,971	30,190	47,000	-19,971	+16,810
Rural business development grants.....	26,568	---	24,000	-2,568	+24,000
Delta regional authority.....	3,000	---	3,000	---	+3,000
<b>Total, RBP loan subsidies and grants.....</b>	<b>96,539</b>	<b>30,190</b>	<b>74,000</b>	<b>-22,539</b>	<b>+43,810</b>

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	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Rural Business and Cooperative Grants.....	---	57,500	---	---	-57,500
Intermediary Relending Program Fund Account:					
(Loan authorization).....	(18,889)	(10,013)	(18,889)	---	(+8,876)
Loan subsidy.....	4,082	3,084	5,818	+1,736	+2,734
Administrative expenses (transfer to RD).....	4,439	4,249	4,439	---	+190
Total, IRP Fund.....	8,521	64,833	10,257	+1,736	-54,576
Rural Economic Development Loans Program Account:					
(Loan authorization).....	(33,077)	(59,456)	(33,077)	---	(-26,379)
Limit cushion of credit interest spending.....	(172,000)	(155,000)	(179,000)	(+7,000)	(+24,000)
(Rescission).....	-172,000	-155,000	-179,000	-7,000	-24,000
Rural Cooperative Development Grants:					
Cooperative development.....	5,800	---	5,800	---	+5,800
Appropriate Technology Transfer for Rural					
Areas.....	2,250	2,087	2,500	+250	+413
Grants to assist minority producers.....	3,000	3,000	3,000	---	---
Value-added agricultural product market					
development.....	15,000	11,000	10,750	-4,250	-250
Total, Rural Cooperative development grants.	26,050	16,087	22,050	-4,000	+5,963
Rural Microenterprise Investment Program Account:					
(Loan authorization).....	---	(25,683)	---	---	(-25,683)
Loan subsidies and grants.....	---	3,290	---	---	-3,290
Total, Rural Microenterprise Investment.....	---	3,290	---	---	-3,290

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(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
<b>Rural Energy for America Program</b>					
(Loan authorization).....	(12,760)	(47,259)	(12,760)	---	(-34,499)
Loan subsidy.....	3,500	5,000	1,350	-2,150	-3,650
Grants.....	---	5,000	---	---	-5,000
<b>Total, Rural Energy for America Program.....</b>	<b>3,500</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>1,350</b>	<b>-2,150</b>	<b>-8,650</b>
<b>Rural Business Investment Program Account</b>					
(Loan authorization).....	---	(39,254)	---	---	(-39,254)
Loan subsidy.....	---	4,000	---	---	-4,000
Grants.....	---	2,000	---	---	-2,000
<b>Total, Rural Business Investment Program.....</b>	<b>---</b>	<b>6,000</b>	<b>---</b>	<b>---</b>	<b>-6,000</b>
<b>Healthy Foods, Healthy Neighborhoods Initiative:</b>					
Grants.....	---	12,250	---	---	-12,250
Administrative expenses (transfer to RD).....	---	750	---	---	-750
<b>Total, Healthy Foods, Healthy Neighborhoods</b>	<b>---</b>	<b>13,000</b>	<b>---</b>	<b>---</b>	<b>-13,000</b>
<b>Total, Rural Business-Cooperative Service.....</b>	<b>-37,390</b>	<b>-11,600</b>	<b>-71,343</b>	<b>-33,953</b>	<b>-59,743</b>
(Loan authorization).....	(1,022,823)	(772,467)	(984,491)	(-38,332)	(+212,024)

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	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
<b>Rural Utilities Service:</b>					
<b>Rural water and waste disposal program account:</b>					
Loan authorizations:					
Direct.....	(1,200,000)	(1,200,000)	(1,200,000)	---	---
Guaranteed.....	(50,000)	---	(50,000)	---	(+50,000)
Direct loans authorized by P.L. 83-566....	(40,000)	---	---	(-40,000)	---
<b>Total, Loan authorization.....</b>	<b>1,290,000</b>	<b>1,200,000</b>	<b>1,250,000</b>	<b>-40,000</b>	<b>+50,000</b>
<b>Loan subsidies and grants:</b>					
Guaranteed subsidy.....	355	---	295	-60	+295
Water and waste revolving fund.....	1,000	---	1,000	---	+1,000
Water well system grants.....	993	---	993	---	+993
Colonias and AK/HI grants.....	66,500	36,480	66,500	---	+30,020
Water and waste technical assistance.....	19,000	9,120	19,000	---	+9,880
Circuit rider program.....	15,000	7,600	15,919	+919	+8,319
Solid waste management grants.....	4,000	4,000	4,000	---	---
High energy cost grants.....	10,000	---	10,000	---	+10,000
Water and waste disposal grants.....	345,523	246,800	347,150	+1,627	+100,350
<b>Total, Loan subsidies and grants.....</b>	<b>462,371</b>	<b>304,000</b>	<b>464,857</b>	<b>+2,486</b>	<b>+160,857</b>
<b>Rural Electrification and Telecommunications Loans</b>					
Program Account:					
Loan authorizations:					
Electric:					
Direct, FFB.....	(5,000,000)	(5,000,000)	(5,000,000)	---	---

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	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Guaranteed underwriting.....	(500,000)	---	(500,000)	---	(+500,000)
Subtotal, Electric.....	(5,500,000)	(5,000,000)	(5,500,000)	---	(+500,000)
Telecommunications:					
Direct, Treasury rate.....	(690,000)	(345,000)	(690,000)	---	(+345,000)
Total, Loan authorizations.....	(6,190,000)	(5,345,000)	(6,190,000)	---	(+845,000)
RETLP administrative expenses (transfer to RD)	34,478	33,000	34,478	---	+1,478
Total, Rural Electrification and Telecommunications Loans Program Account... (Loan authorization).....	34,478 (6,190,000)	33,000 (5,345,000)	34,478 (6,190,000)	---	+1,478 (+845,000)
Distance learning, telemedicine, and broadband program:					
Loan authorizations:					
Broadband telecommunications.....	(34,483)	(44,238)	(24,077)	(-10,406)	(-20,161)
Total, Loan authorizations.....	(34,483)	(44,238)	(24,077)	(-10,406)	(-20,161)



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	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Loan subsidies and grants:					
Distance learning and telemedicine:					
Grants.....	24,323	24,950	22,000	-2,323	-2,950
Broadband telecommunications:					
Direct.....	4,500	8,268	4,500	---	-3,768
Grants.....	10,372	20,372	10,372	---	-10,000
Total, Loan subsidies and grants.....	39,195	53,590	36,872	-2,323	-16,718
Total, Rural Utilities Service.....	536,044	390,590	536,207	+163	+145,617
(Loan authorization).....	(7,514,483)	(6,589,238)	(7,464,077)	(-50,406)	(+874,839)
Total, Title III, Rural Development Programs....	2,397,709	2,230,869	2,403,423	+5,714	+172,554
(By transfer).....	(454,017)	(435,295)	(454,017)	---	(+18,722)
(Loan authorization).....	(35,945,416)	(34,165,270)	(35,870,069)	(-75,347)	(+1,704,799)
TITLE IV - DOMESTIC FOOD PROGRAMS					
Office of the Under Secretary for Food, Nutrition and Consumer Services.....	811	816	816	+5	---
Food and Nutrition Service:					
Child nutrition programs.....	19,262,957	20,472,000	21,259,170	+1,996,213	+787,170
School breakfast program equipment grants.....	25,000	35,000	25,000	---	-10,000
Demonstration projects (Summer EBT).....	---	30,000	16,000	+16,000	-14,000
Total, Child nutrition programs.....	19,287,957	20,537,000	21,300,170	+2,012,213	+763,170

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	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Special supplemental nutrition program for women, infants, and children (WIC).....	6,715,841	6,823,000	6,823,000	-92,841	-200,000
Supplemental nutrition assistance program: (Food stamp program).....	79,168,947	79,250,389	78,836,572	-332,375	-413,817
Reserve.....	3,000,000	5,000,000	3,000,000	---	-2,000,000
FDPIR nutrition education services.....	998	998	998	---	---
National food consumption survey.....	---	5,000	---	---	-5,000
FY 2016 (first quarter).....	---	21,064,097	---	---	-21,064,097
Total, Food stamp program.....	82,169,945	105,320,484	81,837,570	-332,375	-23,482,914
Fiscal year 2015.....	(82,169,945)	(84,256,367)	(81,837,570)	(-332,375)	(-2,418,817)
Commodity assistance program:					
Commodity supplemental food program.....	202,682	208,682	211,482	+8,800	+2,800
Farmers market nutrition program.....	16,548	16,548	16,548	---	---
Emergency food assistance program.....	49,401	49,401	49,401	---	---
Pacific island and disaster assistance.....	1,070	1,070	1,070	---	---
Total, Commodity assistance program.....	269,701	275,701	278,501	+8,800	+2,800

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	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Nutrition programs administration.....	141,348	155,000	150,824	+9,476	-4,176
Total, Food and Nutrition Service.....	108,584,792	133,111,185	110,190,065	+1,605,273	-22,921,120
FY 2015.....	(108,584,792)	(112,047,088)	(110,190,065)	(-1,605,273)	(-1,857,023)
Total, Title IV, Domestic Food Programs.....	108,585,603	133,112,001	110,190,881	+1,605,278	-22,921,120
FY 2015.....	(108,584,792)	(112,047,088)	(110,190,065)	(-1,605,273)	(-1,857,023)
TITLE V - FOREIGN ASSISTANCE AND RELATED PROGRAMS					
Foreign Agricultural Service					
Salaries and expenses.....	177,863	182,563	181,423	+3,560	-1,140
(Transfer from export loans).....	(6,394)	(6,394)	(6,394)	---	---
Total, Salaries and expenses.....	184,257	188,957	187,817	+3,560	-1,140
Food for Peace Title I Direct Credit and Food for Progress Program Account, Administrative Expenses Farm Service Agency, Salaries and expenses (transfer to FSA).....	2,735	2,528	2,528	-207	---
Unobligated balances (rescission).....	---	-13,000	-13,000	-13,000	---
Food for Peace Title II Grants: Expenses.....	1,466,000	1,400,000	1,466,000	---	+66,000
Commodity Credit Corporation Export Loans Program Account (administrative expenses): Salaries and expenses (Export Loans): General Sales Manager (transfer to FAS).....	6,394	6,394	6,394	---	---

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	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Farm Service Agency S&E (transfer to FSA).....	354	354	354	---	---
Total, CCC Export Loans Program Account.....	6,748	6,748	6,748	---	---
McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition program grants.....	185,126	185,126	191,626	+6,500	+6,500
Total, Title V, Foreign Assistance and Related Programs.....	1,838,472	1,763,965	1,835,325	-3,147	+71,360
(By transfer).....	(6,394)	(6,394)	(6,394)	---	---

TITLE VI - RELATED AGENCIES AND  
FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration

Salaries and expenses, direct appropriation.....	2,551,905	2,575,383	2,588,536	+36,631	+13,153
Prescription drug user fees.....	(760,000)	(798,000)	(788,000)	(+38,000)	---
Medical device user fees.....	(114,833)	(128,282)	(128,282)	(+13,449)	---
Human generic drug user fees.....	(305,996)	(312,116)	(312,116)	(+6,120)	---
Biosimilar biological products user fees.....	(20,716)	(21,014)	(21,014)	(+298)	---
Animal drug user fees.....	(23,600)	(22,464)	(22,464)	(-1,136)	---
Animal generic drug user fees.....	(7,328)	(6,944)	(6,944)	(-384)	---
Tobacco product user fees.....	(534,000)	(566,000)	(566,000)	(+32,000)	---
Food and Feed Recall user fees.....	(12,925)	---	---	(-12,925)	---

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	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Food Reinspection fees.....	(15,367)	---	---	(-15,367)	---
Subtotal (including user fees).....	(4,346,670)	(4,430,203)	(4,443,356)	(+96,686)	(+13,153)
Mammography user fees.....	(19,318)	(19,705)	(19,705)	(+387)	---
Export and color certification user fees.....	(12,447)	(13,651)	(13,651)	(+1,204)	---
Food and Feed Recall user fees.....	---	(1,434)	(1,434)	(+1,434)	---
Food Reinspection fees.....	---	(6,414)	(6,414)	(+6,414)	---
Voluntary qualified importer program fees.....	---	(5,300)	(5,300)	(+5,300)	---
Pharmacy compounding fees (CB0 estimate).....	---	(1,000)	(1,000)	(+1,000)	---
Subtotal, FDA user fees.....	(1,826,530)	(1,902,324)	(1,902,324)	(+75,794)	---
Subtotal, FDA (with user fees).....	(4,378,435)	(4,477,707)	(4,490,860)	(+112,425)	(+13,153)
FDA New User Fees (Leg. proposals):					
Food Facility registration and inspection user fees.....	---	(60,120)	---	---	(-60,120)
Food import user fees.....	---	(169,021)	---	---	(-169,021)
International courier user fees.....	---	(5,807)	---	---	(-5,807)
Cosmetic user fees.....	---	(19,457)	---	---	(-19,457)
Food contact substance notification user fees.....	---	(5,098)	---	---	(-5,098)
Subtotal, FDA new user fees (Leg Proposals).....	---	(259,503)	---	---	(-259,503)

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	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Buildings and facilities.....	8,788	8,788	8,788	---	---
Total, FDA (w/user fees, including proposals)...	(4,387,223)	(4,745,998)	(4,499,648)	(+112,425)	(-246,350)
Total, FDA (w/enacted user fees only).....	(4,387,223)	(4,486,495)	(4,499,648)	(+112,425)	(+13,153)
Total, FDA (excluding user fees).....	2,560,693	2,584,171	2,597,324	+36,631	+13,153
=====					
INDEPENDENT AGENCIES					
Commodity Futures Trading Commission 1/.....	215,000	280,000	---	-215,000	-280,000
Farm Credit Administration (limitation on administrative expenses).....	(62,600)	(65,100)	(60,500)	(-2,100)	(-4,600)
=====					
Total, Title VI, Related Agencies and Food and Drug Administration.....	2,775,693	2,864,171	2,597,324	-178,369	-266,847
=====					
TITLE VII - GENERAL PROVISIONS					
Emergency livestock assistance program (rescission) (Sec. 709).....	---	-125,000	-125,000	-125,000	---
Limit Dam Rehab (Sec.717(1)).....	-153,000	---	-69,000	+84,000	-69,000
(rescission).....	---	-153,000	---	---	+153,000
Limit Environmental Quality Incentives (Sec.717(2))...	-272,000	-250,000	-136,000	+136,000	+114,000
Limit Conservation Stewardship Program (Sec.717(4))...	---	---	-7,000	-7,000	-7,000
Limit Biomass Crop Assistance Program (Sec.717(5))...	---	---	-2,000	-2,000	-2,000
Limit Biorefinery Assistance (Sec.717(7)).....	---	---	-16,000	-16,000	-16,000
Limit fruit and vegetable program (Sec.718).....	-119,000	-122,000	-122,000	-3,000	---
Section 32 (rescission) (Sec.718).....	-189,000	-203,000	-121,000	+68,000	+82,000
Resource Conservation and Development (rescission)...	-2,017	---	---	+2,017	---
Geographic Disadvantaged farmers .....	1,996	---	1,996	---	+1,996
=====					

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	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Hardwood Trees (Reforestation Pilot Program).....	600	---	600	---	+600
Agriculture Buildings and Facilities and Rental Payments (rescission) .....	-30,000	---	---	+30,000	---
Rural Housing Service (rescission) .....	-1,314	---	---	+1,314	---
Section 9005 Bioenergy program (rescission).....	-8,000	---	---	+8,000	---
Water Bank program .....	4,000	---	4,000	---	+4,000
Section 9003 Biorefinery program (rescission).....	-40,694	---	---	+40,694	---
Hunger Commission .....	1,000	---	---	-1,000	---
FDA user fees .....	79,000	---	---	-79,000	---
Citrus greening (APHIS) .....	20,000	---	---	-20,000	---
Repowering Assistance (rescission).....	---	---	-8,000	-8,000	-8,000
ARS Building and Facilities (rescission) .....	---	---	-2,000	-2,000	-2,000
Freight Reimbursement (rescission) .....	---	---	-2,000	-2,000	-2,000
Southwest Border Regional Commission.....	---	2,000	---	---	-2,000
Emergency Watershed Protection (disaster relief category).....	---	---	78,581	+78,581	+78,581
Emergency Forestry Restoration Program (disaster relief category).....	---	---	3,203	+3,203	+3,203
Emergency Conservation Program (disaster relief category).....	---	---	9,216	+9,216	+9,216
Total, Title VII, General Provisions.....	-708,429	-851,000	-512,404	+196,025	+338,596



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	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
-----					
TITLE VIII - EBOLA RESPONSE AND PREPAREDNESS					
-----					
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES					
-----					
Food and Drug Administration					
-----					
Salaries and expenses, direct appropriation (emergency).....	---	25,000	25,000	+25,000	---
=====					
Total, Title VIII, Ebola Response and Preparedness (emergency).....	---	25,000	25,000	+25,000	---
=====					
Grand total.....	145,852,976	165,486,081	147,580,990	+1,928,014	-17,905,071
Appropriations fiscal year 2015.....	(146,096,001)	(145,045,964)	(147,914,990)	(+1,818,989)	(+2,869,026)
Emergency appropriations.....	---	(25,000)	(25,000)	(+25,000)	---
Disaster relief.....	---	---	(91,000)	(+91,000)	(+91,000)
Rescissions.....	(-443,025)	(-649,000)	(-450,000)	(-6,975)	(+199,000)
Advance appropriations, FY 2016.....	---	(21,064,097)	---	---	(-21,064,097)
(By transfer).....	(790,554)	(771,886)	(790,477)	(-77)	(+18,591)
(Loan authorization).....	(41,472,694)	(40,567,384)	(42,272,183)	(+799,489)	(+1,704,799)
(Limitation on administrative expenses).....	(178,035)	(180,809)	(176,209)	(-1,826)	(-4,600)
=====					

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RECAPITULATION

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
<b>Title I - Agricultural programs</b> .....	29,938,096	25,525,385	30,182,115	+244,019	+4,656,730
Mandatory.....	(23,149,074)	(18,855,803)	(23,395,250)	(+246,176)	(+4,539,447)
Discretionary.....	(6,789,022)	(6,669,582)	(6,786,865)	(-2,157)	(+117,283)
<b>Title II - Conservation programs (discretionary)</b> .....	825,832	815,670	859,326	+33,494	+43,656
<b>Title III - Rural development (discretionary)</b> .....	2,397,709	2,230,869	2,403,423	+5,714	+172,554
<b>Title IV - Domestic food programs</b> .....	108,585,603	133,112,001	110,190,881	+1,605,278	-22,921,120
Mandatory.....	(101,432,902)	(125,787,484)	(103,096,740)	(+1,663,838)	(-22,690,744)
Discretionary.....	(7,152,701)	(7,324,517)	(7,094,141)	(-58,560)	(-230,376)
<b>Title V - Foreign assistance and related programs (discretionary)</b> .....	1,838,472	1,763,965	1,835,325	-3,147	+71,360
<b>Title VI - Related agencies and Food and Drug Administration (discretionary) 1/</b> .....	2,775,693	2,864,171	2,597,324	-178,369	-266,847
<b>Title VII - General provisions (discretionary)</b> .....	-708,429	-851,000	-512,404	+196,025	+338,596
<b>Title VIII - Ebola Response and Preparedness (emergency)</b> .....	---	25,000	25,000	+25,000	---
<b>Total</b> .....	145,652,976	165,486,081	147,580,990	+1,928,014	-17,905,071

**DIVISION B—COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015**

Report language included in House Report 113-448 (“the House report”) or Senate Report 113-181 (“the Senate report”) that is not changed by this explanatory statement or this Act is approved. The explanatory statement, while repeating some language for emphasis, is not intended to negate the language referred to above unless expressly provided herein. In cases where both the House report and the Senate report address a particular issue not specifically addressed in the explanatory statement, the House report and the Senate report should be read as consistent and are to be interpreted accordingly. In cases where the House report or the Senate report directs the submission of a report, such report is to be submitted to both the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations (“the Committees”).

Each department and agency funded in this Act shall follow the directions set forth in this Act and the accompanying statement, and shall not reallocate resources or reorganize activities except as provided herein. Reprogramming procedures shall apply to funds provided in this Act; unobligated balances from previous appropriations Acts that are available for obligation or expenditure in fiscal year 2015; and non-appropriated resources such as fee collections that are used to meet program requirements in fiscal year 2015. These procedures are specified in section 505 of this Act.

Any reprogramming request shall include any out-year budgetary impacts and a separate accounting of program or mission impacts on estimated carryover funds. Any program, project or activity cited in this statement, or in the House report or the Senate report and not changed by this Act or statement, shall be construed as the position of the Congress and shall not be subject to reductions or reprogramming without prior approval of the Committees. Further, any department or agency funded in this Act that plans a reduction-in-force shall notify the Committees by letter no later than 30 days in advance of the date of any such planned personnel action.

When a department or agency submits a reprogramming or transfer request to the Committees and does not receive identical responses, it shall be the responsibility of the department or agency seeking the reprogramming to reconcile the differences between the two bodies before proceeding. If reconciliation is not possible, the items in disagreement in the reprogramming or transfer request shall be considered unapproved. Departments and agencies shall not submit reprogramming notifications after July 1, 2015, except in extraordinary circumstances. Any such notification shall include a description of the extraordinary circumstances.

In compliance with section 535 of this Act, the Departments of Commerce and Justice, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the National Science Foundation shall submit spending plans, signed by the respective department or agency head, for the Committees’ review not later than 45 days after enactment of this Act.

**TITLE I—DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**INTERNATIONAL TRADE ADMINISTRATION**

**OPERATIONS AND ADMINISTRATION**

This Act includes \$472,000,000 in total resources for the programs of the International Trade Administration. This amount is offset by \$10,000,000 in estimated fee collections, re-

sulting in a direct appropriation of \$462,000,000. Within funds provided, up to \$9,000,000 is for the Interagency Trade Enforcement Center, up to \$10,000,000 is for SelectUSA, and no less than the fiscal year 2014 level shall be for Global Markets, subject to section 505 reprogramming requirements of this Act.

**BUREAU OF INDUSTRY AND SECURITY**

**OPERATIONS AND ADMINISTRATION**

This Act includes \$102,500,000 for the Bureau of Industry and Security. The agreement does not include House language regarding use of prior year unobligated balances.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION**

This Act includes \$250,000,000 for the programs and administrative expenses of the Economic Development Administration (EDA). Section 524 of this Act includes a rescission of \$5,000,000 in Economic Development Assistance Program balances. The Department and EDA shall prioritize recoveries or deobligations as sources of funds for the rescission.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS**

This Act includes \$213,000,000 for Economic Development Assistance Programs. Funds are to be distributed as follows; any deviation of funds shall be subject to the procedures set forth in section 505 of this Act:

Public Works .....	\$99,000,000
Partnership Planning .....	30,000,000
Technical Assistance .....	11,000,000
Research and Evaluation .....	1,500,000
Trade Adjustment Assistance .....	12,500,000
Economic Adjustment Assistance .....	35,000,000
Assistance to coal communities .....	10,000,000
Section 26 Innovative Technologies in Manufacturing	
Loan Guarantees .....	4,000,000
Section 27 Regional Innovation Program Grants .....	10,000,000
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$213,000,000</b>

*Section 27 programs.*—The agreement does not adopt Senate language regarding funding for Section 27 loan guarantees. Instead, up to \$5,000,000 shall be for Regional Innovation Program planning grants for science park infrastructure.

*Repatriation grants.*—The agreement includes \$5,000,000 for repatriation grants and modifies House report language to clarify that EDA shall use its existing grant authorities to encourage communities to submit applications for projects that will support or encourage United States firms to relocate their manufacturing or services back to the United States.

*Trade Adjustment Assistance.*—The agreement includes \$12,500,000 for the Trade Adjustment Assistance for Firms (TAAF) program, which is below the fiscal year 2014 level, in recognition of existing carryover balances. If TAAF reduces carryover balances by the end of fiscal year 2015, the Committees will use this information to inform future funding decisions.

**SALARIES AND EXPENSES**

This Act includes \$37,000,000 for EDA salaries and expenses.

**MINORITY BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AGENCY**

**MINORITY BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT**

This Act includes \$30,000,000 for the Minority Business Development Agency.

**ECONOMIC AND STATISTICAL ANALYSIS**

**SALARIES AND EXPENSES**

This Act includes \$100,000,000 for Economic and Statistical Analysis. The Bureau of Eco-

nomics Analysis shall use existing balances of up to \$4,000,000 to begin collocating within the Census headquarters facility. Should additional funds be required during fiscal year 2015 for this consolidation, the Department shall submit a notification pursuant to section 505 of this Act.

**BUREAU OF THE CENSUS**

This Act includes \$1,088,000,000 for the Bureau of the Census.

**SALARIES AND EXPENSES**

This Act includes \$248,000,000 for the salaries and expenses of the Bureau of the Census. Census shall collect data for the Annual Social and Economic Supplement to the Current Population Survey using the same health insurance questions included in previous years, in addition to the revised questions implemented in the Current Population Survey in February 2014. Census shall ensure that the data gathered is readily accessible to the public. The agreement adopts by reference Senate language regarding comparisons with 2010 and 2013 baseline data. Census shall brief the Committees on Appropriations on the proposed methodology, sample size, and questionnaire format at least 30 days before it intends to implement the aforementioned requirements.

**PERIODIC CENSUSES AND PROGRAMS**

This Act includes \$840,000,000 for periodic censuses and programs. The agreement does not adopt section 545 of the House bill. Instead, this agreement reiterates House and Senate language regarding the American Community Survey and directs that Census continue efforts to assess the necessity of questions included on the survey and improve non-response follow-up procedures.

**NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION ADMINISTRATION**

**SALARIES AND EXPENSES**

This Act includes \$38,200,000 for the salaries and expenses of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA). This funding level reflects the requested decrease of \$12,264,000 associated with the conclusion of the grant award portion of the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. NTIA and the Commerce Inspector General (IG) shall continue to exercise grant closeout and monitoring activities. The agreement reiterates House and Senate language regarding reporting requirements and includes up to \$3,000,000 for NTIA to provide technical assistance regarding broadband to communities.

*Internet governance.*—The agreement reiterates House and Senate language regarding the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) and Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA) matters and modifies Senate language by directing NTIA to inform appropriate Congressional committees not less than 45 days in advance of any such proposed successor contract or any other decision related to changing NTIA's role with respect to ICANN or IANA activities. In addition, NTIA shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations within 45 days of enactment of this Act regarding any recourse that would be available to the United States if the decision is made to transition to a new contract and any subsequent decisions made following such transfer of Internet governance are deleterious to the United States.

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK  
OFFICESALARIES AND EXPENSES  
(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

This Act includes language making available to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) \$3,458,000,000, the full amount of offsetting fee collections estimated for fiscal year 2015. PTO had unobligated balances of \$650,957,000 at the end of fiscal year 2014.

**Addressing management failures.**—PTO shall respond aggressively to serious issues highlighted in two recent Inspector General reports: *Review of Waste and Mismanagement at the Patent Trial and Appeal Board* (13–1077) and *Review of Conduct by a High-Ranking USPTO Official in the Hiring of a Trademark Organization Employee* (13–0726); and a PTO Internal Administrative Inquiry Report in response to Inspector General Referral No.12–1196–H PTO regarding Abuse of Telework Programs at PTO. The Secretary shall submit a report on these matters to the Committees no later than 180 days after enactment that describes additional policies and training necessary to ensure that employee time and attendance is appropriately managed and that nepotism is not tolerated at PTO or elsewhere throughout the Department. Further, PTO and the Secretary shall ensure that managers review employee conduct, take appropriate actions and not turn a blind eye to such abuses simply because performance, or processing of patent applications, continues apace. PTO and the Department of Commerce shall provide regular updates to the Committees on the changes implemented in response to the problems revealed in each of these reports.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND  
TECHNOLOGY

This Act includes \$863,900,000 for the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST).

SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL RESEARCH AND  
SERVICES

This Act includes \$675,500,000 for NIST's scientific and technical core programs. With amounts provided, \$15,000,000 is for the National Cybersecurity Center of Excellence; up to \$60,700,000 is for cybersecurity research and development; \$4,000,000 is for National Initiative for Cybersecurity Education; and \$16,500,000 is for the National Strategy for Trusted Identities in Cyberspace (NSTIC). House report language regarding a reporting requirement on NSTIC is adopted by reference. The agreement also includes up to \$6,000,000 for the lab-to-market program, and up to \$2,000,000 for urban dome programs.

**Forensics.**—The agreement does not adopt House report language regarding Forensic Science Advisory Committee activities. Instead, the agreement acknowledges a transfer of \$3,000,000, the current funding level, from the Department of Justice to NIST to support ongoing interagency forensic programs. The agreement also supports an increase of up to \$3,500,000 under this heading for NIST forensic activities. NIST and its Federal partners shall ensure that the State and local practitioner community is adequately represented on the various working groups.

## INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

This Act includes \$138,100,000 for industrial technology services, including \$130,000,000 for the Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership. The recommendation also includes a total of \$15,000,000 for the Advanced Manufacturing Technology Consortia, which in-

cludes \$8,100,000 in new appropriations and \$6,900,000 from prior year available balances.

## CONSTRUCTION OF RESEARCH FACILITIES

This Act includes \$50,300,000 for NIST construction. NIST shall prioritize activities within this amount and shall provide a detailed spending plan to the Committees no later than 60 days after enactment of this Act documenting how NIST will allocate funds to address existing construction projects in Boulder; address maintenance needs across the Boulder and Gaithersburg sites; and plan for the future renovation of Building 245.

**Boulder facilities renovation plan.**—Renovations to the interiors of wings 6 and 3 of Building 1 in Boulder have been delayed by 15 months. NIST shall provide the Committees with a detailed report outlining renovation plans for fiscal year 2015 and beyond no later than 120 days after enactment of this Act. This report shall provide revised cost estimates for renovations on the campus; identify any swing space requirements; outline the timing of phases of the renovation; and summarize any programmatic risks associated with the re-phased renovation.

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC  
ADMINISTRATION

This Act includes total appropriations of \$5,440,973,000 for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). The agreement does not include section 544 of the House bill regarding the National Ocean Policy. No funding was provided in fiscal year 2014 and none was requested by any agencies funded in this Act in fiscal year 2015 to implement the National Ocean Policy. Consequently, no funds for National Ocean Policy activities are included for any agency funded in this Act.

OPERATIONS, RESEARCH, AND FACILITIES  
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

This Act includes a total program level of \$3,333,398,000 under this account for the coastal, fisheries, marine, weather, satellite and other programs of NOAA. This total funding level includes \$3,202,398,000 in direct appropriations; a transfer of \$116,000,000 from balances in the "Promote and Develop Fishery Products and Research Pertaining to American Fisheries" fund; and \$15,000,000 derived from recoveries of prior year obligations.

The following narrative descriptions and tables identify the specific activities and funding levels included in this Act.

**National Ocean Service.**—\$481,107,000 is for the National Ocean Service. The agreement includes the requested amount for Coastal Zone Management Grants.

NATIONAL OCEAN SERVICE OPERATIONS, RESEARCH, AND  
FACILITIES

(In thousands of dollars)

Program	Amount
Navigation, Observations and Positioning:	
Navigation, Observations and Positioning .....	\$137,961
Integrated Ocean Observing System Regional Observations .....	29,500
Hydrographic Survey Priorities/Contracts .....	25,000
Navigation, Observations and Positioning .....	192,461
Coastal Science and Assessment:	
Coastal Science, Assessment, Response and Restoration .....	71,000
Competitive External Research .....	9,000
Coastal Science and Assessment .....	80,000
Ocean and Coastal Management and Services:	
Coastal Zone Management and Services .....	41,700
Coastal Zone Management Grants .....	71,146
Coral Reef Program .....	26,000

NATIONAL OCEAN SERVICE OPERATIONS, RESEARCH, AND  
FACILITIES—Continued

(In thousands of dollars)

Program	Amount
Sanctuaries and Marine Protected Areas .....	48,500
National Estuarine Research Reserve System .....	21,300
Ocean and Coastal Management and Services .....	208,646
Total, National Ocean Service, Operations, Research, and Facilities .....	\$481,107

**National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS).**—\$822,138,000 is for NMFS operations, research, and facilities.

**Habitat Conservation and Restoration.**—The agreement includes \$5,000,000 for coastal ecosystem resiliency grants instead of \$10,000,000 as recommended by the Senate.

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE OPERATIONS,  
RESEARCH, AND FACILITIES

(In thousands of dollars)

Program	Amount
Protected Species Research and Management:	
Protected Species Research and Management Programs Base .....	\$39,000
Species Recovery Grants .....	5,000
Marine Mammals .....	49,000
Marine Turtles .....	12,200
Other Protected Species (marine fish, plants and invertebrates) .....	8,000
Atlantic Salmon .....	5,500
Pacific Salmon .....	60,000
Total, Protected Species Research and Management .....	178,700
Fisheries Research and Management:	
Fisheries Research and Management Programs Base .....	175,500
National Catch Share Program .....	25,000
Expand Annual Stock Assessments - Improve Data Collection .....	70,000
Economics and Social Sciences Research .....	7,300
Salmon Management Activities .....	30,200
Regional Councils and Fisheries Commissions .....	32,738
Fisheries Statistics .....	22,000
Fish Information Networks .....	22,000
Survey and Monitoring Projects .....	24,000
Fisheries Oceanography .....	2,100
American Fisheries Act .....	3,700
Interjurisdictional Fisheries Grants .....	2,500
National Standard 8 .....	1,000
Reducing Bycatch .....	3,500
Product Quality and Safety .....	6,700
Total, Fisheries Research and Management .....	428,238
Enforcement and Observers/Training:	
Enforcement .....	65,000
Observers/Training .....	43,000
Total, Enforcement and Observers/Training .....	108,000
Total, Habitat Conservation and Restoration .....	47,000
Other Activities Supporting Fisheries:	
Antarctic Research .....	2,900
Aquaculture .....	5,700
Climate Regimes and Ecosystem Productivity .....	2,000
Computer Hardware and Software .....	1,800
Cooperative Research .....	12,000
Information Analyses and Dissemination .....	15,000
Marine Resources Monitoring, Assessment and Prediction Program .....	800
National Environmental Policy Act .....	6,500
NMFS Facilities Maintenance .....	3,300
Regional Studies .....	10,200
Total, Other Activities Supporting Fisheries .....	60,200
Total, National Marine Fisheries Service, Operations, Research, and Facilities .....	\$822,138

**Oceanic and Atmospheric Research.**—\$432,900,000 is for Oceanic and Atmospheric Research operations, research, and facilities.

**Regional Climate Data and Information.**—The recommendation supports the full requested amount for the National Integrated Drought Information System.

**Weather and Air Chemistry Research.**—The agreement clarifies that Vortex tornado research activities are coordinated within this activity.

# OFFICE OF OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC RESEARCH OPERATIONS, RESEARCH, AND FACILITIES

(in thousands of dollars)

Program	Amount
Climate Research:	
Laboratories and Cooperative Institutes .....	\$60,000
Regional Climate Data and Information .....	38,000
Climate Competitive Research, Sustained Observations and Regional Information .....	60,000
Total, Climate Research .....	158,000
Weather and Air Chemistry Research:	
Laboratories and Cooperative Institutes .....	70,000
U.S. Weather Research Program .....	7,300
Tornado Severe Storm Research/Phased Array Radar .....	13,500
Total, Weather and Air Chemistry Research .....	90,800
Ocean, Coastal and Great Lakes Research:	
Laboratories and Cooperative Institutes .....	27,000
National Sea Grant College Program .....	62,800
Marine Aquaculture Program .....	4,500
Ocean Exploration and Research .....	28,000
Integrated Ocean Acidification .....	8,500
Sustained Ocean Observations and Monitoring .....	41,300
Total, Ocean, Coastal and Great Lakes Research .....	172,100
High Performance Computing Initiatives .....	12,000
Total, Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research, Operations, Research, and Facilities .....	\$432,900

*National Weather Service (NWS).*—\$954,153,000 is for NWS operations, research, and facilities. Funding for the core life and safety missions fulfilled by the National Weather Service remains a high priority for the Committees on Appropriations. The agreement reiterates both House and Senate report language regarding the National Weather Service. NOAA shall continue to brief the Committees on Appropriations on no less than a quarterly basis regarding ongoing activities at the National Weather Service.

## NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE—OPERATIONS, RESEARCH, AND FACILITIES

(in thousands of dollars)

Program	Amount
Observations .....	\$210,777
Central Processing .....	96,617
Analyze, Forecast and Support .....	483,060
Dissemination .....	40,099
Science and Technology Integration .....	123,600
Total, National Weather Service, Operations, Research, and Facilities .....	\$954,153

*National Environmental Satellite, Data and Information Service.*—\$188,600,000 is for National Environmental Satellite, Data and Information Service operations, research, and facilities.

## NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL SATELLITE, DATA AND INFORMATION SERVICE OPERATIONS, RESEARCH, AND FACILITIES

(in thousands of dollars)

Program	Amount
Environmental Satellite Observing Systems:	
Satellite and Product Operations .....	\$84,000
NSOF operations .....	8,500
Subtotal, Office of Satellite and Product Operations .....	92,500
Product Development, Readiness and Application .....	26,000
Commercial Remote Sensing Regulatory Affairs .....	1,000
Office of Space Commercialization .....	600
Group on Earth Observations .....	500
Total, Environmental Satellite Observing Systems .....	120,600
National Environmental Information Office .....	68,000
Total, National Environmental Satellite, Data and Information Service, Operations, Research, and Facilities .....	\$188,600

*Program Support.*—\$454,500,000 is for Program Support.

## PROGRAM SUPPORT OPERATIONS, RESEARCH, AND FACILITIES

(in thousands of dollars)

Program	Amount
Program Support:	
Corporate Services:	
Under Secretary and Associate Offices .....	\$27,000
NOAA-Wide Corporate Services and Agency Management .....	112,000
DOC Accounting System .....	10,000
Payment to the DOC Working Capital Fund ..	40,000
IT Security .....	8,300
NOAA Facilities Management, Maintenance, Construction and Safety .....	23,000
Subtotal, Corporate Services and Facilities ..	220,300
NOAA Education Program:	
BWET Regional Programs .....	7,200
Education Partnership Program/Minority Serving Institutions .....	14,400
NOAA Education Program Base .....	6,000
Subtotal, NOAA Education Program .....	27,600
Total, Program Support .....	247,900
Office of Marine and Aviation Operations:	
Marine Operations and Maintenance .....	175,000
Aviation Operations and Aircraft Services .....	31,600
Total, Office of Marine and Aviation Operations .....	206,600
Total, Program Support and OMAO, Operations, Research, and Facilities .....	\$454,500

## PROCUREMENT, ACQUISITION AND CONSTRUCTION

This Act includes a total program level of \$2,192,225,000 in direct obligations for NOAA Procurement, Acquisition and Construction (PAC), of which \$2,179,225,000 is appropriated from the general fund and \$13,000,000 is derived from recoveries of prior year obligations. The following narrative description and table identify the specific activities and funding levels included in this Act.

*Weather satellites.*—The agreement provides the full requested amounts for NOAA's flagship weather satellites, including \$980,838,000 for the Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite-R (GOES-R) program and \$916,267,000 for the Joint Polar Satellite System (JPSS). The agreement reiterates House and Senate language regarding NOAA's satellite portfolio and includes additional emphasis that NOAA and the Department shall take aggressive steps to address the fragility of the JPSS and shall continue to provide quarterly updates to the Committees regarding the NOAA satellite portfolio and steps being taken to address any potential gaps in weather satellite coverage. NOAA shall examine carefully all overhead costs associated with these programs and shall maximize efficiency by eliminating any unnecessary redundancies. NOAA shall also provide quarterly updates on the status of implementing the recommendations in the July 2014 OIG report, *Significant Security Deficiencies in NOAA's Information Systems Create Risks in its National Critical Mission*.

*Jason-3 and DSCOVR.*—In order to best maintain the launch schedules for the Jason-3 and Deep Space Climate Observatory (DSCOVR) satellites, the agreement does not adopt Senate language regarding transfer of these programs to NASA and instead provides full funding for both missions within NOAA's appropriations. NOAA shall keep the Committees informed regarding the status of these two programs. Further, the Committees expect to see a reduction in overhead costs associated with these two programs in the NOAA and NASA fiscal year 2016 budget requests since these missions will transition from development to operations.

*Solar Irradiance, Data and Rescue.*—The recommendation includes \$7,300,000 to support

activities associated with accommodating the Total Solar Irradiance Sensor-1 (TSIS-1) instrument on the International Space Station (ISS), and to maintain international partnerships related to Search and Rescue Satellite Aided Tracking System and the Advanced Data Collection System. The Committees note that a decision to host TSIS-1 on the ISS was not part of the President's fiscal year 2015 budget request. NOAA shall submit a report no later than 60 days after enactment of this Act regarding the revised TSIS-1/ISS plan that shall include steps to ensure that TSIS-1 is ready to launch in fiscal year 2017 as planned.

## PROCUREMENT, ACQUISITION AND CONSTRUCTION

(in thousands of dollars)

Program	Amount
National Ocean Service:	
National Estuarine Research Reserve Construction .....	\$1,700
Marine Sanctuaries Construction .....	2,000
Total, National Ocean Service, Procurement, Acquisition and Construction .....	3,700
Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research Systems Acquisition:	
Research Supercomputing/CCRI .....	13,379
National Weather Service Systems Acquisition:	
Observations .....	12,300
Central Processing .....	64,000
Dissemination .....	45,000
Subtotal, National Weather Service, Systems Acquisition .....	121,300
Weather Forecast Office Construction .....	12,000
Total, National Weather Service, Procurement, Acquisition and Construction .....	133,300
National Environmental Satellite, Data and Information Service Systems Acquisition:	
GOES R .....	980,838
Jason-3 .....	23,175
Joint Polar Satellite System (JPSS) .....	916,267
Solar Irradiance, Data and Rescue .....	7,300
DSCOVR .....	21,100
COSMIC 2 .....	6,800
Satellite Ground Services .....	50,000
System Architecture and Advanced Planning .....	3,000
Projects, Planning, and Analysis .....	25,200
Subtotal, NESDIS Systems Acquisition .....	2,033,680
Construction Satellite CDA Facility .....	2,166
Total, NESDIS &mdash; PAC .....	2,035,846
Program Support:	
Office of Marine and Aviation Operations	
Fleet Replacement Fleet Capital Improvements and Technology Infusion .....	6,000
Total, Procurement, Acquisition, and Construction .....	\$2,192,225

## PACIFIC COASTAL SALMON RECOVERY

This Act includes \$65,000,000 for Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery.

## FISHERMEN'S CONTINGENCY FUND

This Act includes \$350,000 for the Fishermen's Contingency Fund.

## FISHERIES FINANCE PROGRAM ACCOUNT

This Act includes language under this heading limiting obligations of direct loans to \$24,000,000 for Individual Fishing Quota loans and \$100,000,000 for traditional direct loans.

## DEPARTMENTAL MANAGEMENT

### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

This Act includes \$56,000,000 for Departmental Management salaries and expenses.

*Trade secrets.*—The Secretary of Commerce shall submit, in coordination with the United States Trade Representative (USTR) and the United States International Trade Commission (ITC), a report no later than 120 days after the enactment of this Act regarding the authorities of the Department of

Commerce, USTR, and ITC, respectively, to impose sanctions against corporations or other legal entities that benefit from utilizing trade secrets or other information obtained by such corporations or entities through cyber intrusions or other illegal methods; or provided to such corporations or entities by a national government, foreign intelligence service, or other entity using such means. If the Department of Commerce, USTR, or the ITC does not have sufficient authorities to impose sanctions in this area, the report shall include recommendations to improve or broaden the scope of such authorities.

**BusinessUSA.**—Senate report language regarding BusinessUSA and space agreements is not adopted. The agreement clarifies that BusinessUSA is an online tool designed to facilitate information sharing, improve services to the public, and reduce interagency redundancies. Funds provided shall not be used to expand staffing or open any offices. The Department shall brief the Committees on Appropriations no later than 90 days after enactment of this Act regarding BusinessUSA activities.

**Working Capital Fund.**—The agreement does not support the level requested for the Department's Working Capital Fund. Instead, the Department shall submit with its fiscal year 2015 spending plan a list of transfers to and activities to be funded from the Working Capital Fund based on funding levels provided in this Act.

#### RENOVATION AND MODERNIZATION

This Act includes \$4,500,000 for continuing renovation activities only at the Herbert C. Hoover Building.

#### OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

This Act includes a total of \$35,449,000 for the Office of Inspector General. This amount includes \$30,596,000 in direct appropriations, a \$2,000,000 transfer from USPTO, a transfer of \$1,551,000 from the Bureau of the Census, Periodic Censuses and Programs, and \$1,302,000 from NOAA PAC for audits and reviews of those programs.

#### GENERAL PROVISIONS—DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

This Act includes the following general provisions for the Department of Commerce:

Section 101 makes funds available for advanced payments only upon certification of officials, designated by the Secretary, that such payments are considered to be in the public interest.

Section 102 makes appropriations for Department salaries and expenses available for hire of passenger motor vehicles, for services, and for uniforms and allowances as authorized by law.

Section 103 provides the authority to transfer funds between Department of Commerce appropriation accounts and requires 15 days advance notification to the Committees on Appropriations for certain actions.

Section 104 provides congressional notification requirements for NOAA satellite programs and includes life cycle cost estimates for certain weather satellite programs.

Section 105 provides for reimbursement for services within Department of Commerce buildings.

Section 106 clarifies that grant recipients under the Department of Commerce may continue to deter child pornography, copyright infringement, or any other unlawful activity over their networks.

Section 107 provides the NOAA Administrator with the authority to avail NOAA of needed resources, with the consent of those supplying the resources, to carry out respon-

sibilities of any statute administered by NOAA.

Section 108 requires the Department of Commerce to provide a monthly report on any official travel to China by any Commerce employee.

Section 109 prohibits the National Technical Information Service from charging for certain services.

Section 110 provides NOAA with authority to receive payments from other entities to defray some costs of permitting and regulatory activities.

Section 111 provides the Secretary of Commerce with the authority to waive certain bond requirements regarding vessel construction, alteration, or repair.

#### TITLE II—DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

##### GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

##### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

This Act includes \$111,500,000 for General Administration, Salaries and Expenses.

**Department of Veterans Affairs.**—The Department of Justice (DOJ) shall brief the Committees on Appropriations no less than 30 days after enactment of this Act regarding the progress of civil and criminal investigations of the Department of Veterans Affairs and its officials, as specified in the Senate report, to include related DOJ component agencies' activities and any pending recommendations or criminal proceedings. The Department shall hereafter provide quarterly briefings to the Committees on Appropriations on the status of such investigations.

**Heroin.**—The Department shall convene key multi-agency stakeholders to address the rising number of heroin users and overdose deaths in the United States and develop a comprehensive Federal approach by examining collaborative, evidence-based ways to address the heroin problem through prevention and education, law enforcement, and treatment. The Department shall submit an interim report to the Committees on Appropriations no later than 90 days after enactment of this Act, and a final report, with guidelines for law enforcement, best practices for a coordinated community response and policy recommendations not less than one year after enactment of this Act.

**Cybersecurity and cybercrime.**—The Department is directed to identify and report on specific metrics by which cybercrime and cybersecurity efforts may be measured, consistent with the direction included in the Senate report, no later than 90 days after enactment of this Act. In addition, the Department shall convene Federal, State, local and private stakeholders to consider whether the establishment of a central repository of cyber attacks and data breaches may be beneficial. The stakeholder group shall produce a report detailing their findings, including any dissenting views, on the establishment of a repository and other similar matters identified in the House report.

**Bakken oil region.**—The Department shall brief the Committees on Appropriations no later than 90 days after enactment of this Act on crime trends in the Bakken oil region, and the Department's plans, staffing and resource needs to address such crime, as specified in the Senate report.

**Spending plan.**—Section 535 of the Act requires a Department-wide spending plan that encompasses plans for all Department agencies and activities.

**Reports and briefings.**—The Department has made progress in submitting reports and briefings required pursuant to the fiscal year 2014 Appropriations Act, and shall ensure

that all reports and briefings required by this Act, to include those directed in House and Senate Committee reports, shall be provided to the Committees on Appropriations in a timely fashion.

**National Gang Threat Assessment.**—In light of the significant impact of violent gangs in the United States, the Department shall submit an updated National Gang Threat Assessment (last published for 2013) as specified in the House and Senate reports.

**Anti-human trafficking collaboration.**—The Attorney General shall convene a meeting of stakeholders on human trafficking in the United States, as specified in the House report. This meeting shall result in a report setting forth policy goals with recommendations for executive and legislative action.

**Revenue reporting.**—The Department shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations, no later than 90 days after enactment of this Act, a plan for tracking and reporting all revenue collected by the Department for violation or alleged violation of Federal law, to include civil and criminal fines, penalties, and legal settlements, as specified in the House report.

**Law enforcement and prosecution in the Caribbean.**—The Department is directed to assess the adequacy of current Federal prosecutorial and law enforcement personnel and resources dedicated to Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands and identify in future budget submissions additional resources necessary to close enforcement gaps.

**Hiring practices.**—The Department shall make it a priority to expedite its department-wide implementation of new policies regarding hiring practices, based on lessons learned from the OIG reports on Justice Management Division (JMD) and Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) personnel and hiring practices.

#### JUSTICE INFORMATION SHARING TECHNOLOGY

This Act includes \$25,842,000 for Justice Information Sharing Technology.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW AND APPEALS

##### (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

This Act includes \$351,072,000 for the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) and the Office of the Pardon Attorney (OPA), of which \$4,000,000 is derived by transfer from fee collections.

The agreement includes funding for 35 new Immigration Judge Teams allowing EOIR to adjudicate up to 39,000 more cases annually. Within the amounts provided, EOIR shall take steps as specified in the House and Senate reports to expand adjudication capacity, enhance the Legal Orientation Program, improve court efficiency and better serve vulnerable populations such as children through continuation of fiscal year 2014 pilot programs. Any plan to augment OPA staffing in fiscal year 2015 through the transfer or temporary assignment of non-OPA employees shall be subject to the procedures set forth in section 505 of this Act.

#### OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

This Act includes \$88,577,000 for the Office of Inspector General (OIG).

**Foreign Agents Registration Act.**—Within the funding provided, the OIG shall review the Department's enforcement of the Foreign Agents Registration Act, as directed in the House report.

**OIG access.**—The Inspector General shall report to the Committees on Appropriations not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act on the impact of section 218 of this Act, which is designed to improve OIG access to Department documents and information.

UNITED STATES PAROLE COMMISSION  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

This Act includes \$13,308,000 for the salaries and expenses of the United States Parole Commission.

LEGAL ACTIVITIES  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES, GENERAL LEGAL  
ACTIVITIES

This Act includes \$885,000,000 for General Legal Activities. The Department is directed to allocate resources to its legal activities at no less than levels obligated in fiscal year 2014.

*Human trafficking and slavery prosecution.*—The Department should continue making it a priority to support the work of the Human Trafficking Prosecution Unit and its Anti-Trafficking Coordination Teams, and to sustain funding and personnel at a level not less than in fiscal year 2014.

*Criminal Division (CRM).*—The Criminal Division shall make combating cyber threats a priority, as directed in the Senate report, and carry out its efforts at no less than the fiscal 2014 level. CRM is also expected to add additional personnel and case management resources to its Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty processing and enhance its intellectual property rights enforcement.

*INTERPOL Washington.*—Within the amount provided, \$32,000,000 is included for INTERPOL Washington.

*Civil Rights Division (CRT).*—The Department is expected to sustain CRT prosecution and related activity at not less than fiscal year 2014 levels, within the funding provided, to include increased efforts to investigate and address violations of the Civil Rights of Institutionalized Persons Act.

*Deinstitutionalization.*—There is a nationwide trend towards deinstitutionalization of patients with intellectual or developmental disabilities in favor of community-based settings. The Department is strongly urged to continue to factor the needs and desires of patients, their families, caregivers, and other stakeholders, as well as the need to provide proper settings for care, into its enforcement of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

VACCINE INJURY COMPENSATION TRUST FUND

This Act includes a reimbursement of \$7,833,000 for DOJ expenses associated with litigating cases under the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986 (Public Law 99-660).

SALARIES AND EXPENSES, ANTITRUST DIVISION

This Act includes \$162,246,000 for the Antitrust Division. This appropriation is offset by \$100,000,000 in pre-merger filing fee collections, resulting in a direct appropriation of \$62,246,000.

SALARIES AND EXPENSES, UNITED STATES  
ATTORNEYS

This Act includes \$1,960,000,000 for the Executive Office for United States Attorneys and the 94 United States Attorneys' offices, of which \$25,000,000 shall remain available until expended.

*Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty (MLAT).*—Within the amounts provided, the Department shall provide funding above the fiscal year 2014 level to enhance its MLAT processing and backlog reduction.

*Sexual exploitation of children.*—Within the amounts provided, the Department shall continue to carry out investigations into and prosecutions of cases involving the sexual exploitation of children as specified in the Senate report, and sustain such efforts at not less than the fiscal year 2014 levels.

*Fraud investigations and prosecution.*—Within the amounts provided, the Department

shall sustain efforts to combat financial and mortgage fraud at not less than the fiscal year 2014 levels.

UNITED STATES TRUSTEE SYSTEM FUND

This Act includes \$225,908,000 for the United States Trustee Program. The appropriation is fully offset by fee collections.

SALARIES AND EXPENSES, FOREIGN CLAIMS  
SETTLEMENT COMMISSION

This Act includes \$2,326,000 for the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission.

FEES AND EXPENSES OF WITNESSES

This Act includes \$270,000,000 for Fees and Expenses of Witnesses.

SALARIES AND EXPENSES, COMMUNITY  
RELATIONS SERVICE

This Act includes \$12,250,000 for the Community Relations Service. Within funding provided, the Department shall sustain efforts related to the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act at not less than the fiscal year 2014 level.

ASSETS FORFEITURE FUND

This Act includes \$20,514,000 for the Assets Forfeiture Fund.

UNITED STATES MARSHALS SERVICE  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

This Act includes \$1,195,000,000 for the salaries and expenses of the United States Marshals Service (USMS). Within funding provided, USMS shall continue to carry out activities to implement the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006 at no less than the fiscal year 2014 level.

CONSTRUCTION

This Act includes \$9,800,000 for construction and related expenses in space controlled, occupied or utilized by the USMS for prisoner holding and related support.

FEDERAL PRISONER DETENTION  
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

This Act includes \$1,595,307,000 for Federal prisoner detention (FPD), of which \$1,100,000,000 is to be funded from excess unobligated balances in the Assets Forfeiture Fund. Section 524 of this Act includes a rescission of \$188,000,000 from prior year balances in this account.

NATIONAL SECURITY DIVISION  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

This Act includes \$93,000,000 for the salaries and expenses of the National Security Division (NSD). Within the funding provided, NSD shall provide additional resources to enforce the Foreign Agents Registration Act, and shall strengthen its support of the Intelligence Community to combat cyber threats.

INTERAGENCY LAW ENFORCEMENT

INTERAGENCY CRIME AND DRUG ENFORCEMENT

This Act includes \$507,194,000 for the Organized Crime and Drug Enforcement Task Forces. While decision unit designations proposed in the House report are not adopted, the Department shall identify funding provided for such units in its fiscal year 2016 budget request and the fiscal year 2015 spending plan.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

This Act includes \$8,326,569,000 for the salaries and expenses of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), including \$1,680,000,000 for Intelligence, \$3,356,712,000 for Counterterrorism/Counterintelligence, \$2,740,000,000 for Criminal Enterprises and Federal Crimes, and \$549,857,000 for Criminal Justice Services.

*9/11 Commission recommendations.*—The agreement includes \$1,000,000 to complete the

comprehensive external review of the implementation of recommendations for the FBI proposed in the report by the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States (the "9/11 Commission"). The deadline to report to Congress on the findings of the independent review specified in the explanatory statement accompanying the fiscal year 2013 Department of Justice appropriations Act is extended until such time as the review is complete, or one year after the date of enactment of this Act, whichever is earlier. It is expected that the FBI will continue to support this review, and facilitate communication of the reviewers' findings and recommendations.

*Violent Gangs and Human Trafficking.*—The agreement includes not less than \$8,500,000 for the National Gang Intelligence Center (NGIC), but does not rename the center as proposed by the House. NGIC shall provide and coordinate intelligence on human trafficking patterns and networks involving violent gangs, and disseminate such intelligence to law enforcement partners. As part of its National Gang Threat Assessment, NGIC shall include a National Sex Trafficking Threat Assessment reflecting detailed analysis of the trafficking carried out by gang organizations. In lieu of the report specified in the House report, the FBI shall provide a briefing to the Committees on Appropriations not later than 180 days after enactment of this Act.

*Financial fraud.*—The FBI shall, from within funding provided, make it a priority to sustain its financial and mortgage fraud investigations at not less than the fiscal year 2014 level.

*Terrorist Explosive Device Analytical Center (TEDAC).*—The agreement includes by reference Senate report language regarding TEDAC funding and recognizes that as the key U.S. Government Interagency resource in combating the global threat posed by terrorist use of explosives, and noting that, as the single strategic level IED exploitation center and repository for the whole of government, TEDAC fulfills the requirements of the National Counter Improvised Explosive Devices (IED) Strategy. That Strategy requires the Department to designate a single entity to lead the Counter IED effort, and the Department is directed to take swift action in formally making that designation, and report to the Committees on Appropriations no later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act on the status of such action. The report shall also describe steps the Department is taking to prevent duplication of effort in this specialized area and to ensure coordination and collaboration, to include the status of information sharing by Department components, as well as by other Federal or international partners.

CONSTRUCTION

This Act includes \$110,000,000 for FBI Construction, to include funding for operations and construction as proposed in the Senate and House reports.

DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

This Act includes a direct appropriation of \$2,033,320,000 for the salaries and expenses of the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). DEA expects to derive \$366,680,000 from fees deposited in the Diversion Control Fund to carry out the Diversion Control Program. The agreement includes language under the Community Oriented Policing Services program account transferring \$7,000,000 to DEA for methamphetamine lab cleanup.



BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, FIREARMS AND  
EXPLOSIVES

## SALARIES AND EXPENSES

This Act includes \$1,201,000,000 for the salaries and expenses of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

## FEDERAL PRISON SYSTEM

## SALARIES AND EXPENSES

## (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

This Act includes \$6,815,000,000 for the salaries and expenses of the Federal Prison System, including \$2,563,000,000 for Inmate Care and Programs, \$2,993,000,000 for Institution Security and Administration, \$1,054,000,000 for Contract Confinement, and \$205,000,000 for Management and Administration. The Bureau of Prisons (BOP) shall include detailed, project-specific information on activations in the Departmental spending plan required by this Act.

*Contract Confinement.*—Within funding provided, BOP shall use contract confinement facilities and services that meet BOP standards to alleviate overcrowding.

*Oleoresin capsicum (OC) aerosol spray pilot program.*—BOP shall report to the Committees on Appropriations no later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act on the status of OC pilots, including an assessment of the pilots, to include plans and recommendations for implementing OC use at other BOP facilities.

## BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

This Act includes \$106,000,000 for the construction, acquisition, modernization, maintenance and repair of prison and detention facilities housing Federal inmates.

BOP shall include detailed project-specific spending plans for both the New Construction and the Modernization and Repair decision units, along with a comprehensive report on the current modernization and repair backlog, in the Department's spending plan required by this Act.

LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES,  
FEDERAL PRISON INDUSTRIES, INCORPORATED

This Act includes a limitation on administrative expenses of \$2,700,000 for Federal Prison Industries (FPI), Incorporated.

STATE AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT  
ACTIVITIES

In total, this Act includes \$2,328,800,000 for State and local law enforcement and crime prevention programs. This amount includes \$2,257,800,000 in discretionary budget authority and \$71,000,000 scored as mandatory for Public Safety Officer Benefits.

House and Senate report language regarding management and administration expenses is adopted by reference, and it is clarified that the Department's methodology for assessing these costs should be both fair and equitable across all grant programs.

*Vision 21.*—The agreement includes \$12,500,000 in discretionary funding under State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance for Vision 21, which seeks to bring better technology, planning, research and data into the crime victims services field. House report language regarding Vision 21 is not adopted.

*Crime Victims Fund.*—The agreement includes section 510, providing a significant increase in funds available for distribution through the Crime Victims Fund, raising the obligations level to \$2,361,000,000. Management and oversight of this expansion of the grants portfolio is critical, and as such, the Office for Victims of Crime shall report to the Committees on Appropriations no later than 45 days after the date of enactment of

this Act on its plans to increase oversight efforts by requiring victim assistance grant recipients to certify their 501(c)(3) status and make their financial statements publicly available online. Victim assistance grant recipients who have long-standing and proven track records of service to their communities should be given preference. Section 510 also provides \$10,000,000 to the Office of Inspector General for increased oversight and auditing activities associated with the anticipated increases in both funds available, and in the number of grant recipients.

## OFFICE ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN PREVENTION AND  
PROSECUTION PROGRAMS

This Act includes \$430,000,000 for the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW). These funds are distributed as follows:

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN PREVENTION AND  
PROSECUTION PROGRAMS

(in thousands of dollars)

Program	Amount
STOP Grants .....	\$195,000
Transitional Housing Assistance .....	26,000
Research and Evaluation on Violence Against Women ..	3,000
Consolidated Youth-Oriented Program .....	10,000
Grants to Encourage Arrest Policies .....	50,000
Homicide Reduction Initiative .....	(4,000)
Sexual Assault Victims Services .....	30,000
Rural Domestic Violence and Child Abuse Enforcement	33,000
Violence on College Campuses .....	12,000
Civil Legal Assistance .....	42,500
Elder Abuse Grant Program .....	4,500
Family Civil Justice .....	16,000
Education and Training for Disabled Female Victims ..	6,000
National Resource Center on Workplace Responses .....	500
Research on Violence Against Indian Women .....	1,000
Indian Country—Sexual Assault Clearinghouse .....	500
Total, Violence Against Women Prevention and Prosecution Programs .....	\$430,000

*Rural Domestic Violence Grant Program.*—Due to concerns regarding the number of grant applications and efficiency in the allocation of resources for the Rural Domestic Violence Grant Program, OVW shall report to the Committees on Appropriations, no later than 90 days after enactment of this Act, on steps taken to improve grant funding execution and efficiency. The report shall include a discussion of what, if any, effect providing OVW additional flexibilities in administering the program would have on the existing distribution of funds. The report should also include an explanation of OVW's efforts to raise awareness of the program in rural communities.

## OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS

## RESEARCH, EVALUATION AND STATISTICS

This Act provides \$111,000,000 for the Research, Evaluation and Statistics account. These funds are distributed as follows:

## RESEARCH, EVALUATION AND STATISTICS

(in thousands of dollars)

Program	Amount
Bureau of Justice Statistics .....	\$41,000
National Institute of Justice .....	36,000
Regional Information Sharing Activities .....	30,000
Forensics Initiative .....	4,000
Transfer to NIST .....	(3,000)
Total, Research, Evaluation and Statistics .....	\$111,000

*Forensic sciences.*—The agreement provides \$4,000,000 for a forensics initiative, of which \$1,000,000 is to support the Forensic Science Advisory Committee, to be chaired by the Attorney General and the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), and \$3,000,000 is to be provided, by transfer, to NIST to support Scientific Area Committees. The Department shall report to

the Committees on Appropriations, no later than 90 days after enactment of this Act, on the status of these efforts. House report language regarding the State and local practitioner community is adopted by reference.

STATE AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT  
ASSISTANCE

This Act includes \$1,241,000,000 for State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance programs. These funds are distributed as follows:

## STATE AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE

(In thousands of dollars)

Program	Amount
Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grants .....	\$376,000
VALOR Initiative .....	(15,000)
Domestic Radicalization Research .....	(4,000)
Smart Policing .....	(5,000)
Smart Prosecution .....	(2,500)
Firearms Safety Materials and Gun Locks .....	(3,000)
Missing Alzheimer's Patients Grants .....	(750)
Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation Program .....	(10,500)
Juvenile Indigent Defense .....	(2,500)
State Criminal Alien Assistance Program .....	185,000
Victims of Trafficking Grants .....	42,250
Drug Courts .....	41,000
Mentally Ill Offender Act .....	8,500
Residential Substance Abuse Treatment .....	10,000
Capital Litigation and Wrongful Conviction Review .....	2,000
Economic, High-tech and Cybercrime Prevention .....	13,000
Intellectual Property Enforcement Program .....	(2,500)
John R. Justice Grant Program .....	2,000
Adam Walsh Act Implementation .....	20,000
Children Exposed to Violence Initiative .....	8,000
Bulletproof Vests Partnerships .....	22,250
Transfer to NIST/OLES .....	(1,500)
National Sex Offender Public Website .....	1,000
Violent Gang and Gun Crime Reduction .....	5,000
National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) Initiative .....	73,000
NICS Act Record Improvement Program .....	(25,000)
Paul Coverdell Forensic Science .....	12,000
DNA Initiative .....	125,000
Debbie Smith DNA Backlog Grants .....	(117,000)
Kirk Bloodsworth Post-Conviction DNA Testing Grants .....	(4,000)
Sexual Assault Forensic Exam Program Grants .....	(4,000)
Community Teams to Reduce the Sexual Assault Kit (SAK) Backlog .....	41,000
CASA—Special Advocates .....	6,000
Tribal Assistance .....	30,000
Second Chance Act/Offender Reentry .....	68,000
Smart Probation .....	(6,000)
Children of Incarcerated Parents Demo Grants .....	(5,000)
Pay for Success .....	(7,500)
Veterans Treatment Courts .....	5,000
Prescription Drug Monitoring .....	11,000
Prison Rape Prevention and Prosecution .....	13,000
Campus Public Safety .....	2,000
Justice Reinvestment Initiative .....	27,500
Charles Colson Task Force on Federal Corrections .....	(750)
Project HOPE Opportunity Probation with Enforcement ..	4,000
Vision 21 .....	12,500
Comprehensive School Safety Initiative .....	75,000
Total, State and Local Law Enforcement Assist- ance .....	\$1,241,000

*Community-based sexual assault response reform.*—The agreement includes \$41,000,000 for a competitive grant program to support multi-disciplinary community response teams tasked with a comprehensive approach to sexual assault cases. The goal of this grant program is to address the growing backlog of sexual assault kits at law enforcement agencies. There is broad consensus that this must be accomplished through an integrative approach to the problem. The Department, through the National Institute of Justice (NIJ), shall develop a comprehensive model to address the underlying issues that led to the backlogs. The Department shall ensure that grant award decisions shall be informed by this model, and shall support efforts that include planning, implementation, and long-term evaluation. Grant funding may be used to inventory the existing backlog of rape kits, test backlogged kits, develop "cold case" units to pursue new investigative leads and to support victims throughout the investigation and prosecution process. Grants may also be used to develop evidence-tracking systems, train law

enforcement on sexual assault investigations, and conduct research on outcomes in sexual assault cases.

This effort shall complement and not duplicate other forensic grant programs at the Department that test DNA evidence kits in crime labs. These grants shall not supplant other sources of funding for these activities.

The National Institute of Justice is directed to brief the Committees on Appropriations on the program not less than 45 days after the enactment of this Act, including design and evaluation criteria for the program, ideal grant size and the number of jurisdictions where this intervention is needed.

**Human trafficking.**—The agreement includes \$42,250,000 for victims of human trafficking. The Office of Justice Programs (OJP) shall consult with stakeholders in determining the overall allocation of this funding, including amounts allocated to assist foreign national victims, and such details shall be included in the spending plan required by this Act.

**National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) Initiative grants.**—The agreement includes \$73,000,000 for grants to improve records in the NICS system. These funds will strengthen NICS by assisting States in finding ways to add more records to the system, especially mental health records. This will help close gaps in Federal and State records currently available in NICS, which hinder the ability to confirm quickly whether a prospective purchaser is prohibited from acquiring a firearm. Not less than \$25,000,000 shall be available only for States meeting the requirements for the NICS Act Record Improvement Program.

**Comprehensive School Safety Initiative.**—The agreement includes \$75,000,000 for the Comprehensive School Safety Initiative. The Department shall follow the same format for this program as in fiscal year 2014.

**Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs (PDMPs).**—House language regarding PDMPs is adopted by reference. New State laws requiring prescribers to check PDMP databases prior to prescribing controlled substances are producing significant reductions in doctor shopping and excessive opioid prescriptions. It is imperative that the identification, documentation and dissemination of excellence in PDMP Best Practices be increased, and that expansion of notes from the field, briefings and white papers on best practices occur. Therefore, support is maintained for technical assistance for PDMPs, PDMP data users and other key stakeholders through this grant program.

#### JUVENILE JUSTICE PROGRAMS

This Act includes \$251,500,000 for Juvenile Justice programs. These funds are distributed as follows:

#### JUVENILE JUSTICE PROGRAMS

(In thousands of dollars)

Program	Amount
Part B—State Formula Grants .....	\$55,500
Emergency Planning—Juvenile Detention Facilities ..	(500)
Youth Mentoring Grants .....	90,000
Title V—Delinquency Prevention Incentive Grants .....	15,000
Tribal Youth .....	(5,000)
Gang and Youth Violence Education and Prevention ..	(3,000)
Community-Based Violence Prevention Initiatives .....	(6,000)
National Forum on Youth Violence Prevention .....	(1,000)
Victims of Child Abuse Programs .....	19,000
Missing and Exploited Children Programs .....	68,000
Training for Judicial Personnel .....	1,500
Children of Incarcerated Parents Web Portal .....	500
Girls in the Justice System .....	2,000
Total, Juvenile Justice .....	\$251,500

**Missing and exploited children.**—The agreement provides \$68,000,000 for missing and ex-

ploited children programs. Within the increase provided, the Department is urged to explore opportunities to employ wounded, ill, or injured veterans to support child exploitation investigations.

#### PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICER BENEFITS

This Act includes \$87,300,000 for the Public Safety Officer Benefits program for fiscal year 2015. Within the funds provided, \$71,000,000 is for death benefits for survivors, an amount estimated by the Congressional Budget Office that is considered mandatory for scorekeeping purposes. In addition, \$16,300,000 is provided for disability benefits for public safety officers permanently and totally disabled as a result of a catastrophic injury and for education benefits for the spouses and children of officers killed in the line of duty or permanently and totally disabled as a result of a catastrophic injury sustained in the line of duty.

#### COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING SERVICES COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING SERVICES PROGRAMS

This Act includes \$208,000,000 for Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) programs, as follows:

#### COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING SERVICES PROGRAMS

(In thousands of dollars)

Program	Amount
Transfer to DEA for Methamphetamine Lab Cleanups ...	\$7,000
COPS Hiring Grants .....	180,000
Tribal Resources Grant Program .....	(33,000)
Community Policing Development/Training and Technical Assistance .....	(7,500)
Collaborative Reform Model .....	(5,000)
Anti-Methamphetamine Task Forces .....	7,000
Anti-Heroin Task Forces .....	7,000
Regional gang task forces .....	7,000
Total, Community Oriented Policing Services .....	\$208,000

#### GENERAL PROVISIONS—DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

This Act includes the following general provisions for the Department of Justice:

Section 201 makes available additional reception and representation funding for the Attorney General from the amounts provided in this title.

Section 202 prohibits the use of funds to pay for an abortion, except in the case of rape or to preserve the life of the mother.

Section 203 prohibits the use of funds to require any person to perform or facilitate the performance of an abortion.

Section 204 establishes that the Director of the Bureau of Prisons is obliged to provide escort services to an inmate receiving an abortion outside of a Federal facility, except where this obligation conflicts with the preceding section.

Section 205 establishes requirements and procedures for transfer proposals.

Section 206 authorizes the Attorney General to extend an ongoing Personnel Management Demonstration Project.

Section 207 prohibits the use of funds for transporting prisoners classified as maximum or high security, other than to a facility certified by the BOP as appropriately secure.

Section 208 prohibits the use of funds for the purchase or rental by Federal prisons of audiovisual or electronic media or equipment, services and materials used primarily for recreational purposes, except for those items and services needed for inmate training, religious or educational purposes.

Section 209 requires review by the Deputy Attorney General and the Department Investment Review Board prior to the obligation or expenditure of funds for major information technology projects.

Section 210 requires the Department to follow reprogramming procedures prior to any deviation from the program amounts specified in this title or the reuse of specified deobligated funds provided in previous years.

Section 211 prohibits the use of funds for A-76 competitions for work performed by employees of the BOP or FPI, Inc.

Section 212 prohibits U.S. Attorneys from holding additional responsibilities that exempt U.S. Attorneys from statutory residency requirements.

Section 213 permits up to 3 percent of grant and reimbursement program funds made available to OJP to be used for training and technical assistance, and permits up to 2 percent of grant funds made available to that office to be used for criminal justice research, evaluation and statistics by NIJ and Bureau of Justice Statistics. Senate language regarding a tribal set-aside is not adopted.

Section 214 gives the Attorney General the authority to waive matching requirements for Second Chance Act adult and juvenile reentry demonstration projects; State, tribal and local reentry courts; drug treatment programs; and prison rape elimination programs.

Section 215 waives the requirement that the Attorney General reserve certain funds from amounts provided for offender incarceration.

Section 216 prohibits funds, other than funds for the national instant criminal background check system established under the Brady Handgun Violence Prevention Act, from being used to facilitate the transfer of an operable firearm to a known or suspected agent of a drug cartel where law enforcement personnel do not continuously monitor or control such firearm.

Section 217 places limitations on the obligation of funds from certain Department of Justice accounts and funding sources.

Section 218 requires the Department to provide the Inspector General timely access to records and documents.

Section 219 permits the Department of Justice to participate in Performance Partnership Pilot collaboration programs.

#### TITLE III—SCIENCE

##### OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY

This Act includes \$5,555,000 for the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP).

**Public access to federally funded research.**—The agreement includes language from the House and Senate reports on public access to federally funded research, except that the reporting to the Committees on this topic shall be quarterly and shall include cost information as described in the Senate report.

##### NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE

##### ADMINISTRATION

This Act includes \$18,010,200,000 for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

A table of specific funding allocations for NASA is delineated below, and additional detail may be found under the relevant account headings.

#### NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

(In thousands of dollars)

Program	Amount
Science:	
Earth Science .....	\$1,772,500
Planetary Science .....	1,437,800
Astrophysics .....	684,800
James Webb Space Telescope .....	645,400
Heliophysics .....	662,200
Education .....	42,000
Total, Science .....	5,244,700

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION—  
Continued  
(In thousands of dollars)

Program	Amount
Aeronautics: .....	651,000
Space Technology: .....	596,000
Exploration: .....	
Human Exploration Capabilities .....	3,245,300
Orion Multi-Purpose Crew Vehicle .....	(1,194,000)
Space Launch System (SLS) .....	(2,051,300)
SLS Vehicle Development .....	(1,700,000)
Exploration Ground Systems .....	(351,300)
Commercial Spaceflight .....	805,000
Exploration Research and Development .....	306,400
Total, Exploration .....	4,356,700
Space Operations: .....	3,827,800
Education: .....	
Aerospace Research and Career Development .....	58,000
NASA Space Grant .....	(40,000)
Experimental Program to Stimulate Competi- tive Research .....	(18,000)
STEM Education and Accountability .....	61,000
Minority University Research Education Pro- gram .....	(32,000)
STEM Education and Accountability Projects .....	(29,000)
Total, Education .....	119,000
Cross Agency Support: .....	2,758,900
Construction and Environmental Compliance and Res- toration: .....	419,100
Office of Inspector General: .....	37,000
Total, NASA .....	\$18,010,200

## SCIENCE

This Act includes \$5,244,700,000 for Science. *Education and Public Outreach (EPO).*—The agreement includes \$42,000,000 for EPO as an independent budget line within the Science Mission Directorate (SMD), to be administered by the Astrophysics Division.

*Earth Science.*—Within the amount provided for Earth Science, NASA shall comply with funding direction from the Senate report on: Soil Moisture Active and Passive (SMAP) and Ice, Cloud and land Elevation Satellite-2 (ICESat-2). The agreement also includes \$20,000,000 for the Pre-Aerosol, Clouds, Ecosystem (PACE) mission.

The agreement does not adopt Senate language regarding the transfer of funding responsibility from NOAA to NASA for the Jason-3 and Deep Space Climate Observatory (DSCOVR) missions. Funding for these missions is included in this Act under the NOAA Procurement, Acquisition and Construction account. The agreement for this account only supports NASA's requested funding related to these two missions.

The agreement does not include direction in the House report regarding the Total Solar Irradiance Sensor 2 (TSIS-2). Within funding for Other Missions and Data Analysis, the agreement includes funding to proceed with studies in fiscal year 2015 related to the development of TSIS-2.

The agreement supports Senate direction on Landsat Data Continuity, but provides the requested amount of \$64,100,000 and clarifies Senate direction on development parameters. Instead of a firm cost cap boundary, the mission shall: cost substantially less than Landsat-8; provide the same data quality as Landsat-8 so as to not require an overhaul of associated ground systems; and provide no degradation or gap in data including the 8-day continuous terrestrial coverage. The agreement does not endorse any efforts to develop alternative approaches to this data acquisition that would increase risk of a coverage gap and not meet the needs of the Landsat user community.

*Planetary Science.*—In lieu of any amounts included for specific Planetary Science ac-

tivities in the House and Senate reports, the agreement provides \$255,800,000 for Planetary Science Research, including \$165,400,000 for Research and Analysis and \$40,000,000 for Near Earth Object Observations; \$255,000,000 for Discovery, including not less than \$25,000,000 for Future Discovery Missions; \$286,000,000 for New Frontiers, including not less than \$5,000,000 for Future New Frontiers Missions and \$224,800,000 for OSIRIS-Rex; \$305,000,000 for Mars Exploration, including not less than \$100,000,000 for a Mars 2020 Rover that meets scientific objectives laid out in the most recent Planetary Science decadal survey; \$181,000,000 for Outer Planets, including not less than \$100,000,000 for a Jupiter Europa mission as described in the House report; and \$155,000,000 for Technology, including \$18,000,000 for technologies for the study and characterization of the surface and subsurface of Europa as described in the House report. NASA shall follow direction from the House and Senate reports regarding the Europa Mission and its potential launch vehicle. Funding is provided for the planning of a mission in line with the Planetary Science decadal survey, including an evaluation of the Space Launch System as the baseline launch vehicle.

*Astrophysics.*—Within the amount provided for Astrophysics, NASA shall comply with direction from the Senate report regarding the Hubble Space Telescope and the Balloon Project. The agreement includes \$70,000,000 for the Stratospheric Observatory for Infrared Astronomy (SOFIA) to maintain core operations. NASA shall continue to seek partners to restore SOFIA to its full operational level, as described in the House report. The agreement reiterates direction in the Senate report that any science mission terminations should be made only after a senior review that evaluates the relative scientific benefit and return on investment. In addition, within the amount for Cosmic Origins, the agreement includes \$50,000,000 for the Wide-Field Infrared Survey Telescope (WFIRST) as described in the Senate report.

*Heliophysics.*—Within the amount provided for Heliophysics, NASA shall comply with direction from the Senate report regarding Solar Probe Plus, and direction in the House and Senate reports on the Explorer program. The agreement includes \$38,900,000 for Heliophysics Research and Analysis, including no less than \$5,000,000 to implement the Diversity, Realize, Integrate, Venture and Education initiative. The agreement also includes \$39,500,000 for the Magnetospheric MultiScale mission.

## AERONAUTICS

This Act includes \$651,000,000 for Aeronautics. NASA shall apply funds provided above the request proportionally across the restructured Aeronautics programs.

## SPACE TECHNOLOGY

This Act includes \$596,000,000 for Space Technology.

## EXPLORATION

This Act includes \$4,356,700,000 for Exploration.

*Human Exploration Capabilities.*—The agreement includes \$3,245,300,000 for Human Exploration Capabilities, including \$1,700,000,000 for Space Launch System (SLS) vehicle development and \$1,194,000,000 for the Orion Multi-Purpose Crew Vehicle. The agreement also includes bill language requiring NASA to submit budget requirements for SLS and Orion that conform to their current or upcoming Key Decision Point C agreements, and also budget profiles and funding requirements that relate to associated management

agreements that assume earlier dates for completion.

*Commercial Crew Program (CCP).*—The agreement includes \$805,000,000 for the CCP. The agreement does not include direction in the Senate report regarding transparency on cost and pricing data.

The CCP is developing a national capability to restore domestic access to the International Space Station (ISS) as quickly and safely as possible, which will allow NASA to fully utilize ISS capabilities. In order to provide adequate insight into this program, NASA shall provide quarterly reports to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate that include the technical and financial quarterly reports required of each awardee, as well as any actions taken by NASA or the awardees to adjust schedule, change or alter milestones, or modify milestone payments. In the event that there are adjustments to the schedule in excess of 2 months, NASA shall immediately notify the Committees in writing and provide a detailed explanation and justification for the schedule alteration. Moreover, any accompanying alteration in milestones or milestone payments shall be reflected in the aforementioned notification.

*Exploration Research and Development.*—The agreement includes \$306,400,000 for Exploration Research and Development, including up to \$182,900,000 for Advanced Exploration Systems (AES). Within AES, the agreement maintains support for Habitat Systems activities as proposed in the budget request. The agreement includes direction in the House report regarding research and development for support of future lunar mission activities and cost sharing by private partners.

## SPACE OPERATIONS

This Act includes \$3,827,800,000 for Space Operations. Any reduction below the request for the International Space Station should be taken from the operations budget and not from research, or crew and cargo transportation. The agreement does not include direction in the Senate report regarding certified cost and price data for the second round of cargo supply contracts.

*Commercial Cargo.*—For the remainder of the current Commercial Resupply Services (CRS) contracts and the next round of CRS contracts to transport cargo to and from the ISS, NASA shall provide quarterly updates to the Appropriations Committees of the House and Senate on the CRS schedule and resupply plans that include: the status of the CRS launch manifest; the mission and date that NASA granted the authority to proceed, identifying the provider; the amount of cargo contracted for delivery, the amount actually delivered, the amount of cargo contracted for return and the amount actually returned, both cumulatively and by mission for each contract; and any requests for changes to the current plans, including requests to delay launch dates, the initiator of the request, as well as the date any aforementioned alterations to the resupply plan are acknowledged and approved. Further, NASA shall immediately notify the Committees of any alteration of the CRS schedule and incorporate those notifications in the quarterly report.

*Satellite servicing.*—The agreement supports the Senate's direction on satellite servicing but the total amount of \$130,000,000 shall include not only amounts in both the Space Technology and Human Exploration and Operations Mission Directorates, but also carryover funding from fiscal year 2014.

*Space and Flight Support.*—The agreement provides \$45,900,000 for the 21st Century

Space Launch Complex program, including funding above the request in support of Senate direction for the Wallops Flight Facility.

#### EDUCATION

This Act includes \$119,000,000 for Education.

*Space Grant.*—Any Space Grant funds available in excess of the amount needed to fulfill base awards shall be made available to all consortia on a competitive basis.

#### SAFETY, SECURITY AND MISSION SERVICES

This Act includes \$2,758,900,000 for Safety, Security and Mission Services. The agreement includes language in the House report directing NASA to fund any Independent Verification and Validation (IV&V) shortfall below the fiscal year 2014 funding level from within the funding of mission directorates that make use of IV&V services.

*Use of Space Act Agreements (SAAs).*—With regard to SAAs, NASA shall make summary information on active SAAs publicly available, and update this information quarterly. In addition, for all new non-reimbursable SAAs, NASA shall include in the publicly available information an estimated value of the associated NASA contribution. Further, NASA shall report to the Committees, no later than 60 days after enactment of this Act on the status of all actions taken and planned to respond to Report IG—14—020 on NASA's use of SAAs.

#### CONSTRUCTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE AND RESTORATION

This Act includes \$429,100,000 for direct obligations for Construction and Environmental Compliance and Restoration, of which \$419,100,000 is from new appropriations and \$10,000,000 is from recoveries of prior year obligations.

#### OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

This Act includes \$37,000,000 for the Office of Inspector General.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

This Act includes the following administrative provisions for NASA:

- a provision that makes funds for announced prizes available without fiscal year limitation until the prize is claimed or the offer is withdrawn;
- a provision that establishes terms and conditions for the transfer of funds;
- a provision that subjects the NASA spending plan and specified changes to that spending plan to reprogramming procedures under section 505 of this Act; and
- a provision that allows the transfer of balances under a previous appropriations account structure to the new structure.

#### NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

This Act includes \$7,344,205,000 for the National Science Foundation (NSF).

#### RESEARCH AND RELATED ACTIVITIES

This Act includes \$5,933,645,000 for Research and Related Activities (R&RA). NSF's R&RA reduction and consolidation proposals are incorporated unless specifically noted otherwise in this statement or in language in either the House or Senate report that is not modified or superseded by this statement.

*Neuroscience.*—House report language regarding funding and policy for neuroscience at the National Science Foundation (NSF) is adopted by reference. Furthermore, NSF is encouraged to work in conjunction with the Interagency Working Group on Neuroscience (IWGN) and the Brain Research through Advancing Innovative Neurotechnologies (BRAIN) initiative to establish a National Brain Observatory working group to deter-

mine how to use the data infrastructure of the NSF, the Department of Energy's national laboratory network, and other applicable agencies to help neuroscientists collect, standardize, manage, and analyze the large amounts of data that will result from research attempting to understand how the brain functions. NSF shall report to the Committees on Appropriations not later than 180 days after enactment of this Act on the progress of this effort.

#### MAJOR RESEARCH EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES CONSTRUCTION

This Act includes \$200,760,000 for Major Research Equipment and Facilities Construction.

#### EDUCATION AND HUMAN RESOURCES

This Act includes \$866,000,000 for Education and Human Resources (EHR). The agreement includes \$66,000,000 for Advanced Technological Education; \$32,000,000 for the Historically Black Colleges and Universities Program; \$46,000,000 for the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation; and \$13,500,000 for the Tribal Colleges and Universities Program. NSF's EHR termination and reduction proposals are incorporated unless specifically noted otherwise in this statement or in language in either the House or Senate report that is not modified or superseded by this statement.

*Broadening participation programs.*—Within existing funding for these programs, the agreement includes up to \$3,000,000 to create effective models of intervention to nurture students in STEM subjects from K-12 through undergraduate studies, as described in the Senate report.

NSF shall comply with House direction to meet the needs of Hispanic Serving Institutions through existing NSF programs and shall report to the Committees no later than 180 days after the enactment of this Act on how these activities increase the recruitment, retention and graduation rates of Hispanic students in STEM fields.

#### AGENCY OPERATIONS AND AWARD MANAGEMENT

This Act includes \$325,000,000 for Agency Operations and Award Management.

#### OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL SCIENCE BOARD

This Act includes \$4,370,000 for the National Science Board.

#### OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

This Act includes \$14,430,000 for the Office of Inspector General.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION

This Act includes a provision that establishes terms and conditions for the transfer of funds.

#### TITLE IV

#### RELATED AGENCIES

#### COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

#### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

This Act includes \$9,200,000 for the Commission on Civil Rights.

*Management issues.*—The Commission shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations no later than 60 days after the enactment of this Act on recommendations for improving the management structure of the Commission. The report, developed through the Chair and with approval of the Staff Director, should focus on the issues of the Commission acting as one unified body, the workload for the special assistants assigned to each Commissioner, and the impacts of these factors on the function of the organization as a whole. Alternative staffing structures for the Commissioners should be developed and evaluated in the report so that they

can be considered as part of the fiscal year 2016 budget submission.

#### EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION

#### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

This Act includes \$364,500,000 for the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC). Up to \$30,000,000 shall be for payments to State and local enforcement agencies to ensure that the EEOC provides adequate resources to its State and local partners.

#### INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

#### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

This Act includes \$84,500,000 for the International Trade Commission (ITC).

*Section 337.*—House report language on Section 337 investigations is not adopted. In lieu of this provision, ITC shall provide a report, no later than 120 days after enactment of this Act, that provides statistical data on Section 337 investigations for fiscal years 2006–2014. The report also shall include a discussion of the practices and procedures the Commission uses to assist small and medium-sized enterprises, the procedures in place to ensure consideration of public interest factors, and procedures for the issuance of early rulings, as well as a discussion of the feasibility of narrowing the existing interpretation of licensing.

*Bilateral Investment Treaty.*—The agreement modifies House report language regarding a Bilateral Investment Treaty with China. Should such an agreement be proposed, the ITC shall report to the Committees on how its implementation would help increase production by U.S.-invested enterprises in China to serve the U.S. market. In preparing this information, the ITC shall identify the impact that such a treaty will have on the current estimated proportion of Chinese exports to the U.S. that are produced by foreign-invested enterprises operating in China. In addition, the ITC shall provide information on the extent to which the treaty would allow Chinese investors to seek redress for U.S. government legal, regulatory or other measures that they claim reduce the value of their investments in the United States.

#### LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

#### PAYMENT TO THE LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

This Act includes \$375,000,000 for the Legal Services Corporation (LSC).

#### ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION—LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

*Unauthorized uses of funds.*—The Inspector General of the LSC is encouraged to conduct annual audits of LSC grantees to ensure that funds are not being used in contravention of the restrictions on engaging in political activities or any of the other restrictions by which LSC grantees are required to abide. The removal of funds from any LSC grantee determined by the Inspector General to have engaged in unauthorized political activity is recommended.

#### MARINE MAMMAL COMMISSION

#### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

This Act includes \$3,340,000 for the Marine Mammal Commission.

#### OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

#### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

This Act includes \$54,250,000 for the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative.

#### STATE JUSTICE INSTITUTE

#### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

This Act includes \$5,121,000 for the State Justice Institute.

TITLE V—GENERAL PROVISIONS  
(INCLUDING RESCISSIONS)

This Act includes the following general provisions:

Section 501 prohibits the use of funds for publicity or propaganda purposes unless expressly authorized by law.

Section 502 prohibits any appropriation contained in this Act from remaining available for obligation beyond the current fiscal year unless expressly provided.

Section 503 provides that the expenditure of any appropriation contained in this Act for any consulting service through procurement contracts shall be limited to those contracts where such expenditures are a matter of public record and available for public inspection, except where otherwise provided under existing law or existing Executive Order issued pursuant to existing law.

Section 504 provides that if any provision of this Act or the application of such provision to any person or circumstance shall be held invalid, the remainder of this Act and the application of other provisions shall not be affected.

Section 505 prohibits a reprogramming of funds that: (1) creates or initiates a new program, project or activity; (2) eliminates a program, project, or activity; (3) increases funds or personnel by any means for any project or activity for which funds have been denied or restricted; (4) relocates an office or employee; (5) reorganizes or renames offices, programs or activities; (6) contracts out or privatizes any function or activity presently performed by Federal employees; (7) augments funds for existing programs, projects or activities in excess of \$500,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less, or reduces by 10 percent funding for any existing program, project, or activity, or numbers of personnel by 10 percent; or (8) results from any general savings, including savings from a reduction in personnel, which would result in a change in existing programs, projects, or activities as approved by Congress; unless the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations are notified 15 days in advance of such reprogramming of funds. Language is included requiring the Department of Justice to notify the Committees 45 days in advance of any such reprogramming.

Section 506 provides that if it is determined that any person intentionally affixes a "Made in America" label to any product that was not made in America, that person shall not be eligible to receive any contract or subcontract with funds made available in this Act. The section further provides that to the extent practicable, with respect to purchases of promotional items, funds made available under this Act shall be used to purchase items manufactured, produced or assembled in the United States or its territories or possessions.

Section 507 requires quarterly reporting to Congress on the status of balances of appropriations.

Section 508 provides that any costs incurred by a department or agency funded under this Act resulting from, or to prevent, personnel actions taken in response to funding reductions in this Act, or, for the Department of Commerce, from actions taken for the care and protection of loan collateral or grant property, shall be absorbed within the budgetary resources available to the department or agency, and provides transfer authority between appropriation accounts to carry out this provision, subject to reprogramming procedures.

Section 509 prohibits funds made available in this Act from being used to promote the

sale or export of tobacco or tobacco products or to seek the reduction or removal of foreign restrictions on the marketing of tobacco products, except for restrictions which are not applied equally to all tobacco or tobacco products of the same type. This provision is not intended to impact routine international trade services to all U.S. citizens, including the processing of applications to establish foreign trade zones.

Section 510 delays the obligations of certain receipts deposited into the Crime Victims Fund until the following fiscal year.

Section 511 prohibits the use of Department of Justice funds for programs that discriminate against or denigrate the religious or moral beliefs of students participating in such programs.

Section 512 prohibits the transfer of funds in this Act to any department, agency or instrumentality of the United States Government, except for transfers made by, or pursuant to authorities provided in, this Act or any other appropriations Act.

Section 513 provides that funds provided for E-Government Initiatives shall be subject to the procedures set forth in section 505 of this Act.

Section 514 requires certain timetables of audits performed by Inspectors General of the Departments of Commerce and Justice, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the National Science Foundation and the Legal Services Corporation and sets limits and restrictions on the awarding and use of grants or contracts funded by amounts appropriated by this Act.

Section 515 prohibits funds for acquisition of certain information systems unless the acquiring department or agency has reviewed and assessed certain risks. Any acquisition of such an information system is contingent upon the development of a risk mitigation strategy and a determination that the acquisition is in the national interest. Each department or agency covered under section 515 shall submit a quarterly report to the Committees on Appropriations describing reviews and assessments of risk made pursuant to this section and any associated findings or determinations.

Section 516 prohibits the use of funds in this Act to support or justify the use of torture by any official or contract employee of the United States Government.

Section 517 prohibits the use of funds in this Act to require certain export licenses.

Section 518 prohibits the use of funds in this Act to deny certain import applications regarding "curios or relics" firearms, parts or ammunition.

Section 519 prohibits the use of funds to include certain language in trade agreements.

Section 520 prohibits the use of funds in this Act to authorize or issue a National Security Letter (NSL) in contravention of certain laws authorizing the Federal Bureau of Investigation to issue NSLs.

Section 521 requires congressional notification for any project within the Departments of Commerce or Justice, the National Science Foundation or the National Aeronautics and Space Administration totaling more than \$75,000,000 that has cost increases of 10 percent or more.

Section 522 deems funds for intelligence or intelligence-related activities as authorized by the Congress until the enactment of the Intelligence Authorization Act for fiscal year 2015.

Section 523 prohibits contracts or grant awards in excess of \$5,000,000 unless the prospective contractor or grantee certifies that the organization has filed all Federal tax re-

turns, has not been convicted of a criminal offense under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, and has no unpaid Federal tax assessment.

(RESCISSIONS)

Section 524 provides for rescissions of unobligated balances. Subsection (c) requires the Departments of Commerce and Justice to submit a report on the amount of each rescission. These reports shall include the distribution of such rescissions among decision units, or, in the case of rescissions from grant accounts, the distribution of such rescissions among specific grant programs, and whether such rescissions were taken from recoveries and deobligations, or from funds that were never obligated.

Section 525 prohibits the use of funds in this Act for the purchase of first class or premium air travel. Departments and agencies funded in this Act shall file, in a timely fashion, all required premium travel reports to the General Services Administration.

Section 526 prohibits the use of funds to pay for the attendance of more than 50 department or agency employees at any single conference outside the United States, unless the conference is a law enforcement training or operational event where the majority of Federal attendees are law enforcement personnel stationed outside the United States.

Section 527 prohibits the use of funds in this Act in a manner that is inconsistent with the principal negotiating objective of the United States with respect to trade remedy laws.

Section 528 includes language regarding detainees held at Guantanamo Bay.

Section 529 includes language regarding facilities for housing detainees held at Guantanamo Bay.

Section 530 includes language regarding the purchase of light bulbs.

Section 531 requires any department, agency or instrumentality of the United States Government receiving funds appropriated under this Act to track and report on undisbursed balances in expired grant accounts.

Section 532 prohibits the use of funds by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration or the Office of Science and Technology Policy to engage in bilateral activities with China or a Chinese-owned company or effectuate the hosting of official Chinese visitors at certain facilities unless the activities are authorized by subsequent legislation or NASA or OSTP have made a certification pursuant to subsections (c) and (d) of this section.

Section 533 prohibits funds made available by this Act from being used to deny the importation of shotgun models if no application for the importation of such models, in the same configuration, had been denied prior to January 1, 2011, on the basis that the shotgun was not particularly suitable for or readily adaptable to sporting purposes.

Section 534 prohibits the use of funds to establish or maintain a computer network that does not block pornography, except for law enforcement purposes.

Section 535 requires the Departments of Commerce and Justice, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the National Science Foundation to submit spending plans.

Section 536 prohibits the use of funds to implement the Arms Trade Treaty until the Senate approves a resolution of ratification for the Treaty.

Section 537 prohibits the use of funds under the heading "Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery" for grant guidelines or requirements to establish minimum riparian buffers.

Section 538 prohibits the Department of Justice from preventing certain States from implementing State laws regarding the use of medical marijuana.

Section 539 prohibits the use of funds by the Department of Justice or the Drug Enforcement Administration in contravention of a certain section of the Agricultural Act of 2014.

Section 540 prohibits the use of funds to relinquish the responsibility of the NTIA with respect to Internet domain name system functions.

Section 541 provides a temporary extension of the Trade Adjustment Assistance for Firms program through December 31, 2015.

Section 537 of the Senate bill, regarding vehicle fleets, is not included. Instead, all agencies and departments funded under this Act shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations, at the end of the fiscal year, a report containing a complete inventory of

the total number of vehicles owned, permanently retired, and purchased during fiscal year 2015 as well as the total cost of the vehicle fleet, including maintenance, fuel, storage, purchasing, and leasing.

Section 553 from the House bill, regarding agency implementation of certain climate-related activities, is not included. The Office of Science and Technology Policy shall submit a report no later than 90 days after enactment of this Act detailing fiscal year 2013 and 2014 funding under this Act used in support of the U.S. Global Climate Research Program National Climate Assessment; the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's Fifth Assessment Report; the United Nations' Agenda 21 sustainable development report; and the May 2013 Technical Update of the Social Cost of Carbon for Regulatory Impact Analysis under Executive Order 12866. This report shall also include the specific authorization for each agency

that enables participation in each of the activities listed above.

Section 565 of the House bill, regarding trade agreements and greenhouse gas emissions, is not included. It is understood that the United States Trade Representative (USTR) does not plan to negotiate any trade agreement that includes a limit on greenhouse gas emissions, and it is expected that the USTR will not negotiate or enter into such an agreement.

#### TITLE VI—TRAVEL PROMOTION

This Act includes the Travel Promotion, Enhancement, and Modernization Act of 2014.

#### TITLE VII—NETWORK FOR MANUFACTURING INNOVATION

This Act includes the Revitalize American Manufacturing and Innovation Act of 2014.

DIVISION B -- COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
TITLE I - DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE					
International Trade Administration					
Operations and administration.....	470,000	506,731	472,000	+2,000	-34,731
Offsetting fee collections.....	-9,439	-9,439	-10,000	-561	-561
Direct appropriation.....	460,561	497,292	462,000	+1,439	-35,292
Bureau of Industry and Security					
Operations and administration.....	69,450	74,549	66,500	-2,950	-8,049
Defense function.....	32,000	36,000	36,000	+4,000	---
Total, Bureau of Industry and Security.....	101,450	110,549	102,500	+1,050	-8,049
Economic Development Administration					
Economic Development Assistance Programs.....	209,500	210,000	213,000	+3,500	+3,000
Salaries and expenses.....	37,000	38,182	37,000	---	-1,182
Total, Economic Development Administration.....	246,500	248,182	250,000	+3,500	+1,818
Minority Business Development Agency					
Minority Business Development.....	28,000	28,286	30,000	+2,000	+1,714



DIVISION B -- COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
<b>Economic and Statistical Analysis</b>					
Salaries and expenses.....	99,000	111,033	100,000	+1,000	-11,033
Bureau of the Census					
Salaries and expenses.....	252,000	248,000	248,000	-4,000	---
Periodic censuses and programs.....	693,000	963,428	840,000	+147,000	-123,428
Total, Bureau of the Census.....	945,000	1,211,428	1,088,000	+143,000	-123,428
National Telecommunications and Information Administration					
Salaries and expenses.....	46,000	51,000	38,200	-7,800	-12,800
United States Patent and Trademark Office					
Salaries and expenses, current year fee funding.....	3,024,000	3,458,000	3,458,000	+434,000	---
Offsetting fee collections.....	-3,024,000	-3,458,000	-3,458,000	-434,000	---
Total, United States Patent and Trademark Office	---	---	---	---	---
National Institute of Standards and Technology					
Scientific and Technical Research and Services..... (transfer out).....	651,000 (-2,000)	680,000 (-9,000)	675,500 (-2,000)	+24,500 ---	-4,500 (+7,000)

DIVISION B -- COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Industrial Technology Services.....	143,000	161,000	138,100	-4,900	-22,900
Manufacturing extension partnerships.....	(128,000)	(141,000)	(130,000)	(+2,000)	(-11,000)
Advanced manufacturing technology consortia.....	(15,000)	(15,000)	(8,100)	(-6,900)	(-6,900)
Manufacturing innovation institutes coordination..	---	(5,000)	---	---	(-5,000)
Construction of research facilities.....	56,000	59,000	50,300	-5,700	-8,700
Working Capital Fund (by transfer).....	(2,000)	(9,000)	(2,000)	---	(-7,000)
Total, National Institute of Standards and Technology.....	850,000	900,000	863,900	+13,900	-36,100
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration					
Operations, Research, and Facilities.....	3,157,392	3,237,993	3,202,398	+45,006	-35,595
(by transfer).....	(115,000)	(123,164)	(116,000)	(+1,000)	(-7,164)
Promote and Develop Fund (transfer out).....	(-115,000)	(-123,164)	(-116,000)	(-1,000)	(+7,164)
Subtotal.....	3,157,392	3,237,993	3,202,398	+45,006	-35,595
Procurement, Acquisition and Construction.....	2,022,864	2,206,392	2,179,225	+156,361	-27,167
Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery.....	65,000	50,000	65,000	---	+15,000
Fishermen's Contingency Fund.....	350	350	350	---	---
Fisheries Disaster Assistance.....	75,000	---	---	-75,000	---
Fisheries Finance Program Account.....	-6,000	-6,000	-6,000	---	---
Total, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.....	5,314,606	5,488,735	5,440,973	+126,367	-47,762

DIVISION B -- COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
<b>Departmental Management</b>					
Salaries and expenses.....	55,500	57,637	56,000	+500	-1,637
Renovation and Modernization.....	4,000	11,733	4,500	+500	-7,233
Office of Inspector General.....	30,000	30,596	30,596	+596	---
Total, Departmental Management.....	89,500	99,966	91,096	+1,596	-8,870
=====					
Total, title I, Department of Commerce.....	8,180,617	8,746,471	8,466,669	+286,052	-279,802
(by transfer).....	117,000	132,164	118,000	+1,000	-14,164
(transfer out).....	-117,000	-132,164	-118,000	-1,000	+14,164
=====					
<b>TITLE II - DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE</b>					
<b>General Administration</b>					
Salaries and expenses.....	110,000	128,851	111,500	+1,500	-17,351
Justice Information Sharing Technology.....	25,842	25,842	25,842	---	---
Total, General Administration.....	135,842	154,693	137,342	+1,500	-17,351
Administrative review and appeals.....	315,000	351,072	351,072	+36,072	---
Transfer from immigration examinations fee account	-4,000	-4,000	-4,000	---	---
Direct appropriation.....	311,000	347,072	347,072	+36,072	---
=====					

DIVISION B -- COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Office of Inspector General.....	86,400	88,577	88,577	+2,177	---
United States Parole Commission					
Salaries and expenses.....	12,600	13,308	13,308	+708	---
Legal Activities					
Salaries and expenses, general legal activities.....	867,000	935,854	885,000	+18,000	-50,854
Vaccine Injury Compensation Trust Fund.....	7,833	7,833	7,833	---	---
Salaries and expenses, Antitrust Division.....	160,400	162,246	162,246	+1,846	---
Offsetting fee collections - current year.....	-103,000	-100,000	-100,000	+3,000	---
Direct appropriation.....	57,400	62,246	62,246	+4,846	---
Salaries and expenses, United States Attorneys.....	1,944,000	1,955,327	1,960,000	+16,000	+4,673
United States Trustee System Fund.....	224,400	225,908	225,908	+1,508	---
Offsetting fee collections.....	-224,400	-225,908	-225,908	-1,508	---
Direct appropriation.....	---	---	---	---	---
Salaries and expenses, Foreign Claims Settlement Commission.....	2,100	2,326	2,326	+226	---
Fees and expenses of witnesses.....	270,000	270,000	270,000	---	---
Salaries and expenses, Community Relations Service.....	12,000	12,972	12,250	+250	-722
Assets Forfeiture Fund.....	20,500	20,514	20,514	+14	---
Total, Legal Activities.....	3,180,833	3,267,072	3,220,169	+39,336	-46,903

DIVISION B -- COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
<b>United States Marshals Service</b>					
Salaries and expenses.....	1,185,000	1,185,000	1,195,000	+10,000	+10,000
Construction.....	9,800	9,800	9,800	---	---
Federal Prisoner Detention.....	1,533,000	1,595,307	495,307	-1,037,693	-1,100,000
Total, United States Marshals Service.....	2,727,800	2,790,107	1,700,107	-1,027,693	-1,090,000
<b>National Security Division</b>					
Salaries and expenses.....	91,800	91,800	93,000	+1,200	+1,200
<b>Interagency Law Enforcement</b>					
Interagency Crime and Drug Enforcement.....	514,000	505,000	507,194	-6,806	+2,194
<b>Federal Bureau of Investigation</b>					
Salaries and expenses.....	3,345,322	3,358,219	3,378,089	+32,767	+19,870
Counterintelligence and national security.....	4,900,480	4,920,000	4,948,480	+48,000	+28,480
Subtotal.....	8,245,802	8,278,219	8,326,569	+80,767	+48,350
Construction.....	97,482	68,982	110,000	+12,518	+41,018
Total, Federal Bureau of Investigation.....	8,343,284	8,347,201	8,436,569	+93,285	+89,368

DIVISION B -- COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
<b>Drug Enforcement Administration</b>					
Salaries and expenses.....	2,378,917	2,384,680	2,400,000	+21,083	+15,320
Diversion control fund.....	-360,917	-366,680	-366,680	-5,763	---
Total, Drug Enforcement Administration.....	2,018,000	2,018,000	2,033,320	+15,320	+15,320
<b>Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives</b>					
Salaries and expenses.....	1,179,000	1,201,004	1,201,000	+22,000	-4
<b>Federal Prison System</b>					
Salaries and expenses.....	6,769,000	6,804,000	6,815,000	+46,000	+11,000
Buildings and facilities.....	90,000	90,000	106,000	+16,000	+16,000
Limitation on administrative expenses, Federal Prison Industries, Incorporated.....	2,700	2,700	2,700	---	---
Total, Federal Prison System.....	6,861,700	6,896,700	6,923,700	+62,000	+27,000
<b>State and Local Law Enforcement Activities</b>					
Office on Violence Against Women: Prevention and prosecution programs.....	417,000	422,500	430,000	+13,000	+7,500

DIVISION B -- COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
<b>Office of Justice Programs:</b>					
Research, evaluation and statistics.....	120,000	136,900	111,000	-9,000	-25,900
State and local law enforcement assistance.....	1,171,500	1,032,900	1,241,000	+69,500	+208,100
Juvenile justice programs.....	254,500	299,400	251,500	-3,000	-47,900
<b>Public safety officer benefits:</b>					
Death benefits.....	81,000	71,000	71,000	-10,000	---
Disability and education benefits.....	16,300	16,300	16,300	---	---
Subtotal.....	97,300	87,300	87,300	-10,000	---
Total, Office of Justice Programs.....	1,643,300	1,556,500	1,690,800	+47,500	+134,300
<b>Community Oriented Policing Services:</b>					
COPS programs.....	214,000	274,000	208,000	-6,000	-66,000
Total, State and Local Law Enforcement Activities.....	2,274,300	2,253,000	2,328,800	+54,500	+75,800
Total, title II, Department of Justice.....	27,736,559	27,973,534	27,030,158	-706,401	-943,376
<b>TITLE III - SCIENCE</b>					
Office of Science and Technology Policy.....	5,555	5,555	5,555	---	---



DIVISION B -- COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
<b>National Aeronautics and Space Administration</b>					
Science.....	5,151,200	4,972,000	5,244,700	+93,500	+272,700
Aeronautics.....	566,000	551,100	651,000	+85,000	+99,900
Space Technology.....	576,000	705,500	596,000	+20,000	-109,500
Exploration.....	4,113,200	3,976,000	4,356,700	+243,500	+380,700
Space Operations.....	3,778,000	3,905,400	3,827,800	+49,800	-77,600
Education.....	116,600	88,900	119,000	+2,400	+30,100
Safety, Security and Mission Services.....	2,793,000	2,778,600	2,758,900	-34,100	-19,700
Construction and environmental compliance and restoration.....	515,000	446,100	419,100	-95,900	-27,000
Office of Inspector General.....	37,500	37,000	37,000	-500	---
<b>Total, National Aeronautics and Space Administration.....</b>	<b>17,646,500</b>	<b>17,460,600</b>	<b>18,010,200</b>	<b>+363,700</b>	<b>+549,600</b>
<b>National Science Foundation</b>					
Research and related activities.....	5,741,398	5,739,460	5,866,125	+124,727	+126,665
Defense function.....	67,520	68,000	67,520	---	-480
<b>Subtotal.....</b>	<b>5,808,918</b>	<b>5,807,460</b>	<b>5,933,645</b>	<b>+124,727</b>	<b>+126,185</b>
Major Research Equipment and Facilities Construction...	200,000	200,760	200,760	+760	---
Education and Human Resources.....	846,500	889,750	866,000	+19,500	-23,750
Agency Operations and Award Management.....	298,000	338,230	325,000	+27,000	-13,230

DIVISION B -- COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Office of the National Science Board.....	4,300	4,370	4,370	+70	---
Office of Inspector General.....	14,200	14,430	14,430	+230	---
Total, National Science Foundation.....	7,171,918	7,255,000	7,344,205	+172,287	+89,205
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Total, title III, Science.....	24,823,973	24,721,155	25,359,960	+535,987	+638,805
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====

TITLE IV - RELATED AGENCIES

Commission on Civil Rights

Salaries and expenses.....	9,000	9,400	9,200	+200	-200
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Equal Employment Opportunity Commission

Salaries and expenses.....	364,000	365,531	364,500	+500	-1,031
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International Trade Commission

Salaries and expenses.....	83,000	86,459	84,500	+1,500	-1,959
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Legal Services Corporation

Payment to the Legal Services Corporation.....	365,000	430,000	375,000	+10,000	-55,000
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DIVISION B -- COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
<b>Marine Mammal Commission</b>					
Salaries and expenses.....	3,250	3,431	3,340	+90	-91
<b>Office of the U.S. Trade Representative</b>					
Salaries and expenses.....	52,601	56,170	54,250	+1,649	-1,920
<b>State Justice Institute</b>					
Salaries and expenses.....	4,900	5,121	5,121	+221	---
<b>Total, title IV, Related Agencies.....</b>	<b>881,751</b>	<b>956,112</b>	<b>895,911</b>	<b>+14,160</b>	<b>-60,201</b>

TITLE V - GENERAL PROVISIONS

NTIA, Public Telecommunications Facilities, Planning and Construction (rescission).....	-8,500	---	---	+8,500	---
DOC Departmental Management, Franchise Fund (rescission).....	---	-2,906	-2,906	-2,906	---
DOC, Economic Development Assistance Programs (rescission).....	---	---	-5,000	-5,000	-5,000
DOJ, Working Capital Fund (rescission).....	-30,000	-54,000	-99,000	-69,000	-45,000

DIVISION B -- COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
DOJ, Tactical Law Enforcement Wireless Communications (rescission).....	---	---	-2,000	-2,000	-2,000
DOJ, Detention Trustee (rescission).....	---	---	-23,000	-23,000	-23,000
DOJ, Assets Forfeiture Fund (rescission).....	-83,600	-193,000	-193,000	-109,400	---
DOJ, Salaries and expenses, general legal activities...	---	---	-10,000	-10,000	-10,000
DOJ, Salaries and expenses, Antitrust Division.....	---	---	-6,000	-6,000	-6,000
DOJ, Salaries and expenses, U.S. Attorneys (rescission).....	---	---	-9,000	-9,000	-9,000
Federal Prisoner Detention (rescission).....	---	-122,000	-188,000	-188,000	-66,000
DOJ, ATF, Salaries and expenses (rescission).....	---	---	-3,200	-3,200	-3,200
Violence against women prevention and prosecution programs (rescission).....	-12,200	-12,200	-16,000	-3,800	-3,800
Office of Justice programs (rescission).....	-59,000	-59,000	-82,500	-23,500	-23,500
COPS (rescission).....	-26,000	-26,000	-40,000	-14,000	-14,000
Total, title V, General Provisions.....	-219,300	-469,106	-679,606	-460,306	-210,500
Grand total.....	61,403,600	61,928,166	61,073,092	-330,508	-855,074
Appropriations.....	(61,622,900)	(62,397,272)	(61,752,698)	(+129,798)	(-644,574)
Rescissions.....	(-219,300)	(-469,106)	(-679,606)	(-460,306)	(-210,500)
(by transfer).....	117,000	132,164	118,000	+1,000	-14,164
(transfer out).....	-117,000	-132,164	-118,000	-1,000	+14,164

DIVISION C—DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015

The agreement on the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2015 incorporates some of the provisions of both the House-passed and the Senate-reported versions of the bill. The language and allocations set forth in House Report 113-473 and Senate Report 113-211 shall be complied with unless specifically addressed to the contrary in the accompanying bill and explanatory statement.

DEFINITION OF PROGRAM, PROJECT, AND  
ACTIVITY

The agreement delineates that, for the purposes of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (Public Law 99-177), as amended by the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Reaffirmation Act of 1987 (Public Law 100-119), and by the Budget Enforcement Act of 1990 (Public Law 101-508), the terms “program, project, and activity” for appropriations contained in this Act shall be defined as the most specific level of budget items identified in the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2015, the related classified annexes and explanatory statements, and the P-1 and R-1 budget justification documents as subsequently modified by congressional action. The following exception to the above definition shall apply: the military personnel and the operation and maintenance accounts, for which the term “program, project, and activity” is defined as the appropriations accounts contained in the Department of Defense Appropriations Act.

At the time the President submits the budget request for fiscal year 2016, the Secretary of Defense is directed to transmit to the congressional defense committees budget justification documents to be known as the “M-1” and “O-1” which shall identify, at the budget activity, activity group, and sub-activity group level, the amounts requested by the President to be appropriated to the Department of Defense for military personnel and operation and maintenance in any budget request, or amended budget request, for fiscal year 2016.

## CLASSIFIED ANNEX

Adjustments to classified programs are addressed in the accompanying classified annex.

## CONGRESSIONAL SPECIAL INTEREST ITEMS

Items for which additional funds have been provided or items for which funding is specifically reduced as shown in the project level tables or in paragraphs using the phrase “only for” or “only to” are congressional special interest items for the purpose of the Base for Reprogramming (DD Form 1414). Each of these items must be carried on the DD Form 1414 at the stated amount, as specifically addressed in the explanatory statement.

## REPROGRAMMING GUIDANCE

The Secretary of Defense is directed to continue to follow the reprogramming guidance for acquisition accounts as specified in the report accompanying the House version of the Department of Defense Appropriations bill for Fiscal Year 2008 (House Report 110-279). For operation and maintenance accounts, the Secretary of Defense shall continue to follow the reprogramming guidelines specified in the conference report accompanying H.R. 3222, the Department of Defense Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2008. The dollar threshold for reprogramming funds shall remain at \$10,000,000 for military personnel; \$15,000,000 for operation and main-

tenance; \$20,000,000 for procurement; and \$10,000,000 for research, development, test and evaluation.

Also, the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller) is directed to continue to provide the congressional defense committees annual DD Form 1416 reports for titles I and II and quarterly, spreadsheet-based DD Form 1416 reports for Service and defense-wide accounts in titles III and IV of this Act. Reports for titles III and IV shall comply with guidance specified in the explanatory statement accompanying the Department of Defense Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2006. The Department shall continue to follow the limitation that prior approval reprogrammings are set at either the specified dollar threshold or 20 percent of the procurement or research, development, test and evaluation line, whichever is less. These thresholds are cumulative from the base for reprogramming value as modified by any adjustments. Therefore, if the combined value of transfers into or out of a military personnel (M-1), an operation and maintenance (O-1), a procurement (P-1), or a research, development, test and evaluation (R-1) line exceeds the identified threshold, the Secretary of Defense must submit a prior approval reprogramming to the congressional defense committees. In addition, guidelines on the application of prior approval reprogramming procedures for congressional special interest items are established elsewhere in this statement.

## FUNDING ADJUSTMENTS

The funding increases outlined in the project level tables for each appropriation account shall be provided only for the specific purposes indicated in the tables. Programs for which the funding provided is less than the requested amount shall be reduced for the purposes specified in the project level tables and may be considered congressional special interest items as defined in titles I, II, III, and IV of this statement. The reductions to special interest items shall only be restored using the prior approval reprogramming process. The Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller) shall ensure appropriate distribution of this guidance.

## CIVILIAN FURLONGHS

In fiscal year 2013, the Secretary of Defense furloughed most Department of Defense civilian employees for up to six days due to budgetary shortfalls primarily caused by sequestration. There is concern that the negative impact on productivity, morale, and readiness substantially outweighed the savings generated from civilian furloughs. The Bipartisan Budget Act (BBA) replaced sequestration in fiscal years 2014 and 2015 with new spending limits and raised the budget limit for National Defense spending above the sequestration level. No furloughs were implemented in fiscal year 2014 and while the agreement does not include provisions to prohibit the use of funds to furlough civilian employees, it is assumed that the passage of the BBA and the passage of this Act will eliminate entirely any need to furlough civilian employees in fiscal year 2015.

## ISRAELI MISSILE DEFENSE PROGRAMS

The fiscal year 2015 budget request includes \$272,775,000 for Israeli missile defense programs within the Missile Defense Agency (MDA) budget, including \$175,972,000 for the procurement of Iron Dome. This request concludes a previous U.S. commitment to the Government of Israel to provide \$680,000,000 from fiscal years 2012 to 2015 for the Iron Dome program in response to a request from the Government of Israel. Strong bipartisan

congressional support remains for Israeli missile defense programs to ensure fulfillment of Israel's missile defense needs and the retention of Israel's qualitative military edge. Long-standing and successful contributions of U.S. industry towards meeting these goals include co-production of Arrow and David's Sling; and, beginning in fiscal year 2014, co-production of Iron Dome components.

Subsequent to the fiscal year 2015 budget submission, the Government of Israel increased its funding requirement for Iron Dome. Therefore, the agreement provides an additional \$175,000,000 above the request for Iron Dome, which brings U.S. investment in Iron Dome production since fiscal year 2011 to over \$1,200,000,000. The Iron Dome program, which was developed by Israel solely with Israeli funding, is not subject to conditions of other joint Israel-U.S. cooperative missile defense programs, but rather is governed by a Memorandum of Agreement signed in March 2014. Therefore, the agreement directs that all funds appropriated in fiscal year 2015 for Iron Dome be subject to the terms and provisions of this Memorandum of Agreement, as amended, to reflect an agreed-upon implementation plan between MDA and the Israel Missile Defense Organization (IMDO).

In addition, the agreement directs that not more than \$175,972,000 may be obligated or expended for Iron Dome in fiscal year 2015 until IMDO provides additional justification and documentation to MDA, and the Director of MDA certifies receipt of all such information to the congressional defense committees. The documentation should include a timeline for the expenditure of Iron Dome funds included in the fiscal year 2015 budget request and the additional funds recommended in fiscal year 2015, a delivery schedule for items funded with these and prior year funds, and a report to MDA documenting full and complete delivery by Israeli industry and acceptance by U.S. industry suppliers of all technical data packages required for U.S. co-production of Iron Dome components. Further, this report shall document that all export licenses required to enable the release of classified technical data packages from the U.S. prime contractor to U.S. subcontractors are completed; a common cost model of Iron Dome components that includes recurring and non-recurring engineering costs, to be jointly developed and agreed upon by MDA and IMDO; actual Iron Dome production costs beginning in fiscal year 2013; and component lead-times and delivery schedules for each fiscal year thereafter. It is expected that to fully satisfy the requirements listed above, the Government of Israel will provide to MDA copies of signed and ratified contracts, subcontracts, and teaming arrangements between Israeli and U.S. industry for all Iron Dome co-production efforts.

In addition, the Director of MDA, in coordination with the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics), is directed to provide a report to the congressional defense committees with the fiscal year 2016 budget submission on the information provided in the detailed cost and schedule justification required above, including the views of the Director and the Under Secretary on its sufficiency. It is noted that moving forward with Iron Dome co-production will not negatively impact development, test, and production schedules of the Arrow and David's Sling programs. Therefore, the agreement recommends an additional \$172,039,000 above the request for the Arrow and David's Sling programs.

SHIP MODERNIZATION, OPERATIONS AND  
SUSTAINMENT FUND

The fiscal year 2015 budget request includes a new proposal by the Navy to remove eleven Ticonderoga-class guided missile cruisers and three amphibious dock landing ships from the operational fleet and lay them up for several years under a phased modernization plan. It is noted that this proposal does not conform to direction provided in the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2014, the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2013, and the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014. Instead, the Navy's fiscal year 2015 budget request removes more Ticonderoga-class guided missile cruisers and amphibious dock landing ships from the operational fleet than previously proposed by the Navy, relies on the congressional defense committees to provide additional financial management and acquisition authorities, and does not contain full funding in the outyears for this proposal.

The agreement does not support the Navy's proposal due to concerns over the duration of the proposed lay-up period for several of the ships, the additional authorities required, and doubts as to whether the Navy could execute the phased modernization plan as proposed given the volatility of the Navy's budget requests in recent years. Therefore, the agreement rejects the Navy's proposal and instead recommends a modified modernization plan that is consistent with the Navy's proposal to expand the application of Ship Modernization, Operations and Sustainment Fund (SMOSF) resources to four additional Ticonderoga-class guided missile cruisers and an additional amphibious dock landing ship, while modifying the induction schedule for SMOSF ships' modernization. The agreement directs the Secretary of the Navy to induct no more than two cruisers per year into phased modernization, beginning with two cruisers in fiscal year 2016. Further, the Secretary of the Navy

is directed to allow no more than six cruisers in lay-up at any given time. Finally, the Secretary of the Navy is directed to ensure that the duration of the lay-up period be no longer than four years and that modernization equipment be ordered and placed on contract in the year prior to the ship entering its modernization period.

The SMOSF was established in fiscal year 2013 to allow the Navy sufficient time to plan and fully budget for the manning, operation, equipping, sustainment, and modernization of the cruisers previously proposed for premature retirement. However, as in fiscal year 2014, the Navy has not budgeted accordingly in fiscal year 2015. In fact, it is noted that to date the Navy has obligated more than \$670,000,000 from the SMOSF for cruiser operations, with only a modest investment in modernization. Further, it is understood that the Navy intends to use SMOSF funds in fiscal year 2015 to pay for military personnel funding requirements that should have been included in the Navy's fiscal year 2015 budget request. Given the two-year budgeting window provided to the Navy in fiscal year 2013 with the establishment of the SMOSF, this is inconsistent with congressional intent, and the agreement does not provide either the authority to transfer or obligate SMOSF funds for the purpose of military personnel costs at any time or operation costs incurred outside of the modernization period. In addition, while the agreement continues to allow the use of SMOSF funds to pay for the sustainment of SMOSF cruisers, it is noted that this authority shall be limited to sustainment of cruisers during lay-up, and that the Navy ought to properly budget for the operation of these ships in its operation and maintenance account.

Finally, the agreement recommends \$540,000,000 in addition to the more than \$1,400,000,000 currently remaining in the SMOSF, which is sufficient to fund the revised phased modernization plan in the near-term. The Secretary of the Navy is expected

to fully budget additional funds required in the future.

## WORKING CONDITIONS IN BANGLADESH

The agreement commends the Marine Corps for adopting a requirement to abide by the Accord for Fire and Building Safety in Bangladesh, an agreement designed to improve worker safety in Bangladesh, and strongly encourages the other Services to adopt this standard. A second organization of companies, the Alliance for Bangladesh Worker Safety, is also committed to improving working conditions in Bangladesh.

In order to better understand the magnitude of business that the Department of Defense conducts with businesses that are not signatories or in compliance with the Alliance or the Accord, the Secretary of Defense is directed to provide annual reports, not later than March 1 of each year, to the congressional defense committees, which disclose all factories in Bangladesh producing items sold in the commissary and exchange systems. The reports should include the factory name, address, brand(s), private label(s), licensee(s), or retail supplier(s) sourcing from that factory from the prior year. Next to the factory name, it shall be indicated whether that factory complies with the Alliance, the Accord, both, or neither. This language replaces the reporting requirements directed in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014.

## NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY REPORTS

The agreement does not contain language proposed by the Senate requiring several reports from the National Security Agency related to the bulk telephone metadata program. The House report contained no similar language.

## TITLE I—MILITARY PERSONNEL

The agreement provides \$128,004,618,000 in Title I, Military Personnel. The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
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RECAPITULATION		
MILITARY PERSONNEL, ARMY.....	41,225,339	41,116,129
MILITARY PERSONNEL, NAVY.....	27,489,440	27,453,200
MILITARY PERSONNEL, MARINE CORPS.....	12,919,103	12,828,931
MILITARY PERSONNEL, AIR FORCE.....	27,815,926	27,376,462
RESERVE PERSONNEL, ARMY.....	4,459,130	4,317,859
RESERVE PERSONNEL, NAVY.....	1,863,034	1,835,924
RESERVE PERSONNEL, MARINE CORPS.....	670,754	660,424
RESERVE PERSONNEL, AIR FORCE.....	1,675,518	1,653,148
NATIONAL GUARD PERSONNEL, ARMY.....	7,682,892	7,643,832
NATIONAL GUARD PERSONNEL, AIR FORCE.....	3,156,457	3,118,709
GRAND TOTAL, MILITARY PERSONNEL.....	128,957,593	128,004,618
	=====	=====

## SUMMARY OF MILITARY PERSONNEL END STRENGTH

	Fiscal Year 2014 Authorized	Fiscal Year 2015			
		Budget Request	Final Bill	Change from Request	Change from Fiscal Year 2014
Active Forces (End Strength):					
Army* .....	520,000	490,000	490,000	.....	— 30,000
Navy .....	323,600	323,600	323,600	.....	.....
Marine Corps** .....	190,200	184,100	184,100	.....	— 6,100
Air Force .....	327,600	310,900	312,980	+2,080	— 14,620
Total, Active Forces .....	1,361,400	1,308,600	1,310,680	+2,080	— 50,720
Guard and Reserve Forces (End Strength):					
Army Reserve .....	205,000	202,000	202,000	.....	— 3,000
Navy Reserve .....	59,100	57,300	57,300	.....	— 1,800
Marine Corps Reserve .....	39,600	39,200	39,200	.....	— 400
Air Force Reserve .....	70,400	67,100	67,100	.....	— 3,300
Army National Guard .....	354,200	350,200	350,200	.....	— 4,000
Air National Guard .....	105,400	105,000	105,000	.....	— 400
Total, Selected Reserve .....	833,700	820,800	820,800	.....	— 12,900
Total, Military Personnel .....	2,195,100	2,129,400	2,131,480	+2,080	— 63,620

\* For FY14, Army Active Forces end strength includes 30,000 Army end strength requested in the Overseas Contingency Operations budget.

\*\* For FY15, Marine Corps Active Forces end strength includes 2,100 Marine Corps end strength requested in the Overseas Contingency Operations budget.

## SUMMARY OF GUARD AND RESERVE FULL-TIME SUPPORT

	Fiscal Year 2014 Authorized	Fiscal Year 2015			
		Budget Request	Final Bill	Change from Request	Change from Fiscal Year 2014
<hr/>					
Army Reserve:					
AGR .....	16,261	16,261	16,261		
Technicians .....	8,395	7,895	7,895		— 500
Navy Reserve:					
AR .....	10,159	9,973	9,973		— 186
Marine Corps Reserve:					
AR .....	2,261	2,261	2,261		
Air Force Reserve:					
AGR .....	2,911	2,830	2,830		— 81
Technicians .....	10,429	9,789	9,789		— 640
Army National Guard:					
AGR .....	32,060	31,385	31,385		— 675
Technicians .....	27,210	27,210	27,210		
Air National Guard:					
AGR .....	14,734	14,704	14,704		— 30
Technicians .....	21,875	21,792	21,792		— 83
<hr/>					
Totals:					
AGR/AR .....	78,386	77,414	77,414		— 972
Technicians .....	67,909	66,686	66,686		— 1,223
<hr/>					
Total, Full-Time Support .....	146,295	144,100	144,100		— 2,195

## MILITARY PERSONNEL SPECIAL INTEREST ITEMS

Items for which additional funds have been provided or have been specifically reduced as shown in the project level tables or in paragraphs using the phrase “only for” or “only to” in the explanatory statement are congressional special interest items for the purpose of the Base for Reprogramming (DD Form 1414). Each of these items must be carried on the DD Form 1414 at the stated amount as specifically addressed in the explanatory statement. Below Threshold Reprogrammings may not be used to either restore or reduce funding from congressional special interest items as identified on the DD Form 1414.

## RETIRED PAY ACCRUAL SHORTFALL

In February 2014, Congress revised a provision in the Bipartisan Budget Act (P.L. 113-67) that impacted the annual cost-of-living adjustment for military retirees. The agreement recognizes that the Army and Air Force have updated their military personnel budget requirements and no longer project a shortfall in their retired pay accrual accounts. Accordingly, the agreement includes an additional \$215,300,000 in the remaining military personnel accounts to ensure that military retirement accounts are fully funded in fiscal year 2015.

## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE GUIDANCE FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF CHAPLAINS

The agreement supports the Department of Defense Guidance for the Appointment of

Chaplains for the Military Departments in effect as of the date of the enactment of this Act. This Guidance requires all applicants to fulfill certain requirements to become a chaplain, which includes endorsement by a religious organization that completes and maintains all administrative requirements as laid out by the Guidance.

## LONG TERM TEMPORARY DUTY ASSIGNMENTS

There is concern that the Special Operations Command's (SOCOM) growing use of continuous rotational temporary duty assignments (TDYs) is being used to effectively establish persistent presence in countries overseas. Language in House Report 113-473 directed the Secretary of Defense to include a comprehensive assessment of SOCOM's use of continuous rotational TDYs as part of the review of the use of extended TDYs for all Department of Defense personnel. The Long Term Temporary Duty Assignments report to Congress, dated May 2014, failed to include this information. Accordingly, the Secretary of Defense is directed to conduct a comprehensive evaluation of SOCOM's use of continuous rotational TDYs, its compliance with the Joint Federal Travel Regulation, limitations on billets in combatant command positions, dwell time requirements, and established Department and interagency policies and procedures regarding the establishment of permanent assignments overseas. The report should also include the number and duration of continuous rotational TDYs for fiscal years 2010 through 2014

broken out by combatant command. The Secretary of Defense is directed to provide this report on the practice and its compliance with the above regulations to the congressional defense committees not later than 120 days after the enactment of this Act.

## DD 214 SEPARATION PROGRAM DESIGNATOR NARRATIVE

The DD Form 214, which is issued to all servicemembers upon discharge from military service, includes the discharge status (honorable, other than honorable, etc.) as well as a Separation Program Designator code and narrative reason for the separation, such as Force Shaping (Board Selected), Reduction in Force, Insufficient Retainability (Economic Reasons), or Early Retirement. While the military Services are relying on both voluntary and involuntary separation to meet their reduced force structure requirements and maintain a balanced force, there is concern that the narrative codes could make a permanent, negative mark on the records of dedicated servicemembers who served honorably. The Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness) is directed to revise the regulation regarding the use of narrative codes on the DD 214 to address these concerns.

## FEMALE SERVICEMEMBER GROOMING STANDARDS

The Army recently issued revised regulations regarding hairstyles and grooming policies that were described as offensive and



discriminatory to minority women and generated significant concern. After conducting a review, the Secretary of Defense issued new guidance for grooming policies specifically to address concerns that certain grooming policies discriminate against African American female servicemembers with natural hairstyles. The Army, Navy, and Air Force have authorized additional hairstyles and removed the terms found offensive from Service grooming policies. The Secretary of Defense is directed to provide a report to the congressional defense committees detailing the Services' revised grooming standards and their implementation, including how the revised standards addressed the concerns raised above, not later than 120 days after the enactment of this Act.

UNIFORM CODE OF MILITARY JUSTICE ARTICLE 32  
PRELIMINARY HEARINGS

The National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 2014 amended the Uniform Code of Military Justice Rules for Military Courts Martial 405 to enhance privacy protections for victims of sexual assault by applying restrictions on public accessibility to information about a victim's sexual history during pretrial proceedings. Concerns have been expressed that the initial executive order directing the implementation may have weakened the protections instead of strengthening them as the NDAA intended. It is understood that recent changes to the Rules for Military Courts Martial 405 have addressed these concerns. The Secretary of Defense is encouraged to monitor implementation to ensure that victims' privacy is fully protected during Article 32 preliminary hearings.

SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION AND RESPONSE  
PROGRAM

The agreement provides \$5,709,000 in Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide to be transferred to the Departments of the Army, Navy, and Air Force, including the National Guard and reserve components, for support of high priority Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program requirements and activities. The agreement also provides an additional \$25,000,000 to the Services, including the National Guard and reserve components, for continued implementation and expansion of the Sexual Assault Special Victims' Counsel Program.

MILITARY PERSONNEL, ARMY

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
50 MILITARY PERSONNEL, ARMY		
100 ACTIVITY 1: PAY AND ALLOWANCES OF OFFICERS		
150 BASIC PAY.....	6,715,420	6,715,420
200 RETIRED PAY ACCRUAL.....	2,095,898	2,095,898
250 BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR HOUSING.....	2,191,307	2,191,307
300 BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR SUBSISTENCE.....	279,102	279,102
350 INCENTIVE PAYS.....	98,703	98,703
400 SPECIAL PAYS.....	378,007	376,007
450 ALLOWANCES.....	212,394	212,394
500 SEPARATION PAY.....	99,489	99,489
550 SOCIAL SECURITY TAX.....	511,069	511,069
600 TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 1.....	12,581,389	12,579,389
650 ACTIVITY 2: PAY AND ALLOWANCES OF ENLISTED PERSONNEL		
700 BASIC PAY.....	13,019,805	13,019,805
750 RETIRED PAY ACCRUAL.....	4,070,370	4,070,370
800 BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR HOUSING.....	4,870,591	4,870,591
850 INCENTIVE PAYS.....	104,751	104,751
900 SPECIAL PAYS.....	462,722	443,722
950 ALLOWANCES.....	869,004	864,004
1000 SEPARATION PAY.....	320,346	320,346
1050 SOCIAL SECURITY TAX.....	996,015	996,015
1100 TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 2.....	24,713,604	24,689,604
1150 ACTIVITY 3: PAY AND ALLOWANCES OF CADETS		
1200 ACADEMY CADETS.....	79,236	79,236
1250 ACTIVITY 4: SUBSISTENCE OF ENLISTED PERSONNEL		
1300 BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR SUBSISTENCE.....	1,284,843	1,284,843
1350 SUBSISTENCE-IN-KIND.....	595,165	586,165
1400 FAMILY SUBSISTENCE SUPPLEMENTAL ALLOWANCE.....	1,316	1,316
1450 TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 4.....	1,881,324	1,872,324

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
1500 ACTIVITY 5: PERMANENT CHANGE OF STATION		
1550 ACCESSION TRAVEL.....	142,048	141,048
1600 TRAINING TRAVEL.....	144,951	144,951
1650 OPERATIONAL TRAVEL .....	412,092	397,092
1700 ROTATIONAL TRAVEL .....	758,069	758,069
1750 SEPARATION TRAVEL.....	293,377	293,377
1800 TRAVEL OF ORGANIZED UNITS.....	4,043	4,043
1850 NON-TEMPORARY STORAGE.....	10,997	10,997
1900 TEMPORARY LODGING EXPENSE.....	37,301	37,301
1950 TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 5.....	1,802,878	1,786,878
2000 ACTIVITY 6: OTHER MILITARY PERSONNEL COSTS		
2050 APPREHENSION OF MILITARY DESERTERS.....	1,033	1,033
2100 INTEREST ON UNIFORMED SERVICES SAVINGS.....	1,338	1,338
2150 DEATH GRATUITIES.....	51,700	42,700
2200 UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS.....	222,586	210,586
2250 EDUCATION BENEFITS.....	578	578
2300 ADOPTION EXPENSES.....	5,070	5,070
2360 RESERVE INCOME REPLACEMENT PROGRAM.....	164	164
2410 SGLI EXTRA HAZARD PAYMENTS.....	101,068	101,068
2450 RESERVE OFFICERS TRAINING CORPS (ROTC).....	52,723	52,723
2550 TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 6.....	436,260	415,260
2600 LESS REIMBURSABLES.....	-269,352	-269,352
2650 UNDISTRIBUTED ADJUSTMENT.....	---	-37,210
	=====	=====
2700 TOTAL, ACTIVE FORCES, ARMY.....	41,225,339	41,116,129
6300 TOTAL, MILITARY PERSONNEL, ARMY.....	41,225,339	41,116,129
	=====	=====

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS  
[In thousands of dollars]

M-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
<b>BA-1: PAY AND ALLOWANCES OF OFFICERS</b>		
<b>SPECIAL PAYS</b>	<b>378,007</b>	<b>376,007</b>
Historical underexecution		-2,000
<b>BA-2: PAY AND ALLOWANCES OF ENLISTED PERSONNEL</b>		
<b>SPECIAL PAYS</b>	<b>462,722</b>	<b>443,722</b>
Selective Reenlistment Bonus - Army requested transfer to NGPA, Military Burial Honors program		-19,000
<b>ALLOWANCES</b>	<b>869,004</b>	<b>864,004</b>
Army identified excess to requirement		-5,000
<b>BA-4: SUBSISTENCE OF ENLISTED PERSONNEL</b>		
<b>SUBSISTENCE-IN-KIND</b>	<b>595,165</b>	<b>586,165</b>
Army identified excess to requirement		-9,000
<b>BA-5: PERMANENT CHANGE OF STATION TRAVEL</b>		
<b>ACCESSION TRAVEL</b>	<b>142,048</b>	<b>141,048</b>
Excess to requirement		-1,000
<b>OPERATIONAL TRAVEL</b>	<b>412,092</b>	<b>397,092</b>
Excess to requirement		-15,000
<b>BA-6: OTHER MILITARY PERSONNEL COSTS</b>		
<b>DEATH GRATUITIES</b>	<b>51,700</b>	<b>42,700</b>
Army requested transfer to NGPA, Military Burial Honors program		-5,100
Army requested transfer to RDTE,A line 73		-3,900
<b>UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS</b>	<b>222,586</b>	<b>210,586</b>
Army requested transfer to RDTE,A line 73		-10,590
Army identified excess to requirement		-1,410
<b>UNDISTRIBUTED ADJUSTMENTS</b>		<b>-37,210</b>
Unobligated/Unexpended balances		-29,210
Funding excess to requirement		-8,000

## MILITARY PERSONNEL, NAVY

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
6400 MILITARY PERSONNEL, NAVY		
6450 ACTIVITY 1: PAY AND ALLOWANCES OF OFFICERS		
6500 BASIC PAY.....	4,017,362	4,017,362
6550 RETIRED PAY ACCRUAL.....	1,255,535	1,255,535
6600 BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR HOUSING.....	1,433,673	1,433,673
6650 BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR SUBSISTENCE.....	164,566	164,566
6700 INCENTIVE PAYS.....	127,220	127,220
6750 SPECIAL PAYS.....	429,454	429,454
6800 ALLOWANCES.....	123,982	123,982
6850 SEPARATION PAY.....	59,026	59,026
6900 SOCIAL SECURITY TAX.....	305,463	305,463
6950 TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 1.....	7,916,281	7,916,281
7000 ACTIVITY 2: PAY AND ALLOWANCES OF ENLISTED PERSONNEL		
7050 BASIC PAY.....	8,614,658	8,614,658
7100 RETIRED PAY ACCRUAL.....	2,695,729	2,695,729
7150 BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR HOUSING.....	3,878,513	3,878,513
7200 INCENTIVE PAYS.....	104,072	104,072
7250 SPECIAL PAYS.....	793,222	779,322
7300 ALLOWANCES.....	594,908	582,608
7350 SEPARATION PAY.....	223,362	161,762
7400 SOCIAL SECURITY TAX.....	659,021	659,021
7450 TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 2.....	17,563,485	17,475,685
7500 ACTIVITY 3: PAY AND ALLOWANCES OF MIDSHIPMEN		
7550 MIDSHIPMEN.....	78,093	78,093
7600 ACTIVITY 4: SUBSISTENCE OF ENLISTED PERSONNEL		
7650 BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR SUBSISTENCE.....	759,490	759,490
7700 SUBSISTENCE-IN-KIND.....	431,060	431,060
7750 FAMILY SUBSISTENCE SUPPLEMENTAL ALLOWANCE.....	8	8
7800 TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 4.....	1,190,558	1,190,558

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
7850 ACTIVITY 5: PERMANENT CHANGE OF STATION		
7900 ACCESSION TRAVEL.....	86,416	86,416
7950 TRAINING TRAVEL.....	98,547	98,547
8000 OPERATIONAL TRAVEL.....	253,140	253,140
8050 ROTATIONAL TRAVEL.....	271,252	271,252
8100 SEPARATION TRAVEL.....	133,912	126,812
8150 TRAVEL OF ORGANIZED UNITS.....	41,469	41,469
8200 NON-TEMPORARY STORAGE.....	1,982	1,982
8250 TEMPORARY LODGING EXPENSE.....	8,708	8,708
8300 OTHER.....	3,581	3,581
8350 TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 5.....	899,007	891,907
8400 ACTIVITY 6: OTHER MILITARY PERSONNEL COSTS		
8450 APPREHENSION OF MILITARY DESERTERS.....	93	93
8500 INTEREST ON UNIFORMED SERVICES SAVINGS.....	1,664	1,664
8550 DEATH GRATUITIES.....	17,400	17,400
8600 UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS.....	112,881	98,381
8650 EDUCATION BENEFITS.....	20,495	20,495
8700 ADOPTION EXPENSES.....	277	277
8750 TRANSPORTATION SUBSIDY.....	4,053	4,053
8800 PARTIAL DISLOCATION ALLOWANCE.....	39	39
8900 RESERVE OFFICERS TRAINING CORPS (ROTC).....	21,584	21,584
8950 JUNIOR ROTC.....	12,312	12,312
9000 TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 6.....	190,798	176,298
9050 LESS REIMBURSABLES.....	-348,782	-348,782
9100 UNDISTRIBUTED ADJUSTMENT.....	---	73,160
	=====	=====
9200 TOTAL, ACTIVE FORCES, NAVY.....	27,489,440	27,453,200
11000 TOTAL, MILITARY PERSONNEL, NAVY.....	27,489,440	27,453,200
	=====	=====

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS  
[In thousands of dollars]

M-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
<b>BA-2: PAY AND ALLOWANCES OF ENLISTED PERSONNEL</b>		
<b>SPECIAL PAYS</b>	<b>793,222</b>	<b>779,322</b>
Bonuses excess to requirement		-10,400
Special Duty Assignment Pay - Navy identified excess to requirement		-3,500
<b>ALLOWANCES</b>	<b>594,908</b>	<b>582,608</b>
Clothing allowance - Navy identified excess to requirement		-2,300
Family separation allowance excess to requirement		-10,000
<b>SEPARATION PAY</b>	<b>223,362</b>	<b>161,762</b>
Navy identified excess to requirement		-61,600
<b>BA-5: PERMANENT CHANGE OF STATION TRAVEL</b>		
<b>SEPARATION TRAVEL</b>	<b>133,912</b>	<b>126,812</b>
Navy identified excess to requirement		-7,100
<b>BA-6: OTHER MILITARY PERSONNEL COSTS</b>		
<b>UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS</b>	<b>112,881</b>	<b>98,381</b>
Excess to requirement		-14,500
<b>UNDISTRIBUTED ADJUSTMENTS</b>		<b>73,160</b>
Unobligated/Unexpended balances		-88,540
CVN-73 Refueling and Complex Overhaul		48,200
Retired Pay Accrual shortfall due to COLA adjustment		113,500

## MILITARY PERSONNEL, MARINE CORPS

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
12000 MILITARY PERSONNEL, MARINE CORPS		
12050 ACTIVITY 1: PAY AND ALLOWANCES OF OFFICERS		
12100 BASIC PAY.....	1,489,996	1,490,623
12150 RETIRED PAY ACCRUAL.....	464,468	464,468
12200 BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR HOUSING.....	492,488	492,488
12250 BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR SUBSISTENCE.....	63,449	63,449
12300 INCENTIVE PAYS.....	38,223	38,223
12350 SPECIAL PAYS.....	5,927	5,927
12400 ALLOWANCES.....	32,083	32,083
12450 SEPARATION PAY.....	13,593	13,593
12500 SOCIAL SECURITY TAX.....	113,239	113,239
12550 TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 1.....	2,713,466	2,714,093
12600 ACTIVITY 2: PAY AND ALLOWANCES OF ENLISTED PERSONNEL		
12650 BASIC PAY.....	4,825,078	4,831,139
12700 RETIRED PAY ACCRUAL.....	1,502,784	1,502,784
12750 BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR HOUSING.....	1,669,844	1,669,844
12800 INCENTIVE PAYS.....	9,946	9,946
12850 SPECIAL PAYS.....	111,002	109,202
12900 ALLOWANCES.....	289,269	287,269
12950 SEPARATION PAY.....	84,343	84,343
13000 SOCIAL SECURITY TAX.....	368,511	368,511
13050 TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 2.....	8,860,777	8,863,038
13100 ACTIVITY 4: SUBSISTENCE OF ENLISTED PERSONNEL		
13150 BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR SUBSISTENCE.....	442,559	442,559
13200 SUBSISTENCE-IN-KIND.....	353,006	353,006
13250 FAMILY SUBSISTENCE SUPPLEMENTAL ALLOWANCE.....	10	10
13300 TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 4.....	795,575	795,575



(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
13350 ACTIVITY 5: PERMANENT CHANGE OF STATION		
13400 ACCESSION TRAVEL.....	49,622	49,622
13450 TRAINING TRAVEL.....	27,481	27,481
13500 OPERATIONAL TRAVEL .....	168,432	166,732
13550 ROTATIONAL TRAVEL .....	99,931	99,931
13600 SEPARATION TRAVEL.....	82,065	82,065
13650 TRAVEL OF ORGANIZED UNITS.....	785	785
13700 NON-TEMPORARY STORAGE.....	5,064	5,064
13750 TEMPORARY LODGING EXPENSE.....	11,841	11,841
13800 OTHER.....	3,056	3,056
13850 TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 5.....	448,277	446,577
13900 ACTIVITY 6: OTHER MILITARY PERSONNEL COSTS		
13950 APPREHENSION OF MILITARY DESERTERS.....	614	614
14000 INTEREST ON UNIFORMED SERVICES SAVINGS.....	19	19
14050 DEATH GRATUITIES.....	11,400	11,400
14100 UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS.....	101,839	94,039
14150 EDUCATION BENEFITS.....	7,000	7,000
14200 ADOPTION EXPENSES.....	84	84
14250 TRANSPORTATION SUBSIDY.....	1,527	1,527
14300 PARTIAL DISLOCATION ALLOWANCE.....	67	67
14400 JUNIOR ROTC.....	3,910	3,910
14450 TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 6.....	126,460	118,660
14500 LESS REIMBURSABLES.....	-25,452	-25,452
14600 UNDISTRIBUTED ADJUSTMENT.....	--	-83,560
	=====	=====
14650 TOTAL, ACTIVE FORCES, MARINE CORPS.....	12,919,103	12,828,931
16000 TOTAL, MILITARY PERSONNEL, MARINE CORPS.....	12,919,103	12,828,931
	=====	=====

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS  
[In thousands of dollars]

M-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
<b>BA-1: PAY AND ALLOWANCES OF OFFICERS</b>		
<b>BASIC PAY</b>	<b>1,489,996</b>	<b>1,490,623</b>
Marine Corps unfunded requirement - Special Purpose Marine Air Ground Task Force - CENTCOM and SOUTHCOM		627
<b>BA-2: PAY AND ALLOWANCES OF ENLISTED PERSONNEL</b>		
<b>BASIC PAY</b>	<b>4,825,078</b>	<b>4,831,139</b>
Marine Corps unfunded requirement - Special Purpose Marine Air Ground Task Force - CENTCOM and SOUTHCOM		6,061
<b>SPECIAL PAYS</b>	<b>111,002</b>	<b>109,202</b>
Imminent Danger Pay excess to requirement		-1,800
<b>ALLOWANCES</b>	<b>289,269</b>	<b>287,269</b>
Initial clothing allowances excess to requirement		-2,000
<b>BA-5: PERMANENT CHANGE OF STATION TRAVEL</b>		
<b>OPERATIONAL TRAVEL</b>	<b>168,432</b>	<b>166,732</b>
Excess to requirement		-1,700
<b>BA-6: OTHER MILITARY PERSONNEL COSTS</b>		
<b>UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS</b>	<b>101,839</b>	<b>94,039</b>
Marine Corps identified excess to requirement		-7,800
<b>UNDISTRIBUTED ADJUSTMENTS</b>		<b>-83,560</b>
Unobligated/Unexpended balances		-140,360
Retired Pay Accrual shortfall due to COLA adjustment		56,800

## MILITARY PERSONNEL, AIR FORCE

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
17000 MILITARY PERSONNEL, AIR FORCE		
17050 ACTIVITY 1: PAY AND ALLOWANCES OF OFFICERS		
17100 BASIC PAY.....	4,668,266	4,646,266
17150 RETIRED PAY ACCRUAL.....	1,450,107	1,450,107
17200 BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR HOUSING.....	1,387,295	1,387,295
17250 BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR SUBSISTENCE.....	190,311	190,311
17300 INCENTIVE PAYS.....	212,376	212,376
17350 SPECIAL PAYS.....	296,799	296,799
17400 ALLOWANCES.....	125,724	125,724
17450 SEPARATION PAY .....	283,092	173,992
17500 SOCIAL SECURITY TAX.....	355,558	355,558
17550 TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 1.....	8,969,528	8,838,428
17600 ACTIVITY 2: PAY AND ALLOWANCES OF ENLISTED PERSONNEL		
17650 BASIC PAY.....	8,406,084	8,406,084
17700 RETIRED PAY ACCRUAL.....	2,619,233	2,619,233
17750 BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR HOUSING.....	3,386,412	3,386,412
17800 INCENTIVE PAYS.....	42,395	42,395
17850 SPECIAL PAYS.....	268,538	254,038
17900 ALLOWANCES.....	564,364	561,380
17950 SEPARATION PAY.....	874,187	689,187
18000 SOCIAL SECURITY TAX .....	643,063	643,063
18050 TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 2.....	16,804,276	16,601,792
18100 ACTIVITY 3: PAY AND ALLOWANCES OF CADETS		
18150 ACADEMY CADETS.....	70,159	70,159
18200 ACTIVITY 4: SUBSISTENCE OF ENLISTED PERSONNEL		
18250 BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR SUBSISTENCE.....	963,765	963,765
18300 SUBSISTENCE-IN-KIND.....	137,346	137,346
18350 FAMILY SUBSISTENCE SUPPLEMENTAL ALLOWANCE.....	3	3
18400 TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 4.....	1,101,114	1,101,114

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
18450 ACTIVITY 5: PERMANENT CHANGE OF STATION		
18500 ACCESSION TRAVEL.....	87,932	87,932
18550 TRAINING TRAVEL.....	92,459	92,459
18600 OPERATIONAL TRAVEL .....	286,473	286,473
18650 ROTATIONAL TRAVEL .....	485,297	485,297
18700 SEPARATION TRAVEL.....	181,583	181,583
18750 TRAVEL OF ORGANIZED UNITS.....	6,556	6,556
18800 NON-TEMPORARY STORAGE.....	22,369	22,369
18850 TEMPORARY LODGING EXPENSE.....	30,261	30,261
18950 TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 5.....	1,192,930	1,192,930
19000 ACTIVITY 6: OTHER MILITARY PERSONNEL COSTS		
19050 APPREHENSION OF MILITARY DESERTERS.....	107	107
19100 INTEREST ON UNIFORMED SERVICES SAVINGS.....	3,073	3,073
19150 DEATH GRATUITIES.....	16,500	16,500
19200 UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS.....	48,842	48,842
19300 EDUCATION BENEFITS.....	189	189
19350 ADOPTION EXPENSES.....	546	546
19400 TRANSPORTATION SUBSIDY.....	2,018	2,018
19450 PARTIAL DISLOCATION ALLOWANCE.....	1,883	1,883
19550 RESERVE OFFICERS TRAINING CORPS (ROTC).....	27,669	27,669
19600 JUNIOR ROTC.....	15,796	15,796
19650 TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 6.....	116,623	116,623
19700 LESS REIMBURSABLES.....	-438,704	-438,704
19750 UNDISTRIBUTED ADJUSTMENT.....	---	-105,880
	=====	=====
19800 TOTAL, ACTIVE FORCES, AIR FORCE.....	27,815,926	27,376,462
21000 TOTAL, MILITARY PERSONNEL, AIR FORCE.....	27,815,926	27,376,462
	=====	=====

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS  
[In thousands of dollars]

M-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
<b>BA-1: PAY AND ALLOWANCES OF OFFICERS</b>		
<b>BASIC PAY</b>	<b>4,668,266</b>	<b>4,646,266</b>
Active Duty Operational Support excess to requirement		-22,000
<b>SEPARATION PAY</b>	<b>283,092</b>	<b>173,992</b>
Air Force identified excess to requirement		-109,100
<b>BA-2: PAY AND ALLOWANCES OF ENLISTED PERSONNEL</b>		
<b>SPECIAL PAYS</b>	<b>268,538</b>	<b>254,038</b>
Bonuses excess to requirement		-14,500
<b>ALLOWANCES</b>	<b>564,364</b>	<b>561,380</b>
Basic military training steel toe boots - transfer to OM,AF SAG 31B not properly accounted		-2,984
<b>SEPARATION PAY</b>	<b>874,187</b>	<b>689,187</b>
Air Force identified excess to requirement		-185,000
<b>UNDISTRIBUTED ADJUSTMENTS</b>		<b>-105,880</b>
Unobligated/Unexpended balances		-194,980
AWACS force structure program increase		24,900
A-10 force structure program increase		64,200

## RESERVE PERSONNEL, ARMY

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
23000 RESERVE PERSONNEL, ARMY		
23050 ACTIVITY 1: RESERVE COMPONENT TRAINING AND SUPPORT		
23100 PAY GROUP A TRAINING (15 DAYS & DRILLS 24/48).....	1,636,798	1,553,998
23150 PAY GROUP B TRAINING (BACKFILL FOR ACTIVE DUTY).....	49,490	44,490
23200 PAY GROUP F TRAINING (RECRUITS).....	279,048	257,548
23250 PAY GROUP P TRAINING (PIPELINE RECRUITS).....	11,926	11,926
23300 MOBILIZATION TRAINING .....	5,909	5,909
23350 SCHOOL TRAINING.....	161,751	161,751
23400 SPECIAL TRAINING.....	176,210	176,210
23450 ADMINISTRATION AND SUPPORT.....	2,006,975	2,006,975
23500 EDUCATION BENEFITS.....	10,202	10,202
23550 HEALTH PROFESSION SCHOLARSHIP .....	63,622	63,622
23600 OTHER PROGRAMS .....	57,199	57,199
23650 TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 1.....	4,459,130	4,349,830
23800 UNDISTRIBUTED ADJUSTMENT.....	---	-31,971
24000 TOTAL RESERVE PERSONNEL, ARMY.....	4,459,130	4,317,859

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS  
[In thousands of dollars]

M-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
<b>BA-1: RESERVE COMPONENT TRAINING AND SUPPORT</b>		
<b>PAY GROUP A TRAINING (15 DAYS and DRILLS 24/48)</b>	<b>1,636,798</b>	<b>1,553,998</b>
Historical underexecution		-61,000
Individual Clothing and Uniforms excess to requirement		-11,000
Travel, Annual Training excess to requirement		-10,800
<b>PAY GROUP B TRAINING (BACKFILL FOR ACTIVE DUTY)</b>	<b>49,490</b>	<b>44,490</b>
Annual Training excess to requirement		-5,000
<b>PAY GROUP F TRAINING (RECRUITS)</b>	<b>279,048</b>	<b>257,548</b>
Projected underexecution		-21,500
<b>UNDISTRIBUTED ADJUSTMENTS</b>		<b>-31,971</b>
Unobligated/Unexpended balances		-41,871
Retired Pay Accrual shortfall due to COLA adjustment		9,900

## RESERVE PERSONNEL, NAVY

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
26000 RESERVE PERSONNEL, NAVY		
26050 ACTIVITY 1: RESERVE COMPONENT TRAINING AND SUPPORT		
26100 PAY GROUP A TRAINING (15 DAYS & DRILLS 24/48).....	585,488	585,488
26150 PAY GROUP B TRAINING (BACKFILL FOR ACTIVE DUTY).....	7,286	7,286
26200 PAY GROUP F TRAINING (RECRUITS).....	57,875	57,875
26250 MOBILIZATION TRAINING.....	8,670	8,670
26300 SCHOOL TRAINING.....	51,089	51,089
26350 SPECIAL TRAINING.....	108,571	106,571
26400 ADMINISTRATION AND SUPPORT.....	988,427	982,727
26450 EDUCATION BENEFITS.....	109	109
26500 HEALTH PROFESSION SCHOLARSHIP.....	57,519	57,519
26550 TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 1.....	1,863,034	1,857,334
26600 UNDISTRIBUTED ADJUSTMENT.....	---	-21,410
27000 TOTAL, RESERVE PERSONNEL, NAVY.....	1,863,034	1,835,924
	=====	=====



EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS  
[In thousands of dollars]

M-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
<b>BA-1: RESERVE COMPONENT TRAINING AND SUPPORT</b>		
<b>ADMINISTRATION AND SUPPORT</b>	<b>988,427</b>	<b>982,727</b>
Full Time Support Permanent Change of Station - Navy Reserve		
identified excess to requirement		-5,700
<b>UNDISTRIBUTED ADJUSTMENTS</b>		<b>-21,410</b>
Unobligated/Unexpended balances		-26,010
Retired Pay Accrual shortfall due to COLA adjustment		4,600

## RESERVE PERSONNEL, MARINE CORPS

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
28000 RESERVE PERSONNEL, MARINE CORPS		
28050 ACTIVITY 1: RESERVE COMPONENT TRAINING AND SUPPORT		
28100 PAY GROUP A TRAINING (15 DAYS & DRILLS 24/48).....	237,581	237,581
28150 PAY GROUP B TRAINING (BACKFILL FOR ACT DUTY).....	33,463	33,463
28200 PAY GROUP F TRAINING (RECRUITS).....	116,200	115,450
28300 MOBILIZATION TRAINING.....	2,579	2,579
28350 SCHOOL TRAINING.....	24,195	24,195
28400 SPECIAL TRAINING.....	15,726	15,726
28450 ADMINISTRATION AND SUPPORT.....	234,244	234,244
28500 PLATOON LEADER CLASS.....	6,124	6,124
28550 EDUCATION BENEFITS.....	642	642
28600 TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 1.....	670,754	670,004
28700 UNDISTRIBUTED ADJUSTMENT.....	---	-9,580
29000 TOTAL, RESERVE PERSONNEL, MARINE CORPS.....	670,754	660,424
	=====	=====

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS  
[In thousands of dollars]

M-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
BA-1: RESERVE COMPONENT TRAINING AND SUPPORT		
PAY GROUP F TRAINING (RECRUITS)	116,200	115,450
Pay Group F, Travel - Marine Corps Reserve identified excess to requirement		-750
UNDISTRIBUTED ADJUSTMENTS		-9,580
Unobligated/Unexpended balances		-10,780
Retired Pay Accrual shortfall due to COLA adjustment		1,200

## RESERVE PERSONNEL, AIR FORCE

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
30000 RESERVE PERSONNEL, AIR FORCE		
30050 ACTIVITY 1: RESERVE COMPONENT TRAINING AND SUPPORT		
30100 PAY GROUP A TRAINING (15 DAYS & DRILLS 24/48).....	657,163	655,663
30150 PAY GROUP B TRAINING (BACKFILL FOR ACTIVE DUTY).....	113,876	106,876
30200 PAY GROUP F TRAINING (RECRUITS).....	71,429	71,429
30250 PAY GROUP P TRAINING (PIPELINE RECRUITS).....	1,681	1,681
30300 MOBILIZATION TRAINING.....	401	401
30350 SCHOOL TRAINING.....	125,804	125,804
30400 SPECIAL TRAINING.....	229,201	229,201
30450 ADMINISTRATION AND SUPPORT.....	398,346	393,846
30500 EDUCATION BENEFITS.....	13,785	13,785
30550 HEALTH PROFESSION SCHOLARSHIP.....	58,794	58,794
30600 OTHER PROGRAMS (ADMIN & SUPPORT).....	5,038	5,038
30650 TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 1.....	1,675,518	1,662,518
30750 UNDISTRIBUTED ADJUSTMENT.....	---	-9,370
31000 TOTAL, RESERVE PERSONNEL, AIR FORCE.....	1,675,518	1,653,148

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS  
[In thousands of dollars]

M-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
<b>BA-1: RESERVE COMPONENT TRAINING AND SUPPORT</b>		
PAY GROUP A TRAINING (15 DAYS and DRILLS 24/48)	657,163	655,663
Officer understrength		-1,500
PAY GROUP B TRAINING (BACKFILL FOR ACTIVE DUTY)	113,876	106,876
Historical underexecution		-7,000
ADMINISTRATION AND SUPPORT	398,346	393,846
AGR Pay and Allowance - projected underexecution		-4,500
UNDISTRIBUTED ADJUSTMENTS		-9,370
Unobligated/Unexpended balances		-11,470
Retired Pay Accrual shortfall due to COLA adjustment		2,100

## NATIONAL GUARD PERSONNEL, ARMY

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
32000 NATIONAL GUARD PERSONNEL, ARMY		
32050 ACTIVITY 1: RESERVE COMPONENT TRAINING AND SUPPORT		
32100 PAY GROUP A TRAINING (15 DAYS & DRILLS 24/48).....	2,616,067	2,592,667
32150 PAY GROUP F TRAINING (RECRUITS).....	441,606	433,006
32200 PAY GROUP P TRAINING (PIPELINE RECRUITS).....	47,984	47,984
32250 SCHOOL TRAINING.....	347,137	347,137
32300 SPECIAL TRAINING.....	433,207	457,307
32350 ADMINISTRATION AND SUPPORT.....	3,766,624	3,696,624
32400 EDUCATION BENEFITS.....	30,267	23,767
32450 TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 1.....	7,682,892	7,598,492
32600 UNDISTRIBUTED ADJUSTMENT.....	---	45,340
33000 TOTAL, NATIONAL GUARD PERSONNEL, ARMY.....	7,682,892	7,643,832

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS  
[In thousands of dollars]

M-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
<b>BA-1: RESERVE COMPONENT TRAINING AND SUPPORT</b>		
<b>PAY GROUP A TRAINING (15 DAYS and DRILLS 24/48)</b>	<b>2,616,067</b>	<b>2,592,667</b>
Readiness management excess growth		-23,400
<b>PAY GROUP F TRAINING (RECRUITS)</b>	<b>441,606</b>	<b>433,006</b>
Individual Clothing and Uniform Allowance excess to requirement		-8,600
<b>SPECIAL TRAINING</b>	<b>433,207</b>	<b>457,307</b>
Military Burial Honors program - Army requested transfer from Military Personnel, Army BA-2 and BA-6		24,100
<b>ADMINISTRATION AND SUPPORT</b>	<b>3,766,624</b>	<b>3,696,624</b>
Bonuses excess to requirement		-43,000
AGR pay and allowances excess growth		-27,000
<b>EDUCATION BENEFITS</b>	<b>30,267</b>	<b>23,767</b>
Excess to requirement		-6,500
<b>UNDISTRIBUTED ADJUSTMENTS</b>		<b>45,340</b>
Unobligated/Unexpended balances		-18,360
Fully fund two Combat Training Center rotations - Army requested transfer from OM,A SAG 121		45,000
Retired Pay Accrual shortfall due to COLA adjustment		18,700

## NATIONAL GUARD PERSONNEL, AIR FORCE

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
-----		
34000 NATIONAL GUARD PERSONNEL, AIR FORCE		
34050 ACTIVITY 1: RESERVE COMPONENT TRAINING AND SUPPORT		
34100 PAY GROUP A TRAINING (15 DAYS & DRILLS 24/48).....	913,691	913,691
34150 PAY GROUP F TRAINING (RECRUITS).....	122,678	116,178
34200 PAY GROUP P TRAINING (PIPELINE RECRUITS).....	5,384	5,384
34250 SCHOOL TRAINING.....	243,888	243,888
34300 SPECIAL TRAINING.....	168,222	166,222
34350 ADMINISTRATION AND SUPPORT.....	1,684,800	1,656,500
34400 EDUCATION BENEFITS.....	17,794	17,794
	-----	-----
34450 TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 1.....	3,156,457	3,119,657
34700 UNDISTRIBUTED ADJUSTMENT.....	---	-948
	-----	-----
35000 TOTAL, NATIONAL GUARD PERSONNEL, AIR FORCE.....	3,156,457	3,118,709
	=====	=====



EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS  
[In thousands of dollars]

M-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
<b>BA-1: RESERVE COMPONENT TRAINING AND SUPPORT</b>		
<b>PAY GROUP F TRAINING (RECRUITS)</b>	<b>122,678</b>	<b>116,178</b>
Historical underexecution		-6,500
<b>SPECIAL TRAINING</b>	<b>168,222</b>	<b>166,222</b>
Excess to requirement		-2,000
<b>ADMINISTRATION AND SUPPORT</b>	<b>1,684,800</b>	<b>1,656,500</b>
Full Time Pay and Allowances - projected underexecution		-23,300
Non-Prior Service Enlistment Bonus - excess to requirement		-5,000
<b>UNDISTRIBUTED ADJUSTMENTS</b>		<b>-948</b>
Unobligated/Unexpended balances		-17,970
A-10 force structure program increase		8,522
Retired Pay Accrual shortfall due to COLA adjustment		8,500

## TITLE II—OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

The agreement provides \$161,655,679,000 in Title II, Operation and Maintenance. The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
-----		
RECAPITULATION		
OPERATION & MAINTENANCE, ARMY.....	33,240,148	31,961,920
OPERATION & MAINTENANCE, NAVY.....	39,316,857	37,590,854
OPERATION & MAINTENANCE, MARINE CORPS.....	5,909,487	5,610,063
OPERATION & MAINTENANCE, AIR FORCE.....	35,331,193	34,539,965
OPERATION & MAINTENANCE, DEFENSE-WIDE.....	31,198,232	30,824,752
OPERATION & MAINTENANCE, ARMY RESERVE.....	2,490,569	2,513,393
OPERATION & MAINTENANCE, NAVY RESERVE.....	1,007,100	1,021,200
OPERATION & MAINTENANCE, MARINE CORPS RESERVE.....	268,682	270,846
OPERATION & MAINTENANCE, AIR FORCE RESERVE.....	3,015,842	3,026,342
OPERATION & MAINTENANCE, ARMY NATIONAL GUARD.....	6,030,773	6,175,951
OPERATION & MAINTENANCE, AIR NATIONAL GUARD.....	6,392,859	6,408,558
OVERSEAS CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS TRANSFER ACCOUNT.....	5,000	---
UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE ARMED FORCES...	13,723	13,723
ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION, ARMY.....	201,560	201,560
ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION, NAVY.....	277,294	277,294
ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION, AIR FORCE.....	408,716	408,716
ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION, DEFENSE-WIDE.....	8,547	8,547
ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION, FORMERLY USED DEF. SITES...	208,353	250,853
OVERSEAS HUMANITARIAN, DISASTER, AND CIVIC AID.....	100,000	103,000
COOPERATIVE THREAT REDUCTION ACCOUNT.....	365,108	365,108
DOD ACQUISITION WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT FUND.....	212,875	83,034
	=====	=====
GRAND TOTAL, OPERATION & MAINTENANCE.....	166,002,818	161,655,679
	=====	=====

# REPROGRAMMING GUIDANCE FOR OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE ACCOUNTS

The Secretary of Defense is directed to submit the Base for Reprogramming (DD Form 1414) for each of the fiscal year 2015 appropriation accounts not later than 60 days after the enactment of this Act. The Secretary of Defense is prohibited from executing any reprogramming or transfer of funds for any purpose other than originally appropriated until the aforementioned report is submitted to the House and Senate Appropriations Committees.

The Secretary of Defense is directed to use the normal prior approval reprogramming procedures to transfer funds in the Services' operation and maintenance accounts between O-1 budget activities in excess of \$15,000,000. In addition, the Secretary of Defense should follow prior approval reprogramming procedures for transfers in excess of \$15,000,000 out of the following budget sub-activities:

## Army:

- Maneuver units
- Modular support brigades
- Land forces operations support
- Force readiness operations support
- Land forces depot maintenance
- Base operations support
- Facilities sustainment, restoration, and modernization

## Navy:

- Aircraft depot maintenance
- Ship depot maintenance
- Facilities sustainment, restoration, and modernization

## Marine Corps:

- Depot maintenance
- Facilities sustainment, restoration, and modernization

## Air Force:

- Primary combat forces
- Combat enhancement forces
- Combat communications
- Facilities sustainment, restoration, and modernization

## Air Force Reserve:

- Depot maintenance

## Air National Guard:

- Depot maintenance

Additionally, the Secretary of Defense shall follow prior approval reprogramming procedures for transfers in excess of \$15,000,000 into the following budget sub-activity:

*Operation and Maintenance, Army National Guard:*

Other personnel support/recruiting and advertising

With respect to Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide, proposed transfers of funds to or from the levels specified for defense agencies in excess of \$15,000,000 shall be subject to prior approval reprogramming procedures.

During fiscal year 2015, the Secretary of Defense is required to submit written notification and justification to the congressional defense committees not later than 15 days prior to implementing transfers in excess of \$15,000,000 out of the following budget sub-activities:

## Navy:

- Mission and other flight operations
- Mission and other ship operations

## Air Force:

- Operating forces depot maintenance
- Mobilization depot maintenance
- Training and recruiting depot maintenance
- Administration and service-wide depot maintenance

These transfers may be implemented 15 days after a congressional notification un-

less an objection is received from one of the congressional defense committees.

Finally, House Report 113-473 included language emphasizing the importance of prior approval reprogramming procedures being followed for new starts in the operation and maintenance appropriations. The agreement maintains and expands that direction to the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller) to review this matter and to issue clarifying guidance to the Services and defense agencies, including the Special Operations Command, and report actions taken to the congressional defense committees not later than 60 days after the enactment of this Act to ensure full compliance with established regulations.

## OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE SPECIAL INTEREST ITEMS

Items for which additional funds have been provided or have been specifically reduced as shown in the project level tables or in paragraphs using the phrase "only for" or "only to" in the explanatory statement are congressional special interest items for the purpose of the Base for Reprogramming (DD Form 1414). Each of these items must be carried on the DD Form 1414 at the stated amount as specifically addressed in the explanatory statement. Below Threshold Reprogrammings may not be used to either restore or reduce funding from congressional special interest items as identified on the DD Form 1414.

## CIVILIAN WORKFORCE

The agreement supports a strong civilian workforce for the Department of Defense. However, the fiscal year 2015 budget request substantially overestimates the number of civilians that will be employed during fiscal year 2015. Civilian full-time equivalent (FTE) data provided by the Services show that each Service and defense agency ended fiscal year 2014 far short of what was planned for in the fiscal year 2015 budget request. Therefore, the agreement includes funding reductions due to the overestimation of civilian FTE targets.

## MAINTENANCE OF REAL PROPERTY

The agreement directs that none of the funds made available by this Act may be used to maintain or improve Department of Defense real property with a zero percent utilization rate according to the Department's real property inventory database, except in the case of maintenance of an historic property, as required by the National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.) or maintenance to prevent a negative environmental impact as required by the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.).

## OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE BUDGET DOCUMENTATION

Both House Report 113-473 and Senate Report 113-211 included direction for various improvements to operation and maintenance budget justification materials. All of the items in each of the reports are agreed to with the exception of the requirements directed specifically to the Army National Guard, which are no longer required. During fiscal year 2015, the Service Secretaries are encouraged to work with the congressional defense committees on building more meaningful performance criteria for recruiting, advertising, marketing, and retention initiatives.

## DEPOT-LEVEL MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR BUDGET JUSTIFICATION

The lack of summary-level budget justification materials for depot maintenance

expenditures continues to inhibit congressional oversight. Instead of the reporting requirements directed under this heading in House Report 113-473, the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller), the Comptrollers of the military Services, and the Director of Cost Assessment and Program Evaluation are directed to review the current depot-related exhibits to determine if the data currently provided can be streamlined and presented in a more concise and complete manner and to report the results of this review not later than 180 days after the enactment of this Act to the congressional defense committees.

The Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller) is further directed to coordinate with the congressional defense committees to ensure a comprehensive budget justification exhibit of depot-level maintenance and repair workloads for each of the Services is developed and provided with the annual congressional budget justification documents. Until a new exhibit is developed, the Secretary of Defense and the Service Secretaries shall provide the OP-30, OP-31, and the PB-45 as part of the fiscal year 2016 budget request submission.

## DEFENSE FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING SERVICE

The agreement directs that no plan may be implemented by the Secretary of Defense, a Service Secretary, the Director of the Defense Finance and Accounting Service, or any other person to transfer financial management, bill paying, or accounting services functions from the Defense Finance and Accounting Service to another entity until the Secretary of Defense provides the congressional defense committees a written report on the plan and the Secretary certifies that the plan would reduce costs, increase efficiencies, and maintain the timeline for auditability of financial statements.

## BIOFUEL REFINERIES

The agreement does not include a provision included in the House-passed version of H.R. 4870 on the design and construction of biofuel refineries. However, not later than 30 days before entering into a contract for the planning, design, refurbishing, or construction of a biofuel refinery, or of any other facility or infrastructure used to refine biofuels, the Secretary of Defense or the applicable Service Secretary shall submit to the congressional defense committees a business case analysis for such planning, design, refurbishing, or construction, as directed by the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015.

## CLIMATE CHANGE REPORTS

The agreement does not include a provision included in the House-passed version of H.R. 4870 that would prohibit the use of funds to implement recent climate change reports. There is still concern that the assessments referenced in Section 10011 of the House-passed version of H.R. 4870 would impact the operational capabilities and associated budgets of the Department of Defense. Therefore, the Secretary of Defense is directed to report to the congressional defense committees not later than 90 days after the enactment of this Act on the operational and budgetary impacts of implementing the assessments as referenced in Section 10011 of the House-passed version of H.R. 4870.

## LANDMINES

The agreement does not include a provision included in the House-passed version of H.R. 4870 that would prohibit the use of funds to implement the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production, and

Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction. Although the Convention has not been ratified by the Senate, U.S. policy changes announced this year make it unclear how the Department of Defense will utilize anti-personnel mines in warfare and strategy. Therefore, the Secretary of Defense is directed to report to the congressional defense committees not later than 180 days after the enactment of this Act, in classified form if necessary, on the strategy and uses

of anti-personnel mines and how they apply to current and future operational plans.

#### ENERGY INDEPENDENCE AND SECURITY ACT

The agreement does not include a provision included in the House-passed version of H.R. 4870 that referenced the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007. It is noted that the enforcement of section 526 of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 may lead to higher fuel costs for federal fleets in the absence of competitively priced

new generation fuels that emit fewer emissions. In carrying out this statute, the Secretary of Defense and the Service Secretaries should work to ensure that costs associated with fuel purchases necessary to carry out their respective missions should be minimized to the greatest extent possible.

#### OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
-----		
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY		
BUDGET ACTIVITY 1: OPERATING FORCES		
10	LAND FORCES MANEUVER UNITS.....	969,281 895,281
20	MODULAR SUPPORT BRIGADES.....	61,990 61,990
30	ECHELONS ABOVE BRIGADES.....	450,987 448,087
40	THEATER LEVEL ASSETS.....	545,773 545,773
50	LAND FORCES OPERATIONS SUPPORT.....	1,057,453 842,953
60	AVIATION ASSETS.....	1,409,347 1,330,347
70	LAND FORCES READINESS FORCE READINESS OPERATIONS SUPPORT.....	3,592,334 3,584,334
80	LAND FORCES SYSTEMS READINESS.....	411,388 411,388
90	LAND FORCES DEPOT MAINTENANCE.....	1,001,232 597,409
100	LAND FORCES READINESS SUPPORT BASE OPERATIONS SUPPORT.....	7,428,972 7,328,707
110	FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION, & MODERNIZATION..	2,066,434 2,245,577
120	MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONAL HEADQUARTERS.....	411,863 411,863
130	COMBATANT COMMANDER'S CORE OPERATIONS.....	179,399 179,399
170	COMBATANT COMMANDERS ANCILLARY MISSIONS.....	432,281 432,281
-----		
	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 1.....	20,018,734 19,315,389
BUDGET ACTIVITY 2: MOBILIZATION		
180	MOBILITY OPERATIONS STRATEGIC MOBILITY.....	316,776 316,776
190	ARMY PREPOSITIONED STOCKS.....	187,609 187,609
200	INDUSTRIAL PREPAREDNESS.....	6,463 86,463
-----		
	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 2.....	510,848 590,848

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
BUDGET ACTIVITY 3: TRAINING AND RECRUITING		
210	ACCESSION TRAINING OFFICER ACQUISITION.....	124,766 124,766
220	RECRUIT TRAINING.....	51,968 51,968
230	ONE STATION UNIT TRAINING.....	43,735 43,735
240	SENIOR RESERVE OFFICERS TRAINING CORPS.....	456,563 456,563
BASIC SKILL AND ADVANCED TRAINING		
250	SPECIALIZED SKILL TRAINING.....	886,529 896,529
260	FLIGHT TRAINING.....	890,070 890,070
270	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION.....	193,291 190,447
280	TRAINING SUPPORT.....	552,359 552,359
RECRUITING AND OTHER TRAINING AND EDUCATION		
290	RECRUITING AND ADVERTISING.....	466,927 466,927
300	EXAMINING.....	194,588 188,489
310	OFF-DUTY AND VOLUNTARY EDUCATION.....	205,782 205,782
320	CIVILIAN EDUCATION AND TRAINING.....	150,571 150,571
330	JUNIOR RESERVE OFFICERS TRAINING CORPS.....	169,784 175,534
TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 3.....		4,386,933 4,393,740
BUDGET ACTIVITY 4: ADMIN & SERVICEWIDE ACTIVITIES		
340	SECURITY PROGRAMS.....	1,030,411 1,029,274
LOGISTICS OPERATIONS		
350	SERVICEWIDE TRANSPORTATION.....	541,877 341,877
360	CENTRAL SUPPLY ACTIVITIES.....	722,291 722,291
370	LOGISTICS SUPPORT ACTIVITIES.....	602,034 602,034
380	AMMUNITION MANAGEMENT.....	422,277 422,277

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
390 SERVICEWIDE SUPPORT ADMINISTRATION.....	405,442	403,037
400 SERVICEWIDE COMMUNICATIONS.....	1,624,742	1,611,742
410 MANPOWER MANAGEMENT.....	289,771	289,771
420 OTHER PERSONNEL SUPPORT.....	390,924	390,924
430 OTHER SERVICE SUPPORT.....	1,118,540	1,123,440
440 ARMY CLAIMS ACTIVITIES.....	241,234	241,234
450 REAL ESTATE MANAGEMENT.....	243,509	243,509
460 BASE OPERATIONS SUPPORT.....	200,615	200,615
SUPPORT OF OTHER NATIONS		
460 SUPPORT OF NATO OPERATIONS.....	462,591	462,591
470 MISC. SUPPORT OF OTHER NATIONS.....	27,375	27,375
TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 4.....	8,323,633	8,111,991
EXCESS WORKING CAPITAL FUND CARRYOVER.....	---	-186,000
OVERESTIMATE OF CIVILIAN FTE TARGETS.....	---	-192,300
O&M AND IT BUDGET JUSTIFICATION INCONSISTENCIES.....	---	-71,748
	=====	=====
TOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY.....	33,240,148	31,961,920
	=====	=====

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS  
[in thousands of dollars]

O-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
<b>111 MANEUVER UNITS</b>	<b>969,281</b>	<b>895,281</b>
Unjustified program growth		-56,000
Maintenance decrease not accounted for in budget documentation		-18,000
<b>113 ECHELONS ABOVE BRIGADE</b>	<b>450,987</b>	<b>448,087</b>
Remove one-time fiscal year 2014 sustainment costs		-2,900
<b>115 LAND FORCES OPERATIONS SUPPORT</b>	<b>1,057,453</b>	<b>842,953</b>
Contractor Logistics Support no longer needed in fiscal year 2015		-14,500
OCO operations - transfer to title IX		-200,000
<b>116 AVIATION ASSETS</b>	<b>1,409,347</b>	<b>1,330,347</b>
Unjustified program growth		-79,000
<b>121 FORCE READINESS OPERATIONS SUPPORT</b>	<b>3,592,334</b>	<b>3,584,334</b>
Fully fund two Combat Training Center rotations - Army requested		
transfer to OM,ARNG and MP,ARNG		-68,000
Force Readiness Operations Support		60,000
<b>123 LAND FORCES DEPOT MAINTENANCE</b>	<b>1,001,232</b>	<b>597,409</b>
Program increase		54,500
Transfer denied - fiscal year 2015 funding for depot maintenance		
retained in OM,ARNG SAG 123		-8,323
OCO operations - transfer to title IX		-450,000
<b>131 BASE OPERATIONS SUPPORT</b>	<b>7,428,972</b>	<b>7,328,707</b>
Army Cemeteries - transfer to OM,AR not properly accounted		-265
Justification does not match summary of price and program		
changes		-100,000
<b>132 FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION AND MODERNIZATION</b>	<b>2,066,434</b>	<b>2,245,577</b>
Arlington National Cemetery funded in Military Construction and		
Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act		-25,000
Program increase		204,143
<b>213 INDUSTRIAL PREPAREDNESS</b>	<b>6,463</b>	<b>86,463</b>
Program increase - body armor		80,000
<b>321 SPECIALIZED SKILL TRAINING</b>	<b>886,529</b>	<b>896,529</b>
Program increase - language capabilities		10,000
<b>323 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION</b>	<b>193,291</b>	<b>190,447</b>
Unjustified program growth		-4,333
SOCOM advanced education program - transfer from OM,DW		1,489
<b>332 EXAMINING</b>	<b>194,588</b>	<b>188,489</b>
US MEPCOM test administrators - unjustified program growth		-6,099
<b>335 JUNIOR ROTC</b>	<b>169,784</b>	<b>175,534</b>
Program increase		5,750



O-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
<b>411 SECURITY PROGRAMS</b>	<b>1,030,411</b>	<b>1,029,274</b>
Cyber realignment of funds - transfer to SAG 121 not properly accounted		-937
Classified adjustment		-200
<b>421 SERVICEWIDE TRANSPORTATION</b>	<b>541,877</b>	<b>341,877</b>
OCO operations - transfer to title IX		-200,000
<b>431 ADMINISTRATION</b>	<b>406,442</b>	<b>403,037</b>
Unjustified program growth		-2,405
<b>432 SERVICEWIDE COMMUNICATIONS</b>	<b>1,624,742</b>	<b>1,611,742</b>
Integrated Personnel and Pay System excess to requirement		-13,000
<b>435 OTHER SERVICE SUPPORT</b>	<b>1,118,540</b>	<b>1,123,440</b>
Army support to Capitol 4th		4,900
<b>OVERESTIMATION OF CIVILIAN FTE TARGETS</b>		<b>-192,300</b>
<b>O&amp;M AND IT BUDGET JUSTIFICATION INCONSISTENCIES</b>		<b>-71,748</b>
<b>WORKING CAPITAL FUND CARRYOVER ABOVE ALLOWABLE CEILING</b>		<b>-186,000</b>

## OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, NAVY

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, NAVY		
BUDGET ACTIVITY 1: OPERATING FORCES		
AIR OPERATIONS		
10	MISSION AND OTHER FLIGHT OPERATIONS.....	4,947,202 4,283,501
20	FLEET AIR TRAINING.....	1,647,943 1,637,992
30	AVIATION TECHNICAL DATA AND ENGINEERING SERVICES.....	37,050 37,050
40	AIR OPERATIONS AND SAFETY SUPPORT.....	96,139 93,939
50	AIR SYSTEMS SUPPORT.....	363,763 353,763
60	AIRCRAFT DEPOT MAINTENANCE.....	814,770 882,870
70	AIRCRAFT DEPOT OPERATIONS SUPPORT.....	36,494 36,494
80	AVIATION LOGISTICS.....	350,641 350,641
SHIP OPERATIONS		
90	MISSION AND OTHER SHIP OPERATIONS.....	3,865,379 3,865,379
100	SHIP OPERATIONS SUPPORT AND TRAINING.....	711,243 711,243
110	SHIP DEPOT MAINTENANCE.....	5,296,408 4,940,108
120	SHIP DEPOT OPERATIONS SUPPORT.....	1,339,077 1,339,377
COMBAT COMMUNICATIONS/SUPPORT		
130	COMBAT COMMUNICATIONS.....	708,634 701,634
140	ELECTRONIC WARFARE.....	91,599 91,599
150	SPACE SYSTEMS AND SURVEILLANCE.....	207,038 207,038
160	WARFARE TACTICS.....	432,715 432,715
170	OPERATIONAL METEOROLOGY AND OCEANOGRAPHY.....	338,116 338,116
180	COMBAT SUPPORT FORCES.....	892,316 872,500
190	EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE.....	128,486 128,486
200	DEPOT OPERATIONS SUPPORT.....	2,472 2,472
210	COMBATANT COMMANDERS CORE OPERATIONS.....	101,200 99,730
220	COMBATANT COMMANDERS DIRECT MISSION SUPPORT.....	188,920 79,469

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
230 WEAPONS SUPPORT		
CRUISE MISSILE.....	109,911	109,911
240 FLEET BALLISTIC MISSILE.....	1,172,823	1,166,823
250 IN-SERVICE WEAPONS SYSTEMS SUPPORT.....	104,139	104,139
260 WEAPONS MAINTENANCE.....	490,911	510,011
270 OTHER WEAPON SYSTEMS SUPPORT .....	324,861	324,861
280 BASE SUPPORT		
ENTERPRISE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY.....	936,743	936,743
290 FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION & MODERNIZATION ..	1,483,495	1,631,845
300 BASE OPERATING SUPPORT.....	4,398,667	4,401,167
TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 1.....	31,619,155	30,671,616
BUDGET ACTIVITY 2: MOBILIZATION		
320 READY RESERVE AND PREPOSITIONING FORCES		
SHIP PREPOSITIONING AND SURGE.....	526,926	402,026
330 READY RESERVE FORCE.....	291,195	---
320 ACTIVATIONS/INACTIVATIONS		
AIRCRAFT ACTIVATIONS/INACTIVATIONS.....	6,704	6,704
330 SHIP ACTIVATIONS/INACTIVATIONS.....	251,538	205,538
340 MOBILIZATION PREPAREDNESS		
FLEET HOSPITAL PROGRAM.....	124,323	97,123
350 INDUSTRIAL READINESS.....	2,323	2,323
360 COAST GUARD SUPPORT.....	20,333	20,333
TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 2.....	1,223,342	734,047

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
BUDGET ACTIVITY 3: TRAINING AND RECRUITING		
370		
ACCESSION TRAINING		
OFFICER ACQUISITION.....	156,214	156,214
380		
RECRUIT TRAINING.....	8,863	8,863
390		
RESERVE OFFICERS TRAINING CORPS.....	148,150	148,150
BASIC SKILLS AND ADVANCED TRAINING		
400		
SPECIALIZED SKILL TRAINING.....	601,501	601,501
410		
FLIGHT TRAINING.....	8,239	8,239
420		
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION.....	164,214	164,214
430		
TRAINING SUPPORT.....	182,619	182,619
RECRUITING, AND OTHER TRAINING AND EDUCATION		
440		
RECRUITING AND ADVERTISING.....	230,589	231,737
450		
OFF-DUTY AND VOLUNTARY EDUCATION.....	115,595	115,595
460		
CIVILIAN EDUCATION AND TRAINING.....	79,606	79,606
470		
JUNIOR ROTC.....	41,664	41,664
TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 3.....		
	1,737,254	1,738,402
BUDGET ACTIVITY 4: ADMIN & SERVICEWIDE ACTIVITIES		
SERVICEWIDE SUPPORT		
480		
ADMINISTRATION.....	858,871	849,871
490		
EXTERNAL RELATIONS.....	12,807	12,807
500		
CIVILIAN MANPOWER AND PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT.....	119,863	119,863
510		
MILITARY MANPOWER AND PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT.....	356,113	356,113
520		
OTHER PERSONNEL SUPPORT.....	255,605	252,743
530		
SERVICEWIDE COMMUNICATIONS.....	339,802	339,802

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
550 LOGISTICS OPERATIONS AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT		
SERVICEWIDE TRANSPORTATION.....	172,203	172,203
570 PLANNING, ENGINEERING AND DESIGN.....	283,621	276,131
580 ACQUISITION AND PROGRAM MANAGEMENT.....	1,111,464	1,111,464
590 HULL, MECHANICAL AND ELECTRICAL SUPPORT.....	43,232	43,232
600 COMBAT/WEAPONS SYSTEMS.....	25,689	25,689
610 SPACE AND ELECTRONIC WARFARE SYSTEMS.....	73,159	73,159
SECURITY PROGRAMS		
620 NAVAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE.....	548,640	545,290
SUPPORT OF OTHER NATIONS		
680 INTERNATIONAL HEADQUARTERS AND AGENCIES.....	4,713	4,713
OTHER PROGRAMS		
OTHER PROGRAMS.....	531,324	525,824
TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 4.....	4,737,106	4,708,904
O&M AND IT BUDGET JUSTIFICATION INCONSISTENCIES.....	---	-60,115
OVERESTIMATE OF CIVILIAN FTE TARGETS.....	---	-212,100
REFUELING AND COMPLEX OVERHAUL (RCOH).....	---	10,100
TOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, NAVY.....	39,316,857	37,590,854

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS  
[In thousands of dollars]

O-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
<b>1A1A MISSION AND OTHER FLIGHT OPERATIONS</b>	<b>4,947,202</b>	<b>4,283,501</b>
Overestimation of flying hours		-82,701
Fuel costs - unjustified growth		-100,000
Transportation costs - unjustified growth		-20,000
Unaccounted program termination		-11,000
OCO operations - transfer to title IX		-450,000
<b>1A2A FLEET AIR TRAINING</b>	<b>1,647,943</b>	<b>1,637,992</b>
Training - unjustified growth		-9,951
<b>1A4A AIR OPERATIONS AND SAFETY SUPPORT</b>	<b>96,139</b>	<b>93,939</b>
Other services - unjustified growth		-2,200
<b>1A4N AIR SYSTEMS SUPPORT</b>	<b>363,763</b>	<b>353,763</b>
Program related engineering logistics - unjustified growth		-10,000
<b>1A5A AIRCRAFT DEPOT MAINTENANCE</b>	<b>814,770</b>	<b>882,870</b>
Program increase		58,000
Program increase - CVN-73 refueling and complex overhaul		10,100
<b>1B4B SHIP DEPOT MAINTENANCE</b>	<b>5,296,408</b>	<b>4,940,108</b>
Program increase		10,000
Program increase - CVN-73 refueling and complex overhaul		33,700
OCO operations - transfer to title IX		-400,000
<b>1B5B SHIP DEPOT OPERATIONS SUPPORT</b>	<b>1,339,077</b>	<b>1,339,377</b>
Program increase - CVN-73 refueling and complex overhaul		300
<b>1C1C COMBAT COMMUNICATIONS</b>	<b>708,634</b>	<b>701,634</b>
Unjustified growth		-7,000
<b>1C6C COMBAT SUPPORT FORCES</b>	<b>892,316</b>	<b>872,500</b>
Travel administration - unjustified growth		-2,816
Retirements not properly accounted		-5,000
Removal of one-time fiscal year 2014 costs		-12,000
<b>1CCH COMBATANT COMMANDERS CORE OPERATIONS</b>	<b>101,200</b>	<b>99,730</b>
Management and professional support services - unjustified growth		-1,470
<b>1CCM COMBATANT COMMANDERS DIRECT MISSION SUPPORT</b>	<b>188,920</b>	<b>79,469</b>
Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command - transfer to OM,DW		-109,451
<b>1D2D FLEET BALLISTIC MISSILE</b>	<b>1,172,823</b>	<b>1,166,823</b>
Equipment maintenance by contract - unjustified growth		-6,000
<b>1D4D WEAPONS MAINTENANCE</b>	<b>490,911</b>	<b>510,011</b>
Program increase - ship self defense system overhaul		19,100
<b>BSM1 FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION &amp; MODERNIZATION</b>	<b>1,483,495</b>	<b>1,631,845</b>
Program increase		148,350
<b>BSS1 BASE OPERATING SUPPORT</b>	<b>4,398,667</b>	<b>4,401,167</b>
Quality of service initiative - unjustified growth		-5,000
Camp Lemonnier lease costs		7,500

O-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
<b>2A1F SHIP PREPOSITIONING AND SURGE</b>	<b>526,926</b>	<b>402,026</b>
Large Medium Roll-on/Roll-off Maintenance - transfer to NDSF		-105,900
DoD Mobilization Alterations - transfer to NDSF		-19,000
<b>2A2P READY RESERVE FORCE</b>	<b>291,195</b>	<b>0</b>
Ready Reserve Force - transfer to NDSF		-291,195
<b>2B2G SHIP ACTIVATIONS/INACTIVATIONS</b>	<b>251,538</b>	<b>205,538</b>
Program decrease - CVN-73 refueling and complex overhaul		-46,000
<b>2C1H FLEET HOSPITAL PROGRAM</b>	<b>124,323</b>	<b>97,123</b>
TAH Maintenance - transfer to NDSF		-27,200
<b>3C1L RECRUITING AND ADVERTISING</b>	<b>230,589</b>	<b>231,737</b>
Naval Sea Cadet Corps		1,148
<b>4A1M ADMINISTRATION</b>	<b>858,871</b>	<b>849,871</b>
Administrative functions - unjustified growth		-9,000
<b>4A5M OTHER PERSONNEL SUPPORT</b>	<b>255,605</b>	<b>252,743</b>
Unjustified growth		-2,862
<b>4B2N PLANNING, ENGINEERING AND DESIGN</b>	<b>283,621</b>	<b>276,131</b>
Unjustified growth		-7,490
<b>4C1P NAVAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE</b>	<b>548,640</b>	<b>545,290</b>
Travel - unjustified growth		-3,350
<b>9999 OTHER PROGRAMS</b>	<b>531,324</b>	<b>525,824</b>
Classified adjustment		-5,500
<b>OVERESTIMATION OF CIVILIAN FTE TARGETS</b>		<b>-212,100</b>
<b>O&amp;M AND IT BUDGET JUSTIFICATION INCONSISTENCIES</b>		<b>-60,115</b>
<b>CVN-73 REFUELING AND COMPLEX OVERHAUL PROGRAM INCREASE FOR MANPOWER</b>		<b>10,100</b>

## TIRE SUCCESSOR INITIATIVE

There is concern that the Tire Successor Initiative arrangement may not put all tire manufacturers on an equal competitive footing. Accordingly, the agreement directs the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition,

Technology and Logistics) to report to the congressional defense committees not later than 90 days after the enactment of this Act on the steps that the Secretary of Defense will take to maintain a fair and competitive marketplace for military tires. This lan-

guage replaces the language included under this heading in House Report 113-473.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE,  
MARINE CORPS

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:



(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
-----		
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, MARINE CORPS		
BUDGET ACTIVITY 1: OPERATING FORCES		
10	EXPEDITIONARY FORCES	
	OPERATIONAL FORCES.....	905,744 720,544
20	FIELD LOGISTICS.....	921,543 921,543
30	DEPOT MAINTENANCE.....	229,058 239,058
40	USMC PREPOSITIONING	
	MARITIME PREPOSITIONING.....	87,660 87,660
60	FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION & MODERNIZATION ..	573,926 631,319
70	BASE OPERATING SUPPORT.....	1,983,118 1,833,118
-----		
	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 1.....	4,701,049 4,433,242
BUDGET ACTIVITY 3: TRAINING AND RECRUITING		
80	ACCESSION TRAINING	
	RECRUIT TRAINING.....	18,227 18,227
90	OFFICER ACQUISITION.....	948 948
100	BASIC SKILLS AND ADVANCED TRAINING	
	SPECIALIZED SKILLS TRAINING.....	98,448 98,448
120	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION.....	42,305 42,305
130	TRAINING SUPPORT.....	330,156 327,356
140	RECRUITING AND OTHER TRAINING EDUCATION	
	RECRUITING AND ADVERTISING.....	161,752 161,752
150	OFF-DUTY AND VOLUNTARY EDUCATION.....	19,137 19,137
160	JUNIOR ROTC.....	23,277 23,277
-----		
	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 3.....	694,250 691,450
BUDGET ACTIVITY 4: ADMIN & SERVICEWIDE ACTIVITIES		
180	SERVICEWIDE SUPPORT	
	SERVICEWIDE TRANSPORTATION.....	36,359 36,359
190	ADMINISTRATION.....	362,608 362,608
200	ACQUISITION AND PROGRAM MANAGEMENT.....	70,515 70,515
	SECURITY PROGRAMS	
	SECURITY PROGRAMS.....	44,706 44,706
-----		
	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 4.....	514,188 514,188
	CIVILIAN PERSONNEL COMPENSATION HIRING LAG.....	--- -10,000
	O&M AND IT BUDGET JUSTIFICATION INCONSISTENCIES.....	--- -18,817
=====		
	TOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, MARINE CORPS.....	5,909,487 5,610,063
=====		

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS  
[In thousands of dollars]

O-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
<b>1A1A OPERATIONAL FORCES</b>	<b>905,744</b>	<b>720,544</b>
Special Purpose Marine Air Ground Task Force for CENTCOM - Marine Corps unfunded requirement		28,600
Special Purpose Marine Air Ground Task Force for SOUTHCOM - Marine Corps unfunded requirement		5,200
Unaccounted program termination		-19,000
OCO operations - transfer to title IX		-200,000
<b>1A3A DEPOT MAINTENANCE</b>	<b>229,058</b>	<b>239,058</b>
Program increase		10,000
<b>BSM1 FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION &amp; MODERNIZATION</b>	<b>573,926</b>	<b>631,319</b>
Program increase		57,393
<b>BSS1 BASE OPERATING SUPPORT</b>	<b>1,983,118</b>	<b>1,833,118</b>
OCO operations - transfer to title IX		-150,000
<b>3B4D TRAINING SUPPORT</b>	<b>330,156</b>	<b>327,356</b>
Unaccounted program termination		-2,800
<b>CIVILIAN PERSONNEL COMPENSATION HIRING LAG</b>		<b>-10,000</b>
<b>O&amp;M AND IT BUDGET JUSTIFICATION INCONSISTENCIES</b>		<b>-18,817</b>

## OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR FORCE

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
-----		
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR FORCE		
BUDGET ACTIVITY 1: OPERATING FORCES		
AIR OPERATIONS		
10	PRIMARY COMBAT FORCES.....	3,163,457 3,290,742
20	COMBAT ENHANCEMENT FORCES.....	1,694,339 1,783,320
30	AIR OPERATIONS TRAINING.....	1,579,178 1,573,873
50	DEPOT MAINTENANCE.....	6,119,522 6,079,803
60	FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION & MODERNIZATION ..	1,453,589 1,598,948
70	BASE OPERATING SUPPORT.....	2,599,419 2,577,101
COMBAT RELATED OPERATIONS		
80	GLOBAL C3I AND EARLY WARNING.....	908,790 878,790
90	OTHER COMBAT OPERATIONS SUPPORT PROGRAMS.....	856,306 863,788
100	TACTICAL INTELLIGENCE AND SPECIAL ACTIVITIES.....	800,689 790,689
SPACE OPERATIONS		
110	LAUNCH FACILITIES.....	282,710 282,710
120	SPACE CONTROL SYSTEMS.....	397,818 397,818
130	COMBATANT COMMANDERS DIRECT MISSION SUPPORT.....	871,840 861,540
140	COMBATANT COMMANDERS CORE OPERATIONS.....	237,348 237,348
-----		
TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 1.....		20,965,005 21,216,470

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
BUDGET ACTIVITY 2: MOBILIZATION		
140 MOBILITY OPERATIONS		
AIRLIFT OPERATIONS.....	1,968,810	1,596,883
150 MOBILIZATION PREPAREDNESS.....	139,743	125,670
160 DEPOT MAINTENANCE.....	1,534,560	1,049,560
170 FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION & MODERNIZATION ..	173,627	190,989
180 BASE SUPPORT.....	688,801	688,801
TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 2.....	4,505,541	3,651,903
BUDGET ACTIVITY 3: TRAINING AND RECRUITING		
190 ACCESSION TRAINING		
OFFICER ACQUISITION.....	82,396	82,396
200 RECRUIT TRAINING.....	19,852	19,852
210 RESERVE OFFICER TRAINING CORPS (ROTC).....	76,134	76,134
220 FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION & MODERNIZATION ..	212,226	233,449
230 BASE SUPPORT (ACADEMIES ONLY).....	759,809	759,809
240 BASIC SKILLS AND ADVANCED TRAINING		
SPECIALIZED SKILL TRAINING.....	356,157	356,157
250 FLIGHT TRAINING.....	697,594	697,594
260 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION.....	219,441	219,565
270 TRAINING SUPPORT.....	91,001	91,001
280 DEPOT MAINTENANCE.....	316,688	316,688
290 RECRUITING, AND OTHER TRAINING AND EDUCATION		
RECRUITING AND ADVERTISING.....	73,920	73,920
300 EXAMINING.....	3,121	3,121
310 OFF DUTY AND VOLUNTARY EDUCATION.....	181,718	181,718
320 CIVILIAN EDUCATION AND TRAINING.....	147,667	147,667
330 JUNIOR ROTC.....	63,250	63,250
TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 3.....	3,300,974	3,322,321

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
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BUDGET ACTIVITY 4: ADMIN & SERVICEWIDE ACTIVITIES		
340 LOGISTICS OPERATIONS		
LOGISTICS OPERATIONS.....	1,003,513	997,079
350 TECHNICAL SUPPORT ACTIVITIES.....	843,449	836,210
360 DEPOT MAINTENANCE.....	78,126	78,126
370 FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION & MODERNIZATION ..	247,677	272,445
380 BASE SUPPORT.....	1,103,442	1,103,442
SERVICEWIDE ACTIVITIES		
390 ADMINISTRATION.....	597,234	597,234
400 SERVICEWIDE COMMUNICATIONS.....	506,840	506,840
410 OTHER SERVICEWIDE ACTIVITIES.....	892,256	892,256
420 CIVIL AIR PATROL CORPORATION.....	24,981	27,400
SECURITY PROGRAMS		
SECURITY PROGRAMS.....	1,169,736	1,164,432
SUPPORT TO OTHER NATIONS		
450 INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT.....	92,419	92,419
TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 4.....	6,559,673	6,567,883
O&M AND IT BUDGET JUSTIFICATION INCONSISTENCIES.....	---	-54,812
OVERESTIMATE OF CIVILIAN FTE TARGETS.....	---	-185,400
NUCLEAR FORCE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM .....	---	21,600
TOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR FORCE.....	35,331,193	34,539,965
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EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS  
[In thousands of dollars]

O-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
<b>011A PRIMARY COMBAT FORCES</b>	<b>3,163,457</b>	<b>3,290,742</b>
Travel - unjustified program growth		-14,655
Fuel rate requested as program growth		-5,763
A-10 program increase		147,703
<b>011C COMBAT ENHANCEMENT FORCES</b>	<b>1,694,339</b>	<b>1,783,320</b>
Studies, Analysis, and Evaluations - unjustified program growth		-2,640
Funds requested for U-2 divestiture ahead of need		-2,379
Flying hour and contract reductions not properly accounted		-7,600
AWACS program increase		34,600
Combat Enhancement Forces program increase		67,000
<b>011D AIR OPERATIONS TRAINING (OJT, MAINTAIN SKILLS)</b>	<b>1,579,178</b>	<b>1,573,873</b>
Travel - unjustified program growth		-18,638
A-10 program increase		13,333
<b>011M DEPOT MAINTENANCE</b>	<b>6,119,522</b>	<b>6,079,803</b>
Unjustified program growth		-83,000
Program increase		15,000
Contract reduction not properly accounted		-18,000
A-10 program increase		46,281
<b>011R FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION &amp; MODERNIZATION</b>	<b>1,453,589</b>	<b>1,598,948</b>
Program increase		145,359
<b>011Z BASE SUPPORT</b>	<b>2,599,419</b>	<b>2,577,101</b>
Remove one-time fiscal year 2014 funding increase		-10,000
Fuel and foreign currency fluctuation pricing requested as program growth		-12,318
<b>012A GLOBAL C3I AND EARLY WARNING</b>	<b>908,790</b>	<b>878,790</b>
Unjustified growth		-30,000
<b>012C OTHER COMBAT OPS SPT PROGRAMS</b>	<b>856,306</b>	<b>863,788</b>
A-10 program increase		7,482
<b>012F TACTICAL INTEL AND OTHER SPECIAL ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>800,689</b>	<b>790,689</b>
Classified adjustment		-10,000
<b>015A COMBATANT COMMANDERS DIRECT MISSION SUPPORT</b>	<b>871,840</b>	<b>861,540</b>
Classified program reduction		-10,300
<b>021A AIRLIFT OPERATIONS</b>	<b>1,968,810</b>	<b>1,596,883</b>
Justification does not match summary of price and program changes		-16,450
Fuel rate requested as program growth		-5,477
OCO operations - transfer to title IX		-350,000
<b>021D MOBILIZATION PREPAREDNESS</b>	<b>139,743</b>	<b>125,670</b>
Inflation pricing requested as program growth		-14,073

O-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
<b>021M DEPOT MAINTENANCE</b>	<b>1,534,560</b>	<b>1,049,560</b>
Program increase		15,000
OCO operations - transfer to title IX		-500,000
<b>021R FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION &amp; MODERNIZATION</b>	<b>173,627</b>	<b>190,989</b>
Program increase		17,362
<b>031R FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION &amp; MODERNIZATION</b>	<b>212,226</b>	<b>233,449</b>
Program increase		21,223
<b>032C PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION</b>	<b>219,441</b>	<b>219,565</b>
SOCOM advanced education program - transfer from OM,DW		124
<b>041A LOGISTICS OPERATIONS</b>	<b>1,003,513</b>	<b>997,079</b>
Inflation pricing requested as program growth		-6,134
Life Sciences Equipment Laboratory of the Air Force resources - transfer to OM,DW for new defense agency responsible for personnel accounting efforts		-300
<b>041B TECHNICAL SUPPORT ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>843,449</b>	<b>836,210</b>
Rate adjustment requested as program growth		-7,239
<b>041R FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION &amp; MODERNIZATION</b>	<b>247,677</b>	<b>272,445</b>
Program increase		24,768
<b>042I CIVIL AIR PATROL</b>	<b>24,981</b>	<b>27,400</b>
Civil Air Patrol - program increase		2,419
<b>43A SECURITY PROGRAMS</b>	<b>1,169,736</b>	<b>1,164,432</b>
Classified adjustment		-5,304
<b>OVERESTIMATION OF CIVILIAN FTE TARGETS</b>		<b>-185,400</b>
<b>NUCLEAR FORCE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM</b>		<b>21,600</b>
<b>O&amp;M AND IT BUDGET JUSTIFICATION INCONSISTENCIES</b>		<b>-54,812</b>

AIR FORCE FLYING HOUR METRICS AND  
WEAPON SYSTEM SUSTAINMENT

It is understood that the Air Force is revising its budget documentation to better enable meaningful budget analysis and comprehensive oversight of the flying hour and depot maintenance programs. The agreement continues to support robust funding for the flying hour and depot maintenance programs and asserts that improving the clarity and completeness of the budget justification materials will improve management of the programs and related funding. This language replaces both the language included in House Report 113-473 under the headings “Air Force Flying Hour Metrics” and “Air Force Weapon System Sustainment.”

RAPID ENGINEER DEPLOYABLE HEAVY OPER-  
ATIONAL REPAIR SQUADRON ENGINEER UNITS

In early 2015, the Secretary of the Air Force is expected to announce a Rapid Engineer Deployable Heavy Operational Repair Squadron Engineer (RED HORSE) unit consolidation basing plan. The agreement directs that none of the funds made available by this Act may be obligated or expended to transfer from one installation to another any RED HORSE unit based in the continental United States until 30 days after the Secretary of the Air Force submits to the congressional defense committees a report that includes the following: the recommended basing alignment for RED HORSE units; an assessment of the national

security benefits and any other benefits of the proposed transfer; an assessment of the costs of the proposed transfer, including the impact of the proposed transfer on the installation from which a RED HORSE unit will be transferred; an analysis of the recommended basing alignment that assesses whether the recommendation is the most effective and efficient alternative for such basing alignment; and an assessment of how the basing alignment affects the national emergency response mission of RED HORSE reserve component units.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE,  
DEFENSE-WIDE

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:



(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
-----			
	OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, DEFENSE-WIDE		
	BUDGET ACTIVITY 1: OPERATING FORCES		
10	JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF.....	462,107	439,607
20	SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND.....	4,762,245	4,556,302
	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 1.....	5,224,352	4,995,909
	BUDGET ACTIVITY 3: TRAINING AND RECRUITING		
30	DEFENSE ACQUISITION UNIVERSITY.....	135,437	135,437
40	NATIONAL DEFENSE UNIVERSITY.....	80,082	80,082
50	SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND.....	371,620	358,007
	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 3.....	587,139	573,526
	BUDGET ACTIVITY 4: ADMIN & SERVICEWIDE ACTIVITIES		
60	CIVIL MILITARY PROGRAMS.....	119,888	179,088
80	DEFENSE CONTRACT AUDIT AGENCY.....	556,493	548,093
90	DEFENSE CONTRACT MANAGEMENT AGENCY.....	1,340,374	1,289,295
100	DEFENSE HUMAN RESOURCES ACTIVITY.....	633,300	673,655
110	DEFENSE INFORMATION SYSTEMS AGENCY.....	1,263,678	1,253,278
130	DEFENSE LEGAL SERVICES AGENCY.....	26,710	26,710
140	DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY.....	381,470	385,370
150	DEFENSE MEDIA ACTIVITY.....	194,520	190,820
160	DEFENSE POW /MISSING PERSONS OFFICE.....	21,485	---
170	DEFENSE SECURITY COOPERATION AGENCY.....	544,786	509,589
180	DEFENSE SECURITY SERVICE.....	532,930	532,930
200	DEFENSE TECHNOLOGY SECURITY AGENCY.....	32,787	32,787
	DEFENSE THREAT REDUCTION AGENCY.....	414,371	414,371
230	DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE EDUCATION ACTIVITY.....	2,566,424	2,567,424

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
240 MISSILE DEFENSE AGENCY.....	416,644	403,644
260 OFFICE OF ECONOMIC ADJUSTMENT.....	186,987	106,391
270 OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE.....	1,891,163	1,867,482
280 SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND.....	87,915	87,915
290 WASHINGTON HEADQUARTERS SERVICES.....	610,982	592,482
OTHER PROGRAMS.....	13,563,834	13,462,431
TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 4.....	25,386,741	25,123,755
IMPACT AID.....	---	25,000
IMPACT AID FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES.....	---	5,000
TRANSFER FOR NEW AGENCY FOR PERSONNEL ACCOUNTING EFFORTS.....	---	131,236
NON-MIP, NON-CYBER IT PROGRAMS.....	---	-45,924
NSA CYBER PROGRAMS.....	---	6,250
INSIDER THREAT.....	---	10,000
TOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, DEFENSE-WIDE.....	31,198,232	30,824,752

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS  
[In thousands of dollars]

O-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
<b>1PL1 JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF</b>	<b>462,107</b>	<b>439,607</b>
Headquarters - unjustified growth		-12,500
IT programs - unjustified growth		-10,000
<b>1PL2 SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND</b>	<b>4,762,245</b>	<b>4,556,302</b>
Base support - transfer to FSRM		-3,213
Combat development activities - classified adjustments		-41,375
Flight operations - human performance - transfer to Other operations		-3,000
Flight operations - human performance program unjustified growth		-3,500
Flight operations - component WRP program unjustified growth		-6,000
Flight operations - family readiness coordinators unauthorized		-2,300
Other operations - MARSOC collateral equipment excess to need		-2,908
Other operations - MARSOC collateral equipment ahead of need		-2,602
Other operations - USASOC collateral equipment ahead of need		-2,538
Other operations - AFSOC collateral equipment ahead of need		-3,797
Other operations - AFSOC collateral equipment ahead of need		-918
Other operations - USASOC fiscal year 2014 collateral equipment schedule delay		10,467
Other operations - NAVSPECWARCOM fiscal year 2014 collateral equipment schedule delay		5,321
Other operations - FOSOV operations unjustified growth		-2,123
Other operations - USASOC 4th battalion restructuring excess growth		-6,220
Other operations - family readiness coordinators unauthorized		-2,700
Other operations - human performance program - transfer to DHP		-14,800
Other operations - human performance program - transfer to DHRA		-4,000
Other operations - human performance program - transfer to RDTE,N line 23		-4,200
Other operations - transfer to FSRM		-9,472
Other operations - psychological operations excess		
contractor price growth to support 30 people		-1,800
Other operations - unjustified growth		-10,000
Other operations - SOCAF excess growth		-2,000
Other operations - persistent engagement - rent, utilities, ICASS excess growth		-7,000
Other operations - regional security cooperation centers authorization adjustment		-3,600
Other operations - SOCOM NCR authorization adjustment		-5,000
Other operations - human performance - transfer from Flight operations		3,000
Ship operations - maritime support vessel authorization adjustment		-20,298
Ship operations - NSW riverine program restore reduction		2,826
Communications - C4IAS unjustified growth		-9,000
Communications - HQ C4 SITEC unjustified growth		-9,126
Communications - SOF deployable nodes excess growth		-4,336
Communications - SOF tactical communications excess growth		-2,500
Intelligence - DCGS-SOF authorization adjustment		-3,900
Intelligence - civilian growth - transfer to DIA MIP		-1,402
Intelligence - classified program unjustified		-4,900
Intelligence - unjustified growth		-4,214
Intelligence - human performance program included in Other operations line		-4,000
Operational support - 4th Battalion transformation excess growth		-5,300
FSRM - transfer from other SAGs		12,685
Contracts for other services - general reduction		-5,000
Management/operational HQ - PERSTEMPO underexecution		-3,000
Overestimation of civilian FTE targets		-18,200
<u>Total, Preservation of the Force and Family</u>		[49,900]
Human performance program enterprise contract		[21,800]
Component WRP		[12,700]
Psychological performance - to fully fund 30 contractor FTEs		[5,400]

O-1		FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
	Authorized family pilot program		[5,000]
	Spiritual fitness		[1,200]
	PERSTEMPO		[3,800]
<b>3EV7</b>	<b>SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND</b>	<b>371,620</b>	<b>358,007</b>
	Professional development - advanced education program unjustified growth		-2,000
	Professional development - JSOU accreditation unauthorized		-4,000
	Advanced education program - transfer to OM,A		-1,489
	Advanced education program - transfer to OM,AF		-124
	Specialized skills training - Special Warfare Center excess		-8,000
<b>4GT3</b>	<b>CIVIL MILITARY PROGRAMS</b>	<b>119,888</b>	<b>179,088</b>
	Program increase - Youth Challenge		31,000
	Program increase - STARBASE		25,000
	Innovative readiness training		3,200
<b>4GT6</b>	<b>DEFENSE CONTRACT AUDIT AGENCY</b>	<b>556,493</b>	<b>548,093</b>
	Overestimation of civilian FTE targets		-8,400
<b>4GTO</b>	<b>DEFENSE CONTRACT MANAGEMENT AGENCY</b>	<b>1,340,374</b>	<b>1,289,295</b>
	Civilian FTE hiring plan ahead of schedule		-50,000
	Rate increases requested as program growth		-1,079
<b>4GT8</b>	<b>DEFENSE HUMAN RESOURCES ACTIVITY</b>	<b>633,300</b>	<b>673,655</b>
	Unjustified growth		-5,845
	Overestimation of civilian FTE targets		-2,800
	Program increase - Suicide Prevention Office		20,000
	Suicide prevention - transfer from SOCOM		4,000
	Program increase - Sexual Assault Special Victims' Counsel		25,000
<b>4GT9</b>	<b>DEFENSE INFORMATION SYSTEMS AGENCY</b>	<b>1,263,678</b>	<b>1,253,278</b>
	Inconsistency in management headquarters savings		-2,000
	Overestimation of civilian FTE targets		-8,400
<b>4GTB</b>	<b>DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY</b>	<b>381,470</b>	<b>385,370</b>
	Procurement Technical Assistance program		12,000
	Justification does not match summary of price and program changes for DFAS		-1,300
	Functional transfer to DISA not properly accounted		-1,800
	Overestimation of civilian FTE targets		-5,000
<b>ES18</b>	<b>DEFENSE MEDIA ACTIVITY</b>	<b>194,520</b>	<b>190,820</b>
	Justification does not match summary of price and program changes		-3,700
<b>4GTC</b>	<b>DEFENSE POW/MISSING PERSONS OFFICE</b>	<b>21,485</b>	<b>0</b>
	Defense Prisoner of War/Missing Personnel Office - transfer to new defense agency		-21,485
<b>4GTD</b>	<b>DEFENSE SECURITY COOPERATION AGENCY</b>	<b>544,786</b>	<b>509,589</b>
	Administration expenses - unjustified growth		-2,500
	Fellowship programs - unjustified growth		-7,000
	Global Security Cooperation Management Information Systems - unjustified growth		-497
	Civilian personnel compensation - justification does not match summary of price and program changes		-5,200
	Global Security Contingency Fund - adjustment for appropriation request		-30,000

O-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
Program increase - Warsaw Initiative Fund/Partnership for Peace Program		10,000
<b>4GTJ DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE EDUCATION AGENCY</b>	<b>2,566,424</b>	<b>2,567,424</b>
Program increase - Professional development for mathematics		1,000
<b>011A MISSILE DEFENSE AGENCY</b>	<b>416,644</b>	<b>403,644</b>
BMD5 AN/TPY-2 radars - excess forward financing		-13,000
<b>4GTM OFFICE OF ECONOMIC ADJUSTMENT</b>	<b>186,987</b>	<b>106,391</b>
Guam civilian water and wastewater funding ahead of need		-80,596
<b>4GTN OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE</b>	<b>1,891,163</b>	<b>1,867,482</b>
Headquarters support for other programs and initiatives - unjustified growth		-430
Capital security cost sharing - unjustified growth		-7,500
Boards, Commissions and Task Forces - unjustified growth		-1,365
OSD Policy - unjustified growth		-3,623
OSD Comptroller - unjustified growth		-2,483
OSD Personnel and Readiness - unjustified growth		-3,100
BRAC 2015 round planning and analyses - ahead of need		-4,800
OSD AT&L, RDTE Oversight - unjustified growth		-1,380
Program increase - Office of Net Assessment		20,000
Program increase - ASD SOLIC oversight of SOCOM		2,000
Program increase - Readiness environmental protection initiative		15,000
Program increase - OSD Comptroller audit readiness		8,000
OSD P&R eliminate contractor growth for CE2T2		-25,000
Directed reduction for OSD management headquarters		-15,000
Overestimation of civilian FTE targets		-7,000
Program increase - Healthy Base Initiative		3,000
<b>4GTQ WASHINGTON HEADQUARTERS SERVICES</b>	<b>610,982</b>	<b>592,482</b>
Overestimation of civilian FTE targets		-3,500
Facilities - justification does not match summary of price and program changes		-15,000
<b>9999 OTHER PROGRAMS</b>	<b>13,563,834</b>	<b>13,462,431</b>
Classified adjustment		-108,403
Classified program increase - Information Systems Security Program		7,000
<b>IMPACT AID</b>		<b>25,000</b>
<b>REDUCTION TO NON-NIP NON-CYBER IT PROGRAMS</b>		<b>-45,924</b>
<b>TRANSFER FROM OM,AF; OM,N; AND THE DEFENSE PRISONER OF WAR/MISSING PERSONNEL OFFICE TO NEW DEFENSE AGENCY</b>		<b>131,236</b>
<b>IMPACT AID FOR CHILDREN WITH SEVERE DISABILITIES</b>		<b>5,000</b>
<b>NSA CYBER RESEARCH WITH UNIVERSITIES</b>		<b>6,250</b>
<b>FEDERAL INSIDER THREAT DETECTION ENHANCEMENTS</b>		<b>10,000</b>

## CAPITAL SECURITY COST SHARING PROGRAM

The cost for the Capital Security Cost Sharing program has nearly tripled over the past two years, yet no supporting data has been provided to justify the increases or allow for appropriate oversight. Therefore, the Secretary of Defense is directed to develop budget exhibits that will provide a total cost accounting of the Capital Security Cost Sharing program. These exhibits shall be submitted with the fiscal year 2016 budget request. This accounting should include a breakout of all costs, by country, embassy, and mission, and include actual costs from previous fiscal years and estimated costs for fiscal years for which actual costs are not yet available. The Secretary of Defense is directed to submit a list of categories of expenditures comprised by these exhibits to the congressional defense committees not later than 30 days after the enactment of this Act. It is expected that these categories will include items such as rent, utilities, security, and maintenance costs.

Finally, to support a more comprehensive and detailed justification for future budget

submissions, the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller) is directed to consult with the House and Senate Appropriations Committees not later than 90 days after the enactment of this Act to develop a complete set of metrics that should be included in future budget submissions.

CYBER RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT WITH  
UNIVERSITIES

The National Security Agency conducts classified cyber-related research through partnerships with universities. The agreement provides an increase of \$6,250,000 in the Information Systems Security Program to support these relationships with academia.

## GUAM

The agreement notes that the strategic posture and presence of the U.S. military in the Asia-Pacific region is critically important to the security and stability of that region, and Guam is a key location for supporting these objectives. In recent years, the Department of Defense has requested funding for civilian infrastructure improvements on Guam to support an increased U.S. military

presence. Funds are included in the fiscal year 2015 budget request for additional improvements, but the agreement finds these funds early to need due to unresolved questions regarding force posture in the region and specific requirements for civilian infrastructure improvements on Guam. The Secretary of Defense is directed to remain actively engaged in discussions with the Government of Guam to find solutions to meet Guam's requirements for an increased military presence in the Asia-Pacific region. In addition, the Director of the Office of Economic Adjustment is directed to report to the congressional defense committees not later than 90 days after the enactment of this Act on required enhancements to Guam that support the projected U.S. military operational tempo in the Asia-Pacific region.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY  
RESERVE

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
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OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY RESERVE		
BUDGET ACTIVITY 1: OPERATING FORCES		
20	LAND FORCES MODULAR SUPPORT BRIGADES.....	15,200 14,400
30	ECHELONS ABOVE BRIGADES.....	502,664 499,264
40	THEATER LEVEL ASSETS.....	107,489 102,689
50	LAND FORCES OPERATIONS SUPPORT.....	543,989 530,188
60	AVIATION ASSETS.....	72,963 64,463
70	LAND FORCES READINESS FORCES READINESS OPERATIONS SUPPORT.....	360,082 360,082
80	LAND FORCES SYSTEM READINESS.....	72,491 72,491
90	DEPOT MAINTENANCE.....	58,873 58,873
100	LAND FORCES READINESS SUPPORT BASE OPERATIONS SUPPORT.....	388,961 388,961
110	FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION & MODERNIZATION ..	228,597 251,457
120	MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS HEADQUARTERS.....	39,590 39,590
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	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 1.....	2,390,899 2,382,458
BUDGET ACTIVITY 4: ADMIN & SERVICEWIDE ACTIVITIES		
130	ADMINISTRATION AND SERVICEWIDE ACTIVITIES SERVICEWIDE TRANSPORTATION.....	10,608 10,608
140	ADMINISTRATION.....	18,587 17,587
150	SERVICEWIDE COMMUNICATIONS.....	6,681 6,681
160	PERSONNEL/FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION .....	9,192 9,192
170	RECRUITING AND ADVERTISING.....	54,602 54,602
-----		
	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 4.....	99,670 98,670
	OVERESTIMATE OF CIVILIAN FTE TARGETS.....	--- -30,000
	RESTORE READINESS.....	--- 65,000
	O&M AND IT BUDGET JUSTIFICATION INCONSISTENCIES.....	--- -2,735
=====		
	TOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY RESERVE.....	2,490,569 2,513,393
=====		

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS  
[In thousands of dollars]

O-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
<b>112 MODULAR SUPPORT BRIGADES</b>	<b>15,200</b>	<b>14,400</b>
Budget documentation disparity - supplies and materials		-800
<b>113 ECHELONS ABOVE BRIGADES</b>	<b>502,664</b>	<b>499,264</b>
Travel - unjustified program growth		-3,400
<b>114 THEATER LEVEL ASSETS</b>	<b>107,489</b>	<b>102,689</b>
Travel - unjustified program growth		-2,200
Budget documentation disparity - supplies and materials		-2,600
<b>115 LAND FORCES OPERATIONS SUPPORT</b>	<b>543,989</b>	<b>530,188</b>
Justification does not match summary of price and program changes		-2,860
Travel - unjustified program growth		-1,600
Management and professional support services - unjustified growth		-3,500
Regional Training Sites-Medical advisory and assistance services contract - transfer to SAG 121 not properly accounted		-5,841
<b>116 AVIATION ASSETS</b>	<b>72,963</b>	<b>64,463</b>
Unjustified program growth		-8,500
<b>132 FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION &amp; MODERNIZATION</b>	<b>228,597</b>	<b>251,457</b>
Program increase		22,860
<b>431 ADMINISTRATION</b>	<b>18,587</b>	<b>17,587</b>
Travel - unjustified program growth		-1,000
<b>OVERESTIMATION OF CIVILIAN FTE TARGETS</b>		<b>-30,000</b>
<b>O&amp;M AND IT BUDGET JUSTIFICATION INCONSISTENCIES</b>		<b>-2,735</b>
<b>RESTORE READINESS</b>		<b>65,000</b>



## OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, NAVY RESERVE

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
-----			
	OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, NAVY RESERVE		
	BUDGET ACTIVITY 1: OPERATING FORCES		
10	RESERVE AIR OPERATIONS MISSION AND OTHER FLIGHT OPERATIONS.....	565,842	573,742
20	INTERMEDIATE MAINTENANCE.....	5,948	5,948
40	AIRCRAFT DEPOT MAINTENANCE.....	82,636	84,936
50	AIRCRAFT DEPOT OPERATIONS SUPPORT.....	353	353
60	AVIATION LOGISTICS.....	7,007	7,007
70	RESERVE SHIP OPERATIONS MISSION AND OTHER SHIP OPERATIONS.....	8,190	8,190
80	SHIP OPERATIONAL SUPPORT AND TRAINING.....	556	556
90	SHIP DEPOT MAINTENANCE.....	4,571	4,571
100	RESERVE COMBAT OPERATIONS SUPPORT COMBAT COMMUNICATIONS.....	14,472	14,472
110	COMBAT SUPPORT FORCES.....	119,056	119,056
120	RESERVE WEAPONS SUPPORT WEAPONS MAINTENANCE.....	1,852	1,852
130	ENTERPRISE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY.....	25,354	25,354
140	BASE OPERATING SUPPORT FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION & MODERNIZATION ..	48,271	53,098
150	BASE OPERATING SUPPORT.....	101,921	101,921
	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 1.....	986,029	1,001,056
	BUDGET ACTIVITY 4: ADMIN & SERVICEWIDE ACTIVITIES		
160	ADMINISTRATION AND SERVICEWIDE ACTIVITIES ADMINISTRATION.....	1,520	1,520
170	MILITARY MANPOWER & PERSONNEL.....	12,998	12,998
180	SERVICEWIDE COMMUNICATIONS.....	3,395	3,395
190	ACQUISITION AND PROGRAM MANAGEMENT.....	3,158	3,158
	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 4.....	21,071	21,071
	NON-MIP, NON-CYBER IT PROGRAMS.....	---	-927
	TOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, NAVY RESERVE.....	1,007,100	1,021,200
		=====	=====

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS  
[In thousands of dollars]

O-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
<b>1A1A MISSION AND OTHER FLIGHT OPERATIONS</b>	<b>565,842</b>	<b>573,742</b>
Program increase - CVN-73 refueling and complex overhaul		7,900
<b>1A5A AIRCRAFT DEPOT MAINTENANCE</b>	<b>82,636</b>	<b>84,936</b>
Program increase - CVN-73 refueling and complex overhaul		2,300
<b>BSMR FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION &amp; MODERNIZATION</b>	<b>48,271</b>	<b>53,098</b>
Program increase		4,827
<b>REDUCTION TO NON-NIP NON-CYBER IT PROGRAMS</b>		<b>-927</b>

## OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, MARINE CORPS RESERVE

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
-----		
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, MARINE CORPS RESERVE		
BUDGET ACTIVITY 1: OPERATING FORCES		
10	EXPEDITIONARY FORCES OPERATING FORCES.....	93,093 93,093
20	DEPOT MAINTENANCE.....	18,377 18,377
40	FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION & MODERNIZATION ..	29,232 32,155
50	BASE OPERATING SUPPORT.....	106,447 106,447
	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 1.....	247,149 250,072
BUDGET ACTIVITY 4: ADMIN & SERVICEWIDE ACTIVITIES		
70	ADMINISTRATION AND SERVICEWIDE ACTIVITIES SERVICEWIDE TRANSPORTATION.....	914 914
80	ADMINISTRATION.....	11,831 11,831
90	RECRUITING AND ADVERTISING.....	8,688 8,688
	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 4.....	21,433 21,433
	O&M AND IT BUDGET JUSTIFICATION INCONSISTENCIES.....	--- -659
	TOTAL, OPERATION & MAINTENANCE, MARINE CORPS RESERVE	===== 268,582 270,846 =====

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS  
[In thousands of dollars]

O-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
BSM1 FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION & MODERNIZATION	29,232	32,155
Program increase		2,923
O&M AND IT BUDGET JUSTIFICATION INCONSISTENCIES		-659

## OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR FORCE RESERVE

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
-----		
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR FORCE RESERVE		
BUDGET ACTIVITY 1: OPERATING FORCES		
AIR OPERATIONS		
10	PRIMARY COMBAT FORCES.....	1,719,467 1,729,924
20	MISSION SUPPORT OPERATIONS.....	211,132 211,132
30	DEPOT MAINTENANCE.....	530,301 533,008
40	FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION & MODERNIZATION ..	85,672 94,239
50	BASE OPERATING SUPPORT.....	367,966 364,638
	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 1.....	2,914,538 2,932,941
BUDGET ACTIVITY 4: ADMIN & SERVICEWIDE ACTIVITIES		
ADMINISTRATION AND SERVICEWIDE ACTIVITIES		
60	ADMINISTRATION.....	59,899 59,899
70	RECRUITING AND ADVERTISING.....	14,509 14,509
80	MILITARY MANPOWER AND PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT.....	20,345 20,345
90	OTHER PERSONNEL SUPPORT.....	6,551 6,551
	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 4.....	101,304 101,304
	OVERESTIMATE OF CIVILIAN FTE TARGETS.....	--- -7,000
	O&M AND IT BUDGET JUSTIFICATION INCONSISTENCIES.....	--- -903
	TOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR FORCE RESERVE.	3,015,842 3,026,342
	=====	=====

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS  
[In thousands of dollars]

O-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
011A PRIMARY COMBAT FORCES	1,719,467	1,729,924
A-10 program increase		10,457
011M DEPOT MAINTENANCE	530,301	533,008
A-10 program increase		2,707
011R FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION & MODERNIZATION	85,672	94,239
Program increase		8,567
011Z BASE OPERATING SUPPORT	367,966	364,638
Inactive Duty Training Lodging - unjustified program growth		-3,328
OVERESTIMATION OF CIVILIAN FTE TARGETS		-7,000
O&M AND IT BUDGET JUSTIFICATION INCONSISTENCIES		-903

## OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
-----		
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
BUDGET ACTIVITY 1: OPERATING FORCES		
10	LAND FORCES MANEUVER UNITS.....	660,648 683,648
20	MODULAR SUPPORT BRIGADES.....	165,942 165,942
30	ECHELONS ABOVE BRIGADE.....	733,800 733,800
40	THEATER LEVEL ASSETS.....	83,084 83,084
50	LAND FORCES OPERATIONS SUPPORT.....	22,005 22,005
60	AVIATION ASSETS.....	920,085 920,085
70	LAND FORCES READINESS FORCE READINESS OPERATIONS SUPPORT.....	680,887 682,587
80	LAND FORCES SYSTEMS READINESS.....	69,726 68,552
90	LAND FORCES DEPOT MAINTENANCE.....	138,263 186,586
100	LAND FORCES READINESS SUPPORT BASE OPERATIONS SUPPORT.....	804,517 795,667
110	FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION & MODERNIZATION ..	490,205 565,205
120	MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONAL HEADQUARTERS.....	872,140 872,140
-----		
	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 1.....	5,641,302 5,779,301

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
-----		
BUDGET ACTIVITY 4: ADMIN & SERVICEWIDE ACTIVITIES		
130		
ADMINISTRATION AND SERVICEWIDE ACTIVITIES		
SERVICEWIDE TRANSPORTATION.....	6,690	6,690
150		
ADMINISTRATION.....	63,075	57,788
160		
SERVICEWIDE COMMUNICATIONS.....	37,372	37,372
170		
MANPOWER MANAGEMENT.....	6,484	6,484
180		
RECRUITING AND ADVERTISING.....	274,085	260,285
140		
REAL ESTATE MANAGEMENT.....	1,765	1,765
-----		
TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 4.....	389,471	370,384
UNJUSTIFIED GROWTH FOR CIVILIAN PERSONNEL COMPENSATION	---	-3,700
SOUTHWEST BORDER .....	---	5,000
RESTORE READINESS.....	---	70,000
REMOVAL OF ONE-TIME FY14 COST.....	---	-20,000
SERVICE SUPPORT CONTRACTOR REDUCTION.....	---	-20,000
NON-CYBER IT PROGRAMS.....	---	-5,034
=====		
TOTAL, OPERATION & MAINTENANCE, ARMY NATIONAL GUARD.	6,030,773	6,175,951
=====		



EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS  
[In thousands of dollars]

O-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
<b>111 MANEUVER UNITS</b>	<b>660,648</b>	<b>683,648</b>
Fully fund two CTC rotations - Army requested transfer from OM,A SAG 121		23,000
<b>121 FORCE READINESS OPERATIONS SUPPORT</b>	<b>680,887</b>	<b>682,587</b>
Program increase - emergency medical training		1,700
<b>122 LAND FORCES SYSTEMS READINESS</b>	<b>69,726</b>	<b>68,552</b>
Justification does not match summary of price and program changes for printing and reproduction		-1,174
<b>123 LAND FORCES DEPOT MAINTENANCE</b>	<b>138,263</b>	<b>186,586</b>
Transfer denied - Fiscal year 2015 funding for depot maintenance retained in OM,ARNG SAG 123		8,323
Program increase		40,000
<b>131 BASE OPERATIONS SUPPORT</b>	<b>804,517</b>	<b>795,667</b>
Remove one-time fiscal year 2014 funding increase		-10,000
Justification does not match summary of price and program changes for travel		-7,100
Program increase - National Guard mental health		8,250
<b>132 FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION &amp; MODERNIZATION</b>	<b>490,205</b>	<b>565,205</b>
Program increase		75,000
<b>431 ADMINISTRATION</b>	<b>63,075</b>	<b>57,788</b>
Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff - unjustified program growth		-131
Supplies and materials - unjustified program growth		-5,156
<b>434 OTHER PERSONNEL SUPPORT</b>	<b>274,085</b>	<b>260,285</b>
Marketing and Advertising programs - unjustified program growth		-13,800
<b>CIVILIAN PERSONNEL COMPENSATION - UNJUSTIFIED PROGRAM GROWTH</b>		<b>-3,700</b>
<b>RESTORE READINESS</b>		<b>70,000</b>
<b>SOUTHWEST BORDER</b>		<b>5,000</b>
<b>REMOVAL OF ONE-TIME FISCAL YEAR 2014 COSTS</b>		<b>-20,000</b>
<b>SERVICE SUPPORT CONTRACTOR REDUCTION</b>		<b>-20,000</b>
<b>REDUCTION TO NON-CYBER IT PROGRAMS</b>		<b>-5,034</b>

## OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR NATIONAL GUARD

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
-----		
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
BUDGET ACTIVITY 1: OPERATING FORCES		
AIR OPERATIONS		
10	AIRCRAFT OPERATIONS.....	3,367,729 3,400,996
20	MISSION SUPPORT OPERATIONS.....	718,295 694,095
30	DEPOT MAINTENANCE.....	1,528,695 1,531,850
40	FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION & MODERNIZATION ..	137,604 151,364
50	BASE OPERATING SUPPORT.....	581,536 581,536
	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 1.....	6,333,859 6,359,841
BUDGET ACTIVITY 4: ADMIN & SERVICEWIDE ACTIVITIES		
SERVICEWIDE ACTIVITIES		
60	ADMINISTRATION.....	27,812 27,812
70	RECRUITING AND ADVERTISING.....	31,188 31,188
	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 4.....	59,000 59,000
	O&M AND IT BUDGET JUSTIFICATION INCONSISTENCIES.....	--- -10,283
	TOTAL, OPERATION & MAINTENANCE, AIR NATIONAL GUARD..	6,392,859 6,408,558
	=====	=====

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS  
[In thousands of dollars]

O-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
<b>011F AIRCRAFT OPERATIONS</b>	<b>3,367,729</b>	<b>3,400,996</b>
A-10 program increase		33,267
<b>011G MISSION SUPPORT OPERATIONS</b>	<b>718,295</b>	<b>694,095</b>
Justification does not match summary of price and program changes for civilian personnel compensation		-11,200
Justification does not match summary of price and program changes		-13,000
<b>011M DEPOT MAINTENANCE</b>	<b>1,528,695</b>	<b>1,531,850</b>
A-10 program increase		3,155
<b>011R FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION &amp; MODERNIZATION</b>	<b>137,604</b>	<b>151,364</b>
Program increase		13,760
<b>O&amp;M AND IT BUDGET JUSTIFICATION INCONSISTENCIES</b>		<b>-10,283</b>

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS  
FOR THE ARMED SERVICES

The agreement provides \$13,723,000 for the United States Court of Appeals for the Armed Services.

ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION, ARMY

The agreement provides \$201,560,000 for Environmental Restoration, Army.

ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION, NAVY

The agreement provides \$277,294,000 for Environmental Restoration, Navy.

ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION, AIR  
FORCE

The agreement provides \$408,716,000 for Environmental Restoration, Air Force.

ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION,  
DEFENSE-WIDE

The agreement provides \$8,547,000 for Environmental Restoration, Defense-Wide.

ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION,  
FORMERLY USED DEFENSE SITES

The agreement provides \$250,853,000, an increase of \$42,500,000 above the budget request, for Environmental Restoration, Formerly Used Defense Sites.

OVERSEAS HUMANITARIAN, DISASTER,  
AND CIVIC AID

The agreement provides \$103,000,000, an increase of \$3,000,000 above the budget request, for Overseas Humanitarian, Disaster, and Civic Aid.

COOPERATIVE THREAT REDUCTION  
ACCOUNT

The agreement provides \$365,108,000 for the Cooperative Threat Reduction Account, as follows:

	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS		
[In thousands of dollars]		
COOPERATIVE THREAT REDUCTION ACCOUNT:		
Strategic Offensive Arms Elimination .....	1,000	1,000
Chemical Weapons Destruction .....	15,720	15,720
Biological Threat Reduction .....	256,762	256,762
Threat Reduction Engagement .....	2,375	2,375
Other Assessments/Admin Costs .....	27,844	27,844
Global Nuclear Security .....	20,703	20,703
WMD Proliferation Prevention .....	40,704	40,704
TOTAL, COOPERATIVE THREAT REDUCTION .....	365,108	365,108

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE ACQUISITION  
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT FUND

The agreement provides \$83,034,000, a decrease of \$129,841,000 below the budget request, for the Department of Defense Acquisition Workforce Development Fund.

TITLE III—PROCUREMENT

The agreement provides \$93,835,072,000 in Title III, Procurement. The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
-----		
SUMMARY		
ARMY		
AIRCRAFT.....	5,102,685	5,216,225
MISSILES.....	1,017,483	1,208,692
WEAPONS AND TRACKED COMBAT VEHICLES.....	1,471,438	1,722,136
AMMUNITION.....	1,031,477	1,015,477
OTHER.....	4,893,634	4,747,523
TOTAL, ARMY.....	13,516,717	13,910,053
NAVY		
AIRCRAFT.....	13,074,317	14,758,035
WEAPONS.....	3,217,945	3,137,257
AMMUNITION.....	771,945	674,100
SHIPS.....	14,400,625	15,954,379
OTHER.....	5,975,828	5,846,558
MARINE CORPS.....	983,352	935,209
TOTAL, NAVY.....	38,424,012	41,305,538
AIR FORCE		
AIRCRAFT.....	11,542,571	12,067,703
MISSILES.....	4,690,506	4,629,662
AMMUNITION.....	677,400	659,909
OTHER.....	16,566,018	16,781,266
TOTAL, AIR FORCE.....	33,476,495	34,138,540
DEFENSE-WIDE		
DEFENSE-WIDE.....	4,221,437	4,429,303
DEFENSE PRODUCTION ACT PURCHASES.....	21,638	51,638
	=====	=====
TOTAL PROCUREMENT.....	89,660,299	93,835,072
	=====	=====

## PROCUREMENT SPECIAL INTEREST ITEMS

Items for which additional funds have been provided as shown in the project level tables or in paragraphs using the phrase “only for” or “only to” in the explanatory statement are congressional special interest items for the purpose of the Base for Reprogramming (DD Form 1414). Each of these items must be carried on the DD Form 1414 at the stated amount as specifically addressed in the explanatory statement.

## REPROGRAMMING GUIDANCE FOR ACQUISITION ACCOUNTS

The Secretary of Defense is directed to continue to follow the reprogramming guidance as specified in the report accompanying the House version of the Department of Defense Appropriations bill for Fiscal Year 2008 (House Report 110-279). Specifically, the dollar threshold for reprogramming funds will remain at \$20,000,000 for procurement and \$10,000,000 for research, development, test and evaluation.

Also, the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller) is directed to continue to provide the congressional defense committees quarterly, spreadsheet-based DD Form 1416 reports for Service and defense-wide accounts in titles III and IV of this Act. Reports for titles III and IV shall comply with the guidance specified in the explanatory statement accompanying the Department of

Defense Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2006. The Department shall continue to follow the limitation that prior approval reprogrammings are set at either the specified dollar threshold or 20 percent of the procurement or research, development, test and evaluation line, whichever is less. These thresholds are cumulative from the base for reprogramming value as modified by any adjustments. Therefore, if the combined value of transfers into or out of a procurement (P-1) or research, development, test and evaluation (R-1) line exceeds the identified threshold, the Secretary of Defense must submit a prior approval reprogramming to the congressional defense committees. In addition, guidelines on the application of prior approval reprogramming procedures for congressional special interest items are established elsewhere in this statement.

## MILITARY FOOTWEAR PROCUREMENT

The agreement notes that the Small Business Size Standards adopted by the Small Business Administration on October 1, 2012 could have a detrimental impact on the domestic supply base for military footwear. The Defense Logistics Agency (DLA), which is responsible for managing the acquisition of military footwear, aims to maintain the health of this supply base and preserve surge capacity for times of extreme demand. It is acknowledged that both of these goals may

be affected by the new size standards. The agreement directs the Director of the Defense Logistics Agency to submit a report to the congressional defense committees not later than 60 days after the enactment of this Act that provides an estimate of the impact of the new size standards upon the supply base for military footwear, the potential impact to maintaining adequate surge capacity within the supply base, and the steps that DLA will take to ensure that both this surge capacity and the overall health of the supply base will be maintained under the new size standards for the footwear industry.

## AEROSPACE CONTROL ALERT MISSION EQUIPMENT

Given the uncertainty of the current and projected fiscal environment, there remains a concern regarding the availability of equipment to sustain and modernize the National Guard and reserve components for their missions both as an operational reserve and for necessary domestic support to the aerospace control and alert mission. In particular, there is concern regarding the availability of legacy aircraft as part of the aerospace control alert mission, including associated replacement of avionics and radars.

## AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT, ARMY

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
-----		
AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT, ARMY		
AIRCRAFT		
FIXED WING		
2 UTILITY F/W CARGO AIRCRAFT.....	13,617	10,787
3 AERIAL COMMON SENSOR (ACS) (MIP).....	185,090	129,890
4 MQ-1 UAV.....	190,581	238,081
5 RQ-11 (RAVEN).....	3,964	3,964
ROTARY		
6 HELICOPTER, LIGHT UTILITY (LUH).....	416,617	401,617
7 AH-64 APACHE BLOCK IIIA REMAN.....	494,009	572,009
8 AH-64 APACHE BLOCK IIIA REMAN (AP-CY).....	157,338	157,338
12 UH-60 BLACKHAWK (MYP).....	1,237,001	1,340,027
13 UH-60 BLACKHAWK (MYP) (AP-CY).....	132,138	117,138
14 CH-47 HELICOPTER.....	892,504	892,504
15 CH-47 HELICOPTER (AP-CY).....	102,361	102,361
TOTAL, AIRCRAFT.....	3,825,220	3,965,716
MODIFICATION OF AIRCRAFT		
16 MQ-1 PAYLOAD - UAS.....	26,913	25,313
18 GUARDRAIL MODS (MIP).....	14,182	14,182
19 MULTI SENSOR ABN RECON (MIP).....	131,892	131,892
20 AH-64 MODS.....	181,869	181,869
21 CH-47 CARGO HELICOPTER MODS.....	32,092	32,092
22 UTILITY/CARGO AIRPLANE MODS.....	15,029	15,029
23 UTILITY HELICOPTER MODS.....	76,515	76,515
25 NETWORK AND MISSION PLAN.....	114,182	105,380
26 COMMS, NAV SURVEILLANCE.....	115,795	115,795
27 GATM ROLLUP.....	54,277	54,277
28 RQ-7 UAV MODS.....	125,380	125,380
TOTAL, MODIFICATION OF AIRCRAFT.....	888,126	877,724

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
-----		
SUPPORT EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES		
GROUND SUPPORT AVIONICS		
29 AIRCRAFT SURVIVABILITY EQUIPMENT.....	66,450	89,059
30 SURVIVABILITY CM.....	---	7,800
31 CMWS.....	107,364	60,401
OTHER SUPPORT		
32 AVIONICS SUPPORT EQUIPMENT.....	6,847	6,847
33 COMMON GROUND EQUIPMENT.....	29,231	29,231
34 AIRCREW INTEGRATED SYSTEMS.....	48,081	48,081
35 AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL.....	127,232	127,232
36 INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES.....	1,203	1,203
37 LAUNCHER, 2.75 ROCKET.....	2,931	2,931
-----		
TOTAL, SUPPORT EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES.....	389,339	372,785
-----		
TOTAL, AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT, ARMY.....	5,102,685	5,216,225
	=====	=====



**EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS**  
[In thousands of dollars]

<b>P-1</b>	<b>FY 2015 Request</b>	<b>Final Bill</b>
<b>2 UTILITY F/W AIRCRAFT</b>	<b>13,617</b>	<b>10,787</b>
Unit cost growth		-2,830
<b>3 AERIAL COMMON SENSOR</b>	<b>185,090</b>	<b>129,890</b>
Funding ahead of need		-46,400
ICS/LCS funding ahead of need		-8,800
<b>4 MQ-1 UAV</b>	<b>190,581</b>	<b>238,081</b>
Program increase - Improved Gray Eagle Extended Range		49,000
Unit cost growth		-1,500
<b>6 HELICOPTER, LIGHT UTILITY (LUH)</b>	<b>416,617</b>	<b>401,617</b>
Unjustified growth		-15,000
<b>7 AH-64 APACHE BLOCK IIIA REMAN</b>	<b>494,009</b>	<b>572,009</b>
Program increase		78,000
<b>12 UH-60 BLACKHAWK (MYP)</b>	<b>1,237,001</b>	<b>1,340,027</b>
Program increase only for the Army National Guard		103,026
<b>13 UH-60 BLACKHAWK M (MYP) (AP-CY)</b>	<b>132,138</b>	<b>117,138</b>
Excess advance procurement		-15,000
<b>16 MQ-1 PAYLOAD - UAS</b>	<b>26,913</b>	<b>25,313</b>
Unit cost growth		-1,600
<b>25 NETWORK AND MISSION PLAN</b>	<b>114,182</b>	<b>105,380</b>
Aircraft notebook production delay		-8,802
<b>29 AIRCRAFT SURVIVABILITY EQUIPMENT</b>	<b>66,450</b>	<b>89,059</b>
Army requested transfer from line 31		22,609
<b>30 SURVIVABILITY/COUNTER MEASURES</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7,800</b>
Army requested transfer from line 31		7,800
<b>31 COMMON MISSILE WARNING SYSTEM</b>	<b>107,364</b>	<b>60,401</b>
Army requested transfer to line 30		-7,800
Army requested transfer to line 29		-32,609
Excess to need		-6,554

## ARMY AVIATION RESTRUCTURE INITIATIVE

The Army's fiscal year 2015 budget request proposes the Aviation Restructure Initiative (ARI), which includes the transfer of Apache helicopters from Army National Guard units to the active Army. This transfer is addressed in Section 8133 of this Act. With respect to the retirement of TH-67 and OH-58 series aircraft, there is concern about the impact of the divestment of rotary airframes

on the industrial base. Therefore, the agreement directs the Secretary of Defense to submit a report to the congressional defense committees not later than 120 days after the enactment of this Act on the aircraft being retired as part of ARI. This report should include the number of airframes being divested, the number of airframes being transferred to other government agencies, the number of airframes being offered for sale to other nations, the cost of divesting these air-

craft, and the impact the divestment of these airframes will have on the domestic rotary wing industrial base. Further, the Secretary of the Army shall not resell or auction TH-67 and OH-58 series aircraft until 30 days after the report is submitted by the Secretary of Defense.

## MISSILE PROCUREMENT, ARMY

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
-----		
MISSILE PROCUREMENT, ARMY		
OTHER MISSILES		
SURFACE-TO-AIR MISSILE SYSTEM		
2 LOWER TIER AIR AND MISSILE DEFENSE (AMD).....	110,300	110,300
3 MSE MISSILE.....	384,605	532,605
4 HELLFIRE SYS SUMMARY.....	4,452	4,452
ANTI-TANK/ASSAULT MISSILE SYSTEM		
5 JAVELIN (AAWS-M) SYSTEM SUMMARY.....	77,668	72,877
6 TOW 2 SYSTEM SUMMARY.....	50,368	50,368
7 TOW 2 SYSTEM SUMMARY (AP-CY).....	19,984	19,984
8 GUIDED MLRS ROCKET (GMLRS).....	127,145	127,145
9 MLRS REDUCED RANGE PRACTICE ROCKETS (RRPR).....	21,274	17,274
-----		
TOTAL, OTHER MISSILES.....	795,796	935,005
MODIFICATION OF MISSILES		
MODIFICATIONS		
12 PATRIOT MODS.....	131,838	183,838
13 STINGER MODS.....	1,355	1,355
14 AVENGER MODS.....	5,611	5,611
15 ITAS/TOW MODS.....	19,676	19,676
16 MLRS MODS.....	10,380	10,380
17 HIMARS MODIFICATIONS.....	6,008	6,008
-----		
TOTAL, MODIFICATION OF MISSILES.....	174,868	226,868
SPARES AND REPAIR PARTS		
18 SPARES AND REPAIR PARTS.....	36,930	36,930
SUPPORT EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES		
19 AIR DEFENSE TARGETS.....	3,657	3,657
20 ITEMS LESS THAN \$5.0M (MISSILES).....	1,522	1,522
21 PRODUCTION BASE SUPPORT.....	4,710	4,710
-----		
TOTAL, SUPPORT EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES.....	9,889	9,889
-----		
TOTAL, MISSILE PROCUREMENT, ARMY.....	1,017,483	1,208,692
=====		

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS  
[In thousands of dollars]

P-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
3 MSE MISSILE	384,605	532,605
Program increase		148,000
5 JAVELIN (AAWS-M) SYSTEM SUMMARY	77,668	72,877
Unit cost growth		-4,791
9 MLRS REDUCED RANGE PRACTICE ROCKETS (RRPR)	21,274	17,274
Unit cost efficiencies		-4,000
12 PATRIOT MODS	131,838	183,838
Program increase—radar digital processors		52,000

## PROCUREMENT OF WEAPONS AND TRACKED COMBAT VEHICLES, ARMY

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
-----		
PROCUREMENT OF W&TCV, ARMY		
1 TRACKED COMBAT VEHICLES		
STRYKER VEHICLE.....	385,110	435,110
2 MODIFICATION OF TRACKED COMBAT VEHICLES		
STRYKER (MOD).....	39,683	39,683
3 FIST VEHICLE (MOD).....	26,759	26,759
4 BRADLEY PROGRAM (MOD).....	107,506	136,006
5 HOWITZER, MED SP FT 155MM M109A6 (MOD).....	45,411	45,411
6 PALADIN PIPM MOD IN SERVICE.....	247,400	247,400
7 IMPROVED RECOVERY VEHICLE (M88A2 HERCULES).....	50,451	122,451
8 ASSAULT BRIDGE (MOD).....	2,473	2,473
9 ARMORED BREACHER VEHICLE.....	36,583	36,583
10 M88 FOV MODS.....	1,975	1,975
11 JOINT ASSAULT BRIDGE.....	49,462	39,362
12 M1 ABRAMS TANK (MOD).....	237,023	237,023
13 ABRAMS UPGRADE PROGRAM.....	---	120,000
SUPPORT EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES		
14 PRODUCTION BASE SUPPORT (TCV-WTCV).....	6,478	6,478
-----		
TOTAL, TRACKED COMBAT VEHICLES.....	1,236,314	1,496,714
WEAPONS AND OTHER COMBAT VEHICLES		
16 MORTAR SYSTEMS.....	5,012	5,012
17 XM320 GRENADE LAUNCHER MODULE (GLM).....	28,390	28,390
18 COMPACT SEMI-AUTOMATIC SNIPER SYSTEM.....	148	148
19 CARBINE.....	29,366	20,616
21 COMMON REMOTELY OPERATED WEAPONS STATION.....	8,409	8,409
22 HANDGUN.....	3,957	3,957

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
-----		
MOD OF WEAPONS AND OTHER COMBAT VEH		
24 M777 MODS.....	18,166	18,166
25 M4 CARBINE MODS.....	3,446	6,446
26 M2 50 CAL MACHINE GUN MODS.....	25,296	25,296
27 M249 SAW MACHINE GUN MODS.....	5,546	5,546
28 M240 MEDIUM MACHINE GUN MODS.....	4,635	2,635
29 SNIPER RIFLES MODIFICATIONS.....	4,079	4,079
30 M119 MODIFICATIONS.....	72,718	72,718
31 M16 RIFLE MODS.....	1,952	---
32 MORTAR MODIFICATION.....	8,903	8,903
33 MODIFICATIONS LESS THAN \$5.0M (WOCV-WTCV).....	2,089	2,089
SUPPORT EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES		
34 ITEMS LESS THAN \$5.0M (WOCV-WTCV).....	2,005	2,005
35 PRODUCTION BASE SUPPORT (WOCV-WTCV).....	8,911	8,911
36 INDUSTRIAL PREPAREDNESS.....	414	414
37 SMALL ARMS EQUIPMENT (SOLDIER ENH PROG).....	1,682	1,682
-----		
TOTAL, WEAPONS AND OTHER COMBAT VEHICLES.....	235,124	225,422
-----		
TOTAL, PROCUREMENT OF W&TCV, ARMY.....	1,471,438	1,722,136
=====		

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS  
[In thousands of dollars]

P-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
<b>1 STRYKER VEHICLE</b>	<b>385,110</b>	<b>435,110</b>
Unfunded requirement - fourth DVH brigade set		50,000
<b>4 BRADLEY PROGRAM (MOD)</b>	<b>107,506</b>	<b>136,006</b>
Program increase - unfunded priority		28,500
<b>7 IMPROVED RECOVERY VEHICLE (M88A2 HERCULES)</b>	<b>50,451</b>	<b>122,451</b>
Program increase - unfunded priority		72,000
<b>11 JOINT ASSAULT BRIDGE</b>	<b>49,462</b>	<b>39,362</b>
Funding ahead of need		-10,100
<b>13 ABRAMS UPGRADE PROGRAM</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>120,000</b>
Program increase - maintain critical industrial base		120,000
<b>19 CARBINE</b>	<b>29,366</b>	<b>20,616</b>
Army requested transfer to RDTE,A line 86		-8,702
Excess to need		-2,048
<b>25 M4 CARBINE MODS</b>	<b>3,446</b>	<b>6,446</b>
Army requested transfer from line 31		1,000
Army requested transfer from line 28		2,000
<b>28 M240 MEDIUM MACHINE GUN MODS</b>	<b>4,635</b>	<b>2,635</b>
Army requested transfer to line 25		-2,000
<b>31 M16 RIFLE MODS</b>	<b>1,952</b>	<b>0</b>
Army requested transfer to line 25		-1,000
Excess to need		-952

## PROCUREMENT OF AMMUNITION, ARMY

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
-----		
PROCUREMENT OF AMMUNITION, ARMY		
AMMUNITION		
SMALL/MEDIUM CAL AMMUNITION		
1 CTG, 5.56MM, ALL TYPES.....	34,943	34,943
2 CTG, 7.62MM, ALL TYPES.....	12,418	12,418
3 CTG, HANDGUN, ALL TYPES.....	9,655	9,655
4 CTG, .50 CAL, ALL TYPES.....	29,304	29,304
6 CTG, 25MM, ALL TYPES.....	8,181	8,181
7 CTG, 30MM, ALL TYPES.....	52,667	52,667
8 CTG, 40MM, ALL TYPES.....	40,904	40,904
MORTAR AMMUNITION		
9 60MM MORTAR, ALL TYPES.....	41,742	41,742
10 81MM MORTAR, ALL TYPES.....	42,433	42,433
11 120MM MORTAR, ALL TYPES.....	39,365	39,365
TANK AMMUNITION		
12 CTG TANK 105MM AND 120MM: ALL TYPES.....	101,900	101,900
ARTILLERY AMMUNITION		
13 CTG, ARTY, 75MM AND 105MM: ALL TYPES.....	37,455	37,455
14 ARTILLERY PROJECTILE, 155MM, ALL TYPES.....	47,023	47,023
15 PROJ 155MM EXTENDED RANGE XM982.....	35,672	35,672
16 ARTILLERY PROPELLANTS, FUZES AND PRIMERS, ALL TYPES...	94,010	78,010
ROCKETS		
19 SHOULDER LAUNCHED MUNITIONS, ALL TYPES.....	945	945
20 ROCKET, HYDRA 70, ALL TYPES.....	27,286	27,286



(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
-----		
OTHER AMMUNITION		
21 DEMOLITION MUNITIONS, ALL TYPES.....	22,899	22,899
22 GRENADES, ALL TYPES.....	22,751	22,751
23 SIGNALS, ALL TYPES.....	7,082	7,082
24 SIMULATORS, ALL TYPES.....	11,638	11,638
MISCELLANEOUS		
25 AMMO COMPONENTS, ALL TYPES.....	3,594	3,594
27 CAD/PAD ALL TYPES.....	5,430	5,430
28 ITEMS LESS THAN \$5 MILLION.....	8,337	8,337
29 AMMUNITION PECULIAR EQUIPMENT.....	14,906	14,906
30 FIRST DESTINATION TRANSPORTATION (AMMO).....	14,349	14,349
31 CLOSEOUT LIABILITIES.....	111	111
-----		
TOTAL, AMMUNITION.....	767,000	751,000
AMMUNITION PRODUCTION BASE SUPPORT		
PRODUCTION BASE SUPPORT		
32 PROVISION OF INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES.....	148,092	148,092
33 CONVENTIONAL MUNITIONS DEMILITARIZATION, ALL.....	113,881	113,881
34 ARMS INITIATIVE.....	2,504	2,504
-----		
TOTAL, AMMUNITION PRODUCTION BASE SUPPORT.....	264,477	264,477
-----		
TOTAL, PROCUREMENT OF AMMUNITION, ARMY.....	1,031,477	1,015,477
	=====	=====

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS		
[In thousands of dollars]		
P-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
ARTILLERY PROPELLANTS, FUZES AND PRIMERS,		
16 ALL TYPES	94,010	78,010
Funding ahead of need		-16,000

## OTHER PROCUREMENT, ARMY

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
OTHER PROCUREMENT, ARMY		
TACTICAL AND SUPPORT VEHICLES		
TACTICAL VEHICLES		
1 TACTICAL TRAILERS/DOLLY SETS.....	7,987	6,416
2 SEMITRAILERS, FLATBED:.....	160	160
3 FAMILY OF MEDIUM TACTICAL VEH (FMTV).....	---	100,000
4 JOINT LIGHT TACTICAL VEHICLE.....	164,615	164,615
6 FIRETRUCKS & ASSOCIATED FIREFIGHTING EQUIPMEN.....	8,415	8,415
7 FAMILY OF HEAVY TACTICAL VEHICLES (FHTV).....	28,425	78,425
8 PLS ESP.....	89,263	89,263
13 TACTICAL WHEELED VEHICLE PROTECTION KITS.....	38,226	38,226
14 MODIFICATION OF IN SVC EQUIP.....	91,173	83,173
15 MINE-RESISTANT AMBUSH-PROTECTED MODS.....	14,731	14,731
NON-TACTICAL VEHICLES		
16 HEAVY ARMORED SEDAN.....	175	---
17 PASSENGER CARRYING VEHICLES.....	1,338	803
18 NONTACTICAL VEHICLES, OTHER.....	11,101	11,101
TOTAL, TACTICAL AND SUPPORT VEHICLES.....	455,609	595,328
COMMUNICATIONS AND ELECTRONICS EQUIPMENT		
COMM - JOINT COMMUNICATIONS		
19 WIN-T - GROUND FORCES TACTICAL NETWORK.....	763,087	664,087
20 SIGNAL MODERNIZATION PROGRAM.....	21,157	21,157
21 JOINT INCIDENT SITE COMMUNICATIONS CAPABILITY.....	7,915	7,915
22 JCSE EQUIPMENT (USREDCOM).....	5,440	3,540
COMM - SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS		
23 DEFENSE ENTERPRISE WIDEBAND SATCOM SYSTEMS.....	118,085	118,085
24 TRANSPORTABLE TACTICAL COMMAND COMMUNICATIONS.....	13,999	13,999
25 SHF TERM.....	6,494	6,494
26 NAVSTAR GLOBAL POSITIONING SYSTEM (SPACE).....	1,635	1,635
27 SMART-T (SPACE).....	13,554	11,454
28 GLOBAL BRDCST SVC - GBS.....	18,899	18,899
29 MOD OF IN-SERVICE EQUIPMENT (TAC-SAT).....	2,849	2,849

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
COMM - COMBAT COMMUNICATIONS		
30 ENROUTE MISSION COMMAND (EMC).....	100,000	100,000
33 JOINT TACTICAL RADIO SYSTEM.....	175,711	40,711
34 MID-TIER NETWORKING VEHICULAR RADIO (MNVR).....	9,692	4,692
35 RADIO TERMINAL SET, MIDS LVT(2).....	17,136	15,698
37 AMC CRITICAL ITEMS - OPA2.....	22,099	22,099
38 TRACTOR DESK.....	3,724	3,724
39 SPIDER APLA REMOTE CONTROL UNIT.....	969	969
40 SOLDIER ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM COMM/ELECTRONICS.....	294	294
41 TACTICAL COMMUNICATIONS AND PROTECTIVE SYSTEM.....	24,354	22,654
42 UNIFIED COMMAND SUITE.....	17,445	17,445
43 RADIO, IMPROVED HF (COTS) FAMILY.....	1,028	1,028
44 FAMILY OF MED COMM FOR COMBAT CASUALTY CARE.....	22,614	22,614
COMM - INTELLIGENCE COMM		
46 CI AUTOMATION ARCHITECTURE (MIP).....	1,519	1,519
47 RESERVE CA/MISO GPF EQUIPMENT.....	12,478	6,078
INFORMATION SECURITY		
50 INFORMATION SYSTEM SECURITY PROGRAM-ISSP.....	2,113	---
51 COMMUNICATIONS SECURITY (COMSEC).....	69,646	69,646
COMM - LONG HAUL COMMUNICATIONS		
52 BASE SUPPORT COMMUNICATIONS.....	28,913	28,913
COMM - BASE COMMUNICATIONS		
53 INFORMATION SYSTEMS.....	97,091	97,091
54 DEFENSE MESSAGE SYSTEM (DMS).....	246	246
55 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT MODERNIZATION PROGRAM.....	5,362	5,362
56 INSTALLATION INFO INFRASTRUCTURE MOD PROGRAM.....	79,965	79,965

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
ELECT EQUIP		
ELECT EQUIP - TACT INT REL ACT (TIARA)		
60 JTT/CIBS-M (MIP).....	870	870
61 PROPHET GROUND (MIP).....	55,896	55,896
63 DCGS-A (MIP).....	128,207	128,207
64 JOINT TACTICAL GROUND STATION (JTAGS).....	5,286	5,286
65 TROJAN (MIP).....	12,614	12,614
66 MOD OF IN-SVC EQUIP (INTEL SPT) (MIP).....	3,901	3,901
67 CI HUMINT AUTO REPRTING AND COLL(CHARCS)(MIP).....	7,392	7,392
ELECT EQUIP - ELECTRONIC WARFARE (EW)		
68 LIGHTWEIGHT COUNTER MORTAR RADAR.....	24,828	24,828
70 AIR VIGILANCE (AV).....	7,000	7,000
72 COUNTERINTELLIGENCE/SECURITY COUNTERMEASURES.....	1,285	1,285
ELECT EQUIP - TACTICAL SURV. (TAC SURV)		
75 SENTINEL MODS.....	44,305	44,305
76 NIGHT VISION DEVICES.....	160,901	138,601
78 SMALL TACTICAL OPTICAL RIFLE MOUNTED MLRF.....	18,520	18,520
80 INDIRECT FIRE PROTECTION FAMILY OF SYSTEMS.....	68,296	68,296
81 FAMILY OF WEAPON SIGHTS (FWS).....	49,205	31,205
82 ARTILLERY ACCURACY EQUIP.....	4,896	4,896
83 PROFILER.....	3,115	3,115
84 MOD OF IN-SVC EQUIP (FIREFINDER RADARS).....	4,186	4,186
85 JOINT BATTLE COMMAND - PLATFORM (JBC-P).....	97,892	87,892
86 JOINT EFFECTS TARGETING SYSTEM (JETS).....	27,450	---
87 MOD OF IN-SERVICE EQUIPMENT (LLDR).....	14,085	14,085
88 MORTAR FIRE CONTROL SYSTEM.....	29,040	29,040
89 COUNTERFIRE RADARS.....	209,050	159,050

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
-----		
ELECT EQUIP - TACTICAL C2 SYSTEMS		
92 FIRE SUPPORT C2 FAMILY.....	13,823	13,823
95 AIR & MSL DEFENSE PLANNING & CONTROL SYS (AMD).....	27,374	27,374
97 LIFE CYCLE SOFTWARE SUPPORT (LCSS).....	2,508	2,508
99 NETWORK MANAGEMENT INITIALIZATION AND SERVICE.....	21,524	21,524
100 MANEUVER CONTROL SYSTEM (MCS).....	95,455	95,455
101 GLOBAL COMBAT SUPPORT SYSTEM-ARMY.....	118,600	118,600
102 INTEGRATED PERSONNEL AND PAY SYSTEM-ARMY.....	32,970	16,970
104 RECONNAISSANCE AND SURVEYING INSTRUMENT SET.....	10,113	10,113
ELECT EQUIP - AUTOMATION		
105 ARMY TRAINING MODERNIZATION.....	9,015	9,015
106 AUTOMATED DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT.....	155,223	152,282
107 GENERAL FUND ENTERPRISE BUSINESS SYSTEM.....	16,581	16,581
108 HIGH PERF COMPUTING MOD PROGRAM.....	65,252	65,252
110 RESERVE COMPONENT AUTOMATION SYS (RCAS).....	17,631	17,631
ELECT EQUIP - AUDIO VISUAL SYS (A/V)		
112 ITEMS LESS THAN \$5M (SURVEYING EQUIPMENT).....	5,437	5,437
ELECT EQUIP - SUPPORT		
113 PRODUCTION BASE SUPPORT (C-E).....	426	426
CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS.....	3,707	3,619
-----		
TOTAL, COMMUNICATIONS AND ELECTRONICS EQUIPMENT.....	3,239,372	2,837,942
OTHER SUPPORT EQUIPMENT		
CHEMICAL DEFENSIVE EQUIPMENT		
115 FAMILY OF NON-LETHAL EQUIPMENT (FNLE).....	937	937
116 BASE DEFENSE SYSTEMS (BDS).....	1,930	1,930
117 CBRN SOLDIER PROTECTION.....	17,468	17,468
BRIDGING EQUIPMENT		
119 TACTICAL BRIDGE, FLOAT-RIBBON.....	5,442	5,442
120 COMMON BRIDGE TRANSPORTER RECAP.....	11,013	11,013

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
ENGINEER (NON-CONSTRUCTION) EQUIPMENT		
121 GROUND STANDOFF MINE DETECTION SYSTEM (GSTAMIDS).....	37,649	37,649
122 HUSKY MOUNTED DETECTION SYSTEM (HMDS).....	18,545	18,545
123 ROBOTIC COMBAT SUPPORT SYSTEM.....	4,701	4,701
124 EOD ROBOTICS SYSTEMS RECAPITALIZATION.....	6,346	6,346
125 EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL EQPMT (EOD EQPMT).....	15,856	15,856
126 REMOTE DEMOLITION SYSTEMS.....	4,485	4,485
127 ITEMS LESS THAN \$5M, COUNTERMINE EQUIPMENT.....	4,938	2,938
COMBAT SERVICE SUPPORT EQUIPMENT		
128 HEATERS AND ECU'S.....	9,235	9,235
130 SOLDIER ENHANCEMENT.....	1,677	1,677
131 PERSONNEL RECOVERY SUPPORT SYSTEM (PRSS).....	16,728	10,728
132 GROUND SOLDIER SYSTEM.....	84,761	71,761
134 FIELD FEEDING EQUIPMENT.....	15,179	15,179
135 CARGO AERIAL DEL & PERSONNEL PARACHUTE SYSTEM.....	28,194	28,194
137 FAMILY OF ENGR COMBAT AND CONSTRUCTION SETS.....	41,967	41,967
138 ITEMS LESS THAN \$5M (ENG SPT).....	20,090	20,090
PETROLEUM EQUIPMENT		
139 QUALITY SURVEILLANCE EQUIPMENT.....	1,435	1,435
140 DISTRIBUTION SYSTEMS, PETROLEUM & WATER.....	40,692	40,692
MEDICAL EQUIPMENT		
141 COMBAT SUPPORT MEDICAL.....	46,957	46,957
MAINTENANCE EQUIPMENT		
142 MOBILE MAINTENANCE EQUIPMENT SYSTEMS.....	23,758	23,758
143 ITEMS LESS THAN \$5.0M (MAINT EQ).....	2,789	2,789

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT		
144 GRADER, ROAD MTZD, HVY, 6X4 (CCE).....	5,827	5,827
145 SCRAPERS, EARTHMOVING.....	14,926	14,926
147 COMPACTOR.....	4,348	4,348
148 HYDRAULIC EXCAVATOR.....	4,938	4,938
149 TRACTOR, FULL TRACKED.....	34,071	34,071
150 ALL TERRAIN CRANES.....	4,938	4,938
151 PLANT, ASPHALT MIXING.....	667	667
153 ENHANCED RAPID AIRFIELD CONSTRUCTION CAPAP.....	14,924	14,924
154 CONST EQUIP ESP.....	15,933	15,933
155 ITEMS LESS THAN \$5.0M (CONST EQUIP).....	6,749	6,749
RAIL FLOAT CONTAINERIZATION EQUIPMENT		
156 ARMY WATERCRAFT ESP.....	10,509	3,509
157 ITEMS LESS THAN \$5.0M (FLOAT/RAIL).....	2,166	2,166
GENERATORS		
158 GENERATORS AND ASSOCIATED EQUIPMENT.....	115,190	115,190
MATERIAL HANDLING EQUIPMENT		
160 FAMILY OF FORKLIFTS.....	14,327	14,327
TRAINING EQUIPMENT		
161 COMBAT TRAINING CENTERS SUPPORT.....	65,062	65,062
162 TRAINING DEVICES, NONSYSTEM.....	101,295	106,295
163 CLOSE COMBAT TACTICAL TRAINER.....	13,406	13,406
164 AVIATION COMBINED ARMS TACTICAL TRAINER (AVCA.....	14,440	10,040
165 GAMING TECHNOLOGY IN SUPPORT OF ARMY TRAINING.....	10,165	10,165
TEST MEASURE AND DIG EQUIPMENT (TMD)		
166 CALIBRATION SETS EQUIPMENT.....	5,726	5,726
167 INTEGRATED FAMILY OF TEST EQUIPMENT (IFTE).....	37,482	37,482
168 TEST EQUIPMENT MODERNIZATION (TEMOD).....	16,061	13,061



(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
-----		
OTHER SUPPORT EQUIPMENT		
170 RAPID EQUIPPING SOLDIER SUPPORT EQUIPMENT.....	2,380	2,380
171 PHYSICAL SECURITY SYSTEMS (OPA3).....	30,686	30,686
172 BASE LEVEL COM'L EQUIPMENT.....	1,008	1,008
173 MODIFICATION OF IN-SVC EQUIPMENT (OPA-3).....	98,559	98,559
174 PRODUCTION BASE SUPPORT (OTH).....	1,697	1,697
175 SPECIAL EQUIPMENT FOR USER TESTING.....	25,394	25,394
176 AMC CRITICAL ITEMS OPA3.....	12,975	12,975
-----		
TOTAL, OTHER SUPPORT EQUIPMENT.....	1,148,621	1,118,221
-----		
SPARE AND REPAIR PARTS		
180 INITIAL SPARES - C&E.....	50,032	36,032
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD HMMWV MODERNIZATION PROGRAM.....	---	100,000
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD HMMWV AMBULANCE REPLACEMENT		
182 PROGRAM.....	---	60,000
-----		
TOTAL, OTHER PROCUREMENT, ARMY.....	4,893,634	4,747,523
=====		

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS  
[In thousands of dollars]

P-1		FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
1	TACTICAL TRAILERS/DOLLY SETS	7,987	6,416
	Program delay		-1,571
5	FAMILY OF MEDIUM TACTICAL VEHICLES	0	100,000
	Program increase		100,000
7	FAMILY OF HEAVY TACTICAL VEHICLES	28,425	78,425
	Program increase		50,000
14	MODIFICATION OF IN SVC EQUIPMENT	91,173	83,173
	Funding ahead of need		-8,000
16	HEAVY ARMORED SEDAN	175	0
	Unobligated balances		-175
17	PASSENGER CARRYING VEHICLES	1,338	803
	Unobligated balances		-535
19	WIN-T - GROUND FORCES TACTICAL NETWORK	763,087	664,087
	Unobligated balances		-99,000
22	JCSE EQUIPMENT (USREDCOM)	5,440	3,540
	Unobligated balances		-1,900
27	SMART-T (SPACE)	13,554	11,454
	Engineering support forward financing		-2,100
33	JOINT TACTICAL RADIO SYSTEM - HMS	175,711	40,711
	Rifleman radio program delay		-21,000
	Manpack program delay		-114,000
34	MID-TIER NETWORKING VEHICULAR RADIO	9,692	4,692
	Funding ahead of need		-5,000
35	RADIO TERMINAL SET, MIDS LVT(2)	17,136	15,698
	Unobligated balances		-1,438
41	TACTICAL COMMUNICATIONS AND PROTECTIVE SYSTEM	24,354	22,654
	Forward financing		-1,700
47	RESERVE CA/MISO GPF EQUIPMENT	12,478	6,078
	Unobligated balances		-6,400
50	INFORMATION SYSTEM SECURITY PROGRAM-ISSP	2,113	0
	Unjustified request		-2,113
76	NIGHT VISION DEVICES	160,901	138,601
	Laser target locator module program delay		-22,300
81	FAMILY OF WEAPON SIGHTS	49,205	31,205
	No procurement funds needed prior to Milestone C		-18,000

P-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
85 JOINT BATTLE COMMAND - PLATFORM	97,892	87,892
Unobligated balances		-10,000
86 JOINT EFFECTS TARGETING SYSTEM (JETS)	27,450	0
Optimistic schedule		-27,450
89 COUNTERFIRE RADARS	209,050	159,050
Funding ahead of need		-50,000
102 INTEGRATED PERSONNEL AND PAY SYSTEM-ARMY	32,970	16,970
Program delay		-16,000
106 AUTOMATED DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT	155,223	152,282
Army contract writing system program delay		-2,941
CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS	3,707	3,619
Classified adjustment		-88
127 ITEMS LESS THAN \$5M, COUNTERMINE EQUIPMENT	4,938	2,938
Unobligated balances		-2,000
131 PERSONNEL RECOVERY SUPPORT SYSTEM (PRSS)	16,728	10,728
Unexecutable schedule		-6,000
132 GROUND SOLDIER SYSTEM	84,761	71,761
Funding excess to need		-13,000
156 ARMY WATERCRAFT ESP	10,509	3,509
Program delay		-7,000
162 TRAINING DEVICES, NONSYSTEM	101,295	106,295
Program increase		5,000
164 AVIATION COMBINED ARMS TACTICAL TRAINER	14,440	10,040
Engineering change proposals excess to need		-4,400
168 TEST EQUIPMENT MODERNIZATION (TEMOD)	16,061	13,061
Unobligated balances		-3,000
180 INITIAL SPARES - C&E	50,032	36,032
Unobligated balances		-14,000
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD HMMWV MOD PROGRAM	0	160,000
Program increase		100,000
HMMWV ambulance replacement		60,000

## AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT, NAVY

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
-----		
AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT, NAVY		
1 COMBAT AIRCRAFT		
EA-18G.....	43,547	1,503,547
5 JOINT STRIKE FIGHTER .....	610,652	848,552
6 JOINT STRIKE FIGHTER (AP-CY).....	29,400	29,400
7 JSF STOVL.....	1,200,410	1,184,410
8 JSF STOVL (AP-CY).....	143,885	143,885
9 V-22 (MEDIUM LIFT).....	1,487,000	1,481,100
10 V-22 (MEDIUM LIFT) (AP-CY).....	45,920	45,920
11 UH-1Y/AH-1Z.....	778,757	809,057
12 UH-1Y/AH-1Z (AP-CY).....	80,926	63,354
13 MH-60S (MYP).....	210,209	182,140
15 MH-60R.....	933,882	876,701
16 MH-60R (AP-CY).....	106,686	106,686
17 P-8A POSEIDON.....	2,003,327	2,122,687
18 P-8A POSEIDON (AP-CY).....	48,457	48,457
19 E-2D ADV HAWKEYE.....	819,870	919,191
20 E-2D ADV HAWKEYE (AP-CY).....	225,765	225,765
-----		
TOTAL, COMBAT AIRCRAFT.....	8,768,693	10,590,852

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
-----		
OTHER AIRCRAFT		
23 KC-130J.....	92,290	92,290
26 MQ-4 TRITON (AP-CY).....	37,445	67,670
27 MQ-8 UAV.....	40,663	39,663
-----		
TOTAL, OTHER AIRCRAFT.....	170,398	199,623
MODIFICATION OF AIRCRAFT		
29 EA-6 SERIES.....	10,993	10,993
30 AEA SYSTEMS.....	34,768	44,768
31 AV-8 SERIES.....	65,472	61,722
32 ADVERSARY.....	8,418	4,918
33 F-18 SERIES.....	679,177	705,830
34 H-46 SERIES.....	480	480
36 H-53 SERIES.....	38,159	36,619
37 SH-60 SERIES.....	108,850	101,064
38 H-1 SERIES.....	45,033	42,273
39 EP-3 SERIES.....	32,890	32,890
40 P-3 SERIES.....	2,823	2,823
41 E-2 SERIES.....	21,208	21,208
42 TRAINER A/C SERIES.....	12,608	12,608
44 C-130 SERIES.....	40,378	35,522
45 FEWSG.....	640	640
46 CARGO/TRANSPORT A/C SERIES.....	4,635	4,035
47 E-6 SERIES.....	212,876	202,129
48 EXECUTIVE HELICOPTERS SERIES.....	71,328	68,128

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
49 SPECIAL PROJECT AIRCRAFT.....	21,317	21,317
50 T-45 SERIES.....	90,052	90,052
51 POWER PLANT CHANGES.....	19,094	19,094
52 JPATS SERIES.....	1,085	1,085
54 COMMON ECM EQUIPMENT.....	155,644	152,744
55 COMMON AVIONICS CHANGES.....	157,531	153,067
56 COMMON DEFENSIVE WEAPON SYSTEM.....	1,958	1,958
57 ID SYSTEMS.....	38,880	38,880
58 P-8 SERIES.....	29,797	29,797
59 MAGTF EW FOR AVIATION.....	14,770	14,770
60 MQ-8 SERIES.....	8,741	8,741
61 RQ-7 SERIES.....	2,542	---
62 V-22 (TILT/ROTOR ACFT) OSPREY.....	135,584	129,155
63 F-35 STOVL SERIES.....	285,968	215,819
64 F-35 CV SERIES.....	20,502	20,502
TOTAL, MODIFICATION OF AIRCRAFT.....	2,374,201	2,285,631
AIRCRAFT SPARES AND REPAIR PARTS		
65 SPARES AND REPAIR PARTS.....	1,229,651	1,208,651
AIRCRAFT SUPPORT EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES		
66 COMMON GROUND EQUIPMENT.....	418,355	366,359
67 AIRCRAFT INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES.....	23,843	23,843
68 WAR CONSUMABLES.....	15,939	15,939
69 OTHER PRODUCTION CHARGES.....	5,630	5,630
70 SPECIAL SUPPORT EQUIPMENT.....	65,839	60,339
71 FIRST DESTINATION TRANSPORTATION.....	1,768	1,168
TOTAL, AIRCRAFT SUPPORT EQUIPMENT & FACILITIES.....	531,374	473,278
TOTAL, AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT, NAVY.....	13,074,317	14,758,035

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS  
[in thousands of dollars]

P-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
<b>1 EA-18G</b>	<b>43,547</b>	<b>1,503,547</b>
Program increase - fifteen aircraft and production support		1,460,000
<b>5 JOINT STRIKE FIGHTER</b>	<b>610,652</b>	<b>848,552</b>
Program increase - two aircraft		255,000
Anticipated airframe savings		-17,100
<b>7 JSF STOVL</b>	<b>1,200,410</b>	<b>1,184,410</b>
Anticipated airframe savings		-16,000
<b>9 V-22 (MEDIUM LIFT)</b>	<b>1,487,000</b>	<b>1,481,100</b>
ECO growth		-5,900
<b>11 UH-1Y/AH-1Z</b>	<b>778,757</b>	<b>809,057</b>
Program increase - one aircraft		30,300
<b>12 UH-1Y/AH-1Z (AP-CY)</b>	<b>80,926</b>	<b>63,354</b>
UH-1Y AP cost growth		-14,600
AH-1Z AP cost growth		-1,372
Support funding carryover		-1,600
<b>13 MH-60S (MYP)</b>	<b>210,209</b>	<b>182,140</b>
Shutdown funding ahead of need		-17,000
Excess peculiar training equipment		-4,769
Unit cost growth		-5,100
Engineering change order funds excess to need		-1,200
<b>15 MH-60R</b>	<b>933,882</b>	<b>876,701</b>
Excess ECO funding		-6,581
Airframe peculiar ground support equipment growth		-8,500
Avionics peculiar ground support equipment growth		-14,000
Pubs/tech data growth		-2,500
Shutdown funding ahead of need		-20,000
Support funding carryover		-5,600
<b>17 P-8A POSEIDON</b>	<b>2,003,327</b>	<b>2,122,687</b>
GFE cost growth		-11,040
Airframe contract savings		-13,000
Support funding carryover		-4,500
Program increase - one aircraft		154,000
Production engineering support growth		-6,100
<b>19 E-2D ADV HAWKEYE</b>	<b>819,870</b>	<b>919,191</b>
MYP contract savings		-30,000
GFE electronics cost growth		-2,188
Other GFE cost growth		-2,241
Avionics peculiar ground support equipment cost growth		-15,000
Support funding carryover		-6,250
Program increase - one aircraft		155,000
<b>26 MQ-4 TRITON (AP-CY)</b>	<b>37,445</b>	<b>67,670</b>
Rephase AP		30,225

P-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
27 MQ-8 UAV	40,663	39,663
Support funding carryover		-1,000
30 AEA SYSTEMS	34,768	44,768
Program increase - low band transmitter upgrades		10,000
31 AV-8 SERIES	65,472	61,722
Litening pod upgrade kit cost growth (OSIP 023-00)		-3,750
32 ADVERSARY	8,418	4,918
Unobligated balances		-3,500
33 F-18 SERIES	679,177	705,830
Non-recurring installation equipment growth (OSIP 11-99)		-2,000
Support equipment and other support funding carryover (OSIP 11-99)		-1,500
ECP 904 installation cost growth (OSIP 11-99)		-3,104
Non-recurring installation equipment growth (OSIP 21-00)		-1,200
ILS growth (OSIP 14-03)		-6,200
Other support forward funded (OSIP 14-03)		-12,158
ECP 6038 radome A-kits ahead of need (OSIP 002-07)		-2,384
Support equipment funding previously appropriated (OSIP 11-10)		-3,501
Data funding growth (OSIP 018-14)		-4,800
Program increase - Marine Corps F-18 improvements		63,500
36 H-53 SERIES	38,159	36,619
Kapton wiring installation cost growth (OSIP 008-06)		-1,540
37 SH-60 SERIES	108,850	101,064
Data link A-kit cost growth (OSIP 009-07)		-6,086
Other support growth (OSIP 009-07)		-1,700
38 H-1 SERIES	45,033	42,273
Full motion video installation cost growth (OSIP 015-12)		-1,000
Brite star block IIB kit contract savings (OSIP 016-12)		-1,760
44 C-130 SERIES	40,378	35,522
NRE ahead of need (OSIP 020-12)		-1,106
NRE ahead of need (OSIP 019-14)		-3,750
46 CARGO/TRANSPORT A/C SERIES	4,635	4,035
Installation cost growth (CNS/ATM OSIP)		-600
47 E-6 SERIES	212,876	202,129
Excess support funding (OSIP 003-04)		-1,500
SLEP installation cost growth (OSIP 003-07)		-1,800
FAB-T lab production concurrency (OSIP 010-12)		-2,247
Installation funding ahead of need		-5,200
48 EXECUTIVE HELICOPTERS SERIES	71,328	68,128
NRE restructure (OSIP 010-12)		-3,200
54 COMMON ECM EQUIPMENT	155,644	152,744
ALQ-214 install equipment cost growth (OSIP 004-12)		-2,900
55 COMMON AVIONICS CHANGES	157,531	153,067
GPS A-kits ahead of need		-4,464



P-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
<b>61 RQ-7 SERIES</b>	<b>2,542</b>	<b>0</b>
Unobligated balances		-2,542
<b>62 V-22 (TILT/ROTOR ACFT) OSPREY</b>	<b>135,584</b>	<b>129,155</b>
Installation ahead of need (OSIP 022-01)		-5,804
Main landing gear fire suppression A-kits ahead of need (OSIP 022-01)		-625
<b>63 F-35 STOVL SERIES</b>	<b>285,968</b>	<b>215,819</b>
Block 3i upgrade kit cost growth (OSIP 015-14)		-8,274
Concurrency re-pricing (OSIP 023-14)		-61,875
<b>65 SPARES AND REPAIR PARTS</b>	<b>1,229,651</b>	<b>1,208,651</b>
JSF STOVL cost growth		-21,000
<b>66 COMMON GROUND EQUIPMENT</b>	<b>418,355</b>	<b>366,359</b>
TPS transition growth		-1,156
KC-130J simulator upgrade cost growth		-1,350
T-45 flight trainer upgrades contract delay		-8,397
CH-53E trainer upgrades contract delay		-4,101
E-2/C-2 trainer upgrades contract delay		-3,492
Unobligated balances		-33,500
<b>70 SPECIAL SUPPORT EQUIPMENT</b>	<b>65,839</b>	<b>60,339</b>
Unit cost growth		-5,500
<b>71 FIRST DESTINATION TRANSPORTATION</b>	<b>1,768</b>	<b>1,168</b>
Unobligated balances		-600

## WEAPONS PROCUREMENT, NAVY

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
-----		
WEAPONS PROCUREMENT, NAVY		
BALLISTIC MISSILES		
MODIFICATION OF MISSILES		
1 TRIDENT II MODS.....	1,190,455	1,175,455
SUPPORT EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES		
2 MISSILE INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES.....	5,671	5,671
-----		
TOTAL, BALLISTIC MISSILES.....	1,196,126	1,181,126
OTHER MISSILES		
STRATEGIC MISSILES		
3 TOMAHAWK.....	194,258	271,958
TACTICAL MISSILES		
4 AMRAAM.....	32,165	2,165
5 SIDEWINDER.....	73,928	68,178
6 JSOW.....	130,759	108,159
7 STANDARD MISSILE.....	445,836	436,498
8 RAM.....	80,792	76,792
11 STAND OFF PRECISION GUIDED MUNITION.....	1,810	1,810
12 AERIAL TARGETS.....	48,046	45,683
13 OTHER MISSILE SUPPORT.....	3,295	3,295
MODIFICATION OF MISSILES		
14 ESSM.....	119,434	116,934
15 HARM MODS.....	111,739	106,489
SUPPORT EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES		
16 WEAPONS INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES.....	2,531	2,531
17 FLEET SATELLITE COMM FOLLOW-ON.....	208,700	206,700
ORDNANCE SUPPORT EQUIPMENT		
18 ORDNANCE SUPPORT EQUIPMENT.....	73,211	73,211
-----		
TOTAL, OTHER MISSILES.....	1,526,504	1,520,403

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
-----		
TORPEDOES AND RELATED EQUIPMENT		
TORPEDOES AND RELATED EQUIP		
19 SSTO.....	6,562	5,062
20 MK-48 TORPEDO.....	14,153	2,153
21 ASW TARGETS.....	2,515	2,515
22 MK-54 TORPEDO MODS.....	98,928	64,155
MOD OF TORPEDOES AND RELATED EQUIP		
23 MK-48 TORPEDO ADCAP MODS.....	46,893	40,863
24 QUICKSTRIKE MINE.....	6,966	6,966
SUPPORT EQUIPMENT		
25 TORPEDO SUPPORT EQUIPMENT.....	52,670	50,070
26 ASW RANGE SUPPORT.....	3,795	3,795
DESTINATION TRANSPORTATION		
27 FIRST DESTINATION TRANSPORTATION.....	3,692	3,692
-----		
TOTAL, TORPEDOES AND RELATED EQUIPMENT.....	236,174	179,271
-----		
OTHER WEAPONS		
GUNS AND GUN MOUNTS		
28 SMALL ARMS AND WEAPONS.....	13,240	13,240
MODIFICATION OF GUNS AND GUN MOUNTS		
29 CIWS MODS.....	75,108	75,108
30 COAST GUARD WEAPONS.....	18,948	18,948
31 GUN MOUNT MODS.....	62,651	59,967
33 AIRBORNE MINE NEUTRALIZATION SYSTEMS.....	15,006	15,006
-----		
TOTAL, OTHER WEAPONS.....	184,953	182,269
35 SPARES AND REPAIR PARTS.....	74,188	74,188
-----		
TOTAL, WEAPONS PROCUREMENT, NAVY.....	3,217,945	3,137,257
=====		

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS  
[In thousands of dollars]

P-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
<b>1 TRIDENT II MODS</b>	<b>1,190,455</b>	<b>1,175,455</b>
Program cost growth		-15,000
<b>3 TOMAHAWK</b>	<b>194,258</b>	<b>271,958</b>
Support funding carryover		-3,000
Canister contract savings		-1,000
Program increase - 96 missiles		81,700
<b>4 AMRAAM</b>	<b>32,165</b>	<b>2,165</b>
Unjustified request		-30,000
<b>5 SIDEWINDER</b>	<b>73,928</b>	<b>68,178</b>
Support funding carryover		-3,700
Unit cost growth		-2,050
<b>6 JSOW</b>	<b>130,759</b>	<b>108,159</b>
AUR cost growth		-6,600
Excess command and launch/test and evaluation funding		-8,000
Telemeters ahead of need		-10,000
<b>7 STANDARD MISSILE</b>	<b>445,836</b>	<b>436,498</b>
Unit cost growth		-9,338
<b>8 RAM</b>	<b>80,792</b>	<b>76,792</b>
Program cost growth		-4,000
<b>12 AERIAL TARGETS</b>	<b>48,046</b>	<b>45,683</b>
MSST long lead ahead of need		-363
Mission target kit growth		-2,000
<b>14 ESSM</b>	<b>119,434</b>	<b>116,934</b>
Support funding carryover		-2,500
<b>15 HARM MODS</b>	<b>111,739</b>	<b>106,489</b>
AUR kit cost growth		-3,250
Tooling and test equipment growth		-2,000
<b>17 FLEET SATELLITE COMM FOLLOW-ON</b>	<b>208,700</b>	<b>206,700</b>
Support funding carryover		-2,000
<b>19 SSTD</b>	<b>6,562</b>	<b>5,062</b>
Support funding growth		-1,000
Unfunded outyear tail		-500
<b>20 MK-48 TORPEDO</b>	<b>14,153</b>	<b>2,153</b>
Support funding ahead of need		-12,000
<b>22 MK-54 TORPEDO MODS</b>	<b>98,928</b>	<b>64,155</b>
Unjustified NRE		-2,553
MK-54 kit contract slip		-28,100
VLA kit contract slip		-4,120

P-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
<b>23 MK-48 TORPEDO ADCAP MODS</b>	<b>46,893</b>	<b>40,863</b>
Crossover battery contract slip		-1,097
Support funding carryover		-3,000
Unit cost growth		-1,933
<b>25 TORPEDO SUPPORT EQUIPMENT</b>	<b>52,670</b>	<b>50,070</b>
Support funding carryover		-2,600
<b>31 GUN MOUNT MODS</b>	<b>62,651</b>	<b>59,967</b>
Installation funding ahead of need		-2,684

## PROCUREMENT OF AMMUNITION, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
-----		
PROCUREMENT OF AMMO, NAVY & MARINE CORPS		
PROC AMMO, NAVY		
NAVY AMMUNITION		
1 GENERAL PURPOSE BOMBS.....	107,069	79,347
2 AIRBORNE ROCKETS, ALL TYPES.....	70,396	67,416
3 MACHINE GUN AMMUNITION.....	20,284	20,284
4 PRACTICE BOMBS.....	26,701	26,701
5 CARTRIDGES & CART ACTUATED DEVICES.....	53,866	50,866
6 AIR EXPENDABLE COUNTERMEASURES.....	59,294	59,294
7 JATOS.....	2,766	---
8 LRLAP.....	113,092	113,092
9 5 INCH/54 GUN AMMUNITION.....	35,702	35,702
10 INTERMEDIATE CALIBER GUN AMMUNITION.....	36,475	2,133
11 OTHER SHIP GUN AMMUNITION.....	43,906	43,906
12 SMALL ARMS & LANDING PARTY AMMO.....	51,535	50,535
13 PYROTECHNIC AND DEMOLITION.....	11,652	11,652
14 AMMUNITION LESS THAN \$5 MILLION.....	4,473	1,507
-----		
TOTAL, PROC AMMO, NAVY.....	637,211	562,435

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
PROC AMMO, MARINE CORPS MARINE CORPS AMMUNITION		
15 SMALL ARMS AMMUNITION.....	31,708	31,708
16 LINEAR CHARGES, ALL TYPES.....	692	692
17 40 MM, ALL TYPES.....	13,630	6,965
18 60MM, ALL TYPES.....	2,261	2,261
19 81MM, ALL TYPES.....	1,496	1,496
20 120MM, ALL TYPES.....	14,855	12,155
22 GRENADES, ALL TYPES.....	4,000	3,000
23 ROCKETS, ALL TYPES.....	16,853	12,853
24 ARTILLERY, ALL TYPES.....	14,772	12,068
26 FUZE, ALL TYPES.....	9,972	4,972
27 NON LETHALS.....	998	998
28 AMMO MODERNIZATION.....	12,319	11,319
29 ITEMS LESS THAN \$5 MILLION.....	11,178	11,178
TOTAL, PROC AMMO, MARINE CORPS.....	134,734	111,665
TOTAL, PROCUREMENT OF AMMO, NAVY & MARINE CORPS.....	771,945	674,100

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS  
[In thousands of dollars]

P-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
<b>1 GENERAL PURPOSE BOMBS</b>	<b>107,069</b>	<b>79,347</b>
Direct attack moving target capability cost growth		-1,522
FMU-139 contract delay		-12,000
Laser guided bomb tailkit contract delay		-8,000
Product improvement program growth		-4,000
Support funding carryover		-2,200
<b>2 AIRBORNE ROCKETS, ALL TYPES</b>	<b>70,396</b>	<b>67,416</b>
Support funding carryover		-1,000
APKWS contract savings		-1,980
<b>5 CARTRIDGES &amp; CART ACTUATED DEVICES</b>	<b>53,866</b>	<b>50,866</b>
F-18 DIFRS growth		-1,000
T-6A growth		-2,000
<b>7 JATOS</b>	<b>2,766</b>	<b>0</b>
Program delay		-2,766
<b>10 INTERMEDIATE CALIBER GUN AMMUNITION</b>	<b>36,475</b>	<b>2,133</b>
MK-295 57MM contract delay		-24,704
MK-296 57MM contract delay		-9,638
<b>12 SMALL ARMS &amp; LANDING PARTY AMMO</b>	<b>51,535</b>	<b>50,535</b>
Support funding carryover		-1,000
<b>14 AMMUNITION LESS THAN \$5 MILLION</b>	<b>4,473</b>	<b>1,507</b>
LUU-19 paraflares contract delay		-2,966
<b>17 40 MM, ALL TYPES</b>	<b>13,630</b>	<b>6,965</b>
C1 LAP kits cost growth		-810
40MM practice day/night LAP kit contract delay		-5,855
<b>20 120MM, ALL TYPES</b>	<b>14,855</b>	<b>12,155</b>
120MM white phosphorous AUR contract delay		-2,700
<b>22 GRENADES, ALL TYPES</b>	<b>4,000</b>	<b>3,000</b>
66MM SSVL MK-1 contract delay		-1,000
<b>23 ROCKETS, ALL TYPES</b>	<b>16,853</b>	<b>12,853</b>
83MM HEA contract delay		-4,000
<b>24 ARTILLERY, ALL TYPES</b>	<b>14,772</b>	<b>12,068</b>
HE M795 explosive fill growth		-2,704
<b>26 FUZE, ALL TYPES</b>	<b>9,972</b>	<b>4,972</b>
Precision guided fuze contract delay		-5,000
<b>28 AMMO MODERNIZATION</b>	<b>12,319</b>	<b>11,319</b>
Program growth		-1,000



## SHIPBUILDING AND CONVERSION, NAVY

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
SHIPBUILDING & CONVERSION, NAVY		
OTHER WARSHIPS		
1 CARRIER REPLACEMENT PROGRAM.....	1,300,000	1,219,425
2 VIRGINIA CLASS SUBMARINE.....	3,553,254	3,530,254
3 VIRGINIA CLASS SUBMARINE (AP-CY).....	2,330,325	2,301,825
CVN REFUELING OVERHAULS (AP-CY).....	---	483,600
6 DDG 1000.....	419,532	419,532
7 DDG-51.....	2,671,415	2,661,907
8 DDG-51 (AP-CY).....	134,039	134,039
9 LITTORAL COMBAT SHIP.....	1,427,049	1,507,049
TOTAL, OTHER WARSHIPS.....	11,835,614	12,257,631
AMPHIBIOUS SHIPS		
10 LPD-17.....	12,565	1,000,000
14 LHA REPLACEMENT (AP-CY).....	29,093	29,093
15 JOINT HIGH SPEED VESSEL.....	4,590	200,000
TOTAL, AMPHIBIOUS SHIPS.....	46,248	1,229,093
AUXILIARIES, CRAFT, AND PRIOR-YEAR PROGRAM COSTS		
16 MOORED TRAINING SHIP.....	737,268	737,268
17 MOORED TRAINING SHIP (AP).....	64,388	64,388
18 OUTFITTING.....	546,104	474,629
19 SHIP TO SHORE CONNECTOR.....	123,233	159,600
20 LCAC SLEP.....	40,485	40,485
21 COMPLETION OF PY SHIPBUILDING PROGRAMS.....	1,007,285	991,285
TOTAL, AUXILIARIES, CRAFT, AND PRIOR-YEAR PROGRAM...	2,518,763	2,467,655
TOTAL, SHIPBUILDING & CONVERSION, NAVY.....	14,400,625	15,954,379

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS  
[In thousands of dollars]

P-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
<b>1 CARRIER REPLACEMENT PROGRAM</b>	<b>1,300,000</b>	<b>1,219,425</b>
CANES cost growth		-2,051
CANES system engineering growth		-1,543
Digital modular radio cost growth		-1,092
IFF cost growth		-1,573
SPN-46 cost growth		-1,473
Technical engineering services growth		-2,843
Contracting efficiencies		-70,000
<b>2 VIRGINIA CLASS SUBMARINE</b>	<b>3,553,254</b>	<b>3,530,254</b>
Program cost growth		-23,000
<b>3 VIRGINIA CLASS SUBMARINE (AP-CY)</b>	<b>2,330,325</b>	<b>2,301,825</b>
Propulsion equipment cost growth		-28,500
<b>5 CVN REFUELING OVERHAULS (AP-CY)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>483,600</b>
Program increase - restore CVN-73 refueling		483,600
<b>7 DDG-51</b>	<b>2,671,415</b>	<b>2,661,907</b>
GFE cost growth		-9,508
<b>9 LITTORAL COMBAT SHIP</b>	<b>1,427,049</b>	<b>1,507,049</b>
Program increase - long lead time materials		80,000
<b>10 LPD-17</b>	<b>12,565</b>	<b>1,000,000</b>
Program closeout ahead of need		-12,565
Program increase for additional warship		1,000,000
<b>15 JOINT HIGH SPEED VESSEL</b>	<b>4,590</b>	<b>200,000</b>
Program closeout ahead of need		-4,590
Program increase for additional ship		200,000
<b>18 OUTFITTING</b>	<b>546,104</b>	<b>474,629</b>
LPD-26 outfitting phasing		-4,950
AFSB-2 outfitting phasing		-4,316
SSN-787 outfitting phasing		-8,000
SSN-788 outfitting phasing		-1,600
LCAC-78 and 83 post delivery ahead of need		-411
AFSB-1 post delivery ahead of need		-2,911
LCS-7 and 8 post delivery phasing		-5,300
SSN-786 post delivery ahead of need		-7,839
SSN-787 post delivery ahead of need		-848
Ahead of need		-18,000
Transfer to NDSF		-17,300
<b>19 SHIP TO SHORE CONNECTOR</b>	<b>123,233</b>	<b>159,600</b>
Transfer from RDTE,N line 140		36,367
<b>21 COMPLETION OF PY SHIPBUILDING PROGRAMS</b>	<b>1,007,285</b>	<b>991,285</b>
Littoral Combat Ship excess to need		-16,000

## OTHER PROCUREMENT, NAVY

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
-----		
OTHER PROCUREMENT, NAVY		
SHIPS SUPPORT EQUIPMENT		
SHIP PROPULSION EQUIPMENT		
1 LM-2500 GAS TURBINE.....	7,822	7,822
2 ALLISON 501K GAS TURBINE.....	2,155	2,155
3 HYBRID ELECTRIC DRIVE (HED).....	22,704	12,638
GENERATORS		
4 SURFACE COMBATANT HM&E.....	29,120	26,664
NAVIGATION EQUIPMENT		
3 OTHER NAVIGATION EQUIPMENT.....	45,431	39,298
PERISCOPES		
6 SUB PERISCOPES & IMAGING EQUIP.....	60,970	57,221
OTHER SHIPBOARD EQUIPMENT		
7 DDG MOD.....	338,569	324,219
8 FIREFIGHTING EQUIPMENT.....	15,486	15,134
9 COMMAND AND CONTROL SWITCHBOARD.....	2,219	2,219
10 LHA/LHD MIDLIFE.....	17,928	14,048
11 LCC 19/20 EXTENDED SERVICE LIFE.....	22,025	22,025
12 POLLUTION CONTROL EQUIPMENT.....	12,607	10,146
13 SUBMARINE SUPPORT EQUIPMENT.....	16,492	11,815
14 VIRGINIA CLASS SUPPORT EQUIPMENT.....	74,129	70,689
15 LCS CLASS SUPPORT EQUIPMENT.....	36,206	25,742
16 SUBMARINE BATTERIES.....	37,352	36,352
17 LPD CLASS SUPPORT EQUIPMENT.....	49,095	39,519
18 DOG-1000 SUPPORT EQUIPMENT.....	2,996	---
19 STRATEGIC PLATFORM SUPPORT EQUIP.....	11,558	11,558
20 DSSP EQUIPMENT.....	5,518	5,518
22 LCAC.....	7,158	7,158
23 UNDERWATER EOD PROGRAMS.....	58,783	50,366
24 ITEMS LESS THAN \$5 MILLION.....	68,748	62,772

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
25 CHEMICAL WARFARE DETECTORS.....	2,937	2,937
26 SUBMARINE LIFE SUPPORT SYSTEM.....	8,385	8,385
REACTOR PLANT EQUIPMENT		
27 REACTOR POWER UNITS.....	---	298,200
28 REACTOR COMPONENTS.....	288,822	288,822
OCEAN ENGINEERING		
29 DIVING AND SALVAGE EQUIPMENT.....	10,572	10,572
SMALL BOATS		
30 STANDARD BOATS.....	129,784	126,445
TRAINING EQUIPMENT		
31 OTHER SHIPS TRAINING EQUIPMENT.....	17,152	17,152
PRODUCTION FACILITIES EQUIPMENT		
32 OPERATING FORCES IPE.....	39,409	39,409
OTHER SHIP SUPPORT		
33 NUCLEAR ALTERATIONS.....	118,129	118,129
34 LCS MODULES.....	37,413	30,938
35 LCS MCM MISSION MODULES.....	15,270	15,270
36 LCS ASW MISSION MODULES.....	2,729	---
37 LCS SUW MISSION MODULES.....	44,208	14,750
38 REMOTE MINEHUNTING SYSTEM (RMS).....	42,276	---
TOTAL, SHIPS SUPPORT EQUIPMENT.....	1,702,157	1,826,087
COMMUNICATIONS AND ELECTRONICS EQUIPMENT		
SHIP SONARS		
40 SPQ-9B RADAR.....	28,007	26,735
41 AN/SQQ-89 SURF ASW COMBAT SYSTEM.....	79,802	78,802
42 SSN ACOUSTICS.....	165,655	160,932
43 UNDERSEA WARFARE SUPPORT EQUIPMENT.....	9,487	4,663
44 SONAR SWITCHES AND TRANSDUCERS.....	11,621	11,621

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
ASW ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT		
46 SUBMARINE ACOUSTIC WARFARE SYSTEM.....	24,221	22,721
47 SSTD.....	12,051	10,653
48 FIXED SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM.....	170,831	170,831
49 SURTASS.....	9,619	9,619
50 TACTICAL SUPPORT CENTER.....	14,390	14,390
ELECTRONIC WARFARE EQUIPMENT		
51 AN/SLO-32.....	214,582	195,082
RECONNAISSANCE EQUIPMENT		
52 SHIPBOARD IW EXPLOIT.....	124,862	123,362
53 AUTOMATED IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM (AIS).....	164	164
SUBMARINE SURVEILLANCE EQUIPMENT		
54 SUBMARINE SUPPORT EQUIPMENT PROG.....	45,362	36,938
OTHER SHIP ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT		
55 COOPERATIVE ENGAGEMENT CAPABILITY.....	33,939	33,939
54 TRUSTED INFORMATION SYSTEM (TIS).....	324	324
57 NAVAL TACTICAL COMMAND SUPPORT SYSTEM (NTCSS).....	18,192	18,192
58 ATDLS.....	16,768	16,768
59 NAVY COMMAND AND CONTROL SYSTEM (NCCS).....	5,219	5,219
60 MINESWEEPING SYSTEM REPLACEMENT.....	42,108	40,482
62 NAVSTAR GPS RECEIVERS (SPACE).....	15,232	15,232
63 ARMED FORCES RADIO AND TV.....	4,524	4,524
64 STRATEGIC PLATFORM SUPPORT EQUIP.....	6,382	6,382

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
TRAINING EQUIPMENT		
65 OTHER TRAINING EQUIPMENT.....	46,122	42,810
AVIATION ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT		
66 MATCAL.....	16,999	16,999
67 SHIPBOARD AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL.....	9,366	9,366
68 AUTOMATIC CARRIER LANDING SYSTEM.....	21,357	21,357
69 NATIONAL AIR SPACE SYSTEM.....	26,639	26,639
70 AIR STATION SUPPORT EQUIPMENT.....	9,214	9,214
71 MICROWAVE LANDING SYSTEM.....	13,902	13,902
72 ID SYSTEMS.....	34,901	28,543
73 TAC A/C MISSION PLANNING SYS(TAMPS).....	13,950	13,950
OTHER SHORE ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT		
74 DEPLOYABLE JOINT COMMAND AND CONT.....	1,205	1,205
75 TADIX-B.....	3,447	3,447
76 GCCS-M EQUIPMENT TACTICAL/MOBILE.....	16,766	16,766
77 DCGS-N.....	23,649	23,649
78 CANES.....	357,589	335,989
79 RADIAC.....	8,343	5,153
80 CANES-INTELL.....	65,015	61,215
81 GPETE.....	6,284	6,284
82 INTEG COMBAT SYSTEM TEST FACILITY.....	4,016	4,016
83 EMI CONTROL INSTRUMENTATION.....	4,113	4,113
84 ITEMS LESS THAN \$5 MILLION.....	45,053	58,365

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
SHIPBOARD COMMUNICATIONS		
85 SHIPBOARD TACTICAL COMMUNICATIONS.....	14,410	14,410
86 SHIP COMMUNICATIONS AUTOMATION.....	20,830	20,830
88 COMMUNICATIONS ITEMS UNDER \$5M.....	14,145	14,145
SUBMARINE COMMUNICATIONS		
89 SUBMARINE BROADCAST SUPPORT.....	11,057	11,057
90 SUBMARINE COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT.....	67,852	64,954
SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS		
91 SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS.....	13,218	11,453
92 NAVY MULTIBAND TERMINAL (NMT).....	272,076	247,617
SHORE COMMUNICATIONS		
93 JCS COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT.....	4,369	4,369
94 ELECTRICAL POWER SYSTEMS.....	1,402	1,402
CRYPTOGRAPHIC EQUIPMENT		
95 INFO SYSTEMS SECURITY PROGRAM (ISSP).....	110,766	108,002
96 MIO INTEL EXPLOITATION TEAM.....	979	979
CRYPTOLOGIC EQUIPMENT		
97 CRYPTOLOGIC COMMUNICATIONS EQUIP.....	11,502	11,502
OTHER ELECTRONIC SUPPORT		
98 COAST GUARD EQUIPMENT.....	2,967	2,967
TOTAL, COMMUNICATIONS AND ELECTRONICS EQUIPMENT.....		
	2,326,845	2,224,244
AVIATION SUPPORT EQUIPMENT		
SONOBUOYS		
100 SONOBUOYS - ALL TYPES.....	182,946	182,946
AIRCRAFT SUPPORT EQUIPMENT		
101 WEAPONS RANGE SUPPORT EQUIPMENT.....	47,944	47,944
103 AIRCRAFT LAUNCH & RECOVERY EQUIPMENT.....	76,683	55,195
106 METEOROLOGICAL EQUIPMENT.....	12,575	12,825
107 OTHER PHOTOGRAPHIC EQUIPMENT.....	1,415	1,415
109 AIRBORNE MINE COUNTERMEASURES.....	23,152	23,152
114 AVIATION SUPPORT EQUIPMENT.....	52,555	45,705
TOTAL, AVIATION SUPPORT EQUIPMENT.....		
	397,270	369,182

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
-----		
ORDNANCE SUPPORT EQUIPMENT		
SHIP GUN SYSTEM EQUIPMENT		
115 SHIP GUN SYSTEMS EQUIPMENT.....	5,572	5,572
SHIP MISSILE SYSTEMS EQUIPMENT		
118 SHIP MISSILE SUPPORT EQUIPMENT.....	165,789	143,570
123 TOMAHAWK SUPPORT EQUIPMENT.....	61,462	60,062
FBM SUPPORT EQUIPMENT		
126 STRATEGIC MISSILE SYSTEMS EQUIP.....	229,832	201,832
ASW SUPPORT EQUIPMENT		
127 SSN COMBAT CONTROL SYSTEMS.....	66,020	60,767
128 ASW SUPPORT EQUIPMENT.....	7,559	7,559
OTHER ORDNANCE SUPPORT EQUIPMENT		
132 EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL EQUIP.....	20,619	20,619
133 ITEMS LESS THAN \$5 MILLION.....	11,251	10,759
OTHER EXPENDABLE ORDNANCE		
137 TRAINING DEVICE MODS.....	84,080	70,672
TOTAL, ORDNANCE SUPPORT EQUIPMENT.....	652,164	581,412
-----		
CIVIL ENGINEERING SUPPORT EQUIPMENT		
138 PASSENGER CARRYING VEHICLES.....	2,282	2,282
139 GENERAL PURPOSE TRUCKS.....	547	547
140 CONSTRUCTION & MAINTENANCE EQUIP.....	8,949	6,187
141 FIRE FIGHTING EQUIPMENT.....	14,621	14,621
142 TACTICAL VEHICLES.....	957	957
143 AMPHIBIOUS EQUIPMENT.....	8,187	8,187
144 POLLUTION CONTROL EQUIPMENT.....	2,942	2,942
145 ITEMS UNDER \$5 MILLION.....	17,592	16,142
146 PHYSICAL SECURITY VEHICLES.....	1,177	1,177
TOTAL, CIVIL ENGINEERING SUPPORT EQUIPMENT.....	57,254	53,042



(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
-----		
SUPPLY SUPPORT EQUIPMENT		
147 MATERIALS HANDLING EQUIPMENT.....	10,937	10,937
148 OTHER SUPPLY SUPPORT EQUIPMENT.....	10,374	6,674
149 FIRST DESTINATION TRANSPORTATION.....	5,668	5,668
150 SPECIAL PURPOSE SUPPLY SYSTEMS.....	90,921	64,921
-----		
TOTAL, SUPPLY SUPPORT EQUIPMENT.....	117,900	88,200
PERSONNEL AND COMMAND SUPPORT EQUIPMENT		
TRAINING DEVICES		
151 TRAINING SUPPORT EQUIPMENT.....	22,046	22,046
COMMAND SUPPORT EQUIPMENT		
152 COMMAND SUPPORT EQUIPMENT.....	24,208	24,208
153 EDUCATION SUPPORT EQUIPMENT.....	874	874
154 MEDICAL SUPPORT EQUIPMENT.....	2,634	2,634
156 NAVAL MIP SUPPORT EQUIPMENT.....	3,573	3,573
157 OPERATING FORCES SUPPORT EQUIPMENT.....	3,997	---
158 C4ISR EQUIPMENT.....	9,638	9,788
159 ENVIRONMENTAL SUPPORT EQUIPMENT.....	21,001	21,001
160 PHYSICAL SECURITY EQUIPMENT.....	94,957	90,957
161 ENTERPRISE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY.....	87,214	87,214
164 NEXT GENERATION ENTERPRISE SERVICE.....	116,165	106,165
-----		
TOTAL, PERSONNEL AND COMMAND SUPPORT EQUIPMENT.....	386,307	368,460
165 SPARES AND REPAIR PARTS.....	325,084	325,084
CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS.....	10,847	10,847
-----		
TOTAL, OTHER PROCUREMENT, NAVY.....	5,975,828	5,846,558
	=====	=====

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS  
[In thousands of dollars]

P-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
<b>3 HYBRID ELECTRIC DRIVE</b>	<b>22,704</b>	<b>12,638</b>
Excess installation funding		-1,926
Modification funding ahead of need		-1,500
Reduce one kit		-6,640
<b>4 SURFACE COMBATANT HM&amp;E</b>	<b>29,120</b>	<b>26,664</b>
Excess installation funding		-2,456
<b>5 OTHER NAVIGATION EQUIPMENT</b>	<b>45,431</b>	<b>39,298</b>
AN/WSN-9 procurement ahead of need		-1,120
Surface inertial navigation system ECP kit cost growth		-2,282
Surface scalable ECDIS-N cost growth		-2,731
<b>6 SUB PERISCOPES &amp; IMAGING EQUIP</b>	<b>60,970</b>	<b>57,221</b>
Interim contractor support carryover		-3,100
Excess installation funding		-649
<b>7 DDG MOD</b>	<b>338,569</b>	<b>324,219</b>
GEDMS engineering services funding carryover		-1,272
Excess GEDMS DSA funding		-900
MCS/DCS engineering services funding carryover		-7,500
Excess MCS/DCS DSA funding		-2,091
Excess CEC installation funding		-2,587
<b>8 FIREFIGHTING EQUIPMENT</b>	<b>15,486</b>	<b>15,134</b>
Emergency escape breathing device cost growth		-352
<b>10 LHA/LHD MIDLIFE</b>	<b>17,928</b>	<b>14,048</b>
Excess power management platform DSA funding		-2,480
Excess HVAC DSA funding		-1,400
<b>12 POLLUTION CONTROL EQUIPMENT</b>	<b>12,607</b>	<b>10,146</b>
R-114 procurement ahead of need		-2,461
<b>13 SUBMARINE SUPPORT EQUIPMENT</b>	<b>16,492</b>	<b>11,815</b>
SSN-21 HM&E modernization growth		-4,677
<b>14 VIRGINIA CLASS SUPPORT EQUIPMENT</b>	<b>74,129</b>	<b>70,689</b>
TI-02 installation cost growth		-3,440
<b>15 LCS CLASS SUPPORT EQUIPMENT</b>	<b>36,206</b>	<b>25,742</b>
Main propulsion diesel battle spare ahead of need		-5,200
Waterjet contract delay		-3,866
Waterjet cost growth		-1,398
<b>16 SUBMARINE BATTERIES</b>	<b>37,352</b>	<b>36,352</b>
Support growth		-1,000
<b>17 LPD CLASS SUPPORT EQUIPMENT</b>	<b>49,095</b>	<b>39,519</b>
HM&E mechanical modifications ahead of need		-2,778
SWAN CANES procurement ahead of need		-1,755
HW/SW obsolescence cost growth		-5,043

P-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
<b>18 DDG-1000 SUPPORT EQUIPMENT</b>	<b>2,996</b>	<b>0</b>
HM&E improvement ahead of need		-2,996
<b>23 UNDERWATER EOD PROGRAMS</b>	<b>58,783</b>	<b>50,366</b>
Product improvement growth		-1,000
MK-18 UUV retrofit kits and ancillary equipment contract delay		-5,075
MK-18 mod 2 unit cost savings		-2,342
<b>24 ITEMS LESS THAN \$5 MILLION</b>	<b>68,748</b>	<b>62,772</b>
Machinery plant upgrade installation cost growth		-5,976
<b>27 REACTOR POWER UNITS</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>298,200</b>
Program increase - restore CVN-73 refueling		298,200
<b>30 STANDARD BOATS</b>	<b>129,784</b>	<b>126,445</b>
Medium workboat contract delay		-1,776
Large force protection boat contract delay		-791
7M RIB contract delay		-772
<b>34 LCS MODULES</b>	<b>37,413</b>	<b>30,938</b>
MPCE cost growth		-1,032
MK-50 gun training system growth		-2,500
SUW support and shipping container cost growth		-2,943
<b>36 LCS ASW MISSION MODULES</b>	<b>2,729</b>	<b>0</b>
ASW containers ahead of need		-2,729
<b>37 LCS SUW MISSION MODULES</b>	<b>44,208</b>	<b>14,750</b>
Gun module cost growth		-6,108
Maritime security module cost growth		-2,798
SUW mission package ahead of need		-20,552
<b>38 REMOTE MINEHUNTING SYSTEM (RMS)</b>	<b>42,276</b>	<b>0</b>
Ahead of need		-42,276
<b>40 SPQ-9B RADAR</b>	<b>28,007</b>	<b>26,735</b>
Periscope detection and discrimination kit cost growth		-1,272
<b>41 AN/SQQ-89 SURF ASW COMBAT SYSTEM</b>	<b>79,802</b>	<b>78,802</b>
CSSQT growth		-1,000
<b>42 SSN ACOUSTICS</b>	<b>165,655</b>	<b>160,932</b>
Virginia class hull sensor growth		-1,123
TB-34X contract delay		-3,600
<b>43 UNDERSEA WARFARE SUPPORT EQUIPMENT</b>	<b>9,487</b>	<b>4,663</b>
Sonar window contract delay		-4,824
<b>46 SUBMARINE ACOUSTIC WARFARE SYSTEM</b>	<b>24,221</b>	<b>22,721</b>
CSA conversion growth		-1,500
<b>47 SSTD</b>	<b>12,051</b>	<b>10,653</b>
AN/SLQ-25A installation funding		-1,398
<b>51 AN/SLQ-32</b>	<b>214,582</b>	<b>195,082</b>
Excess program funding		-19,500

P-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
<b>52 SHIPBOARD IW EXPLOIT</b>	<b>124,862</b>	<b>123,362</b>
Support funding carryover		-1,500
<b>54 SUBMARINE SUPPORT EQUIPMENT PROG</b>	<b>45,362</b>	<b>36,938</b>
BPS-15/16 support		-1,137
ICADF installation cost growth		-304
BLQ-10 procurement ahead of need		-6,983
<b>60 MINESWEEPING SYSTEM REPLACEMENT</b>	<b>42,108</b>	<b>40,482</b>
Aft deck equipment upgrade growth		-1,000
AN/SQQ-32 integration cost growth		-626
<b>65 OTHER TRAINING EQUIPMENT</b>	<b>46,122</b>	<b>42,810</b>
BFTT shipset cost growth		-1,032
BFTT shipset installation		-2,280
<b>72 ID SYSTEMS</b>	<b>34,901</b>	<b>28,543</b>
MK-XII mode-5 procurement ahead of need		-2,135
TACAN upgrade procurement ahead of need		-1,323
Support funding carryover		-2,900
<b>78 CANES</b>	<b>357,589</b>	<b>335,989</b>
Program delay		-22,000
Program increase - European Reassurance Initiative		400
<b>79 RADIAC</b>	<b>8,343</b>	<b>5,153</b>
DT-702 dosimeter card contract delay		-1,328
APD contract delay		-1,862
<b>80 CANES-INTELL</b>	<b>65,015</b>	<b>61,215</b>
Program delay		-3,800
<b>84 ITEMS LESS THAN \$5 MILLION</b>	<b>45,053</b>	<b>58,365</b>
SPS-73 tech refresh kit cost growth		-5,588
Excess ROAR installation kit funding		-1,700
Support funding carryover		-1,100
Program increase - three ROAR upgrade kits		21,700
<b>90 SUBMARINE COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT</b>	<b>67,852</b>	<b>64,954</b>
HDR antenna cost growth		-1,974
Seawolf CSRR installation cost growth		-434
Los Angeles CSRR modification cost growth		-490
<b>91 SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS</b>	<b>13,218</b>	<b>11,453</b>
Commercial broadband modifications ahead of need		-1,765
<b>92 NAVY MULTIBAND TERMINAL</b>	<b>272,076</b>	<b>247,617</b>
Ship terminal procurement ahead of need		-14,200
Terminal cost growth		-10,259
<b>95 INFO SYSTEMS SECURITY PROGRAM</b>	<b>110,766</b>	<b>108,002</b>
Support funding carryover		-1,500
COMSEC installation cost growth		-1,264

P-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
<b>103 AIRCRAFT SUPPORT EQUIPMENT</b>	<b>76,683</b>	<b>55,195</b>
Lighting ECP growth		-1,000
ADMACS installation ahead of need		-9,530
SRU(KU)-4 installation funding carryover		-1,596
SRU(KU)-4 procurement ahead of need		-4,400
Contract savings		-4,962
<b>106 METEOROLOGICAL EQUIPMENT</b>	<b>12,575</b>	<b>12,825</b>
Program increase - CVN-73 refueling and complex overhaul		250
<b>114 AVIATION SUPPORT EQUIPMENT</b>	<b>52,555</b>	<b>45,705</b>
Aviation data warehouse environment cost growth		-2,385
Fleet systems array cost growth		-1,805
JHMCS cost growth		-2,160
ALIS production engineering growth		-500
<b>118 SHIP MISSILE SUPPORT EQUIPMENT</b>	<b>165,769</b>	<b>143,570</b>
Configuration engineering growth		-2,000
Support funding growth		-2,202
Surface combat systems center growth		-7,000
SSDS conversion kit cost growth		-6,207
SSDS conversion kit installation cost growth		-2,917
SSDS conversion kit DSA ahead of need		-1,873
<b>123 TOMAHAWK SUPPORT EQUIPMENT</b>	<b>61,462</b>	<b>60,062</b>
Support funding carryover		-1,400
<b>126 STRATEGIC MISSILE SYSTEMS EQUIP</b>	<b>229,832</b>	<b>201,832</b>
SSI increment 13 refresh/redesign (launcher) growth		-3,000
SSI increment 8 (navigation) engineering and test phasing		-25,000
<b>127 SSN COMBAT CONTROL SYSTEMS</b>	<b>66,020</b>	<b>60,767</b>
688 TI04 installation cost growth		-5,253
<b>133 ITEMS LESS THAN \$5 MILLION</b>	<b>11,251</b>	<b>10,759</b>
Industrial facilities contract delay		-492
<b>135 TRAINING DEVICE MODS</b>	<b>84,080</b>	<b>70,672</b>
Surface minor modifications growth		-4,000
CIAT growth		-4,500
Submarine training device cost growth		-4,908
<b>140 CONSTRUCTION &amp; MAINTENANCE EQUIPMENT</b>	<b>8,949</b>	<b>6,187</b>
Crane previously appropriated		-2,762
<b>145 ITEMS UNDER \$5 MILLION</b>	<b>17,592</b>	<b>16,142</b>
Emergency response truck cost growth		-1,450
<b>148 OTHER SUPPLY SUPPORT EQUIPMENT</b>	<b>10,374</b>	<b>6,674</b>
Navy cash program growth		-3,700
<b>150 SPECIAL PURPOSE SUPPLY SYSTEMS</b>	<b>90,921</b>	<b>64,921</b>
Classified adjustment		-26,000
<b>157 OPERATING FORCES SUPPORT EQUIPMENT</b>	<b>3,997</b>	<b>0</b>
Prior year carryover		-3,997

P-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
158 C4ISR EQUIPMENT	9,638	9,788
Program increase - European Reassurance Initiative		150
160 PHYSICAL SECURITY EQUIPMENT	94,957	90,957
Automated gates growth		-4,000
164 NEXT GENERATION ENTERPRISE SERVICE	116,165	106,165
NGEN tech refresh growth		-10,000

## PROCUREMENT, MARINE CORPS

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
-----		
PROCUREMENT, MARINE CORPS		
WEAPONS AND COMBAT VEHICLES		
TRACKED COMBAT VEHICLES		
1 AAV7A1 PIP.....	16,756	15,356
2 LAV PIP.....	77,736	72,736
ARTILLERY AND OTHER WEAPONS		
3 EXPEDITIONARY FIRE SUPPORT SYSTEM.....	5,742	642
4 155MM LIGHTWEIGHT TOWED HOWITZER.....	4,532	4,532
5 HIGH MOBILITY ARTILLERY ROCKET SYSTEM.....	19,474	19,474
6 WEAPONS AND COMBAT VEHICLES UNDER \$5 MILLION.....	7,250	7,250
OTHER SUPPORT		
7 MODIFICATION KITS.....	21,909	20,809
8 WEAPONS ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM.....	3,208	1,608
TOTAL, WEAPONS AND COMBAT VEHICLES.....	156,607	142,407
-----		
GUIDED MISSILES AND EQUIPMENT		
GUIDED MISSILES		
9 GROUND BASED AIR DEFENSE.....	31,439	30,339
10 JAVELIN.....	343	343
11 FOLLOW ON TO SMAW.....	4,995	4,867
12 ANTI-ARMOR WEAPONS SYSTEM-HEAVY (AAWS-H).....	1,589	1,589
OTHER SUPPORT		
13 MODIFICATION KITS.....	5,134	5,134
TOTAL, GUIDED MISSILES AND EQUIPMENT.....	43,500	42,272
-----		

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
COMMUNICATIONS AND ELECTRONICS EQUIPMENT		
COMMAND AND CONTROL SYSTEMS		
14 COMBAT OPERATIONS CENTER.....	9,178	9,178
15 COMMON AVIATION COMMAND AND CONTROL SYS.....	12,272	12,272
REPAIR AND TEST EQUIPMENT		
16 REPAIR AND TEST EQUIPMENT.....	30,591	27,334
OTHER SUPPORT (TEL)		
17 COMBAT SUPPORT SYSTEM.....	2,385	2,385
COMMAND AND CONTROL		
19 ITEMS UNDER \$5 MILLION (COMM & ELEC).....	4,205	4,205
20 AIR OPERATIONS C2 SYSTEMS.....	8,002	8,002
RADAR + EQUIPMENT (NON-TEL)		
21 RADAR SYSTEMS.....	19,595	17,295
22 GROUND/AIR TASK ORIENTED RADAR.....	89,230	89,230
23 RQ-21 UAS.....	70,565	69,315
INTELL/COMM EQUIPMENT (NON-TEL)		
24 FIRE SUPPORT SYSTEM.....	11,860	11,860
25 INTELLIGENCE SUPPORT EQUIPMENT.....	44,340	38,340
28 RQ-11 UAV.....	2,737	2,737
30 DCGS-MC.....	20,620	20,620
OTHER COMM/ELEC EQUIPMENT (NON-TEL)		
31 NIGHT VISION EQUIPMENT.....	9,798	7,338
32 NEXT GENERATION ENTERPRISE NETWORK (NGEN).....	2,073	2,073
OTHER SUPPORT (NON-TEL)		
33 COMMON COMPUTER RESOURCES.....	33,570	32,489
34 COMMAND POST SYSTEMS.....	38,186	38,186
35 RADIO SYSTEMS.....	64,494	64,494
36 COMM SWITCHING & CONTROL SYSTEMS.....	72,956	63,956
37 COMM & ELEC INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT.....	43,317	37,817
TOTAL, COMMUNICATIONS AND ELECTRONICS EQUIPMENT.....	589,974	559,126
SUPPORT VEHICLES		
ADMINISTRATIVE VEHICLES		
38 COMMERCIAL PASSENGER VEHICLES.....	332	332
39 COMMERCIAL CARGO VEHICLES.....	11,035	11,035



(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
-----		
TACTICAL VEHICLES		
40 5/4T TRUCK HMMWV (MYP).....	57,255	57,255
41 MOTOR TRANSPORT MODIFICATIONS.....	938	938
44 JOINT LIGHT TACTICAL VEHICLE.....	7,500	7,500
45 FAMILY OF TACTICAL TRAILERS.....	10,179	10,179
OTHER SUPPORT		
46 ITEMS LESS THAN \$5 MILLION.....	11,023	11,023
-----		
TOTAL, SUPPORT VEHICLES.....	98,262	98,262
ENGINEER AND OTHER EQUIPMENT		
47 ENGINEER AND OTHER EQUIPMENT		
ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL EQUIP ASSORT.....	994	994
48 BULK LIQUID EQUIPMENT.....	1,256	1,256
49 TACTICAL FUEL SYSTEMS.....	3,750	3,750
50 POWER EQUIPMENT ASSORTED.....	8,985	8,985
51 AMPHIBIOUS SUPPORT EQUIPMENT.....	4,418	4,418
52 EOD SYSTEMS.....	6,528	6,528
MATERIALS HANDLING EQUIPMENT		
53 PHYSICAL SECURITY EQUIPMENT.....	26,510	24,643
54 GARRISON MOBILE ENGR EQUIP.....	1,910	1,910
55 MATERIAL HANDLING EQUIP.....	8,807	8,807
56 FIRST DESTINATION TRANSPORTATION.....	128	128
GENERAL PROPERTY		
58 TRAINING DEVICES.....	3,412	3,412
59 CONTAINER FAMILY.....	1,662	1,662
60 FAMILY OF CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT.....	3,669	3,669
OTHER SUPPORT		
62 ITEMS LESS THAN \$5 MILLION.....	4,272	4,272
-----		
TOTAL, ENGINEER AND OTHER EQUIPMENT.....	76,301	74,434
63 SPARES AND REPAIR PARTS.....	16,210	16,210
CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS.....	2,498	2,498
-----		
TOTAL, PROCUREMENT, MARINE CORPS.....	983,352	935,209
	=====	=====

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS  
[In thousands of dollars]

P-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
1 AAV7A1 PIP	16,756	15,356
Production engineering support excess growth		-1,400
2 LAV PIP	77,736	72,736
Unit cost growth		-5,000
3 EXPEDITIONARY FIRE SUPPORT SYSTEM	5,742	642
Unjustified program growth		-5,100
7 MODIFICATION KITS	21,909	20,809
Program support excess growth		-1,100
8 WEAPONS ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM	3,208	1,608
Unjustified MEP program growth		-1,600
9 GROUND BASED AIR DEFENSE	31,439	30,339
SLEP contract delay and cost increase		-1,100
11 FOLLOW ON TO SMAW	4,995	4,867
Unit cost growth		-128
16 REPAIR AND TEST EQUIPMENT	30,591	27,334
Carryover of prior year funds/slow contract awards		-3,000
Unit cost growth		-257
21 RADAR SYSTEMS	19,595	17,295
Unjustified growth		-2,300
23 RQ-21 UAS	70,565	69,315
Product engineering support growth		-1,250
25 INTELLIGENCE SUPPORT EQUIPMENT	44,340	38,340
Unjustified program growth		-2,000
Unjustified IT costs		-4,000
31 NIGHT VISION EQUIPMENT	9,798	7,338
Carryover of prior year funds/slow contract awards		-2,460
33 COMMON COMPUTER RESOURCES	33,570	32,489
Unjustified IT costs		-1,081
36 COMM SWITCHING & CONTROL SYSTEMS	72,956	63,956
Unjustified program growth		-9,000
37 COMM & ELEC INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT	43,317	37,817
Excess growth in installation costs		-5,500
53 PHYSICAL SECURITY EQUIPMENT	26,510	24,643
Unjustified IT costs		-1,867

## AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
-----		
AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE		
COMBAT AIRCRAFT		
TACTICAL FORCES		
1 F-35.....	3,553,046	3,691,046
2 F-35 (AP-CY).....	291,880	291,880
-----		
TOTAL, COMBAT AIRCRAFT.....	3,844,926	3,982,926
AIRLIFT AIRCRAFT		
OTHER AIRLIFT		
3 KC-46A TANKER.....	1,582,685	1,573,185
4 C-130J.....	482,396	482,396
5 C-130J ADVANCE PROCUREMENT (CY).....	140,000	140,000
6 HC-130J.....	332,024	332,024
7 HC-130J.....	50,000	50,000
8 MC-130J.....	190,971	292,971
9 MC-130J.....	80,000	80,000
-----		
TOTAL, AIRLIFT AIRCRAFT.....	2,858,076	2,950,576
OTHER AIRCRAFT		
HELICOPTERS		
10 CV-22 OSPREY.....	---	15,000
MISSION SUPPORT AIRCRAFT		
12 CIVIL AIR PATROL A/C.....	2,562	10,400
OTHER AIRCRAFT		
13 TARGET DRONES.....	98,576	98,576
17 AC-130J.....	1	1
16 RQ-4 UAV.....	54,475	54,475
18 MQ-9.....	240,218	385,218
-----		
TOTAL, OTHER AIRCRAFT.....	395,832	563,670

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
MODIFICATION OF INSERVICE AIRCRAFT		
STRATEGIC AIRCRAFT		
20 B-2A.....	23,865	21,865
21 B-1B.....	140,252	127,990
22 B-52.....	180,148	176,448
23 LARGE AIRCRAFT INFRARED COUNTERMEASURES.....	13,159	13,159
TACTICAL AIRCRAFT		
25 F-15.....	387,314	498,314
26 F-16.....	12,336	9,042
27 F-22A.....	180,207	180,207
28 F-35 MODIFICATIONS.....	187,646	187,646
29 INCREMENT 3.2b.....	28,500	28,500
AIRLIFT AIRCRAFT		
30 C-5.....	14,731	14,731
31 C-5M.....	331,466	317,466
33 C-17A.....	127,494	89,394
34 C-21.....	264	264
35 C-32A.....	8,767	8,767
36 C-37A.....	18,457	18,457
TRAINER AIRCRAFT		
38 GLIDER MODS.....	132	132
39 T6.....	14,486	14,486
40 T-1.....	7,650	7,650
41 T-38.....	34,845	28,845

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
OTHER AIRCRAFT		
44 KC-10A (ATCA).....	34,313	77,513
45 C-12.....	1,960	1,960
48 VC-25A MOD.....	1,072	1,072
49 C-40.....	7,292	7,292
50 C-130.....	35,869	124,269
51 C130J MODS.....	7,919	7,919
52 C-135.....	63,568	63,568
53 COMPASS CALL MODS.....	57,828	57,828
54 RC-135.....	152,746	163,346
55 E-3.....	16,491	16,491
56 E-4.....	22,341	17,091
58 AIRBORNE WARNING AND CONTROL SYSTEM.....	160,284	191,284
59 FAMILY OF BEYOND LINE-OF-SIGHT TERMINALS.....	32,026	27,026
60 H-1.....	8,237	8,237
61 H-60.....	60,110	60,110
62 RQ-4 UAV MODS.....	21,354	21,354
63 HC/MC-130 MODIFICATIONS.....	1,902	1,902
64 OTHER AIRCRAFT.....	32,106	32,106
65 MQ-1 MODS.....	4,755	4,755
66 MQ-9 MODS.....	155,445	155,445
69 CV-22 MODS.....	74,874	74,874
TOTAL, MODIFICATION OF INSERVICE AIRCRAFT.....	2,664,211	2,858,805
AIRCRAFT SPARES AND REPAIR PARTS		
70 INITIAL SPARES/REPAIR PARTS.....	466,562	466,562

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
AIRCRAFT SUPPORT EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES		
COMMON SUPPORT EQUIPMENT		
71 AIRCRAFT REPLACEMENT SUPPORT EQUIP.....	22,470	22,470
POST PRODUCTION SUPPORT		
74 B-2A.....	44,793	44,793
75 B-52.....	5,249	5,249
77 C-17A.....	20,110	20,110
78 CV-22 POST PRODUCTION SUPPORT.....	16,931	16,931
80 C-135.....	4,414	4,414
81 F-15 POST PRODUCTION SUPPORT.....	1,122	1,122
82 F-16 POST PRODUCTION SUPPORT.....	10,994	9,994
83 F-22A.....	5,929	5,929
84 OTHER AIRCRAFT.....	27	27
INDUSTRIAL PREPAREDNESS		
85 INDUSTRIAL PREPAREDNESS.....	21,363	21,363
WAR CONSUMABLES		
86 WAR CONSUMABLES.....	82,906	82,906
OTHER PRODUCTION CHARGES		
87 OTHER PRODUCTION CHARGES.....	1,007,276	940,476
TOTAL, AIRCRAFT SUPPORT EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES....	1,243,684	1,175,784
CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS.....	69,380	69,380
TOTAL, AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE.....	11,542,571	12,067,703

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS  
[In thousands of dollars]

P-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
1 F-35	3,553,046	3,691,046
Add two aircraft		224,000
Program efficiencies		-86,000
3 KC-46A	1,582,685	1,573,185
Air Force requested transfer to RDTE, AF line 83		-9,500
8 MC-130J	190,971	292,971
Add one aircraft		102,000
10 CV-22	0	15,000
CV-22 modifications and parts		15,000
12 CIVIL AIR PATROL AIRCRAFT	2,562	10,400
Program increase		7,838
18 MQ-9	240,218	385,218
Add 12 aircraft		155,000
Unit savings from higher quantity		-10,000
20 B-2A	23,865	21,865
EHF increment 1 field installs		-2,000
21 B-1B	140,252	127,990
Change in acquisition strategy for depot support		-12,262
22 B-52	180,148	176,448
Program increase - anti-skid replacement		6,300
CONNECT support cost growth		-10,000
25 F-15	387,314	498,314
Joint Helmet Mounted Cueing System - unjustified growth in other government costs		-4,000
AESA radars for the Air National Guard		115,000
26 F-16	12,336	9,042
Falcon STAR ahead of need		-1,294
Advanced Data Transfer Equipment		-2,000
31 C-5M	331,466	317,466
Prior year carryover		-14,000
33 C-17A	127,494	89,394
Execution adjustment		-38,100
41 T-38	34,845	28,845
Pacer III Classic install funds ahead of need		-6,000
44 KC-10A	34,313	77,513
CNS/ATM kits and installs		43,200
50 C-130	35,869	124,269
Propeller upgrade		30,000
T-56 3.5 engine modification		22,600
C-130 avionics modernization program		35,800

P-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
54 RC-135	152,746	163,346
Baseline program shortfall		10,600
56 E-4	22,341	17,091
Low Frequency Transmit System ahead of need		-5,250
58 AWACS	160,284	191,284
Program increase		31,000
59 FAMILY OF BEYOND LINE OF SIGHT TERMINALS	32,026	27,026
FAB-T terminal NRE funds ahead of need		-5,000
82 F-16 POST PRODUCTION SUPPORT	10,994	9,994
Production line shutdown - unobligated prior year funds		-1,000
87 OTHER PRODUCTION CHARGES	1,007,276	940,476
Classified adjustment		-66,800



## CV-22

The agreement includes an additional \$15,000,000 to protect the CV-22 fleet against undue risk from diminishing manufacturing sources for parts and modifications. The Secretary of the Air Force is directed to prioritize end-items that have long lead times for production and are at the greatest risk for loss of supply should those production lines shut down with delivery of the last currently funded Air Force CV-22. Additionally, the Secretary of the Air Force is directed to submit an expenditure plan for these funds to the congressional defense committees not later than 60 days after the enactment of this Act.

## UNDEFINITIZED CONTRACT ACTIONS

The agreement notes with concern that the Air Force remains heavily reliant on

undefinitized contract actions (UCAs) to execute procurement programs, particularly within the Aircraft Procurement, Air Force account. The Government Accountability Office (GAO) has noted that government risks are greater under UCAs when there is little incentive for vendors to definitize contracts. Therefore, the agreement directs the GAO to review the use of UCAs within all Air Force procurement accounts to determine how often this contracting option is being utilized, and for what reasons; if other contracting strategies are more efficient and effective; and recommendations to reduce the usage of UCAs in the future. GAO shall report the results of this review to the House and Senate Appropriations Committees not later than 120 days after the enactment of this Act.

## C-130 AVIONICS MODERNIZATION PROGRAM

Senate Report 113-211 included language that directed the Secretary of the Air Force to obligate prior year C-130 Avionics Modernization Program funds to complete testing and to transition the program to production. The agreement provides the flexibility, consistent with the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015, to allow the Secretary of the Air Force to proceed with a reduced scope program to address safety and airspace compliance requirements. This language replaces the language included under this heading in Senate Report 113-211.

## MISSILE PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
-----		
MISSILE PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE		
BALLISTIC MISSILES		
MISSILE REPLACEMENT EQUIPMENT - BALLISTIC		
1 MISSILE REPLACEMENT EQ-BALLISTIC.....	80,187	80,187
OTHER MISSILES		
TACTICAL		
3 JOINT AIR-SURFACE STANDOFF MISSILE (JASSM).....	337,438	329,158
4 SIDEWINDER (AIM-9X).....	132,995	129,121
5 AMRAAM.....	329,600	329,600
6 PREDATOR HELLFIRE MISSILE.....	33,878	33,878
7 SMALL DIAMETER BOMB.....	70,578	40,578
7A PREFERRED MUNITIONS.....	---	10,000
INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES		
8 INDUSTRIAL PREPAREDNESS/POLLUTION PREVENTION.....	749	749
-----		
TOTAL, OTHER MISSILES.....	905,238	873,084
MODIFICATION OF INSERVICE MISSILES		
CLASS IV		
9 MM III MODIFICATIONS.....	28,477	28,477
10 AGM-65D MAVERICK.....	276	276
11 AGM-88A HARM.....	297	297
12 AIR LAUNCH CRUISE MISSILE.....	16,083	16,083
13 SMALL DIAMETER BOMB.....	6,924	6,924
-----		
TOTAL, MODIFICATION OF INSERVICE MISSILES.....	52,057	52,057

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
-----		
SPARES AND REPAIR PARTS		
14 INITIAL SPARES/REPAIR PARTS.....	87,366	87,366
OTHER SUPPORT		
SPACE PROGRAMS		
15 ADVANCED EHF.....	298,890	298,890
16 WIDEBAND GAFILLER SATELLITES.....	38,971	36,071
17 GPS III SPACE SEGMENT.....	235,397	228,797
18 GPS III SPACE SEGMENT (AP-CY).....	57,000	87,000
19 SPACEBORNE EQUIP (COMSEC).....	16,201	13,401
20 GLOBAL POSITIONING (SPACE).....	52,090	50,000
21 DEF METEOROLOGICAL SAT PROG (SPACE).....	87,000	78,000
22 EVOLVED EXPENDABLE LAUNCH VEH INFRASTRUCTURE (SPACE)...	750,143	688,143
23 EVOLVED EXPENDABLE LAUNCH VEH (SPACE).....	630,903	733,603
24 SBIR HIGH (SPACE).....	450,884	444,884
SPECIAL PROGRAMS		
28 SPECIAL UPDATE PROGRAMS.....	60,179	60,179
-----		
TOTAL, OTHER SUPPORT.....	2,677,658	2,718,968
CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS.....	888,000	818,000
-----		
TOTAL, MISSILE PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE.....	4,690,506	4,629,662
	=====	=====

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS  
[In thousands of dollars]

P-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
<b>3 JASSM</b>	<b>337,438</b>	<b>329,158</b>
Baseline missile unit cost growth		-8,280
<b>4 SIDEWINDER (AIM-9X)</b>	<b>132,995</b>	<b>129,121</b>
Unit cost growth		-3,874
<b>7 SMALL DIAMETER BOMB</b>	<b>70,578</b>	<b>40,578</b>
Milestone C slip		-30,000
<b>7A PREFERRED MUNITIONS</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10,000</b>
Program increase - preferred munitions		10,000
<b>16 WIDEBAND GAPPILLER SATELLITES (SPACE)</b>	<b>38,971</b>	<b>36,071</b>
Support cost growth		-2,900
<b>17 GPS III SPACE SEGMENT</b>	<b>235,397</b>	<b>228,797</b>
Launch support and on-orbit check-out ahead of need		-6,600
<b>18 GPS III SPACE SEGMENT ADVANCE PROCUREMENT</b>	<b>57,000</b>	<b>87,000</b>
Additional funds for advance procurement		30,000
<b>19 SPACEBORNE EQUIP (COMSEC)</b>	<b>16,201</b>	<b>13,401</b>
Maintain at fiscal year 2013 level		-2,800
<b>20 GLOBAL POSITIONING (SPACE)</b>	<b>52,090</b>	<b>50,000</b>
Excess contract support		-2,090
<b>21 DEFENSE METEOROLOGICAL SATELLITE PROGRAM (SPACE)</b>	<b>87,000</b>	<b>78,000</b>
Excess growth		-9,000
<b>EVOLVED EXPENDABLE LAUNCH VEHICLE (INFRASTRUCTURE)</b>		
<b>22 (SPACE)</b>	<b>750,143</b>	<b>688,143</b>
Forward financing		-62,000
<b>23 EVOLVED EXPENDABLE LAUNCH VEHICLE (SPACE)</b>	<b>630,903</b>	<b>733,603</b>
Unit cost growth		-22,300
Program increase - one competitive launch		125,000
<b>24 SBIR HIGH (SPACE)</b>	<b>450,884</b>	<b>444,884</b>
Unjustified support cost increase		-6,000
<b>999 CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS</b>	<b>888,000</b>	<b>818,000</b>
Classified adjustment		-70,000

DEFENSE METEOROLOGICAL SATELLITE  
PROGRAM

The agreement reduces the funding request for the Defense Meteorological Satellite Program (DMSP) by \$9,000,000 for excessive cost growth. Further, the agreement prohibits

the Secretary of the Air Force from obligating more than \$28,000,000 until she certifies to the congressional defense committees that the DMSP-20 satellite will be launched by the end of calendar year 2016. If the decision is not to launch the DMSP-20 satellite by the end of calendar year 2016, it

is expected that the program be brought to an orderly close during calendar year 2015.

PROCUREMENT OF AMMUNITION, AIR  
FORCE

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
-----		
PROCUREMENT OF AMMUNITION, AIR FORCE		
1 PROCUREMENT OF AMMO, AIR FORCE		
ROCKETS.....	4,696	4,696
2 CARTRIDGES.....	133,271	128,621
BOMBS		
3 PRACTICE BOMBS.....	31,998	30,098
4 GENERAL PURPOSE BOMBS.....	148,614	148,614
5 JOINT DIRECT ATTACK MUNITION.....	101,400	101,400
5A PREFERRED MUNITIONS.....	---	10,000
FLARE, IR MJU-7B		
6 CAD/PAD.....	29,989	29,989
7 EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL (EOD).....	6,925	6,925
8 SPARES AND REPAIR PARTS.....	494	494
9 MODIFICATIONS.....	1,610	1,610
10 ITEMS LESS THAN \$5,000,000.....	4,237	4,237
FUZES		
11 FLARES.....	86,101	84,160
12 FUZES.....	103,417	84,417
-----		
TOTAL, PROCUREMENT OF AMMO, AIR FORCE.....	652,752	635,261
WEAPONS		
13 SMALL ARMS.....	24,648	24,648
-----		
TOTAL, PROCUREMENT OF AMMUNITION, AIR FORCE.....	677,400	659,909
	=====	=====

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS  
[In thousands of dollars]

P-1		FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
<b>2</b>	<b>CARTRIDGES</b>	<b>133,271</b>	<b>128,621</b>
	5.56mm frangible unjustified cost growth		-2,750
	PGU-13/B unjustified growth		-1,900
<b>3</b>	<b>PRACTICE BOMBS</b>	<b>31,998</b>	<b>30,098</b>
	BDU-50 unit cost growth		-1,000
	Mk-84 inert unit cost growth		-900
<b>5A</b>	<b>PREFERRED MUNITIONS</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10,000</b>
	Program increase - preferred munitions		10,000
<b>11</b>	<b>FLARES</b>	<b>86,101</b>	<b>84,160</b>
	MUU-7A/B unit cost growth		-1,941
<b>12</b>	<b>FUZES</b>	<b>103,417</b>	<b>84,417</b>
	Hard target void sensing fuze production funds ahead of need		-19,000

## OTHER PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
-----		
OTHER PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE		
VEHICULAR EQUIPMENT		
PASSENGER CARRYING VEHICLES		
1 PASSENGER CARRYING VEHICLE.....	6,528	6,528
CARGO + UTILITY VEHICLES		
2 FAMILY MEDIUM TACTICAL VEHICLE.....	7,639	7,639
3 CAP VEHICLES.....	961	1,700
4 ITEMS LESS THAN \$5M (CARGO).....	11,027	11,027
SPECIAL PURPOSE VEHICLES		
5 SECURITY AND TACTICAL VEHICLES.....	4,447	4,447
6 ITEMS LESS THAN \$5M (SPECIAL).....	693	693
FIRE FIGHTING EQUIPMENT		
7 FIRE FIGHTING/CRASH RESCUE VEHICLES.....	10,152	10,152
MATERIALS HANDLING EQUIPMENT		
8 ITEMS LESS THAN \$5,000,000.....	15,108	15,108
BASE MAINTENANCE SUPPORT		
9 RUNWAY SNOW REMOVAL & CLEANING EQUIP.....	10,212	10,212
10 ITEMS LESS THAN \$5M.....	57,049	57,049
-----		
TOTAL, VEHICULAR EQUIPMENT.....	123,816	124,555
ELECTRONICS AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS EQUIP		
COMM SECURITY EQUIPMENT(COMSEC)		
11 COMSEC EQUIPMENT.....	106,182	95,833
12 MODIFICATIONS (COMSEC).....	1,363	1,363
INTELLIGENCE PROGRAMS		
13 INTELLIGENCE TRAINING EQUIPMENT.....	2,832	2,832
14 INTELLIGENCE COMM EQUIP.....	32,329	32,329
16 MISSION PLANNING SYSTEMS.....	15,649	15,649
ELECTRONICS PROGRAMS		
17 TRAFFIC CONTROL/LANDING.....	42,200	28,400
18 NATIONAL AIRSPACE SYSTEM.....	6,333	6,333
19 BATTLE CONTROL SYSTEM - FIXED.....	2,708	2,708
20 THEATER AIR CONTROL SYS IMPRO.....	50,033	50,033
21 WEATHER OBSERVATION FORECAST.....	16,348	16,348
22 STRATEGIC COMMAND AND CONTROL.....	139,984	139,984
23 CHEYENNE MOUNTAIN COMPLEX.....	20,101	20,101
26 TAC SIGNIT SPT.....	9,060	9,060



(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
SPECIAL COMM-ELECTRONICS PROJECTS		
27 GENERAL INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY.....	39,100	39,100
28 AF GLOBAL COMMAND & CONTROL SYSTEM.....	19,010	9,098
29 MOBILITY COMMAND AND CONTROL.....	11,462	11,462
30 AIR FORCE PHYSICAL SECURITY SYSTEM.....	37,426	37,426
31 COMBAT TRAINING RANGES.....	26,634	53,634
32 MINIMUM ESSENTIAL EMERGENCY COMM N.....	1,289	1,289
33 C3 COUNTERMEASURES.....	11,508	11,508
34 GCSS-AF FOS.....	3,670	3,670
35 DEFENSE ENTERPRISE ACCOUNTING AND MGMT.....	15,298	15,298
36 THEATER BATTLE MGT C2 SYS.....	9,565	9,565
37 AIR OPERATIONS CENTER (AOC).....	25,772	25,772
AIR FORCE COMMUNICATIONS		
38 INFORMATION TRANSPORT SYSTEMS.....	81,286	96,936
39 AFNET.....	122,228	90,928
41 USCENCOM.....	16,342	16,342
42 FAMILY OF BEYOND LINE-OF-SIGHT TERMINALS.....	60,230	57,230
DISA PROGRAMS		
43 SPACE BASED IR SENSOR PROG SPACE.....	26,100	26,100
44 NAVSTAR GPS SPACE.....	2,075	2,075
45 NUDET DETECTION SYS (NDS) SPACE.....	4,656	4,656
46 AF SATELLITE CONTROL NETWORK SPACE.....	54,630	54,630
47 SPACELIFT RANGE SYSTEM SPACE.....	69,713	62,713
48 MILSATCOM SPACE.....	41,355	41,355
49 SPACE MODS SPACE.....	31,722	31,722
50 COUNTERSPACE SYSTEM.....	61,603	59,603

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
ORGANIZATION AND BASE		
51 TACTICAL C-E EQUIPMENT.....	50,335	50,335
53 RADIO EQUIPMENT.....	14,846	14,846
54 CCTV/AUDIOVISUAL EQUIPMENT.....	3,635	3,635
55 BASE COMM INFRASTRUCTURE.....	79,607	89,519
MODIFICATIONS		
56 COMM ELECT MODS.....	105,398	56,398
TOTAL, ELECTRONICS AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS EQUIP.....	1,471,617	1,397,818
OTHER BASE MAINTENANCE AND SUPPORT EQUIP		
PERSONAL SAFETY AND RESCUE EQUIP		
57 NIGHT VISION GOGGLES.....	12,577	12,577
58 ITEMS LESS THAN \$5,000,000 (SAFETY).....	31,209	31,209
DEPOT PLANT + MATERIALS HANDLING EQ		
59 MECHANIZED MATERIAL HANDLING.....	7,670	7,670
BASE SUPPORT EQUIPMENT		
60 BASE PROCURED EQUIPMENT.....	14,125	14,125
61 CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS.....	16,744	16,744
62 PRODUCTIVITY CAPITAL INVESTMENT.....	2,495	2,495
63 MOBILITY EQUIPMENT.....	10,573	13,073
64 ITEMS LESS THAN \$5M (BASE SUPPORT).....	5,462	5,462
SPECIAL SUPPORT PROJECTS		
66 DARP RC135.....	24,710	24,710
67 DISTRIBUTED GROUND SYSTEMS.....	206,743	206,743
69 SPECIAL UPDATE PROGRAM.....	537,370	537,370
70 DEFENSE SPACE RECONNAISSANCE PROGRAM.....	77,898	77,898
TOTAL, OTHER BASE MAINTENANCE AND SUPPORT EQUIP.....	947,576	950,076
SPARE AND REPAIR PARTS		
72 SPARES AND REPAIR PARTS.....	32,813	32,813
JOINT TRAINING PLATFORM/FACILITY UPGRADES (HOUSE AMENDMENT) (RUNYAN).....	---	6,000
CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS.....	13,990,196	14,270,004
TOTAL, OTHER PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE.....	16,566,018	16,781,266

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS  
[In thousands of dollars]

P-1		FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
3	CAP VEHICLES	961	1,700
	Program increase		739
11	COMSEC EQUIPMENT	106,182	95,833
	Unobligated balances		-8,260
	Management client unit cost growth		-2,089
17	AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL & LANDING SYSTEMS	42,200	28,400
	D-ILS program restructure funds ahead of need		-13,800
28	AF GLOBAL COMMAND & CONTROL SYSTEM	19,010	9,098
	Air Force requested transfer to line 55		-9,912
31	COMBAT TRAINING RANGES	26,634	53,634
	Program increase		27,000
38	INFORMATION TRANSPORT SYSTEM	81,286	96,936
	Air Force requested transfer from line 39		15,650
39	AFNET	122,228	90,928
	Excess growth		-15,650
	Air Force requested transfer to line 38		-15,650
42	FAMILY OF BEYOND LINE-OF-SIGHT TERMINALS	60,230	57,230
	FAB-T award/schedule delays		-3,000
47	SPACELIFT RANGE SYSTEM (SPACE)	69,713	62,713
	Unobligated balances		-7,000
50	COUNTERSPACE SYSTEM	61,603	59,603
	Counter communications system unjustified unit cost growth		-2,000
55	BASE COMM INFRASTRUCTURE	79,607	89,519
	Air Force requested transfer from line 28		9,912
56	COMM ELECT MODS	105,398	56,398
	HEMP protection ahead of need		-49,000
63	MOBILITY EQUIPMENT	10,573	13,073
	Program increase		2,500
999	CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS	13,990,196	14,270,004
	Classified adjustment		279,808
	JOINT TRAINING PLATFORM/FACILITY UPGRADES	0	6,000
	Training facility upgrades		6,000

## PROCUREMENT, DEFENSE-WIDE

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
PROCUREMENT, DEFENSE-WIDE		
MAJOR EQUIPMENT		
MAJOR EQUIPMENT, DCAA		
1 MAJOR EQUIPMENT ITEMS LESS THAN \$5M.....	1,594	1,594
MAJOR EQUIPMENT, DCMA		
2 MAJOR EQUIPMENT.....	4,325	4,325
MAJOR EQUIPMENT, DHRA		
3 PERSONNEL ADMINISTRATION.....	17,268	17,268
MAJOR EQUIPMENT, DISA		
8 INFORMATION SYSTEMS SECURITY.....	10,491	10,491
10 TELEPORT PROGRAM.....	80,622	80,622
11 ITEMS LESS THAN \$5M.....	14,147	14,147
12 NET CENTRIC ENTERPRISE SERVICES (NCES).....	1,921	1,921
13 DEFENSE INFORMATION SYSTEMS NETWORK.....	80,144	80,144
15 CYBER SECURITY INITIATIVE.....	8,755	8,755
16 WHITE HOUSE COMMUNICATION AGENCY.....	33,737	33,737
17 SENIOR LEADERSHIP ENTERPRISE.....	32,544	32,544
18 JOINT INFORMATION ENVIRONMENT.....	13,300	13,300
MAJOR EQUIPMENT, DLA		
20 MAJOR EQUIPMENT.....	7,436	7,436
MAJOR EQUIPMENT, DMACT		
21 A - WEAPON SYSTEM COST.....	11,640	11,402
MAJOR EQUIPMENT, DODEA		
22 AUTOMATION/EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT & LOGISTICS.....	1,269	1,269
24 VEHICLES.....	1,500	---
MAJOR EQUIPMENT, DEFENSE THREAT REDUCTION AGENCY		
26 VEHICLES.....	50	50
27 OTHER MAJOR EQUIPMENT.....	7,639	7,639
MAJOR EQUIPMENT, DTSA		
25 MAJOR EQUIPMENT.....	1,039	1,039
28 AEGIS BMD ADVANCE PROCUREMENT.....	68,880	---
MAJOR EQUIPMENT, MDA		
29 THAAD SYSTEM.....	464,424	449,824
30 AEGIS BMD.....	435,430	643,810
31 BMDS AN/TPY-2 RADARS.....	48,140	88,140
32 AEGIS ASHORE PHASE III.....	225,774	225,774
34 IRON DOME SYSTEM.....	175,972	350,972

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
MAJOR EQUIPMENT, NSA		
41 INFORMATION SYSTEMS SECURITY PROGRAM (ISSP).....	3,448	23,448
MAJOR EQUIPMENT, OSD		
42 MAJOR EQUIPMENT, OSD.....	43,708	39,708
MAJOR EQUIPMENT, TJS		
44 MAJOR EQUIPMENT, TJS.....	10,783	10,283
MAJOR EQUIPMENT, WHS		
46 MAJOR EQUIPMENT, WHS.....	29,599	29,599
TOTAL, MAJOR EQUIPMENT.....	1,835,579	2,189,241
SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND		
AVIATION PROGRAMS		
47 MC-12.....	40,500	---
48 SOF ROTARY WING UPGRADES AND SUSTAINMENT.....	112,226	112,226
49 MH-60 SOF MODERNIZATION PROGRAM.....	3,021	3,021
50 NON-STANDARD AVIATION.....	48,200	30,200
52 MH-47 CHINOOK.....	22,230	22,230
53 RQ-11 UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLE.....	6,397	6,397
54 CV-22 SOF MODIFICATION.....	25,578	21,578
56 MQ-9 UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLE.....	15,651	12,893
57 STUASLO.....	1,500	1,500
58 PRECISION STRIKE PACKAGE.....	145,929	131,929
59 AC/MC-130J.....	65,130	70,988
61 C-130 MODIFICATIONS.....	39,563	25,414
SHIPBUILDING		
63 UNDERWATER SYSTEMS.....	25,459	25,459
AMMUNITION PROGRAMS		
65 SOF ORDNANCE ITEMS UNDER \$5,000,000.....	144,336	144,336

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
-----		
OTHER PROCUREMENT PROGRAMS		
68 SOF INTELLIGENCE SYSTEMS.....	81,001	77,501
70 DCGS-SOF.....	17,323	17,323
71 OTHER ITEMS UNDER \$5,000,000.....	84,852	73,902
72 SOF COMBATANT CRAFT SYSTEMS.....	51,937	50,337
74 SPECIAL PROGRAMS.....	31,017	31,017
75 TACTICAL VEHICLES.....	63,134	63,134
76 WARRIOR SYSTEMS UNDER \$5,000,000.....	192,448	192,448
78 COMBAT MISSION REQUIREMENTS.....	19,984	19,984
81 SOF GLOBAL VIDEO SURVEILLANCE ACTIVITIES.....	5,044	5,044
82 SOF OPERATIONAL ENHANCEMENTS INTELLIGENCE.....	38,126	29,126
88 SOF OPERATIONAL ENHANCEMENTS.....	243,849	232,052
-----		
TOTAL, SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND.....	1,524,435	1,400,039
-----		
CHEMICAL/BIOLOGICAL DEFENSE		
95 CHEMICAL BIOLOGICAL SITUATIONAL AWARENESS.....	170,137	183,737
96 CB PROTECTION AND HAZARD MITIGATION.....	150,392	150,392
-----		
TOTAL, CHEMICAL/BIOLOGICAL DEFENSE.....	320,529	334,129
CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS.....	540,894	505,894
-----		
TOTAL, PROCUREMENT, DEFENSE-WIDE.....	4,221,437	4,429,303
=====		

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS  
[In thousands of dollars]

P-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
<b>21 MAJOR EQUIPMENT</b>	<b>11,640</b>	<b>11,402</b>
AFRIS cost growth		-238
<b>24 VEHICLES</b>	<b>1,500</b>	<b>0</b>
Unjustified requirement		-1,500
<b>28 AEGIS BMD ADVANCE PROCUREMENT</b>	<b>68,880</b>	<b>0</b>
All Up Round procurement - transfer to line 30		-68,880
<b>29 THAAD SYSTEM</b>	<b>464,424</b>	<b>449,824</b>
Obsolescence and modifications - unjustified growth		-14,600
<b>30 AEGIS BMD</b>	<b>435,430</b>	<b>643,810</b>
SM-3 Block 1B - additional interceptors		159,000
Production engineering support - carryover		-19,500
All Up Round procurement - transfer from line 28 - for additional interceptors		68,880
<b>31 BMDS AN/TPY-2 RADARS</b>	<b>48,140</b>	<b>88,140</b>
Program increase - TPY-2 spares		40,000
<b>34 ISRAELI COOPERATIVE PROGRAMS - IRON DOME</b>	<b>175,972</b>	<b>350,972</b>
Program increase		175,000
<b>41 INFORMATION SYSTEMS SECURITY PROGRAM (ISSP)</b>	<b>3,448</b>	<b>23,448</b>
Program increase		20,000
<b>42 MAJOR EQUIPMENT, OSD</b>	<b>43,708</b>	<b>39,708</b>
Cost growth		-4,000
<b>44 MAJOR EQUIPMENT, TJS</b>	<b>10,783</b>	<b>10,283</b>
Classified adjustment		-500
<b>47 MC-12</b>	<b>40,500</b>	<b>0</b>
Ahead of need		-40,500
<b>50 NON-STANDARD AVIATION</b>	<b>48,200</b>	<b>30,200</b>
Reduce one aircraft		-18,000
<b>54 CV-22 SOF MODIFICATION</b>	<b>25,578</b>	<b>21,578</b>
Aviation equipment - unjustified request		-4,000
<b>56 MQ-9 UAV</b>	<b>15,651</b>	<b>12,893</b>
Unjustified growth		-2,758
<b>58 PRECISION STRIKE PACKAGE</b>	<b>145,929</b>	<b>131,929</b>
Initial spares - excess growth		-8,000
Large caliber gun - underexecution		-6,000
<b>59 AC/MC-130J</b>	<b>65,130</b>	<b>70,988</b>
Program increase for modifications		5,858

P-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
<b>61 C-130 MODIFICATIONS</b>	<b>39,563</b>	<b>25,414</b>
MC-130 TFTA - ahead of need		-12,149
EC-130J Commando Solo - ahead of need		-2,000
<b>68 SOF INTELLIGENCE SYSTEMS</b>	<b>81,001</b>	<b>77,501</b>
Sensitive Site Exploitation - excess growth		-3,500
<b>71 SOF OTHER ITEMS UNDER \$5M</b>	<b>84,852</b>	<b>73,902</b>
Collateral equipment - schedule slip		-7,744
Collateral equipment - excess to need		-1,620
Joint operational stock - unjustified growth		-260
Classified Coalition Global Network - unjustified growth		-1,326
<b>72 SOF COMBATANT CRAFT SYSTEMS</b>	<b>51,937</b>	<b>50,337</b>
Combat craft medium - excess costs		-1,600
<b>82 SOF OPERATIONAL ENHANCEMENTS INTELLIGENCE</b>	<b>38,126</b>	<b>29,126</b>
Classified adjustment		-9,000
<b>88 SOF OPERATIONAL ENHANCEMENTS</b>	<b>243,849</b>	<b>232,052</b>
Classified adjustment - general reduction		-9,000
Classified adjustment - unjustified growth		-2,797
<b>95 CHEMICAL BIOLOGICAL SITUATIONAL AWARENESS</b>	<b>170,137</b>	<b>183,737</b>
Program increase		13,600
<b>999 CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS</b>	<b>540,894</b>	<b>505,894</b>
Classified adjustment		-35,000



AVIATION FOREIGN INTERNAL DEFENSE

The agreement includes \$10,500,000 within the amount provided for Non-Standard Avia-

tion, only to be used for Aviation Foreign Internal Defense modifications to nine MC-12 platforms as requested in the budget.

DEFENSE PRODUCTION ACT PURCHASES

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS		
[In thousands of dollars]		
	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
Next Generation Star Tracker System .....	4,305	4,305
Read Out Integrated Circuit Foundry Improvement and Sustainability .....	2,639	2,639
Space Qualified Solar Cell Supply Chain .....	1,500	1,500
Complementary Metal Oxide Semiconductor Focal Plan Arrays .....	1,690	1,690
Additive Manufacturing for Liquid Rocket Engines .....	700	700
Cadmium Zinc Telluride Substrates .....	1,591	1,591
Activated Carbon Capacity Expansion .....	4,213	4,213
Modernization of Steel Plate Production .....	2,000	2,000
Scale Up of Green Energetics .....	2,000	2,000
Transparent Ceramics Initiative .....	1,000	1,000
Program Increase .....		30,000
Total, Defense Production Act .....	21,638	51,638

TITLE IV—RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION

The agreement provides \$63,713,275,000 in Title IV, Research, Development, Test and

Evaluation. The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
-----		
RECAPITULATION		
RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION, ARMY.....	6,593,898	6,675,565
RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION, NAVY.....	16,266,335	15,958,460
RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION, AIR FORCE.	23,739,892	23,643,983
RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION, DEFENSE-WIDE.....	16,766,084	17,225,889
OPERATIONAL TEST AND EVALUATION, DEFENSE.....	167,738	209,378
-----		
GRAND TOTAL, RDT&E.....	63,533,947	63,713,275
=====		

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND  
EVALUATION SPECIAL INTEREST ITEMS

Items for which additional funds have been provided as shown in the project level tables or in paragraphs using the phrase “only for” or “only to” in the explanatory statement are congressional special interest items for the purpose of the Base for Reprogramming (DD Form 1414). Each of these items must be carried on the DD Form 1414 at the stated amount as specifically addressed in the explanatory statement.

REPROGRAMMING GUIDANCE FOR ACQUISITION  
ACCOUNTS

The Secretary of Defense is directed to continue to follow the reprogramming guidance as specified in the report accompanying the House version of the Department of Defense Appropriations bill for Fiscal Year 2008

(House Report 110-279). Specifically, the dollar threshold for reprogramming funds will remain at \$20,000,000 for procurement and \$10,000,000 for research, development, test and evaluation.

Also, the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller) is directed to continue to provide the congressional defense committees quarterly, spreadsheet-based DD Form 1416 reports for Service and defense-wide accounts in titles III and IV of this Act. Reports for titles III and IV shall comply with the guidance specified in the explanatory statement accompanying the Department of Defense Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2006. The Department shall continue to follow the limitation that prior approval reprogrammings are set at either the specified dollar threshold or 20 percent of the procurement or research, development, test and

evaluation line, whichever is less. These thresholds are cumulative from the base for reprogramming value as modified by any adjustments. Therefore, if the combined value of transfers into or out of a procurement (P-1) or research, development, test and evaluation (R-1) line exceeds the identified threshold, the Secretary of Defense must submit a prior approval reprogramming to the congressional defense committees. In addition, guidelines on the application of prior approval reprogramming procedures for congressional special interest items are established elsewhere in this statement.

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND  
EVALUATION, ARMY

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST & EVAL, ARMY		
BASIC RESEARCH		
1 IN-HOUSE LABORATORY INDEPENDENT RESEARCH.....	13,464	13,464
2 DEFENSE RESEARCH SCIENCES.....	238,167	248,417
3 UNIVERSITY RESEARCH INITIATIVES.....	69,808	89,808
4 UNIVERSITY AND INDUSTRY RESEARCH CENTERS.....	102,737	108,837
TOTAL, BASIC RESEARCH.....	424,176	460,526
APPLIED RESEARCH		
5 MATERIALS TECHNOLOGY.....	28,006	46,006
6 SENSORS AND ELECTRONIC SURVIVABILITY.....	33,515	46,265
7 TRACTOR HIP.....	16,358	16,358
8 AVIATION TECHNOLOGY.....	63,433	63,433
9 ELECTRONIC WARFARE TECHNOLOGY.....	18,502	18,502
10 MISSILE TECHNOLOGY.....	46,194	62,194
11 ADVANCED WEAPONS TECHNOLOGY.....	28,528	38,528
12 ADVANCED CONCEPTS AND SIMULATION.....	27,435	27,435
13 COMBAT VEHICLE AND AUTOMOTIVE TECHNOLOGY.....	72,883	72,883
14 BALLISTICS TECHNOLOGY.....	85,597	85,597
15 CHEMICAL, SMOKE AND EQUIPMENT DEFEATING TECHNOLOGY....	3,971	3,971
16 JOINT SERVICE SMALL ARMS PROGRAM.....	6,853	6,853
17 WEAPONS AND MUNITIONS TECHNOLOGY.....	38,069	63,069
18 ELECTRONICS AND ELECTRONIC DEVICES.....	56,435	73,435
19 NIGHT VISION TECHNOLOGY.....	38,445	44,945
20 COUNTERMINE SYSTEMS.....	25,939	29,439
21 HUMAN FACTORS ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY.....	23,783	23,783
22 ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY TECHNOLOGY.....	15,659	15,659
23 COMMAND, CONTROL, COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY.....	33,817	33,817
24 COMPUTER AND SOFTWARE TECHNOLOGY.....	10,764	10,764
25 MILITARY ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY.....	63,311	67,311
26 MANPOWER/PERSONNEL/TRAINING TECHNOLOGY.....	23,295	23,295

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
27 WARFIGHTER TECHNOLOGY.....	25,751	32,051
28 MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY.....	76,068	76,068
TOTAL, APPLIED RESEARCH.....	862,611	981,661
ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT		
29 WARFIGHTER ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY.....	65,139	78,139
30 MEDICAL ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY.....	67,291	106,291
31 AVIATION ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY.....	88,990	102,990
32 WEAPONS AND MUNITIONS ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY.....	57,931	72,931
33 COMBAT VEHICLE AND AUTOMOTIVE ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY.....	110,031	147,531
34 COMMAND, CONTROL, COMMUNICATIONS ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY..	6,883	6,883
35 MANPOWER, PERSONNEL AND TRAINING ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY..	13,580	13,580
36 ELECTRONIC WARFARE ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY.....	44,871	44,871
37 TRACTOR HIKE.....	7,492	7,492
38 NEXT GENERATION TRAINING & SIMULATION SYSTEMS.....	16,749	16,749
39 TRACTOR ROSE.....	14,483	14,483
41 COMBATING TERRORISM, TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT.....	24,270	24,270
42 TRACTOR NAIL.....	3,440	3,440
43 TRACTOR EGGS.....	2,406	2,406
44 ELECTRONIC WARFARE TECHNOLOGY.....	26,057	26,057
45 MISSILE AND ROCKET ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY.....	44,957	79,957
46 TRACTOR CAGE.....	11,105	11,105
47 HIGH PERFORMANCE COMPUTING MODERNIZATION PROGRAM.....	181,609	221,609
48 LANDMINE WARFARE AND BARRIER ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY.....	13,074	13,074
49 JOINT SERVICE SMALL ARMS PROGRAM.....	7,321	7,321
50 NIGHT VISION ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY.....	44,138	44,138
51 ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY TECHNOLOGY DEMONSTRATIONS.....	9,197	11,447
52 MILITARY ENGINEERING ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY.....	17,613	17,613
53 ADVANCED TACTICAL COMPUTER SCIENCE & SENSOR TECHNOLOGY	39,164	39,164
TOTAL, ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT.....	917,791	1,113,541

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
54 DEMONSTRATION & VALIDATION		
ARMY MISSILE DEFENSE SYSTEMS INTEGRATION.....	12,797	25,797
55 ARMY MISSILE DEFENSE SYSTEMS INTEGRATION (SPACE).....	13,999	13,999
58 TANK AND MEDIUM CALIBER AMMUNITION.....	29,334	29,334
59 ADVANCED TANK ARMAMENT SYSTEM (ATAS).....	---	---
60 SOLDIER SUPPORT AND SURVIVABILITY.....	9,602	7,002
61 TACTICAL ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM - AD.....	8,953	8,953
62 NIGHT VISION SYSTEMS ADVANCED DEVELOPMENT.....	3,052	3,052
63 ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY TECHNOLOGY.....	7,830	7,830
65 NATO RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.....	2,954	2,954
67 LOGISTICS AND ENGINEER EQUIPMENT - ADV DEV.....	13,386	13,386
69 MEDICAL SYSTEMS - ADV DEV.....	23,659	23,659
70 SOLDIER SYSTEMS - ADVANCED DEVELOPMENT.....	6,830	6,830
72 ANALYSIS OF ALTERNATIVES.....	9,913	9,913
73 TECHNOLOGY MATURATION INITIATIVES.....	74,740	44,230
74 ASSURED POSITIONING, NAVIGATION AND TIMING (PNT).....	9,930	9,930
76 INDIRECT FIRE PROTECTION CAPABILITY INCREMENT 2-INTERC	96,177	96,177
TOTAL, DEMONSTRATION & VALIDATION.....	323,156	303,046

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
79 ENGINEERING & MANUFACTURING DEVELOPMENT		
AIRCRAFT AVIONICS.....	37,246	41,246
81 ELECTRONIC WARFARE DEVELOPMENT.....	6,002	6,002
82 JOINT TACTICAL RADIO.....	9,832	9,832
83 MID-TIER NETWORKING VEHICULAR RADIO.....	9,730	9,730
84 ALL SOURCE ANALYSIS SYSTEM.....	5,532	5,532
85 TRACTOR CAGE.....	19,929	19,929
86 INFANTRY SUPPORT WEAPONS.....	27,884	34,586
87 MEDIUM TACTICAL VEHICLES.....	210	210
88 JAVELIN.....	4,166	4,166
89 FAMILY OF HEAVY TACTICAL VEHICLES.....	12,913	12,913
90 AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL.....	16,764	16,764
91 TACTICAL UNMANNED GROUND VEHICLE.....	6,770	2,770
92 NIGHT VISION SYSTEMS - SDD.....	65,333	65,333
93 COMBAT FEEDING, CLOTHING, AND EQUIPMENT.....	1,335	3,035
94 NON-SYSTEM TRAINING DEVICES - SDD.....	8,945	8,945
96 AIR DEFENSE COMMAND, CONTROL AND INTELLIGENCE -SDD....	15,906	15,906
97 CONSTRUCTIVE SIMULATION SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT.....	4,394	4,394
98 AUTOMATIC TEST EQUIPMENT DEVELOPMENT.....	11,084	11,084
99 DISTRIBUTIVE INTERACTIVE SIMULATIONS (DIS) - SDD.....	10,027	10,027
100 COMBINED ARMS TACTICAL TRAINER (CATT) CORE.....	42,430	34,730
101 BRIGADE ANALYSIS, INTEGRATION AND EVALUATION.....	105,279	85,279
102 WEAPONS AND MUNITIONS - SDD.....	15,006	15,006

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
103 LOGISTICS AND ENGINEER EQUIPMENT - SDD.....	24,581	24,581
104 COMMAND, CONTROL, COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS - SDD.....	4,433	4,433
105 MEDICAL MATERIEL/MEDICAL BIOLOGICAL DEFENSE EQUIPMENT.	30,397	30,397
106 LANDMINE WARFARE/BARRIER - SDD.....	57,705	57,705
108 ARMY TACTICAL COMMAND & CONTROL HARDWARE & SOFTWARE...	29,683	29,683
109 RADAR DEVELOPMENT.....	5,224	5,224
111 FIREFINDER.....	37,492	23,492
112 SOLDIER SYSTEMS - WARRIOR DEM/VAL.....	6,157	6,157
113 ARTILLERY SYSTEMS.....	1,912	1,912
116 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT.....	69,761	69,761
117 ARMY INTEGRATED MILITARY HUMAN RESOURCES SYSTEM (A-IMH)	138,465	68,465
118 ARMORED MULTI-PURPOSE VEHICLE.....	92,353	92,353
119 JOINT TACTICAL NETWORK CENTER (JTNC).....	8,440	8,440
120 JOINT TACTICAL NETWORK (JTN).....	17,999	17,999
121 COMMON INFRARED COUNTERMEASURES (CIRCM).....	145,409	145,409
122 WIN-T INCREMENT 3 - FULL NETWORKING.....	113,210	113,210
123 AMF JOINT TACTICAL RADIO SYSTEM.....	6,882	6,882
124 JOINT AIR-TO-GROUND MISSILE (JAGM).....	83,838	83,838
125 PAC-2/MSE MISSILE.....	35,009	35,009
126 ARMY INTEGRATED AIR AND MISSILE DEFENSE (AIAMD).....	142,584	152,584
127 MANNED GROUND VEHICLE.....	49,160	49,160
128 AERIAL COMMON SENSOR.....	17,748	17,748
129 NATIONAL CAPABILITIES INTEGRATION.....	15,212	15,212
130 JOINT LIGHT TACTICAL VEHICLE ENG AND MANUFACTURING....	45,718	45,718
131 AVIATION GROUND SUPPORT EQUIPMENT.....	10,041	10,041
132 PALADIN INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT (PIM).....	83,300	80,300
133 TROJAN - RH12.....	983	983
134 ELECTRONIC WARFARE DEVELOPMENT.....	8,961	8,961
TOTAL, ENGINEERING & MANUFACTURING DEVELOPMENT.....	1,719,374	1,623,076



(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
135 RDT&E MANAGEMENT SUPPORT THREAT SIMULATOR DEVELOPMENT.....	18,062	22,062
136 TARGET SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT.....	10,040	10,040
137 MAJOR T&E INVESTMENT.....	60,317	56,313
138 RAND ARROYO CENTER.....	20,612	20,612
139 ARMY KWAJALEIN ATOLL.....	176,041	176,041
140 CONCEPTS EXPERIMENTATION PROGRAM.....	19,439	19,439
142 ARMY TEST RANGES AND FACILITIES.....	275,025	275,025
143 ARMY TECHNICAL TEST INSTRUMENTATION AND TARGETS.....	45,596	45,596
144 SURVIVABILITY/LETHALITY ANALYSIS.....	33,295	33,295
145 AIRCRAFT CERTIFICATION.....	4,700	4,700
146 METEOROLOGICAL SUPPORT TO RDT&E ACTIVITIES.....	6,413	6,413
147 MATERIEL SYSTEMS ANALYSIS.....	20,746	20,746
148 EXPLOITATION OF FOREIGN ITEMS.....	7,015	7,015
149 SUPPORT OF OPERATIONAL TESTING.....	49,221	49,221
150 ARMY EVALUATION CENTER.....	55,039	55,039
151 SIMULATION & MODELING FOR ACQ, RQTS, & TNG (SMART)....	1,125	1,125
152 PROGRAMWIDE ACTIVITIES.....	64,169	64,169
153 TECHNICAL INFORMATION ACTIVITIES.....	32,319	32,319
154 MUNITIONS STANDARDIZATION, EFFECTIVENESS AND SAFETY...	49,052	64,052
155 ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY TECHNOLOGY MGMT SUPPORT.....	2,612	2,612
156 MANAGEMENT HEADQUARTERS (RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT)....	49,592	49,592
TOTAL, RDT&E MANAGEMENT SUPPORT.....	1,000,430	1,015,426

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
158 OPERATIONAL SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT MLRS PRODUCE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM.....	17,112	17,112
159 LOGISTICS AUTOMATION.....	3,654	3,654
160 BIOMETRIC ENABLING CAPABILITY (BEC).....	1,332	1,332
161 PATRIOT PRODUCT IMPROVEMENT.....	152,991	57,991
162 AEROSTAT JOINT PROJECT OFFICE.....	54,076	43,276
163 ADV FIELD ARTILLERY TACTICAL DATA SYSTEM.....	22,374	1,274
164 JOINT AUTOMATED DEEP OPERATION COORDINATION SYSTEM....	24,371	36,671
165 COMBAT VEHICLE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS.....	295,177	297,977
166 MANEUVER CONTROL SYSTEM.....	45,092	45,092
167 AIRCRAFT MODIFICATIONS/PRODUCT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS...	264,887	---
167A IMPROVED CARGO HELICOPTER.....	---	35,424
167B BLACKHAWK RECAP/MODERNIZATION.....	---	48,446
167C APACHE BLOCK III.....	---	86,099
167D FIXED WING AIRCRAFT.....	---	819
167E IMPROVED TURBINE ENGINE PROGRAM.....	---	49,328
168 AIRCRAFT ENGINE COMPONENT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM.....	381	381
169 DIGITIZATION.....	10,912	5,996
169A EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES FROM NIE.....	---	4,916
170 MISSILE/AIR DEFENSE PRODUCT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM.....	5,115	5,115
171 OTHER MISSILE PRODUCT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS.....	49,648	38,348
172 TRACTOR CARD.....	22,691	22,691
173 INTEGRATED BASE DEFENSE - OPERATIONAL SYSTEM DEV.....	4,364	4,364
174 MATERIALS HANDLING EQUIPMENT.....	834	834
175 ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY TECHNOLOGY - OPERATIONAL.....	280	280
176 LOWER TIER AIR AND MISSILE DEFENSE (AMD) SYSTEM.....	78,758	78,758
177 GUIDED MULTIPLE-LAUNCH ROCKET SYSTEM (GMLRS).....	45,377	45,377

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
178 JOINT TACTICAL GROUND SYSTEM.....	10,209	10,209
181 SECURITY AND INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES.....	12,525	12,525
182 INFORMATION SYSTEMS SECURITY PROGRAM.....	14,175	14,175
183 GLOBAL COMBAT SUPPORT SYSTEM.....	4,527	4,527
184 SATCOM GROUND ENVIRONMENT (SPACE).....	11,011	11,011
185 WWMCCS/GLOBAL COMMAND AND CONTROL SYSTEM.....	2,151	2,151
187 TACTICAL UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLES.....	22,870	22,870
188 DISTRIBUTED COMMON GROUND/SURFACE SYSTEMS.....	20,155	20,155
189 MQ-1 SKY WARRIOR A UAV (MQ-1C GRAY EAGLE UAS).....	46,472	46,472
191 VERTICAL UAS.....	16,389	16,389
192 BIOMETRICS ENABLED INTELLIGENCE.....	1,974	1,974
193 WIN-T INCREMENT 2 - INITIAL NETWORKING.....	3,249	3,249
194 END ITEM INDUSTRIAL PREPAREDNESS ACTIVITIES.....	76,225	76,225
TOTAL, OPERATIONAL SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT.....	1,341,558	1,173,487
CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS.....	4,802	4,802
TOTAL, RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST & EVAL, ARMY.....	6,593,898	6,675,565

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS  
[In thousands of dollars]

R-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
<b>2 DEFENSE RESEARCH SCIENCES</b>	<b>238,167</b>	<b>248,417</b>
Program increase - basic research		8,000
Program increase - STEM		2,250
<b>3 UNIVERSITY RESEARCH INITIATIVES</b>	<b>69,808</b>	<b>89,808</b>
Program increase - basic research		20,000
<b>4 UNIVERSITY AND INDUSTRY RESEARCH CENTERS</b>	<b>102,737</b>	<b>108,837</b>
Program increase - basic research		6,100
<b>5 MATERIALS TECHNOLOGY</b>	<b>28,006</b>	<b>46,006</b>
Program increase		18,000
<b>6 SENSORS AND ELECTRONIC SURVIVABILITY</b>	<b>33,515</b>	<b>46,265</b>
Cyberspace security training		7,750
Force protection radar development		5,000
<b>10 MISSILE TECHNOLOGY</b>	<b>46,194</b>	<b>62,194</b>
Program increase		16,000
<b>11 ADVANCED WEAPONS TECHNOLOGY</b>	<b>28,528</b>	<b>38,528</b>
Program increase - directed energy/thermal management		10,000
<b>17 WEAPONS AND MUNITIONS TECHNOLOGY</b>	<b>38,069</b>	<b>63,069</b>
Program increase		25,000
<b>18 ELECTRONICS AND ELECTRONIC DEVICES</b>	<b>56,435</b>	<b>73,435</b>
Silicon carbide research		12,000
Program increase		5,000
<b>19 NIGHT VISION TECHNOLOGY</b>	<b>38,445</b>	<b>44,945</b>
Program increase		6,500
<b>20 COUNTERMINE SYSTEMS</b>	<b>25,939</b>	<b>29,439</b>
Program increase		3,500
<b>25 MILITARY ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY</b>	<b>63,311</b>	<b>67,311</b>
Program increase		4,000
<b>27 WARFIGHTER TECHNOLOGY</b>	<b>25,751</b>	<b>32,051</b>
Program increase		6,300
<b>29 WARFIGHTER ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY</b>	<b>65,139</b>	<b>78,139</b>
Program increase		1,000
Environmental control systems		12,000

R-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
<b>30 MEDICAL ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY</b>	<b>67,291</b>	<b>106,291</b>
Peer-reviewed neurotoxin exposure treatment Parkinson's research		16,000
Peer-reviewed neurofibromatosis research		15,000
Peer-reviewed military burn research		8,000
<b>31 AVIATION ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY</b>	<b>88,990</b>	<b>102,990</b>
Future Vertical Lift research		14,000
<b>32 WEAPONS AND MUNITIONS ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY</b>	<b>57,931</b>	<b>72,931</b>
Program increase		15,000
<b>33 COMBAT VEHICLE AND AUTOMOTIVE ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY</b>	<b>110,031</b>	<b>147,531</b>
Program increase		17,500
Alternative energy research		20,000
<b>45 MISSILE AND ROCKET ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY</b>	<b>44,957</b>	<b>79,957</b>
Restore unjustified cut		35,000
<b>47 HIGH PERFORMANCE COMPUTING MODERNIZATION PROGRAM</b>	<b>181,609</b>	<b>221,609</b>
Program increase		40,000
<b>51 ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY TECHNOLOGY DEMONSTRATIONS</b>	<b>9,197</b>	<b>11,447</b>
Program increase		2,250
<b>54 ARMY MISSILE DEFENSE SYSTEMS INTEGRATION</b>	<b>12,797</b>	<b>25,797</b>
Program increase		13,000
<b>60 SOLDIER SUPPORT AND SURVIVABILITY</b>	<b>9,602</b>	<b>7,002</b>
Program increase		1,400
Rapid Equipping Force non - base budget program		-4,000
<b>72 ANALYSIS OF ALTERNATIVES</b>	<b>9,913</b>	<b>9,913</b>
Armored Multi-Purpose Vehicle Echelons Above Brigade analysis of alternatives acceleration		[4,000]
<b>73 TECHNOLOGY MATURATION INITIATIVES</b>	<b>74,740</b>	<b>44,230</b>
DS3 unjustified request		-45,000
Assured Positioning, Navigation, and Timing (PNT) - Army requested transfer from Military Personnel, Army BA-6		14,490
<b>79 AIRCRAFT AVIONICS</b>	<b>37,246</b>	<b>41,246</b>
Degraded Visual Environment UH-60L demonstration		20,000
C97 JTRS integration delays		-15,000
C97 DGNS upgrade forward financing		-1,000
<b>86 INFANTRY SUPPORT WEAPONS</b>	<b>27,884</b>	<b>34,586</b>
Army requested transfer from WTCV line 19		6,702
<b>91 TACTICAL UNMANNED GROUND VEHICLE</b>	<b>6,770</b>	<b>2,770</b>
New start acquisition strategy		-4,000

R-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
<b>93 COMBAT FEEDING, CLOTHING, AND EQUIPMENT</b>	<b>1,335</b>	<b>3,035</b>
Program increase		1,700
<b>100 COMBINED ARMS TACTICAL TRAINER (CATT) CORE</b>	<b>42,430</b>	<b>34,730</b>
P582 unjustified growth		-7,700
<b>101 BRIGADE ANALYSIS, INTEGRATION AND EVALUATION</b>	<b>105,279</b>	<b>85,279</b>
Execution delays		-20,000
<b>111 FIREFINDER</b>	<b>37,492</b>	<b>23,492</b>
Unsustained growth		-14,000
<b>ARMY INTEGRATED MILITARY HUMAN RESOURCES</b>		
<b>117 SYSTEM (A-IMH)</b>	<b>138,465</b>	<b>68,465</b>
Concurrency and forward financing		-70,000
<b>126 ARMY INTEGRATED AIR AND MISSILE DEFENSE</b>	<b>142,584</b>	<b>152,584</b>
Counter cyber vulnerabilities		10,000
<b>132 PALADIN INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT (PIM)</b>	<b>83,300</b>	<b>80,300</b>
Contract savings		-3,000
<b>135 THREAT SIMULATOR DEVELOPMENT</b>	<b>18,062</b>	<b>22,062</b>
Program increase		4,000
<b>137 MAJOR T&amp;E INVESTMENT</b>	<b>60,317</b>	<b>56,313</b>
P984 NETCM lack of acquisition strategy		-4,004
<b>154 MUNITIONS STANDARDIZATION, EFFECTIVENESS AND SAFETY</b>	<b>49,052</b>	<b>64,052</b>
Program increase		15,000
<b>161 PATRIOT PRODUCT IMPROVEMENT</b>	<b>152,991</b>	<b>57,991</b>
Program increase only for counter - EA improvements		-95,000
<b>162 AEROSTAT JOINT PROJECT OFFICE</b>	<b>54,076</b>	<b>43,276</b>
Field service representatives and spares - excess funding		-10,800
<b>163 ADV FIELD ARTILLERY TACTICAL DATA SYSTEM</b>	<b>22,374</b>	<b>1,274</b>
AFATDS Increment II - Army requested transfer to line 164		-12,300
Increment II program delays		-8,800
<b>JOINT AUTOMATED DEEP OPERATION COORDINATION</b>		
<b>164 SYSTEM</b>	<b>24,371</b>	<b>36,671</b>
AFATDS Increment I - Army requested transfer from line 163		12,300
<b>165 COMBAT VEHICLE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS</b>	<b>295,177</b>	<b>297,977</b>
Program increase - Stryker engineering change proposal acceleration		29,000
Abrams excess government costs		-10,000
Bradley continued underexecution		-16,200

R-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
<b>AIRCRAFT MODIFICATIONS/PRODUCT IMPROVEMENT</b>		
<b>167 PROGRAMS</b>	<b>264,887</b>	<b>0</b>
Transfer to lines 167A to 167E		-198,116
D17 Apache forward financing		-50,000
P504H - 60L Digital excess to requirement		-16,771
<b>167A IMPROVED CARGO HELICOPTER</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>35,424</b>
P430 - transfer from line 167		35,424
<b>167B BLACKHAWK RECAPITALIZATION/MODERNIZATION</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>48,446</b>
P504 - transfer from line 167		48,446
<b>167C APACHE BLOCK III</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>86,099</b>
D17 - transfer from line 167		74,099
Ground fire acquisition development		12,000
<b>167D FIXED WING AIRCRAFT</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>819</b>
D18 - transfer from line 167		819
<b>167E IMPROVED TURBINE ENGINE PROGRAM</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>49,328</b>
EB1 - transfer from line 167		39,328
Program increase - Improved Turbine Engine Program		10,000
<b>169 DIGITIZATION</b>	<b>10,912</b>	<b>5,996</b>
EC8 - Emerging Technologies from NIEs - transfer to line 169A		-4,916
<b>169A EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES FROM NIEs</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4,916</b>
EC8 - Emerging Technologies from NIEs - transfer from line 169		4,916
<b>171 OTHER MISSILE PRODUCT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS</b>	<b>49,848</b>	<b>38,348</b>
DZ9 program delay		-11,500

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND MATH  
PILOT PROGRAM

The agreement recommends \$2,250,000 for a Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) pilot program to reach out to underserved student populations. The Secretary of the Army shall carry out a pilot research and development initiative to conduct STEM

education research and evaluation at elementary and secondary schools to build evidence about promising practices and program effectiveness. This pilot shall be used across agencies and shared with the public to improve the impact of STEM investment and engagement with the public school sector. This pilot should focus on serving low-in-

come students and other groups from historically underserved populations in STEM fields.

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND  
EVALUATION, NAVY

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:



(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
-----			
	RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST & EVAL, NAVY		
	BASIC RESEARCH		
1	UNIVERSITY RESEARCH INITIATIVES.....	113,908	133,908
2	IN-HOUSE LABORATORY INDEPENDENT RESEARCH.....	18,734	19,142
3	DEFENSE RESEARCH SCIENCES.....	443,697	497,145
	TOTAL, BASIC RESEARCH.....	576,339	650,195
	APPLIED RESEARCH		
4	POWER PROJECTION APPLIED RESEARCH.....	95,753	95,753
5	FORCE PROTECTION APPLIED RESEARCH.....	139,496	163,696
6	MARINE CORPS LANDING FORCE TECHNOLOGY.....	45,831	45,831
7	COMMON PICTURE APPLIED RESEARCH.....	43,541	43,541
8	WARFIGHTER SUSTAINMENT APPLIED RESEARCH.....	46,923	46,923
9	ELECTROMAGNETIC SYSTEMS APPLIED RESEARCH.....	107,872	107,872
10	OCEAN WARFIGHTING ENVIRONMENT APPLIED RESEARCH.....	45,388	65,388
11	JOINT NON-LETHAL WEAPONS APPLIED RESEARCH.....	5,887	5,887
12	UNDERSEA WARFARE APPLIED RESEARCH.....	86,880	86,880
13	FUTURE NAVAL CAPABILITIES ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY DEV.....	170,786	176,086
14	MINE AND EXPEDITIONARY WARFARE APPLIED RESEARCH.....	32,526	32,526
	TOTAL, APPLIED RESEARCH.....	820,883	870,383
	ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT		
15	POWER PROJECTION ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY.....	37,734	37,734
16	FORCE PROTECTION ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY.....	25,831	25,831
17	ELECTROMAGNETIC SYSTEMS ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY.....	64,623	64,623
18	MARINE CORPS ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY DEMONSTRATION (ATD)...	128,397	128,397
19	JOINT NON-LETHAL WEAPONS TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT.....	11,506	11,506
20	FUTURE NAVAL CAPABILITIES ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY DEV.....	256,144	261,144
21	WARFIGHTER PROTECTION ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY.....	4,838	40,538
22	UNDERSEA WARFARE ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY.....	9,985	9,985
23	NAVY WARFIGHTING EXPERIMENTS AND DEMONSTRATIONS.....	53,956	53,956
24	MINE AND EXPEDITIONARY WARFARE ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY....	2,000	2,000
	TOTAL, ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT.....	595,014	635,714

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
25 DEMONSTRATION & VALIDATION AIR/OCEAN TACTICAL APPLICATIONS.....	40,429	40,429
26 AVIATION SURVIVABILITY.....	4,325	4,325
27 DEPLOYABLE JOINT COMMAND AND CONTROL.....	2,991	2,991
28 AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS.....	12,651	12,651
29 ASW SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT.....	7,782	7,782
30 TACTICAL AIRBORNE RECONNAISSANCE.....	5,275	5,275
31 ADVANCED COMBAT SYSTEMS TECHNOLOGY.....	1,646	1,646
32 SURFACE AND SHALLOW WATER MINE COUNTERMEASURES.....	100,349	86,358
33 SURFACE SHIP TORPEDO DEFENSE.....	52,781	50,781
34 CARRIER SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT.....	5,959	5,959
35 PILOT FISH.....	148,865	138,865
36 RETRACT LARCH.....	25,365	25,365
37 RETRACT JUNIPER.....	80,477	76,477
38 RADIOLOGICAL CONTROL.....	669	669
39 SURFACE ASW.....	1,060	1,060
40 ADVANCED SUBMARINE SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT.....	70,551	67,551
41 SUBMARINE TACTICAL WARFARE SYSTEMS.....	8,044	8,044
42 SHIP CONCEPT ADVANCED DESIGN.....	17,864	17,864
43 SHIP PRELIMINARY DESIGN & FEASIBILITY STUDIES.....	23,716	1,773
44 ADVANCED NUCLEAR POWER SYSTEMS.....	499,961	499,961
45 ADVANCED SURFACE MACHINERY SYSTEMS.....	21,026	21,026
46 CHALK EAGLE.....	542,700	542,700
47 LITTORAL COMBAT SHIP (LCS).....	88,734	86,734
48 COMBAT SYSTEM INTEGRATION.....	20,881	20,881
49 OHIO REPLACEMENT PROGRAM.....	849,277	853,277
50 LITTORAL COMBAT SHIP (LCS) MISSION PACKAGES.....	196,948	176,948
51 AUTOMATIC TEST AND RE-TEST.....	8,115	8,115
52 CONVENTIONAL MUNITIONS.....	7,603	7,603
53 MARINE CORPS ASSAULT VEHICLES.....	105,749	105,749
54 MARINE CORPS GROUND COMBAT/SUPPORT SYSTEM.....	1,342	1,342

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
55 JOINT SERVICE EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DEVELOPMENT.....	21,399	21,399
56 COOPERATIVE ENGAGEMENT.....	43,578	37,310
57 OCEAN ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT.....	7,764	6,264
58 ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION.....	13,200	13,200
59 NAVY ENERGY PROGRAM.....	69,415	63,804
60 FACILITIES IMPROVEMENT.....	2,588	2,588
61 CHALK CORAL.....	176,301	176,301
62 NAVY LOGISTIC PRODUCTIVITY.....	3,873	3,473
63 RETRACT MAPLE.....	376,028	376,028
64 LINK PLUMERIA.....	272,096	260,096
65 RETRACT ELM.....	42,233	42,233
66 LINK EVERGREEN.....	46,504	46,504
67 SPECIAL PROCESSES.....	25,109	25,109
68 NATO RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.....	9,659	9,659
69 LAND ATTACK TECHNOLOGY.....	318	318
70 NONLETHAL WEAPONS.....	40,912	35,627
71 JOINT PRECISION APPROACH AND LANDING SYSTEMS.....	54,896	41,896
73 DIRECTED ENERGY AND ELECTRIC WEAPON SYSTEMS.....	58,696	55,696
74 GERALD R. FORD CLASS NUCLEAR AIRCRAFT CARRIER.....	43,613	43,613
75 REMOTE MINEHUNTING SYSTEM (RMS).....	21,110	21,110
76 TACTICAL AIR DIRECTIONAL INFRARED COUNTERMEASURES.....	5,657	5,556
77 ASE SELF-PROTECTION OPTIMIZATION.....	8,033	3,923
78 LX (R).....	36,859	36,859
79 JOINT COUNTER RADIO CONTROLLED IED ELECTRONIC WARFARE.....	15,227	15,227
81 SPACE & ELECTRONIC WARFARE (SEW) ARCHITECTURE/ENGINE..	22,393	18,798
82 OFFENSIVE ANTI-SURFACE WARFARE WEAPON DEVELOPMENT.....	202,939	181,939
83 JOINT LIGHT TACTICAL VEHICLE ENGINEERING/MANUFACTURING	11,450	9,450
84 ASW SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT - MIP.....	6,495	6,495
85 ELECTRONIC WARFARE DEVELOPMENT - MIP.....	332	332
TOTAL, DEMONSTRATION & VALIDATION.....	4,591,812	4,441,008

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
86 ENGINEERING & MANUFACTURING DEVELOPMENT TRAINING SYSTEM AIRCRAFT.....	25,153	25,153
87 OTHER HELO DEVELOPMENT.....	46,154	35,099
87X MH-XX.....	---	3,055
88 AV-8B AIRCRAFT - ENG DEV.....	25,372	25,372
89 STANDARDS DEVELOPMENT.....	53,712	53,712
90 MULTI-MISSION HELICOPTER UPGRADE DEVELOPMENT.....	11,434	11,434
91 AIR/OCEAN EQUIPMENT ENGINEERING.....	2,164	2,164
92 P-3 MODERNIZATION PROGRAM.....	1,710	710
93 WARFARE SUPPORT SYSTEM.....	9,094	9,094
94 TACTICAL COMMAND SYSTEM.....	70,248	60,248
95 ADVANCED HAWKEYE.....	193,200	176,700
96 H-1 UPGRADES.....	44,115	44,115
97 ACOUSTIC SEARCH SENSORS.....	23,227	23,227
98 V-22A.....	61,249	57,749
99 AIR CREW SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT.....	15,014	15,014
100 EA-18.....	18,730	18,730
101 ELECTRONIC WARFARE DEVELOPMENT.....	28,742	28,742
102 VH-71A EXECUTIVE HELO DEVELOPMENT.....	388,086	368,086
103 NEXT GENERATION JAMMER (NGJ).....	246,856	230,733
104 JOINT TACTICAL RADIO SYSTEM - NAVY (JTRS-NAVY).....	7,106	7,106
105 SURFACE COMBATANT COMBAT SYSTEM ENGINEERING.....	189,112	179,112
106 LPD-17 CLASS SYSTEMS INTEGRATION.....	376	376
107 SMALL DIAMETER BOMB (SDB).....	71,849	56,286
108 STANDARD MISSILE IMPROVEMENTS.....	53,198	36,698
109 AIRBORNE MCM.....	38,941	38,941
110 MARINE AIR GROUND TASK FORCE ELECTRONIC WARFARE .....	7,832	7,832
111 NAVAL INTEGRATED FIRE CONTROL-COUNTER AIR SYSTEMS ENG.....	15,263	15,263
112 FUTURE UNMANNED CARRIER-BASED STRIKE SYSTEM.....	403,017	403,017
113 ADVANCED ABOVE WATER SENSORS.....	20,409	19,809
114 SSN-688 AND TRIDENT MODERNIZATION.....	71,565	71,565
115 AIR CONTROL.....	29,037	29,037

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
116 SHIPBOARD AVIATION SYSTEMS.....	122,083	122,083
118 ADVANCED MISSILE DEFENSE RADAR (AMDR) SYSTEM.....	144,706	129,706
119 NEW DESIGN SSN.....	72,695	87,695
120 SUBMARINE TACTICAL WARFARE SYSTEM.....	38,985	38,985
121 SHIP CONTRACT DESIGN/LIVE FIRE T&E.....	48,470	40,016
122 NAVY TACTICAL COMPUTER RESOURCES.....	3,935	3,935
123 VIRGINIA PAYLOAD MODULE (VPM).....	132,602	120,602
124 MINE DEVELOPMENT.....	19,067	14,067
125 LIGHTWEIGHT TORPEDO DEVELOPMENT.....	25,280	35,280
126 JOINT SERVICE EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DEVELOPMENT.....	8,985	8,985
127 PERSONNEL, TRAINING, SIMULATION, AND HUMAN FACTORS....	7,669	7,669
128 JOINT STANDOFF WEAPON SYSTEMS.....	4,400	4,400
129 SHIP SELF DEFENSE (DETECT & CONTROL).....	56,889	56,889
130 SHIP SELF DEFENSE (ENGAGE: HARD KILL).....	96,937	96,937
131 SHIP SELF DEFENSE (ENGAGE: SOFT KILL/EW).....	134,564	116,904
132 INTELLIGENCE ENGINEERING.....	200	200
133 MEDICAL DEVELOPMENT.....	8,287	27,287
134 NAVIGATION/ID SYSTEM.....	29,504	29,504
135 JOINT STRIKE FIGHTER (JSF) - EMD.....	513,021	499,048
135X JSF FOD-MC.....	---	10,399
136 JOINT STRIKE FIGHTER (JSF).....	516,456	502,260
136X JSF FOD-N.....	---	10,622
137 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT.....	2,887	2,887
138 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT.....	66,317	66,317
139 CH-53K.....	573,187	559,687
140 SHIP TO SHORE CONNECTOR (SSC).....	67,815	42,778
141 JOINT AIR-TO-GROUND MISSILE (JAGM).....	6,300	6,300
142 MULTI-MISSION MARITIME AIRCRAFT (MMA).....	308,037	306,037
143 DDG-1000.....	202,522	202,522
144 TACTICAL COMMAND SYSTEM - MIP.....	1,011	1,011
145 TACTICAL CRYPTOLOGIC SYSTEMS.....	10,357	10,357

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
146 SPECIAL APPLICATIONS PROGRAM.....	23,975	23,975
TOTAL, ENGINEERING & MANUFACTURING DEVELOPMENT.....	5,419,108	5,239,523
147 RDT&E MANAGEMENT SUPPORT THREAT SIMULATOR DEVELOPMENT.....	45,272	40,793
148 TARGET SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT.....	79,718	66,718
149 MAJOR T&E INVESTMENT.....	123,993	123,993
150 JOINT THEATER AIR AND MISSILE DEFENSE ORGANIZATION....	4,960	4,960
151 STUDIES AND ANALYSIS SUPPORT - NAVY.....	8,296	3,502
151X FA-XX (NEXT GENERATION FIGHTER).....	---	4,794
152 CENTER FOR NAVAL ANALYSES.....	45,752	45,752
154 TECHNICAL INFORMATION SERVICES.....	876	876
155 MANAGEMENT, TECHNICAL & INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT.....	72,070	87,070
156 STRATEGIC TECHNICAL SUPPORT.....	3,237	2,590
157 RDT&E SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY MANAGEMENT.....	73,033	73,033
158 RDT&E SHIP AND AIRCRAFT SUPPORT.....	138,304	138,304
159 TEST AND EVALUATION SUPPORT.....	336,286	336,286
160 OPERATIONAL TEST AND EVALUATION CAPABILITY.....	16,658	16,658
161 NAVY SPACE AND ELECTRONIC WARFARE (SEW) SUPPORT.....	2,505	2,505
162 SEW SURVEILLANCE/RECONNAISSANCE SUPPORT.....	8,325	8,325
163 MARINE CORPS PROGRAM WIDE SUPPORT.....	17,866	17,866
156 TACTICAL CRYPTOLOGIC ACTIVITIES.....	---	---
TOTAL, RDT&E MANAGEMENT SUPPORT.....	977,151	974,025
168 OPERATIONAL SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT UNMANNED COMBAT AIR VEHICLE (UCAV) ADVANCED COMPONENT.	35,949	35,949
169 MARINE CORPS DATA SYSTEMS.....	215	---
170 CARRIER ONBOARD DELIVERY FOLLOW ON.....	8,873	8,873
172 STRATEGIC SUB & WEAPONS SYSTEM SUPPORT.....	96,943	94,525
173 SSBN SECURITY TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM.....	30,057	30,057
174 SUBMARINE ACOUSTIC WARFARE DEVELOPMENT.....	4,509	4,509
175 NAVY STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS.....	13,676	13,676
176 RAPID TECHNOLOGY TRANSITION (RTT).....	12,480	8,480

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
177 F/A-18 SQUADRONS.....	76,216	86,216
179 FLEET TELECOMMUNICATIONS (TACTICAL).....	27,281	27,281
180 SURFACE SUPPORT.....	2,878	2,878
181 TOMAHAWK AND TOMAHAWK MISSION PLANNING CENTER (TMPC)...	32,385	26,145
182 INTEGRATED SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM.....	39,371	34,471
183 AMPHIBIOUS TACTICAL SUPPORT UNITS.....	4,609	4,609
184 GROUND/AIR TASK ORIENTED RADAR.....	99,106	99,106
185 CONSOLIDATED TRAINING SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT.....	39,922	37,922
186 CRYPTOLOGIC DIRECT SUPPORT.....	1,157	1,157
187 ELECTRONIC WARFARE (EW) READINESS SUPPORT.....	22,087	16,567
188 HARM IMPROVEMENT.....	17,420	17,420
189 TACTICAL DATA LINKS.....	151,208	121,708
190 SURFACE ASW COMBAT SYSTEM INTEGRATION.....	26,366	26,366
191 MK-48 ADCAP.....	25,952	25,952
192 AVIATION IMPROVEMENTS.....	106,936	85,037
194 OPERATIONAL NUCLEAR POWER SYSTEMS.....	104,023	104,023
195 MARINE CORPS COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS.....	77,398	74,258
196 COMMON AVIATION COMMAND AND CONTROL SYSTEM .....	32,495	32,495
197 MARINE CORPS GROUND COMBAT/SUPPORTING ARMS SYSTEMS....	156,626	52,419
197X AMPHIBIOUS ASSAULT VEHICLE.....	---	96,207
198 MARINE CORPS COMBAT SERVICES SUPPORT.....	20,999	20,999
199 USMC INTELLIGENCE/ELECTRONIC WARFARE SYSTEMS (MIP)....	14,179	14,179
200 TACTICAL AIM MISSILES.....	47,258	37,258
201 ADVANCED MEDIUM RANGE AIR-TO-AIR MISSILE (AMRAAM).....	10,210	10,210
206 SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS (SPACE).....	41,829	41,829
207 CONSOLIDATED AFLOAT NETWORK ENTERPRISE SERVICES.....	22,780	22,780
208 INFORMATION SYSTEMS SECURITY PROGRAM.....	23,053	23,053
209 WWMCCS/GLOBAL COMMAND AND CONTROL SYSTEM.....	296	---
212 NAVY METEOROLOGICAL AND OCEAN SENSORS-SPACE (METOC)...	359	359
213 JOINT MILITARY INTELLIGENCE PROGRAMS.....	6,166	6,166
214 TACTICAL UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLES.....	8,505	8,505

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
216 DISTRIBUTED COMMON GROUND SYSTEMS/SURFACE SYSTEMS.....	11,613	11,613
217 DISTRIBUTED COMMON GROUND SYSTEMS/SURFACE SYSTEMS.....	18,146	18,146
218 RQ-4 UAV.....	498,003	451,503
218X RQ-4 MODERNIZATION.....	---	5,000
219 MQ-8 UAV.....	47,294	43,294
220 RQ-11 UAV.....	718	718
221 RQ-7 UAV.....	851	851
222 SMALL (LEVEL 0) TACTICAL UAS (STUASLO).....	4,813	4,813
223 RQ-21A.....	8,192	8,192
224 MULTI-INTELLIGENCE SENSOR DEVELOPMENT.....	22,559	17,751
225 UNMANNED AERIAL SYSTEMS (UAS) PAYLOADS (MIP).....	2,000	2,000
226 MODELING AND SIMULATION SUPPORT.....	4,719	4,719
227 DEPOT MAINTENANCE (NON-IF).....	21,168	21,168
228 INDUSTRIAL PREPAREDNESS.....	37,169	37,169
229 MARITIME TECHNOLOGY (MARITECH).....	4,347	4,347
TOTAL, OPERATIONAL SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT.....	2,123,344	1,984,928
CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS.....	1,162,684	1,162,684
TOTAL, RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST & EVAL, NAVY.....	16,266,335	15,958,460



EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS  
[In thousands of dollars]

R-1		FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
1	UNIVERSITY RESEARCH INITIATIVES	113,908	133,908
	Program increase		20,000
2	IN-HOUSE LABORATORY INDEPENDENT RESEARCH	18,734	19,142
	Program increase		408
3	DEFENSE RESEARCH SCIENCES	443,697	497,145
	Program increase		53,448
5	FORCE PROTECTION APPLIED RESEARCH	139,496	163,696
	Program increase		4,200
	Program increase - alternative energy		20,000
10	OCEAN WARFIGHTING ENVIRONMENT APPLIED RESEARCH	45,388	65,388
	Program increase - AGOR mid-life refit		20,000
13	FUTURE NAVAL CAPABILITIES ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT	170,786	176,086
	Program increase - automated critical care system		5,300
20	FUTURE NAVAL CAPABILITIES ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT	256,144	261,144
	Program increase - ASW research		5,000
21	WARFIGHTER PROTECTION ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY	4,838	40,538
	Program increase - bone marrow registry program		31,500
	Tactical athlete program - transfer from OM,DW		4,200
32	SURFACE AND SHALLOW WATER MINE COUNTERMEASURES	100,349	86,358
	SSQ-94 trainer program growth		-1,500
	Unmanned surface vehicle development program delay		-3,600
	Unmanned surface vehicle support program growth		-1,000
	Unmanned surface vehicle flight 2 ahead of need		-7,891
33	SURFACE SHIP TORPEDO DEFENSE	52,781	50,781
	Program execution		-2,000
35	PILOT FISH	148,865	138,865
	Classified adjustment		-10,000
37	RETRACT JUNIPER	80,477	76,477
	Classified adjustment		-4,000
40	ADVANCED SUBMARINE SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT	70,551	67,551
	Stealth funding carryover		-3,000
43	SHIP PRELIMINARY DESIGN & FEASIBILITY STUDIES	23,716	1,773
	Program execution		-5,980
	Transfer to NDSF		-15,963
47	LITTORAL COMBAT SHIP	88,734	86,734
	Support funding growth		-2,000

R-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
<b>49 OHIO REPLACEMENT PROGRAM</b>	<b>849,277</b>	<b>853,277</b>
Program increase - submarine propulsion component development		4,000
<b>50 LITTORAL COMBAT SHIP MISSION PACKAGES</b>	<b>196,948</b>	<b>176,948</b>
Program execution		-20,000
<b>56 COOPERATIVE ENGAGEMENT</b>	<b>43,578</b>	<b>37,310</b>
Program execution		-3,268
Common array block antenna contract delay		-3,000
<b>57 OCEAN ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT</b>	<b>7,764</b>	<b>6,264</b>
Submarine rescue system program delay		-1,500
<b>59 NAVY ENERGY PROGRAM</b>	<b>69,415</b>	<b>63,804</b>
Program execution		-5,611
<b>62 NAVY LOGISTIC PRODUCTIVITY</b>	<b>3,873</b>	<b>3,473</b>
Unobligated balances		-400
<b>64 LINK PLUMERIA</b>	<b>272,096</b>	<b>260,096</b>
Classified adjustment		-12,000
<b>70 NONLETHAL WEAPONS</b>	<b>40,912</b>	<b>35,627</b>
Program execution		-5,285
<b>71 JOINT PRECISION APPROACH AND LANDING SYSTEMS</b>	<b>54,896</b>	<b>41,896</b>
Program execution		-13,000
<b>73 DIRECTED ENERGY AND ELECTRIC WEAPON SYSTEMS</b>	<b>58,696</b>	<b>55,696</b>
Railgun development excess support		-3,000
<b>76 TACTICAL AIR DIRECTIONAL INFRARED COUNTERMEASURES</b>	<b>5,657</b>	<b>5,556</b>
Joint and allied threat awareness system program termination		-101
<b>77 ASE SELF-PROTECTION OPTIMIZATION</b>	<b>8,033</b>	<b>3,923</b>
Program growth		-2,000
Unjustified request for test assets		-2,110
<b>SPACE &amp; ELECTRONIC WARFARE (SEW)</b>		
<b>81 ARCHITECTURE/ENGINEERING</b>	<b>22,393</b>	<b>18,798</b>
Poor justification materials		-3,595
<b>OFFENSIVE ANTI-SURFACE WARFARE WEAPON</b>		
<b>82 DEVELOPMENT</b>	<b>202,939</b>	<b>181,939</b>
Program delay		-20,000
Increment II ahead of need		-1,000
<b>JOINT LIGHT TACTICAL VEHICLE</b>		
<b>83 ENGINEERING/MANUFACTURING</b>	<b>11,450</b>	<b>9,450</b>
Program management excess to requirement		-2,000
<b>87 OTHER HELO DEVELOPMENT</b>	<b>46,154</b>	<b>35,099</b>
Executive helicopter support program growth		-5,000
MH-XX ahead of need		-3,000
Transfer to line 87X		-3,055

R-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
87X MH-XX	0	3,055
Transfer from line 87		3,055
92 P-3 MODERNIZATION PROGRAM	1,710	710
Unobligated balances		-1,000
94 TACTICAL COMMAND SYSTEM	70,248	60,248
Program execution		-2,500
Joint mission planning system		-7,500
95 ADVANCED HAWKEYE	193,200	176,700
In-flight refueling program restructure		-15,000
Modernization cost growth and poor execution		-10,000
Program increase		8,500
98 V-22A	61,249	57,749
Program growth		-3,500
102 VH-71A EXECUTIVE HELO DEVELOPMENT	388,086	368,086
Early down select		-20,000
103 NEXT GENERATION JAMMER	246,856	230,733
Program execution		-16,123
105 SURFACE COMBATANT COMBAT SYSTEM ENGINEERING	189,112	179,112
Surface combatant development and integration support program growth		-10,000
107 SMALL DIAMETER BOMB (SDB)	71,849	56,286
Joint strike fighter integration		-15,563
108 STANDARD MISSILE IMPROVEMENTS	53,198	36,698
Program execution		-16,500
113 ADVANCED ABOVE WATER SENSORS	20,409	19,809
Advanced radar technology		-600
118 ADVANCED MISSILE DEFENSE RADAR SYSTEM	144,706	129,706
Program execution		-15,000
119 NEW DESIGN SSN	72,695	87,695
Program increase - small business technology insertion		15,000
121 SHIP CONTRACT DESIGN/LIVE FIRE T&E	48,470	40,016
Transfer to NDSF		-8,454
123 VIRGINIA PAYLOAD MODULE (VPM)	132,602	120,602
Program execution		-12,000
124 MINE DEVELOPMENT	19,067	14,067
Offensive mining		-5,000
125 LIGHTWEIGHT TORPEDO DEVELOPMENT	25,280	35,280
Program increase - small business technology insertion		10,000

R-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
<b>130 SHIP SELF DEFENSE (ENGAGE: HARD KILL)</b>	<b>96,937</b>	<b>96,937</b>
ESSM block II risk reduction		-5,000
Program increase - systems overhaul		5,000
<b>131 SHIP SELF DEFENSE (ENGAGE: SOFT KILL/EW)</b>	<b>134,564</b>	<b>116,904</b>
SEWIP block 3 preliminary design contract delay		-13,225
Unjustified RCIP		-4,435
<b>133 MEDICAL DEVELOPMENT</b>	<b>8,287</b>	<b>27,287</b>
Program increase - wound care research		13,000
Program increase - dental research		6,000
<b>135 JOINT STRIKE FIGHTER (JSF) - EMD</b>	<b>513,021</b>	<b>499,048</b>
Follow on development excess		-3,574
Transfer to line 135X		-10,399
<b>JOINT STRIKE FIGHTER FOLLOW ON DEVELOPMENT - MARINE</b>		
<b>135X CORPS</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10,399</b>
Transfer from line 135		10,399
<b>136 JOINT STRIKE FIGHTER (JSF)</b>	<b>516,456</b>	<b>502,260</b>
Follow on development excess		-3,574
Transfer to line 136X		-10,622
<b>136X JOINT STRIKE FIGHTER FOLLOW ON DEVELOPMENT - NAVY</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10,622</b>
Transfer from line 136		10,622
<b>138 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT</b>	<b>66,317</b>	<b>66,317</b>
Information technology contract undefined		-5,000
Program increase - enterprise product lifecycle management integrated decision environment		5,000
<b>139 CH-53K</b>	<b>573,187</b>	<b>559,687</b>
Incremental funding		-25,000
Program increase - vendor production qualification		11,500
<b>140 SHIP TO SHORE CONNECTOR</b>	<b>67,815</b>	<b>42,778</b>
Program execution		-5,000
Transfer to SCN line 19		-20,037
<b>142 MULTI-MISSION MARITIME AIRCRAFT</b>	<b>308,037</b>	<b>306,037</b>
Spiral 2 government systems engineering program growth		-17,000
Program increase - small business technology insertion		15,000
<b>147 THREAT SIMULATOR DEVELOPMENT</b>	<b>45,272</b>	<b>40,793</b>
Prior year carryover		-4,479
<b>148 TARGET SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT</b>	<b>79,718</b>	<b>66,718</b>
BQM-177A program restructure		-3,000
Prior year carryover		-10,000
<b>151 STUDIES AND ANALYSIS SUPPORT - NAVY</b>	<b>8,296</b>	<b>3,502</b>
Transfer to line 151X		-4,794
<b>151X NEXT GENERATION FIGHTER</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4,794</b>
Transfer from line 151		4,794

R-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
<b>155 MANAGEMENT, TECHNICAL &amp; INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT</b>	<b>72,070</b>	<b>87,070</b>
Program increase - printed circuit board executive agent		15,000
<b>156 STRATEGIC TECHNICAL SUPPORT</b>	<b>3,237</b>	<b>2,590</b>
Prior year carryover		-647
<b>169 MARINE CORPS DATA SYSTEMS</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>0</b>
Prior year carryover		-215
<b>172 STRATEGIC SUB &amp; WEAPONS SYSTEM SUPPORT</b>	<b>96,943</b>	<b>94,525</b>
Program execution		-12,418
Program increase - missile component development		10,000
<b>176 RAPID TECHNOLOGY TRANSITION (RTT)</b>	<b>12,480</b>	<b>8,480</b>
TIPS program growth		-3,000
Prior year carryover		-1,000
<b>177 F/A-18 SQUADRONS</b>	<b>76,216</b>	<b>86,216</b>
Program increase - dual mode Brimstone integration		10,000
<b>181 TOMAHAWK AND TOMAHAWK MISSION PLANNING CENTER</b>	<b>32,385</b>	<b>26,145</b>
A2AD improvement		-6,240
<b>182 INTEGRATED SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM</b>	<b>39,371</b>	<b>34,471</b>
Classified adjustment		-4,900
<b>185 CONSOLIDATED TRAINING SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT</b>	<b>39,922</b>	<b>37,922</b>
Tactical combat training		-2,000
<b>187 ELECTRONIC WARFARE READINESS SUPPORT</b>	<b>22,067</b>	<b>16,567</b>
EW/IO countermeasure capability program growth		-5,500
<b>189 TACTICAL DATA LINKS</b>	<b>151,208</b>	<b>121,708</b>
Program execution		-15,000
Navy tactical common data link unjustified requirement		-14,500
<b>192 AVIATION IMPROVEMENTS</b>	<b>106,936</b>	<b>85,037</b>
F-135 improvements ahead of need		-26,899
Expeditionary program increase		5,000
<b>195 MARINE CORPS COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS</b>	<b>77,398</b>	<b>74,258</b>
AFATDS software development schedule slip		-1,340
AN/TPS-59 support unjustified growth		-1,800
<b>MARINE CORPS GROUND COMBAT/SUPPORTING ARMS</b>		
<b>197 SYSTEMS</b>	<b>156,626</b>	<b>52,419</b>
Transfer to line 197X		-104,207
<b>197X AMPHIBIOUS ASSAULT VEHICLE</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>96,207</b>
Transfer from line 197		104,207
Support funding growth		-8,000
<b>200 TACTICAL AIM MISSILES</b>	<b>47,258</b>	<b>37,258</b>
Program restructure		-10,000
<b>209 WWMCCS/GLOBAL COMMAND AND CONTROL SYSTEM</b>	<b>296</b>	<b>0</b>
Program termination		-296

R-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
<b>218 RQ-4 UAV</b>	<b>498,003</b>	<b>451,503</b>
Milestone C delay		-35,000
Primary hardware development		-6,500
Transfer to line 218X		-5,000
<b>218X RQ-4 MODERNIZATION</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5,000</b>
Transfer from line 218		5,000
<b>219 MQ-8 UAV</b>	<b>47,294</b>	<b>43,294</b>
Engineering and technical services program growth		-4,000
<b>224 MULTI-INTELLIGENCE SENSOR DEVELOPMENT</b>	<b>22,559</b>	<b>17,751</b>
Prior year carryover		-4,808

## RQ-4 TRITON UNMANNED AUTONOMOUS VEHICLE

The fiscal year 2015 budget request includes \$498,003,000 to continue system development and begin modernization of the RQ-4 Triton Unmanned Autonomous Vehicle program. The program has experienced numerous cost overruns and development delays. The agreement reduces the fiscal year 2015 budget request by \$41,500,000 and directs the Secretary of the Navy to defer some modernization activities until a review of the capability development document is completed by the Joint Requirements Oversight Council. The agreement includes a separate modernization budget line for increased transparency.

UNMANNED CARRIER LAUNCHED AIRBORNE  
SURVEILLANCE AND STRIKE SYSTEM

The agreement fully funds the fiscal year 2015 budget request of \$403,017,000 to continue the development of the Unmanned Carrier Launched Airborne Surveillance and Strike (UCLASS) system in three segments: the air segment, the control system and connectivity segment, and the carrier segment. However, there is concern that the Navy is proceeding with the development of the UCLASS system prior to the formal establishment of stable requirements. The Joint Staff has provided a memorandum to the House and Senate Appropriations Committees stating that the requirements vali-

dation process will be streamlined, where possible, and the Joint Requirements Oversight Council (JROC) will approve the capability development document prior to Milestone B. Therefore, the agreement directs the Secretary of the Navy to confirm JROC validation of the key performance parameters prior to issuing the final request for proposals for the development program.

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND  
EVALUATION, AIR FORCE

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
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	RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST & EVAL, AIR FORCE		
	BASIC RESEARCH		
1	DEFENSE RESEARCH SCIENCES.....	314,482	389,979
2	UNIVERSITY RESEARCH INITIATIVES.....	127,079	147,079
3	HIGH ENERGY LASER RESEARCH INITIATIVES.....	12,929	13,950
	TOTAL, BASIC RESEARCH.....	454,490	551,008
	APPLIED RESEARCH		
4	MATERIALS.....	105,680	110,680
5	AEROSPACE VEHICLE TECHNOLOGIES.....	105,747	105,747
6	HUMAN EFFECTIVENESS APPLIED RESEARCH.....	81,957	96,957
7	AEROSPACE PROPULSION.....	172,550	172,550
8	AEROSPACE SENSORS.....	118,343	118,343
9	SPACE TECHNOLOGY.....	98,229	98,229
10	CONVENTIONAL MUNITIONS.....	87,387	87,387
11	DIRECTED ENERGY TECHNOLOGY.....	125,955	125,955
12	DOMINANT INFORMATION SCIENCES AND METHODS.....	147,789	147,789
13	HIGH ENERGY LASER RESEARCH.....	37,496	37,496
	TOTAL, APPLIED RESEARCH.....	1,081,133	1,101,133
	ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT		
14	ADVANCED MATERIALS FOR WEAPON SYSTEMS.....	32,177	40,177
15	SUSTAINMENT SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (S&T).....	15,800	15,800
16	ADVANCED AEROSPACE SENSORS.....	34,420	34,420
17	AEROSPACE TECHNOLOGY DEV/DEMO.....	91,062	91,062
18	AEROSPACE PROPULSION AND POWER TECHNOLOGY.....	124,236	132,736
19	ELECTRONIC COMBAT TECHNOLOGY.....	47,602	47,602
20	ADVANCED SPACECRAFT TECHNOLOGY.....	69,026	69,026
21	MAUI SPACE SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM (MSSS).....	14,031	14,031
22	HUMAN EFFECTIVENESS ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT...	21,788	21,788



(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
23 CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS TECHNOLOGY.....	42,046	42,046
24 ADVANCED WEAPONS TECHNOLOGY.....	23,542	33,542
25 MANUFACTURING TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM.....	42,772	52,772
26 BATTLESPACE KNOWLEDGE DEVELOPMENT & DEMONSTRATION.....	35,315	35,315
TOTAL, ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT.....	593,817	630,317
27 ADVANCED COMPONENT DEVELOPMENT INTELLIGENCE ADVANCED DEVELOPMENT.....	5,408	5,408
31 SPACE CONTROL TECHNOLOGY.....	6,075	6,075
32 COMBAT IDENTIFICATION TECHNOLOGY.....	10,980	10,980
33 NATO RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.....	2,392	2,392
34 INTERNATIONAL SPACE COOPERATIVE R&D.....	833	833
35 SPACE PROTECTION PROGRAM (SPP).....	32,313	31,613
37 INTERCONTINENTAL BALLISTIC MISSILE.....	30,885	30,885
39 POLLUTION PREVENTION (DEM/VAL).....	1,798	998
40 LONG RANGE STRIKE.....	913,728	913,728
42 TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER.....	2,669	4,769
45 WEATHER SATELLITE FOLLOW-ON.....	39,901	39,901
49 F-35 - EMD.....	4,976	---
50 OPERATIONALLY RESPONSIVE SPACE.....	---	20,000
51 TECH TRANSITION PROGRAM.....	59,004	79,004
54 NEXT GENERATION AIR DOMINANCE.....	15,722	15,722
55 THREE DIMENSIONAL LONG-RANGE RADAR.....	88,825	88,825
56 NAVSTAR GLOBAL POSITIONING SYSTEM (USER EQUIPMENT).....	156,659	156,659
TOTAL, ADVANCED COMPONENT DEVELOPMENT.....	1,372,168	1,407,792

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
59 ENGINEERING & MANUFACTURING DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIZED UNDERGRADUATE FLIGHT TRAINING.....	13,324	13,324
60 ELECTRONIC WARFARE DEVELOPMENT.....	1,965	7,815
61 TACTICAL DATA NETWORKS ENTERPRISE.....	39,110	39,110
62 PHYSICAL SECURITY EQUIPMENT.....	3,926	3,926
63 SMALL DIAMETER BOMB (SDB).....	68,759	68,759
64 COUNTERSPACE SYSTEMS.....	23,746	23,476
65 SPACE SITUATION AWARENESS SYSTEMS.....	9,462	9,462
66 SPACE FENCE.....	214,131	200,131
67 AIRBORNE ELECTRONIC ATTACK.....	30,687	30,687
68 SPACE BASED INFRARED SYSTEM (SBIRS) HIGH EMD.....	319,501	309,501
69 ARMAMENT/ORDNANCE DEVELOPMENT.....	31,112	29,112
70 SUBMUNITIONS.....	2,543	2,543
71 AGILE COMBAT SUPPORT.....	46,340	42,840
72 LIFE SUPPORT SYSTEMS.....	8,854	14,854
73 COMBAT TRAINING RANGES.....	10,129	10,129
75 F-35 - EMD.....	563,037	568,013
77 EVOLVED EXPENDABLE LAUNCH VEHICLE PROGRAM (SPACE).....	---	226,000
78 LONG RANGE STANDOFF WEAPON.....	4,938	3,438
79 ICBM FUZE MODERNIZATION.....	59,826	59,826
80 JOINT TACTICAL NETWORK CENTER (JTNC).....	78	---
81 F-22 MODERNIZATION INCREMENT 3.2B.....	173,647	173,647
82 GROUND ATTACK WEAPONS FUZE DEVELOPMENT.....	5,332	5,332
83 NEXT GENERATION AERIAL REFUELING AIRCRAFT KC-46.....	776,937	786,437

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
84 ADVANCED PILOT TRAINING.....	8,201	8,201
85 CSAR HH-60 RECAPITALIZATION.....	---	100,000
86 HC/MC-130 RECAP RDT&E.....	7,497	4,497
87 ADVANCED EHF MILSATCOM (SPACE).....	314,378	308,578
88 POLAR MILSATCOM (SPACE).....	103,552	103,552
89 WIDEBAND GLOBAL SATCOM (SPACE).....	31,425	31,425
90 AIR AND SPACE OPS CENTER 10.2.....	85,938	85,938
91 B-2 DEFENSIVE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM.....	98,768	98,768
92 NUCLEAR WEAPONS MODERNIZATION.....	198,357	168,357
94 FULL COMBAT MISSION TRAINING.....	8,831	8,831
95 NEXTGEN JSTARS.....	73,088	73,088
TOTAL, ENGINEERING & MANUFACTURING DEVELOPMENT.....	3,337,419	3,619,597
97 RDT&E MANAGEMENT SUPPORT THREAT SIMULATOR DEVELOPMENT.....	24,418	24,418
98 MAJOR T&E INVESTMENT.....	47,232	47,232
99 RAND PROJECT AIR FORCE.....	30,443	30,443
101 INITIAL OPERATIONAL TEST & EVALUATION.....	12,266	10,266
102 TEST AND EVALUATION SUPPORT.....	689,509	689,509
103 ROCKET SYSTEMS LAUNCH PROGRAM (SPACE).....	34,364	34,364
104 SPACE TEST PROGRAM (STP).....	21,161	21,161
105 FACILITIES RESTORATION & MODERNIZATION - TEST & EVAL..	46,955	46,955
106 FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT - TEST AND EVALUATION SUPPORT..	32,965	32,965
107 REQUIREMENTS ANALYSIS AND MATURATION.....	13,850	16,350
108 SPACE TEST AND TRAINING RANGE DEVELOPMENT.....	19,512	19,512
110 SPACE AND MISSILE CENTER (SMC) CIVILIAN WORKFORCE.....	181,727	176,727
111 ENTERPRISE INFORMATION SERVICES (EIS).....	4,938	4,938
112 ACQUISITION AND MANAGEMENT SUPPORT.....	18,644	18,644
113 ELECTRONIC ACQUISITION SERVICES ENVIRONMENT.....	1,425	1,425
114 GENERAL SKILL TRAINING.....	3,790	3,790
TOTAL, RDT&E MANAGEMENT SUPPORT.....	1,183,199	1,178,699

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
115 OPERATIONAL SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT GPS III - OPERATIONAL CONTROL SEGMENT.....	299,760	299,760
117 WIDE AREA SURVEILLANCE.....	---	2,000
118 JOINT DIRECT ATTACK MUNITION.....	2,469	2,469
119 AIR FORCE INTEGRATED MILITARY HUMAN RESOURCES SYSTEM..	90,218	60,218
120 ANTI-TAMPER TECHNOLOGY EXECUTIVE AGENCY.....	34,815	34,815
122 B-52 SQUADRONS.....	55,457	49,457
123 AIR-LAUNCHED CRUISE MISSILE (ALCM).....	450	450
124 B-1B SQUADRONS.....	5,353	4,353
125 B-2 SQUADRONS.....	131,580	116,580
126 MINUTEMAN SQUADRONS.....	139,109	139,109
127 STRAT WAR PLANNING SYSTEM - USSTRATCOM.....	35,603	32,153
128 NIGHT FIST - USSTRATCOM.....	32	---
130 REGION/SECTOR OPERATION CONTROL CENTER MODERNIZATION..	1,522	1,522
131 SERVICE SUPPORT TO STRATCOM - SPACE ACTIVITIES.....	3,134	3,134
133 MQ-9 UAV.....	170,396	149,096
136 F-16 SQUADRONS.....	133,105	133,105
137 F-15E SQUADRONS.....	261,969	241,969
138 MANNED DESTRUCTIVE SUPPRESSION.....	14,831	14,831
139 F-22 SQUADRONS.....	156,962	146,362
140 F-35 SQUADRONS.....	43,666	40,092
141 TACTICAL AIM MISSILES.....	29,739	29,739
142 ADVANCED MEDIUM RANGE AIR-TO-AIR MISSILE (AMRAAM)....	82,195	82,195
144 F-15 EPAWSS.....	68,944	38,944
145 COMBAT RESCUE AND RECOVERY.....	5,095	5,095
146 COMBAT RESCUE - PARARESCUE.....	883	883
147 AF TENCAP.....	5,812	5,812
148 PRECISION ATTACK SYSTEMS PROCUREMENT.....	1,081	1,081
149 COMPASS CALL.....	14,411	14,411
150 AIRCRAFT ENGINE COMPONENT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM.....	109,664	94,177

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
151 JOINT AIR-TO-SURFACE STANDOFF MISSILE (JASSM).....	15,897	12,897
152 AIR AND SPACE OPERATIONS CENTER (AOC).....	41,066	26,666
153 CONTROL AND REPORTING CENTER (CRC).....	552	---
154 AIRBORNE WARNING AND CONTROL SYSTEM (AWACS).....	180,804	180,804
155 TACTICAL AIRBORNE CONTROL SYSTEMS.....	3,754	3,754
157 COMBAT AIR INTELLIGENCE SYSTEM ACTIVITIES.....	7,891	7,891
158 TACTICAL AIR CONTROL PARTY--MOD.....	5,891	5,891
159 C2ISR TACTICAL DATA LINK.....	1,782	1,782
161 DCAPEs.....	821	821
163 SEEK EAGLE.....	23,844	23,844
164 USAF MODELING AND SIMULATION.....	16,723	12,123
165 WARGAMING AND SIMULATION CENTERS.....	5,956	5,956
166 DISTRIBUTED TRAINING AND EXERCISES.....	4,457	3,357
167 MISSION PLANNING SYSTEMS.....	60,679	60,679
169 CYBER COMMAND ACTIVITIES.....	67,057	67,057
170 AF OFFENSIVE CYBERSPACE OPERATIONS.....	13,355	13,355
171 AF DEFENSIVE CYBERSPACE OPERATIONS.....	5,576	5,576
179 SPACE SUPERIORITY INTELLIGENCE.....	12,218	10,697
180 E-4B NATIONAL AIRBORNE OPERATIONS CENTER (NAOC).....	28,778	25,878
181 MINIMUM ESSENTIAL EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK....	81,035	81,035
182 INFORMATION SYSTEMS SECURITY PROGRAM.....	70,497	70,497
183 GLOBAL COMBAT SUPPORT SYSTEM.....	692	692
185 MILSATCOM TERMINALS.....	55,208	55,208
187 AIRBORNE SIGINT ENTERPRISE.....	106,786	74,496
190 GLOBAL AIR TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT (GATM).....	4,157	4,157
193 SATELLITE CONTROL NETWORK (SPACE).....	20,806	20,806
194 WEATHER SERVICE.....	25,102	20,102

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
195 AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL, APPROACH, & LANDING SYSTEM (ATC) .	23,516	26,516
196 AERIAL TARGETS.....	8,639	8,639
199 SECURITY AND INVESTIGATIVE ACTIVITIES.....	498	---
200 ARMS CONTROL IMPLEMENTATION.....	13,222	13,222
201 DEFENSE JOINT COUNTERINTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES.....	360	40
206 SPACE AND MISSILE TEST AND EVALUATION CENTER.....	3,674	3,674
207 SPACE WARFARE CENTER.....	2,480	2,071
208 INTEGRATED BROADCAST SERVICE.....	8,592	8,592
209 SPACELIFT RANGE SYSTEM (SPACE).....	13,462	13,462
210 DRAGON U-2.....	5,511	5,511
211 ENDURANCE UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLES.....	---	20,000
212 AIRBORNE RECONNAISSANCE SYSTEMS.....	28,113	38,113
213 MANNED RECONNAISSANCE SYSTEMS.....	13,516	13,516
214 DISTRIBUTED COMMON GROUND/SURFACE SYSTEMS.....	27,265	27,265
215 PREDATOR UAV (JMIP).....	1,378	---
216 RQ-4 UAV.....	244,514	242,214
217 NETWORK-CENTRIC COLLABORATIVE TARGET (TIARA).....	11,096	11,096
218 COMMON DATA LINK (CDL).....	36,137	32,137
219 NATO AGS.....	232,851	232,851
220 SUPPORT TO DCGS ENTERPRISE.....	20,218	17,118
221 GPS III SPACE SEGMENT.....	212,571	212,571
222 JSPOC MISSION SYSTEM.....	73,779	73,779
223 RAPID CYBER ACQUISITION.....	4,102	4,102
225 NUDET DETECTION SYSTEM (SPACE).....	20,468	20,468
226 SPACE SITUATION AWARENESS OPERATIONS.....	11,596	11,596
227 CYBER OPERATIONS TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT.....	4,938	4,938
228 SHARED EARLY WARNING (SEW).....	1,212	1,212
230 C-5 AIRLIFT SQUADRONS.....	38,773	38,773
231 C-17 AIRCRAFT.....	83,773	83,773
232 C-130J PROGRAM.....	26,715	26,715

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
233 LARGE AIRCRAFT IR COUNTERMEASURES (LAIRCM).....	5,172	4,672
234 KC-10S.....	2,714	2,714
235 OPERATIONAL SUPPORT AIRLIFT.....	27,784	27,784
236 CV-22.....	38,719	38,719
237 PRESIDENTIAL AIRCRAFT REPLACEMENT (PAR).....	11,006	11,006
238 SPECIAL TACTICS / COMBAT CONTROL.....	8,405	8,405
239 DEPOT MAINTENANCE (NON-IF).....	1,407	1,407
241 LOGISTICS INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (LOGIT).....	109,685	63,035
242 SUPPORT SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT.....	16,209	16,209
243 OTHER FLIGHT TRAINING.....	987	987
244 OTHER PERSONNEL ACTIVITIES.....	126	126
245 JOINT PERSONNEL RECOVERY AGENCY.....	2,603	2,603
246 CIVILIAN COMPENSATION PROGRAM.....	1,589	1,589
247 PERSONNEL ADMINISTRATION.....	5,026	5,026
248 AIR FORCE STUDIES AND ANALYSIS AGENCY.....	1,394	1,394
249 FACILITIES OPERATION--ADMINISTRATION.....	3,798	3,798
250 FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT..	107,314	102,685
TOTAL, OPERATIONAL SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT.....	4,276,546	4,025,956
CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS.....	11,441,120	11,129,481
TOTAL, RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST & EVAL, AIR FORCE	23,739,892	23,643,983

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS  
[In thousands of dollars]

R-1		FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
1	DEFENSE RESEARCH SCIENCES	314,482	389,979
	Program increase		75,497
2	UNIVERSITY RESEARCH INITIATIVES	127,079	147,079
	Program increase		20,000
3	HIGH ENERGY LASER RESEARCH INITIATIVES	12,929	13,950
	Program increase		1,021
4	MATERIALS	105,680	110,680
	Program increase		5,000
6	HUMAN EFFECTIVENESS APPLIED RESEARCH	81,957	96,957
	Program increase		15,000
14	ADVANCED MATERIALS FOR WEAPON SYSTEMS	32,177	40,177
	Program increase - metals affordability research		8,000
18	AEROSPACE PROPULSION AND POWER TECHNOLOGY	124,236	132,736
	Program increase - silicon carbide research		8,500
24	ADVANCED WEAPONS TECHNOLOGY	23,542	33,542
	Counter-electronics high power microwave advanced missile		10,000
25	MANUFACTURING TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM	42,772	52,772
	Program increase		10,000
35	SPACE PROTECTION PROGRAM (SPP)	32,313	31,613
	Excess to need		-700
39	POLLUTION PREVENTION (DEM/VAL)	1,798	998
	Forward financing		-800
42	TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER	2,669	4,769
	Program increase		2,100
49	F-35 - EMD	4,976	0
	Air Force requested transfer to line 75		-4,976
50	OPERATIONALLY RESPONSIVE SPACE	0	20,000
	Program increase		20,000
51	TECH TRANSITION PROGRAM	59,004	79,004
	Program increase - alternative energy research		20,000
60	ELECTRONIC WARFARE DEVELOPMENT	1,965	7,815
	Digital radar warning receiver for the Air National Guard		7,750
	Forward financing		-1,900
64	COUNTERSPACE SYSTEMS	23,746	23,476
	Maintain fiscal year 2014 level		-270
66	SPACE FENCE	214,131	200,131
	Program delay		-14,000



R-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
68 SPACE BASED INFRARED SYSTEM (SBIRS) HIGH EMD Wide field of view test beds	319,501	309,501 -10,000
69 ARMAMENT/ORDNANCE DEVELOPMENT Add lead time for acquisition planning - Improved Lethality	31,112	29,112 -2,000
71 AGILE COMBAT SUPPORT Airfield damage repair forward financing	46,340	42,840 -3,500
72 LIFE SUPPORT SYSTEMS Ejection seat safety/sustainability improvement program for qualification of B-2 seat mod	8,854	14,854 6,000
75 F-35 - EMD Air Force requested transfer from line 49	563,037	568,013 4,976
77 EVOLVED EXPENDABLE LAUNCH VEHICLE PROGRAM (SPACE) Space Launch Range services and capability Rocket propulsion system - develop capacity	0	226,000 6,000 220,000
78 LONG RANGE STANDOFF WEAPON Execution adjustment	4,938	3,438 -1,500
80 JOINT TACTICAL NETWORK CENTER (JTNC) Excess to need	78	0 -78
83 KC-46 Air Force requested transfer from AP,AF line 3	776,937	786,437 9,500
85 COMBAT RESCUE HELICOPTER Program increase only for Combat Rescue Helicopter	0	100,000 100,000
86 HC/MC-130 RECAP RDT&E Forward financing	7,497	4,497 -3,000
87 ADVANCED EHF MILSATCOM (SPACE) Evolved AEHF excessive program management services	314,378	308,578 -5,800
92 NUCLEAR WEAPONS MODERNIZATION B61-12 tailkit EMD phase 1 favorable cost variances Forward financing	198,357	168,357 -5,000 -25,000
101 INITIAL OPERATIONAL TEST & EVALUATION Weapons OT&E - unjustified increase	12,266	10,266 -2,000
107 REQUIREMENTS ANALYSIS AND MATURATION Program increase	13,850	16,350 2,500
110 SPACE AND MISSILE CENTER (SMC) CIVILIAN WORKFORCE Optimistic hiring forecast	181,727	176,727 -5,000
117 WIDE AREA SURVEILLANCE Program increase	0	2,000 2,000
AIR FORCE INTEGRATED MILITARY HUMAN RESOURCES		
119 SYSTEM Delayed contract award	90,218	60,218 -30,000

R-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
122 B-52 SQUADRONS	55,457	49,457
Forward financing		-6,000
124 B-1B SQUADRONS	5,353	4,353
Execution adjustment		-1,000
125 B-2 SQUADRONS	131,580	116,580
Forward financing		-15,000
127 STRAT WAR PLANNING SYSTEM - USSTRATCOM	35,603	32,153
Increment 4 contract award delay		-2,750
Data integration unjustified cost increase		-700
128 NIGHT FIST - USSTRATCOM	32	0
Unjustified request		-32
133 MQ-9 UAV	170,396	149,096
System development and demonstration		-21,300
137 F-15E SQUADRONS	261,969	241,969
Forward financing		-15,000
Infrared search and track		-5,000
139 F-22 SQUADRONS	156,962	146,362
Execution adjustment		-5,600
Laboratory test and operations unjustified increase		-5,000
140 F-35 SQUADRONS	43,666	40,092
Acquisition Decision Memorandum limitation		-3,574
144 F-15 EPAWSS	68,944	38,944
Optimistic schedule		-30,000
150 AIRCRAFT ENGINE COMPONENT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM	109,664	94,177
F135 engine program		-15,487
151 JOINT AIR-TO-SURFACE STANDOFF MISSILE (JASSM)	15,897	12,897
Forward financing		-3,000
152 AIR AND SPACE OPERATIONS CENTER (AOC)	41,066	26,666
Applications development unjustified increase		-14,400
153 CONTROL AND REPORTING CENTER (CRC)	552	0
Forward financing		-552
164 USAF MODELING AND SIMULATION	16,723	12,123
Air Constructive Environment unjustified increase		-4,600
166 DISTRIBUTED TRAINING AND EXERCISES	4,457	3,357
Unjustified increase		-1,100
179 SPACE SUPERIORITY INTELLIGENCE	12,218	10,697
Maintain fiscal year 2014 level		-1,521
180 E-4B NATIONAL AIRBORNE OPERATIONS CENTER (NAOC)	28,778	25,878
Low Frequency Transmit System delay to contract award		-2,900
187 AIRBORNE SIGINT ENTERPRISE	106,786	74,496
Medium Altitude on hold		-32,290

R-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
194 WEATHER SERVICE	25,102	20,102
Forward financing		-5,000
195 AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL, APPROACH, & LANDING SYSTEM	23,516	26,516
Program increase - ground based sense and avoid		3,000
199 SECURITY AND INVESTIGATIVE ACTIVITIES	498	0
Pursue commercial off-the-shelf products		-498
201 DEFENSE JOINT COUNTERINTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES	360	40
Excess to need		-320
207 SPACE WARFARE CENTER	2,480	2,071
Maintain fiscal year 2014 level		-409
211 ENDURANCE UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLES	0	20,000
Long-range, multi-day endurance ISR capability development for AFRICOM Joint Emerging Operational Need Statement (AF-0005)		20,000
212 AIRBORNE RECONNAISSANCE SYSTEMS	28,113	38,113
Wide Area Motion Imagery program shortfall		10,000
215 PREDATOR UAV	1,378	0
Air Force divesting MQ-1 fleet		-1,378
216 RQ-4 UAV	244,514	242,214
Test and Non Prime Support unjustified increase		-2,300
218 COMMON DATA LINK (CDL)	36,137	32,137
Forward financing		-4,000
220 SUPPORT TO DCGS ENTERPRISE	20,218	17,118
Forward financing		-3,100
233 LARGE AIRCRAFT IR COUNTERMEASURES (LAIRCM)	5,172	4,672
Studies and analysis - unjustified increase		-500
241 LOGISTICS INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (LOGIT)	109,685	63,035
Prioritize audit readiness		-46,650
FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS		
250 DEVELOPMENT	107,314	102,685
Defense Enterprise Accounting Management System Increment 2		-4,629
999 CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS	11,441,120	11,129,481
Classified adjustment		-311,639

GLOBAL HAWK, U-2, AND HIGH-ALTITUDE INTELLIGENCE, SURVEILLANCE, AND RECONNAISSANCE

Pursuant to the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015, the Secretary of the Air Force may not take any action to divest the U-2 fleet until authorized by Congress. Further, the Secretary of the Air Force may not obligate \$77,100,000 provided for RQ-4 Global Hawk Block 30 payloads until 30 days after the Secretary submits an updated high-altitude intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (HAISR) transition plan to the congressional defense committees. This report shall be written in consultation with the Director of Cost Assessment and Program Evaluation and shall include a cost and schedule estimate to modify the Global Hawk Block 30 fleet pursuant to an updated capability development document for Block 30, a certification that the plan will provide sufficient aircraft availability and sensor capabilities capable of meeting combatant commander HAISS requirements in each year of the transition, and a mitigation plan for the loss of the U-2's photo reconnaissance capability supporting the Israel-Egypt peace treaty.

COMPETITIVE ROCKET INNOVATION—MOTOR/ENGINE ARRANGEMENT

The agreement provides \$220,000,000 to accelerate rocket propulsion system development with a target demonstration date of

fiscal year 2019. The agreement directs the Secretary of the Air Force, in consultation with the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration as practical, to develop an affordable, innovative, and competitive strategy for this development effort that includes an assessment of the potential benefits and challenges of using public-private partnerships, innovative teaming arrangements, and small business considerations. The strategy should include plans for targeted risk reduction projects and technology maturation efforts to buy down risk and accelerate potential launch system solutions. This strategy shall be submitted to the congressional defense committees not later than 180 days after the enactment of this Act.

GLOBAL POSITIONING SYSTEM III

The budget request includes \$32,900,000 for Global Positioning System (GPS) III Space Modernization Initiative (SMI) to address issues related to design, systems, engineering, program management, obsolescence, and efficiencies for GPS satellites. The agreement includes full funding for GPS III SMI and directs the Secretary of the Air Force to allocate \$20,000,000 to study technological maturation, including the use of an alternative digital GPS payload, and risk reduction consistent with the GPS Enterprise analysis of alternatives.

APPLIED RESEARCH MATERIALS

The agreement recognizes and supports Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL) research in Applied Research Materials which is a key element of the human-machine interface. Human monitoring is as important as equipment monitoring as the two must perform in tandem at optimum levels for successful mission completion and personal safety. The Director of AFRL is encouraged to continue research into nano-bio manufacturing of materials and sensor devices that are capable of detecting biomarkers and other substances correlating to human body conditions such as stress, fatigue, and organ damage.

LONG RANGE STANDOFF WEAPON

The fiscal year 2015 budget request proposes delaying development efforts associated with the Long Range Standoff Weapon. The agreement directs the Secretary of Defense to submit a report to the congressional defense committees not later than 180 days after the enactment of this Act describing the requirements, anticipated missions, programmed funding by fiscal year, and current program schedule for the Long Range Standoff Weapon.

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION, DEFENSE-WIDE

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
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	RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST & EVAL, DEFENSE-WIDE		
	BASIC RESEARCH		
1	DTRA UNIVERSITY STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP BASIC RESEARCH..	37,778	37,778
2	DEFENSE RESEARCH SCIENCES.....	312,146	332,146
3	BASIC RESEARCH INITIATIVES.....	44,564	44,564
4	BASIC OPERATIONAL MEDICAL RESEARCH SCIENCE.....	49,848	60,757
5	NATIONAL DEFENSE EDUCATION PROGRAM.....	45,488	58,488
6	HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES & UNIV (HBCU).....	24,412	34,412
7	CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL DEFENSE PROGRAM.....	48,261	48,261
	TOTAL, BASIC RESEARCH.....	562,497	616,406
	APPLIED RESEARCH		
8	JOINT MUNITIONS TECHNOLOGY.....	20,065	20,065
9	BIOMEDICAL TECHNOLOGY.....	112,242	114,790
11	LINCOLN LABORATORY RESEARCH PROGRAM.....	51,875	47,875
12	APPLIED RESEARCH FOR ADVANCEMENT S&T PRIORITIES.....	41,965	41,965
13	INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY.....	334,407	324,407
15	BIOLOGICAL WARFARE DEFENSE.....	44,825	44,825
16	CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL DEFENSE PROGRAM.....	226,317	226,317
18	CYBER SECURITY RESEARCH.....	15,000	15,000
20	TACTICAL TECHNOLOGY.....	305,484	299,734
21	MATERIALS AND BIOLOGICAL TECHNOLOGY.....	160,389	150,389
22	ELECTRONICS TECHNOLOGY.....	179,203	169,203
23	WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION DEFEAT TECHNOLOGIES.....	151,737	151,737
24	SOFTWARE ENGINEERING INSTITUTE.....	9,156	9,156
25	SPECIAL OPERATIONS TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT.....	39,750	36,750
	TOTAL, APPLIED RESEARCH.....	1,692,415	1,652,213

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
26 ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT JOINT MUNITIONS ADVANCED TECH INSENSITIVE MUNITIONS AD	26,688	26,688
27 SO/LIC ADVANCED DEVELOPMENT.....	8,682	8,682
28 COMBATING TERRORISM TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT.....	69,675	94,675
29 FOREIGN COMPARATIVE TESTING.....	30,000	22,000
30 COUNTERPROLIFERATION INITIATIVES--PROLIF PREV & DEFEAT	283,694	291,694
32 ADVANCED CONCEPTS AND PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT.....	8,470	8,470
33 DISCRIMINATION SENSOR TECHNOLOGY.....	45,110	36,610
34 WEAPONS TECHNOLOGY.....	14,068	54,068
35 ADVANCED C4ISR.....	15,329	13,284
36 ADVANCED RESEARCH.....	16,584	16,584
37 JOINT DOD-DOE MUNITIONS TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT.....	19,335	19,335
38 AGILE TRANSPO FOR THE 21ST CENTURY (AT21) - THEATER CA	2,544	2,544
39 SPECIAL PROGRAM--MDA TECHNOLOGY.....	51,033	40,433
40 ADVANCED AEROSPACE SYSTEMS.....	129,723	129,723
41 SPACE PROGRAMS AND TECHNOLOGY.....	179,883	179,883
42 ANALYTIC ASSESSMENTS.....	12,000	12,000
43 ADVANCED INNOVATIVE ANALYSIS AND CONCEPTS.....	60,000	50,000
44 COMMON KILL VEHICLE TECHNOLOGY.....	25,639	25,639
45 CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL DEFENSE PROGRAM - ADVANCED DEV	132,674	132,674
46 JOINT ELECTRONIC ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY.....	10,965	10,965
47 JOINT CAPABILITY TECHNOLOGY DEMONSTRATIONS.....	131,960	119,960
52 DEFENSE-WIDE MANUFACTURING SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY PROG	91,095	91,095
53 EMERGING CAPABILITIES TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT.....	33,706	33,706
54 GENERIC LOGISTICS R&D TECHNOLOGY DEMONSTRATIONS.....	16,836	21,336
55 DEPLOYMENT AND DISTRIBUTION ENTERPRISE TECHNOLOGY....	29,683	29,683
56 STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH PROGRAM.....	57,796	57,796
57 MICROELECTRONIC TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT AND SUPPORT....	72,144	82,700
58 JOINT WARFIGHTING PROGRAM.....	7,405	5,405
59 ADVANCED ELECTRONICS TECHNOLOGIES.....	92,246	92,246
60 COMMAND, CONTROL AND COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS.....	243,265	239,265
60XX DEFENSE RAPID INNOVATION PROGRAM.....	---	225,000

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
62 NETWORK-CENTRIC WARFARE TECHNOLOGY.....	386,926	360,426
63 SENSOR TECHNOLOGY.....	312,821	302,821
64 DISTRIBUTED LEARNING ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT..	10,692	10,692
65 SOFTWARE ENGINEERING INSTITUTE.....	15,776	15,776
66 QUICK REACTION SPECIAL PROJECTS.....	69,319	59,319
68 MODELING AND SIMULATION MANAGEMENT OFFICE.....	3,000	3,000
71 TEST & EVALUATION SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY.....	81,148	81,148
72 OPERATIONAL ENERGY CAPABILITY IMPROVEMENT.....	31,800	46,300
73 CWMD SYSTEMS.....	46,066	46,066
74 SPECIAL OPERATIONS ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT....	57,622	51,622
TOTAL, ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT.....	2,933,402	3,151,313
77 DEMONSTRATION & VALIDATION NUCLEAR AND CONVENTIONAL PHYSICAL SECURITY EQUIPMENT..	41,072	41,072
79 WALKOFF.....	90,558	90,558
80 ADVANCE SENSOR APPLICATIONS PROGRAM.....	15,518	19,518
81 ENVIRONMENTAL SECURITY TECHNICAL CERTIFICATION PROGRAM	51,462	63,962
82 BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE TERMINAL DEFENSE SEGMENT....	299,598	164,032
82A BMD TERMINAL DEFENSE SEGMENT TEST.....	---	111,366
83 BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE MIDCOURSE DEFENSE SEGMENT...	1,003,768	874,391
83A BMD MIDCOURSE DEFENSE SEGMENT TEST.....	---	79,877
83B IMPROVED HOMELAND DEFENSE INTERCEPTORS.....	---	99,500
84 CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL DEFENSE PROGRAM.....	179,236	163,236
85 BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE SENSORS.....	392,893	271,084
85A BMD SENSORS TEST.....	---	71,309
85B LONG RANGE DISCRIMINATION RADAR.....	---	50,500
86 BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE ENABLING PROGRAMS.....	410,863	402,163
87 SPECIAL PROGRAMS - MDA.....	310,261	310,261
88 AEGIS BMD.....	929,206	764,780
88A AEGIS BMD TEST.....	---	89,628
89 SPACE SURVEILLANCE & TRACKING SYSTEM.....	31,346	31,346
90 BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE SYSTEM SPACE PROGRAMS.....	6,389	6,389

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
91 BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE C2BMC.....	443,484	428,484
92 BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE JOINT WARFIGHTER SUPPORT....	46,387	46,387
93 BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE INTERGRATION AND OPERATIONS CENTER (MDIOC).....	58,530	58,530
94 REGARDING TRENCH.....	16,199	16,199
95 SEA BASED X-BAND RADAR (SBX).....	64,409	64,409
96 ISRAELI COOPERATIVE PROGRAMS.....	96,803	268,842
97 BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE TEST.....	386,482	366,482
98 BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE TARGETS.....	485,294	455,294
99 HUMANITARIAN DEMINING.....	10,194	10,194
100 COALITION WARFARE.....	10,139	10,139
101 DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE CORROSION PROGRAM.....	2,907	12,907
102 ADVANCED INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES.....	190,000	175,000
103 DOD UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEM (UAS) COMMON DEVELOPMENT.	3,702	7,802
104 WIDE AREA SURVEILLANCE.....	53,000	53,000
107 JOINT SYSTEMS INTEGRATION.....	7,002	7,002
108 JOINT FIRES INTEGRATION & INTEROPERABILITY TEAM.....	7,102	7,102
109 LAND-BASED SM-3 (LBSM3).....	123,444	123,444
110 AEGIS SM-3 BLOCK IIA CO-DEVELOPMENT.....	263,695	263,695
113 SUPPORT TO NETWORKS AND INFORMATION INTEGRATION.....	12,500	12,500
114 JOINT ELECTROMAGNETIC TECHNOLOGY (JET) PROGRAM.....	2,656	2,656
115 CYBER SECURITY INITIATIVE.....	961	961
116 NUCLEAR AND CONVENTIONAL PHYSICAL SECURITY EQUIPMENT .	7,936	7,936
117 PROMPT GLOBAL STRIKE CAPABILITY DEVELOPMENT.....	70,762	95,762
TOTAL, DEMONSTRATION & VALIDATION.....	6,125,760	6,199,699



(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
118 ENGINEERING & MANUFACTURING DEVELOPMENT CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL DEFENSE PROGRAM.....	345,883	335,883
119 ADVANCED IT SERVICES JOINT PROGRAM OFFICE (AITS-JPO) ..	25,459	25,459
120 JOINT TACTICAL INFORMATION DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM (JTIDS)	17,562	17,562
121 WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION DEFEAT CAPABILITIES.....	6,887	6,887
122 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT.....	12,530	12,530
123 HOMELAND PERSONNEL SECURITY INITIATIVE.....	286	286
124 DEFENSE EXPORTABILITY PROGRAM.....	3,244	3,244
125 OUSD(C) IT DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES.....	6,500	6,500
126 DOD ENTERPRISE SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT AND DEMONSTRATION..	15,326	15,326
127 DCMO POLICY AND INTEGRATION.....	19,351	19,351
128 DEFENSE AGENCY INITIATIVES FINANCIAL SYSTEM.....	41,465	41,465
129 DEFENSE RETIRED AND ANNUITANT PAY SYSTEM (DRAS).....	10,135	10,135
130 DEFENSE-WIDE ELECTRONIC PROCUREMENT CAPABILITY.....	9,546	9,546
131 GLOBAL COMBAT SUPPORT SYSTEM.....	14,241	14,241
132 DOD ENTERPRISE ENERGY INFORMATION MANAGEMENT (EEIM)...	3,660	3,660
TOTAL, ENGINEERING & MANUFACTURING DEVELOPMENT.....	532,075	522,075
133 RDT&E MANAGEMENT SUPPORT DEFENSE READINESS REPORTING SYSTEM (DRRS).....	5,616	5,616
134 JOINT SYSTEMS ARCHITECTURE DEVELOPMENT.....	3,092	3,092
135 CENTRAL TEST AND EVALUATION INVESTMENT DEVELOPMENT....	254,503	239,503
136 ASSESSMENTS AND EVALUATIONS.....	21,661	15,661
138 JOINT MISSION ENVIRONMENT TEST CAPABILITY (JMETC).....	27,162	27,162
139 TECHNICAL STUDIES, SUPPORT AND ANALYSIS.....	24,501	24,501
142 JOINT THEATER AIR AND MISSILE DEFENSE ORGANIZATION....	43,176	43,176
CLASSIFIED PROGRAM USD(P).....	---	100,000
145 SYSTEMS ENGINEERING.....	44,246	44,746
146 STUDIES AND ANALYSIS SUPPORT.....	2,665	2,665
147 NUCLEAR MATTERS - PHYSICAL SECURITY.....	4,366	4,366
148 SUPPORT TO NETWORKS AND INFORMATION INTEGRATION.....	27,901	27,901
149 GENERAL SUPPORT TO USD (INTELLIGENCE).....	2,855	2,855
150 CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL DEFENSE PROGRAM.....	105,944	105,944

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
156 SMALL BUSINESS INNOVATION RESEARCH.....	400	400
159 SMALL BUSINESS INNOVATION RESEARCH/TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER	1,634	1,634
160 DEFENSE TECHNOLOGY ANALYSIS.....	12,105	22,105
161 DEFENSE TECHNICAL INFORMATION CENTER (DTIC).....	50,389	50,389
162 R&D IN SUPPORT OF DOD ENLISTMENT, TESTING & EVALUATION	8,452	8,452
163 DEVELOPMENT TEST AND EVALUATION.....	15,187	19,187
164 MANAGEMENT HEADQUARTERS (RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT).....	71,362	71,362
165 BUDGET AND PROGRAM ASSESSMENTS.....	4,100	4,100
166 OPERATIONS SECURITY (OPSEC).....	1,956	1,956
167 JOINT STAFF ANALYTICAL SUPPORT.....	10,321	10,321
170 SUPPORT TO INFORMATION OPERATIONS (IO) CAPABILITIES...	11,552	11,552
172 CYBER INTELLIGENCE.....	6,748	6,748
174 COCOM EXERCISE ENGAGEMENT AND TRAINING TRANSFORMATION.	44,005	39,005
175 MANAGEMENT HEADQUARTERS - MDA.....	36,998	35,598
176 MANAGEMENT HEADQUARTERS - WHS.....	612	612
CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS.....	44,367	44,367
TOTAL, RDT&E MANAGEMENT SUPPORT.....	887,876	974,976
178 OPERATIONAL SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT ENTERPRISE SECURITY SYSTEM (ESS).....	3,988	3,988
179 REGIONAL INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH & PARTNERSHIP FOR PEAC	1,750	1,750
180 OVERSEAS HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE SHARED INFORMATION SY	286	286
181 INDUSTRIAL BASE ANALYSIS AND SUSTAINMENT SUPPORT.....	14,778	14,778
182 OPERATIONAL SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT.....	2,953	2,953
183 GLOBAL THEATER SECURITY COOPERATION MANAGEMENT.....	10,350	10,350
184 CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL DEFENSE (OPERATIONAL SYSTEMS D	28,496	28,496
185 JOINT INTEGRATION AND INTEROPERABILITY.....	11,968	11,968
186 PLANNING AND DECISION AID SYSTEM.....	1,842	1,842
187 C4I INTEROPERABILITY.....	63,558	63,558
189 JOINT/ALLIED COALITION INFORMATION SHARING.....	3,931	3,931
193 NATIONAL MILITARY COMMAND SYSTEM-WIDE SUPPORT.....	924	924
194 DEFENSE INFO INFRASTRUCTURE ENGINEERING & INTEGRATION.	9,657	9,657

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
195 LONG HAUL COMMUNICATIONS (DCS).....	25,355	25,355
196 MINIMUM ESSENTIAL EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK....	12,671	12,671
197 PUBLIC KEY INFRASTRUCTURE (PKI).....	222	222
198 KEY MANAGEMENT INFRASTRUCTURE (KMI).....	32,698	32,698
199 INFORMATION SYSTEMS SECURITY PROGRAM.....	11,304	11,304
200 INFORMATION SYSTEMS SECURITY PROGRAM.....	125,854	138,854
202 GLOBAL COMMAND AND CONTROL SYSTEM.....	33,793	33,793
203 JOINT SPECTRUM CENTER.....	13,423	13,423
204 NET-CENTRIC ENTERPRISE SERVICES (NCES).....	3,774	3,774
205 JOINT MILITARY DECEPTION INITIATIVE.....	951	951
206 TELEPORT PROGRAM.....	2,697	2,697
208 SPECIAL APPLICATIONS FOR CONTINGENCIES.....	19,294	15,794
212 CYBER SECURITY INITIATIVE.....	3,234	3,234
213 CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROTECTION (CIP).....	8,846	8,846
217 POLICY R&D PROGRAMS.....	7,065	7,065
218 NET CENTRICITY.....	23,984	23,984
221 DISTRIBUTED COMMON GROUND/SURFACE SYSTEMS.....	5,286	5,286
224 DISTRIBUTED COMMON GROUND/SURFACE SYSTEMS.....	3,400	3,400
229 INSIDER THREAT.....	8,670	8,670
230 HOMELAND DEFENSE TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER PROGRAM.....	2,110	2,110
239 INDUSTRIAL PREPAREDNESS.....	22,366	22,366
240 LOGISTICS SUPPORT ACTIVITIES.....	1,574	1,574
241 MANAGEMENT HEADQUARTERS (JCS).....	4,409	4,409
242 MQ-9 UAV.....	9,702	9,702
243 RQ-11 UAV.....	259	259
245 SPECIAL OPERATIONS AVIATION SYSTEMS ADVANCED DEV.....	164,233	158,733
247 SPECIAL OPERATIONS INTELLIGENCE SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT...	9,490	9,490
248 SOF OPERATIONAL ENHANCEMENTS.....	75,253	75,253
252 WARRIOR SYSTEMS.....	24,661	20,573
253 SPECIAL PROGRAMS.....	20,908	20,908
259 SOF TACTICAL VEHICLES.....	3,672	3,672

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
262 SOF MARITIME SYSTEMS.....	57,905	56,746
264 SOF GLOBAL VIDEO SURVEILLANCE ACTIVITIES.....	3,788	3,788
265 SOF OPERATIONAL ENHANCEMENTS INTELLIGENCE.....	16,225	15,225
TOTAL, OPERATIONAL SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT.....	913,557	911,310
999 CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS.....	3,118,502	3,197,897
TOTAL, RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST & EVAL, DEF-WIDE.	16,766,084	17,225,889

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS  
[In thousands of dollars]

R-1		FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
2	DEFENSE RESEARCH SCIENCES Program increase - basic research	312,146	332,146 20,000
4	BASIC OPERATIONAL MEDICAL RESEARCH SCIENCE Program increase - basic research	49,848	60,757 10,909
5	NATIONAL DEFENSE EDUCATION PROGRAM Military child STEM education program	45,488	58,488 13,000
6	HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES (HBCU) Program increase	24,412	34,412 10,000
9	BIOMEDICAL TECHNOLOGY Program increase	112,242	114,790 2,548
11	LINCOLN LABORATORY RESEARCH PROGRAM Program decrease	51,875	47,875 -4,000
13	INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY Eliminate program growth in new starts	334,407	324,407 -10,000
20	TACTICAL TECHNOLOGY Program increase - Arctic operations Lack of transition plan	305,484	299,734 4,250 -10,000
21	MATERIALS AND BIOLOGICAL TECHNOLOGY Underexecution	160,389	150,389 -10,000
22	ELECTRONICS TECHNOLOGY Underexecution	179,203	169,203 -10,000
25	SOF TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT SOF technology development - excess growth	39,750	36,750 -3,000
28	COMBATING TERRORISM TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT Program increase	69,675	94,675 25,000
29	FOREIGN COMPARATIVE TESTING Program decrease	30,000	22,000 -8,000
30	COUNTERPROLIFERATION INITIATIVES--PROLIFERATION PREVENTION & DEFEAT Program increase	283,694	291,694 8,000
33	DISCRIMINATION SENSOR TECHNOLOGY Unjustified growth	45,110	36,610 -8,500
34	WEAPONS TECHNOLOGY Program increase - next generation interceptor technology Program increase - risk reduction	14,068	54,068 20,000 20,000
35	ADVANCED C4ISR Unjustified growth	15,329	13,284 -2,045

R-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
39 SPECIAL PROGRAM - MDA TECHNOLOGY	51,033	40,433
Unjustified growth		-10,800
43 ADVANCED INNOVATIVE ANALYSIS AND CONCEPTS	60,000	50,000
Program decrease		-10,000
47 JOINT CAPABILITY TECHNOLOGY DEMONSTRATIONS	131,960	119,960
Program decrease		-12,000
54 GENERIC LOGISTICS R&D TECHNOLOGY DEMONSTRATIONS	16,836	21,336
Program increase		4,500
57 MICROELECTRONIC TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT	72,144	82,700
Program increase		10,556
58 JOINT WARFIGHTING PROGRAM	7,405	5,405
Program decrease		-2,000
60 COMMAND, CONTROL AND COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS	243,265	239,265
Excessive growth in new starts		-4,000
60XX DEFENSE RAPID INNOVATION FUND	0	225,000
Program increase		225,000
62 NETWORK-CENTRIC WARFARE TECHNOLOGY	386,926	360,426
Classified program adjustment		-16,500
Program decrease		-10,000
63 SENSOR TECHNOLOGY	312,821	302,821
Excessive growth in new starts		-10,000
66 QUICK REACTION SPECIAL PROJECTS	69,319	59,319
Program decrease		-10,000
72 OPERATIONAL ENERGY CAPABILITY IMPROVEMENT	31,800	46,300
Restore reduced funding level		14,500
SPECIAL OPERATIONS ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY		
74 DEVELOPMENT	57,622	51,622
Engineering analysis - unjustified growth		-6,000
80 ADVANCE SENSOR APPLICATIONS PROGRAM	15,518	19,518
Program increase		4,000
ENVIRONMENTAL SECURITY TECHNICAL CERTIFICATION		
81 PROGRAM	51,462	63,962
Restore funding to the fiscal year 2014 enacted level		12,500
82 BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE TERMINAL DEFENSE SEGMENT	299,598	164,032
THAAD development program support - unjustified growth		-8,800
MT07 test - transfer to line 82A		-111,366
Software build concurrency		-17,400
BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE TERMINAL DEFENSE SEGMENT		
82A TEST	0	111,366
MT07 test - transfer from line 82		111,366

R-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
<b>83 BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE MIDCOURSE DEFENSE SEGMENT</b>	<b>1,003,768</b>	<b>874,391</b>
Program increase - CE-II upgrades		43,000
Program increase - stockpile reliability program		4,000
Program increase - command launch equipment and fire control upgrades		3,000
MT08 test - transfer to line 83A		-79,877
MD97 - transfer to line 83B		-99,500
<b>BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE MIDCOURSE DEFENSE SEGMENT</b>		
<b>83A TEST</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>79,877</b>
MT08 test - transfer from line 83		79,877
<b>83B IMPROVED HOMELAND DEFENSE INTERCEPTORS</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>99,500</b>
MD97 - transfer from line 83		99,500
<b>84 CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL DEFENSE PROGRAMS</b>	<b>179,236</b>	<b>163,236</b>
INATS milestone B delay		-10,000
Equine encephalitis vaccine delay		-6,000
<b>85 BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE SENSORS</b>	<b>392,893</b>	<b>271,084</b>
MT11 test - transfer to line 85A		-71,309
MD96 - transfer to line 85B		-50,500
<b>85A BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE SENSORS TEST</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>71,309</b>
MT11 test - transfer from line 85		71,309
<b>85B LONG RANGE DISCRIMINATION RADAR</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>50,500</b>
MD96 - transfer from line 85		50,500
<b>86 BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE ENABLING PROGRAMS</b>	<b>410,863</b>	<b>402,163</b>
Enabling test - transfer not properly accounted		-3,700
Intelligence and security - unjustified growth		-3,100
BMD information management systems - unjustified growth		-1,900
<b>88 AEGIS BMD</b>	<b>929,208</b>	<b>764,780</b>
Aegis BMD 5.1 development - cost growth		-35,000
Aegis testing restructure - excess to requirement		-7,800
MT09 test - transfer to line 88A		-89,628
SM-3 BLK IIA manufacturing quantities excess to test requirements		-32,000
<b>88A AEGIS BMD TEST</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>89,628</b>
MT09 test - transfer from line 88		89,628
<b>91 BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE C2BMC</b>	<b>443,484</b>	<b>428,484</b>
Spiral 8.2-3 - unjustified growth without baseline		-15,000
<b>96 ISRAELI COOPERATIVE PROGRAMS</b>	<b>96,803</b>	<b>268,842</b>
Israeli Upper tier		20,339
Israeli Arrow program		45,500
Short range ballistic missile defense		106,200
<b>97 BMD TESTS</b>	<b>386,482</b>	<b>366,482</b>
Test efficiencies		-20,000
<b>98 BMD TARGETS</b>	<b>485,294</b>	<b>455,294</b>
Program adjustment		-30,000

R-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
101 DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE CORROSION PROGRAM Program increase	2,907	12,907 10,000
102 ADVANCED INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES Program decrease	190,000	175,000 -15,000
DOD UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEM (UAS) COMMON		
103 DEVELOPMENT Program increase	3,702	7,802 4,100
117 PROMPT GLOBAL STRIKE CAPABILITY DEVELOPMENT Additional test for AHW	70,762	95,762 25,000
118 CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL DEFENSE PROGRAM Unobligated balances	345,883	335,883 -10,000
135 CENTRAL TEST & EVAL INVESTMENT DEVELOPMENT Program decrease	254,503	239,503 -15,000
136 ASSESSMENTS AND EVALUATIONS Reduce program growth	21,661	15,661 -6,000
143 CLASSIFIED PROGRAM USD(P) Classified adjustment	0	100,000 100,000
145 SYSTEMS ENGINEERING Program increase	44,246	44,746 500
160 DEFENSE TECHNOLOGY ANALYSIS Program increase	12,105	22,105 10,000
163 DEVELOPMENT TEST AND EVALUATION Program increase	15,187	19,187 4,000
COCOM EXERCISE ENGAGEMENT AND TRAINING		
174 TRANSFORMATION Program decrease	44,005	39,005 -5,000
175 MANAGEMENT HEADQUARTERS - MDA Unjustified growth	36,998	35,598 -1,400
200 INFORMATION SYSTEMS SECURITY PROGRAM Program increase	125,854	138,854 13,000
208 SPECIAL APPLICATIONS FOR CONTINGENCIES Unjustified growth	19,294	15,794 -3,500
SPECIAL OPERATIONS AVIATION SYSTEMS ADVANCED		
245 DEVELOPMENT Commando Solo - new start C-130 TF radar - underexecution	164,233	158,733 -1,500 -4,000
252 WARRIOR SYSTEMS Long Range MISO - excess growth	24,661	20,573 -4,088



R-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
262 SOF MARITIME SYSTEMS	57,905	56,746
Next Generation Surface System - excess growth		-1,159
265 SOF OPERATIONAL ENHANCEMENTS INTELLIGENCE	16,225	15,225
Classified adjustment		-1,000
CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS	3,118,502	3,197,897
Classified adjustment		79,395

DEFENSE ADVANCED RESEARCH PROJECTS  
AGENCY PROJECT TRANSITIONS

The fiscal year 2015 budget request for the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) is \$2,914,770,000, an increase of \$136,114,000 over the fiscal year 2014 enacted level. Within that request, a larger increase of \$175,986,000 is included specifically for Advanced Technology Development projects, which develop subsystems and components and integrate them into system prototypes for field experiments or tests in a simulated environment. This development often requires the procurement of advance materials and an increase to a contractor's workforce. Therefore, it is critical that these projects be well-planned, focused on proving specific technologies that are warfighter-relevant, and funded appropriately. Since DARPA's mission includes creating breakthrough technologies, but does not include the development or acquisition of weapon systems, ensuring the transition of projects that have successfully demonstrated a capability that address warfighter needs is key to avoiding waste of taxpayer resources and destabilizing the industrial base. It is concerning that these transitions have not been managed accordingly at DARPA, particularly as it relates to space programs, which in some instances have been terminated following years of development and an investment of several hundreds of millions of taxpayer dollars due to lack of warfighter requirements or lack of a business case. It is not apparent why warfighter requirements and the business case were not considered prior to beginning these projects.

Therefore, the Director of DARPA is directed to submit a report to the congressional defense committees with the fiscal year 2016 budget submission that details by fiscal year, for each of the three previous fiscal years, the transition status of each project and program funded with 6.3 funds for Advanced Technology Development. This report shall include program schedules, funding by fiscal year, applicability of the technology to identified and documented warfighter needs, identification of potential transition partners, status of applicable Memoranda of Agreement detailing the transition, and any funds set aside by DARPA to ensure a successful transition to the identified partner. In addition, the Director of DARPA is directed to provide for each new start 6.3 project proposed in the fiscal year 2016 budget submission a transition plan that includes the information requested above.

MISSILE DEFENSE AGENCY—EUROPEAN PHASED  
ADAPTIVE APPROACH

Recent successful Aegis flight tests, coupled with significant progress of the con-

struction of Aegis Ashore in Romania, demonstrate continued strides made by the Missile Defense Agency (MDA) towards fielding the European Phased Adaptive Approach (EPAA) on schedule. Congressional support for developing the EPAA, which augments protection of the U.S. homeland against long-range ballistic missile threats and provides for the defense of deployed forces and allies in Europe, remains strong. However, concerns remain about MDA's poor budgeting practices for programs that support the EPAA. Therefore, the agreement recommends adjustments across MDA's budget with the expectation that MDA will improve its budget formulation and justification process with the fiscal year 2016 budget submission. It is noted that none of these adjustments negatively affect MDA's ability to field the EPAA on time.

MISSILE DEFENSE AGENCY—DIVERT AND  
ATTITUDE CONTROL SYSTEM

The intent of the Missile Defense Agency's (MDA) Divert and Attitude Control System (DACS) investment strategy is to mitigate the risk of relying on a single supplier and to maintain a competitive industrial base. It is noted that MDA repeatedly benefitted from access to a competitive industrial base in the past, particularly when programs were failing to deliver on cost and on schedule. Therefore, it is concerning that MDA is not adequately funding DACS research for future needs. The Director of MDA is directed to review the DACS investment strategy and to submit a report not later than 60 days after the enactment of this Act to the congressional defense committees on MDA's plans to sustain a competitive DACS industrial base.

## DEFENSE TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER PROGRAM

The agreement includes \$10,000,000 above the budget request for a regionally focused technology transfer innovation pilot program. The agreement directs the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Research and Engineering) to conduct a pilot program on public-private technology transfer ventures between Department of Defense research and development centers and regionally focused technology incubators, with the goal of increasing the commercialization of intellectual property developed in the Department's research and development enterprise in support of critical cross-service technological needs such as energetics, unmanned systems, and rapid prototyping. Technology incubator partners should be selected through full and open competition emphasizing strong business plans, demonstrated expertise in mentorship and commercialization, and strong regional partnerships. This language does not replace the report language on

Technology Transfer included under Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Air Force in Senate Report 113-211.

## EXPANDING FEDERAL CLOUD COMPUTING

The agreement supports the fiscal year 2015 budget request to transform the Government Information Technology (IT) portfolio through cloud computing, giving agencies the ability to purchase IT services in a utility-based model, paying for only the IT services consumed. The expedited transition to cloud computing offers significant savings to federal agencies. The agreement directs the Chief Information Officer for the Department of Defense to provide a report to the House and Senate Appropriations Committees not later than 270 days after the enactment of this Act on the status of expanding the adoption of cloud computing within the Department of Defense. The report should include an update on the use of commercial cloud computing services, current plans for the expansion of cloud computing to leverage the utility-based model, security impacts of transitioning to cloud computing, and the cost savings achieved in fiscal years 2014 and 2015 by the utilization of cloud computing services. The agreement further directs the Chief Information Officer, in coordination with the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller), to assess whether it may be necessary to establish cloud service Working Capital Funds to enable the transition to cloud-based solutions. This assessment shall be provided to the House and Senate Appropriations Committees not later than 180 days after the enactment of this Act.

## DEFENSE CONNECT ONLINE

The agreement notes that there is concern about the implementation of the next stage of collaborative software used by the Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA). Defense Connect Online currently is DISA's main collaborative enterprise service with more than 900,000 civilian and military users and has been credited with saving millions of dollars over the past seven years by replacing travel with virtual meetings and online training. The agreement notes the lack of funding and execution information available regarding a proposed transition in collaborative services and encourages DISA to clearly communicate to the congressional defense committees the strategy for the future use of collaborative enterprise services.

OPERATIONAL TEST AND EVALUATION,  
DEFENSE

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

## EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS

(In thousands of dollars)

R-1		FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
1	OPERATIONAL TEST AND EVALUATION .....	74,583	93,223
	Program increase—Cyber force training and resiliency .....		10,000
	Program increase—PACOM cyber training range .....		4,880
	Program increase—Cyber RED team and training .....		3,760
2	LIVE FIRE TESTING .....	45,142	45,142
3	OPERATIONAL TEST ACTIVITIES AND ANALYSIS .....	48,013	71,013
	Program increase—Threat resource analysis .....		5,000
	Program increase—Joint test and evaluation .....		18,000
	TOTAL, OPERATIONAL TEST & EVALUATION, DEFENSE .....	167,738	209,378

## THREAT EMITTERS

The agreement notes that progress has been made by the Director of Test Resources Management Center and the Director of Operational Test and Evaluation in achieving a coordinated path forward on the devel-

opment and fielding of advanced electronic warfare threat emitters. The agreement supports the streamlined approach that the Directors have presented, allowing for the rapid acquisition of both open and closed loop threat emitters that can be used to test

future weapons systems. The agreement continues to encourage both organizations to coordinate in finding the best solution that leverages the expertise of the test community to address this critical mission requirement.

## TITLE V—REVOLVING AND MANAGEMENT FUNDS

The agreement provides \$2,134,480,000 in Title V, Revolving and Management Funds. The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
-----		
TITLE V		
REVOLVING AND MANAGEMENT FUNDS		
DEFENSE WORKING CAPITAL FUNDS.....	1,234,468	1,649,468
NATIONAL DEFENSE SEALIFT FUND.....	---	485,012
TOTAL, TITLE V, REVOLVING AND MANAGEMENT FUNDS..	1,234,468	2,134,480
	=====	=====

DEFENSE WORKING CAPITAL FUNDS  
The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS  
[In thousands of dollars]

	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
WORKING CAPITAL FUND, ARMY .....	13,727	238,727
Program increase—arsenal initiative .....		225,000
WORKING CAPITAL FUND, AIR FORCE .....	61,717	61,717
WORKING CAPITAL FUND, DEFENSE-WIDE .....	44,293	44,293
DEFENSE WORKING CAPITAL FUND, DECA .....	1,114,731	1,304,731
Program increase .....		190,000
TOTAL, DEFENSE WORKING CAPITAL FUNDS .....	1,234,468	1,649,468

NATIONAL DEFENSE SEALIFT FUND  
The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS  
[In thousands of dollars]

	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
STRATEGIC SEALIFT ACQUISITION .....	0	17,300
Outfitting and Post Delivery—transfer from SCN line 18 .....		17,300
DOD MOBILIZATION ASSETS .....	0	152,100
Lg Med Spd RO/RO maintenance—transfer from OM,N .....		105,900
DOD mobilization alterations—transfer from OM,N .....		19,000
TAH maintenance—transfer from OM,N .....		27,200
SEALIFT RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT .....	0	24,417
Maritime Prepositioning Force (Future)—transfer from RDTE,N line 121 .....		8,454
Naval Operational Logistics Integration—transfer from RDTE,N line 43 .....		15,963
READY RESERVE FORCE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE .....	0	291,195
Ready Reserve Force—transfer from OM,N .....		291,195
TOTAL, NATIONAL DEFENSE SEALIFT FUND .....	0	485,012

TITLE VI—OTHER DEPARTMENT OF  
DEFENSE PROGRAMS  
The agreement provides \$34,144,557,000 in  
Title VI, Other Department of Defense Pro-

grams. The agreement on items addressed by  
either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
-----		
TITLE VI		
OTHER DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE PROGRAMS		
DEFENSE HEALTH PROGRAM		
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE.....	31,031,911	30,030,650
PROCUREMENT.....	308,413	308,413
RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION.....	654,594	1,730,709
TOTAL, DEFENSE HEALTH PROGRAM.....	31,994,918	32,069,772
-----		
CHEMICAL AGENTS AND MUNITIONS DESTRUCTION, DEFENSE		
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE.....	222,728	196,128
PROCUREMENT.....	10,227	10,227
RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION.....	595,913	595,913
TOTAL, CHEMICAL AGENTS.....	828,868	802,268
-----		
DRUG INTERDICTION AND COUNTER-DRUG ACTIVITIES, DEFENSE		
COUNTER-NARCOTICS SUPPORT.....	719,096	669,631
DRUG DEMAND REDUCTION PROGRAM.....	101,591	105,591
NATIONAL GUARD COUNTER-DRUG PROGRAM.....	---	175,465
TOTAL, DRUG INTERDICTION AND COUNTER-DRUG ACTIVITIES, DEFENSE.....	820,687	950,687
-----		
JOINT IMPROVISED EXPLOSIVE DEVICE DEFEAT FUND.....	115,058	---
JOINT URGENT OPERATIONAL NEEDS FUND.....	20,000	---
SUPPORT FOR INTERNATIONAL SPORTING COMPETITIONS .....	10,000	10,000
OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL .....	311,830	311,830
TOTAL, TITLE VI, OTHER DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE PROGRAMS.....	34,101,361	34,144,557
=====		

## DEFENSE HEALTH PROGRAM

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
-----		
DEFENSE HEALTH PROGRAM		
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE		
IN-HOUSE CARE.....	8,799,086	8,680,970
PRIVATE SECTOR CARE.....	15,412,599	14,503,759
CONSOLIDATED HEALTH SUPPORT.....	2,462,096	2,360,696
INFORMATION MANAGEMENT.....	1,557,347	1,537,696
MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES.....	366,223	364,192
EDUCATION AND TRAINING.....	750,866	750,866
BASE OPERATIONS/COMMUNICATIONS.....	1,683,694	1,832,471
	-----	-----
SUBTOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE.....	31,031,911	30,030,650
PROCUREMENT		
INITIAL OUTFITTING.....	13,057	13,057
REPLACEMENT AND MODERNIZATION.....	283,030	283,030
THEATER MEDICAL INFORMATION PROGRAM.....	3,145	3,145
INTEGRATED ELECTRONIC HEALTH RECORD (IEHR).....	9,181	9,181
	-----	-----
SUBTOTAL, PROCUREMENT.....	308,413	308,413
RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT TEST AND EVALUATION		
RESEARCH.....	10,317	10,317
EXPLORATORY DEVELOPMENT.....	49,015	49,015
ADVANCED DEVELOPMENT.....	226,410	226,410
DEMONSTRATION/VALIDATION.....	97,787	97,787
ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT.....	217,898	217,898
MANAGEMENT AND SUPPORT.....	38,075	38,075
CAPABILITIES ENHANCEMENT.....	15,092	15,092
UNDISTRIBUTED MEDICAL RESEARCH.....	---	1,076,115
	-----	-----
SUBTOTAL, RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT TEST AND EVALUATION	654,594	1,730,709
	-----	-----
TOTAL, DEFENSE HEALTH PROGRAM.....	31,994,918	32,069,772
	=====	=====

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS  
[In thousands of dollars]

	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
<b>IN-HOUSE CARE</b>	<b>8,799,086</b>	<b>8,680,970</b>
NiCOE satellites - growth overstated in justification materials		-704
FECA expenses - transfer not properly accounted		-377
Army identified excess		-76,000
Benefit reform proposal - unauthorized		-30,000
Benefit reform proposal - transfer to BAG 2		-26,715
SOCOM embedded behavioral health providers - transfer from OM,DW		14,800
CVN-73 refueling and complex overhaul		880
<b>PRIVATE SECTOR CARE</b>	<b>15,412,599</b>	<b>14,503,759</b>
Historical underexecution		-855,000
Pharmaceutical drugs - excess growth		-200,000
Restoration of benefit proposals		180,000
Printing and reproduction - excess growth		-2,555
Benefit reform proposal - unauthorized		-58,000
Benefit reform proposal - transfer from BAG 1		26,715
<b>CONSOLIDATED HEALTH SUPPORT</b>	<b>2,462,096</b>	<b>2,360,696</b>
Historical underexecution		-100,000
Wounded warrior military adaptive sports program		5,000
Travel reduction - not properly accounted		-7,400
Therapeutic service dog program		1,000
<b>INFORMATION MANAGEMENT</b>	<b>1,557,347</b>	<b>1,537,696</b>
Other intra-government purchases - unjustified growth		-22,300
Travel reduction - not properly accounted		-951
HAIMS initiative		3,600
<b>MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>366,223</b>	<b>364,192</b>
Reduction in civilian FTEs - not properly accounted		-770
Travel reduction - not properly accounted		-1,261
<b>EDUCATION AND TRAINING</b>	<b>750,866</b>	<b>750,866</b>
<b>BASE OPERATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS</b>	<b>1,683,694</b>	<b>1,832,471</b>
Air Force FSRM for medical facilities		50,000
Army FSRM for medical facilities		50,000
Navy FSRM for medical facilities		50,000
DHHQ force protection and physical security - excess to requirement		-1,223
<b>TOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE</b>	<b>31,031,911</b>	<b>30,030,650</b>
<b>PROCUREMENT</b>	<b>308,413</b>	<b>308,413</b>
<b>RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT</b>		
Peer-reviewed alcohol and substance abuse disorders research		4,000
Peer-reviewed ALS research		7,500
Peer-reviewed alzheimer research		12,000
Peer-reviewed autism research		6,000
Peer-reviewed bone marrow failure disease research		3,200
Peer-reviewed breast cancer research		120,000
Peer-reviewed cancer research		50,000

	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
Peer-reviewed Duchenne muscular dystrophy research		3,200
Peer-reviewed epilepsy research		7,500
Peer-reviewed gulf war illness research		20,000
Peer-reviewed lung cancer research		10,500
Peer-reviewed medical research		247,500
Peer-reviewed multiple sclerosis research		5,000
Peer-reviewed orthopedic research		30,000
Peer-reviewed ovarian cancer research		20,000
Peer-reviewed prostate cancer research		80,000
Peer-reviewed spinal cord research		30,000
Peer-reviewed reconstructive transplant research		15,000
Peer-reviewed traumatic brain injury and psychological health research		125,000
Peer-reviewed tuberous sclerosis complex research		6,000
Peer-reviewed vision research		10,000
Global HIV/AIDS prevention		8,000
HIV/AIDS program increase		12,900
Joint warfighter medical research		50,000
Orthotics and prosthetics outcomes research		10,000
Restore core research funding reduction		179,815
Therapeutic service dog training program		3,000
<b>TOTAL, RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT</b>	<b>654,594</b>	<b>1,730,709</b>



#### REPROGRAMMING GUIDANCE FOR THE DEFENSE HEALTH PROGRAM

There remain concerns regarding the transfer of funds from the In-House Care budget sub-activity to pay for contractor-provided medical care. To limit such transfers and improve oversight within the Defense Health Program operation and maintenance account, the agreement includes a provision which caps the funds available for Private Sector Care under the TRICARE program subject to prior approval reprogramming procedures. The provision and accompanying explanatory statement language should not be interpreted as limiting the amount of funds that may be transferred to the In-House Care budget sub-activity from other budget sub-activities within the Defense Health Program. In addition, funding for the In-House Care budget sub-activity continues to be designated as a congressional special interest item. Any transfer of funds from the In-House Care budget sub-activity into the Private Sector Care budget sub-activity or any other budget sub-activity requires the Secretary of Defense to follow prior approval reprogramming procedures for operation and maintenance funds.

There also remain concerns with continual reports that substantial amounts of funding are transferred from the Private Sector Care budget sub-activity without the submission of written notification as required by prior year Department of Defense Appropriations Acts. The Secretary of Defense is directed to provide written notification to the congressional defense committees of cumulative transfers in excess of \$10,000,000 out of the Private Sector Care budget sub-activity not later than fifteen days after such a transfer. Furthermore, the Secretary of Defense is directed to provide a report to the congressional defense committees not later than 30 days after the enactment of this Act that delineates transfers of funds in excess of \$10,000,000, and the dates any transfers occurred, from the Private Sector Care budget sub-activity to any other budget sub-activity groups for fiscal years 2012 through 2014.

The Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs) is directed to provide quarterly reports to the congressional defense committees on budget execution data for all of the Defense Health Program budget activities and to adequately reflect changes to the budget activities requested by the Services in future budget submissions.

#### CARRYOVER

For fiscal year 2015, the agreement recommends one percent carryover authority for the operation and maintenance account of the Defense Health Program. The Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs) is directed to submit a detailed spending plan for any fiscal year 2014 designated carryover funds to the congressional defense committees not less than 30 days prior to executing the carryover funds.

#### PEER-REVIEWED CANCER RESEARCH PROGRAM

The agreement provides \$50,000,000 for the peer-reviewed cancer research program to research cancers not addressed in the breast, prostate, ovarian, and lung cancer research programs currently executed by the Department of Defense.

The funds provided in the peer-reviewed cancer research program are directed to be used to conduct research in the following areas: colorectal cancer, genetic cancer research, kidney cancer, listeria vaccine for cancer, liver cancer, melanoma and other skin cancers, mesothelioma, myeloproliferative disorders, neuroblastoma, pancreatic cancer, and stomach cancer.

The reports directed under this heading in House Report 113-473 and Senate Report 113-211 are still required.

#### PEER-REVIEWED MEDICAL RESEARCH PROGRAM

The agreement provides \$247,500,000 for a peer-reviewed medical research program. The Secretary of Defense, in conjunction with the Service Surgeons General, is directed to select medical research projects of clear scientific merit and direct relevance to military health. Research areas considered under this funding are restricted to the following areas: acupuncture, acute lung injury, advanced prosthetics, arthritis, burn pit exposure, cardiovascular health, chronic migraine and post-traumatic headache, congenital heart disease, Dengue, diabetes, DNA vaccine technology for postexposure prophylaxis, dystonia, focal segmental glomerulosclerosis, food allergies, Fragile X syndrome, healthcare-acquired infection reduction, hepatitis B, hereditary angioedema, hydrocephalus, inflammatory bowel disease, integrative medicine, interstitial cystitis, lupus, malaria, metals toxicology, mitochondrial disease, nanomaterials for bone regeneration, osteoarthritis, pancreatitis, pathogen-inactivated dried plasma, polycystic kidney disease, post-traumatic osteoarthritis, psychotropic medications, pulmonary fibrosis, respiratory health, rheumatoid arthritis, scleroderma, sleep disorders, tinnitus, vascular malformations, and women's heart disease.

#### GLOBAL HEALTH

The Department of Defense is making critical contributions with research and development efforts to protect troops from infectious and neglected diseases that may be encountered on missions around the world. There is a need to sustain and support investment in this area by fully funding those important research areas. Therefore, the program director of each program within the Department of Defense currently involved in infectious disease-related research is directed to submit a report on the program's research and development activities to the congressional defense committees not later than 180 days after the enactment of this Act. The report shall outline the program's funding and accomplishments from fiscal years 2011 through 2014, and include each program's goals and funding requirements across the Future Years Defense Program.

#### ELECTRONIC HEALTH RECORD

There remain concerns about the progress being made by the Departments of Defense and Veterans Affairs to develop and procure fully interoperable electronic health records. The ultimate goal of the efforts of both Departments is to have systems that can exchange data in a meaningful way and can be used in a dynamic environment to improve patient care and facilitate smoother transitions for servicemembers from military service to veteran status. There must be more cooperation throughout the two Departments to find, develop, and implement the best solution that will allow interoperability in a timely manner.

The agreement includes a provision that restricts the amount of funding that may be obligated for the Interagency Program Office (IPO), the Defense Healthcare Management Systems Modernization (DHMSM) program, and the Defense Medical Information Exchange to 25 percent of the funding provided until the Secretary of Defense provides the House and Senate Appropriations Committees, and such Committees approve, an expenditure plan that includes numerous reporting requirements. This report shall also

be submitted to the House and Senate Armed Services Committees and the Government Accountability Office (GAO) for review. The Secretary of Defense is also directed to provide written notification to the congressional defense committees prior to obligating any contract or combination of contracts in excess of \$5,000,000.

The Program Executive Office (PEO) for DHMSM is directed to provide quarterly reports to the congressional defense committees and GAO on the cost and schedule of the program, to include milestones, knowledge points, and acquisition timelines, as well as quarterly obligation reports. The Committee further directs the PEO DHMSM to continue briefing the House and Senate Defense Appropriations Subcommittees on a quarterly basis, coinciding with the report submission.

Furthermore, the Director of the IPO is directed to continue to provide quarterly briefings on the progress of interoperability between the two Departments to the House and Senate Defense Appropriations Subcommittees and the House and Senate Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittees. The briefings shall include an update on standards development and how those standards are being incorporated by both Departments.

In an effort to ensure Government-wide accountability, the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, is directed to provide the Federal Chief Information Officer of the United States with monthly updates on progress made by the two Departments to reach interoperability and modernize their respective electronic health records.

#### HYPERBARIC OXYGEN THERAPY

Traumatic brain injuries (TBI) and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) are the signature wounds of more than a decade of conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan. Patients suffering from these conditions are often prescribed various psychotropic drugs to ease their symptoms. These drugs often have negative side effects and carry the risk of leading to dependency. As an alternative treatment, the Department of Defense has studied the use of hyperbaric oxygen therapy; and, although private sector research has shown positive effects of using the therapy, the Department of Defense has decided not to pursue its use, citing that clinical trials failed to show positive results.

The agreement directs the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct a review and provide a report to the congressional defense committees not later than 180 days after the enactment of this Act on the use of hyperbaric oxygen therapy to treat TBI and PTSD. The report shall include an assessment of the results of the clinical trials completed by the Department of Defense and a review of private sector research on the use of hyperbaric oxygen therapy and whether those conclusions are similar or different from the Department of Defense study.

#### TRANSFER OF SERVICE TREATMENT RECORDS

The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014 directed the Department of Defense Inspector General (DOD IG) to work in coordination with the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Inspector General to assess the time it takes for Service Treatment records (STRs) to be transmitted to the VA, identify impediments to providing the records in a useable electronic format, and provide recommendations to streamline this process. In its report, the DOD IG found that the Department of Defense did not consistently

transfer timely and complete STRs to the VA. The DOD IG concluded that the Department did not provide the military Services with clear or comprehensive guidance concerning the STR transfer process, to include the agreed upon procedure for certifying STR completeness, and that the Department's failure to consistently make timely and complete STRs available to the VA likely contributed to delays in processing veterans' benefit claims.

The Secretary of Defense is directed to implement the recommendations of the DOD IG report as soon as possible and submit a report on the status of the implementation of

the recommendations to the congressional defense committees not later than 120 days after the enactment of this Act. Additionally, the report found that delays with the Health Artifacts and Imaging System (HAIMS) and insufficient server capacity contributed to poor timeliness and completeness rates. The agreement includes \$3,600,000 for the continuation and improvement of HAIMS and expects this funding to be utilized to address these issues.

SUICIDE PREVENTION AND FINANCIAL STRESS  
The agreement recognizes the complexities of determining a single cause leading to a military suicide, as there are many sources

of stress for servicemembers. One of these sources meriting increased attention is the financial health and status of servicemembers. Therefore, the agreement expects the Secretary of Defense to allocate up to \$1,000,000 of the funds made available for suicide prevention efforts within the Defense Health Program to study the role of financial stress as a factor in military suicides.

CHEMICAL AGENTS AND MUNITIONS DESTRUCTION, DEFENSE  
The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS		
[In thousands of dollars]		
	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE .....	222,728	196,128
Recovered Chemical Warfare Material Project excess to need .....		— 26,600
PROCUREMENT .....	10,227	10,227
RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION .....	595,913	595,913
TOTAL, CHEMICAL AGENTS AND MUNITIONS DESTRUCTION, DEFENSE .....	828,868	802,268

DRUG INTERDICTION AND COUNTER-DRUG ACTIVITIES, DEFENSE  
The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS		
[In thousands of dollars]		
	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
COUNTER-NARCOTICS SUPPORT .....	719,096	669,631
Transfer to National Guard counter-drug program .....		— 89,465
Program increase .....		40,000
DRUG DEMAND REDUCTION PROGRAM .....	101,591	105,591
Young Marines—drug demand reduction .....		4,000
NATIONAL GUARD COUNTER-DRUG PROGRAM .....	0	175,465
Transfer from counter-narcotics support .....		89,465
Program increase .....		86,000
TOTAL, DRUG INTERDICTION AND COUNTER-DRUG ACTIVITIES, DEFENSE .....	820,687	950,687

JOINT IMPROVISED EXPLOSIVE DEVICE DEFEAT FUND  
The agreement does not recommend funding for the Joint Improvised Explosive Device Defeat Fund in the base budget. Funding requirements of the Joint Improvised Ex-

plosive Device Defeat Organization are addressed in title IX.  
JOINT URGENT OPERATIONAL NEEDS FUND  
The agreement does not recommend funding for the Joint Urgent Operational Needs Fund.

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL  
The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS		
[In thousands of dollars]		
	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE .....	310,830	309,430
IG requested transfer to Research, Development, Test and Evaluation .....		— 1,400
PROCUREMENT .....	1,000	1,000
RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION .....	0	1,400
IG requested transfer from Operation and Maintenance .....		1,400
TOTAL, OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL .....	311,830	311,830

PROTECTED COMMUNICATIONS WITH MEMBERS OF CONGRESS AND INSPECTOR GENERAL  
The agreement reiterates a concern that servicemembers have been prevented from

communicating with, or retaliated against for communicating with, Members of Congress or the Department of Defense Inspector General. Current law protects whistleblower communications and prohibits retaliatory

personnel actions. The agreement remains strongly supportive of those protections.  
SUPPORT FOR INTERNATIONAL SPORTING COMPETITIONS  
The agreement provides \$10,000,000 for Support for International Sporting Competitions.

TITLE VII—RELATED AGENCIES  
The agreement provides \$1,021,600,000 in Title VII, Related Agencies. The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
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TITLE VII		
RELATED AGENCIES		
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY RETIREMENT AND DISABILITY SYSTEM FUND.....	514,000	514,000
INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT ACCOUNT (ICMA).....	510,194	507,600
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TOTAL, TITLE VII, RELATED AGENCIES.....	1,024,194	1,021,600
	=====	=====

## CLASSIFIED ANNEX

Adjustments to classified programs are addressed in a separate, detailed, and comprehensive classified annex. The intelligence community, the Department of Defense, and other organizations are expected to fully comply with the recommendations and directions in the classified annex accompanying the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2015.

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY RETIREMENT AND DISABILITY SYSTEM FUND

The agreement provides \$514,000,000 for the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability Fund.

## INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT ACCOUNT

The agreement provides \$507,600,000 for the Intelligence Community Management Account.

## TITLE VIII—GENERAL PROVISIONS

The agreement incorporates general provisions from the House and Senate versions of the bill which were not amended. Those general provisions that were addressed in the agreement are as follows:

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the Senate which provides general transfer authority not to exceed \$4,500,000,000. The House bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement modifies a provision proposed by the House which identifies tables as Explanation of Project Level Adjustments. The Senate bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the Senate regarding limitations and conditions on the use of funds made available by this Act to initiate or terminate multi-year contracts. The House bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House regarding management of civilian personnel of the Department of Defense. The Senate bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House regarding limitations on the use of funds to purchase anchor and mooring chains. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement modifies a provision proposed by the House providing funds to construct, renovate, repair, or expand elementary and secondary public schools on military installations. The Senate bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the Senate which prohibits the use of funds to demilitarize or dispose of certain small firearms. The House bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House regarding incentive payments authorized by the Indian Financing Act of 1974. The Senate bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House which provides funding from various appropriations for the Civil Air Patrol Corporation. The Senate bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House regarding funds appropriated for programs of the Central Intelligence Agency. The Senate bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House regarding mitigation of environmental impacts on Indian lands resulting from Department of Defense activi-

ties. The Senate bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House regarding field operating agencies. The Senate bill contained a similar provision.

## (RESCISSIONS)

The agreement modifies a provision proposed by the House and the Senate recommending rescissions and provides for the rescission of \$1,228,020,000. The rescissions agreed to are:

## 2013 Appropriations:

Aircraft Procurement, Army:	
Kiowa Warrior program termination .....	\$18,242,000
Weapons and Tracked Combat Vehicles, Army:	
Howitzer, SP 155 109A6 .....	5,000,000
Other Procurement, Army:	
Joint Tactical Radio System	67,000,000
Mid-tier networking vehicular radio .....	30,000,000
Aircraft Procurement, Navy:	
RQ-4 UAV .....	47,200,000
Procurement, Marine Corps:	
Combat support system .....	2,000,000
Communications and electronics infrastructure .....	15,000,000
HMMWV .....	5,925,000
LAV PIP .....	10,006,000
LVSF .....	7,286,000
Aircraft Procurement, Air Force:	
MQ-1B modifications .....	16,300,000
MQ-1B spares .....	4,500,000
MQ-9 .....	37,800,000
RQ-4 .....	6,000,000
Missile Procurement, Air Force:	
Minuteman III modifications .....	7,100,000
Missile support equipment ..	6,700,000

## 2014 Appropriations:

Aircraft Procurement, Army:	
Aerial common sensor .....	30,000,000
Other Procurement, Army:	
Fire support C2 family .....	4,400,000
JTRS HMS radio .....	103,000,000
Tactical bridge .....	6,000,000
Transportable tactical command communications .....	598,000
WIN-T Increment 2 .....	100,000,000
Aircraft Procurement, Navy:	
Aviation life support modifications .....	6,267,000
Common electronic countermeasures .....	17,355,000
E-2D Hawkeye .....	15,000,000
EA-18G .....	25,000,000
Executive helicopter series ..	15,000,000
F/A-18E/F advance procurement .....	75,000,000
P-8A contract savings .....	43,000,000
Weapons Procurement, Navy:	
Classified programs .....	7,000,000
Sidewinder .....	5,000,000
Standard missile .....	46,400,000
Tomahawk obsolescence .....	5,000,000
Other Procurement, Navy:	
National airspace system ....	1,505,000
Aircraft Procurement, Air Force:	
A-10 .....	45,300,000
C-5 modifications .....	36,000,000
MQ-1B spares .....	2,100,000
Missile Procurement, Air Force:	
Evolved expendable launch vehicle .....	118,685,000
Minuteman III modifications .....	2,500,000
Small diameter bomb .....	36,024,000
Procurement, Defense-Wide:	
JBPDFS program termination .....	12,100,000
Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Army:	
Biometric enabled intelligence .....	5,000,000
Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Navy:	
Amphibious combat vehicle .....	78,800,000
Harpoon modifications termination .....	500,000
JATAS termination .....	14,000,000

JPALS Increment 2 .....	25,000,000
Marine Corps combat services support .....	6,600,000
Ship to shore connector .....	16,330,000
Tactical cryptologic activities .....	497,000
Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Air Force:	
F-22 Increment 3.2B .....	23,000,000
ICBM fuze modernization ....	14,000,000

The agreement modifies a provision proposed by the Senate to sustain work rates at manufacturing arsenals. The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House restricting procurement of ball and roller bearings other than those produced by a domestic source and of domestic origin. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House which provides funding to the United Service Organizations and the Red Cross. The Senate bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the Senate directing that transfers to Small Business Innovation Research and Small Business Technology Transfer programs be taken proportionally. The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the Senate making permanent the requirement for prior congressional notification of article or service transfers to international peacekeeping organizations. The House bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House providing for the availability of funds to implement cost effective agreements for required heating facility modernization in the Kaiserslautern Military Community, Landstuhl Army Regional Medical Center, and Ramstein Air Base, Germany. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the Senate regarding funding for the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response program and the Special Victims Counsel program. The House bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement modifies language proposed by the House regarding human rights vetting. The Senate bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the Senate making permanent a prohibition on the use of funds made available to the Department of Defense to provide support to an agency that is more than 90 days in arrears in making payments. The House bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the Senate providing for the use of National Guard personnel to support ground-based elements of the National Ballistic Missile Defense System. The House bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House regarding a waiver for the Chief of the National Guard Bureau or his designee for all or part of consideration in cases of personal property leases of less than one year. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the Senate directing the Army to request funding for Arlington National Cemetery in the Cemetery Expenses, Army appropriation. The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement modifies a provision proposed by the House which prohibits funds from being used to separate the National Intelligence Program from the Department of

Defense budget. The Senate bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement modifies a provision proposed by the House which provides a grant to the Fisher House Foundation, Inc. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the Senate eliminating the 5 percent discount on tobacco products at military exchanges. The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement modifies a provision proposed by the House related to funding for the Israeli Cooperative Defense programs. The Senate bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement modifies a provision proposed by the House regarding specific allocation of funds under the heading "Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy". The Senate bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement modifies a provision proposed by the Senate which reduces funding due to favorable foreign exchange rates. The House bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House that requires written notification to members of reserve components of the expected duration of their mobilization once called to active duty. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the Senate that directs the acceleration of a competitively awarded launch. The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement modifies a provision proposed by the Senate that provides for the transfer of not more than \$16,000,000 from any available Department of the Navy appropriation to any available Navy ship construction appropriation for the purpose of liquidating necessary changes resulting from inflation, market fluctuations, or rate adjustments. The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the Senate which establishes a baseline for application of reprogramming and transfer authorities for the Office of the Director of National Intelligence. The House bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House that prohibits changes to the Army Contracting Command-New Jersey without prior notification. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement modifies a provision proposed by the House which prohibits the use of funds to violate the Child Soldier Prevention Act of 2008. The Senate bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House regarding reprogramming guidelines for the National Intelligence Program. The Senate bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement modifies a provision proposed by the Senate that requires monthly reporting on Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Inherent Resolve. The House bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House which prohibits the Office of the Director of National Intelligence from employing more Senior Executive Service employees than are specified in the classified annex. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the Senate making permanent a prohibition on the use of funds to pay retired general or flag officers to serve as senior mentors unless they file Form 278. The House bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement modifies a provision proposed by the House related to agreements with the Russian Federation pertaining to missile defense or information regarding United States ballistic missile defense systems. The Senate bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House regarding parking spaces provided at the Mark Center. The Senate bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House which requires quarterly reports on civilian end strength. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement modifies a provision proposed by the House regarding the Ship Modernization, Operations and Sustainment Fund to be used for certain purposes. The Senate bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the Senate regarding the use of new designs or fielding of combat and camouflage utility uniforms. The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House regarding the transfer of detainees from Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba to the United States. The Senate bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House which prohibits the use of funding to modify any United States facility, other than the facility at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, to house any individual detained at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. The Senate bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the Senate regarding the transfer of detainees from Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba to foreign countries. The House bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House which prohibits funds from being used to violate the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House which prohibits funds from being used to violate the War Powers Resolution. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House which prohibits funding from being used in violation of Presidential Memorandum-Federal Fleet Performance, dated May 24, 2011. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement modifies a provision proposed by the House related to funding for Rosoboroneexport. The Senate bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House which prohibits funds from being used for the purchase or manufacture of a flag of the United States unless such flags are treated as covered items under section 2533a(b) of title 10, U.S.C. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the Senate regarding the President of Afghanistan. The House bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the Senate which restricts reductions to the number of deployed and non-deployed strategic delivery vehicles and launchers below the levels set forth in the report submitted to Congress in accordance with section 1042 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2012. The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the Senate that requires the Sec-

retary of Defense to post grant awards on a public Web site in a searchable format. The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement modifies a provision proposed by the House regarding the use of funds to cancel the avionics modernization program of record for the C-130 aircraft. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement modifies a provision proposed by the House regarding force structure changes at Lajes Field, Azores, Portugal. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House which prohibits funding from being used in contravention of Section 41106 of title 49, U.S.C. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House regarding funding for flight demonstration teams at locations outside the United States. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House regarding the National Security Agency. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House that directs that up to \$1,000,000 from Operation and Maintenance, Navy shall be available for transfer to the John C. Stennis Center for Public Service Development Trust Fund. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement modifies a provision proposed by the House which provides \$88,000,000 for basic allowance for housing for military personnel in accordance with the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House that prohibits the use of funds to divest E-3 airborne warning and control system aircraft. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House that prohibits the use of funds to implement the Arms Trade Treaty until the treaty is ratified by the Senate. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement modifies a provision proposed by the House that prohibits the transfer of AH-64 helicopters from the Army National Guard to the active Army. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement modifies a provision proposed by the House limiting the availability of funds for activities authorized under Section 1208 of Public Law 112-81. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the Senate that requires that the Comptroller General review contracts impacted by section 811 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010. The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the Senate that requires the Secretary of the Air Force to designate a facility on Scott Air Force Base to be named after Senator Alan J. Dixon. The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the Senate that restricts funds that may be used to require that seafood procured for the Department of Defense from sustainably managed fisheries be required to additionally meet sustainability certification criteria prescribed by third-party nongovernmental organizations. The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House that precludes the use of

funds for the disestablishment of any Senior Reserve Officers' Training Corps program. The Senate bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House that prohibits the use of funds to retire the KC-10 fleet. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House that prohibits introducing U.S. armed forces into Iraq in contravention of the War Powers Resolution. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House that prohibits the use of funds to retire the A-10 fleet. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

#### TITLE IX—OVERSEAS CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS

The agreement provides \$63,999,995,000 in Title IX, Overseas Contingency Operations.

##### REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

The Secretary of Defense is directed to continue to report incremental contingency operations costs for Operation Inherent Resolve, Operation Enduring Freedom and any successor operation, or any other operation designated and identified by the Secretary of Defense for the purposes of Section 127a of Title 10, U.S.C., on a monthly basis in the Cost of War Execution report as required by the Department of Defense Financial Management Regulation, Chapter 23, Volume 12. The Secretary of Defense is directed to continue providing Cost of War reports to the congressional defense committees that include the following information by appropriation account: funding appropriated, funding allocated, monthly obligations, monthly disbursements, cumulative fiscal year obligations, and cumulative fiscal year disbursements.

In order to meet unanticipated requirements, the Secretary of Defense may need to transfer funds within these appropriations accounts for purposes other than those specified in the explanatory statement. The Secretary of Defense is directed to follow normal prior approval reprogramming procedures should it be necessary to transfer funding between different appropriations accounts in this title using authority provided in section 9002 of this Act.

##### OVERSEAS CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS FUNDS AND ACCOUNTS EXECUTION REPORTS

The Secretary of Defense is directed to submit a monthly report to the congress-

sional defense committees not later than 30 days after the last day of each month that details commitment, obligation, and expenditure data by sub-activity group for the Afghanistan Security Forces Fund, the Counterterrorism Partnerships Fund including funds for Syria Train and Equip, and the Iraq Train and Equip Fund.

##### COUNTERTERRORISM PARTNERSHIPS FUND

The agreement includes \$1,300,000,000 for the Counterterrorism Partnerships Fund to respond to emerging needs as terrorist threats around the world continue to evolve by using existing authorities to allow the Department of Defense to help build partnership capacity.

##### EUROPEAN REASSURANCE INITIATIVE

The agreement supports current actions being taken to reassure NATO allies and partners of the continued commitment of the United States to their security and territorial integrity. The agreement provides \$810,000,000 for the European Reassurance Initiative (ERI) to support increased capability, presence, readiness, and responsiveness to deter further destabilization in central and eastern Europe.

The budget amendment requests that the ERI be established as a transfer fund with funding made available for two years. However, the majority of the ERI request is for operation and maintenance funding, which is available for one year. The agreement provides ERI operation and maintenance funding for fiscal year 2015 at the account, budget activity, and sub-activity group level of detail and does not extend the length of time the appropriation is available. Further, the agreement does not provide funding for fiscal year 2016, as requested, but directs the Secretary of Defense to include required funding within existing operation and maintenance accounts as part of the fiscal year 2016 budget request.

Of the total amount recommended for the ERI, the agreement provides \$635,000,000 in the operation and maintenance accounts and \$175,000,000 in a centralized fund only for military assistance to support Ukraine, Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia. This funding is intended to bolster these governments as they potentially have to defend their sovereignty against expanding regional aggression.

In addition, the request for ERI funding includes limited detail explaining the surge capabilities and the enduring requirements for this effort. This lack of detailed explanation challenges proper congressional oversight.

Therefore, the Secretary of Defense is directed to provide to the congressional defense committees, not later than April 1, 2015, and quarterly thereafter, a report detailing the obligations and expenditure of appropriated funds. The Secretary of Defense is further directed to provide notification to the congressional defense committees 15 days prior to the obligation of funds if funding is going to be used for efforts other than those outlined in the supporting documentation provided with the budget amendment. Finally, it is expected that the fiscal year 2016 budget request will include justification for any additional funds needed for the ERI and that efforts that are considered enduring requirements or new missions will be specifically noted as such in the base and Overseas Contingency Operations budget justification materials. Funding provided for the ERI shall be considered a congressional interest item.

##### IRAQ TRAIN AND EQUIP FUND

The agreement provides \$1,618,000,000 for the Iraq Train and Equip Fund to counter the threat from the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL). ISIL poses an immediate security challenge to Iraq, Syria, and their neighboring countries and seeks to impose an oppressive and intolerant interpretation of sharia law in the region. ISIL is not only a danger to Iraq and the Levant but also poses a risk to the United States and its partners throughout the world.

The agreement supports efforts that will increase the military capability of resistance forces opposing ISIL within Iraq. However, ultimate success against the threat in Iraq will require a national governance structure that respects the rights of all Iraqis regardless of regional alignment. The agreement notes the commitment by partners to contribute resources to assist in developing this capability and encourages the Secretary of Defense to aggressively solicit such support throughout the duration of this enterprise. In an effort to support that commitment, the agreement directs the Secretary of Defense to submit a quarterly report that outlines the allied and regional state contributions, to include financial and in-kind contributions. The Secretary of Defense is required to provide monthly obligation and expenditure reporting as outlined elsewhere in the agreement.

##### MILITARY PERSONNEL

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS  
[In thousands of dollars]

M-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
<b>MILITARY PERSONNEL, ARMY</b>		
BA-1: PAY AND ALLOWANCES OF OFFICERS		
BASIC PAY	659,702	660,902
Program increase - European Reassurance Initiative		1,200
RETIRED PAY ACCRUAL	175,251	175,251
BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR HOUSING	209,188	209,188
BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR SUBSISTENCE	25,312	25,312
INCENTIVE PAYS	3,150	3,150
SPECIAL PAYS	21,659	21,659
ALLOWANCES	14,331	14,331
SEPARATION PAY	262,100	262,100
SOCIAL SECURITY TAX	50,379	50,379
TOTAL, BA-1	1,421,072	1,422,272
BA-2: PAY AND ALLOWANCES OF ENLISTED PERSONNEL		
BASIC PAY	811,488	811,788
Program increase - European Reassurance Initiative		300
RETIRED PAY ACCRUAL	213,448	213,448
BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR HOUSING	355,399	355,399
INCENTIVE PAYS	1,330	1,330
SPECIAL PAYS	79,762	79,762
ALLOWANCES	71,978	71,978
SEPARATION PAY	111,842	111,842
SOCIAL SECURITY TAX	62,079	62,079
TOTAL, BA-2	1,707,326	1,707,626
BA-4: SUBSISTENCE OF ENLISTED PERSONNEL		
BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR SUBSISTENCE	145,316	145,316
SUBSISTENCE-IN-KIND	269,503	269,503
TOTAL, BA-4	414,819	414,819
BA-5: PERMANENT CHANGE OF STATION TRAVEL		
ACCESSION TRAVEL	3,860	3,860
TRAINING TRAVEL	4,778	4,778
OPERATIONAL TRAVEL	53,145	53,145
ROTATIONAL TRAVEL	32,391	32,391
SEPARATION TRAVEL	8,064	8,064
TRAVEL OF ORGANIZED UNITS	114	114
TOTAL, BA-5	102,352	102,352
BA-6: OTHER MILITARY PERSONNEL COSTS		
INTEREST ON UNIFORMED SERVICES SAVINGS	1,986	1,986
DEATH GRATUITIES	3,300	3,300
UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS	167,381	129,381
Army identified excess to requirement		-38,000
SGLI EXTRA HAZARD PAYMENTS	4,974	4,974
TRAUMATIC INJURY PROTECTION COVERAGE	6,260	6,260
TOTAL, BA-6	183,901	145,901
LOWER THAN BUDGETED OVERSTRENGTH - ARMY IDENTIFIED EXCESS TO REQUIREMENT		-533,000
TOTAL, MILITARY PERSONNEL, ARMY	3,829,470	3,259,970

M-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
<b>MILITARY PERSONNEL, NAVY</b>		
BA-1: PAY AND ALLOWANCES OF OFFICERS		
BASIC PAY	59,609	59,609
RETIRED PAY ACCRUAL	13,412	13,412
BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR HOUSING	19,110	19,110
BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR SUBSISTENCE	2,124	2,124
INCENTIVE PAYS	526	526
SPECIAL PAYS	3,913	3,913
ALLOWANCES	7,561	7,561
SOCIAL SECURITY TAX	4,560	4,560
TOTAL, BA-1	110,815	110,815
BA-2: PAY AND ALLOWANCES OF ENLISTED PERSONNEL		
BASIC PAY	70,993	70,993
RETIRED PAY ACCRUAL	15,974	15,974
BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR HOUSING	33,590	33,590
INCENTIVE PAYS	141	141
SPECIAL PAYS	7,315	7,315
ALLOWANCES	16,340	16,340
SOCIAL SECURITY TAX	5,430	5,430
TOTAL, BA-2	149,783	149,783
BA-4: SUBSISTENCE OF ENLISTED PERSONNEL		
BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR SUBSISTENCE	8,149	8,149
SUBSISTENCE-IN-KIND	24,811	24,811
TOTAL, BA-4	32,960	32,960
BA-5: PERMANENT CHANGE OF STATION TRAVEL		
ACCESSION TRAVEL	2,203	2,203
OPERATIONAL TRAVEL	3,584	3,584
ROTATIONAL TRAVEL	12,316	12,316
SEPARATION TRAVEL	557	557
TOTAL, BA-5	18,660	18,660
BA-6: OTHER MILITARY PERSONNEL COSTS		
DEATH GRATUITIES	700	700
UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS	8,071	8,071
RESERVE INCOME REPLACEMENT PROGRAM	30	30
SGLI EXTRA HAZARD PAYMENTS	11,147	11,147
TOTAL, BA-6	19,948	19,948
<b>TOTAL, MILITARY PERSONNEL, NAVY</b>	<b>332,166</b>	<b>332,166</b>
<b>MILITARY PERSONNEL, MARINE CORPS</b>		
BA-1: PAY AND ALLOWANCES OF OFFICERS		
BASIC PAY	52,490	52,490
RETIRED PAY ACCRUAL	13,889	13,889
BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR HOUSING	19,010	19,010
BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR SUBSISTENCE	1,894	1,894
SPECIAL PAYS	2,073	2,073
ALLOWANCES	2,684	2,684
SEPARATION PAY	26,101	26,101
SOCIAL SECURITY TAX	4,016	4,016
TOTAL, BA-1	122,157	122,157
BA-2: PAY AND ALLOWANCES OF ENLISTED PERSONNEL		
BASIC PAY	56,031	56,031



M-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
RETIRED PAY ACCRUAL	14,793	14,793
BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR HOUSING	18,554	18,554
SPECIAL PAYS	9,771	9,771
ALLOWANCES	12,232	12,232
SEPARATION PAY	130,117	126,317
Marine Corps identified excess to requirement		-3,800
SOCIAL SECURITY TAX	4,286	4,286
TOTAL, BA-2	245,784	241,984
BA-4: SUBSISTENCE OF ENLISTED PERSONNEL		
BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR SUBSISTENCE	18,243	18,243
TOTAL, BA-4	18,243	18,243
BA-5: PERMANENT CHANGE OF STATION TRAVEL		
ROTATIONAL TRAVEL		
SEPARATION TRAVEL	13,109	13,109
TOTAL, BA-5	13,109	13,109
BA-6: OTHER MILITARY PERSONNEL COSTS		
INTEREST ON UNIFORMED SERVICES SAVINGS	302	302
DEATH GRATUITIES	300	300
UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS	19,600	4,000
Marine Corps identified excess to requirement		-15,600
SGLI EXTRA HAZARD PAYMENTS	3,216	3,216
TOTAL, BA-6	23,418	7,818
TOTAL, MILITARY PERSONNEL, MARINE CORPS	422,711	403,311
MILITARY PERSONNEL, AIR FORCE		
BA-1: PAY AND ALLOWANCES OF OFFICERS		
BASIC PAY	103,797	103,797
RETIRED PAY ACCRUAL	23,354	23,354
BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR HOUSING	30,402	30,402
BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR SUBSISTENCE	3,764	3,764
SPECIAL PAYS	8,734	8,734
ALLOWANCES	8,748	8,748
SOCIAL SECURITY TAX	7,940	7,940
TOTAL, BA-1	186,739	186,739
BA-2: PAY AND ALLOWANCES OF ENLISTED PERSONNEL		
BASIC PAY	191,673	191,673
RETIRED PAY ACCRUAL	43,125	43,125
BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR HOUSING	82,843	82,843
SPECIAL PAYS	32,572	32,572
ALLOWANCES	29,473	29,473
SOCIAL SECURITY TAX	14,663	14,663
TOTAL, BA-2	394,349	394,349
BA-4: SUBSISTENCE OF ENLISTED PERSONNEL		
BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR SUBSISTENCE	21,916	21,916
SUBSISTENCE-IN-KIND	89,755	89,755
TOTAL, BA-4	111,671	111,671
BA-6: OTHER MILITARY PERSONNEL COSTS		
DEATH GRATUITIES	1,000	1,000
UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS	24,017	24,017
SGLI EXTRA HAZARD PAYMENTS	10,558	10,558
TOTAL, BA-6	35,575	35,575
TOTAL, MILITARY PERSONNEL, AIR FORCE	728,334	728,334

M-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
<b>RESERVE PERSONNEL, ARMY</b>		
BA-1: UNIT AND INDIVIDUAL TRAINING		
PAY GROUP A TRAINING (15 DAYS and DRILLS 24/48)	10,955	10,955
SPECIAL TRAINING	14,035	14,035
TOTAL, BA-1	24,990	24,990
<b>TOTAL, RESERVE PERSONNEL, ARMY</b>	<b>24,990</b>	<b>24,990</b>
<b>RESERVE PERSONNEL, NAVY</b>		
BA-1: UNIT AND INDIVIDUAL TRAINING		
SCHOOL TRAINING	1,785	1,785
SPECIAL TRAINING	11,497	11,497
ADMINISTRATION AND SUPPORT	671	671
TOTAL, BA-1	13,953	13,953
<b>TOTAL, RESERVE PERSONNEL, NAVY</b>	<b>13,953</b>	<b>13,953</b>
<b>RESERVE PERSONNEL, MARINE CORPS</b>		
BA-1: UNIT AND INDIVIDUAL TRAINING		
SPECIAL TRAINING	4,919	4,919
ADMINISTRATION AND SUPPORT	150	150
TOTAL, BA-1	5,069	5,069
<b>TOTAL, RESERVE PERSONNEL, MARINE CORPS</b>	<b>5,069</b>	<b>5,069</b>
<b>RESERVE PERSONNEL, AIR FORCE</b>		
BA-1: UNIT AND INDIVIDUAL TRAINING		
SPECIAL TRAINING	19,175	19,175
TOTAL, BA-1	19,175	19,175
<b>TOTAL, RESERVE PERSONNEL, AIR FORCE</b>	<b>19,175</b>	<b>19,175</b>
<b>NATIONAL GUARD PERSONNEL, ARMY</b>		
BA-1: UNIT AND INDIVIDUAL TRAINING		
PAY GROUP A TRAINING (15 DAYS and DRILLS 24/48)	28,674	28,674
SCHOOL TRAINING	7,318	29,818
Training shortfall		22,500
SPECIAL TRAINING	105,591	105,591
ADMINISTRATION AND SUPPORT	13,995	10,695
Pre-mobilization for AGR Augmentation Army National Guard identified excess to requirement		-3,300
TOTAL, BA-1	155,578	174,778
<b>TOTAL, NATIONAL GUARD PERSONNEL, ARMY</b>	<b>155,578</b>	<b>174,778</b>
<b>NATIONAL GUARD PERSONNEL, AIR FORCE</b>		
BA-1: UNIT AND INDIVIDUAL TRAINING		
SPECIAL TRAINING	4,894	4,894
TOTAL, BA-1	4,894	4,894
<b>TOTAL, NATIONAL GUARD PERSONNEL, AIR FORCE</b>	<b>4,894</b>	<b>4,894</b>
<b>TOTAL, MILITARY PERSONNEL</b>	<b>5,536,340</b>	<b>4,966,640</b>

## OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS  
[In thousands of dollars]

O-1		FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY			
111	MANEUVER UNITS	77,419	303,099
	Program increase - European Reassurance Initiative		225,680
112	MODULAR SUPPORT BRIGADES	3,827	3,827
113	ECHELONS ABOVE BRIGADE	22,353	22,353
114	THEATER LEVEL ASSETS	1,405,102	1,405,102
115	LAND FORCES OPERATIONS SUPPORT	452,332	667,332
	Program increase - European Reassurance Initiative		15,000
	OCO operations - transfer from title II		200,000
116	AVIATION ASSETS	47,522	47,522
121	FORCE READINESS OPERATIONS SUPPORT	1,050,683	1,147,183
	Program increase - European Reassurance Initiative		96,500
122	LAND FORCES SYSTEMS READINESS	166,725	166,725
123	LAND FORCES DEPOT MAINTENANCE	87,636	537,636
	OCO operations - transfer from title II		450,000
131	BASE OPERATIONS SUPPORT	291,977	291,977
135	ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES	7,316,967	7,069,967
	Unexploded ordnance removal - transfer to Title IX GP		-250,000
	Program increase - European Reassurance Initiative		3,000
136	COMMANDER'S EMERGENCY RESPONSE PROGRAM	10,000	10,000
137	RESET	2,861,655	2,861,655
212	ARMY PREPOSITIONED STOCKS	0	59,000
	Program increase - European Reassurance Initiative		59,000
421	SERVICEWIDE TRANSPORTATION	1,806,267	2,006,267
	OCO operations - transfer from title II		200,000
424	AMMUNITION MANAGEMENT	45,537	45,537
432	SERVICEWIDE COMMUNICATIONS	32,264	32,264
434	OTHER PERSONNEL SUPPORT	98,171	98,171
435	OTHER SERVICE SUPPORT	99,694	73,894
	Army identified excess to requirement		-25,800
437	REAL ESTATE MANAGEMENT	137,053	137,053

O-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS	1,122,092	1,122,092
TOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY	17,135,276	18,108,656
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, NAVY		
1A1A MISSION AND OTHER FLIGHT OPERATIONS	573,123	1,026,123
Program increase - European Reassurance Initiative		3,000
OCO operations - transfer from title II		450,000
1A4A AIR OPERATIONS AND SAFETY SUPPORT	2,600	2,600
1A4N AIR SYSTEMS SUPPORT	22,035	22,035
1A5A AIRCRAFT DEPOT MAINTENANCE	192,411	192,411
1A6A AIRCRAFT DEPOT OPERATIONS SUPPORT	1,116	1,116
1A9A AVIATION LOGISTICS	33,900	33,900
1B1B MISSION AND OTHER SHIP OPERATIONS	1,153,500	1,158,450
Program increase - European Reassurance Initiative		4,950
1B2B SHIP OPERATIONS SUPPORT & TRAINING	20,068	20,068
1B4B SHIP DEPOT MAINTENANCE	1,922,829	2,322,829
OCO operations - transfer from title II		400,000
1C1C COMBAT COMMUNICATIONS	31,303	31,303
1C4C WARFARE TACTICS	26,229	26,229
1C5C OPERATIONAL METEOROLOGY AND OCEANOGRAPHY	20,398	20,398
1C6C COMBAT SUPPORT FORCES	676,555	685,675
Program increase - European Reassurance Initiative		9,120
1C7C EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE	10,662	10,662
1D3D IN-SERVICE WEAPONS SYSTEMS SUPPORT	90,684	90,684
1D4D WEAPONS MAINTENANCE	233,696	233,696
BSM1 FACILITY SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION AND MODERNIZATION	16,220	16,420
Program increase - European Reassurance Initiative		200
BSS1 BASE OPERATING SUPPORT	88,688	88,688
2C1H EXPEDITIONARY HEALTH SERVICE SYSTEM	5,307	5,307
2C3H COAST GUARD SUPPORT	213,319	0
Coast Guard funded in Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act		-213,319
3B1K SPECIALIZED SKILL TRAINING	48,270	48,270

O-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
4A1M ADMINISTRATION	2,464	2,464
4A2M EXTERNAL RELATIONS	520	520
4A4M MILITARY MANPOWER AND PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT	5,205	5,205
4A5M OTHER PERSONNEL SUPPORT	1,439	1,439
4B1N SERVICEWIDE TRANSPORTATION	186,318	186,318
4B2N PLANNING, ENGINEERING, AND DESIGN	1,350	1,350
4B3N ACQUISITION AND PROGRAM MANAGEMENT	11,811	11,811
4C1P NAVAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE	1,468	1,468
999 CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS	6,380	6,380
<b>TOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, NAVY</b>	<b>5,599,868</b>	<b>6,253,819</b>
<b>OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, MARINE CORPS</b>		
1A1A OPERATIONAL FORCES	477,406	690,616
Program increase - European Reassurance Initiative		13,210
OCO operations - transfer from title II		200,000
1A2A FIELD LOGISTICS	353,334	353,334
1A3A DEPOT MAINTENANCE	426,720	426,720
BSS1 BASE OPERATING SUPPORT	12,036	162,036
OCO operations - transfer from title II		150,000
3B4D TRAINING SUPPORT	52,106	52,106
4A3G SERVICEWIDE TRANSPORTATION	162,980	162,980
4A4G ADMINISTRATION	1,322	1,322
999 OTHER PROGRAMS	1,870	1,870
<b>TOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, MARINE CORPS</b>	<b>1,487,774</b>	<b>1,850,984</b>
<b>OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR FORCE</b>		
011A PRIMARY COMBAT FORCES	1,352,604	1,493,504
Program increase - European Reassurance Initiative		140,900
011C COMBAT ENHANCEMENT FORCES	893,939	898,339
Program increase - European Reassurance Initiative		4,400
011D AIR OPERATIONS TRAINING (OJT, MAINTAIN SKILLS)	8,785	8,785
011M DEPOT MAINTENANCE	1,146,099	1,146,099

O-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
011R FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION & MODERNIZATION Program increase - European Reassurance Initiative	78,000	105,890 27,890
011Z BASE SUPPORT	1,226,834	1,226,834
012A GLOBAL C3I AND EARLY WARNING Air Force identified excess to requirement	92,109	44,109 -48,000
012C OTHER COMBAT OPS SPT PROGRAMS	168,269	168,269
012F TACTICAL INTEL AND OTHER SPECIAL ACTIVITIES	26,337	26,337
013A LAUNCH FACILITIES	852	852
013C SPACE CONTROL SYSTEMS	4,942	4,942
015A COMBATANT COMMANDERS DIRECT MISSION SUPPORT Classified program reduction	99,400	89,400 -10,000
021A AIRLIFT OPERATIONS Program increase - European Reassurance Initiative OCO operations - transfer from title II	2,894,280	3,246,280 2,000 350,000
021D MOBILIZATION PREPAREDNESS	138,043	138,043
021M DEPOT MAINTENANCE OCO operations - transfer from title II	437,279	937,279 500,000
021R FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION & MODERNIZATION	2,801	2,801
021Z BASE SUPPORT	15,370	15,370
031A OFFICER ACQUISITION	39	39
031B RECRUIT TRAINING	432	432
031Z BASE SUPPORT	1,617	1,617
032A SPECIALIZED SKILL TRAINING	2,145	2,145
033C OFF-DUTY AND VOLUNTARY EDUCATION	163	163
041A LOGISTICS OPERATIONS	85,016	85,016
041B TECHNICAL SUPPORT ACTIVITIES	934	934
041Z BASE SUPPORT	6,923	6,923
042A ADMINISTRATION	151	151
042B SERVICEWIDE COMMUNICATIONS	162,106	162,106
042G OTHER SERVICEWIDE ACTIVITIES	246,256	246,256

O-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
044A INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT	60	60
CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS	17,408	17,408
<b>TOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR FORCE</b>	<b>9,109,193</b>	<b>10,076,383</b>
<b>OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, DEFENSE-WIDE</b>		
JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF	0	100
Program increase - European Reassurance Initiative		100
SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND	2,490,648	2,495,148
Program increase - only for European Reassurance Initiative SOF JCETs and training		4,500
DEFENSE CONTRACT AUDIT AGENCY	22,847	22,847
DEFENSE INFORMATION SYSTEMS AGENCY	36,416	36,416
DEFENSE LEGAL SERVICES	105,000	105,000
DEFENSE MEDIA ACTIVITY	6,251	6,251
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE EDUCATION AGENCY	93,000	93,000
DEFENSE HUMAN RESOURCES ACTIVITY	0	15,000
Program increase - Beyond Yellow Ribbon		15,000
DEFENSE CONTRACT MANAGEMENT AGENCY	21,516	21,516
DEFENSE SECURITY COOPERATION AGENCY	1,660,000	1,660,000
Lift and Sustain	400,000	400,000
Coalition Support Fund	1,260,000	1,260,000
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE	115,664	135,664
Program increase - European Reassurance Initiative		20,000
WASHINGTON HEADQUARTERS SERVICE	2,424	2,424
OTHER PROGRAMS	1,617,659	1,617,659
Observant Compass		[30,000]
<b>TOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, DEFENSE-WIDE</b>	<b>6,171,425</b>	<b>6,211,025</b>
<b>OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY RESERVE</b>		
113 ECHELONS ABOVE BRIGADE	4,285	4,285
115 LAND FORCES OPERATIONS SUPPORT	1,428	1,428
121 FORCES READINESS OPERATIONS SUPPORT	699	699
131 BASE OPERATIONS SUPPORT	35,120	35,120
<b>TOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY RESERVE</b>	<b>41,532</b>	<b>41,532</b>

O-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, NAVY RESERVE		
1A1A MISSION AND OTHER FLIGHT OPERATIONS	16,133	16,133
1A5A AIRCRAFT DEPOT MAINTENANCE	6,150	6,150
1B1B MISSION AND OTHER SHIP OPERATIONS	12,475	12,475
1B4B SHIP DEPOT MAINTENANCE	2,700	2,700
1C6C COMBAT SUPPORT FORCES	8,418	8,418
TOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, NAVY RESERVE	45,876	45,876
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, MARINE CORPS RESERVE		
1A1A OPERATING FORCES	9,740	9,740
BSS1 BASE OPERATING SUPPORT	800	800
TOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, MARINE CORPS RESERVE	10,540	10,540
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR FORCE RESERVE		
011M DEPOT MAINTENANCE	72,575	72,575
011Z BASE OPERATING SUPPORT	5,219	5,219
TOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR FORCE	77,794	77,794
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
111 MANEUVER UNITS	12,593	13,793
Program increase - European Reassurance Initiative		1,200
112 MODULAR SUPPORT BRIGADES	647	647
113 ECHELONS ABOVE BRIGADE	6,670	6,670
114 THEATER LEVEL ASSETS	664	664
116 AVIATION ASSETS	22,485	22,485
121 FORCE READINESS OPERATIONS SUPPORT	14,560	14,560
131 BASE OPERATIONS SUPPORT	13,923	13,923
133 MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONAL HEADQUARTERS	4,601	4,601
431 ADMINISTRATION	318	318
TOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY NATIONAL GUARD	76,461	77,661
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
011F AIRCRAFT OPERATIONS	0	2,300
Program increase - European Reassurance Initiative		2,300
011G MISSION SUPPORT OPERATIONS	20,300	20,300
TOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR NATIONAL GUARD	20,300	22,600



O-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
<b>AFGHANISTAN SECURITY FORCES FUND</b>		
<b>Defense Forces</b>	<b>2,915,747</b>	<b>2,915,747</b>
Sustainment	2,514,660	2,514,660
Infrastructure	20,000	20,000
Equipment and Transportation	21,442	21,442
Training and Operations	359,645	359,645
<b>Interior Forces</b>	<b>1,161,733</b>	<b>1,161,733</b>
Sustainment	953,189	953,189
Infrastructure	15,155	15,155
Equipment and Transportation	18,657	18,657
Training and Operations	174,732	174,732
<b>Detainees Operations</b>	<b>31,853</b>	<b>31,853</b>
Sustainment	29,603	29,603
Training and Operations	2,250	2,250
<b>TOTAL, AFGHANISTAN SECURITY FORCES FUND</b>	<b>4,109,333</b>	<b>4,109,333</b>
<b>COUNTERTERRORISM PARTNERSHIPS FUND</b>		
<b>COUNTERTERRORISM PARTNERSHIPS FUND</b>	<b>4,000,000</b>	<b>1,300,000</b>
Program reduction		-2,700,000
<b>TOTAL, COUNTERTERRORISM PARTNERSHIPS FUND</b>	<b>4,000,000</b>	<b>1,300,000</b>
<b>EUROPEAN REASSURANCE INITIATIVE</b>		
<b>EUROPEAN REASSURANCE INITIATIVE FUND</b>	<b>925,000</b>	<b>175,000</b>
Funded in title IX – MPA, OMA, OMN, OMMC, OMAF, OMDW, OMNG, OMANG, and OPN (Displayed as 'Program increase - European Reassurance Initiative')		-635,000
Program increase		60,000
Transfer to Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriation Act		-175,000
<b>TOTAL, EUROPEAN REASSURANCE INITIATIVE</b>	<b>925,000</b>	<b>175,000</b>
<b>IRAQ TRAIN AND EQUIP FUND</b>		
<b>IRAQ TRAIN AND EQUIP FUND</b>	<b>1,618,000</b>	<b>1,618,000</b>
<b>TOTAL, IRAQ TRAIN AND EQUIP FUND</b>	<b>1,618,000</b>	<b>1,618,000</b>
<b>TOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE</b>	<b>50,428,372</b>	<b>49,979,203</b>

## READINESS

The agreement includes \$1,000,000,000 in title IX to be transferred to the operation and maintenance accounts and be divided proportionately among the Services and the National Guard and reserve components. This funding shall be used only to improve military readiness, including increased training, depot maintenance, and base oper-

ations support. None of the funding provided may be used for recruiting, marketing, or advertising programs. The funding provided is a congressional special interest item. The Secretary of Defense and the Service Secretaries are directed to submit a detailed spending plan by sub-activity group to the House and Senate Appropriations Committees not less than 30 days prior to the obliga-

tion of these funds. These transfers may be implemented 30 days after congressional notification unless an objection is received from either the House or Senate Appropriations Committees.

## PROCUREMENT

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS  
[In thousands of dollars]

P-1		FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
<b>AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT, ARMY</b>			
3	AERIAL COMMON SENSOR (ACS)	36,000	36,000
9	AH-64 APACHE BLOCK IIIB REMANUFACTURING Program increase	0	144,000 144,000
13	UH-60 BLACKHAWK M MODEL Program increase for combat loss	0	16,200 16,200
<b>TOTAL, AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT, ARMY</b>		<b>36,000</b>	<b>196,200</b>
<b>MISSILE PROCUREMENT, ARMY</b>			
4	HELLFIRE SYS SUMMARY	32,136	32,136
<b>TOTAL, MISSILE PROCUREMENT, ARMY</b>		<b>32,136</b>	<b>32,136</b>
<b>PROCUREMENT OF WEAPONS AND TRACKED VEHICLES, ARMY</b>			
21	COMMON REMOTELY OPERATED WEAPONS STATION Program increase	0	5,000 5,000
<b>TOTAL, PROCUREMENT OF WEAPONS AND TRACKED COMBAT VEHICLES, ARMY</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>5,000</b>
<b>PROCUREMENT OF AMMUNITION, ARMY</b>			
7	CTG, 30MM, ALL TYPES	35,000	35,000
9	60MM MORTAR, ALL TYPES	5,000	5,000
13	ARTILLERY CARTRIDGES, 75MM AND 105MM, ALL TYPES	10,000	10,000
14	ARTILLERY PROJECTILE, 155MM, ALL TYPES	15,000	15,000
20	ROCKET, HYDRA 70, ALL TYPES	66,905	66,905
21	DEMOLITION MUNITIONS, ALL TYPES	3,000	3,000
22	GRENADES, ALL TYPES	1,000	1,000
23	SIGNALS, ALL TYPES	5,000	5,000
<b>TOTAL, PROCUREMENT OF AMMUNITION, ARMY</b>		<b>140,905</b>	<b>140,905</b>

P-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
<b>OTHER PROCUREMENT, ARMY</b>		
5 FAMILY OF MEDIUM TACTICAL VEHICLES	95,624	95,624
8 PLS ESP	60,300	60,300
10 HEAVY EXPANDED MOBILE TACTICAL TRUCK EXT SERVICE	192,620	192,620
15 MINE-RESISTANT AMBUSH-PROTECTED MODS	197,000	197,000
63 DCGS-A	63,831	63,831
65 TROJAN SPIRIT - TERMINALS (TIARA)	2,600	2,600
67 CI HUMINT AUTO REPRTING AND COLL	6,910	6,910
71 FAMILY OF PERSISTENT SURVEILLANCE CAPABILITIES	32,083	32,083
72 COUNTERINTELLIGENCE/SECURITY COUNTERMEASURES	47,535	47,535
133 FORCE PROVIDER	51,500	51,500
135 CARGO AERIAL DEL AND PERSONNEL PARACHUTE SYSTEM	2,580	2,580
170 RAPID EQUIPPING SOLDIER SUPPORT EQUIPMENT Excess to need	25,000	20,000 -5,000
999 CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS	1,000	1,000
<b>TOTAL, OTHER PROCUREMENT, ARMY</b>	<b>778,583</b>	<b>773,583</b>
<b>AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT, NAVY</b>		
11 H-1 UPGRADES (UH-1Y/AH-1Z)	30,000	30,000
27 MQ-8 UAV Program increase - three additional MQ-8 UAVs	40,888	70,000 29,112
STUASLO UAV	55,000	55,000
39 EP-3 SERIES	34,955	34,955
49 SPECIAL PROJECT AIRCRAFT	2,548	2,548
54 COMMON ECM EQUIPMENT	31,920	31,920
65 SPARES AND REPAIR PARTS Program increase	0	18,000 18,000
67 AIRCRAFT INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES	936	936
<b>TOTAL, AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT, NAVY</b>	<b>196,247</b>	<b>243,359</b>

P-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
<b>WEAPONS PROCUREMENT, NAVY</b>		
3 TOMAHAWK	45,500	45,500
10 LASER MAVERICK	16,485	16,485
11 STAND OFF PRECISION GUIDED MUNITIONS	4,800	4,800
<b>TOTAL, WEAPONS PROCUREMENT, NAVY</b>	<b>66,785</b>	<b>66,785</b>
<b>PROCUREMENT OF AMMO, NAVY &amp; MARINE CORPS</b>		
1 GENERAL PURPOSE BOMBS	7,596	7,596
2 AIRBORNE ROCKETS, ALL TYPES	8,862	8,862
3 MACHINE GUN AMMUNITION	3,473	3,473
6 AIR EXPENDABLE COUNTERMEASURES	29,376	29,376
11 OTHER SHIP GUN AMMUNITION	3,919	3,919
12 SMALL ARMS & LANDING PARTY AMMO	3,561	3,561
13 PYROTECHNIC AND DEMOLITION	2,913	2,913
14 AMMUNITION LESS THAN \$5 MILLION	2,764	2,764
15 SMALL ARMS AMMUNITION	9,475	9,475
16 LINEAR CHARGES, ALL TYPES	8,843	8,843
17 40 MM, ALL TYPES	7,098	7,098
18 60MM, ALL TYPES	5,935	5,935
19 81MM, ALL TYPES	9,318	9,318
20 120MM, ALL TYPES	6,921	6,921
22 GRENADES, ALL TYPES	3,218	3,218
23 ROCKETS, ALL TYPES	7,642	7,642
24 ARTILLERY, ALL TYPES	30,289	30,289
25 DEMOLITION MUNITIONS, ALL TYPES	1,255	1,255
26 FUZE, ALL TYPES	2,061	2,061
<b>TOTAL, PROCUREMENT OF AMMO, NAVY &amp; MARINE CORPS</b>	<b>154,519</b>	<b>154,519</b>
<b>OTHER PROCUREMENT, NAVY</b>		
23 UNDERWATER EOD PROGRAMS	8,210	8,210
84 ITEMS LESS THAN \$5 MILLION	5,870	5,870
88 COMMUNICATIONS ITEMS UNDER \$5 MILLION	1,100	0
Excess to need		-1,100
132 EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL EQUIP	207,860	103,930
Excess to need		-103,930

P-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
138 PASSENGER CARRYING VEHICLES	1,063	0
Excess to need		-1,063
139 GENERAL PURPOSE TRUCKS	152	0
Excess to need		-152
142 TACTICAL VEHICLES	26,300	0
Excess to need		-26,300
145 ITEMS UNDER \$5 MILLION	3,300	3,300
152 COMMAND SUPPORT EQUIPMENT	10,745	0
Excess to need		-10,745
157 OPERATING FORCES SUPPORT EQUIPMENT	3,331	0
Excess to need		-3,331
158 C4ISR EQUIPMENT	35,923	0
Excess to need		-35,923
159 ENVIRONMENTAL SUPPORT EQUIPMENT	514	0
Excess to need		-514
999 CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS	2,400	2,400
<b>TOTAL, OTHER PROCUREMENT, NAVY</b>	<b>308,768</b>	<b>123,710</b>
<b>PROCUREMENT, MARINE CORPS</b>		
7 MODIFICATION KITS	3,190	3,190
10 JAVELIN	17,100	17,100
13 MODIFICATION KITS	13,500	13,500
16 REPAIR AND TEST EQUIPMENT	980	980
19 ITEMS UNDER \$5 MILLION (COMM & ELEC)	996	996
25 INTELLIGENCE SUPPORT EQUIPMENT	1,450	1,450
28 RQ-11 UAV	1,740	1,740
31 NIGHT VISION EQUIPMENT	134	134
36 COMM SWITCHING & CONTROL SYSTEMS	3,119	3,119
42 MEDIUM TACTICAL VEHICLE REPLACEMENT	584	584
52 EOD SYSTEMS	5,566	5,566
55 MATERIAL HANDLING EQUIP	3,230	3,230
58 TRAINING DEVICES	2,000	2,000
60 FAMILY OF CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT	0	12,000
Program increase		12,000
<b>TOTAL, PROCUREMENT, MARINE CORPS</b>	<b>53,589</b>	<b>65,589</b>

P-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
<b>AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE</b>		
4 C-130J	70,000	70,000
18 MQ-9	192,000	0
Additional aircraft included in title III		-154,000
MQ-9 spares - transfer to line 70		-38,000
21 B-1B	91,879	91,879
50 C-130	47,840	39,640
SABIR unit cost adjustment		-8,200
51 C-130J MODS INTEL	18,000	18,000
53 COMPASS CALL MODS	24,800	24,800
63 HC/MC-130 MODIFICATIONS	44,300	41,300
SABIR A-kit unjustified funding		-3,000
64 OTHER AIRCRAFT	111,990	111,990
70 INITIAL SPARES AND REPAIR PARTS	45,410	83,410
MQ-9 spares - transfer from line 18		38,000
<b>TOTAL, AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE</b>	<b>646,219</b>	<b>481,019</b>
<b>MISSILE PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE</b>		
6 PREDATOR HELLFIRE MISSILE	125,469	125,469
7 SMALL DIAMETER BOMB	10,720	10,720
<b>TOTAL, MISSILE PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE</b>	<b>136,189</b>	<b>136,189</b>
<b>PROCUREMENT OF AMMUNITION, AIR FORCE</b>		
2 CARTRIDGES	2,469	2,469
4 GENERAL PURPOSE BOMBS	56,293	56,293
5 JOINT DIRECT ATTACK MUNITION	117,039	117,039
11 FLARES	19,136	19,136
12 FUZES	24,848	24,848
<b>TOTAL, PROCUREMENT OF AMMUNITION, AIR FORCE</b>	<b>219,785</b>	<b>219,785</b>
<b>OTHER PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE</b>		
4 ITEMS LESS THAN \$5 MILLION (CARGO/UTILITY)	3,000	3,000
6 ITEMS LESS THAN \$5 MILLION (SPECIAL PURPOSE)	1,878	1,878
8 ITEMS LESS THAN \$5 MILLION (MHE)	5,131	5,131

P-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
9 RUNWAY SNOW REMOVAL AND CLEANING EQUIPMENT	1,734	1,734
10 ITEMS LESS THAN \$5 MILLION (BASE SUPPORT)	22,000	22,000
27 GENERAL INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	3,857	3,857
33 C3 COUNTERMEASURES	900	900
48 MILSATCOM SPACE	19,547	19,547
55 BASE COMM INFRASTRUCTURE	1,970	1,970
57 NIGHT VISION GOGGLES	765	765
60 BASE PROCURED EQUIPMENT	2,030	2,030
61 CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS	99,590	99,590
63 MOBILITY EQUIPMENT	107,361	107,361
64 ITEMS LESS THAN \$5 MILLION	10,975	10,975
70 DEFENSE SPACE RECONNAISSANCE PROG	6,100	6,100
999 CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS	3,143,936	3,320,688
Classified adjustment		176,752
<b>TOTAL, OTHER PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE</b>	<b>3,430,774</b>	<b>3,607,526</b>
<b>PROCUREMENT, DEFENSE-WIDE</b>		
10 TELEPORT PROGRAM	4,330	4,330
OTHER PROGRAMS	65,829	65,829
49 MH-60 MODERNIZATION	0	16,800
Combat loss		16,800
56 MQ-9 UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLE	0	5,700
MQ-9 capability enhancements		5,700
65 ORDNANCE ITEMS UNDER \$5 MILLION	28,873	28,873
68 SOF INTELLIGENCE SYSTEMS	13,549	13,549
71 OTHER ITEMS UNDER \$5 MILLION	32,773	32,773
76 WARRIOR SYSTEMS UNDER \$5 MILLION	78,367	78,367
88 SOF OPERATIONAL ENHANCEMENTS	4,175	4,175
<b>TOTAL, PROCUREMENT, DEFENSE-WIDE</b>	<b>227,886</b>	<b>250,386</b>



P-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
<b>NATIONAL GUARD &amp; RESERVE EQUIPMENT</b>		
ARMY RESERVE	0	185,000
MISCELLANEOUS EQUIPMENT		185,000
NAVY RESERVE	0	65,000
MISCELLANEOUS EQUIPMENT		65,000
MARINE CORPS RESERVE	0	60,000
MISCELLANEOUS EQUIPMENT		60,000
AIR FORCE RESERVE	0	60,000
MISCELLANEOUS EQUIPMENT		60,000
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD	0	415,000
MISCELLANEOUS EQUIPMENT		415,000
AIR NATIONAL GUARD	0	415,000
MISCELLANEOUS EQUIPMENT		415,000
<b>TOTAL, NATIONAL GUARD &amp; RESERVE EQUIPMENT</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,200,000</b>
<b>TOTAL, PROCUREMENT</b>	<b>6,426,385</b>	<b>7,696,691</b>

## NATIONAL GUARD AND RESERVE EQUIPMENT

The agreement provides \$1,200,000,000 for National Guard and Reserve Equipment. Of that amount, \$415,000,000 is for the Army National Guard; \$415,000,000 is for the Air National Guard; \$185,000,000 is for the Army Reserve; \$65,000,000 is for the Navy Reserve; \$60,000,000 is for the Marine Corps Reserve; and \$60,000,000 is for the Air Force Reserve to meet urgent equipment needs that may arise this fiscal year.

This funding will allow the National Guard and reserve components to procure high priority equipment that may be used by these units for both their combat missions and their missions in support of State governors. The National Guard and Reserve Equipment account shall be executed by the Chiefs of the National Guard and reserve components with priority consideration given to the following items: Acoustic Hailing Devices; C-130 Propulsion Upgrades; C-130 and KC-135 Secure Line-of-Sight/Beyond Line-of-Sight Data Link and Situational Awareness Cockpit Displays; Chemical and Biological Protective Shelters; Coastal Riverine Force Boats and Communications Upgrades; Combat Mobility Equipment; Communications,

Navigation and Surveillance/Air Traffic Management; Construction Engineering Equipment; Crashworthy Auxiliary Fuel Systems; Cyber Range Training Equipment; Electronic Flight Bags with Tablet Enabled Interface; Emergency Management Training Simulation; F-15C/D AESA Radars; F-15/F-16 Sensor Upgrades; Fire-Resistant Environmental Ensemble; FMTV Virtual Trainers; Global Satellite Communications On-The-Move and all necessary related hardware; HMMWV Ambulances; HMMWV Modernization; High-Mobility Engineer Excavators; In-Flight Propeller Balancing System; Integrated Vehicle Health Management System for UH-72As; Interoperable Wideband Network Communications; Large Aircraft Infrared Countermeasures; Light Utility Helicopters; Mobile Ad Hoc Network Radios; Mobile Satellite Networking Technology; Naval Construction Force Equipment; Radio Enhancements; Palletized Loading Systems; Reactive Skin Decontamination Lotion; Rotary Medium Cargo (H-60M) modernization; Security and Support/Civil Support Communication Package for UH-60s; Semi-Permanent Humidity Controlled Shelters; Semitrailers; Simulation Training Systems;

SINGCAR ASIP Radio Enhancements; Small Arms Simulation Training Systems; TACSAT Radios; Tactical Communications Equipment for MQ-9s; Tactical Trucks; Ultra-Light Tactical Vehicles; and Wireless Mobile Mesh Network Systems.

NATIONAL GUARD AND RESERVE EQUIPMENT  
REPORT

In the fiscal year 2015 National Guard and Reserve Equipment Report (NGRER), the Army changed the method used to calculate its equipment shortages to include modernized substitutes, which led the Army's equipment shortage data to not be included in the report. The agreement notes that this method caused a variation from past reports and that this change in calculation detracts from the usefulness of the report. The Assistant Secretary of the Army (Financial Management & Comptroller) is directed to provide data excluding modernized substitutes in future NGRERs.

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND  
EVALUATION

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS  
[In thousands of dollars]

R-1	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST & EVALUATION, ARMY		
60 SOLDIER SUPPORT AND SURVIVABILITY	4,500	2,000
Unexecutable request		-2,500
TOTAL, RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST & EVALUATION, ARMY	4,500	2,000
RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST & EVALUATION, NAVY		
225 UAS PAYLOADS	940	940
999 CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS	35,080	35,080
TOTAL, RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST & EVALUATION, NAVY	36,020	36,020
RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST & EVALUATION, AIR FORCE		
999 CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS	14,706	14,706
TOTAL, RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST & EVALUATION, AIR FORCE	14,706	14,706
RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST & EVALUATION, DEFENSE WIDE		
242 MQ-9 UAV	0	5,200
MQ-9 enhancements		5,200
248 OPERATIONAL ENHANCEMENTS	6,000	6,000
999 OTHER PROGRAMS	163,447	163,447
TOTAL, RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST & EVALUATION, DEFENSE WIDE	169,447	174,647
TOTAL, RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST & EVALUATION	224,673	227,373

## REVOLVING AND MANAGEMENT FUNDS

The agreement provides \$91,350,000 for Revolving and Management Funds.

## OTHER DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE PROGRAMS

## DEFENSE HEALTH PROGRAM

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

## EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS

[In thousands of dollars]

	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
IN-HOUSE CARE .....	65,902	65,902
PRIVATE SECTOR CARE .....	214,259	214,259
CONSOLIDATED HEALTH SUPPORT .....	15,311	15,311
EDUCATION AND TRAINING .....	5,059	5,059
TOTAL, DEFENSE HEALTH PROGRAM .....	300,531	300,531

## DRUG INTERDICTION AND COUNTER-DRUG ACTIVITIES, DEFENSE

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

## EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS

[In thousands of dollars]

	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
DRUG INTERDICTION AND COUNTER-DRUG ACTIVITIES .....	189,000	205,000
Program increase—SOUTHCOM ISR .....		16,000
TOTAL, DRUG INTERDICTION AND COUNTER-DRUG ACTIVITIES, DEFENSE .....	189,000	205,000

## JOINT IMPROVISED EXPLOSIVE DEVICE DEFEAT FUND

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

## EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS

[In thousands of dollars]

Line	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
1 ATTACK THE NETWORK .....	189,700	189,700
2 DEFEAT THE DEVICE .....	94,600	94,600
3 TRAIN THE FORCE .....	15,700	15,700
4 STAFF AND INFRASTRUCTURE .....	79,000	79,000
4A STAFF AND INFRASTRUCTURE—TRANSFER FROM TITLE VI .....	115,058	65,464
Advanced Technology Investments .....	49,594	0
Excess carryover .....		— 10,000
Excess to need .....		— 39,594
Civilian Personnel .....	38,001	38,001
Mobilization Designees .....	6,683	6,683
Information Technology .....	7,300	7,300
Facilities .....	12,032	12,032
Travel .....	624	624
Other (Supplies) .....	824	824
TOTAL, JOINT IED DEFEAT FUND .....	494,058	444,464

## OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

## EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS

[In thousands of dollars]

	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE .....	7,968	10,623
Program increase—Operation Inherent Resolve oversight .....		2,655
TOTAL, OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL .....	7,968	10,623

## GENERAL PROVISIONS—THIS TITLE

The agreement for title IX incorporates general provisions from the House and Senate versions of the bill which were not amended. Those general provisions that were addressed in the agreement are as follows:

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the Senate providing for the transfer of appropriations or funds in this title up to \$3,500,000,000. The House bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement modifies a provision proposed by the House regarding the supervision and administration costs and costs for design during construction associated with a con-

struction project. The Senate bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the Senate providing not to exceed \$10,000,000 for the Commander's Emergency Response Program. The House bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement modifies a provision proposed by the Senate prohibiting the use of funds for the Afghanistan Security Forces Fund prior to approval by the Afghanistan Resources Oversight Council. The House bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement modifies a provision proposed by the Senate providing funds for the

Office of Security Cooperation in Iraq but limiting the amount made available to \$140,000,000. The House bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement modifies a provision proposed by the House providing that funds made available under Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide for reimbursement to the Government of Pakistan are contingent upon certification by the Secretary of Defense, with concurrence from the Secretary of State, that certain conditions have been met. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

(RESCISSIONS)

The agreement modifies a provision proposed by the House and the Senate recommending rescissions. The provision provides for the rescission of \$1,236,580,000 from the following programs:

2013 Appropriations:		
Other Procurement, Army:		
Fire support C2 family .....	\$3,200,000	
Single Army logistics enterprise .....	5,000,000	
2014 Appropriations:		
Afghanistan Security Forces Fund:		
Program adjustment .....	764,380,000	
Aircraft Procurement, Army:		
CH-47 Chinook .....	347,000,000	
Kiowa Warrior program termination .....	117,000,000	

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the Senate providing \$250,000,000 to remove unexploded ordnance at closed training ranges in Afghanistan. The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement modifies a provision proposed by the Senate that authorizes the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Secretary of State, to provide defense-related articles and services to vetted ele-

ments of the Syrian opposition for certain purposes. The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement modifies a provision proposed by the Senate prohibiting the use of funds to transfer additional C-130 aircraft to Afghanistan until the Department of Defense conducts a review of the country's medium airlift requirements. The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House under title VIII providing \$1,000,000,000 for military readiness. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

TITLE X—EBOLA RESPONSE AND PREPAREDNESS

The agreement provides \$112,000,000 in title X, Ebola Response and Preparedness, to develop and deploy vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostic systems and other equipment in response to the current Ebola outbreak in West Africa. Several Department of Defense organizations, including the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) and the Chemical and Biological Defense Program, are in the process of developing and manufacturing countermeasures to respond to the current epidemic. While there

are experimental Ebola vaccines and treatments under development, these investigational products are in the early stages of development, and have not yet been fully tested for safety or effectiveness for humans.

The agreement provides \$33,000,000 to DARPA for Phase 1 clinical trials of experimental vaccines and therapeutics and \$12,000,000 for diagnostic efforts.

The agreement also provides \$50,000,000 to the Chemical and Biological Defense Program (CBDP) in Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Defense-Wide to continue work on vaccines, therapeutics, and diagnostic systems that could mitigate the spread of Ebola, and \$17,000,000 in Procurement, Defense-Wide for detection and diagnostic systems, mortuary supplies, and isolation transport units.

The agreement recognizes that the most efficient way to combat this outbreak is through increased collaboration between the CBDP and DARPA. Therefore, the agreement expects these agencies to work closely together to obtain the best possible scientific solution.

DIVISION C: DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
<b>TITLE I</b>					
<b>MILITARY PERSONNEL</b>					
Military Personnel, Army.....	40,787,967	41,225,339	41,116,129	+328,162	-109,210
Military Personnel, Navy.....	27,231,512	27,489,440	27,453,200	+221,688	-36,240
Military Personnel, Marine Corps.....	12,766,099	12,919,103	12,828,931	+62,832	-90,172
Military Personnel, Air Force.....	28,519,993	27,815,926	27,376,462	-1,143,531	-439,464
Reserve Personnel, Army.....	4,377,563	4,459,130	4,317,859	-59,704	-141,271
Reserve Personnel, Navy.....	1,843,966	1,853,034	1,835,924	-8,042	-27,110
Reserve Personnel, Marine Corps.....	555,109	670,754	660,424	+5,315	-10,330
Reserve Personnel, Air Force.....	1,723,159	1,675,518	1,653,148	-70,011	-22,370
National Guard Personnel, Army.....	7,776,498	7,682,892	7,643,832	-132,666	-39,060
National Guard Personnel, Air Force.....	3,114,421	3,156,457	3,118,709	+4,288	-37,748
Total, Title I, Military Personnel.....	128,796,287	128,957,593	128,004,618	-791,669	-952,975
<b>TITLE II</b>					
<b>OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE</b>					
Operation and Maintenance, Army.....	30,768,069	33,240,148	31,961,920	+1,193,851	-1,278,228
Operation and Maintenance, Navy.....	36,311,160	38,316,857	37,590,854	+1,279,694	-1,726,003
Operation and Maintenance, Marine Corps.....	5,397,605	5,909,487	5,610,063	+212,458	-299,424
Operation and Maintenance, Air Force.....	33,248,618	35,331,193	34,539,965	+1,291,347	-791,228
Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide.....	31,450,068	31,198,232	30,824,752	-625,316	-373,480
Operation and Maintenance, Army Reserve.....	2,940,936	2,490,569	2,513,393	-427,543	+22,824
Operation and Maintenance, Navy Reserve.....	1,158,382	1,007,100	1,021,200	-137,182	+14,100
Operation and Maintenance, Marine Corps Reserve.....	255,317	268,582	270,846	+15,529	+2,264
Operation and Maintenance, Air Force Reserve.....	3,062,207	3,015,842	3,026,342	-35,865	+10,500
Operation and Maintenance, Army National Guard.....	6,857,530	6,030,773	6,175,951	-681,579	+145,178
Operation and Maintenance, Air National Guard.....	6,392,304	6,392,859	6,408,558	+16,254	+15,699

DIVISION C: DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
Overseas Contingency Operations Transfer Account.....	---	5,000	---	---	-5,000
United States Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces...	13,606	13,723	13,723	+117	---
Environmental Restoration, Army.....	298,815	201,560	201,560	-97,255	---
Environmental Restoration, Navy.....	316,103	277,294	277,294	-38,809	---
Environmental Restoration, Air Force.....	439,820	408,716	408,716	-31,104	---
Environmental Restoration, Defense-Wide.....	10,757	8,547	8,547	-2,210	---
Environmental Restoration, Formerly Used Defense Sites	287,443	208,353	250,853	-36,590	+42,500
Overseas Humanitarian, Disaster, and Civic Aid.....	109,500	100,000	103,000	-6,500	+3,000
Cooperative Threat Reduction Account.....	500,455	365,108	365,108	-135,347	---
Department of Defense Acquisition Workforce					
Development Fund.....	51,031	212,875	83,034	+32,003	-129,841
Total, Title II, Operation and maintenance.....	159,869,726	166,002,818	161,655,679	+1,785,953	-4,347,139
=====					
TITLE III					
PROCUREMENT					
Aircraft Procurement, Army.....	4,844,891	5,102,685	5,216,225	+371,334	+113,540
Missile Procurement, Army.....	1,549,491	1,017,483	1,208,692	-340,799	+191,209
Procurement of Weapons and Tracked Combat Vehicles,					
Army.....	1,610,811	1,471,438	1,722,136	+111,325	+250,698
Procurement of Ammunition, Army.....	1,444,067	1,031,477	1,015,477	-428,590	-16,000
Other Procurement, Army.....	4,936,908	4,893,634	4,747,523	-189,385	-146,111
Aircraft Procurement, Navy.....	16,442,794	13,074,317	14,758,035	-1,684,759	+1,683,718
Weapons Procurement, Navy.....	3,009,157	3,217,945	3,137,257	+128,100	-80,688
Procurement of Ammunition, Navy and Marine Corps.....	549,316	771,945	674,100	+124,784	-97,845
Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy.....	15,231,364	14,400,625	15,954,379	+723,015	+1,553,754
Other Procurement, Navy.....	5,572,618	5,975,828	5,846,558	+273,940	-129,270
Procurement, Marine Corps.....	1,240,958	983,352	935,209	-305,749	-48,143
Aircraft Procurement, Air Force.....	10,379,180	11,542,571	12,067,703	+1,688,523	+525,132
Missile Procurement, Air Force.....	4,446,763	4,690,506	4,629,662	+182,899	-60,844

DIVISION C: DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
Procurement of Ammunition, Air Force.....	729,677	677,400	659,909	-69,768	-17,491
Other Procurement, Air Force.....	16,572,754	16,566,018	16,781,266	+208,512	+215,248
Procurement, Defense-Wide .....	4,240,416	4,221,437	4,429,303	+188,887	+207,866
Defense Production Act Purchases .....	60,135	21,638	51,638	-8,497	+30,000
Total, Title III, Procurement.....	92,861,300	89,660,299	93,835,072	+973,772	+4,174,773
=====					
TITLE IV					
RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION					
Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Army.....	7,126,318	6,593,898	6,675,565	-450,753	+81,667
Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Navy.....	14,949,919	16,266,335	15,958,460	+1,008,541	-307,875
Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Air Force.....	23,585,292	23,739,892	23,643,983	+58,691	-95,909
Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Defense-Wide .....	17,086,412	16,766,084	17,225,889	+139,477	+459,805
Operational Test and Evaluation, Defense.....	246,800	167,738	209,378	-37,422	+41,640
Total, Title IV, Research, Development, Test and Evaluation.....	62,994,741	63,533,947	63,713,275	+718,534	+179,328
=====					
TITLE V					
REVOLVING AND MANAGEMENT FUNDS					
Defense Working Capital Funds.....	1,649,214	1,234,468	1,649,468	+254	+415,000
National Defense Sealift Fund.....	597,213	---	485,012	-112,201	+485,012
Total, Title V, Revolving and Management Funds .....	2,246,427	1,234,468	2,134,480	-111,947	+900,012
=====					



DIVISION C: DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
-----					
TITLE VI					
OTHER DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE PROGRAMS					
Defense Health Program					
Operation and maintenance.....	30,704,995	31,031,911	30,030,650	-674,345	-1,001,261
Procurement.....	441,764	308,413	308,413	-133,351	---
Research, development, test and evaluation.....	1,552,399	654,594	1,730,709	+178,310	+1,076,115
Total, Defense Health Program 1/.....	32,699,158	31,994,918	32,069,772	-629,386	+74,854
-----					
Chemical Agents and Munitions Destruction, Defense:					
Operation and maintenance.....	398,572	222,728	196,128	-202,444	-26,600
Procurement.....	1,368	10,227	10,227	+8,859	---
Research, development, test and evaluation.....	604,183	595,913	595,913	-8,270	---
Total, Chemical Agents 2/.....	1,004,123	828,868	802,268	-201,855	-26,600
-----					
Drug Interdiction and Counter-Drug Activities, Defense					
Counter-narcotics support.....	1,015,885	---	---	-1,015,885	---
Drug demand reduction program.....	---	719,096	669,631	+669,631	-49,465
National Guard counter-drug program.....	---	101,591	105,591	+105,591	+4,000
Total, Drug Interdiction and Counter-Drug Activities.....	1,015,885	820,687	950,687	-65,198	+130,000
-----					

DIVISION C: DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
Joint Improvised Explosive Device Defeat Fund .....	---	115,058	---	---	-115,058
Joint Urgent Operational Needs Fund .....	---	20,000	---	---	-20,000
Support for International Sporting Competitions 1/.....	---	10,000	10,000	+10,000	---
Office of the Inspector General 1/.....	316,000	311,830	311,830	-4,170	---
Total, Title VI, Other Department of Defense Programs.....	35,035,166	34,101,361	34,144,557	-890,609	+43,196
=====					
TITLE VII					
RELATED AGENCIES					
Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System Fund.....	514,000	514,000	514,000	---	---
Intelligence Community Management Account (ICMA).....	528,229	510,194	507,600	-20,629	-2,594
Total, Title VII, Related agencies.....	1,042,229	1,024,194	1,021,600	-20,629	-2,594
=====					
TITLE VIII					
GENERAL PROVISIONS					
Additional transfer authority (Sec.8005).....	(5,000,000)	(5,000,000)	(4,500,000)	(-500,000)	(-500,000)
Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide (Sec.8017).....	---	---	175,000	+175,000	+175,000
Indian Financing Act incentives (Sec.8020).....	15,000	---	---	-15,000	---
FFRDC (Sec.8024).....	-40,000	---	-40,000	---	-40,000
Rescissions (Sec.8040).....	-1,906,089	-265,685	-1,228,020	+678,069	-962,335
National grants (Sec.8047).....	44,000	---	44,000	---	+44,000
O&M, Defense-wide transfer authority (Sec.8052).....	(30,000)	(30,000)	(30,000)	---	---
Global Security Contingency Fund (O&M, Defense-wide transfer) (Sec.8071).....	(200,000)	(200,000)	(200,000)	---	---
Fisher House Foundation (Sec.8072).....	4,000	---	4,000	---	+4,000

DIVISION C: DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
Shipbuilding & conversion funds, Navy .....	8,000	5,000	---	-8,000	-5,000
Revised economic assumptions (Sec.8080) .....	-380,000	---	-386,268	-6,268	-386,268
ICMA transfer authority (Sec.8093) .....	(20,000)	(20,000)	(20,000)	---	---
Fisher House transfer authority (Sec.8098) .....	(11,000)	(11,000)	(11,000)	---	---
Defense Health O&M transfer authority (Sec.8102) .....	(143,087)	(146,857)	(146,857)	(+3,770)	---
Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide (transfer authority) .....	(119,400)	(80,596)	---	(-119,400)	(-80,596)
Ship Modernization, Operations and Sustainment Fund (Sec.8110) .....	2,244,400	---	540,000	-1,704,400	+540,000
Rescission .....	-1,920,000	---	---	+1,920,000	---
Superintendents review .....	1,000	---	---	-1,000	---
Special Victims Program implementation .....	25,000	---	---	-25,000	---
General/Flag Officers .....	-8,000	---	---	+8,000	---
Working Capital Fund excess cash balances .....	-866,500	---	---	+866,500	---
National Defense Reserve Fleet (O&M, Navy transfer authority) .....	---	(291,000)	---	---	(-291,000)
John C. Stennis Center for Public Service Development Trust Fund (O&M, Navy transfer authority) (Sec.8129) .....	---	(1,000)	(1,000)	(+1,000)	---
Basic allowance for housing (Sec.8130) .....	---	---	88,000	+88,000	+88,000
Total, Title VIII, General Provisions .....	-2,779,189	-260,685	-803,288	+1,975,901	-542,603

DIVISION C: DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
<b>TITLE IX</b>				
<b>OVERSEAS CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS (OCO) 3/</b>				
<b>Military Personnel</b>				
Military Personnel, Army (OCO)	5,449,726	3,829,470	3,259,970	-2,189,756
Military Personnel, Navy (OCO)	558,344	332,166	332,166	-226,178
Military Personnel, Marine Corps (OCO)	777,922	422,711	403,311	-374,611
Military Personnel, Air Force (OCO)	832,862	728,334	728,334	-104,528
Reserve Personnel, Army (OCO)	33,352	24,990	24,990	-8,362
Reserve Personnel, Navy (OCO)	20,238	13,953	13,953	-6,285
Reserve Personnel, Marine Corps (OCO)	15,134	5,069	5,069	-10,065
Reserve Personnel, Air Force (OCO)	20,432	19,175	19,175	-1,257
National Guard Personnel, Army (OCO)	257,064	155,578	174,778	-82,286
National Guard Personnel, Air Force (OCO)	6,919	4,894	4,894	-2,025
<b>Total, Military Personnel</b>	<b>7,971,993</b>	<b>5,536,340</b>	<b>4,966,640</b>	<b>-3,005,353</b>
				<b>-569,700</b>

DIVISION C: DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
<b>Operation and Maintenance</b>					
Operation & Maintenance, Army (OCO).....	32,369,249	17,135,276	18,108,656	-14,250,593	+973,380
Operation & Maintenance, Navy (OCO).....	8,470,808	5,599,868	6,253,819	-2,216,989	+653,951
Coast Guard (by transfer) (OCO).....	---	(213,319)	---	---	(-213,319)
Operation & Maintenance, Marine Corps (OCO).....	3,369,815	1,487,774	1,850,984	-1,518,831	+363,210
Operation & Maintenance, Air Force (OCO).....	12,746,424	9,109,193	10,076,383	-2,670,041	+967,190
Operation & Maintenance, Defense-Wide (OCO).....	6,226,678	6,171,425	6,211,025	-15,653	+39,600
Coalition support funds (OCO).....	(1,257,000)	---	(1,260,000)	(-3,000)	(+1,260,000)
Operation & Maintenance, Army Reserve (OCO).....	34,674	41,532	41,532	+6,858	---
Operation & Maintenance, Navy Reserve (OCO).....	55,700	45,876	45,876	-9,824	---
Operation & Maintenance, Marine Corps Reserve (OCO).....	12,534	10,540	10,540	-1,994	---
Operation & Maintenance, Air Force Reserve (OCO).....	32,849	77,794	77,794	+44,945	---
Operation & Maintenance, Army National Guard (OCO).....	130,471	76,461	77,661	-52,810	+1,200
Operation & Maintenance, Air National Guard (OCO).....	22,200	20,300	22,600	+400	+2,300
<b>Subtotal, Operation and Maintenance.....</b>	<b>63,471,402</b>	<b>39,776,039</b>	<b>42,776,870</b>	<b>-20,694,532</b>	<b>+3,000,831</b>
<b>Afghanistan Infrastructure Fund (OCO).....</b>					
Counterterrorism Partnerships Fund (OCO).....	199,000	---	---	-199,000	---
European Reassurance Initiative (OCO).....	---	4,000,000	1,300,000	+1,300,000	-2,700,000
Afghanistan Security Forces Fund (OCO).....	---	925,000	175,000	+175,000	-750,000
Iraq Train and Equip Fund (OCO).....	4,726,720	4,109,333	4,109,333	-617,387	---
<b>Total, Operation and Maintenance.....</b>	<b>68,397,122</b>	<b>50,428,372</b>	<b>49,979,203</b>	<b>-18,417,919</b>	<b>-449,169</b>

DIVISION C: DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
<b>Procurement</b>					
Aircraft Procurement, Army (OCO)	669,000	36,000	196,200	-472,800	+160,200
Missile Procurement, Army (OCO)	128,645	32,136	32,136	-96,509	---
Procurement of Ammunition, Army (OCO)	190,900	140,905	140,905	-49,995	---
Other Procurement, Army (OCO)	653,902	778,583	773,583	+119,681	-5,000
Aircraft Procurement, Navy (OCO)	211,176	196,247	243,359	+32,183	+47,112
Weapons Procurement, Navy (OCO)	86,500	66,785	66,785	-19,715	---
Procurement of Ammunition, Navy and Marine Corps (OCO)	169,362	154,519	154,519	-14,843	---
Other Procurement, Navy (OCO)	---	306,768	123,710	+123,710	-183,058
Procurement, Marine Corps (OCO)	125,984	53,589	65,589	-60,395	+12,000
Aircraft Procurement, Air Force (OCO)	188,868	646,219	481,019	+292,151	-165,200
Missile Procurement, Air Force (OCO)	24,200	136,189	136,189	+111,989	---
Procurement of Ammunition, Air Force (OCO)	137,826	219,785	219,785	+81,959	---
Other Procurement, Air Force (OCO)	2,517,846	3,430,774	3,607,526	+1,089,680	+176,752
Procurement, Defense-Wide (OCO)	128,947	227,886	250,386	+121,439	+22,500
National Guard and Reserve Equipment (OCO)	1,000,000	---	1,200,000	+200,000	+1,200,000
<b>Total, Procurement</b>	<b>6,233,156</b>	<b>6,426,385</b>	<b>7,696,691</b>	<b>+1,463,535</b>	<b>+1,270,306</b>

DIVISION C: DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
-----					
Research, Development, Test and Evaluation					
Research, Development, Test & Evaluation, Army (OCO)...	13,500	4,500	2,000	-11,500	-2,500
Research, Development, Test & Evaluation, Navy (OCO)...	34,426	36,020	36,020	+1,594	---
Research, Development, Test & Evaluation, Air Force (OCO).....	9,000	14,706	14,706	+5,706	---
Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Defense-Wide (OCO).....	78,208	169,447	174,647	+96,439	+5,200
-----					
Total, Research, Development, Test and Evaluation.....	135,134	224,673	227,373	+92,239	+2,700
-----					
Revolving and Management Funds					
Defense Working Capital Funds (OCO).....	264,910	91,350	91,350	-173,560	---

DIVISION C: DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
<b>Other Department of Defense Programs</b>					
Defense Health Program:					
Operation and maintenance (OCO).....	898,701	300,531	300,531	-598,170	---
Drug interdiction and counter-drug activities, defense (OCO).....	376,305	189,000	205,000	-171,305	+16,000
Joint Improvised Explosive Device Defeat Fund (OCO) ..	879,225	379,000	444,464	-434,761	+65,464
Joint Urgent Operational Needs Fund (OCO).....	---	50,000	---	---	-50,000
Office of the Inspector General (OCO).....	10,766	7,968	10,623	-143	+2,655
<b>Total, Other Department of Defense Programs.....</b>	<b>2,164,997</b>	<b>926,499</b>	<b>960,618</b>	<b>-1,204,379</b>	<b>+34,119</b>
<b>TITLE IX General Provisions</b>					
Additional transfer authority (OCO) (Sec. 9002).....	(4,000,000)	(4,000,000)	(3,500,000)	(-500,000)	(-500,000)
Rescissions (OCO) (Sec. 9013).....	-140,370	-117,000	-1,236,580	-1,096,210	-1,119,580
Unexploded ordnance (OCO) (Sec. 9015).....	---	---	250,000	+250,000	+250,000
(By transfer).....	---	(250,000)	---	---	(-250,000)
Readiness (OCO) (Sec. 9018).....	---	---	1,000,000	+1,000,000	+1,000,000
<b>Total, General Provisions.....</b>	<b>-140,370</b>	<b>-117,000</b>	<b>13,420</b>	<b>+153,790</b>	<b>+130,420</b>
<b>Total, Title IX 3/ .....</b>	<b>85,026,942</b>	<b>63,516,619</b>	<b>63,935,295</b>	<b>-21,091,647</b>	<b>+418,676</b>



DIVISION C: DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
TITLE X					
EBOLA RESPONSE AND PREPAREDNESS					
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE					
Procurement, Defense-wide (emergency).....	---	---	17,000	+17,000	+17,000
Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Defense-wide (emergency).....	---	112,000	95,000	+95,000	-17,000
Total, Title X.....	---	112,000	112,000	+112,000	---
(Emergency).....	---	(112,000)	(112,000)	(+112,000)	---
Net Grand Total.....	565,093,629	547,882,614	547,753,288	-17,340,341	-129,326
Appropriations.....	(483,892,776)	(484,519,680)	(484,934,013)	(+1,041,237)	(+414,333)
Emergency appropriations.....	---	(112,000)	(112,000)	(+112,000)	---
Overseas contingency operations.....	(85,167,312)	(63,633,619)	(65,171,875)	(-19,995,437)	(+1,538,256)
Rescissions.....	(-3,826,089)	(-265,685)	(-1,228,020)	(+2,598,069)	(-962,335)
Rescissions (OCO).....	(-140,370)	(-117,000)	(-1,236,580)	(-1,096,210)	(-1,119,580)

1/ Included in Budget under Operation and Maintenance

2/ Included in Budget under Procurement

3/ Global War on Terrorism (GWOT). Budget request includes June 26 budget amendment. The initial budget request "placeholder" was \$79.445 Billion. Also includes Nov 10 ISIL budget amendments

**DIVISION D—ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015 EXPLANATORY STATEMENT**

The following statement to the House of Representatives and the Senate is submitted in explanation of the agreed upon Act making appropriations for energy and water development for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes.

The language and allocations set forth in House Report 113-48E carry the same emphasis as the language included in this explanatory statement and should be complied with unless specifically addressed to the contrary herein. Report language included by the House which is not contradicted by the explanatory statement is approved. The explanatory statement, while repeating some report language for emphasis, does not intend to negate the language referred to above unless expressly provided herein. In cases in which the House directed the submission of a report, such report is to be submitted to both the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

Funds for the individual programs and activities within the accounts in this Act are displayed in the detailed table at the end of the explanatory statement for this Act. Funding levels that are not displayed in the detailed table are identified in this explanatory statement.

In fiscal year 2015, for purposes of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (Public Law 99-177), the following information provides the definition of the term “program, project, or activity” for departments and agencies under the jurisdiction of the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act. The term “program, project, or activity” shall include the most specific level of budget items identified in the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act, 2015 and the explanatory statement accompanying the Act.

**TITLE I—CORPS OF ENGINEERS—CIVIL  
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
CORPS OF ENGINEERS—CIVIL**

The summary tables included in this title set forth the dispositions with respect to the individual appropriations, projects, and activities of the Corps of Engineers. Additional items of the Act are discussed below.

Concerns persist that the effort to update the Water Resources Principles and Guidelines is not proceeding consistent with the language or intent of section 2031 of the Water Resources Development Act of 2007. No funds provided to the Corps of Engineers shall be used to develop or implement rules or guidance to support implementation of the final Principles and Requirements for Federal Investments in Water Resources released in March 2013. The Corps shall continue to use the document dated March 10, 1983, and entitled “Economic and Environmental Principles and Guidelines for Water and Related Land Resources Implementation Studies” during the fiscal year period covered by the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act for 2015. If Interagency Guidelines for implementing the March 2013 Principles and Requirements are finalized,

the Corps shall be ready to report to the appropriate committees of Congress not later than 120 days after finalization on the impacts of the revised Principles and Requirements and Interagency Guidelines. The Corps shall be prepared to explain the intent of each revision, how each revision is or is not consistent with section 2031 of the Water Resources Development Act of 2007, and the probable impact of each revision on water resources projects carried out by the Secretary including specific examples of application to at least one project from each main mission area of the Corps.

Concerns remain that the Corps has moved forward with its Levels of Service proposals at locks and dams without undertaking any analysis of whether this reduced service is in the best economic interests of the Nation. The Corps has provided no information showing the amount of additional maintenance funding made available or the economic activity foregone by this policy. Even in times of tight operation and maintenance budgets, changes in policy must be supported by factual information. The Corps is directed to report on the benefits and costs of its Levels of Service policy to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate as soon as practicable. In the meantime, the Corps is encouraged to continue to use all existing authorities to collect additional funds for the operation and maintenance of locks and dams, including the acceptance of contributed funds and the engagement in public-private partnerships.

*Development of Ratings Systems.*—The Corps again is directed to develop ratings systems for use in evaluating studies and projects for allocation of the additional funding provided in this title. These evaluation systems may be, but are not required to be, individualized for each account, category, or subcategory. Each study and project eligible for funding shall be evaluated under the applicable ratings system. A study or project may not be excluded from evaluation for being “inconsistent with Administration policy.” The Corps retains complete control over the methodology of these ratings systems, and the executive branch retains complete discretion over project-specific allocation decisions within the additional funds provided.

The Administration’s responses to previous years’ directives to develop ratings systems for use in allocating additional funding have been woefully inadequate. It is not sufficient to simply list a few performance measures without explaining, in detail, how studies and projects are evaluated under each measure, how the performance measures interact, and the relative importance or emphasis given to each measure when comparing projects. Additionally, under a truly transparent and performance-based process, the methodology being used to evaluate studies and projects and to make allocation decisions should be available prior to, or at least in conjunction with, the list of final project-specific allocations, not two months after as in fiscal year 2014.

**INVESTIGATIONS**

The agreement includes \$122,000,000 for Investigations. The agreement includes legislative language regarding parameters for new study starts.

*Planning Program.*—The planning program is the entry point for federal involvement in solutions to the Nation’s water resources problems and needs. These studies are funded primarily through the Investigations account. Over the past few years, the Corps has attempted to improve the project development process by streamlining the planning phase, an ongoing process that should continue. This effort gave rise to so-called “smart planning” and has resulted in the “3X3X3” slogan, which translates to no more than 3 years for a feasibility study, without a waiver; no more than \$3 million for the feasibility study, without a waiver; and either three levels of review or a final report document no thicker than a three inch binder, depending on with whom one discusses this process.

While the 3X3X3 mantra has been embraced by the Corps and incorporated into law by the Water Resources Reform and Development Act (WRRDA) of 2014, it remains questionable as to whether this one-size-fits-all approach will provide for higher quality, quicker, or more economical recommendations from the Corps. While “better, faster, cheaper” sounds desirable, the reality seems to be that, all too often, only two out of these three items ultimately get delivered. The Corps is cautioned that the feasibility study is a critical document as it is the basis for the determination of the economic viability, technical soundness, and the environmental sustainability of the Corps’ recommendation. Giving short shrift to any of these bedrock principles will call the Corps’ recommendations into question.

The WRRDA 2014 removes the requirement for a reconnaissance study from the planning process. It is expected that the Corps will continue to limit federal participation in new studies until it is determined that the study has a definable federal interest and that there is a local sponsor willing to cost share in the study. How these needs relate to the 3X3X3 process outlined in the WRRDA bill is unclear.

Accelerating the feasibility phase will not have the intended effect of speeding up the project delivery process if required analyses or other activities are simply shifted to the preconstruction engineering and design (PED) phase nor if the PED phase is not seamlessly funded immediately after the feasibility phase.

Finally, there is concern that the “smart planning” and 3X3X3 processes do not seem to match the Administration’s rhetoric for a comprehensive approach to planning. The new planning processes appear to narrow the options the Corps may examine, which is in direct contrast to a more comprehensive approach touted by the Administration.

The Corps should reexamine its planning program in light of the changes enacted from the WRRDA 2014 and the statements included here to ensure that the rhetoric of the planning program comports with the realities of the guidance being disseminated. In particular, the Corps is directed to report on the waiver process as detailed in House Report 113-48E.

The allocation for projects and activities within the Investigations account is shown in the following table:

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - INVESTIGATIONS  
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST			FINAL BILL		
	RECON	FEASIBILITY	PED	RECON	FEASIBILITY	PED
ALASKA						
ALASKA REGIONAL PORTS, AK	---	50	---	---	50	---
CRAIG HARBOR, AK	---	300	---	---	300	---
PORT LIONS HARBOR, AK	---	---	300	---	---	300
ARIZONA						
LITTLE COLORADO RIVER (WINSLOW), AZ	---	751	---	---	651	---
LOWER SANTA CRUZ RIVER, AZ	---	200	---	---	200	---
ARKANSAS						
WHITE RIVER COMPREHENSIVE - LOWER CACHE, AR	---	150	---	---	150	---
CALIFORNIA						
ALISO CREEK, CA	---	717	---	---	717	---
ARROYO SECO, CA	---	450	---	---	450	---
AMERICAN RIVER WATERSHED (COMMON FEATURES), CA	---	---	675	---	---	675
CALIFORNIA COASTAL SEDIMENT MASTER PLAN, CA	---	449	---	---	449	---
COYOTE & BERRYESSA CREEKS, CA	---	---	230	---	---	230
COYOTE VALLEY DAM RESTORATION, CA	---	200	---	---	---	---
DRY CREEK (WARM SPRINGS) RESTORATION, CA	---	200	---	---	200	---
N CA STREAMS, LOWER CACHE CRK, YOLO CNTY, WOODLAND & VIC, CA	---	800	---	---	800	---
PORT OF LONG BEACH NAV IMP, CA	---	200	---	---	200	---
REDWOOD CITY HARBOR, CA	---	579	---	---	579	---
SACRAMENTO RIVER BANK PROTECTION PROJECT, CA	---	500	---	---	200	---
SALTON SEA RESTORATION, CA	200	---	---	---	---	---
SAN FRANCISCO CREEK, CA	---	900	---	---	900	---

CORPS OF ENGINEERS—INVESTIGATIONS  
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST				FINAL BILL			
	RECON	FEASIBILITY	PED		RECON	FEASIBILITY	PED	
WESTMINSTER (EAST GARDEN GROVE) WATERSHED, CA	---	452	---		---	452	---	
YUBA RIVER FISH PASSAGE, CA (ENGLEBRIGHT & DAGUERRE POINT DAMS)	---	200	---		---	200	---	
COLORADO								
ADAMS AND DENVER COUNTIES, CO	---	500	---		---	500	---	
CONNECTICUT								
FAIRFIELD AND NEW HAVEN COUNTIES (FLOODING), CT	100	---	---		---	---	---	
NEW HAVEN HARBOR DEEPENING, CT	100	---	---		---	---	---	
FLORIDA								
JACKSONVILLE HARBOR, FL	---	---	3,150		---	---	---	3,150
MANATEE HARBOR, FL	100	---	---		---	---	---	
GEORGIA								
SATILLA RIVER BASIN WATERSHED, GA	---	200	---		---	200	---	
SAVANNAH HARBOR EXPANSION, GA	---	---	1,520		---	---	---	
HAWAII								
ALA WAI CANAL, OAHU, HI	---	120	---		---	120	---	
HILO HARBOR MODIFICATIONS, HI	---	469	---		---	469	---	
WAIKEA-PALAI, HI	---	153	---		---	153	---	
WEST MAUI WATERSHED, MAUI, HI	---	1,040	---		---	1,040	---	

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - INVESTIGATIONS  
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST			FINAL BILL		
	RECON	FEASIBILITY	PED	RECON	FEASIBILITY	PED
IDAHO						
BOISE RIVER, BOISE, ID	---	1,000	---	---	1,000	---
ILLINOIS						
DU PAGE RIVER, IL	150	---	---	---	---	---
ILLINOIS RIVER BASIN RESTORATION, IL	---	400	---	---	400	---
INTERBASIN CONTROL OF GREAT LAKES-MISSISSIPPI RIVER AQUATIC NUISANCE SPECIES, IL, IN, OH & WI	---	500	---	---	500	---
KENTUCKY						
KENTUCKY RIVER LOCKS 1-4 DISP, KY	100	---	---	---	---	---
LICKING RIVER, CYNTHIANA, KY	---	---	1,100	---	---	---
LOUISIANA						
LOUISIANA COASTAL AREA ECOSYS REST- MISS. RIVER HYDRO, LA	---	2,500	---	---	50	---
MARYLAND						
ANACOSTIA WATERSHED RESTORATION, MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD	---	250	---	---	250	---
ANACOSTIA WATERSHED RESTORATION, PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD	---	250	---	---	250	---
BALTIMORE HARBOR AND CHANNELS (50 FOOT), MD	---	600	---	---	600	---
CHESAPEAKE BAY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN, MD, PA & VA	---	100	---	---	100	---
MASSACHUSETTS						
BOSTON HARBOR DEEP DRAFT INVESTIGATION, MA	---	---	1,800	---	---	1,800

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - INVESTIGATIONS (AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)	BUDGET REQUEST			FINAL BILL		
	RECON	FEASIBILITY	PED	RECON	FEASIBILITY	PED
MINNESOTA						
MINNESOTA RIVER WATERSHED STUDY, MN & SD (MINNESOTA RIVER AUTHORITY)	---	600	---	---	600	---
MISSOURI						
MISSOURI RIVER DEGRADATION, MO	---	593	---	---	593	---
MONTANA						
YELLOWSTONE RIVER CORRIDOR, MT	---	295	---	---	295	---
NEW HAMPSHIRE						
CONNECTICUT RIVER ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION, NH & VT	---	23	---	---	---	---
MERRIMACK RIVER WATERSHED STUDY, NH & MA	---	700	---	---	700	---
NEW JERSEY						
HUDSON - RARITAN ESTUARY, LOWER PASSAIC RIVER, NJ	---	52	---	---	52	---
NEW MEXICO						
ESPANOLA VALLEY, RIO GRANDE AND TRIBUTARIES, NM	---	300	---	---	300	---
MIDDLE RIO GRANDE FLOOD PROTECTION, BERNALILLO TO BELEN, NM	---	276	---	---	276	---
RIO GRANDE BASIN WATERSHED, NM, CO & TX	---	300	---	---	300	---
NEW YORK						
HUDSON - RARITAN ESTUARY, NY & NJ	---	202	---	---	202	---

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - INVESTIGATIONS  
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST			FINAL BILL		
	RECON	FEASIBILITY	PED	RECON	FEASIBILITY	PED
NORTH CAROLINA						
WILMINGTON HARBOR IMPROVEMENTS, NC	---	298	---	---	25	---
NORTH DAKOTA						
JAMES RIVER, ND	---	400	---	---	---	---
RED RIVER OF THE NORTH BASIN, ND, MN, SD & MANITOBA, CANADA	---	600	---	---	600	---
OHIO						
SHORT CREEK AND WHEELING CREEK, OH	150	---	---	---	---	---
OREGON						
LOWER COLUMBIA RIVER ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION, OR & WA	---	283	---	---	---	---
WILLAMETTE RIVER FLOODPLAIN RESTORATION, OR	---	---	550	---	---	---
PENNSYLVANIA						
ALLEGHENY RIVER, PA	100	---	---	---	---	---
DELAWARE RIVER DREDGE MATERIAL UTILIZATION, PA	---	200	---	---	200	---
PUERTO RICO						
SAN JUAN HARBOR CHANNEL IMPROVEMENT STUDY, PR	100	---	---	---	---	---
SOUTH CAROLINA						
CHARLESTON HARBOR, SC	---	695	---	---	695	---

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - INVESTIGATIONS  
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST			FINAL BILL		
	RECON	FEASIBILITY	PED	RECON	FEASIBILITY	PED
TEXAS						
COASTAL TEXAS PROTECTION AND RESTORATION STUDY, TX		200			200	
FREEPORT HARBOR, TX			1,200			1,200
HOUSTON SHIP CHANNEL, TX		200			200	
NORTHWEST EL PASO, TX		300			300	
SABINE PASS TO GALVESTON BAY, TX		583			583	
SPARKS ARROYO COLONIA, EL PASO COUNTY, TX		600			600	
SULPHUR RIVER BASIN REALLOCATION, TX		500			500	
VIRGINIA						
LYNNHAVEN RIVER BASIN, VA			600			600
NORFOLK HARBOR AND CHANNELS, VA (DEEPENING)		700			700	
WASHINGTON						
PUYALLUP RIVER, WA		500			500	
SEATTLE HARBOR, WA		200			200	
SKAGIT R, WA/SKAGIT CO, WA		250			250	
SKOMISH RIVER BASIN, WA		550			250	
SUBTOTAL, PROJECTS LISTED UNDER STATES	1,100	25,580	11,125		21,251	7,955
REMAINING ITEMS						
ADDITIONAL FUNDING						
FLOOD AND STORM DAMAGE REDUCTION					6,264	
FLOOD CONTROL					7,800	
SHORE PROTECTION					4,400	



CORPS OF ENGINEERS - INVESTIGATIONS  
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST			FINAL BILL		
	RECON	FEASIBILITY	PED	RECON	FEASIBILITY	PED
NAVIGATION						
COASTAL AND DEEP-DRAFT					5,000	
INLAND					4,100	
SMALL, REMOTE, OR SUBSISTENCE					4,000	
OTHER AUTHORIZED PROJECT PURPOSES					2,200	
ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION OR COMPLIANCE					4,100	
COORDINATION STUDIES WITH OTHER AGENCIES					2,000	
ACCESS TO WATER DATA		750			750	
COMMITTEE ON MARINE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS		100			100	
OTHER COORDINATION PROGRAMS						
CALFED		100			100	
CHESAPEAKE BAY PROGRAM		75			75	
COORDINATION WITH OTHER WATER RESOURCE AGENCIES		398			500	
GULF OF MEXICO		100			100	
INTERAGENCY AND INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT		400			350	
INTERAGENCY WATER RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT		721			955	
INVENTORY OF DAMS		400			400	
LAKE TAHOE		100			100	
PACIFIC NW FOREST CASE		10			10	
SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS		1,350			1,350	
FERC LICENSING		200			200	
PLANNING ASSISTANCE TO STATES		3,500			5,000	
COLLECTION AND STUDY OF BASIC DATA						
AUTOMATED INFORMATION SYSTEMS SUPPORT TRI-CADD		251			251	
COASTAL FIELD DATA COLLECTION		1,000			1,000	
ENVIRONMENTAL DATA STUDIES		75			75	
FLOOD DAMAGE DATA		220			220	
FLOOD PLAIN MANAGEMENT SERVICES		8,000			8,000	
HYDROLOGIC STUDIES		243			243	
INTERNATIONAL WATER STUDIES		150			150	
PRECIPITATION STUDIES		225			225	

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - INVESTIGATIONS  
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST			FINAL BILL		
	RECON	FEASIBILITY	PED	RECON	FEASIBILITY	PED
REMOTE SENSING/GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM SUPPORT	---	75	---	---	75	---
SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL INFORMATION CENTERS	---	47	---	---	47	---
STREAM GAGING	---	550	---	---	550	---
TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS	---	385	---	---	929	---
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT	---	12,270	---	---	19,000	---
OTHER - MISCELLANEOUS	---		---	---		---
NATIONAL FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT PROGRAM	---	5,000	---	---	5,000	---
NATIONAL SHORELINE	---	400	---	---	675	---
PLANNING SUPPORT PROGRAM	---	3,100	---	---	4,000	---
TRIBAL PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM	---	1,500	---	---	2,500	---
WATER RESOURCES PRIORITIES STUDY	---	500	---	---	---	---
SUBTOTAL, REMAINING ITEMS	---	42,195	---	---	92,794	---
TOTAL, INVESTIGATIONS	1,100	67,775	11,125	---	114,045	7,955

*Updated Capability.*—The agreement adjusts some project-specific allocations downward from the budget request based on updated information regarding the amount of work that could be accomplished in fiscal year 2015.

*South San Francisco Bay Shoreline, California.*—Progress on this study continues to be unacceptably slow. The Corps has been studying ways to prevent flooding in the Alviso, California, area and to restore the environment in the South San Francisco Bay area for 10 years, yet the most recent schedule does not show completion of a Chief's report until December 2015. The Corps must meet or exceed this schedule in order to be timely for the next water resources authorization bill.

*Great Lakes Remedial Action Plans.*—The Corps is encouraged to budget for these plans in future budget submissions, as they are an integral part of the overall Great Lakes ecosystem restoration efforts.

*Missouri River Authorized Purposes Study, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota.*—The agreement includes neither support for nor a prohibition on funding for the study of the Missouri River Projects authorized in section 108 of the Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2009 (division C of Public Law 111-8).

*Additional Funding.*—The fiscal year 2015 budget request does not reflect the extent of need for project studies funding. The Corps has numerous continuing studies that will be suspended or slowed unnecessarily under the limits of the budget request. These studies could lead to projects with significant economic benefits, particularly by increasing national competitiveness through marine transportation improvements and by avoiding damages caused by flooding and coastal storms. It is important to note that non-federal sponsors have signed feasibility cost-share agreements and design agreements with the federal government, committing precious local resources that the budget request would leave stranded. The agreement includes additional funds for work that either was not included in the Administration's request or was inadequately budgeted. This funding is intended, in part, to honor commitments made by the federal government in signing agreements with non-federal sponsors. The direction that follows shall be the only direction used for additional funding provided in this account.

The Corps retains complete discretion over project-specific allocation decisions, but shall consider giving priority to completing or accelerating ongoing studies or to initiating new studies that will enhance the nation's economic development, job growth, and international competitiveness; are for projects located in areas that have suffered recent natural disasters; or are for projects to address legal requirements. It is expected that all of the funds provided in this account will be allocated to specific programs, projects, or activities. The focus of the allocation process should favor the obligation of funds for work in fiscal year 2015 rather than expenditures. With the significant backlog of work in the Corps' inventory, there is absolutely no reason for funds provided above the budget request to remain unallocated.

A study shall be eligible for this funding if: (1) it has received funding, other than

through a reprogramming, in at least one of the previous three fiscal years; (2) it was previously funded and could reach a significant milestone or produce significant outputs in fiscal year 2015; or (3) it is selected as one of the new starts allowed in accordance with this Act and the additional direction provided below. None of these funds may be used for any item where funding was specifically denied. A study may not be excluded on the basis of being "inconsistent with Administration policy." The Corps is reminded that these funds are in addition to the Administration's budget request. Administration budget request metrics shall not be a reason to disqualify a study from being funded.

While this additional funding is shown in the feasibility column, the Corps should use these funds in any applicable phase. Funding associated with each category may be allocated to any eligible study within that category; funding associated with each subcategory may be allocated only to eligible studies within that subcategory. The list of subcategories is not meant to be exhaustive. For example, the agreement does not include a specific subcategory for "Remote, Coastal, or Small Watershed" due to a lack of information on capability; the Corps should evaluate any studies under this subcategory with capability in fiscal year 2015 for funding under the "Other Authorized Project Purposes" category.

Not later than 60 days after enactment of this Act, the Corps shall provide to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a work plan including the following information: (1) a detailed description of the ratings system(s) developed and used to evaluate studies; (2) delineation of how these funds are to be allocated; (3) a summary of the work to be accomplished with each allocation, including phase of work; and (4) a list of all studies that were considered eligible for funding but did not receive funding, including an explanation of whether the study could have used funds in fiscal year 2015 and the specific reasons each study was considered as being less competitive for an allocation of funds.

*New Starts.*—The agreement includes up to ten new study starts to be distributed across the three main mission areas of the Corps (three navigation, three flood and storm damage reduction, one additional navigation or flood and storm damage reduction, and three environmental restoration). Each new start shall be funded from the appropriate additional funding line item. Consideration of the ten shall not be limited to only those proposed in the Administration's budget request. In addition to the priority factors used to allocate all additional funding provided, the Corps should give careful consideration to out-year budget impacts of the studies chosen as new starts, as well as to whether there appears to be an identifiable local sponsor that will be ready and able to provide the necessary cost shares in a timely manner for the feasibility and preconstruction engineering and design (PED) phases.

As all of the studies are to be chosen by the Corps, it should be understood that all are considered of equal importance. The expectation is that future budget submissions will include funding appropriate to meet the goals of the 3X3X3 approach for the feasi-

bility study, as well as seamlessly fund the feasibility and PED phases. No new start shall be required when moving from feasibility to PED. The Corps may not change or substitute the new study starts selected once the work plan has been provided to the Committees.

The Corps shall not select a "disposition study" as one or more of the ten new study starts allowed in fiscal year 2015. While there likely are instances where disposing of current assets makes sense, treating each individual analysis as a new start, comparable to a feasibility study for a new project, does not. Instead, the Corps should consider including in future budget requests funding and justification for such efforts under a new or existing Remaining Item, as appropriate.

*Lake Erie.*—The Western Lake Erie basin watershed is the largest in the Great Lakes, and Lake Erie, being the shallowest lake, faces its freshwater supplies being particularly threatened. Our Great Lakes are the Nation's largest source of freshwater, and these waters are threatened due to changes such as a 50 percent increase in rainfall, population and livestock increases across the watershed, and a quadrupling of fertilizer and land application of manure.

Under authorities provided for intergovernmental coordination, the Corps is directed to engage the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Natural Resources Conservation Service, the Western Lake Erie Basin Partnership, the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, and other instrumentalities essential to outline an approach to infrastructure and institutional challenges posed by existing conditions, which are exacerbating damages to existing infrastructure and contributing to non-point source runoff. These conditions contribute to increasing sediment loads to Lake Erie and nutrient pollution of Lake Erie's Western Basin resulting in dangerous levels of algal blooms.

The Corps is directed to provide to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act a report on how existing federal authorities, including the Corps' authorities, can be exercised to outline options for interagency cooperation; to the extent practicable, the estimated cost of a comprehensive solution to existing infrastructure and water quality challenges; and any identified interdepartmental authorities required to execute a comprehensive solution.

*Water Resources Priority Study.*—No funds shall be used for this new item.

#### CONSTRUCTION

The agreement includes \$1,639,489,000 for Construction. The agreement includes legislative language regarding parameters for new construction starts.

*Inland Waterways Trust Fund.*—The Corps shall continue to adhere to Section 102 of the bill prohibiting the use of funds to award or modify any contract that commits an amount in excess of the amount that remains unobligated. No change to existing policy regarding continuing contracts is authorized or contemplated in the bill.

The allocation for projects and activities within the Construction account is shown in the following table:

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - CONSTRUCTION (AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)		
	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
CALIFORNIA		
AMERICAN RIVER WATERSHED (FOLSOM DAM MODIFICATIONS), CA	92,600	92,600
AMERICAN RIVER WATERSHED (FOLSOM DAM RAISE), CA	1,200	1,200
HAMILTON AIRFIELD WETLANDS RESTORATION, CA	1,300	1,300
HAMILTON CITY, CA	3,800	3,800
ISABELLA LAKE, CA (DAM SAFETY)	8,000	8,000
NAPA RIVER, SALT MARSH RESTORATION, CA	1,000	---
OAKLAND HARBOR (50 FOOT PROJECT), CA	6,000	6,000
SACRAMENTO RIVER BANK PROTECTION PROJECT, CA	1,000	1,000
SANTA ANA RIVER MAINSTEM, CA	30,826	30,826
YUBA RIVER BASIN, CA	4,000	4,000
FLORIDA		
HERBERT HOOVER DIKE, FL (SEEPAGE CONTROL)	75,000	75,000
SOUTH FLORIDA ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION, FL	65,551	65,551
GEORGIA		
LOWER SAVANNAH RIVER BASIN, GA	80	80
RICHARD B RUSSELL DAM AND LAKE, GA & SC	850	750
SAVANNAH HARBOR EXPANSION, GA	---	1,520
ILLINOIS		
CALUMET HARBOR AND RIVER, IL & IN	200	200
EAST ST LOUIS, IL	9,810	50
CHICAGO SANITARY AND SHIP CANAL DISPERSAL BARRIER, IL	29,000	29,000
MCCOOK AND THORNTON RESERVOIRS, IL	18,500	18,500
MELVIN PRICE LOCK AND DAM, IL & MO	3,800	3,600
OLMSTED LOCKS AND DAM, OHIO RIVER, IL & KY	160,000	160,000
UPPER MISSISSIPPI RIVER RESTORATION, IL, IA, MN, MO & WI	33,170	33,170
WOOD RIVER LEVEE, DEFICIENCY CORRECTION, IL	8,650	50
IOWA		
MISSOURI RIVER FISH AND WILDLIFE RECOVERY, IA, KS, MO, MT, NE, ND & SD	48,771	48,771
KENTUCKY		
ROUGH RIVER, MAJOR REHAB, KY (DAM SAFETY)	25,000	25,000

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - CONSTRUCTION (AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)		
	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
LOUISIANA		
CALCASIEU RIVER AND PASS, LA	9,800	8,000
LOUISIANA COASTAL AREA ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION, LA	10,000	---
MARYLAND		
ASSATEAGUE ISLAND, MD	900	900
CHESAPEAKE BAY OYSTER RECOVERY, MD & VA	5,000	5,000
POPLAR ISLAND, MD	15,100	15,100
MASSACHUSETTS		
MUDDY RIVER, MA	1,798	1,798
MISSOURI		
KANSAS CITYS, MO & KS	1,600	1,600
MISSISSIPPI RIVER BETWEEN THE OHIO AND MISSOURI RIVERS (REG WORKS), MO & IL	50	50
MONARCH - CHESTERFIELD, MO	915	915
NEW JERSEY		
DELAWARE RIVER MAIN CHANNEL, NJ, PA & DE	35,000	35,000
RARITAN RIVER BASIN, GREEN BROOK SUB-BASIN, NJ	11,000	11,000
NEW YORK		
NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY HARBOR, NY & NJ	22,000	22,000
OHIO		
BOLIVAR DAM, OH (DAM SAFETY)	12,300	10,300
CLEVELAND HARBOR, OH	5,730	---
DOVER DAM, MUSKINGUM RIVER, OH (DAM SAFETY)	2,800	1,400
OKLAHOMA		
CANTON LAKE, OK	18,000	18,000
PINE CREEK LAKE, OK	16,333	16,333
OREGON		
COLUMBIA RIVER AT THE MOUTH, OR & WA	1,000	1,000
LOWER COLUMBIA RIVER ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION, OR & WA	1,400	1,400

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - CONSTRUCTION (AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)		
	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
PENNSYLVANIA		
EAST BRANCH CLARION RIVER LAKE, PA	64,800	23,573
LOCKS AND DAMS 2, 3 AND 4, MONONGAHELA RIVER, PA	9,032	9,032
WYOMING VALLEY, PA (LEEVE RAISING)	1,000	1,000
PUERTO RICO		
RIO PUERTO NUEVO, PR	3,000	3,000
SOUTH CAROLINA		
CHARLESTON HARBOR, SC	1,572	1,200
TENNESSEE		
CENTER HILL LAKE, TN	53,400	36,000
TEXAS		
BRAYS BAYOU, HOUSTON, TX	1,800	1,800
BUFFALO BAYOU AND TRIBUTARIES, TX	18,993	18,993
GIWW, CHOCOLATE BAYOU, TX	4,672	4,672
LOWER COLORADO RIVER BASIN (WHARTON/ONION), TX	3,625	3,625
TEXAS CITY CHANNEL (50-FOOT PROJECT), TX	4,825	4,825
VIRGINIA		
ROANOKE RIVER UPPER BASIN, HEADWATERS AREA, VA	300	50
WASHINGTON		
COLUMBIA RIVER FISH MITIGATION, WA, OR & ID		71,000
COLUMBIA RIVER FISH MITIGATION, WA, OR & ID	69,000	---
COLUMBIA RIVER ACCORDS, PACIFIC LAMPREY PASSAGE, WA	2,000	---
DUWAMISH AND GREEN RIVER BASIN, WA	2,160	---
WEST VIRGINIA		
BLUESTONE LAKE, WV	22,000	21,200
WISCONSIN		
GREEN BAY HARBOR, WI	127	---
SUBTOTAL, PROJECTS LISTED UNDER STATES	1,061,140	959,734

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - CONSTRUCTION (AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)		
	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
REMAINING ITEMS		
ADDITIONAL FUNDING		
FLOOD AND STORM DAMAGE REDUCTION	---	141,845
FLOOD CONTROL	---	95,000
SHORE PROTECTION	---	45,000
NAVIGATION	---	95,000
INLAND WATERWAYS TRUST FUND PROJECTS	---	112,000
OTHER AUTHORIZED PROJECT PURPOSES	---	25,000
ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION OR COMPLIANCE	---	13,000
ENVIRONMENTAL INFRASTRUCTURE	---	50,000
HYDROPOWER PROJECTS	---	6,200
AQUATIC PLANT CONTROL PROGRAM	---	4,000
CONTINUING AUTHORITIES PROGRAM		
AQUATIC ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION (SECTION 206)	3,000	8,000
BENEFICIAL USES DREDGED MATERIAL (SECTION 204)	2,000	3,500
EMERGENCY STREAMBANK AND SHORELINE PROTECTION (SECTION 14)	---	4,500
FLOOD CONTROL PROJECTS (SECTION 205)	2,000	10,000
MITIGATION OF SHORE DAMAGES (SECTION 111)	---	650
NAVIGATION PROGRAM (SECTION 107)	---	2,350
PROJECT MODIFICATIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT (SECTION 1135)	3,000	6,600
SHORE PROTECTION (SECTION 103)	---	1,250
DAM SAFETY AND SEEPAGE/STABILITY CORRECTION PROGRAM	34,000	34,000
EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION	19,000	19,000
INLAND WATERWAYS USERS BOARD - BOARD EXPENSE	60	60
INLAND WATERWAYS USERS BOARD - CORPS EXPENSE	800	800
RESTORATION OF ABANDONED MINES	---	2,000
 SUBTOTAL, REMAINING ITEMS	 63,860	 679,755
 TOTAL, CONSTRUCTION	 1,125,000	 1,639,489

*Updated Capability.*—The agreement adjusts some project-specific allocations downward from the budget request based on updated information regarding the amount of work that could be accomplished in fiscal year 2015.

*Savannah Harbor Expansion, Georgia.*—The budget request for this item that was proposed in the Investigations account has been moved to this account where it has been funded each year since it was designated a new construction start in fiscal year 2009. The Administration's persistence in treating this project as if it had not yet been approved as a new start is inexplicable, unjustifiable, and unnecessarily confusing. The Administration is reminded that the project's approval as a new start in fiscal year 2009 was agreed to by both branches of government involved in enacting laws—the Congress by passing the law and the President by signing it. As such, and to ensure that there is no doubt as to the status of the project, the Administration is directed to treat this project as an ongoing construction project for purposes of allocating additional fiscal year 2015 funding provided in this account and developing future budget requests. Once again, since the project already received a new construction start in fiscal year 2009, the Administration shall not use any funding in fiscal year 2015 or any fiscal year thereafter to evaluate whether to designate the project as a new start.

*Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal Dispersal Barrier, Illinois.*—The threat of the dispersal of aquatic nuisance species, including Asian carp, between the Great Lakes and the Mississippi River basins remains a serious concern. Funding is provided for the continued construction, operation, and maintenance of the electric barrier system. No funding is provided for construction of hydrologic separation measures. The issue of hydrologic separation would need to be fully analyzed by the Corps of Engineers and specifically authorized in law before funding could be used for such measures.

*Melvin Price Lock and Dam, Illinois and Missouri.*—The length of time it is taking the Corps to rectify the seepage problems that the impoundment of the navigation pool is causing to the Wood River Levee, as well as escalating cost estimates, is troublesome. The Corps has indicated intent to have its alternatives and cost estimates reviewed by an Independent External Peer Review at the appropriate time. The Corps is encouraged to ensure this review is completed, but also that it is conducted in a manner that will not lengthen an already long schedule.

*Columbia River Fish Mitigation, Washington, Oregon and Idaho.*—The agreement includes a single funding level for the Columbia River Fish Mitigation program as in previous years, rather than separate funding levels for Columbia River Fish Mitigation and Columbia River Accords, Pacific Lamprey Passage as in the budget request.

*Additional Funding.*—The Corps has ongoing, authorized construction projects that would cost tens of billions of dollars to complete, yet the Administration continues to request a mere fraction of the funding necessary to complete those projects. The agreement includes additional funds for projects and activities to enhance the Nation's economic growth and international competitiveness. The intent of these funds is for work that either was not included in the Administration's request or was inadequately budgeted. The direction that follows shall be the only direction used for additional funding provided in this account.

A project shall be eligible for this funding if: (1) it has received funding, other than through a reprogramming, in at least one of the previous three fiscal years; (2) it was previously funded and could reach a significant milestone or produce significant outputs in fiscal year 2015; or (3) it is selected as one of the new starts allowed in accordance with this Act and the additional direction provided below. The first eligibility criterion above shall include eligibility to start to provide federal funding for construction work on any water resources project for which funds were made available in this account in fiscal year 2014, including funds made available for preconstruction engineering and design work.

None of these funds may be used for any item where funding was specifically denied, for projects in the Continuing Authorities Program, or to alter any existing cost-share requirements. A project may not be excluded on the basis of being "inconsistent with Administration policy." The Corps is reminded that these funds are in addition to the Administration's budget request. Administration budget request metrics shall not be a reason to disqualify a project from being funded.

Funding associated with each category may be allocated to any eligible project within that category; funding associated with each subcategory may be allocated only to eligible projects within that subcategory. The list of subcategories is not meant to be exhaustive. Of the additional funds provided in this account, the Corps shall allocate not less than \$12,450,000 to projects with riverfront development components. Of the additional funds provided in this account for flood and storm damage reduction and flood control, the Corps shall allocate not less than \$18,000,000 to additional nonstructural flood control projects.

The Corps retains complete control over project-specific allocation decisions, but shall consider giving priority to the following: the benefits of the funded work to the national economy; extent to which the work will enhance national, regional, or local economic development; number of jobs created directly by the funded activity; ability to obligate the funds allocated within the fiscal year, including consideration of the ability of the non-federal sponsor to provide any required cost-share; ability to complete the project, separable element, or project phase with the funds allocated; for flood and storm damage reduction projects (including authorized nonstructural measures and periodic beach renourishments), population, economic activity, or public infrastructure at risk, as appropriate; for flood and storm damage reduction projects (including authorized nonstructural measures and periodic beach renourishments), the severity of risk of flooding or the frequency with which an area has experienced flooding; for navigation projects, the number of jobs or level of economic activity to be supported by completion of the project, separable element, or project phase; for Inland Waterways Trust Fund projects, the economic impact on the local, regional, and national economy if the project is not funded, as well as discrete elements of work that can be completed within the funding provided in this line item; and for environmental infrastructure, projects with the greater economic impact, projects in rural communities, and projects in counties or parishes with high poverty rates. It is expected that all of the funds provided in this account will be allocated to specific programs, projects, or activities. The focus of

the allocation process should favor the obligation of funds for work in fiscal year 2015 rather than expenditures. With the significant backlog of work in the Corps' inventory, there is absolutely no reason for funds provided above the budget request to remain unallocated.

Not later than 60 days after enactment of this Act, the Corps shall provide to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a work plan including the following information: (1) a detailed description of the ratings system(s) developed and used to evaluate projects within this account; (2) delineation of how these funds are to be allocated; (3) a summary of the work to be accomplished with each allocation; and (4) a list of all projects that were considered eligible for funding but did not receive funding, including an explanation of whether each project could have used funds in fiscal year 2015 and the specific reasons each project was considered as being less competitive for an allocation of funds.

*New Starts.*—The agreement includes up to four new project starts, including one each from the navigation, flood and storm damage reduction, and environmental restoration mission areas (a second navigation or flood and storm damage reduction new project start also may be selected). Each new start shall be funded from the appropriate additional funding line item. Consideration of the four shall not be limited to only those new starts proposed in the Administration's budget request. When considering new starts, only those that can execute a project cost sharing agreement not later than August 31, 2015, shall be chosen.

In addition to the priority factors used to allocate all additional funding provided, factors that should be considered for all new starts include: the cost-sharing sponsor's ability and willingness to promptly provide the cash contribution (if any) as well as required lands, easements, rights-of-way, relocations, and disposal areas; the technical and financial ability of the non-federal sponsor to implement the project without assistance from the Corps, including other sources of funding available for the project purpose; whether the project provides benefits from more than one benefit category; and the out-year budget impacts of the selected new starts.

To ensure that the new starts selected are affordable and will not unduly delay completion of any ongoing projects, the Secretary is required to submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a realistic out-year budget scenario prior to issuing a work allowance for a new start. It is understood that specific budget decisions are made on an annual basis and that this scenario is neither a request for nor a guarantee of future funding for any project. Nonetheless, this scenario shall include an estimate of annual funding for each new start utilizing a realistic funding scenario through completion of the project, as well as the specific impacts of that estimated funding on the ability of the Corps to make continued progress on each previously funded construction project (including impacts to the optimum timeline and funding requirements of the ongoing projects) and on the ability to consider initiating new projects in the future. The scenario shall assume a Construction account funding level at the average of the past three budget requests.

The information submitted in response to this out-year funding scenario directive in fiscal year 2014 was unsatisfactory at best.



Therefore, the Corps shall also provide a scenario showing average annual funding levels per new start selected and the number of years until project completion at that average annual funding level. In this scenario, the total average annual funding level for all selected new starts shall not exceed the funding level included in the fiscal year 2015 budget request for all project completions (\$37,163,798).

As all of these new starts are to be chosen by the Corps, it should be understood that all are considered of equal importance and the expectation is that future budget submissions will include appropriate funding for all new starts selected. The Corps may not change or substitute the new project starts selected once the work plan has been provided to the Committees. Any project for which the new start requirements are not met by the end of fiscal year 2015, or by the earlier date as specified, shall be treated as if the project had not been selected as a new start; such a project shall be required to compete again for new start funding in future years.

**Aquatic Plant Control Program.**—The agreement recommends funding for this program, which is the only nationwide research and development program to address invasive aquatic plants, and urges the Corps to support cost-shared aquatic plant management programs.

**Continuing Authorities Program.**—The various sections of the Continuing Authorities Program (CAP) provide a useful tool for the Corps to undertake small projects without the lengthy study and authorization process typical of most larger Corps projects. The agreement includes a total of \$36,850,000 spread over eight CAP sections, rather than \$10,000,000 spread over four CAP sections as proposed in the budget request. These funds should be expended for the purposes for which they were appropriated and should be executed as quickly as possible. Within the Continuing Authorities Program and to the extent already authorized by law, the Corps is encouraged to consider projects that enhance coastal and ocean ecosystem resiliency.

**Continuing Authorities Program Direction.**—Management of the Continuing Authorities Program should continue consistent with di-

rection provided in previous fiscal years. The direction is restated here for convenience.

For each CAP section, available funds shall be allocated utilizing this sequence of steps until the funds are exhausted:

—capability-level funds for ongoing projects that have executed cost-sharing agreements for the applicable phase;

—capability-level funds for projects that are ready for execution of new cost-sharing agreements for the applicable phase and for which Corps headquarters authorizes execution of the agreements;

—funds, as permitted by Corps policies, for other projects previously funded for the applicable phase but not ready for execution of new cost-sharing agreements; and

—funds, as permitted by Corps policies, for projects not previously funded for the applicable phase.

Funds shall be allocated by headquarters to the appropriate Field Operating Agency (FOA) for projects requested by that FOA. If the FOA finds that the study/project for which funds were requested cannot go forward, the funds are to be returned to Corps headquarters to be reallocated based on the nationwide priority listing. In no case should the FOA retain these funds for use on a different project than the one for which the funds were requested without the explicit approval of the Corps' headquarters.

Within the step at which available funds are exhausted for each CAP section, funds shall be allocated to the projects in that section that rank high according to the following factors: high overall performance based on outputs; high percent fiscally complete; and high unobligated carry-in. Section 14 funds shall be allocated to the projects that address the most significant risks and adverse consequences, irrespective of phase or previous funding history.

The Corps shall continue the ongoing process for suspending and terminating inactive projects. Suspended projects shall not be reactivated or funded unless the sponsor reaffirms in writing its support for the project and establishes its willingness and capability to execute its project responsibilities.

In order to provide a mix of studies, design, and construction within each CAP section, the Corps is directed to divide the funding generally 80/20 between the Design and Im-

plementation and the Feasibility phases within each authority. The Chief of Engineers shall provide to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate not later than 30 days after enactment of this Act a report detailing how funds will be distributed to the individual items in the various CAP sections for the fiscal year. The Chief shall also provide an annual report at the end of each fiscal year detailing the progress made on the backlog of projects. The report should include the completions and terminations as well as progress of ongoing work.

The Corps may initiate new continuing authorities projects in all sections as funding allows. New projects may be initiated after an assessment is made that such projects can be funded over time based on historical averages of the appropriation for that section and after prior approval by the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

**Dam Safety and Seepage/Stability Correction Program.**—The Corps is expected to continue to execute all funding available under this line item in fiscal year 2015. It is expected that no unobligated funds will be carried into fiscal year 2016 unless there were no additional activities that could have been conducted in fiscal year 2015.

**Great Lakes Fisheries and Ecosystem Restoration Program.**—The Corps is encouraged to budget for this aquatic habitat restoration program in future budget submissions, as it is important to the overall Great Lakes Restoration effort.

**Restoration of Abandoned Mines.**—The Corps is directed, within existing authority, to work closely with federal land management agencies, Western States, and Tribes with abandoned non-coal mine sites to cost-effectively address the greatest number of those sites presenting threats to public health and safety.

#### MISSISSIPPI RIVER AND TRIBUTARIES

The agreement includes \$302,000,000 for Mississippi River and Tributaries.

The allocation for projects and activities within the Mississippi River and Tributaries account is shown in the following table:

MISSISSIPPI RIVER AND TRIBUTARIES  
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
CONSTRUCTION		
BAYOU METO BASIN, AR	9,500	9,500
CHANNEL IMPROVEMENT, AR, IL, KY, LA, MS, MO & TN	40,861	40,861
GRAND PRAIRIE REGION, AR	9,300	9,300
MISSISSIPPI RIVER LEVEES, AR, IL, KY, LA, MS, MO & TN	18,947	18,947
ATCHAFALAYA BASIN, FLOODWAY SYSTEM, LA	2,325	2,325
ATCHAFALAYA BASIN, LA	2,505	2,505
OPERATION & MAINTENANCE		
CHANNEL IMPROVEMENT, AR, IL, KY, LA, MS, MO & TN	65,739	65,739
HELENA HARBOR, PHILLIPS COUNTY, AR	33	33
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, AR	250	250
LOWER ARKANSAS RIVER, NORTH BANK, AR	294	294
LOWER ARKANSAS RIVER, SOUTH BANK, AR	198	198
MISSISSIPPI RIVER LEVEES, AR, IL, KY, LA, MS, MO & TN	8,890	8,890
ST FRANCIS BASIN, AR & MO	5,900	5,900
TENSAS BASIN, BOEUF AND TENSAS RIVERS, AR & LA	2,485	2,485
WHITE RIVER BACKWATER, AR	1,340	1,340
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, IL	170	170
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, KY	100	100
ATCHAFALAYA BASIN, FLOODWAY SYSTEM, LA	1,843	1,843
ATCHAFALAYA BASIN, LA	13,117	13,117
BATON ROUGE HARBOR, DEVIL SWAMP, LA	51	51
BAYOU COCODRIE AND TRIBUTARIES, LA	48	48
BONNET CARRE, LA	2,214	2,214
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, LA	1,399	1,399
LOWER RED RIVER, SOUTH BANK LEVEES, LA	498	498
MISSISSIPPI DELTA REGION, LA	532	532
OLD RIVER, LA	8,388	8,388
TENSAS BASIN, RED RIVER BACKWATER, LA	3,262	3,262
GREENVILLE HARBOR, MS	24	24
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, MS	130	130
VICKSBURG HARBOR, MS	42	42
YAZOO BASIN, ARKABUTLA LAKE, MS	5,494	5,494
YAZOO BASIN, BIG SUNFLOWER RIVER, MS	185	185
YAZOO BASIN, ENID LAKE, MS	4,898	4,898
YAZOO BASIN, GREENWOOD, MS	807	807
YAZOO BASIN, GRENADA LAKE, MS	5,705	5,705
YAZOO BASIN, MAIN STEM, MS	1,344	1,344
YAZOO BASIN, SARDIS LAKE, MS	6,629	6,629
YAZOO BASIN, TRIBUTARIES, MS	967	967

MISSISSIPPI RIVER AND TRIBUTARIES  
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
YAZOO BASIN, WILL M WHITTINGTON AUX CHAN, MS	384	384
YAZOO BASIN, YAZOO BACKWATER AREA, MS	544	544
YAZOO BASIN, YAZOO CITY, MS	731	731
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, MO	200	200
WAPPAPELLO LAKE, MO	4,296	4,296
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, TN	80	80
MEMPHIS HARBOR, MCKELLAR LAKE, TN	1,642	1,642
 SUBTOTAL, PROJECTS LISTED UNDER STATES	 234,291	 234,291
 REMAINING ITEMS		
ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR ONGOING WORK		
DREDGING	---	6,400
FLOOD CONTROL	---	29,600
OTHER AUTHORIZED PROJECT PURPOSES	---	21,000
COLLECTION AND STUDY OF BASIC DATA (INVESTIGATIONS)	9,646	9,646
MAPPING (MAINTENANCE)	1,063	1,063
 SUBTOTAL, REMAINING ITEMS	 10,709	 67,709
 TOTAL	 245,000	 302,000

*Additional Funding for Ongoing Work.*—The fiscal year 2015 budget request reflects neither the need nor the importance of the Mississippi River and Tributaries Project. Therefore, the agreement includes additional funds to continue ongoing studies, projects, and maintenance activities. These funds should be used for flood control, navigation, water supply, ground water protection, waterfowl management, bank stabilization, erosion and sedimentation control, and environmental restoration work. The intent of these funds is for ongoing work primarily along the Mississippi River tributaries that either was not included in the Administration's request or was inadequately budgeted. The direction that follows shall be the only direction used for additional funding provided in this account.

A project shall be eligible for this funding if: (1) it has received funding, other than through a reprogramming, in at least one of the previous three fiscal years; or (2) it was previously funded and could reach a significant milestone or produce significant outputs in fiscal year 2015. None of these funds may be used to start new studies, projects, or activities or for any item where funding was specifically denied. While this additional funding is shown under remaining items, the Corps should utilize these funds in any applicable phase of work. A study or project may

not be excluded on the basis of being "inconsistent with Administration policy." The Corps is reminded that these funds are in addition to the Administration's budget request. Administration budget request metrics shall not be a reason to disqualify a study or project from being funded.

The Corps retains complete control over project-specific allocation decisions, but shall consider giving priority to completing or accelerating ongoing work that will enhance the Nation's economic development, job growth, and international competitiveness, or are for studies or projects located in areas that have suffered recent natural disasters. It is expected that all of the funds provided in this account will be allocated to specific programs, projects, or activities. The focus of the allocation process should favor the obligation of funds for work in fiscal year 2015 rather than expenditures. With the significant backlog of work in the Corps' inventory, there is absolutely no reason for funds provided above the budget request to remain unallocated.

Not later than 60 days after enactment of this Act, the Corps shall provide to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a work plan including the following information: (1) a detailed description of the ratings system(s) developed and used to evaluate studies and

projects; (2) delineation of how these funds are to be allocated; (3) a summary of the work to be accomplished with each allocation, including phase of work; and (4) a list of all studies and projects that were considered eligible for funding but did not receive funding, including an explanation of whether each study or project could have used funds in fiscal year 2015 and the specific reasons each study or project was considered as being less competitive for an allocation of funds.

#### OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

The agreement includes \$2,908,511,000 for Operation and Maintenance.

Not less than 180 days or as soon as practicable prior to any non-emergency scheduled Operation and Maintenance project navigation closure or outage, the Corps shall provide to the Inland Waterways Users Board, the Committees on Appropriations and Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives, and the Committees on Appropriations and Environment and Public Works of the Senate written notice of the location, approximate schedule, and expected impacts of the closure or outage.

The allocation for projects and activities within the Operation and Maintenance account is shown in the following table:

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE  
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
ALABAMA		
ALABAMA - COOSA COMPREHENSIVE WATER STUDY, AL	189	189
ALABAMA RIVER LAKES, AL	13,443	13,443
BLACK WARRIOR AND TOBIBGEE RIVERS, AL	21,661	21,661
GULF INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY, AL	5,493	5,493
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, AL	50	50
MOBILE HARBOR, AL	26,633	26,633
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, AL	148	148
TENNESSEE - TOBIBGEE WATERWAY WILDLIFE MITIGATION, AL & MS	1,700	1,700
TENNESSEE - TOBIBGEE WATERWAY, AL & MS	24,191	24,191
WALTER F GEORGE LOCK AND DAM, AL & GA	8,101	8,101
WATER/ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION, AL	30	30
ALASKA		
ANCHORAGE HARBOR, AK	11,001	11,001
CHENA RIVER LAKES, AK	3,555	3,555
COOK INLET SHOALS, AK	2,616	816
DILLINGHAM HARBOR, AK	1,140	540
HOMER HARBOR, AK	520	410
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, AK	167	167
LOWELL CREEK TUNNELL (SEWARD) AK	300	300
NINILCHIK HARBOR, AK	319	269
NOME HARBOR, AK	1,451	1,451
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, AK	921	921
ARIZONA		
ALAMO LAKE, AZ	1,859	1,859
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, AZ	105	105
PAINTED ROCK DAM, AZ	1,280	1,280
SCHEDULING RESERVOIR OPERATIONS, AZ	48	48
WHITLOW RANCH DAM, AZ	405	405
ARKANSAS		
BEAVER LAKE, AR	8,000	8,000
BLAKELY MT DAM, LAKE OUACHITA, AR	7,558	7,558
BLUE MOUNTAIN LAKE, AR	1,927	1,927
BULL SHOALS LAKE, AR	7,523	7,523
DARDANELLE LOCK AND DAM, AR	9,162	9,162
DEGRAY LAKE, AR	5,652	5,652
DEQUEEN LAKE, AR	1,912	1,912

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE  
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
DIERKS LAKE, AR	1,631	1,631
GILLHAM LAKE, AR	1,509	1,509
GREERS FERRY LAKE, AR	7,272	7,272
HELENA HARBOR, PHILLIPS COUNTY, AR	16	16
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, AR	539	539
MCCLELLAN-KERR ARKANSAS RIVER NAVIGATION SYSTEM, AR	27,553	27,553
MILLWOOD LAKE, AR	2,691	2,691
NARROWS DAM, LAKE GREESON, AR	5,639	5,639
NIMROD LAKE, AR	2,163	2,163
NORFORK LAKE, AR	6,137	6,137
OSCEOLA HARBOR, AR	15	15
OUACHITA AND BLACK RIVERS, AR & LA	9,234	9,234
OZARK - JETA TAYLOR LOCK AND DAM, AR	6,376	6,376
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, AR	3	3
WHITE RIVER, AR	31	31
YELLOW BEND PORT, AR	3	3

CALIFORNIA

BLACK BUTTE LAKE, CA	2,233	2,233
BUCHANAN DAM, HV EASTMAN LAKE, CA	1,976	1,976
CHANNEL ISLANDS HARBOR, CA	5,249	5,249
COYOTE VALLEY DAM, LAKE MENDOCINO, CA	3,106	3,106
DRY CREEK (WARM SPRINGS) LAKE AND CHANNEL, CA	5,085	5,085
FARMINGTON DAM, CA	558	558
HIDDEN DAM, HENSLEY LAKE, CA	2,059	2,059
HUMBOLDT HARBOR AND BAY, CA	1,800	1,800
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS, CA	10	10
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, CA	4,329	4,329
ISABELLA LAKE, CA	1,560	1,560
LOS ANGELES - LONG BEACH HARBORS, CA	7,740	7,740
LOS ANGELES COUNTY DRAINAGE AREA, CA	5,884	5,884
MERCED COUNTY STREAMS, CA	394	394
MOJAVE RIVER DAM, CA	383	383
MORRO BAY HARBOR, CA	2,060	2,060
NEW HOGAN LAKE, CA	2,639	2,639
NEW MELONES LAKE, DOWNSTREAM CHANNEL, CA	2,255	2,255
OAKLAND HARBOR, CA	21,970	21,970
OCEANSIDE HARBOR, CA	1,700	1,700
PINE FLAT LAKE, CA	3,259	3,259
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, CA	1,647	1,647
REDWOOD CITY HARBOR, CA	1,900	1,900
RICHMOND HARBOR, CA	7,900	7,900
SACRAMENTO RIVER (30 FOOT PROJECT), CA	1,300	1,300
SACRAMENTO RIVER AND TRIBUTARIES (DEBRIS CONTROL), CA	1,394	1,394

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE  
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
SACRAMENTO RIVER SHALLOW DRAFT CHANNEL, CA	200	200
SAN FRANCISCO BAY DELTA MODEL STRUCTURE, CA	1,187	1,187
SAN FRANCISCO BAY LONG TERM MANAGEMENT STRATEGY, CA	275	275
SAN FRANCISCO HARBOR AND BAY, CA (DRIFT REMOVAL)	3,360	3,360
SAN FRANCISCO HARBOR, CA	1,900	1,900
SAN JOAQUIN RIVER, PORT OF STOCKTON, CA	4,952	4,952
SAN PABLO BAY AND MARE ISLAND STRAIT, CA	2,400	2,400
SANTA ANA RIVER BASIN, CA	3,942	3,942
SANTA BARBARA HARBOR, CA	2,380	2,380
SCHEDULING RESERVOIR OPERATIONS, CA	1,538	1,538
SUCCESS LAKE, CA	2,272	2,272
SUISUN BAY CHANNEL, CA	2,400	2,400
TERMINUS DAM, LAKE KAWEAH, CA (DAM SAFETY)	2,143	2,143
VENTURA HARBOR, CA	3,354	3,354
YUBA RIVER, CA	3,178	1,438
COLORADO		
BEAR CREEK LAKE, CO	696	696
CHATFIELD LAKE, CO	1,475	1,475
CHERRY CREEK LAKE, CO	1,036	1,036
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS, CO	10	10
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, CO	441	441
JOHN MARTIN RESERVOIR, CO	3,057	3,057
SCHEDULING RESERVOIR OPERATIONS, CO	646	646
TRINIDAD LAKE, CO	1,762	1,762
CONNECTICUT		
BLACK ROCK LAKE, CT	548	548
COLEBROOK RIVER LAKE, CT	675	675
HANCOCK BROOK LAKE, CT	431	431
HOP BROOK LAKE, CT	1,158	1,158
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS, CT	15	15
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, CT	334	334
LONG ISLAND SOUND DMMP, CT	329	---
MANSFIELD HOLLOW LAKE, CT	771	771
NORTHFIELD BROOK LAKE, CT	476	476
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, CT	850	850
STAMFORD HURRICANE BARRIER, CT	1,066	1,066
THOMASTON DAM, CT	820	820
WEST THOMPSON LAKE, CT	647	647

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE  
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
DELAWARE		
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, DE	40	40
INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY, DELAWARE RIVER TO CHESAPEAKE BAY, DE & MD	22,355	22,355
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, DE	200	200
WILMINGTON HARBOR, DE	3,690	3,690
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA		
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, DC	125	125
POTOMAC AND ANACOSTIA RIVERS, DC (DRIFT REMOVAL)	875	875
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, DC	25	25
WASHINGTON HARBOR, DC	25	25
FLORIDA		
CANAVERAL HARBOR, FL	6,505	6,505
CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN FLORIDA, FL	15,112	15,112
ESCAMBIA AND CONECH RIVERS, FL & AL	130	130
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, FL	1,300	1,300
INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY, JACKSONVILLE TO MIAMI, FL	600	600
JACKSONVILLE HARBOR, FL	6,450	6,450
JIM WOODRUFF LOCK AND DAM, LAKE SEMINOLE, FL, AL & GA	7,615	7,615
MANATEE HARBOR, FL	2,645	2,645
MIAMI HARBOR, FL	100	---
OKEECHOBEE WATERWAY, FL	2,159	2,159
PALM BEACH HARBOR, FL	3,300	3,300
PENSACOLA HARBOR, FL	2,084	2,084
PORT EVERGLADES HARBOR, FL	500	500
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, FL	1,306	1,306
REMOVAL OF AQUATIC GROWTH, FL	3,200	3,200
SCHEDULING RESERVOIR OPERATIONS, FL	33	33
SOUTH FLORIDA ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION, FL	9,031	4,477
TAMPA HARBOR, FL	10,000	10,000
WATER / ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION, FL	100	100
GEORGIA		
ALLATOONA LAKE, GA	7,927	7,927
APALACHICOLA, CHATTAHOOCHEE AND FLINT RIVERS, GA, AL & FL	2,541	2,541
ATLANTIC INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY, GA	176	176
BRUNSWICK HARBOR, GA	3,862	3,862
BUFORD DAM AND LAKE SIDNEY LANIER, GA	9,547	9,547
CARTERS DAM AND LAKE, GA	8,593	8,593
HARTWELL LAKE, GA & SC	11,052	11,052



CORPS OF ENGINEERS - OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE  
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS, GA	10	10
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, GA	277	277
J STROM THURMOND LAKE, GA & SC	13,477	13,477
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, GA	125	125
RICHARD B RUSSELL DAM AND LAKE, GA & SC	8,759	8,759
SAVANNAH HARBOR, GA	16,420	16,420
SAVANNAH RIVER BELOW AUGUSTA, GA	109	109
WEST POINT DAM AND LAKE, GA & AL	7,823	7,823
HAWAII		
BARBERS POINT HARBOR, HI	1,412	1,412
HILO HARBOR, HI	1,900	1,900
HONOLULU HARBOR, HI	2,200	2,200
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, HI	677	677
KAHULUI HARBOR, HI	2,200	2,200
NAWILIWILI HARBOR, HI	1,500	1,500
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, HI	861	861
IDAHO		
ALBENI FALLS DAM, ID	1,160	1,160
DWORSHAK DAM AND RESERVOIR, ID	2,732	2,732
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, ID	355	355
LUCKY PEAK LAKE, ID	2,618	2,618
SCHEDULING RESERVOIR OPERATIONS, ID	578	578
ILLINOIS		
CALUMET HARBOR AND RIVER, IL & IN	2,523	2,523
CARLYLE LAKE, IL	5,680	5,680
CHICAGO HARBOR, IL	2,675	2,675
CHICAGO RIVER, IL	560	560
FARM CREEK RESERVOIRS, IL	370	370
ILLINOIS WATERWAY (MVR PORTION), IL & IN	39,389	39,389
ILLINOIS WATERWAY (MVS PORTION), IL & IN	1,826	1,826
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS, IL	50	50
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, IL	2,347	2,347
KASKASKIA RIVER NAVIGATION, IL	1,988	1,988
LAKE MICHIGAN DIVERSION, IL	775	775
LAKE SHELBYVILLE, IL	5,658	5,658
MISSISSIPPI RIVER BETWEEN MISSOURI RIVER AND MINNEAPOLIS (MVR PORTION), IL	52,900	52,900
MISSISSIPPI RIVER BETWEEN MISSOURI RIVER AND MINNEAPOLIS (MVS PORTION), IL	25,624	25,624
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, IL	106	106

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE  
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
REND LAKE, IL	6,072	6,072
SURVEILLANCE OF NORTHERN BOUNDARY WATERS, IL	702	702
INDIANA		
BROOKVILLE LAKE, IN	1,370	1,370
BURNS WATERWAY HARBOR, IN	1,189	1,189
CAGLES MILL LAKE, IN	1,127	1,127
CECIL M HARDEN LAKE, IN	1,392	1,392
INDIANA HARBOR, IN	13,814	13,814
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, IN	967	967
J EDWARD ROUSH LAKE, IN	1,142	1,142
MISSISSINEWA LAKE, IN	1,279	1,279
MONROE LAKE, IN	1,395	1,395
PATOKA LAKE, IN	1,168	1,168
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, IN	185	185
SALAMONIE LAKE, IN	1,129	1,129
SURVEILLANCE OF NORTHERN BOUNDARY WATERS, IN	139	139
IOWA		
CORALVILLE LAKE, IA	4,084	4,084
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, IA	695	695
MISSOURI RIVER - SIOUX CITY TO THE MOUTH, IA, KS, MO & NE	10,624	10,624
MISSOURI RIVER FISH AND WILDLIFE RECOVERY, IA, KS, MO, MT, NE, ND & SD	7,700	7,700
RATHBUN LAKE, IA	3,313	3,313
RED ROCK DAM AND LAKE RED ROCK, IA	4,576	4,576
SAYLORVILLE LAKE, IA	6,266	6,266
KANSAS		
CLINTON LAKE, KS	2,544	2,544
COUNCIL GROVE LAKE, KS	1,765	1,765
EL DORADO LAKE, KS	950	950
ELK CITY LAKE, KS	1,083	1,083
FALL RIVER LAKE, KS	1,064	1,064
HILLSDALE LAKE, KS	970	970
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, KS	1,004	1,004
JOHN REDMOND DAM AND RESERVOIR, KS	1,873	1,873
KANOPOLIS LAKE, KS	1,828	1,828
MARION LAKE, KS	1,997	1,997
MELVERN LAKE, KS	2,660	2,660
MILFORD LAKE, KS	2,174	2,174
PEARSON - SKUBITZ BIG HILL LAKE, KS	3,653	3,653
PERRY LAKE, KS	2,394	2,394

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE  
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
POMONA LAKE, KS	2,155	2,155
SCHEDULING RESERVOIR OPERATIONS, KS	312	312
TORONTO LAKE, KS	715	715
TUTTLE CREEK LAKE, KS	2,258	2,258
WILSON LAKE, KS	2,014	2,014
KENTUCKY		
BARKLEY DAM AND LAKE BARKLEY, KY & TN	9,933	9,933
BARREN RIVER LAKE, KY	2,578	2,578
BIG SANDY HARBOR, KY	1,885	1,885
BUCKHORN LAKE, KY	1,644	1,644
CARR CREEK LAKE, KY	1,873	1,873
CAVE RUN LAKE, KY	1,048	1,048
DEWEY LAKE, KY	1,763	1,763
ELVIS STAHR (HICKMAN) HARBOR, KY	15	15
FALLS OF THE OHIO NATIONAL WILDLIFE, KY & IN	19	19
FISHTRAP LAKE, KY	2,079	2,079
GRAYSON LAKE, KY	1,467	1,467
GREEN AND BARREN RIVERS, KY	2,085	2,085
GREEN RIVER LAKE, KY	2,452	2,452
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, KY	1,028	1,028
KENTUCKY RIVER, KY	10	10
LAUREL RIVER LAKE, KY	2,587	2,587
MARTINS FORK LAKE, KY	1,048	1,048
MIDDLESBORO CUMBERLAND RIVER BASIN, KY	257	257
NOLIN LAKE, KY	2,596	2,596
OHIO RIVER LOCKS AND DAMS, KY, IL, IN & OH	42,856	42,856
OHIO RIVER OPEN CHANNEL WORK, KY, IL, IN, OH, PA & WV	5,200	5,200
PAINTSVILLE LAKE, KY	1,237	1,237
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, KY	2	2
ROUGH RIVER LAKE, KY	2,660	2,660
TAYLORSVILLE LAKE, KY	1,170	1,170
WOLF CREEK DAM, LAKE CUMBERLAND, KY	8,587	8,587
YATESVILLE LAKE, KY	1,175	1,175
LOUISIANA		
ATCHAFALAYA RIVER AND BAYOUS CHENE, BOEUF & BLACK, LA	7,759	7,759
BARATARIA BAY WATERWAY, LA	131	131
BAYOU BODCAU RESERVOIR, LA	1,277	1,277
BAYOU LAFOURCHE AND LAFOURCHE JUMP WATERWAY, LA	1,119	1,119
BAYOU PIERRE, LA	23	23
BAYOU SEGNETTE WATERWAY, LA	25	25
BAYOU TECHE AND VERMILION RIVER, LA	15	15

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE  
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
BAYOU TECHE, LA	156	156
CADDO LAKE, LA	204	204
CALCASIEU RIVER AND PASS, LA	11,721	11,721
FRESHWATER BAYOU, LA	1,789	1,789
GULF INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY, LA	20,837	20,837
HOUMA NAVIGATION CANAL, LA	1,652	1,652
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, LA	1,044	1,044
J BENNETT JOHNSTON WATERWAY, LA	8,260	8,260
LAKE PROVIDENCE HARBOR, LA	14	14
MADISON PARISH PORT, LA	4	4
MERMENTAU RIVER, LA	2,471	2,471
MISSISSIPPI RIVER OUTLETS AT VENICE, LA	1,985	1,985
MISSISSIPPI RIVER, BATON ROUGE TO THE GULF OF MEXICO, LA	85,341	85,341
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, LA	59	59
REMOVAL OF AQUATIC GROWTH, LA	200	200
WALLACE LAKE, LA	217	217
WATERWAY FROM EMPIRE TO THE GULF, LA	16	16
WATERWAY FROM INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY TO BAYOU DULAC, LA	36	36
MAINE		
DISPOSAL AREA MONITORING, ME	1,050	1,050
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS, ME	15	15
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, ME	127	127
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, ME	1,100	1,100
SURVEILLANCE OF NORTHERN BOUNDARY WATERS, ME	25	25
MARYLAND		
BALTIMORE HARBOR AND CHANNELS (50 FOOT), MD	23,725	23,725
BALTIMORE HARBOR, MD (DRIFT REMOVAL)	325	325
CUMBERLAND, MD AND RIDGELEY, WV	156	156
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, MD	140	140
JENNINGS RANDOLPH LAKE, MD & WV	1,870	1,870
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, MD	450	450
SCHEDULING RESERVOIR OPERATIONS, MD	62	62
WICOMICO RIVER, MD	1,500	1,500
MASSACHUSETTS		
BARRE FALLS DAM, MA	1,110	1,110
BIRCH HILL DAM, MA	851	851
BUFFUMVILLE LAKE, MA	752	752
CAPE COD CANAL, MA	15,574	15,574
CHARLES RIVER NATURAL VALLEY STORAGE AREA, MA	632	632

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE  
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
CONANT BROOK LAKE, MA	265	265
EAST BRIMFIELD LAKE, MA	698	698
HODGES VILLAGE DAM, MA	702	702
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS, MA	15	15
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, MA	344	344
KNIGHTVILLE DAM, MA	589	589
LITTLEVILLE LAKE, MA	629	629
NEW BEDFORD FAIRHAVEN AND ACUSHNET HURRICANE BARRIER, MA	564	564
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, MA	900	900
TULLY LAKE, MA	673	673
WEST HILL DAM, MA	642	642
WESTVILLE LAKE, MA	659	659
MICHIGAN		
CHANNELS IN LAKE ST CLAIR, MI	179	179
DETROIT RIVER, MI	5,969	5,969
GRAND HAVEN HARBOR, MI	522	522
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, MI	219	219
KEWEENAW WATERWAY, MI	28	28
MARQUETTE HARBOR, MI	500	500
MONROE HARBOR, MI	1,000	1,000
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, MI	710	710
SAGINAW RIVER, MI	3,001	3,001
SEBEWAING RIVER, MI	50	50
ST CLAIR RIVER, MI	1,561	1,561
ST MARYS RIVER, MI	39,860	39,860
SURVEILLANCE OF NORTHERN BOUNDARY WATERS, MI	2,733	2,733
MINNESOTA		
BIGSTONE LAKE - WHETSTONE RIVER, MN & SD	278	278
DULUTH - SUPERIOR HARBOR, MN & WI	5,600	5,600
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, MN	461	461
LAC QUI PARLE LAKES, MINNESOTA RIVER, MN	657	657
MINNESOTA RIVER, MN	259	259
MISSISSIPPI RIVER BETWEEN MISSOURI RIVER AND MINNEAPOLIS (MVP PORTION), MN	54,472	54,472
ORWELL LAKE, MN	555	555
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, MN	88	88
RED LAKE RESERVOIR, MN	176	176
RESERVOIRS AT HEADWATERS OF MISSISSIPPI RIVER, MN	3,612	3,612
SURVEILLANCE OF NORTHERN BOUNDARY WATERS, MN	483	483

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE  
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
MISSISSIPPI		
BILOXI HARBOR, MS	2,211	2,211
CLAIBORNE COUNTY PORT, MS	1	1
EAST FORK, TOMBIGBEE RIVER, MS	285	285
GULFPORT HARBOR, MS	5,050	5,050
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, MS	116	116
MOUTH OF YAZOO RIVER, MS	34	34
OKATIBBEE LAKE, MS	1,818	1,818
PASCAGOULA HARBOR, MS	7,740	7,740
PEARL RIVER, MS & LA	150	150
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, MS	152	152
ROSEDALE HARBOR, MS	9	9
WATER/ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION, MS	115	115
YAZOO RIVER, MS	21	21
MISSOURI		
CARUTHERSVILLE HARBOR, MO	12	12
CLARENCE CANNON DAM AND MARK TWAIN LAKE, MO	7,187	7,187
CLEARWATER LAKE, MO	3,316	3,316
HARRY S TRUMAN DAM AND RESERVOIR, MO	9,311	9,311
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, MO	1,410	1,410
LITTLE BLUE RIVER LAKES, MO	916	916
LONG BRANCH LAKE, MO	930	930
MISSISSIPPI RIVER BETWEEN THE OHIO AND MISSOURI RIVERS (REG WORKS), MO & IL	27,146	27,146
NEW MADRID COUNTY HARBOR, MO	23	23
POMME DE TERRE LAKE, MO	2,461	2,461
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, MO	3	3
SCHEDULING RESERVOIR OPERATIONS, MO	112	112
SMITHVILLE LAKE, MO	1,473	1,473
SOUTHEAST MISSOURI PORT, MISSISSIPPI RIVER, MO	1	1
STOCKTON LAKE, MO	4,675	4,675
TABLE ROCK LAKE, MO & AR	9,609	9,609
MONTANA		
FT PECK DAM AND LAKE, MT	6,098	6,098
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, MT	185	185
LIBBY DAM, MT	1,975	1,975
SCHEDULING RESERVOIR OPERATIONS, MT	230	230

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE  
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
NEBRASKA		
GAVINS POINT DAM, LEWIS AND CLARK LAKE, NE & SD	9,185	9,185
HARLAN COUNTY LAKE, NE	26,398	26,398
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, NE	466	466
MISSOURI RIVER - KENSLERS BEND, NE TO SIOUX CITY, IA	79	79
PAPILLION CREEK, NE	863	863
SALT CREEKS AND TRIBUTARIES, NE	1,038	1,038
NEVADA		
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, NV	67	67
MARTIS CREEK LAKE, NV & CA	1,462	1,462
PINE AND MATHEWS CANYONS LAKES, NV	407	407
NEW HAMPSHIRE		
BLACKWATER DAM, NH	672	672
EDWARD MACDOWELL LAKE, NH	897	897
FRANKLIN FALLS DAM, NH	798	798
HOPKINTON - EVERETT LAKES, NH	1,370	1,370
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, NH	84	84
OTTER BROOK LAKE, NH	878	878
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, NH	250	250
SURRY MOUNTAIN LAKE, NH	714	714
NEW JERSEY		
BARNEGAT INLET, NJ	420	420
COLD SPRING INLET, NJ	375	375
DELAWARE RIVER AT CAMDEN, NJ	15	15
DELAWARE RIVER, PHILADELPHIA TO THE SEA, NJ, PA & DE	20,445	20,445
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS, NJ	5	5
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, NJ	355	355
MANASQUAN RIVER, NJ	370	370
NEW JERSEY INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY, NJ	260	260
NEWARK BAY, HACKENSACK AND PASSAIC RIVERS, NJ	300	300
PASSAIC RIVER FLOOD WARNING SYSTEMS, NJ	617	617
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, NJ	1,844	1,844
RARITAN RIVER TO ARTHUR KILL CUT-OFF, NJ	100	100
RARITAN RIVER, NJ	40	40
SHARK RIVER, NJ	350	350

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE  
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
NEW MEXICO		
ABIQUIU DAM, NM	2,794	2,794
COCHITI LAKE, NM	3,587	3,587
CONCHAS LAKE, NM	2,794	2,794
GALISTEO DAM, NM	1,150	1,150
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS, NM	30	30
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, NM	654	654
JEMEZ CANYON DAM, NM	1,392	1,392
RIO GRANDE ENDANGERED SPECIES COLLABORATIVE PROGRAM, NM	2,492	2,492
SANTA ROSA DAM AND LAKE, NM	1,594	1,594
SCHEDULING RESERVOIR OPERATIONS, NM	330	330
TWO RIVERS DAM, NM	797	797
UPPER RIO GRANDE WATER OPERATIONS MODEL STUDY, NM	1,289	1,289
NEW YORK		
ALMOND LAKE, NY	578	578
ARKPORT DAM, NY	502	502
BAY RIDGE AND RED HOOK CHANNELS, NY	4,050	---
BLACK ROCK CHANNEL AND TONAWANDA HARBOR, NY	1,686	1,686
BUFFALO HARBOR, NY	1,290	1,290
BUTTERMILK CHANNEL, NY	300	300
EAST RIVER, NY	250	250
EAST ROCKAWAY INLET, NY	220	220
EAST SIDNEY LAKE, NY	697	697
FIRE ISLAND INLET TO JONES INLET, NY	100	100
FLUSHING BAY AND CREEK, NY	50	50
GLEN COVE CREEK, NY	20	20
GREAT KILLS HARBOR, NY	30	30
HUDSON RIVER CHANNEL, NY	50	50
HUDSON RIVER, NY (MAINT)	5,200	5,200
HUDSON RIVER, NY (O & C)	2,500	2,500
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS, NY	20	20
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, NY	1,522	1,418
JAMAICA BAY, NY	220	220
MOUNT MORRIS DAM, NY	3,842	3,842
NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY CHANNELS, NY	450	450
NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY HARBOR, NY & NJ	100	100
NEW YORK HARBOR, NY	7,413	780
NEW YORK HARBOR, NY & NJ (DRIFT REMOVAL)	9,300	9,300
NEW YORK HARBOR, NY (PREVENTION OF OBSTRUCTIVE DEPOSITS)	1,045	1,045
NEWTOWN CREEK, NY	10	---
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, NY	2,140	2,140
SHINNECOCK INLET, NY	60	60



CORPS OF ENGINEERS - OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE  
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
SOUTHERN NEW YORK FLOOD CONTROL PROJECTS, NY	786	786
SURVEILLANCE OF NORTHERN BOUNDARY WATERS, NY	610	610
WHITNEY POINT LAKE, NY	905	905
NORTH CAROLINA		
ATLANTIC INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY, NC	2,600	2,600
B EVERETT JORDAN DAM AND LAKE, NC	1,856	1,856
CAPE FEAR RIVER ABOVE WILMINGTON, NC	483	483
FALLS LAKE, NC	1,909	1,909
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, NC	264	264
MANTEO (SHALLOWBAG) BAY, NC	800	800
MASONBORO INLET AND CONNECTING CHANNELS, NC	50	50
MOREHEAD CITY HARBOR, NC	4,855	4,855
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, NC	700	700
ROLLINSON CHANNEL, NC	550	550
SILVER LAKE HARBOR, NC	300	300
W KERR SCOTT DAM AND RESERVOIR, NC	3,293	3,293
WILMINGTON HARBOR, NC	14,127	14,127
NORTH DAKOTA		
BOWMAN HALEY, ND	302	302
GARRISON DAM, LAKE SAKAKAWEA, ND	12,703	12,703
HOMME LAKE, ND	351	351
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, ND	339	339
LAKE ASHTABULA AND BALDHILL DAM, ND	1,290	1,290
PIPESTEM LAKE, ND	1,076	776
SCHEDULING RESERVOIR OPERATIONS, ND	106	106
SOURIS RIVER, ND	366	366
SURVEILLANCE OF NORTHERN BOUNDARY WATERS, ND	32	32
OHIO		
ALUM CREEK LAKE, OH	1,483	1,483
ASHTABULA HARBOR, OH	2,280	2,280
BERLIN LAKE, OH	2,091	2,091
CAESAR CREEK LAKE, OH	1,967	1,967
CLARENCE J BROWN DAM, OH	1,494	1,494
CLEVELAND HARBOR, OH	7,634	2,230
DEER CREEK LAKE, OH	1,553	1,553
DELAWARE LAKE, OH	2,259	2,259
DILLON LAKE, OH	1,387	1,387
FAIRPORT HARBOR, OH	1,215	1,215
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, OH	659	659

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE  
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
MASSILLON LOCAL PROTECTION PROJECT, OH	51	51
MICHAEL J KIRWAN DAM AND RESERVOIR, OH	985	985
MOSQUITO CREEK LAKE, OH	906	906
MUSKINGUM RIVER LAKES, OH	8,514	8,514
NORTH BRANCH KOKOSING RIVER LAKE, OH	298	298
OHIO-MISSISSIPPI FLOOD CONTROL, OH	1,763	1,763
PAINT CREEK LAKE, OH	1,576	1,576
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, OH	305	305
ROSEVILLE LOCAL PROTECTION PROJECT, OH	35	35
SANDUSKY HARBOR, OH	1,600	1,600
SURVEILLANCE OF NORTHERN BOUNDARY WATERS, OH	255	255
TOLEDO HARBOR, OH	6,143	4,783
TOM JENKINS DAM, OH	948	948
WEST FORK OF MILL CREEK LAKE, OH	1,217	1,217
WILLIAM H HARSHA LAKE, OH	1,429	1,429
OKLAHOMA		
ARCADIA LAKE, OK	409	409
BIRCH LAKE, OK	778	778
BROKEN BOW LAKE, OK	3,275	3,275
CANTON LAKE, OK	2,199	2,199
COPAN LAKE, OK	4,542	4,542
EUFAULA LAKE, OK	5,761	5,761
FORT GIBSON LAKE, OK	6,066	6,066
FORT SUPPLY LAKE, OK	896	896
GREAT SALT PLAINS LAKE, OK	340	340
HEYBURN LAKE, OK	673	673
HUGO LAKE, OK	1,828	1,828
HULAH LAKE, OK	734	734
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, OK	141	141
KAW LAKE, OK	2,244	2,244
KEYSTONE LAKE, OK	5,435	5,435
MCCLELLAN-KERR ARKANSAS RIVER NAVIGATION SYSTEM, OK	5,355	5,355
OLOGAH LAKE, OK	2,580	2,580
OPTIMA LAKE, OK	27	27
PENSACOLA RESERVOIR, LAKE OF THE CHEROKEES, OK	138	138
PINE CREEK LAKE, OK	1,884	1,884
ROBERT S. KERR LOCK AND DAM AND RESERVOIR, OK	6,090	6,090
SARDIS LAKE, OK	1,039	1,039
SCHEDULING RESERVOIR OPERATIONS, OK	1,100	1,100
SKIATOOK LAKE, OK	1,680	1,680
TENKILLER FERRY LAKE, OK	4,865	4,865
WAURIKA LAKE, OK	1,173	1,173

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE  
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
WEBBERS FALLS LOCK AND DAM, OK	5,023	5,023
WISTER LAKE, OK	1,133	1,133
OREGON		
APPLEGATE LAKE, OR	972	972
BLUE RIVER LAKE, OR	5,770	5,770
BONNEVILLE LOCK AND DAM, OR & WA	7,493	7,493
CHETCO RIVER, OR	26	26
COLUMBIA RIVER AT THE MOUTH, OR & WA	25,463	25,463
COOS BAY, OR	6,423	6,423
COQUILLE RIVER, OR	26	26
COTTAGE GROVE LAKE, OR	1,315	1,315
COUGAR LAKE, OR	2,590	2,590
DEPOE BAY, OR	7	7
DETROIT LAKE, OR	1,227	1,227
DORENA LAKE, OR	1,249	1,249
ELK CREEK LAKE, OR	177	177
FALL CREEK LAKE, OR	6,052	6,052
FERN RIDGE LAKE, OR	1,736	1,736
GREEN PETER - FOSTER LAKES, OR	2,299	2,299
HILLS CREEK LAKE, OR	5,249	5,249
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, OR	592	592
JOHN DAY LOCK AND DAM, OR & WA	5,234	5,234
LOOKOUT POINT LAKE, OR	1,729	1,729
LOST CREEK LAKE, OR	3,237	3,237
MCNARY LOCK AND DAM, OR & WA	7,569	7,569
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, OR	365	365
ROGUE RIVER AT GOLD BEACH, OR	31	31
SCHEDULING RESERVOIR OPERATIONS, OR	74	74
SIUSLAW RIVER, OR	32	32
SURVEILLANCE OF NORTHERN BOUNDARY WATERS, OR	2,806	2,806
UMPQUA RIVER, OR	59	59
WILLAMETTE RIVER AT WILLAMETTE FALLS, OR	128	128
WILLAMETTE RIVER BANK PROTECTION, OR	244	244
WILLOW CREEK LAKE, OR	616	616
YAQUINA BAY AND HARBOR, OR	3,252	3,252
PENNSYLVANIA		
ALLEGHENY RIVER, PA	4,721	4,721
ALVIN R BUSH DAM, PA	607	607
AYLESWORTH CREEK LAKE, PA	279	279
BELTZVILLE LAKE, PA	1,835	1,835
BLUE MARSH LAKE, PA	2,670	2,670

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE  
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
CONEMAUGH RIVER LAKE, PA	1,651	1,651
COWANESQUE LAKE, PA	1,860	1,860
CROOKED CREEK LAKE, PA	1,561	1,561
CURWENSVILLE LAKE, PA	889	889
DELAWARE RIVER, PHILADELPHIA, PA TO TRENTON, NJ	5,410	5,410
EAST BRANCH CLARION RIVER LAKE, PA	1,259	1,259
FOSTER JOSEPH SAYERS DAM, PA	1,256	1,256
FRANCIS E WALTER DAM, PA	916	916
GENERAL EDGAR JADWIN DAM AND RESERVOIR, PA	300	300
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS, PA	5	5
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, PA	1,222	1,222
JOHNSTOWN, PA	65	65
KINZUA DAM AND ALLEGHENY RESERVOIR, PA	1,234	1,234
LOYALHANNA LAKE, PA	1,898	1,662
MAHONING CREEK LAKE, PA	1,121	1,121
MONONGAHELA RIVER, PA	22,621	21,162
OHIO RIVER LOCKS AND DAMS, PA, OH & WV	30,097	30,097
OHIO RIVER OPEN CHANNEL WORK, PA, OH & WV	700	700
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, PA	170	170
PROMPTON LAKE, PA	475	475
PUNXSUTAWNEY, PA	40	40
RAYSTOWN LAKE, PA	3,817	3,817
SCHEDULING RESERVOIR OPERATIONS, PA	45	45
SHENANGO RIVER LAKE, PA	1,805	1,805
STILLWATER LAKE, PA	537	537
SURVEILLANCE OF NORTHERN BOUNDARY WATERS, PA	105	105
TIOGA - HAMMOND LAKES, PA	2,292	2,292
TIONESTA LAKE, PA	1,875	1,875
UNION CITY LAKE, PA	400	400
WOODCOCK CREEK LAKE, PA	957	957
YORK INDIAN ROCK DAM, PA	965	965
YOUGHIOGHENY RIVER LAKE, PA & MD	2,232	2,232
PUERTO RICO		
SAN JUAN HARBOR, PR	800	800
RHODE ISLAND		
FOX POINT BARRIER, NARRAGANSETT BAY, RI	3,956	3,956
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS, RI	15	15
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, RI	48	48
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, RI	350	350
WOONSOCKET, RI	1,088	1,088

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE  
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
SOUTH CAROLINA		
ATLANTIC INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY, SC	500	500
CHARLESTON HARBOR, SC	13,149	13,149
COOPER RIVER, CHARLESTON HARBOR, SC	5,930	5,930
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, SC	67	67
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, SC	875	875
SOUTH DAKOTA		
BIG BEND DAM, LAKE SHARPE, SD	10,409	10,409
COLD BROOK LAKE, SD	412	412
COTTONWOOD SPRINGS LAKE, SD	291	291
FORT RANDALL DAM, LAKE FRANCIS CASE, SD	11,252	11,252
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, SD	153	153
LAKE TRAVERSE, SD & MN	609	609
OAHE DAM, LAKE OAHE, SD & ND	12,256	12,256
SCHEDULING RESERVOIR OPERATIONS, SD	121	121
TENNESSEE		
CENTER HILL LAKE, TN	5,568	5,568
CHEATHAM LOCK AND DAM, TN	8,945	8,945
CORDELL HULL DAM AND RESERVOIR, TN	7,587	7,587
DALE HOLLOW LAKE, TN	6,818	6,818
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, TN	94	94
J PERCY PRIEST DAM AND RESERVOIR, TN	4,896	4,896
NORTHWEST TENNESSEE REGIONAL HARBOR, LAKE COUNTY, TN	10	10
OLD HICKORY LOCK AND DAM, TN	12,059	12,059
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, TN	2	2
TENNESSEE RIVER, TN	24,864	24,864
WOLF RIVER HARBOR, TN	239	239
TEXAS		
AQUILLA LAKE, TX	1,397	1,397
ARKANSAS - RED RIVER BASINS CHLORIDE CONTROL - AREA VIII, TX	1,827	1,827
BARDWELL LAKE, TX	1,966	1,966
BELTON LAKE, TX	3,164	3,164
BENBROOK LAKE, TX	2,242	2,242
BRAZOS ISLAND HARBOR, TX	6,300	6,300
BUFFALO BAYOU AND TRIBUTARIES, TX	2,655	2,655
CANYON LAKE, TX	2,677	2,677
CHANNEL TO PORT BOLIVAR, TX	200	200
CORPUS CHRISTI SHIP CHANNEL, TX	6,900	6,900

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE  
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
DENISON DAM, LAKE TEXOMA, TX	11,224	11,224
ESTELLINE SPRINGS EXPERIMENTAL PROJECT, TX	40	40
FERRELLS BRIDGE DAM, LAKE O' THE PINES, TX	3,432	3,432
FREEPORT HARBOR, TX	10,600	10,600
GALVESTON HARBOR AND CHANNEL, TX	8,900	8,900
GIWW, CHANNEL TO VICTORIA, TX	2,700	2,700
GRANGER DAM AND LAKE, TX	2,002	2,002
GRAPEVINE LAKE, TX	2,476	2,476
GULF INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY, TX	25,761	25,761
HORDS CREEK LAKE, TX	1,433	1,433
HOUSTON SHIP CHANNEL, TX	31,840	31,840
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, TX	1,878	1,878
JIM CHAPMAN LAKE, TX	1,957	1,957
JOE POOL LAKE, TX	1,729	1,729
LAKE KEMP, TX	260	260
LAVON LAKE, TX	3,046	3,046
LEWISVILLE DAM, TX	4,339	4,339
MATAGORDA SHIP CHANNEL, TX	8,000	8,000
NAVARRO MILLS LAKE, TX	2,621	2,621
NORTH SAN GABRIEL DAM AND LAKE GEORGETOWN, TX	2,242	2,242
O C FISHER DAM AND LAKE, TX	1,169	1,169
PAT MAYSE LAKE, TX	1,393	1,393
PROCTOR LAKE, TX	2,319	2,319
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, TX	300	300
RAY ROBERTS LAKE, TX	2,097	2,097
SABINE - NECHES WATERWAY, TX	11,500	11,500
SAM RAYBURN DAM AND RESERVOIR, TX	9,235	9,235
SCHEDULING RESERVOIR OPERATIONS, TX	278	278
SOMERVILLE LAKE, TX	2,893	2,893
STILLHOUSE HOLLOW DAM, TX	2,656	2,656
TEXAS CITY SHIP CHANNEL, TX	350	350
TOWN BLUFF DAM, B A STEINHAGEN LAKE, TX	4,975	4,975
WACO LAKE, TX	2,958	2,958
WALLISVILLE LAKE, TX	3,353	3,353
WHITNEY LAKE, TX	6,891	6,891
WRIGHT PATMAN DAM AND LAKE, TX	3,495	3,495
UTAH		
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, UT	40	40
SCHEDULING RESERVOIR OPERATIONS, UT	561	561

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE  
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
VERMONT		
BALL MOUNTAIN, VT	1,044	1,044
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, VT	643	413
NARROWS OF LAKE CHAMPLAIN, VT & NY	105	105
NORTH HARTLAND LAKE, VT	756	756
NORTH SPRINGFIELD LAKE, VT	1,569	1,569
TOWNSHEND LAKE, VT	849	849
UNION VILLAGE DAM, VT	694	694
VIRGINIA		
ATLANTIC INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY - ACC, VA	2,390	2,390
ATLANTIC INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY - DSC, VA	4,555	4,555
CHINCOTEAGUE INLET, VA	500	500
GATHRIGHT DAM AND LAKE MOOMAW, VA	2,081	2,081
HAMPTON ROADS, NORFOLK & NEWPORT NEWS HARBOR, VA (DRIFT REMOVAL)	1,540	1,540
HAMPTON ROADS, VA (PREVENTION OF OBSTRUCTIVE DEPOSITS)	104	104
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS, VA	15	15
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, VA	335	335
JAMES RIVER CHANNEL, VA	3,696	3,696
JOHN H KERR LAKE, VA & NC	10,685	10,685
JOHN W FLANNAGAN DAM AND RESERVOIR, VA	1,996	1,996
LYNNHAVEN INLET, VA	200	200
NORFOLK HARBOR, VA	10,990	10,990
NORTH FORK OF POUND RIVER LAKE, VA	608	608
PHILPOTT LAKE, VA	6,442	6,442
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, VA	1,186	1,186
RUDEE INLET, VA	300	300
WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATIONS, VA	135	135
WASHINGTON		
CHIEF JOSEPH DAM, WA	589	589
COLUMBIA AND LOWER WILLAMETTE RIVERS BELOW VANCOUVER, WA & PORTLAND, OR	47,040	47,040
COLUMBIA RIVER BETWEEN VANCOUVER, WA AND THE DALLES, OR	1,199	1,199
COLUMBIA RIVER FISH MITIGATION, WA, OR & ID	4,115	4,115
EVERETT HARBOR AND SNOHOMISH RIVER, WA	1,192	1,192
GRAYS HARBOR, WA	10,256	10,256
HOWARD HANSON DAM, WA	3,520	3,520
ICE HARBOR LOCK AND DAM, WA	4,989	4,989
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS, WA	49	49
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, WA	840	840
LAKE WASHINGTON SHIP CANAL, WA	12,404	12,404
LITTLE GOOSE LOCK AND DAM, WA	2,576	2,576

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE  
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
LOWER GRANITE LOCK AND DAM, WA	3,840	3,840
LOWER MONUMENTAL LOCK AND DAM, WA	2,646	2,646
MILL CREEK LAKE, WA	2,913	2,913
MOUNT SAINT HELENS SEDIMENT CONTROL, WA	260	260
MUD MOUNTAIN DAM, WA	4,122	4,122
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, WA	746	746
PUGET SOUND AND TRIBUTARY WATERS, WA	1,100	1,100
QUILLAYUTE RIVER, WA	1,470	200
SCHEDULING RESERVOIR OPERATIONS, WA	381	381
SEATTLE HARBOR, WA	1,498	1,498
STILLAGUAMISH RIVER, WA	274	274
SURVEILLANCE OF NORTHERN BOUNDARY WATERS, WA	64	64
TACOMA, PUYALLUP RIVER, WA	159	159
THE DALLES LOCK AND DAM, WA & OR	4,911	4,911
WEST VIRGINIA		
BEECH FORK LAKE, WV	1,338	1,338
BLUESTONE LAKE, WV	2,304	2,304
BURNSVILLE LAKE, WV	2,505	2,505
EAST LYNN LAKE, WV	2,824	2,824
ELKINS, WV	57	57
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, WV	438	438
KANAWHA RIVER LOCKS AND DAMS, WV	9,035	9,035
OHIO RIVER LOCKS AND DAMS, WV, KY & OH	31,759	31,759
OHIO RIVER OPEN CHANNEL WORK, WV, KY & OH	2,895	2,545
R D BAILEY LAKE, WV	2,322	2,322
STONEWALL JACKSON LAKE, WV	1,270	1,270
SUMMERSVILLE LAKE, WV	2,547	2,547
SUTTON LAKE, WV	2,519	2,519
TYGART LAKE, WV	1,305	1,305
WISCONSIN		
EAU GALLE RIVER LAKE, WI	747	747
FOX RIVER, WI	2,972	2,972
GREEN BAY HARBOR, WI	2,881	2,881
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, WI	55	55
KEWAUNEE HARBOR, WI	10	10
MILWAUKEE HARBOR, WI	2,110	2,110
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, WI	304	304
STURGEON BAY HARBOR AND LAKE MICHIGAN SHIP CANAL, WI	21	21
SURVEILLANCE OF NORTHERN BOUNDARY WATERS, WI	556	556



CORPS OF ENGINEERS - OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE  
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
WYOMING		
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS, WY	10	10
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, WY	67	67
JACKSON HOLE LEVEES, WY	2,007	2,007
SCHEDULING RESERVOIR OPERATIONS, WY	90	90
 SUBTOTAL, PROJECTS LISTED UNDER STATES	 2,439,962	 2,409,273
REMAINING ITEMS		
ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR ONGOING WORK		
NAVIGATION MAINTENANCE	---	45,000
DEEP-DRAFT HARBOR AND CHANNEL	---	165,000
INLAND WATERWAYS	---	42,000
SMALL, REMOTE, OR SUBSISTENCE NAVIGATION	---	42,500
OTHER AUTHORIZED PROJECT PURPOSES	---	35,000
AQUATIC NUISANCE CONTROL RESEARCH	675	675
ASSET MANAGEMENT/FACILITIES AND EQUIP MAINT (FEM)	3,250	3,250
BUDGET/MANAGEMENT SUPPORT FOR O&M BUSINESS PROGRAMS:		
STEWARDSHIP SUPPORT PROGRAM	1,000	1,000
PERFORMANCE-BASED BUDGETING SUPPORT PROGRAM	3,939	3,939
RECREATION MANAGEMENT SUPPORT PROGRAM	1,650	1,650
OPTIMIZATION TOOLS FOR NAVIGATION	322	322
COASTAL INLET RESEARCH PROGRAM	2,700	2,700
COASTAL OCEAN DATA SYSTEM (CODS)	3,400	5,400
RESPONSE TO CLIMATE CHANGE AT CORPS PROJECTS	5,000	5,000
CULTURAL RESOURCES (NAGPRA/CURATION)	6,000	6,000
DREDGE MCFARLAND READY RESERVE	11,690	11,690
DREDGE WHEELER READY RESERVE	15,000	15,000
DREDGING DATA AND LOCK PERFORMANCE MONITORING SYSTEM	1,119	1,119
DREDGING OPERATIONS AND ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH (DOER)	6,450	6,450
DREDGING OPERATIONS TECHNICAL SUPPORT PROGRAM (DOTS)	2,820	2,820
EARTHQUAKE HAZARDS REDUCTION PROGRAM	270	270
FACILITY PROTECTION	3,500	3,500
FISH & WILDLIFE OPERATING FISH HATCHERY REIMBURSEMENT	4,700	4,700
GREAT LAKES TRIBUTARY MODEL	600	600
INLAND WATERWAY NAVIGATION CHARTS	3,000	3,000
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED FEDERAL FLOOD CONTROL PROJECTS	28,000	28,000
INTERAGENCY PERFORMANCE EVALUATION TASK FORCE/HURRICANE PROTECTION DECISION-	5,800	5,800
MONITORING OF COMPLETED NAVIGATION PROJECTS	2,300	8,000
NATIONAL (LEVEE) FLOOD INVENTORY	10,000	10,000
NATIONAL (MULTIPLE PROJECT) NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES	6,800	6,800
NATIONAL COASTAL MAPPING PROGRAM	6,072	6,072
NATIONAL DAM SAFETY PROGRAM (PORTFOLIO RISK ASSESSMENT)	10,000	10,000

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE  
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
NATIONAL EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PROGRAM (NEPP)	4,500	4,500
NATIONAL PORTFOLIO ASSESSMENT FOR REALLOCATIONS	1,071	1,071
PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT TECHNICAL SUPPORT	281	281
WATERBORNE COMMERCE STATISTICS	4,669	4,669
HARBOR MAINTENANCE FEE DATA COLLECTION	795	795
RECREATIONONESTOP (R1S) NATIONAL RECREATION RESERVATION SERVICE	65	65
REGIONAL SEDIMENT MANAGEMENT PROGRAM	1,800	1,800
RELIABILITY MODELS PROGRAM FOR MAJOR REHAB.	300	300
WATER OPERATIONS TECHNICAL SUPPORT (WOTS)	500	2,500
 SUBTOTAL, REMAINING ITEMS	 160,038	 499,238
 TOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE	 2,600,000	 2,908,511

*Updated Capability.*—The agreement adjusts some project-specific allocations downward from the budget request based on updated information regarding the amount of work that could be accomplished in fiscal year 2015.

*Lowell Creek Tunnel, Alaska.*—The Corps is encouraged to recognize in future budget submissions the current problems with the existing Lowell Creek Tunnel and the need for an alternative method of flood diversion for Lowell Canyon.

*Mud Mountain Dam, Washington.*—The Corps is encouraged to continue developing interim and long-term measures to maintain fish runs past Mud Mountain Dam, in accordance with existing legal responsibilities.

*Great Lakes Navigation System.*—The agreement includes funding for individual projects within this System that exceeds the funding level envisioned in section 210(d)(1)(B)(ii) of the Water Resources Development Act of 198E.

*Additional Funding for Ongoing Work.*—The fiscal year 2015 budget request does not fund operation, maintenance, and rehabilitation of our Nation's aging infrastructure sufficiently to ensure continued competitiveness in a global marketplace. Federal navigation channels maintained at only a fraction of authorized dimensions and navigation locks and hydropower facilities well beyond their design life results in economic inefficiencies and risks infrastructure failure, which can cause substantial economic losses. Investing in operation, maintenance, and rehabilitation of infrastructure today will save taxpayers money in the future.

The agreement includes additional funds to continue ongoing projects and activities. The intent of these funds is for ongoing work that either was not included in the Administration's request or was inadequately budgeted. The direction that follows shall be the only direction used for additional funding provided in this account.

None of these funds may be used for any item where funding was specifically denied, to initiate new projects or programs, or to alter any existing cost-share requirements. Funding associated with each category may be allocated to any eligible project within that category; funding associated with each subcategory may be allocated only to eligible projects within that subcategory. The list of subcategories is not meant to be exhaustive.

The Corps retains complete discretion over project-specific allocation decisions, but shall consider giving priority to the following: ability to complete ongoing work maintaining authorized depths and widths of harbors and shipping channels, including where contaminated sediments are present; ability to address critical maintenance backlog; presence of the U.S. Coast Guard; extent to which the work will enhance national, regional, or local economic development, including domestic manufacturing capacity; extent to which the work will promote job growth or international competitiveness; number of jobs created directly by the funded activity; ability to obligate the funds allocated within the fiscal year; ability to complete the project, separable element, or project phase within the funds allocated; the risk of imminent failure or closure of the facility; and for harbor maintenance activities, total tonnage handled, total exports, total imports, dollar value of cargo handled, energy infrastructure and national security needs served, lack of alternative means of freight movement, and savings over alternative means of freight movement. It is ex-

pected that all of the funds provided in this account will be allocated to specific programs, projects, or activities. The focus of the allocation process should favor the obligation of funds for work in fiscal year 2015 rather than expenditures. With the significant backlog of work in the Corps' inventory, there is absolutely no reason for funds provided above the budget request to remain unallocated.

Concerns persist that the Administration's criteria for navigation maintenance do not allow small, remote, or subsistence harbors and waterways to properly compete for scarce navigation maintenance funds. The Corps is urged to revise the criteria used for determining which navigation projects are funded in order to develop a reasonable and equitable allocation under this account. The criteria should include the economic impact that these projects provide to local and regional economies, in particular those with national defense or public health and safety importance.

Not later than 60 days after enactment of this Act, the Corps shall provide to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a work plan including the following information: (1) a detailed description of the ratings system(s) developed and used to evaluate projects; (2) delineation of how these funds are to be allocated; (3) a summary of the work to be accomplished with each allocation; and (4) a list of all projects that were considered eligible for funding but did not receive funding, including an explanation of whether each project could have used funds in fiscal year 2015 and the specific reasons each project was considered as being less competitive for an allocation of funds.

*Monitoring of Completed Navigation Projects.*—The agreement includes additional funding for this line item to restore the funding level to that of previous fiscal years.

*Water Operations Technical Support.*—Funding in addition to the budget request is included for research into atmospheric rivers in an effort to develop and demonstrate better prediction capabilities and apply the science to improve reservoir operations to optimize multi-purpose project objectives and to meet stakeholder water needs.

*Movable Bridges at Navigation Projects.*—The Corps has responsibility for maintenance of movable bridges that are features of existing Corps navigation projects. Concerns exist that maintenance of these bridges may be deferred given constraints on civil works funding and the fact that bridge maintenance may have substantial benefits but not necessarily to the three civil works missions of commercial navigation, flood mitigation, and aquatic ecosystem restoration. It is unclear if the Corps has a clear idea of the bridges in its national inventory and the magnitude of the maintenance, rehabilitation, and replacement needs. The Corps is directed to provide to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate not later than 180 days after enactment of this Act a report on movable bridges where the Corps has primary maintenance responsibility. The report should include the number of movable bridges in the Corps inventory, as well as for each movable bridge the following information:

- the year built;
- the average daily traffic count;
- the feature for which the bridge serves as a crossing;
- the bridge's sufficiency rating;
- the bridge's current weight restriction, if any, due to maintenance issues;

—whether the bridge serves as part of an evacuation route;

—any notable impact on local traffic conditions caused by current state of maintenance, such as traffic bottlenecks or length of detour if the bridge is taken out of service;

—the annual cost incurred by the Corps on maintenance over the past 10 years;

—estimated replacement cost, if known; and

—local municipality cost-share of maintenance or replacement either provided over the past 10 years or offered currently, if any.

*Zebra and Quagga Mussels.*—The Corps has completed, is working on, and intends to initiate additional invasive mussel vulnerability assessments at numerous federal dams in the Pacific Northwest. The Corps is encouraged to continue these efforts.

#### REGULATORY PROGRAM

The agreement includes \$200,000,000 for the Regulatory Program.

#### FORMERLY UTILIZED SITES REMEDIAL ACTION PROGRAM

The agreement includes \$101,500,000 for the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program.

#### FLOOD CONTROL AND COASTAL EMERGENCIES

The agreement includes \$28,000,000 for Flood Control and Coastal Emergencies.

#### EXPENSES

The agreement includes \$178,000,000 for Expenses.

*WRRDA 2014.*—The Water Resources Reform and Development Act (WRRDA) of 2014 was enacted on June 10, 2014. It provides significant changes in the Corps' project development process, authorizes at least \$16,000,000,000 in new projects and authorities, and directs the deauthorization of \$18,000,000,000 of previously authorized projects.

Many of these new authorities will require specific appropriations prior to implementation, but as most of the funding decisions for fiscal year 2015 were made in the absence of the WRRDA, very few of the provisions have been incorporated into this Act. It is anticipated that the provisions from this WRRDA will be integrated more fully into the fiscal year 2016 budget request.

Implementation guidance will be developed by the Corps in the coming months. The Corps is directed to provide the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate with notification prior to obligating funds for any provision not requiring specific appropriations, as well as monthly updates on the status of implementation guidance documents in draft and final form, including implementation guidance for WRRDA section 5014 regarding a water infrastructure public-private partnership pilot program. Additionally, the Corps is directed to develop and submit to the Committees, in accordance with House Report 113-486, a detailed plan for how the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act of 2014 provisions, if funded, would be implemented.

It should be noted that enactment of the WRRDA, while providing considerable opportunities for new water resources investments, does not make any additional funding available for water resources projects. Appropriations Acts remain tethered to the defense and non-defense spending caps specified in the Budget Control Acts.

#### OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE ARMY FOR CIVIL WORKS

The agreement includes \$3,000,000 for the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works.

*Executive Management and Direction.*—There appears to have been a breakdown in the traditional roles and responsibilities between the White House, the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works (ASA(CW)), and the Corps headquarters over the past 18 months. Predictably, this recent confusion and dysfunction has exacerbated problems with program execution and responsiveness to Congress. Some of the execution challenges appear to be related to an idea that increased “oversight” and “quality control” over the Corps’ Civil Works program is necessary on the part of the ASA(CW). While the Administration retains the prerogative to determine the appropriate level of oversight between its political appointees and the career staff, changes to oversight and quality control should be expected to have a discernible positive impact on the quality of the Civil Works program executed, rather than the polar opposite. Beyond program execution, other problems recently have manifested themselves in budget submission documents, reports to Congress, reprogramming actions, and work plans required by appropriations Acts.

One of the most obvious and ongoing problems has been the delay in submitting the annual budget justifications. The Administration has this single opportunity to present its vision of the Corps of Engineers program, but continued delay in providing the details of the budget deprives Congress of adequate time to properly consider the proposals. Part of the delay seems to stem from “oversight” and “quality control” of the budget justification process. This oversight and quality control of a very few project justifications resulted in the entire budget justification being submitted to the Congress weeks after the budget was released. Unfortunately, there did not appear to be improvement in the Corps’ budget justifications. In fact, errors that had not been present in previous years were introduced in the way data was presented to the Congress.

Nearly every year, the Congress requests reports from the Administration to assist in congressional oversight. The timeliness of the submission of these reports is critical if the Congress is to be able to use the information to fulfill its oversight responsibilities. Unfortunately, multiple sequential reviews have led to requested reports and analyses being weeks, months, and even years late. In some cases, by the time the Congress receives the report, the data is out of date.

With a nationwide program where circumstances can change significantly during the fiscal year, reprogramming of funds is critical to program execution. The Congress provides legislative language to describe reprogramming limits available to the Corps and when those reprogramming actions must be submitted to the Congress for review. While the Administration appears to generally be fulfilling the intent of the law concerning these reprogramming actions, extensive sequential reviews have led to extraordinarily long times between the initiation and the execution of a reprogramming. In most cases these long delays to program execution are unnecessary.

With the end of congressionally directed spending after fiscal year 2011, the Congress transferred to the Administration the task of developing work plans to delineate how funding amounts provided in addition to the Administration’s budget request are allocated among programs, projects, and activities. While the Congress provides some guidance for the allocation of funds through the reports that accompany the Acts, the Administration ultimately makes the decisions

about which items to fund. Again, it appears that “oversight” and “quality control” by the Administration are contributing to challenges with timeliness of the work plans and are resulting in the decline in quality of the work plans. With the sequential review process, it appears the Administration is attempting to ensure that the projects in the work plans adhere to the vision that the Administration expressed in the budget submission rather than the guidance provided by the Congress. Once more, this extensive review process leads to delays in program execution.

The Congress reminds the Administration that once a bill is enacted into law, the Administration is expected to execute the program laid out in the appropriations Act in the most efficient and effective way possible. The Congress endeavors to ensure that funds provided in addition to the Administration request are executable by the Corps for items that were either underfunded in the Administration’s request or were omitted from the Administration’s request due to other Administration priorities or criteria. The Congress expects the Administration to develop plans that execute the maximum amount of funds possible in a given fiscal year. While constraints that may challenge the execution of funds are sometimes unavoidable, it is expected that in those instances funds would be obligated and carried over for expenditure in the subsequent fiscal year. Some unobligated carry-over of funds in a program the size and complexity of the Corps’ is inevitable, but should be an option of last resort. With the backlog of ongoing work in the Corps’ program, there should be multiple ways that the Administration can improve execution.

Currently the Corps of Engineers and the Bureau of Reclamation are combined for oversight and policy review with more science based activities, such as the Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Energy’s Science programs. As these infrastructure programs are quite different from science based programs, the Administration should consider a reorganization within the Office of Management and Budget that would align the infrastructure agencies—such as the Corps of Engineers, the Bureau of Reclamation, and the Department of Transportation—under the same branch to provide more effective oversight and policy review of these similar programs.

The Administration needs to return its focus to executing the Civil Works program and not to addressing multiple conflicting agendas with program execution as an afterthought.

#### GENERAL PROVISIONS—CORPS OF ENGINEERS— CIVIL (INCLUDING TRANSFER AND RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

The agreement includes a provision relating to reprogramming.

The agreement includes a provision prohibiting the use of funds to carry out any contract that commits funds beyond the amounts appropriated for that program, project, or activity.

The agreement includes a provision concerning funding transfers related to fish hatcheries.

The agreement includes a provision regarding research and development on salmon survival.

The agreement includes a provision regarding the allocation of funds.

The agreement includes a provision relating to section 5018(a)(1) of the Water Resources Development Act of 2007 regarding Missouri River Recovery.

The agreement includes a provision relating to the use of the Modified Charleston Method.

The agreement includes a provision relating to unobligated balances. The Corps of Engineers is directed to consider the status of the funds and the risk to project completion prior to rescinding funds from individual project balances. Funds shall not be rescinded from projects where such an action would endanger the completion of a project.

The agreement includes a provision prohibiting funds from being used to develop or implement changes to certain definitions for the purposes of the Clean Water Act during fiscal year 2015.

The agreement includes a provision regarding the Mobile Harbor limited reevaluation report.

The agreement includes a provision regarding section 404 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act.

The agreement includes a provision regarding an interpretative rule.

#### TITLE II—DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

##### CENTRAL UTAH PROJECT

##### CENTRAL UTAH PROJECT COMPLETION ACCOUNT

The agreement includes a total of \$9,874,000 for the Central Utah Project Completion Account, which includes \$7,574,000 for Central Utah Project construction, \$1,000,000 for transfer to the Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Account for use by the Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Commission, and \$1,300,000 for necessary expenses of the Secretary of the Interior.

##### BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

*Persistent Western Drought.*—Extensive and exceptional drought continues to plague the Western United States. The U.S. Drought Monitor for December 2, 2014, shows that only two of the seventeen Reclamation states (Montana and Wyoming) are virtually drought free. All or significant portions of twelve Reclamation states are suffering from severe to exceptional drought with 55 percent of California suffering from persistent exceptional drought conditions.

Drought conditions are difficult to address at the time the drought is occurring, but there are some things that can be done to stretch available water supplies. The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) and the Department of the Interior are encouraged to use all of the flexibility and tools available to mitigate the impacts of this drought. Reclamation is encouraged to examine opportunities for voluntary water conveyances from any state with excess water inventories to meet water use and mitigate drought conditions in Reclamation states. Additional funds have been provided to Reclamation to respond to the impacts of the drought and to work with water districts and other users to provide increased efficiency and conservation of available water.

The only way to mitigate the effects of future droughts, however, is through a strategy of providing a combination of additional storage, improved conveyance, and increased efficiencies in the uses of water both for agriculture and potable purposes. As the West has consistently been the fastest growing part of the country, it is incumbent on Reclamation, as the leading water purveyor in the West, to lead the way in increasing the water that is available from one year to the next and to research and develop more efficient uses of the water that is available.

WATER AND RELATED RESOURCES  
(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The agreement includes \$978,131,000 for Water and Related Resources. The agreement for Water and Related Resources is shown in the following table:

WATER AND RELATED RESOURCES (AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)	BUDGET REQUEST			FINAL BILL		
	RESOURCES MANAGEMENT	FACILITIES OM&R	TOTAL	RESOURCES MANAGEMENT	FACILITIES OM&R	TOTAL
<b>ARIZONA</b>						
AK CHIN INDIAN WATER RIGHTS SETTLEMENT ACT PROJECT	---	14,093	14,093	---	14,093	14,093
COLORADO RIVER BASIN - CENTRAL ARIZONA PROJECT	7,176	458	7,634	7,176	458	7,634
COLORADO RIVER FRONT WORK AND LEVEE SYSTEM	2,100	---	2,100	2,100	---	2,100
SALT RIVER PROJECT	724	250	974	724	250	974
SAN CARLOS APACHE TRIBE WATER SETTLEMENT ACT PROJECT	200	---	200	200	---	200
SIERRA VISTA SUBWATERSHED FEASIBILITY STUDY	2	---	2	2	---	2
YUMA AREA PROJECTS	1,446	22,541	23,987	1,446	22,541	23,987
<b>CALIFORNIA</b>						
CACHUMA PROJECT	647	674	1,321	647	674	1,321
<b>CENTRAL VALLEY PROJECTS:</b>						
AMERICAN RIVER DIVISION, FOLSOM DAM UNIT/MORMON ISLAND	1,577	9,138	10,715	1,577	9,138	10,715
AUBURN-FOLSOM SOUTH UNIT	35	2,184	2,219	35	2,184	2,219
DELTA DIVISION	5,718	5,511	11,229	5,718	5,511	11,229
EAST SIDE DIVISION	1,290	2,772	4,062	1,290	2,772	4,062
FRIANT DIVISION	2,192	3,401	5,593	2,192	3,401	5,593
SAN JOAQUIN RIVER RESTORATION SETTLEMENT	---	---	---	32,000	---	32,000
MISCELLANEOUS PROJECT PROGRAMS	7,596	454	8,050	7,596	454	8,050
REPLACEMENTS, ADDITIONS, AND EXTRAORDINARY MAINT. PROGRAM	---	16,362	16,362	---	16,362	16,362
SACRAMENTO RIVER DIVISION	2,156	944	3,100	2,156	944	3,100
SAN FELIPE DIVISION	372	75	447	372	75	447
SAN JOAQUIN DIVISION	52	---	52	52	---	52
SHASTA DIVISION	720	8,627	9,347	720	8,627	9,347
TRINITY RIVER DIVISION	12,309	4,359	16,668	12,309	4,359	16,668
WATER AND POWER OPERATIONS	4,389	7,393	11,782	4,389	7,393	11,782
WEST SAN JOAQUIN DIVISION, SAN LUIS UNIT	12,917	6,043	18,960	12,917	6,043	18,960
ORLAND PROJECT	---	930	930	---	930	930
SALTON SEA RESEARCH PROJECT	300	---	300	300	---	300
SOLANO PROJECT	1,329	2,367	3,696	1,329	2,367	3,696
VENTURA RIVER PROJECT	313	33	346	313	33	346
<b>COLORADO</b>						
ANIMAS-LA PLATA PROJECT	892	1,637	2,529	892	1,637	2,529
ARMEL UNIT, P-SMBP	20	449	469	20	449	469
COLLIERAN PROJECT	255	1,693	1,948	255	1,693	1,948

WATER AND RELATED RESOURCES  
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST			FINAL BILL		
	RESOURCES MANAGEMENT	FACILITIES OM&R	TOTAL	RESOURCES MANAGEMENT	FACILITIES OM&R	TOTAL
COLORADO-BIG THOMPSON PROJECT	207	12,950	13,157	207	12,950	13,157
FRUITGROWERS DAM PROJECT	122	124	246	122	124	246
FRYINGPAN-ARKANSAS PROJECT	274	8,837	9,111	274	8,837	9,111
GRAND VALLEY UNIT, CRBSCP, TITLE II	244	1,713	1,957	244	1,713	1,957
LEADVILLE/ARKANSAS RIVER RECOVERY PROJECT	---	1,987	1,987	---	1,987	1,987
MANCOS PROJECT	119	182	301	119	182	301
NARROWS UNIT, P-SMBP	---	37	37	---	37	37
PARADOX VALLEY UNIT, CRBSCP, TITLE II	108	2,653	2,761	108	2,653	2,761
PINE RIVER PROJECT	202	326	528	202	326	528
SAN LUIS VALLEY PROJECT, CLOSED BASIN	286	3,616	3,902	286	3,616	3,902
SAN LOUIS VALLEY PROJECT, CONEJO DIVISION	21	38	59	21	38	59
UNCOMPAGNE PROJECT	804	191	995	804	191	995
UPPER COLORADO RIVER OPERATIONS PROGRAM	270	---	270	270	---	270
IDAHO						
BOISE AREA PROJECTS	3,237	2,213	5,450	3,237	2,213	5,450
COLUMBIA AND SNAKE RIVER SALMON RECOVERY PROJECT	17,000	---	17,000	17,000	---	17,000
LEWISTON ORCHARDS PROJECTS	425	30	455	425	30	455
MINDOKA AREA PROJECTS	2,451	4,694	7,145	2,451	4,694	7,145
PRESTON BENCH PROJECT	4	8	12	4	8	12
KANSAS						
ALMENA UNIT, P-SMBP	16	492	508	16	492	508
BOSTWICK UNIT, P-SMBP	239	935	1,174	239	935	1,174
CEDAR BLUFF UNIT, P-SMBP	11	638	649	11	638	649
GLEN ELDER UNIT, P-SMBP	25	1,840	1,865	25	1,840	1,865
KANSAS RIVER UNIT, P-SMBP	---	100	100	---	100	100
KIRWIN UNIT, P-SMBP	19	1,369	1,388	19	1,369	1,388
WEBSTER UNIT, P-SMBP	12	2,873	2,885	12	2,873	2,885
WICHITA PROJECT - CHENEY DIVISION	87	458	545	87	458	545
WICHITA PROJECT - EQUUS BEDS DIVISION	50	---	50	50	---	50
MONTANA						
CANYON FERRY UNIT, P-SMBP	246	5,703	5,949	246	5,703	5,949
EAST BENCH UNIT, P-SMBP	202	660	862	202	660	862
FORT PECK RESERVATION / DRY PRAIRIE RURAL WATER SYSTEM	3,249	---	3,249	3,249	---	3,249

WATER AND RELATED RESOURCES  
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST			FINAL BILL		
	RESOURCES	FACILITIES		RESOURCES	FACILITIES	
	MANAGEMENT	OM&R	TOTAL	MANAGEMENT	OM&R	TOTAL
HELENA VALLEY UNIT, P-SMBP	19	163	182	19	163	182
HUNGRY HORSE PROJECT	---	1,014	1,014	---	1,014	1,014
HUNTLEY PROJECT	12	45	57	12	45	57
LOWER MARIAS UNIT, P-SMBP	102	1,622	1,724	102	1,622	1,724
LOWER YELLOWSTONE PROJECT	364	16	380	364	16	380
MILK RIVER PROJECT	548	1,287	1,835	548	1,287	1,835
MISSOURI BASIN O&M, P-SMBP	1,032	269	1,301	1,032	269	1,301
ROCKY BOYS/NORTH CENTRAL MT RURAL WATER SYSTEM	4,059	---	4,059	4,059	---	4,059
SUN RIVER PROJECT	53	256	309	53	256	309
YELLOWTAIL UNIT, P-SMBP	22	7,433	7,455	22	7,433	7,455
NEBRASKA						
AINSWORTH UNIT, P-SMBP	26	138	164	26	138	164
FRENCHMAN-CAMBRIDGE UNIT, P-SMBP	261	2,088	2,349	261	2,088	2,349
MIRAGE FLATS PROJECT	14	116	130	14	116	130
NORTH LOUP UNIT, P-SMBP	52	179	231	52	179	231
NEVADA						
LAHONTAN BASIN PROJECT	5,876	3,925	9,801	5,876	3,925	9,801
LAKE TAHOE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM	115	---	115	115	---	115
LAKE MEAD /LAS VEGAS WASH PROGRAM	775	---	775	775	---	775
NEW MEXICO						
CARLSBAD PROJECT	2,844	1,295	4,139	2,844	1,295	4,139
EASTERN NEW MEXICO RURAL WATER SUPPLY	47	---	47	47	---	47
MIDDLE RIO GRANDE PROJECT	11,009	11,726	22,735	11,009	11,726	22,735
RIO GRANDE PROJECT	1,224	4,182	5,406	1,224	4,182	5,406
RIO GRANDE PUEBLOS PROJECT	650	---	650	650	---	650
TUCUMCARI PROJECT	23	11	34	23	11	34
NORTH DAKOTA						
DICKINSON UNIT, P-SMBP	404	288	692	404	288	692
GARRISON DIVERSION UNIT, P-SMBP	15,502	6,417	21,919	15,502	6,417	21,919
HEART BUTTE UNIT, P-SMBP	6	1,139	1,145	6	1,139	1,145

WATER AND RELATED RESOURCES  
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	MANAGEMENT		OM&R		TOTAL	MANAGEMENT		OM&R		TOTAL
OKLAHOMA										
ARBuckle PROJECT MC GEE CREEK PROJECT MOUNTAIN PARK PROJECT NORMAN PROJECT WASHITA BASIN PROJECT W.C. AUSTIN PROJECT	69	189	258	69	258	189	69	189	258	258
	90	796	886	90	886	796	90	796	886	886
	25	584	609	25	609	584	25	584	609	609
	48	311	359	48	311	359	48	311	359	359
	160	1,058	1,218	160	1,218	1,058	160	1,058	1,218	1,218
	59	631	690	59	690	631	59	631	690	690
OREGON										
CROOKED RIVER PROJECT DESCHUTES PROJECT EASTERN OREGON PROJECTS KLAMATH PROJECT ROGUE RIVER BASIN PROJECT, TALENT DIVISION TUALATIN PROJECT UNMATILLA PROJECT	267	451	718	267	718	451	267	451	718	718
	292	269	561	292	561	269	292	269	561	561
	584	232	816	584	816	232	584	232	816	816
	13,390	4,610	18,000	13,390	18,000	4,610	13,390	4,610	18,000	18,000
	1,527	602	2,129	1,527	2,129	602	1,527	602	2,129	2,129
	130	642	772	130	772	642	130	642	772	772
521	3,161	3,682	521	3,682	3,161	521	3,161	3,682	3,682	
SOUTH DAKOTA										
ANGOSTURA UNIT, P-SMBP BELLE FOURCHE UNIT, P-SMBP KEYHOLE UNIT, P-SMBP LEWIS AND CLARK RURAL WATER SYSTEM MID-DAKOTA RURAL WATER PROJECT MNI WICONI PROJECT OAHE UNIT, P-SMBP RAPID VALLEY PROJECT RAPID VALLEY UNIT, P-SMBP SHADEHILL UNIT, P-SMBP	266	790	1,056	266	1,056	790	266	790	1,056	1,056
	255	685	940	255	940	685	255	685	940	940
	196	558	754	196	754	558	196	558	754	754
	2,432	---	2,432	2,432	2,432	---	2,432	---	2,432	2,432
	---	15	15	---	15	15	---	15	15	15
	---	12,000	12,000	---	12,000	12,000	---	12,000	12,000	12,000
39	55	94	39	94	55	39	55	94	94	
---	92	92	---	92	92	---	92	92	92	
---	223	223	---	223	223	---	223	223	223	
75	511	586	75	511	586	511	75	511	586	586
TEXAS										
BALMORHEA PROJECT CANADIAN RIVER PROJECT LOWER RIO GRANDE WATER CONSERVATION PROGRAM NUJECES RIVER PROJECT SAN ANGELO PROJECT	25	15	40	25	40	15	25	15	40	40
	84	85	169	84	169	85	84	85	169	169
	50	---	50	50	50	---	50	---	50	50
	87	787	874	87	874	787	87	787	874	874
	57	537	594	57	594	537	57	537	594	594



WATER AND RELATED RESOURCES  
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST			FINAL BILL		
	RESOURCES MANAGEMENT	FACILITIES OM&R	TOTAL	RESOURCES MANAGEMENT	FACILITIES OM&R	TOTAL
UTAH						
HYRUM PROJECT	180	173	353	180	173	353
MOON LAKE PROJECT	12	85	97	12	85	97
NEWTON PROJECT	33	94	127	33	94	127
OGDEN RIVER PROJECT	240	262	502	240	262	502
PROVO RIVER PROJECT	1,760	448	1,708	1,760	448	1,708
SANPETE PROJECT	60	11	71	60	11	71
SCOTFIELD PROJECT	406	84	490	406	84	490
STRAWBERRY VALLEY PROJECT	822	100	922	822	100	922
WEBER BASIN PROJECT	1,096	1,111	2,207	1,096	1,111	2,207
WEBER RIVER PROJECT	60	86	146	60	86	146
WASHINGTON						
COLUMBIA BASIN PROJECT	3,875	7,196	11,071	3,875	7,196	11,071
WASHINGTON AREA PROJECTS	565	78	643	565	78	643
YAKIMA PROJECT	806	6,836	7,642	806	6,836	7,642
YAKIMA RIVER BASIN WATER ENHANCEMENT PROJECT	11,000	---	11,000	11,000	---	11,000
WYOMING						
BOYSEN UNIT, P-SMBP	231	1,791	2,022	231	1,791	2,022
BUFFALO BILL DAM DAM MODIFICATION, P-SMBP	32	2,812	2,844	32	2,812	2,844
KENDRICK PROJECT	107	3,582	3,689	107	3,582	3,689
NORTH PLATTE PROJECT	205	2,270	2,475	205	2,270	2,475
NORTH PLATTE AREA, P-SMBP	111	4,886	4,997	111	4,886	4,997
OWL CREEK UNIT, P-SMBP	6	95	101	6	95	101
RIVERTON UNIT, P-SMBP	12	632	644	12	632	644
SHOSHONE PROJECT	72	771	843	72	771	843
SUBTOTAL, PROJECTS	184,115	273,956	458,071	216,115	273,956	490,071
REGIONAL PROGRAMS						
ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR ONGOING WORK	---	---	---	---	---	---
RURAL WATER	---	---	---	31,000	---	31,000
FISH PASSAGE AND FISH SCREENS	---	---	---	4,000	---	4,000
WATER CONSERVATION AND DELIVERY	---	---	---	8,000	---	8,000
ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION AND COMPLIANCE	---	---	---	1,000	---	1,000

WATER AND RELATED RESOURCES  
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST		FINAL BILL	
	RESOURCES MANAGEMENT	FACILITIES OM&R	RESOURCES MANAGEMENT	FACILITIES OM&R
WESTERN DROUGHT RESPONSE	---	---	50,000	---
FACILITIES OPERATION, MAINTENANCE, AND REHABILITATION	---	---	---	---
COLORADO RIVER BASIN SALINITY CONTROL PROJECT, TITLE I	---	12,670	---	2,931
COLORADO RIVER BASIN SALINITY CONTROL PROJECT, TITLE II	---	---	---	12,670
COLORADO RIVER STORAGE PROJECT (CRSP), SECTION 5	6,360	---	6,360	---
COLORADO RIVER STORAGE PROJECT (CRSP), SECTION 8	4,103	5,592	4,103	5,592
COLORADO RIVER WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT	3,088	---	3,088	---
DAM SAFETY PROGRAM:	620	---	620	---
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR DAM SAFETY PROGRAM	---	---	---	---
INITIATE SAFETY OF DAMS CORRECTIVE ACTION	---	1,100	---	1,100
SAFETY EVALUATION OF EXISTING DAMS	---	62,000	---	62,000
EMERGENCY PLANNING & DISASTER RESPONSE PROGRAM	---	19,784	---	19,784
ENDANGERED SPECIES RECOVERY IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM	---	1,250	---	1,250
ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION	22,677	---	22,677	---
EXAMINATION OF EXISTING STRUCTURES	1,736	---	1,736	---
GENERAL PLANNING ACTIVITIES	---	8,989	---	8,989
INDIAN WATER RIGHTS SETTLEMENTS:	2,000	---	2,000	---
AAMODT LITIGATION SETTLEMENT	---	---	---	---
CROW TRIBE RIGHTS	---	---	3,000	---
NAVAJO-GALLUP	---	---	2,000	---
TAOS PUEBLO	---	---	81,000	---
LAND RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PROGRAM	---	---	---	---
LOWER COLORADO RIVER OPERATIONS PROGRAM	9,657	---	9,657	---
MISCELLANEOUS FLOOD CONTROL OPERATIONS	28,345	---	28,345	---
NATIVE AMERICAN AFFAIRS PROGRAM	---	846	---	846
NEGOTIATION & ADMINISTRATION OF WATER MARKETING	8,088	---	8,088	---
OPERATION & PROGRAM MANAGEMENT	1,984	---	1,984	---
POWER PROGRAM SERVICES	951	1,653	951	1,653
PUBLIC ACCESS AND SAFETY PROGRAM	2,193	307	2,193	307
RECLAMATION LAW ADMINISTRATION	657	206	657	206
RECREATION & FISH & WILDLIFE PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION	2,329	---	2,329	---
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT:	2,409	---	2,409	---
DESALINATION AND WATER PURIFICATION PROGRAM	1,753	1,150	1,753	1,150
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM	9,765	---	9,765	---
SITE SECURITY ACTIVITIES	---	26,220	---	26,220
UNITED STATES/MEXICO BORDER ISSUES - TECHNICAL SUPPORT	90	---	90	---
WATERSMART PROGRAM:	---	---	---	---
WATERSMART GRANTS	19,000	---	19,000	---
WATER CONSERVATION FIELD SERVICES PROGRAM	4,457	---	4,457	---
COOPERATIVE WATERSHED MANAGEMENT	250	---	250	---

WATER AND RELATED RESOURCES  
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST			FINAL BILL		
	RESOURCES MANAGEMENT	FACILITIES OM&R	TOTAL	RESOURCES MANAGEMENT	FACILITIES OM&R	TOTAL
BASIN STUDIES	3,850	---	3,850	3,850	---	3,850
DROUGHT RESPONSE & COMPREHENSIVE DROUGHT PLANS	1,500	---	1,500	---	---	---
RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENTS	---	1,500	1,500	---	1,500	1,500
TITLE XVI WATER RECLAMATION & REUSE PROGRAM	21,500	---	21,500	21,500	---	21,500
SUBTOTAL, REGIONAL PROGRAMS	159,362	143,267	302,629	341,862	146,198	488,060
TOTAL, WATER AND RELATED RESOURCES	343,477	417,223	760,700	557,977	420,154	978,131

*Central Valley Project, Friant Division, San Joaquin River Restoration.*—The agreement does not include a separate account for this item. Funding is included in the Water and Related Resources account as a separate line item under the Friant Division of the Central Valley Project.

*Middle Rio Grande, New Mexico.*—The agreement encourages development and implementation of the Water Acquisition Program along the Middle Rio Grande and San Juan Chama Projects and the Physical Habitat Restoration and Management efforts along the San Acacia Reach consistent with fiscal year 2014 activities.

*Scoggins Dam, Tualatin Project, Oregon.*—As part of its Dam Safety Program, Reclamation is working on a Corrective Action Alternatives Study (CAS) for Scoggins Dam, the main feature of the Tualatin Project. Working with local stakeholders, Reclamation is evaluating how water supply objectives, such as increased storage, may be coordinated with CAS implementation. Phase two of the CAS, including appraisal level designs and cost estimates, currently is scheduled to be completed in fiscal year 2016. With that date in mind, Reclamation should submit legislative language to the appropriate congressional committees as soon as it becomes clear such authorization is necessary and advisable so that dam safety work can be addressed concurrently with additional storage capacity.

*Yakima River Basin Water Enhancement Project, Washington.*—The Yakima River Basin Integrated Water Resource Management Plan is recognized as an innovative water management plan representing the culmination of years of collaboration among Yakima Basin stakeholders. The Department of the Interior and the Bureau of Reclamation are encouraged to request funding in future budgets to support additional authorized elements of the Plan. Federal funding should be used in combination with stakeholder funding to ensure continued implementation of a balanced plan including water storage and water supply reliability, habitat and watershed conservation, fish passage, and appropriate land acquisition activities to support agriculture, fish, and municipalities within the Yakima River Basin in Central Washington.

*Additional Funding for Water and Related Resources Work.*—The agreement includes funds in addition to the budget request for Water and Related Resources studies, projects, and activities. Priority in allocating these funds should be given to advance and complete ongoing work; improve water supply reliability; improve water deliveries; enhance national, regional, or local economic development; promote job growth; advance tribal and nontribal water settlement studies and activities; or address critical backlog maintenance and rehabilitation activities. Funding provided under the heading “Western Drought Response” may be allocated to any authorized purposes, but shall be allocated to those activities that will have the most direct, most immediate, and largest impact on extending limited water supplies during current drought conditions. Funding included in the budget request under “Drought Response and Comprehensive Plans” is incorporated into this line item. Reclamation is encouraged to use all available authorities to provide for additional water supplies through conservation, minor changes to the operations of existing projects, drilling emergency wells, or other means authorized under current law. This additional funding may be used alone or in

combination with any other funding provided in a program, project, or activity. For rural water projects, Reclamation shall not use the ability of a non-federal sponsor to contribute funds in excess of the authorized non-federal cost-share as a criterion for prioritizing these funds. Not later than 45 days after enactment of this Act, Reclamation shall provide to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a report delineating how these funds are to be distributed, in which phase the work is to be accomplished, and an explanation of the criteria and rankings used to justify each allocation.

*Indian Water Rights Settlements.*—The agreement includes funds for these activities in the Water and Related Resources account, instead of in a separate account as proposed in the budget request. To maintain the visibility of these projects, the agreement includes the four projects under the Regional Programs heading with a subheading called Indian Water Rights Settlements.

*Buried Metallic Water Pipe.*—Reclamation again is directed to act in a manner consistent with the direction provided in the fiscal year 2012 and 2014 Acts regarding buried metallic water pipe. That direction included, among other things, the requirement for an objective, independently peer-reviewed analysis of pipeline reliability standards. Reclamation is reminded that this study, including all data assembly and analysis must be conducted by an appropriate, independent third-party. Reclamation and its contractors involved in these efforts are expected to protect business-sensitive data that is collected during this process.

*Rural Water.*—Voluntary funding in excess of legally required cost shares for rural water projects is acceptable, but shall not be used by Reclamation as a criterion for budgeting in future years.

*Zebra and Quagga Mussels.*—Reclamation has completed, is working on, and intends to initiate additional invasive mussel vulnerability assessments at numerous federal dams in the Pacific Northwest. Reclamation is encouraged to continue these efforts.

#### CENTRAL VALLEY PROJECT RESTORATION FUND

The agreement provides \$56,995,000 for the Central Valley Project Restoration Fund.

#### CALIFORNIA BAY-DELTA RESTORATION (INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides \$37,000,000 for the California Bay-Delta Restoration Program.

#### POLICY AND ADMINISTRATION

The agreement provides \$58,500,000 for Policy and Administration.

#### BUREAU OF RECLAMATION LOAN PROGRAM ACCOUNT

#### (INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

The agreement includes a rescission of \$500,000 in unobligated balances.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION

The agreement includes a provision limiting the Bureau of Reclamation to purchase not more than five passenger vehicles for replacement only.

#### GENERAL PROVISIONS—DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

The agreement includes a provision outlining the circumstances under which the Bureau of Reclamation may reprogram funds.

The agreement includes a provision regarding the San Luis Unit and Kesterson Reservoir in California.

The agreement includes a provision regarding an authorization of appropriations under the Secure Water Act of 2009.

The agreement includes a technical correction regarding the Reclamation States Emergency Drought Relief Act of 1991.

The agreement includes a provision extending authorization of the CalFed Bay-Delta Authorization Act.

The agreement includes a provision regarding pilot projects in the Colorado River Basin.

#### TITLE III—DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

The agreement provides \$27,916,797,000 for the Department of Energy to fund programs in its five primary mission areas: science, energy, environment, nuclear non-proliferation, and national security.

*Educational Activities.*—The Department is prohibited from funding fellowship and scholarship programs in fiscal year 2015 unless they were included in the budget justification or funded within this agreement. The Department may waive this requirement upon notification to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate of the fellowship or scholarship program to be funded.

*Technology Transfer.*—The Department is encouraged to fill the position of Technology Transfer Coordinator immediately and implement the recommendations of the Department's Office of the Inspector General as stated in the February 2014 Audit Report: Technology Transfer and Commercialization Efforts at the Department of Energy's National Laboratories, OAS-M-14-02. As detailed in the report, the Department is also encouraged to support the finalization of performance metrics and place special emphasis on establishing targets and quantitative metrics that support the growth of U.S. companies. Additionally, the Department is encouraged to take a more forward-looking approach to implementing the Technology Commercialization Fund to enhance the effectiveness of the Department's expenditures.

#### REPROGRAMMING REQUIREMENTS

The agreement carries the Department's reprogramming authority in statute to ensure that the Department carries out its programs consistent with congressional direction. The Department should, when possible, submit consolidated, cumulative notifications to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

*Definition.*—A reprogramming includes the reallocation of funds from one program, project, or activity to another within an appropriation. For construction projects, a reprogramming constitutes the reallocation of funds from one construction project to another project or a change of \$2,000,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less, in the scope of an approved project.

#### ENERGY PROGRAMS

#### ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

#### (INCLUDING TRANSFER AND RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides \$1,936,999,858 in new budget authority for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy and rescinds \$13,064,858 in prior-year unobligated balances. The agreement includes a provision that authorizes the transfer of up to \$45,000,000 to the Defense Production Act Fund.

The Department is encouraged to support continuation of regional research bodies through competitive funding awards with the goal of fostering research collaboration, technology transfer, and commercialization efforts that will lead to increased domestic

production of energy and lower prices for consumers. The Department is further encouraged to examine the feasibility of supplementing the expertise provided by the national laboratories by entering into technical assistance partnerships with non-profit partners to provide affordable grid technology testing and technical assistance to the electric industry to address the variability of renewable power generation.

Unless specifically contravened, the agreement supports grid integration and incubator activities to the extent possible within available funds.

#### SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORTATION

**Vehicle Technologies.**—Within available funds, the agreement provides \$8,000,000 for the SuperTruck program to fulfill existing contracts to support commercialization of truck technologies demonstrated by industry partners. The Department is directed to identify future collaborative research initiatives with the freight industry to improve fuel efficiency in their vehicles. In addition, the Department is directed to provide to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act a report on the industry's adoption rates of new fuel efficient technologies from the SuperTruck program into its manufacturing lines. Within available funds, the agreement provides \$10,000,000 to continue funding of section 131 of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007. The agreement provides no direction for the topline funding levels of the Vehicle and Systems Simulation and Testing, Advanced Combustion Engine Research and Development, Materials Technology, and Fuels and Lubricant Technologies subprograms, rather than the levels specified in the House report.

Shortfalls remain in the research and development of dual-fuel systems that meet the power and reliability requirements for severe heavy duty engines used in some buses, fire trucks, on-highway construction haul trucks, and class 8 long-haul trucks. The Department is directed to continue research and development on dual-fuel activities to address the needs of severe heavy duty engine vehicles. The research should consider whether direct-fuel-injected or dual-fuel-converted diesel engines can provide the necessary horsepower and reliability for safe and efficient long-haul trucking in consideration of the higher temperature exposure of parts and lubricants, in addition to the large onboard fuel storage volume requirements. The research should incorporate highly controlled fleet operations that evaluate the practicality of both dual-fuel systems and gas-to-liquid (GTL) fuel produced directly from natural gas. Since GTL has the potential for broad implementation without changes in truck engine technology or distribution infrastructure, the research should determine the cost, maintenance, and economy of GTL fuels produced directly from natural gas using scalable technology.

**Bioenergy Technologies.**—The agreement provides not less than \$25,000,000 for research and development of biofuels from algae feedstocks and up to \$45,000,000 to support the collaboration among the Navy, the Department of Agriculture, and the Department of Energy to develop innovative technologies for jet and diesel fuels. The agreement provides no direction for the topline funding levels of the Feedstocks, Conversion Technologies, Demonstration and Deployment, and Strategic Analysis and Cross Cutting Sustainability subprograms, rather than the levels specified in the House report.

For purposes of allocating resources, the Department is directed to include biosolids derived from the municipal wastewater treatment and agricultural processes, and other similar renewables, within the definition of noncellulosic. Furthermore, biosolids from wastewater treatment is encouraged as a feedstock for all research, development, and demonstration activities conducted within the available funding. Technologies utilizing biosolids must provide evidence of the potential to reduce the volume of waste materials and reduce greenhouse gas emissions over current uses of this feedstock. The Department is directed to host a stakeholder meeting to discuss the current state of technologies that utilize biosolids and determine the key barriers that need to be overcome to make substantial gains in reduction of greenhouse gases and cost of energy over full-scale operations already in existence globally.

**Hydrogen and Fuel Cells Technologies.**—Within available funds, the agreement provides an additional \$5,000,000 for Technology Validation to conduct testing and analysis of fuel cells as industrial-scale energy storage devices, with validation and testing using full-scale testing and demonstration capabilities. To support this effort, the Department is encouraged to leverage national laboratory, university, and regional stakeholder partnerships and capabilities, including at-scale grid infrastructure, modeling expertise, extreme environment testing capabilities, and public-private partnerships.

The agreement supports the collaborative approach reflected in H2USA and sees it as an important step toward commercialization of fuel cell electric vehicles and the supply chain. With regard to infrastructure, the Department is encouraged to analyze, research, and make suitable investments to transform the size, cost, scalability (including modular stations), and interoperability of new retail hydrogen stations. The Department should also emphasize consumer acceptance to meet the needs of the initial commercial market beginning in 2015, while having the ability to increase the station capacity as commercialization develops. These investments should focus on strategic locations where early market introduction of vehicles is likely to occur.

#### RENEWABLE ENERGY

**Solar Energy.**—Within available funds, the agreement provides \$10,000,000 for the joint Supercritical Transformational Electric Power Generation program with the Offices of Fossil Energy and Nuclear Energy. The agreement further directs the Solar Energy program to provide funding opportunities, as proposed in the budget request, that support U.S. equipment supply chain technology efforts. These efforts will reduce the cost of manufacturing silicon photovoltaic cells by reducing the amount of raw material silicon needed to produce a solar cell while also increasing manufacturing efficiencies by removing manufacturing process steps to produce solar cells. The Department is also encouraged to continue work on systems integration and balance of systems cost areas to reduce costs and ensure that consumers and businesses can yield sustained benefits from distributed solar power installations and their connections to the grid.

The agreement provides no direction for the topline funding levels of the Concentrating Solar Power, Photovoltaic Research and Development, Systems Integration, and Innovations in Manufacturing Competitiveness subprograms, rather than the levels specified in the House report.

**Wind Energy.**—Within available funds, the agreement provides an additional \$5,000,000 to further substantiate the design and economic value proposition of alternate project designs for offshore wind power and up to \$6,400,000 for distributed wind.

**Geothermal Technologies.**—Within available funds, the agreement provides \$32,100,000 for Enhanced Geothermal Systems. For future awards, the full spectrum of geothermal technologies as authorized by the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 shall be eligible for the funds appropriated for Geothermal Technologies by this Act. The Department is also encouraged to continue its support of comprehensive programs that support academic and professional development initiatives.

**Water Power.**—Within available funds, the agreement provides \$41,300,000 for marine and hydrokinetic technologies (MHK) and \$19,200,000 for conventional hydropower. Of the funding provided for conventional hydropower, \$3,960,000 is for the purposes of Section 242 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005.

Of the funding provided for marine and hydrokinetic technologies, no funding is available for the incubator program or the clean energy manufacturing initiative. The Department is directed to continue ongoing consultations with the marine and hydrokinetic energy industry on research, development, and demonstration priorities and ensure that related programs by the national laboratories support industry-driven technology advancement projects. The agreement further directs the Department to continue marine hydrokinetic wave testing infrastructure development work, including preliminary development of an open water, fully energetic wave energy test facility. The Department is encouraged to coordinate closely with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration, other relevant agencies, and industry to reduce the amount of time to permit MHK test and demonstration projects. Further, within available funding for marine and hydrokinetic technologies, the Department is encouraged to support activities to develop advanced systems and component technologies to increase energy capture, reliability, and survivability for lower costs, and to assess and monitor environmental effects.

#### ENERGY EFFICIENCY

**Advanced Manufacturing.**—Within available funds, the agreement provides not less than \$4,205,000 for improvements in the steel industry and \$79,000,000 for Next Generation Manufacturing Research and Development Projects, of which \$6,000,000 is for incubator activities and \$3,000,000 is for a competitive solicitation for universities and industry to help bridge the gap between laboratory research and marketplace deployment of nanostructured metals. The agreement supports \$25,000,000 for the fourth year of funding for the Critical Materials Energy Innovation Hub and \$56,000,000 for four Clean Energy Manufacturing Institutes.

The Department is directed to submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate not later than 120 days after enactment of this Act a report that provides metrics-based performance measures to assess the effectiveness of existing institutes in achieving the goals of the Clean Energy Manufacturing Initiative, including criteria to assess each institute's progress in becoming self-sufficient after the award term ends by relying exclusively on non-federal funding sources, the

benefit of each institute, and specific milestones and objectives over the period of the award term. In awarding new institutes, the Department shall conduct an open solicitation and a competitive, merit-based review process and shall include metrics-based performance measures and milestones as part of each award. Should it propose funding for new institutes in the future, the Department shall include in each budget justification the potential specific research topics associated with the proposed institutes, which will provide Congress with the necessary transparency to evaluate and prioritize funding to ensure that only highly-effective centers closely aligned with the Advanced Manufacturing program missions are funded.

**Building Technologies.**—Within available funds, the agreement provides \$25,800,000 for solid state lighting research and development and includes no further direction within the Emerging Technologies subprogram. Within the Residential Buildings Integration subprogram, the Department is encouraged to engage stakeholders, including the existing home performance industry and weatherization network, for the purpose of developing policy recommendations that could lead to a new residential energy efficiency retrofit program supporting all residential buildings and income levels.

The agreement provides no direction for topline funding levels of the Commercial Buildings Integration, Residential Buildings Integration, Emerging Technologies, and Equipment and Buildings Standards subprograms, rather than the levels specified in the House report.

**Weatherization Assistance Program.**—The Department is urged to continue working with implementing agencies at the State level to ensure that independent, third-party audits are conducted and results are shared with the relevant parties. Worker training should continue, but contractors repeatedly failing to perform adequately should be disqualified from future work.

#### ELECTRICITY DELIVERY AND ENERGY RELIABILITY

The agreement provides \$147,306,000 for Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability, of which \$8,000,000 shall be for the Operational Energy and Resilience program to support construction of the Energy Resilience and Operations Center within the Department's Washington, D.C. headquarters.

Within available funds, the agreement provides \$5,000,000 to continue development of the industry-scale electric grid test bed and up to \$7,000,000 for the Energy Systems Predictive Capability activity. Within Energy Systems Predictive Capability and Advanced Modeling Grid Research, the Department is directed to consider an expanded scope of projects, in addition to response to energy supply disruption, and to include university and industry teams for research and workforce development. Within Cyber Security for Energy Delivery Systems, the Department is encouraged to expand collaborative efforts and increase the deployment of analytical and security tools with industry partners to increase overall resilience of the grid.

The Department is further encouraged to consider expanding research and development partnerships, including related to the development and deployment of microgrids, with stakeholders in diverse geographic regions with unique market dynamics and policy challenges that can help to inform nationwide efforts to improve grid resiliency, reliability, security, and integration of a broad range of generation sources.

#### NUCLEAR ENERGY

##### (INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides \$913,500,000 in new budget authority for nuclear energy activities and rescinds \$80,000,000 in prior-year unobligated balances, of which \$62,000,000 shall be derived from non-Program Direction funding and \$18,000,000 shall be derived from Program Direction funding. The agreement includes no funding derived from the Nuclear Waste Fund.

The Department is directed to provide support for reconvening a nuclear working group among national laboratories to foster collaboration and identification of nuclear capabilities. As part of the update to the Nuclear Research, Development, and Demonstration (RD&D) Roadmap, the Secretary is directed to solicit input from, and collaborate with, the nuclear working group to recommend a plan to integrate the missions and expertise of the national laboratories to accomplish the RD&D goals of the updated roadmap.

**Nuclear Energy Enabling Technologies.**—Within available funds, \$24,300,000 is available for the Modeling and Simulation Energy Innovation Hub upon completion by the Office of Nuclear Energy of an internal peer review of the first five-year term; a determination to extend the hub, together with the benefit of the extension and specific milestones and objectives over the period of the extension; and notification of and approval by the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate. The agreement also provides \$36,500,000 for the National Science User Facility, of which funding above the request is to complete the installation of advanced post-irradiation examination equipment at the Irradiated Materials Characterization Laboratory.

**SMR Licensing Technical Support Program.**—The agreement provides \$54,500,000 for the Small Modular Reactor (SMR) Licensing Technical Support Program, all of which shall be to support the second award for an SMR design. Prior-year funds shall be available for site permitting and related licensing activities to support the continued development of small modular reactor technologies previously selected under this program.

**Reactor Concepts Research and Development.**—Within available funds, the agreement provides \$98,000,000 for Advanced Reactor Concepts, of which \$33,000,000 is for research of the fuel and graphite qualification program for the High Temperature Gas Reactor previously funded under the Next Generation Nuclear Plant line. The agreement accepts the Department's proposal to consolidate Advanced Small Modular Reactor Research and Development within Advanced Reactor Concepts and directs all other activities not specified in the House report within Advanced Reactor Concepts be supported to the extent possible within available funds. The Department is directed to focus funding within Reactor Concepts Research and Development on technologies that show clear potential to be safer, less waste producing, more cost competitive, and more proliferation-resistant than existing nuclear power technologies.

**Fuel Cycle Research and Development.**—Within available funds, the agreement provides \$60,100,000 for the Advanced Fuels program to continue implementation of accident tolerant fuels development, of which \$12,000,000 is for additional support of feasibility studies for accident tolerant light water reactor fuels; \$5,000,000 is for additional support of capability development of transient testing, including test design and

validation data for reactor modeling; \$10,000,000 is for the development and qualification of meltdown-resistant fuels based on ceramic-compacted coated particles; and \$3,000,000 is for the advancement of promising and innovative research, including ceramic cladding and other technologies, emanating from qualified and competitively selected small business research task awards that complement the three major industry and university projects and are focused on the development and testing of accident tolerant fuels. Not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act, the Department shall provide the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a report detailing the results achieved in developing accident tolerant fuels and the expected milestones to achieving in-reactor testing and utilization by 2020.

The agreement provides \$71,500,000 for Used Nuclear Fuel Disposition, of which \$49,000,000 is for research and development activities, as requested, and \$22,500,000 is for integrated waste management system activities. Within funds provided for integrated waste management system activities, \$3,000,000 shall be to design, procure, and test industry-standard compliant rail rolling stock.

**Supercritical Transformational Electric Power Research and Development.**—Within available funds, the Department shall gather information and engage industry to develop an effective solicitation for a public-private cost-shared supercritical carbon dioxide demonstration program, including support for a Request for Information, conceptual design, and cost estimation. Any remaining funding shall be for additional support of the research and development of supercritical carbon dioxide technologies within the nuclear energy program.

**Radiological Facilities Management.**—Within available funds, the agreement provides \$20,000,000 for hot cells at Oak Ridge National Laboratory and directs the Office of Nuclear Energy to work with the Office of Science to demonstrate a commitment to operation and maintenance of these capabilities that support multiple critical missions in future budget requests.

**Idaho Facilities Management.**—The agreement provides funding above the budget request for Idaho Facilities Management, to include an additional \$5,000,000 for nuclear facility and support systems major maintenance; \$2,000,000 for Advanced Test Reactor (ATR) safety margin improvement electrical distribution; \$6,000,000 for transient testing scope acceleration and risk reduction; \$4,000,000 for ATR evaporation pond liner replacement; and \$3,000,000 for the replacement of windows, manipulators, and process equipment at the Hot Fuel Examination Facility.

#### FOSSIL ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

The agreement provides \$571,000,000 for Fossil Energy Research and Development. The Department is directed to submit not later than 180 days after enactment of this Act a comprehensive program plan and research and development roadmap for the Office of Fossil Energy.

The Department is encouraged to assess the technical landscape of innovative, commercial-scale gas-to-liquid technology development that is not based on the traditional Fischer-Tropsch technology, is less capital intensive than Fischer-Tropsch technology, and can be developed in smaller units that can be deployed in locations where excessive natural gas is being flared to convert that natural gas to liquid transportation fuel.

**Coal Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) and Power Systems.**—Within available funds, the

agreement includes funding for the Department of Energy's National Carbon Capture Center consistent with the budget request. To the extent possible within available funds, the Department is directed to support the joint industrial scale integrated energy systems research and development effort with the Offices of Nuclear Energy and Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy.

Within Carbon Capture, the agreement includes \$76,000,000 for post-combustion capture systems, of which funding above the request is for additional support of bench-scale and pilot projects. Within Advanced Energy Systems, the agreement provides \$30,000,000 for Solid Oxide Fuel Cells; \$28,000,000 for Advanced Combustion Systems, of which funding above the request is for additional support of pressure gain reduction, chemical looping, and pressurized combustion technologies and projects; and \$25,000,000 for Gasification Systems, of which \$8,000,000 is for the Advanced Air Separation Program to continue activities improving advanced air separation technologies. Within Cross Cutting Research, the agreement provides \$24,000,000 for Coal Utilization Science. Within National Energy Technology Laboratory Coal Research and Development, the agreement provides \$15,000,000 above the budget request for the Department to continue its activities to economically recover rare earth elements from coal and coal byproduct streams, such as fly ash, coal refuse, and aqueous effluents. Within the Supercritical Transformational Electric Power Generation program, the agreement provides funding for additional support of supercritical carbon dioxide technologies within the fossil energy program.

*Natural Gas Technologies.*—Within available funds, the agreement provides \$15,000,000 for ongoing methane hydrates research and development, including characterization of deep water hydrates, the assessment of the potential impact of hydrate development on climate, and the characterization of Arctic offshore hydrates, and \$10,121,000 for collaborative research and development regarding hydraulic fracturing, to include \$3,100,000 for the Department to continue the Risk Based Data Management System. Any funding in the area of hydraulic fracturing, including funding to support the proposed joint effort with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the United States Geological Survey (USGS), is for research into hydraulic fracturing technologies that aims both to improve the economics and recoverability of reserves and to address the health, safety, and environmental risks of shale gas extraction. Together with EPA and USGS, the Department of Energy is directed to submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate not later than 180 days after enactment of this Act an interagency detailed research plan, to include the proposed length of a collaborative study regarding hydraulic fracturing, out-year budget costs, and specific milestones and objectives.

*Unconventional Technologies.*—The agreement provides \$4,500,000, of which up to \$500,000 shall be for the Department to assess the technical landscape of scalable energy conversion technologies as specified in the House report.

#### NAVAL PETROLEUM AND OIL SHALE RESERVES

The agreement provides \$19,950,000 for the operation of the Naval Petroleum and Oil Shale Reserves.

#### ELK HILLS SCHOOL LANDS FUND

The agreement provides \$15,579,815 for the final payment of the settlement agreement.

#### STRATEGIC PETROLEUM RESERVE

The agreement provides \$200,000,000 for the Strategic Petroleum Reserve. The Department has continued to ignore the statutory directive in Public Law 111-8 to submit to the Congress by April 27, 2009, a report regarding the effects of expanding the Reserve on the domestic petroleum market. The Department has not yet submitted the report, and continues to fail to meet other congressionally mandated deadlines without explanation or cause. Although now more than five years delayed, the information requested in the report continues to be pertinent to policy decisions, and the Secretary is directed to submit the report as directed in Section 315 of this Act.

#### NORTHEAST HOME HEATING OIL RESERVE (INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides \$7,600,000 in new budget authority for the Northeast Home Heating Oil Reserve. The agreement also includes a rescission of prior-year unobligated balances of \$6,000,000, resulting in a net appropriation of \$1,600,000.

#### ENERGY INFORMATION ADMINISTRATION

The agreement provides \$117,000,000 for the Energy Information Administration.

#### NON-DEFENSE ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANUP

The agreement provides \$246,000,000 for Non-Defense Environmental Cleanup.

*Small Sites.*—The agreement provides \$80,049,000. Within these funds, \$20,000,000 shall be available for design and construction of security upgrades at Fort St. Vrain, for the cleanup of existing contamination and improvement of seismic standards of buildings at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, and for the cleanup of outstanding Department of Energy liabilities at the Southwest Experimental Fast Oxide Reactor. To the extent possible within available funds, the Department should take advantage of near-term opportunities to realize lifecycle cost savings by accelerating completion of ongoing small sites.

*Fort St. Vrain.*—Instead of direction in the House report, the Department is directed to report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate not later than 180 days of enactment of this Act on the costs of continuing to store spent nuclear fuel at Fort St. Vrain and other Department locations, and on options for consolidating inventories of all defense-related wastes, spent nuclear fuel, and special nuclear material at one or more private sector or Government sites to reduce ongoing maintenance, operations, and security costs. The Department is further directed to provide to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a project data sheet for security upgrades at Fort St. Vrain prior to the use of funds for construction.

#### URANIUM ENRICHMENT DECONTAMINATION AND DECOMMISSIONING FUND

The agreement provides \$625,000,000 for activities funded from the Uranium Enrichment Decontamination and Decommissioning Fund.

*Reporting Requirement.*—The Department is directed to provide to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act a report that describes the status of the Uranium Enrichment Decontamination and Decommissioning Fund and provides an update of cleanup progress by site since the last report submitted to satisfy requirements of Section 1805 of the Atomic Energy Act. The report shall include

a general schedule of milestones and costs required to complete the mission at each site within the current lifecycle cost estimates. In addition, the report shall provide an updated timeline and shall explain the cost and schedule assumptions in the current lifecycle cost estimates for Paducah to reflect the Department's assumption of responsibility for the process buildings in fiscal year 2015.

#### SCIENCE

The agreement provides \$5,071,000,000 for the Office of Science. The agreement includes legislative language restricting cash contributions to the International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (ITER) Organization pending implementation of the Third Biennial International Organization Management Assessment Report recommendations.

*Advanced Scientific Computing Research.*—Within available funds, the agreement provides \$91,000,000 for the exascale initiative, \$104,317,000 for the Oak Ridge Leadership Computing Facility, \$80,320,000 for the Argonne Leadership Computing Facility, \$75,605,000 for the National Energy Research Scientific Computing Center at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, and up to \$3,000,000 for the Computational Sciences Graduate Fellowship program. Should the Department wish to continue the Computational Sciences Graduate Fellowship program, the Office of Science is directed to include it in future budget submissions within Advanced Scientific Computing Research.

*Basic Energy Sciences.*—The Office of Science is directed to work with the Office of Nuclear Energy to demonstrate a commitment to operation and maintenance of nuclear facilities at Oak Ridge National Laboratory that support multiple critical missions in future budget requests. Within available funds, the agreement provides up to \$100,000,000 for Energy Frontier Research Centers.

For materials science and engineering research, the agreement provides \$371,000,000, of which \$24,175,000 is for the third year of the Batteries and Energy Storage Innovation Hub, \$10,000,000 is for the Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research, and \$8,000,000 is for computational materials science. For chemical sciences, geosciences, and biosciences, the agreement provides \$307,103,000, of which up to \$15,000,000 is available for the Fuels from Sunlight Innovation Hub upon completion by the Office of Science of an internal peer review of the first five-year term; a determination to extend the hub, together with the benefit of the extension and specific milestones and objectives over the period of extension; and notification of and approval by the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

In lieu of previous direction for scientific user facilities, the agreement provides \$916,397,000, of which \$804,948,000 is for facilities operations. The agreement supports the budget request's proposal to terminate the Office of Science-operated user program at the Lujan Neutron Scattering Center at Los Alamos National Laboratory and provides \$2,000,000 to transition instruments and materials to safe storage conditions.

*Biological and Environmental Research.*—Within available funds, the agreement provides \$75,000,000 for the third year of the second five-year term of the three BioEnergy Research Centers, \$45,501,000 for the operation of the Environmental Molecular Sciences Lab at Pacific Northwest National Lab, and no funding for a new initiative on climate model development and validation.

**Fusion Energy Sciences.**—The agreement accepts the new proposed budget structure for fusion energy sciences and provides funding accordingly. Unless specifically contravened in this agreement, references in the House report using the old budget structure shall stand. The agreement further directs the Office of Science to submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate not later than 180 days after enactment of this Act a report on the contribution of fusion energy sciences to scientific discovery and the development and deployment of new technologies beyond possible applications in fusion energy.

Within available funds, the agreement provides not less than \$70,220,000 for the National Spherical Torus Experiment, not less than \$79,950,000 for DIII-D, and not less than \$22,260,000 for Alcator C-Mod. The Office of Science is advised that fiscal year 2016 will be the final year of funding for Alcator C-Mod, consistent with the Fusion Energy Sciences Advisory Committee strategic planning and priorities report under all budget scenarios, and is directed to plan for an orderly shutdown following fiscal year 2016. The Office of Science is further directed to seek community engagement on the strategic planning and priorities report through a series of scientific workshops on research topics that would benefit from a review of recent progress, would have potential for broadening connections between the fusion energy sciences portfolio and related fields, and would identify scientific research opportunities. The Department is directed to submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate not later than 180 days after enactment of this Act a report on its community engagement efforts.

The agreement provides \$216,062,000 for burning plasma science foundations, \$38,956,000 for burning plasma science long pulse, and \$59,682,000 for discovery plasma science. In addition to these funds, the agreement provides \$2,500,000 to continue high energy density laboratory plasma science at the Neutralized Drift Compression Experiment-II and \$300,000 for the National Undergraduate Fellowship Program to support the study of plasma physics.

The agreement provides \$150,000,000 for ITER, of which not less than \$125,000,000 is for in-kind hardware contributions and up to \$25,000,000 is for cash contributions to the ITER Organization.

**High Energy Physics.**—Within available funds, the agreement provides \$22,000,000 for the Long Baseline Neutrino Experiment (LBNE) and its alternatives, to include \$10,000,000 for research and development and \$12,000,000 for project engineering and design activities. The agreement includes no funding for long-lead procurements or construction activities for the LBNE project. The agreement also includes \$15,000,000 for Homestake Mine and \$23,000,000 to support superconducting radio frequency accelerator research, development, facilities, and infrastructure.

For energy frontier experimental physics, the agreement provides \$147,584,000. For intensity frontier experimental physics, the agreement provides \$264,949,000, of which \$43,970,000 is for projects, to include \$20,000,000 for future projects research and development, and shifts funding for superconducting operations to advanced technology research and development. For cosmic frontier experimental physics, the agreement provides \$105,545,000, of which \$41,878,000 is for projects. Prior to the execu-

tion of \$6,878,000 for dark matter, dark energy, and cosmic microwave background experiments, the Office of Science shall submit a spend plan to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate. The agreement provides no direction for research or facility operations and experimental support within the intensity frontier and cosmic frontier subprograms, rather than the levels specified in the House report.

For other subprograms within high energy physics, the agreement provides \$59,274,000 for theoretical and computational physics; \$120,366,000 for advanced technology research and development, of which \$45,772,000 is for general accelerators; and \$10,000,000 for accelerator stewardship.

**Nuclear Physics.**—Within available funds, the agreement provides \$150,892,000 for medium energy nuclear physics, of which \$97,050,000 is for operations at 12 GeV Continuous Electron Beam Accelerator Facility at Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility; \$199,966,000 for heavy ion nuclear physics, of which \$166,072,000 is for Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider operations at Brookhaven National Laboratory; and \$17,541,000 for operation of the Argonne Tandem Linac Accelerator System.

**Science Laboratories Infrastructure.**—Within available funds, the agreement provides an additional \$3,000,000 to de-inventory New Brunswick Laboratory below the Hazard Category 3 threshold, as well as any follow-on work to remove remaining material and unneeded equipment.

**Program Direction.**—The agreement provides no funding, including for salaries and benefits and travel, to support the Under Secretary for Science and Energy.

#### ADVANCED RESEARCH PROJECTS AGENCY—ENERGY

The agreement provides \$280,000,000 for the Advanced Research Projects Agency—Energy.

#### TITLE 17—INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY LOAN GUARANTEE PROGRAM

The agreement provides \$42,000,000 for administrative expenses for the Title 17 Innovative Technology Loan Guarantee Program. This amount is offset by estimated revenues of \$25,000,000, resulting in a net appropriation of \$17,000,000.

Recent reviews of the loan program by DOE's Office of the Inspector General and the Government Accountability Office (GAO) have shown progress in the loan program's implementation of recommendations to improve the program's administration and oversight, but several important deficiencies remain. In particular, the speed at which the loan program is finalizing the actions taken to address the deficiencies in the program's administration is unsatisfactory. Concerns persist about the continued lack of comprehensive policies for oversight and monitoring risk of existing loan guarantees. The Department is directed to provide to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate not later than 60 days after enactment of this Act a report responding to the recommendations from GAO-14-367, including a plan for fully complying with its credit review, compliance, and reporting functions.

The Department is directed to report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate not later than 30 days after enactment of this Act on the status of the Cape Wind conditional commitment, including an update on ongoing litigation and the risks this litiga-

tion poses to the success of the project. The Department shall update this report quarterly through fiscal year 2016.

#### ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY VEHICLES MANUFACTURING LOAN PROGRAM

The agreement provides \$4,000,000 for the Advanced Technology Vehicles Manufacturing Loan Program.

#### CLEAN COAL TECHNOLOGY

##### (INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

The agreement rescinds \$6,600,000 from the Clean Coal Technology Program.

#### DEPARTMENTAL ADMINISTRATION

The agreement provides \$245,142,000 for Departmental Administration, of which up to \$1,670,000 is for salaries and expenses for the Office of the Under Secretary for Science and Energy. The Department is directed to request funding for this office under Departmental Administration in fiscal year 2016 and subsequent years to increase transparency.

#### OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

The agreement provides \$40,500,000 for the Office of the Inspector General.

#### ATOMIC ENERGY DEFENSE ACTIVITIES NATIONAL NUCLEAR SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

The agreement provides \$11,407,295,000 for the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA). Instead of restrictions in the House report regarding contractor defined benefit pension plan payments above requirements, the Department is directed to notify the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate of the amounts paid that are above the minimum required contribution and the percent funded status of each plan if payments above the minimum required contribution are anticipated to be made in fiscal year 2015.

#### WEAPONS ACTIVITIES

##### (INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides \$8,231,770,000 for Weapons Activities. The agreement rescinds \$45,113,000 in funds not apportioned to the Department of Energy in fiscal year 2013 and fiscal year 2014.

**Directed Stockpile Work.**—The agreement provides \$2,692,588,000. The agreement includes \$176,615,934 within Stockpile Systems and \$58,407,000 within Stockpile Services for surveillance.

The NNSA is directed to work with the Nuclear Weapons Council and the military services to update the procedures governing nuclear weapons refurbishments prior to submitting future warhead refurbishment proposals that would integrate Air Force and Navy systems in order to better define joint military requirements and to ensure that Air Force and Navy programs and resources are appropriately aligned. The NNSA is directed to provide to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate not later than 30 days after enactment of this Act a report that describes the interagency plan for revising and updating the joint Phase 6.x warhead acquisition process.

The NNSA is directed to submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate not later than 120 days after enactment of this Act a report on the options available to avoid a dismantlement workload gap in the mid-2020s while still meeting the 2022 dismantlement goal.

**Cruise Missile Warhead life extension study.**—The agreement provides \$9,418,000 to commence a Phase 6.1 Concept Study for a cruise



missile warhead life extension. The NNSA is expected to fully adhere to the fiscal year 2012 Act reporting requirements that direct the NNSA to provide a report on the military requirements and preliminary cost and schedule estimates for a life extension effort at the commencement of Phase 6.2a Design Definition and Cost Study, should those activities be requested in future budget requests. The NNSA is directed to promptly submit its required report regarding its Phase 6.1 Concept Study activities.

*Research and Development Certification and Safety.*—The agreement provides \$160,000,000. The agreement does not include a prohibition on exploratory development activities that support early life extension and other stockpile stewardship activities in the House report.

*Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation (RDT&E).*—The agreement provides \$1,766,191,000 for the NNSA's research, development, test, and evaluation activities previously referred to as Campaigns.

*Science.*—The agreement provides \$412,091,000. Within these funds, \$8,000,000 is to support the Dynamic Compression Sector at the Advanced Photon Source at Argonne National Laboratory. Within funds for Ad-

vanced Radiography, \$21,000,000 is for the design of new radiography capabilities at Ula.

*Inertial Confinement Fusion and High Yield.*—The agreement provides \$512,895,000. Within these funds, \$68,000,000 is for Omega at the University of Rochester and \$329,000,000 is for the National Ignition Facility (NIF). The NNSA is directed to provide to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act an assessment on whether the likelihood of achieving ignition at the NIF has increased since December 2012 and the level of confidence that the NNSA will achieve ignition at the NIF by December 2015.

*Advanced Simulation and Computing.*—The agreement provides \$598,000,000. Within these funds, \$50,000,000 is for activities associated with the exascale initiative.

*Advanced Manufacturing Development.*—The agreement provides \$107,200,000 to develop, demonstrate, and utilize advanced technologies that are needed to enhance the NNSA's secure manufacturing capabilities and to ensure timely support for the production of nuclear weapons and other critical national security components as described in the House report. Instead of specific funding

allocations directed in the House report, the agreement includes \$12,600,000 for Additive Manufacturing, \$75,000,000 for Component Manufacturing Development, and \$19,600,000 for Process Technology Development.

The NNSA is directed to provide to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate not later than 120 days after enactment of this Act a ten-year strategic plan for using additive manufacturing to reduce costs at NNSA production facilities while meeting stringent qualification requirements.

*Readiness in Technical Base and Facilities.*—The agreement provides \$2,033,400,000. The NNSA is directed to submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate not later than 120 days after enactment of this Act a ten-year strategic plan that would reduce the deferred maintenance backlog below fiscal year 2014 baseline levels and dispose of unneeded facilities.

*Recapitalization.*—The agreement provides \$224,600,000. The allocation for projects and activities within Recapitalization is shown in the following table:

NATIONAL NUCLEAR SECURITY ADMINISTRATION - RECAPITALIZATION  
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	FINAL BILL
SPACE EXPANSION, KCP	12,000
PCB EQUIPMENT CLEANUP	7,000
ENVIRONMENTAL TESTING CAPABILITY INVESTMENTS (ARMAG), LANL	5,100
LANSCAPE REFURBISHMENT, LANL	8,500
TA-55 WET VACUUM MATERIAL HANDLING SYSTEM REPLACEMENT, LANL	1,500
ELECTRIC PANEL REPLACEMENTS, LANL	1,200
EQUATION OF STATE FACILITIES MODERNIZATION, LANL	1,000
TA-55 SEISMIC SAFETY MITIGATION, LANL	1,000
CMR CLOSURE RISK REDUCTION, LANL	300
COLLECTION VAULT ALARMS OPERABLE, LANL	1,100
REVERSE OSMOSIS INSTALLATION, RLWTF, LANL	2,500
SAFETY BASIS IMPLEMENTATION, AREA G SOLID WASTE FACILITY, LANL	500
IHE QUALIFICATION CAPABILITIES RECAPITALIZATION, LLNL	1,500
JIG BORER, LLNL	2,600
VERSON HYDRO-FORM PRESS, LLNL	2,400
WARHEAD COMPONENT TEST AND ANALYSIS UPGRADES, LLNL	14,000
B131 CHILLER REPLACEMENT, LLNL	640
B332 MCC REPLACEMENT, LLNL	1,400
DAF ELECTRICAL & CONTROL SYSTEMS, NNSS	1,000
DAF FIRE LEAD-INS, NNSS	10,000
DAF LINAC, NNSS	1,100
U1A FIRE PROTECTION INSTALLATION, NNSS	1,500
CSI - HILL 200 ELECTRICAL REPLACEMENTS, NNSS	1,500
U1A SUBCRITICAL SUPPORT INVESTMENTS, NNSS	3,200
ELECTRICAL/MECHANICAL UPGRADES, BUILDING 12-75, PX	600
VACUUM CHAMBER UPGRADES, PX	7,000
NUCLEAR SAFETY CULTURE WORKPLACE IMPROVEMENTS, PX	2,000
BAY AND CELL SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS, PX	11,400
ELECTRICAL/MECHANICAL UPGRADES, BUILDING 12-126, PX	9,200
LIGHTNING PROTECTION SYSTEM EVALUATION, MAA FACILITIES, PX	800
ROOF BETTERMENTS, PX	2,200
FACILITY MODIFICATIONS FOR B61, PX	4,200
SILICON FABRICATION REVITALIZATION, SNL	5,000
BATTERY TEST FACILITY, SNL	4,900
03-57 UTILITY TOWER ADDITION, SNL	6,300
TTR MAIN DISTRIBUTION HUB UPGRADE, SNL	1,400
B905 ADDITION AND RENOVATION, SNL	9,200
B894 POWER SUPPLIES SUSTAINMENT, SNL	600
B870 NEUTRON GENERATOR PRODUCTION REFURBISHMENTS, SNL	3,400
234-7H AHU REPLACEMENT, SRS	2,200
OXYGEN MONITOR REPLACEMENTS, SRS	800
HANM RESERVOIR FINISHING RELOCATION, SRS	100
HYDROBURST RELOCATION, SRS	2,900
RESERVOIR VAULT STORAGE RELOCATION, SRS	2,000
UNLOADING STATION B MODIFICATIONS, SRS	5,500
BLDG 9212 SPRINKLER HEAD REPLACEMENT, Y-12	2,000
ROOF BETTERMENTS, Y-12	3,000
CEILING CONCRETE MITIGATION, Y-12	3,000
UTILITY UPGRADES, Y-12	9,000
9119 AUDITORIUM WORKPLACE IMPROVEMENTS, Y-12	2,000
SUBTOTAL, PROJECTS LISTED UNDER RECAPITALIZATION	183,240

NATIONAL NUCLEAR SECURITY ADMINISTRATION - RECAPITALIZATION	
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)	
	FINAL BILL
REMAINING ITEMS	
PLANNING AND ASSESSMENTS	29,960
CONSTRUCTION, OTHER PROJECT COSTS	6,400
DEMOLITION AND DECOMMISSIONING	5,000
SUBTOTAL, REMAINING ITEMS	41,360
TOTAL, RECAPITALIZATION	224,600

*Uranium Processing Facility, Y-12 National Security Complex.*—The agreement provides \$335,000,000. The agreement does not include a restriction on the use of funds for construction prior to achieving 90 percent design. Upon completion of a conceptual design for the project that incorporates the Red Team recommendations, the NNSA shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a report that describes the preliminary project execution plan, including any tailoring strategy to break project milestones into smaller projects with distinct performance baselines. The report shall also include an updated cost range for the revised project design that has been independently reviewed by the Department of Energy's Office of Engineering and Construction Management.

*Nuclear Counterterrorism Incident Response.*—The agreement provides \$177,940,000. Within this amount, \$142,577,000 is for emergency response activities to fully support the ninth stabilization city and \$14,850,000 is for Operations Support to address improvements for the Department of Energy's Emergency Operations Center.

*Site Stewardship.*—The agreement provides \$76,531,000. Within these funds, \$14,531,000 is provided for the Minority Serving Institution Partnerships Program.

*Defense Nuclear Security.*—The agreement provides \$636,123,000. Within funds for physical security systems, up to \$5,000,000 may be used to procure advanced security technologies for the Y-12 National Security Complex and the Pantex Plant.

*Domestic Uranium Enrichment Research, Development, and Demonstration.*—The agreement provides \$97,200,000. The agreement provides funds to maintain centrifuges in standby and to conduct further analysis of enriched uranium and tritium needs. The Department is directed to conduct an interagency bottoms-up reevaluation of the active and reserve tritium stockpile requirements and provide a certification from the Nuclear Weapons Council as directed by the House report. Instead of the analysis of process technologies in the House report, the agreement includes a general provision that prohibits the use of funds in fiscal year 2015 to build centrifuges for enriched uranium production and requires an accounting of nuclear material available to meet defense needs and a cost-benefit analysis of domestic uranium enrichment options.

#### DEFENSE NUCLEAR NONPROLIFERATION (INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides \$1,641,369,000 for Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation. The agreement rescinds \$24,731,000 in funds not apportioned to the Department of Energy in fiscal year 2013 and fiscal year 2014.

*Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation Research and Development.*—The agreement provides \$393,401,000. Within these funds, the agreement provides \$66,900,000 for the National Center for Nuclear Security and additional funds to accelerate efforts to develop the next generation of warhead monitoring technologies, improve low-yield nuclear test detection capabilities, and deploy long-range remote monitoring technologies for plutonium and uranium production detection. The NNSA is directed to conduct a joint assessment with the Department of Defense on the continued need to deploy space-based sensors for atmospheric testing and provide the results to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate not later than 120 days after enactment of this Act.

*International Material Protection and Cooperation (IMP&C).*—The agreement provides

\$270,911,000. Within these funds, the agreement provides \$148,000,000 for the Second Line of Defense Program to complete installation of fixed detection equipment at vulnerable border crossings, airports, and small seaports in Ukraine, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Romania, Belarus, and Jordan and expand work in high threat areas in the Middle East. The agreement does not include \$66,900,000 requested within IMP&C for projects in Russia. No funds may be used for the Multiple Integrated Laser Engagement System for Russia.

*Mixed Oxide (MOX) Fuel Fabrication Facility, Savannah River.*—The agreement provides \$345,000,000 for continued construction of the MOX Fuel Fabrication Facility, including Other Project Costs. The agreement includes statutory language that prohibits the NNSA from using funds to place the project in cold standby in fiscal year 2015. Instead of the reporting requirements in the House report, the NNSA is directed to submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate not later than 120 days after enactment of this Act an independently-verified lifecycle cost estimate for the option to complete construction and operate the MOX facility and the option to downblend and dispose of the material in a repository.

*Global Threat Reduction Initiative (GTRI).*—The agreement provides \$325,752,000. Within these funds, the agreement provides \$36,600,000 for international material protection to complete additional security upgrades at research reactor and radiological buildings, including facilities in Turkey and Algeria that have Category 1 source materials. Also within funds for GTRI, the agreement provides \$67,987,000 for domestic material protection to help meet the goal of securing all buildings in the U.S. with Category 1 source materials by the end of 2016. The NNSA's efforts to develop a U.S. capability to produce Moly-99 from sources other than high-enriched uranium should include but not be limited to low-enriched uranium and natural molybdenum. The agreement does not include \$25,400,000 requested within GTRI for projects in Russia.

*Use of Prior-Year Balances.*—The agreement directs the use of \$22,963,000 in prior-year balances from Russian Fissile Material Disposition.

#### NAVAL REACTORS

##### (INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides \$1,238,500,000 for Naval Reactors. Within these funds, the agreement provides \$68,000,000 for Advanced Test Reactor Operations. The agreement rescinds \$4,500,000 in prior-year funds for program direction.

*Naval Reactors Operations and Infrastructure.*—The agreement provides \$390,000,000. Within these funds, \$119,279,000 is for Research Reactor Facility Operations and Maintenance, including the full amount requested for operations and maintenance of the prototype reactors at the Kesselring Site.

*Spent Fuel Handling Recapitalization Project, Naval Reactors Facility.*—The agreement provides \$70,000,000, including Other Project Costs.

#### FEDERAL SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement provides \$370,000,000 for the federal salaries and expenses of the Office of the NNSA Administrator. Within this amount, the NNSA is directed to provide any funds needed for Corporate Project Management in fiscal year 2015.

*NNSA Albuquerque Complex.*—Instead of direction regarding the Albuquerque Complex

in the House report under Office of the Administrator and Weapons Activities, the agreement permits the NNSA to lease new office space in fiscal year 2015 after the NNSA Administrator notifies the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate of the full costs of the lease, relocation, vault construction and other capital expenses, and any associated increases in annual operating and security costs. The notification shall include a description of the NNSA's plan to demolish legacy buildings at the Albuquerque Complex to meet footprint reduction requirements and shall provide a certification that the cyber and physical security requirements have been reviewed and approved by the responsible intelligence authority.

#### ENVIRONMENTAL AND OTHER DEFENSE ACTIVITIES

##### DEFENSE ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANUP (INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides \$5,010,830,000 for Defense Environmental Cleanup. Within these funds, the Department is directed to fund hazardous waste worker training at \$10,000,000. The agreement rescinds \$10,830,000 in prior-year funds for program direction.

*Separations Process Research Unit (SPRU).*—The Department is directed to preserve the approximately \$33,000,000 in prior-year appropriations for SPRU until a plan has been determined for the site. If, at that time, the Department is found to have a liability, the Department shall apply all remaining prior-year balances toward that outstanding obligation. If additional funding is needed once final agreement between the parties is achieved, the Department should submit a reprogramming request to fully support the agreed upon plan.

*Hanford Site.*—The agreement provides \$941,000,000. Within available funds in the River Corridor control point, the Department is directed to carry out maintenance and public safety efforts at the B Reactor and the Hazardous Materials Management and Emergency Response facilities.

*Oak Ridge Reservation.*—The agreement provides \$223,050,000. Within cleanup and disposition, \$41,626,000 is provided for the U233 Disposition Program. While the agreement does not include a Congressional reprogramming control point, the Department shall continue to separately report funds for this activity in its monthly financial balances report and in its budget request.

*Outfall 200 Mercury Treatment Facility, Oak Ridge.*—The agreement provides \$9,400,000 to continue a project to construct a water treatment plant at the outfall 200 site as originally approved in the fiscal year 2014 Act. The Department should continue to advance plans to construct the water treatment plant at its originally planned outfall 200 location upstream of the Upper East Fork Poplar Creek. None of the funds available in this Act or any other Act are available for a new siting study for this project. If the Department wishes to use project funds to pursue a significant change in the approved scope of this project, including a change in project location, the Department shall submit a reprogramming request in accordance with the reprogramming requirements carried in this Act.

*Office of River Protection.*—The agreement provides \$1,212,000,000. The Department is encouraged to complete work previously undertaken on removing salts from the low-activity tank waste streams by conducting conceptual design and cost estimating activities in order to gain a deeper understanding of its

potential within recent waste treatment system changes.

*Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP).*—The agreement provides \$320,000,000, including funds needed in fiscal year 2015 to fully support the WIPP recovery effort. None of the funds for WIPP shall be used to fund incident recovery or other transuranic waste activities at any other site. The Department is directed to provide a separate accounting of all funds supporting the WIPP recovery plan in its budget request for fiscal year 2016. The Secretary of Energy is directed to designate an official responsible for implementing the Department's recovery plan who shall provide quarterly updates on the Department's progress to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

*Technology Development and Deployment.*—The agreement provides \$14,000,000. Within these funds, \$2,000,000 is for the National Spent Fuel Program at Idaho National Laboratory.

#### DEFENSE URANIUM ENRICHMENT

##### DECONTAMINATION AND DECOMMISSIONING

The agreement provides \$463,000,000 for Defense Uranium Enrichment Decontamination and Decommissioning. Funds provide for a federal contribution into the Uranium Decontamination and Decommissioning Fund. The agreement does not include a reauthorization for the collection of a special assessment from private industry.

##### OTHER DEFENSE ACTIVITIES

The agreement provides \$754,000,000 for Other Defense Activities.

#### POWER MARKETING ADMINISTRATIONS

##### BONNEVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION FUND

The agreement provides no appropriation for the Bonneville Power Administration, which derives its funding from revenues deposited into the Bonneville Power Administration Fund.

##### OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, SOUTHEASTERN POWER ADMINISTRATION

The agreement provides a net appropriation of \$0 for the Southeastern Power Administration.

##### OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE,

##### SOUTHWESTERN POWER ADMINISTRATION

The agreement provides a net appropriation of \$11,400,000 for the Southwestern Power Administration.

##### CONSTRUCTION, REHABILITATION, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, WESTERN AREA POWER ADMINISTRATION

The agreement provides a net appropriation of \$93,372,000 for the Western Area Power Administration.

#### FALCON AND AMISTAD OPERATING AND MAINTENANCE FUND

The agreement provides a net appropriation of \$228,000 for the Falcon and Amistad Operating and Maintenance Fund. The agreement includes legislative language authorizing the acceptance and use of contributed funds in fiscal year 2015 for operating, maintaining, repairing, rehabilitating, replacing, or upgrading the hydroelectric facilities at the Falcon and Amistad Dams.

##### FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement provides \$304,389,000 for the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). Revenues for FERC are set to an amount equal to the budget authority, resulting in a net appropriation of \$0. The agreement does not include language in House Report 113-486 regarding increased salaries and benefits.

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) recently approved a request by the New York Independent System Operator (NYISO) for a new capacity zone (Docket N. ER13-1380-000). Concerns persist regarding the effect of the capacity zone on consumer costs. The FERC is not currently required to take further action in fiscal year 2015. However, should the Second Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals remand the order during 2015, the Commission would be required to issue an order in response to the decision. The FERC is directed to report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate on a quarterly basis through fiscal year 2016, beginning not later than 30 days after enactment of this Act, on the status of the court case, actions taken by FERC, and estimates of additional planned capacity and consumer costs.

##### GENERAL PROVISIONS—DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

##### (INCLUDING TRANSFER AND RESCISSIONS OF FUNDS)

The agreement includes a provision prohibiting the use of funds provided in this title to initiate requests for proposals, other solicitations, or arrangements for new programs or activities that have not yet been approved and funded by the Congress; requires notification or a report for certain funding actions; prohibits funds to be used for certain multi-year "Energy Programs" activities without notification; and prohibits the obligation or expenditure of funds provided in this title through a reprogramming of funds except in certain circumstances.

The agreement includes a provision relating to unexpended balances.

The agreement includes a provision authorizing intelligence activities of the De-

partment of Energy for purposes of section 504 of the National Security Act of 1947.

The agreement includes a provision prohibiting the use of funds in this title for capital construction of high hazard nuclear facilities, unless certain independent oversight is conducted.

The agreement includes a provision prohibiting the use of funds provided under this title to approve critical decision-2 or critical decision-3 for certain construction projects, unless a separate independent cost estimate has been developed for that critical decision.

The agreement includes a provision regarding uranium adverse material impact determinations and notification requirements for uranium transactions.

The agreement includes a provision prohibiting the Office of Science from entering into multi-year funding agreements with a value below a specific threshold.

The agreement includes a provision requiring analysis of alternatives for warhead life extension programs.

The agreement includes a provision rescinding certain prior-year funds. The rescission does not include funds previously appropriated in the "Construction, Rehabilitation, Operation and Maintenance, Western Area Power Administration" account for work related to the Animas-LaPlata Project. The Western Area Power Administration should note, however, that in future years this funding will be treated the same as other prior-year funds within DOE accounts. Therefore, Western and the Bureau of Reclamation are directed to work together to ensure that future budget requests include appropriate funding for these activities such that the costs will not be shifted to power customers who receive no benefit from the activities.

The agreement includes a provision prohibiting funds in the "Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation" account for certain activities and assistance in the Russian Federation.

The agreement includes a provision standardizing the availability of funds for certain research and development activities beginning in fiscal year 2016.

The agreement includes a provision directing the use of funds for the Domestic Uranium Enrichment program.

The agreement includes a provision regarding prohibiting funds to implement or enforce higher efficiency light bulb standards.

The agreement includes a provision regarding analysis and transparency requirements for uranium sales.

The agreement includes a provision regarding management of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
ENERGY PROGRAMS			
ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND RENEWABLE ENERGY			
Sustainable Transportation:			
Vehicle technologies.....	289,910	359,000	280,000
Bioenergy technologies.....	232,429	253,200	225,000
Hydrogen and fuel cell technologies.....	92,983	92,983	97,000
Subtotal, Sustainable Transportation.....	615,322	705,183	602,000
Renewable Energy:			
Solar energy.....	257,211	282,300	233,000
Wind energy.....	88,179	115,000	107,000
Water power.....	58,600	62,500	61,000
Geothermal technologies.....	45,802	61,500	55,000
Subtotal, Renewable Energy.....	449,792	521,300	456,000
Energy Efficiency:			
Advanced manufacturing.....	180,579	305,100	200,000
Building technologies.....	177,974	211,700	172,000
Federal energy management program.....	28,265	36,200	27,000
Weatherization and intergovernmental:			
Weatherization:			
Weatherization assistance.....	171,000	224,600	190,000
Training and technical assistance.....	3,000	3,000	3,000
State energy program grants.....	50,000	63,100	50,000
Tribal energy activities.....	7,000	---	---
Clean energy and economic development partnerships	---	14,000	---
Subtotal, Weatherization and intergovernmental	231,000	304,700	243,000
Subtotal, Energy Efficiency.....	617,818	857,700	642,000
Corporate Support:			
Facilities and infrastructure:			
National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL).....	46,000	56,000	56,000
Program direction.....	162,000	160,000	160,000
Strategic programs.....	23,554	21,779	21,000
Subtotal, Corporate Support.....	231,554	237,779	237,000
Use of prior-year balances.....	-2,382	-5,213	---
Subtotal, Energy efficiency and renewable energy..	1,912,104	2,316,749	1,937,000
Rescissions.....	-10,418	---	-13,065
TOTAL, ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND RENEWABLE ENERGY.....	1,901,686	2,316,749	1,923,935

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
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ELECTRICITY DELIVERY AND ENERGY RELIABILITY			
Research and development:			
Clean energy transmission and reliability.....	32,400	36,000	34,262
Smart grid research and development.....	14,600	24,400	15,439
Cyber security for energy delivery systems.....	43,500	42,000	45,999
Energy storage.....	15,200	19,000	12,000
Subtotal.....	105,700	121,400	107,700
National electricity delivery.....	6,000	7,000	6,000
Infrastructure security and energy restoration.....	8,000	22,600	6,000
Program direction.....	27,606	29,000	27,606
TOTAL, ELECTRICITY DELIVERY AND ENERGY RELIABILITY	147,306	180,000	147,306
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NUCLEAR ENERGY			
Research and development:			
Nuclear energy enabling technologies.....	71,130	78,246	101,000
Integrated university program.....	5,500	---	5,000
Small modular reactor licensing technical support...	110,000	97,000	54,500
Reactor concepts RD&D.....	113,000	100,540	133,000
Fuel cycle research and development.....	186,500	189,100	197,000
International nuclear energy cooperation.....	2,500	3,000	3,000
STEP R&D.....	---	---	5,000
Subtotal.....	488,630	467,886	498,500
Infrastructure:			
Radiological facilities management:			
Space and defense infrastructure.....	20,000	---	20,000
Research reactor infrastructure.....	5,000	5,000	5,000
Subtotal.....	25,000	5,000	25,000
INL facilities management:			
INL operations and infrastructure.....	180,162	180,541	200,631
Construction:			
13-D-905 Remote-handled low level waste disposal project, INL.....	16,398	5,369	5,369
Subtotal, Construction.....	16,398	5,369	5,369
Subtotal, INL facilities management.....	196,560	185,910	206,000
Subtotal, Infrastructure.....	221,560	190,910	231,000
Idaho sitewide safeguards and security.....	94,000	104,000	104,000
STEP (Supercritical CO2) Demonstration.....	---	27,500	---
Program direction.....	90,000	73,090	80,000
Use of prior-year balances.....	-5,000	---	---
Subtotal, Nuclear Energy.....	889,190	863,386	913,500
Rescission.....	---	---	-80,000
TOTAL, NUCLEAR ENERGY.....	889,190	863,386	833,500
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FOSSIL ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT			
Coal CCS and power systems:			
Carbon capture.....	92,000	77,000	88,000

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
Carbon storage.....	108,900	80,084	100,000
Advanced energy systems.....	99,500	51,000	103,000
Cross cutting research.....	41,925	35,292	49,000
NETL coal research and development.....	50,011	34,031	50,000
STEP (Supercritical CO2).....	---	---	10,000
Subtotal, CCS and power systems.....	392,336	277,407	400,000
Natural Gas Technologies:			
CCS demonstrations:			
Natural gas carbon capture and storage.....	---	25,000	---
Research.....	20,600	35,000	25,121
Subtotal, Natural Gas Technologies.....	20,600	60,000	25,121
Unconventional fossil energy technologies from			
petroleum - oil technologies.....	15,000	---	4,500
Program direction.....	120,000	114,202	119,000
Plant and capital equipment.....	16,032	15,294	15,782
Fossil energy environmental restoration.....	5,897	7,897	5,897
Special recruitment programs.....	700	700	700
Use of prior-year balances.....	-8,500	---	---
TOTAL, FOSSIL ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.....	562,065	475,500	571,000
NAVAL PETROLEUM AND OIL SHALE RESERVES.....	20,000	19,950	19,950
ELK HILLS SCHOOL LANDS FUND.....	---	15,580	15,580
STRATEGIC PETROLEUM RESERVE.....	189,400	205,000	200,000
NORTHEAST HOME HEATING OIL RESERVE			
NORTHEAST HOME HEATING OIL RESERVE.....	8,000	1,600	7,600
Rescission.....	---	---	-6,000
TOTAL, NORTHEAST HOME HEATING OIL RESERVE.....	8,000	1,600	1,600
ENERGY INFORMATION ADMINISTRATION.....	117,000	122,500	117,000
NON-DEFENSE ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANUP			
Fast Flux Test Reactor Facility (WA).....	2,545	2,562	2,562
Gaseous Diffusion Plants.....	96,222	104,403	104,403
Small sites.....	71,204	60,223	80,049
West Valley Demonstration Project.....	64,000	58,986	58,986
Use of prior-year balances.....	-2,206	---	---
TOTAL, NON-DEFENSE ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANUP.....	231,765	226,174	246,000
URANIUM ENRICHMENT DECONTAMINATION AND DECOMMISSIONING FUND			
Oak Ridge.....	195,990	137,898	167,898
Paducah:			
Nuclear facility D&D, Paducah.....	265,220	198,729	198,729
Construction:			
15-U-407 On-site waste disposal facility, Paducah.....	---	8,486	8,486
Total, Paducah.....	265,220	207,215	207,215



DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
Portsmouth:			
Nuclear facility D&D, Portsmouth.....	137,613	131,461	209,524
Construction:			
15-U-408 On-site waste disposal facility, Portsmouth.....	---	28,539	4,500
Total, Portsmouth.....	137,613	160,000	214,024
Pension and community and regulatory support.....	---	25,863	25,863
Title X uranium/thorium reimbursement program.....	---	---	10,000
TOTAL, UED&D FUND.....	598,823	530,976	625,000
=====			
SCIENCE			
Advanced scientific computing research.....	478,593	541,000	541,000
Basic energy sciences:			
Research.....	1,610,757	1,667,800	1,594,500
Construction:			
07-SC-06 National synchrotron light source II, BNL.....	26,300	---	---
13-SC-10 LINAC coherent light source II, SLAC...	75,700	138,700	138,700
Subtotal, Construction.....	102,000	138,700	138,700
Subtotal, Basic energy sciences.....	1,712,757	1,806,500	1,733,200
Biological and environmental research.....	610,196	628,000	592,000
Subtotal, Biological and environmental research.	610,196	628,000	592,000
Fusion energy sciences:			
Research.....	305,677	266,000	317,500
Construction:			
14-SC-60 ITER.....	200,000	150,000	150,000
Subtotal, Fusion energy sciences.....	505,677	416,000	467,500
High energy physics:			
Research.....	746,521	719,000	729,000
Construction:			
11-SC-40 Project engineering and design (PED) long baseline neutrino experiment, FNAL.....	16,000	---	12,000
11-SC-41 Muon to electron conversion experiment, FNAL.....	35,000	25,000	25,000
Subtotal, Construction.....	51,000	25,000	37,000
Subtotal, High energy physics.....	797,521	744,000	766,000
Nuclear physics:			
Operations and maintenance.....	489,438	487,073	489,000
Construction:			
14-SC-50 Facility for rare isotope beams, Michigan State University.....	55,000	90,000	90,000

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
06-SC-01 12 GeV continuous electron beam facility upgrade, TJNAF.....	25,500	16,500	16,500
Subtotal, Construction.....	80,500	106,500	106,500
Subtotal, Nuclear physics.....	569,938	593,573	595,500
Workforce development for teachers and scientists.....	26,500	19,500	19,500
Science laboratories infrastructure: Infrastructure support: Payment in lieu of taxes.....	1,385	1,412	1,713
Oak Ridge landlord.....	5,951	5,777	5,777
Facilities and infrastructure.....	900	3,100	6,100
Subtotal.....	8,236	10,289	13,590
Construction: 15-SC-78 Integrative genomics building, LBNL.....	---	12,090	12,090
15-SC-77 Photon science laboratory building, SLAC.....	---	12,890	10,000
15-SC-76 Materials design laboratory, ANL.....	---	7,000	7,000
15-SC-75 Infrastructure and operational improvements, PPPL.....	---	25,000	25,000
13-SC-70 Utilities upgrade, FNAL.....	34,900	---	---
13-SC-71 Utility infrastructure modernization, TJNAF.....	29,200	---	---
12-SC-70 Science and user support building, SLAC.....	25,482	11,920	11,920
Subtotal.....	89,582	68,900	66,010
Subtotal, Science laboratories infrastructure...	97,818	79,189	79,600
Safeguards and security.....	87,000	94,000	93,000
Science program direction.....	185,000	189,393	183,700
Subtotal, Science.....	5,071,000	5,111,155	5,071,000
TOTAL, SCIENCE.....	5,071,000	5,111,155	5,071,000
=====			
ADVANCED RESEARCH PROJECTS AGENCY-ENERGY			
ARPA-E projects.....	252,000	295,750	252,000
Program direction.....	28,000	29,250	28,000
TOTAL, ARPA-E.....	280,000	325,000	280,000
INDIAN ENERGY PROGRAMS			
Office of Indian energy policy and programs (IE)....	---	2,510	---
Tribal energy program.....	---	13,490	---
TOTAL, INDIAN ENERGY PROGRAMS.....	---	16,000	---
TITLE 17 - INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY LOAN GUARANTEE PGM			
Administrative expenses.....	42,000	42,000	42,000
Offsetting collection.....	-22,000	-25,000	-25,000
TOTAL, TITLE 17 - INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY LOAN GUARANTEE PROGRAM.....	20,000	17,000	17,000
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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
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ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY VEHICLES MANUFACTURING LOAN PGM			
Administrative expenses.....	6,000	4,000	4,000
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TOTAL, ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY VEHICLES MANUFACTURING LOAN PROGRAM.....	6,000	4,000	4,000
CLEAN COAL TECHNOLOGY (RESCISSION).....	---	-6,600	-6,600
DEPARTMENTAL ADMINISTRATION			
Administrative operations:			
Salaries and expenses:			
Office of the Secretary:			
Program direction.....	5,008	5,008	5,008
Chief Financial Officer.....	47,825	47,182	47,000
Management.....	57,599	68,293	62,946
Chief human capital officer.....	24,488	25,400	24,500
Chief Information Officer.....	35,401	33,188	33,188
Office of Indian energy policy and programs.....	2,506	---	16,000
Congressional and intergovernmental affairs.....	4,700	6,300	6,300
Office Of Small and disadvantaged business utilization.....	---	2,253	2,253
Economic impact and diversity.....	6,197	5,574	6,200
General Counsel.....	33,053	33,000	33,000
Energy policy and systems analysis.....	16,181	38,545	31,181
International Affairs.....	12,518	18,441	13,000
Public affairs.....	3,597	3,431	3,431
-----			
Subtotal, Salaries and expenses.....	249,073	286,615	284,007
Program support:			
Economic impact and diversity.....	2,759	1,673	2,800
Policy analysis and system studies.....	441	---	---
Environmental policy studies.....	520	---	---
Climate change technology program (prog. supp)....	5,482	---	---
Cybersecurity and secure communications.....	30,795	21,364	21,364
Corporate IT program support (CIO).....	15,866	19,612	19,612
-----			
Subtotal, Program support.....	55,863	42,649	43,776
-----			
Subtotal, Administrative operations.....	304,936	329,264	327,783
Cost of work for others.....	48,537	42,000	42,000
-----			
Subtotal, Departmental administration.....	353,473	371,264	369,783
Use of prior-year balances.....	---	-4,205	-5,805
Funding from other defense activities.....	-118,836	-118,836	-118,836
-----			
Total, Departmental administration (gross).....	234,637	248,223	245,142
Miscellaneous revenues.....	-108,188	-119,171	-119,171
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TOTAL, DEPARTMENTAL ADMINISTRATION (net).....	126,449	129,052	125,971
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OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL			
Office of the inspector general.....	42,120	50,288	40,500

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
Use of prior-year balances.....	---	-10,420	---
TOTAL, OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL.....	42,120	39,868	40,500
TOTAL, ENERGY PROGRAMS.....	10,210,804	10,592,890	10,232,742
ATOMIC ENERGY DEFENSE ACTIVITIES			
NATIONAL NUCLEAR SECURITY ADMINISTRATION			
WEAPONS ACTIVITIES			
Directed stockpile work:			
B61 Life extension program.....	537,044	643,000	643,000
W76 Life extension program.....	248,454	259,168	259,168
W78 Life extension program.....	38,000	---	---
W88 Alt 370.....	169,487	165,400	165,400
Cruise missile warhead life extension study.....	---	9,418	9,418
Stockpile systems:			
B61 Stockpile systems.....	83,536	109,615	109,615
W76 Stockpile systems.....	47,187	45,728	45,728
W78 Stockpile systems.....	54,381	62,703	62,703
W80 Stockpile systems.....	50,330	70,610	70,610
B83 Stockpile systems.....	54,948	63,136	63,136
W87 Stockpile systems.....	101,506	91,255	91,255
W88 Stockpile systems.....	62,600	88,060	88,060
Subtotal.....	454,488	531,107	531,107
Weapons dismantlement and disposition.....	54,264	30,008	50,000
Stockpile services:			
Production support.....	345,000	350,942	350,942
Research and Development support.....	24,928	29,649	25,500
R and D certification and safety.....	151,133	201,479	160,000
Management, technology, and production.....	214,187	241,805	228,000
Plutonium sustainment.....	125,048	144,575	132,000
Tritium readiness.....	80,000	140,053	140,053
Subtotal.....	940,296	1,108,503	1,034,495
Subtotal, Directed stockpile work.....	2,442,033	2,746,604	2,692,588
Research, Development, Test and Evaluation (RDT&E):			
Science:			
Advanced certification.....	58,747	58,747	58,747
Primary assessment technologies.....	92,000	112,000	109,000
Dynamic materials properties.....	104,000	117,999	109,000
Advanced radiography.....	29,509	79,340	47,000
Secondary assessment technologies.....	85,467	88,344	88,344
Subtotal.....	369,723	456,430	412,091
Engineering:			
Enhanced surety.....	51,771	52,003	52,003
Weapons system engineering assessment technology	23,727	20,832	20,832
Nuclear survivability.....	19,504	25,371	25,371
Enhanced surveillance.....	54,909	37,799	37,799
Subtotal.....	149,911	136,005	136,005

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
Inertial confinement fusion ignition and high yield:			
Ignition.....	80,245	77,994	77,994
Support of other stockpile programs.....	15,001	23,598	23,598
Diagnostics, cryogenics and experimental support.....	59,897	61,297	61,297
Pulsed power inertial confinement fusion.....	5,024	5,024	5,024
Joint program in high energy density laboratory plasmas.....	8,198	9,100	9,100
Facility operations and target production.....	345,592	335,882	335,882
Subtotal.....	513,957	512,895	512,895
Advanced simulation and computing.....	569,329	610,108	598,000
Readiness campaign:			
Nonnuclear readiness.....	55,407	125,909	---
Subtotal.....	55,407	125,909	---
Advanced manufacturing development:			
Additive manufacturing.....	---	---	12,600
Component manufacturing development.....	---	---	75,000
Process technology development.....	---	---	19,600
Subtotal.....	---	---	107,200
Subtotal, RDT&E.....	1,658,327	1,841,347	1,766,191
Readiness in technical base and facilities (RTBF):			
Operations of facilities:			
Kansas City Plant.....	135,834	125,000	125,000
Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory.....	77,287	71,000	71,000
Los Alamos National Laboratory.....	213,707	198,000	198,000
Nevada Test Site.....	100,929	89,000	89,000
Pantex.....	81,420	75,000	75,000
Sandia National Laboratory.....	115,000	106,000	106,000
Savannah River Site.....	90,236	81,000	81,000
Y-12 National Security Complex.....	170,042	151,000	151,000
Subtotal.....	984,455	896,000	896,000
Program readiness.....	67,259	136,700	68,000
Material recycle and recovery.....	125,000	138,900	126,000
Containers.....	26,000	26,000	26,000
Storage.....	35,000	40,800	40,800
Maintenance and repair of facilities.....	227,591	205,000	227,000
Recapitalization.....	180,000	209,321	224,600
Construction:			
15-D-613 Emergency Operations Center, Y-12.....	---	2,000	2,000
15-D-612 Emergency Operations Center, LLNL.....	---	2,000	---
15-D-611 Emergency Operations Center, SNL.....	---	4,000	---
15-D-301 HE Science & Engineering Facility, PX.....	---	11,800	11,800
15-D-302 TA-55 Reinvestment project III, LANL.....	---	16,062	16,062
12-D-301 TRU waste facility project, LANL.....	26,722	6,938	6,938
11-D-801 TA-55 Reinvestment project II, LANL.....	30,679	10,000	10,000
06-D-141 Uranium Processing Facility, Oak Ridge, TN.....	309,000	335,000	335,000
07-D-220 Radioactive liquid waste treatment facility, LANL.....	45,114	---	---
07-D-220-04 Transuranic liquid waste facility, LANL.....	10,605	15,000	7,500

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
04-D-125 Chemistry and metallurgy replacement project, LANL.....	---	---	35,700
Subtotal.....	422,120	402,800	425,000
Subtotal, Readiness in technical base and facilities.....	2,067,425	2,055,521	2,033,400
Secure transportation asset:			
Operations and equipment.....	112,882	132,851	121,882
Program direction.....	97,118	100,962	97,118
Subtotal, Secure transportation asset.....	210,000	233,813	219,000
Nuclear counterterrorism incident response.....	228,243	173,440	177,940
Counterterrorism and counterproliferation programs....	---	76,901	46,093
Site stewardship.....	87,326	82,449	76,531
Defense nuclear security.....	664,981	618,123	636,123
Information technology and cyber security.....	145,068	179,646	179,646
Legacy contractor pensions.....	279,597	307,058	307,058
Domestic uranium enrichment.....	62,000	---	97,200
Subtotal, Weapons Activities.....	7,845,000	8,314,902	8,231,770
Rescission.....	-64,000	---	-45,113
TOTAL, WEAPONS ACTIVITIES.....	7,781,000	8,314,902	8,186,657
=====	=====	=====	=====
DEFENSE NUCLEAR NONPROLIFERATION			
Defense nuclear nonproliferation R&D.....	398,838	360,808	393,401
Nonproliferation and international security.....	128,675	141,359	141,359
International materials protection and cooperation....	419,625	305,467	270,911
Fissile materials disposition:			
U.S. plutonium disposition.....	157,557	85,000	60,000
U.S. uranium disposition.....	25,000	25,000	25,000
Construction:			
99-D-143 Mixed oxide fuel fabrication facility, Savannah River, SC.....	343,500	196,000	345,000
99-D-141-02 Waste solidification building, Savannah River, SC.....	---	5,125	---
Subtotal, Construction.....	343,500	201,125	345,000
Total, Fissile materials disposition.....	526,057	311,125	430,000
Global threat reduction initiative:			
HEU reactor conversion.....	162,000	122,383	119,383
International nuclear and radiological material removal and protection.....	200,102	132,473	117,737
Domestic radiological material removal and protection.....	80,000	78,632	88,632
Subtotal, Global threat reduction initiative....	442,102	333,488	325,752
Legacy contractor pensions.....	93,703	102,909	102,909
Use of prior-year balances.....	-55,000	---	-22,963
Subtotal, Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation.....	1,954,000	1,555,156	1,641,369
Rescission.....	---	---	-24,731
TOTAL, DEFENSE NUCLEAR NONPROLIFERATION.....	1,954,000	1,555,156	1,616,638
=====	=====	=====	=====

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
<b>NAVAL REACTORS</b>			
Naval reactors development.....	414,298	425,700	411,180
OHIO replacement reactor systems development.....	126,400	156,100	156,100
S8G Prototype refueling.....	144,400	126,400	126,400
Naval reactors operations and infrastructure.....	356,300	412,380	390,000
Construction:			
15-D-904 NRF Overpack Storage Expansion 3.....	---	400	400
15-D-903 KL Fire System Upgrade.....	---	600	600
15-D-902 KS Engineer room team trainer facility.....	---	1,500	---
15-D-901 KS Central office building and prototype staff facility.....	---	24,000	---
14-D-902 KL Materials characterization laboratory expansion, KAPL.....	1,000	---	---
14-D-901 Spent fuel handling recapitalization project, NRF.....	---	141,100	70,000
13-D-905 Remote-handled low-level waste disposal project, INL.....	21,073	14,420	14,420
13-D-904 KS Radiological work and storage building, KSO.....	600	20,100	20,100
10-D-903, Security upgrades, KAPL.....	---	7,400	7,400
08-D-190 Expanded Core Facility M-290 recovering discharge station, NRF, ID.....	1,700	400	400
Subtotal, Construction.....	24,373	209,920	113,320
Program direction.....	43,212	46,600	41,500
Use of prior-year balances.....	-13,983	---	---
Subtotal, Naval Reactors.....	1,095,000	1,377,100	1,238,500
Rescission.....	---	---	-4,500
TOTAL, NAVAL REACTORS.....	1,095,000	1,377,100	1,234,000
=====			
OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR.....	377,000	---	---
FEDERAL SALARIES AND EXPENSES.....	---	410,842	370,000
=====			
TOTAL, NATIONAL NUCLEAR SECURITY ADMINISTRATION.....	11,207,000	11,658,000	11,407,295
=====			
<b>DEFENSE ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANUP</b>			
Closure sites.....	4,702	4,889	4,889
Richland:			
River corridor and other cleanup operations.....	408,634	332,788	377,788
Central plateau remediation.....	512,665	474,292	497,456
RL community and regulatory support.....	19,701	14,701	19,701
Construction:			
15-D-401 Containerized sludge removal annex, RL....	---	26,290	46,055
Total, Richland.....	941,000	848,071	941,000
Office of River Protection:			
Tank farm activities:			
Rad liquid tank waste stabilization and disposition.....	520,216	522,000	522,000
Construction:			
15-D-409 Low activity waste pretreatment system, ORP.....	---	23,000	23,000

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
01-D-16 A-D, Waste treatment and immobilization plant, ORP.....	510,000	575,000	563,000
01-D-16 E, Waste treatment and immobilization plant, Pretreatment facility, ORP.....	180,000	115,000	104,000
Total, Office of River Protection.....	1,210,216	1,235,000	1,212,000
Idaho National Laboratory:			
Idaho cleanup and waste disposition.....	383,300	364,293	377,293
Idaho community and regulatory support.....	3,700	2,910	2,910
Total, Idaho National Laboratory.....	387,000	367,203	380,203
NNSA sites and Nevada offsites:			
NNSA sites and Nevada off-sites.....	314,676	---	---
Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory.....	---	1,366	1,366
Nevada.....	---	64,851	64,851
Sandia National Laboratory.....	---	2,801	2,801
Los Alamos National Laboratory.....	---	196,017	185,000
Construction:			
15-D-406 Hexavalent chromium Pump and Treatment facility, LANL.....	---	28,600	4,600
Total, NNSA sites and Nevada off-sites.....	314,676	293,635	258,618
Oak Ridge Reservation:			
OR Nuclear facility D&D.....	73,716	73,155	73,155
U233 disposition program.....	45,000	41,626	---
OR cleanup and waste disposition.....	83,220	71,137	131,930
OR community & regulatory support.....	4,365	4,365	4,365
OR Technology development and deployment.....	4,091	3,000	---
Construction:			
15-D-405 Sludge processing facility buildouts...	---	4,200	4,200
14-D-403 Outfall 200 mercury treatment facility.	4,608	9,400	9,400
Total, Oak Ridge Reservation.....	215,000	206,883	223,050
Savannah River Site:			
SR site risk management operations.....	432,491	416,276	397,976
SR community and regulatory support.....	11,210	11,013	11,013
SR radioactive liquid tank waste stabilization and disposition.....	565,533	553,175	547,318
Construction:			
15-D-402 Saltstone disposal Unit #6, SRS.....	---	34,642	30,000
05-D-405 Salt waste processing facility, SRS....	125,000	135,000	135,000
Total, Savannah River Site.....	1,134,234	1,150,106	1,121,307
Waste Isolation Pilot Plant:			
Waste Isolation Pilot Plant.....	216,193	216,020	304,000
Construction:			
15-D-411 Safety significant confinement ventilation system, WIPP.....	---	---	12,000
15-D-412 Exhaust shaft, WIPP.....	---	---	4,000
Total, Waste isolation pilot plant.....	216,193	216,020	320,000
Program direction.....	300,000	280,784	280,784
Program support.....	17,979	14,979	14,979
Safeguards and Security.....	241,000	233,961	240,000
Technology development.....	18,000	13,007	14,000
Subtotal, Defense Environmental Cleanup.....	5,000,000	4,864,538	5,010,830



DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
Rescission.....	---	---	-10,830
TOTAL, DEFENSE ENVIRONMENTAL CLEAN UP.....	5,000,000	4,864,538	5,000,000
=====	=====	=====	=====
DEFENSE URANIUM ENRICHMENT DECONTAMINATION AND DECOMMISSIONING.....	---	463,000	463,000
OTHER DEFENSE ACTIVITIES			
Health, safety and security:			
Health, safety and security.....	143,616	---	---
Program direction.....	108,301	---	---
Total, Health, safety and security.....	251,917	---	---
Environment, health, safety and security:			
Environment, health, safety and security.....	---	118,763	118,763
Program direction.....	---	62,235	62,235
Total, Environment, Health, safety and security....	---	180,998	180,998
Independent enterprise assessments:			
Independent enterprise assessments.....	---	24,068	24,068
Program direction.....	---	49,466	49,466
Total, Independent enterprise assessments.....	---	73,534	73,534
Specialized security activities.....	202,242	202,152	203,152
Office of Legacy Management:			
Legacy management.....	163,271	158,639	158,639
Program direction.....	13,712	13,341	13,341
Total, Office of Legacy Management.....	176,983	171,980	171,980
Defense related administrative support.....	118,836	118,836	118,836
Office of hearings and appeals.....	5,022	5,500	5,500
TOTAL, OTHER DEFENSE ACTIVITIES.....	755,000	753,000	754,000
=====	=====	=====	=====
TOTAL, ATOMIC ENERGY DEFENSE ACTIVITIES.....	16,962,000	17,738,538	17,624,295
=====	=====	=====	=====
POWER MARKETING ADMINISTRATIONS (1)			
SOUTHEASTERN POWER ADMINISTRATION			
Operation and maintenance:			
Purchase power and wheeling.....	93,284	89,710	89,710
Program direction.....	7,750	7,220	7,220
Subtotal, Operation and maintenance.....	101,034	96,930	96,930
Less alternative financing (PPW).....	-15,203	-16,131	-16,131
Offsetting collections (for PPW).....	-78,081	-73,579	-73,579
Offsetting collections (PD).....	-7,750	-2,220	-2,220
Use of prior-year balances.....	---	-5,000	-5,000
TOTAL, SOUTHEASTERN POWER ADMINISTRATION.....	---	---	---
=====	=====	=====	=====

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
SOUTHWESTERN POWER ADMINISTRATION			
Operation and maintenance:			
Operating expenses.....	13,598	15,174	15,174
Purchase power and wheeling.....	52,000	63,000	63,000
Program direction.....	29,939	31,089	31,089
Construction.....	6,227	13,403	13,403
Subtotal, Operation and maintenance.....	101,764	122,666	122,666
Less alternative financing (for O&M).....	---	-5,934	-5,934
Less alternative financing (for PPW).....	---	-10,000	-10,000
Less alternative financing (Const).....	---	-7,492	-7,492
Less alternative financing.....	-14,308	---	---
Offsetting collections (PD).....	-75,564	-29,402	-29,402
Offsetting collections (for O&M).....	---	-5,438	-5,438
Offsetting collections (for PPW).....	---	-53,000	-53,000
TOTAL, SOUTHWESTERN POWER ADMINISTRATION.....	11,892	11,400	11,400
=====			
WESTERN AREA POWER ADMINISTRATION			
Operation and maintenance:			
Construction and rehabilitation.....	122,437	86,645	86,645
Operation and maintenance.....	82,843	81,958	81,958
Purchase power and wheeling.....	407,109	441,223	441,223
Program direction.....	217,709	227,905	227,905
Subtotal, Operation and maintenance.....	830,098	837,731	837,731
Less alternative financing (for O&M).....	-293,349	-5,197	-5,197
Less alternative financing (for Construction).....	---	-74,448	-74,448
Less alternative financing (for Program Dir.).....	---	-5,300	-5,300
Less alternative financing (for PPW).....	---	-180,713	-180,713
Offsetting collections (for program direction).....	-188,193	-174,285	-174,285
Offsetting collections (for O&M).....	-35,796	-36,745	-36,745
Offsetting collections (P.L. 108-477, P.L. 109-103).....	-230,738	-260,510	-260,510
Offsetting collections (P.L. 98-381).....	-6,092	-7,161	-7,161
TOTAL, WESTERN AREA POWER ADMINISTRATION.....	95,930	93,372	93,372
=====			
FALCON AND AMISTAD OPERATING AND MAINTENANCE FUND			
Operation and maintenance.....	6,196	5,529	5,529
Offsetting collections.....	-4,911	-4,499	-4,499
Less alternative financing.....	-865	-802	-802
TOTAL, FALCON AND AMISTAD O&M FUND.....	420	228	228
=====			
TOTAL, POWER MARKETING ADMINISTRATIONS.....	108,242	105,000	105,000
=====			
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION			
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.....	304,600	327,277	304,389
FERC revenues.....	-304,600	-327,277	-304,389

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
-----			
General Provisions			
Title III Rescissions:			
Department of Energy:			
Energy Efficiency and Energy Reliability.....	---	---	-9,740
Science.....	---	---	-3,262
Nuclear Energy.....	---	---	-121
Fossil Energy Research and Development.....	---	---	-10,413
Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy			
Reliability.....	---	---	-331
Advanced Research Projects Agency - Energy.....	---	---	-18
Construction, Rehabilitation, Operation and			
Maintenance, Western Area Power Administration..	---	---	-1,632
Weapons activities (050) (rescission).....	---	---	-6,298
Office of the Administrator (050) (rescission)...	---	---	-413
Departmental Administration.....	---	---	-928
Defense Environmental Cleanup (050).....	---	---	-9,983
Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation (050).....	---	---	-1,390
Naval Reactors (050).....	---	---	-160
Other Defense Activities (050).....	---	---	-551
-----			
Total, General Provisions.....	---	---	-45,240
=====			
GRAND TOTAL, DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY.....	27,281,046	28,436,428	27,916,797
(Total amount appropriated).....	(27,355,464)	(28,443,028)	(28,152,876)
(Rescissions).....	(-74,418)	(-6,600)	(-236,079)
=====			
SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTS			
Energy efficiency and renewable energy.....	1,901,686	2,316,749	1,923,935
Electricity delivery and energy reliability.....	147,306	180,000	147,306
Nuclear energy.....	889,190	863,386	833,500
Fossil Energy Research and Development.....	562,065	475,500	571,000
Naval Petroleum & Oil Shale Reserves.....	20,000	19,950	19,950
Elk Hills School Lands Fund.....	---	15,580	15,580
Strategic petroleum reserves.....	189,400	205,000	200,000
Northeast home heating oil reserve.....	8,000	1,600	1,600
Energy Information Administration.....	117,000	122,500	117,000
Non-Defense Environmental Cleanup.....	231,765	226,174	246,000
Uranium enrichment D&D fund.....	598,823	530,976	625,000
Science.....	5,071,000	5,111,155	5,071,000
Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy.....	280,000	325,000	280,000
Departmental administration.....	126,449	129,052	125,971
Indian energy program.....	---	16,000	---
Office of the Inspector General.....	42,120	39,868	40,500
Title 17 Innovative technology loan guarantee program.	20,000	17,000	17,000
Advanced technology vehicles manufacturing loan pgm...	6,000	4,000	4,000
Clean coal technology.....	---	-6,600	-6,600
Atomic energy defense activities:			
National Nuclear Security Administration:			
Weapons activities.....	7,781,000	8,314,902	8,186,657
Defense nuclear nonproliferation.....	1,954,000	1,555,156	1,616,638
Naval reactors.....	1,095,000	1,377,100	1,234,000
Federal Salaries and Expenses.....	377,000	410,842	370,000
-----			
Subtotal, National Nuclear Security Admin.....	11,207,000	11,658,000	11,407,295
-----			
Defense environmental cleanup.....	5,000,000	4,864,538	5,000,000
-----			
Defense environmental cleanup (legislative proposal)	---	463,000	463,000

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill
Other defense activities.....	755,000	753,000	754,000
Total, Atomic Energy Defense Activities.....	16,962,000	17,738,538	17,624,295
Power marketing administrations (1):			
Southeastern Power Administration.....	---	---	---
Southwestern Power Administration.....	11,892	11,400	11,400
Western Area Power Administration.....	95,930	93,372	93,372
Falcon and Amistad operating and maintenance fund...	420	228	228
Total, Power Marketing Administrations.....	108,242	105,000	105,000
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission:			
Salaries and expenses.....	304,600	327,277	304,389
Revenues.....	-304,600	-327,277	-304,389
General Provisions.....	---	---	-45,240
	=====	=====	=====
Total Summary of Accounts, Department of Energy...	27,281,046	28,436,428	27,916,797
	=====	=====	=====

(1) Totals include alternative financing costs, reimbursable agreement funding, and power purchase and wheeling expenditures. Offsetting collection totals reflect funds collected for annual expenses, including power purchase and wheeling

## TITLE IV—INDEPENDENT AGENCIES

It is the mission of all the regional commissions to maximize spending on programs rather than personnel. Given the budget cuts the regional commissions have experienced in recent years, the regional commissions are directed to provide to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a detailed accounting of all personnel costs, including an accounting for employees who are designated as non-federal employees, in their annual budget requests to Congress. If the regional commissions are to continue to be successful they need to show they are maximizing the public good and making sound personnel management decisions.

## APPALACHIAN REGIONAL COMMISSION

The agreement provides \$90,000,000 for the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC). To diversify and enhance regional business development, \$10,000,000 is provided to continue the program of high-speed broadband deployment in distressed counties within the Central Appalachian region that have been most negatively impacted by the downturn in the coal industry. This funding shall be in addition to the 30 percent directed to distressed counties.

Within the funding provided, \$10,000,000 is recommended to support a workforce training program in Southern Appalachia, primarily focused on the automotive supplier industry. The program will benefit economically distressed counties in Southern Appalachia. This funding shall be in addition to any funds otherwise directed to distressed counties. The funds shall be distributed according to ARC's Distressed Counties Formula which includes land area, population estimates, and the number of distressed counties.

DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement provides \$28,500,000 for the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board.

DELTA REGIONAL AUTHORITY  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement provides \$12,000,000 for the Delta Regional Authority.

## DENALI COMMISSION

The agreement provides \$10,000,000 for the Denali Commission.

## NORTHERN BORDER REGIONAL COMMISSION

The agreement provides \$5,000,000 for the Northern Border Regional Commission.

## SOUTHEAST CRESCENT REGIONAL COMMISSION

The agreement provides \$250,000 for the Southeast Crescent Regional Commission.

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement provides \$1,003,233,000 for Nuclear Regulatory Commission salaries and

expenses. This amount is offset by estimated revenues of \$885,375,000, resulting in a net appropriation of \$117,858,000.

The agreement reduces the amount made available for salaries and expenses by \$34,200,000 below the budget request to account for fee-based unobligated carryover from fiscal year 2014 to fiscal year 2015 and authorizes the Commission to re-allocate its unobligated carryover to supplement its fiscal year 2015 appropriation. The Commission is directed to submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate not later than 30 days after enactment of this Act a base table that documents this re-allocation. The agreement further reduces salaries and expenses by \$10,000,000 below the budget request to account for lower-than-anticipated staffing levels. Within available funds, not more than \$7,500,000 is included for salaries, travel, and other support costs for the Office of the Commission.

The Commission is directed to engage an outside entity with expertise on federal agency management to recommend ways it can reduce its corporate support requirements and improve the efficiency of the Commission's internal processes. The Commission is further directed to submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate not later than May 1, 2015, the review's findings, budgetary impacts, and a long-term strategic workforce plan. The Commission is also encouraged to have a fair, effective, predictable, and efficient process for subsequent license renewal that builds upon the technical and regulatory success of the initial license renewal process and to act expeditiously, particularly for licensees actively planning to pursue subsequent license renewal in the 2017 timeframe, to ensure timely issuance of the regulatory guidance and establishment of the updated framework for subsequent license renewal.

A recent report by the Department of Energy's Office of Nuclear Energy concluded that the nuclear energy workforce is more stable than it has been in several decades, noting that this is due in part to established programs that drive interest in the field. In light of current circumstances, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, in consultation with the Department of Energy's Office of Nuclear Energy and industry, is directed to review the Integrated University Program with regard to its effectiveness and recommend any changes necessary to maintain its efficacy in ensuring that the Nation continues to have a sufficient nuclear workforce. The study should include any specialized areas that may require training beyond that which is necessary for the general nuclear workforce.

## OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

The agreement includes \$12,071,000 for the Office of Inspector General in the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. This amount is offset by revenues of \$10,099,000, for a net appropriation of \$1,972,000.

The agreement includes a provision to permanently authorize the Inspector General of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to execute the duties and responsibilities in the Inspector General Act of 1978 with respect to the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board. The agreement provides \$850,000 to carry out these responsibilities in fiscal year 2015.

## NUCLEAR WASTE TECHNICAL REVIEW BOARD

## SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement provides \$3,400,000 for the Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board.

## GENERAL PROVISIONS—INDEPENDENT AGENCIES

The agreement includes a provision permanently requiring reporting on the use of emergency authority.

The agreement includes a provision instructing the Nuclear Regulatory Commission on responding to congressional requests for information.

The agreement includes a provision mandating an evaluation of and reporting on the effectiveness of domestic radiological security requirements.

The agreement includes a provision requiring each agency receiving funding to submit a Congressional Budget Justification and annual report.

## TITLE V—GENERAL PROVISIONS

The agreement includes a provision relating to lobbying restrictions.

The agreement includes a provision relating to transfer authority. No additional transfer authority is implied or conveyed by this provision. For the purposes of this provision, the term "transfer" shall mean the shifting of all or part of the budget authority in one account to another. In addition to transfers provided in this Act or other appropriations Acts, and existing authorities, such as the Economy Act (31 U.S.C. 1535), by which one part of the United States Government may provide goods or services to another part, the Act allows transfers using Section 4705 of the Atomic Energy Defense Act (50 U.S.C. 2745) and 15 U.S.C. 638 regarding SBIR/STTR.

The agreement includes a provision prohibiting funds to be used in contravention of the executive order entitled "Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations."

DIVISION D, ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
-----					
TITLE I - DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE - CIVIL					
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY					
Corps of Engineers - Civil					
Investigations.....	125,000	80,000	122,000	-3,000	+42,000
Construction.....	1,656,000	1,125,000	1,639,489	-16,511	+514,489
Mississippi River and Tributaries.....	307,000	245,000	302,000	-5,000	+57,000
Operations and Maintenance.....	2,861,000	2,600,000	2,908,511	+47,511	+308,511
Regulatory Program.....	200,000	200,000	200,000	---	---
Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP).....	103,499	100,000	101,500	-1,999	+1,500
Flood Control and Coastal Emergencies.....	28,000	28,000	28,000	---	---
Expenses.....	182,000	178,000	178,000	-4,000	---
Office of Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works).....	5,000	5,000	3,000	-2,000	-2,000
General Provisions					
Title I Rescission.....	---	-28,000	-28,000	-28,000	---
=====					
Total, title I, Department of Defense - Civil...	5,467,499	4,533,000	5,454,500	-12,999	+921,500
Appropriations.....	(5,467,499)	(4,561,000)	(5,482,500)	(+15,001)	(+921,500)
Rescissions.....	---	(-28,000)	(-28,000)	(-28,000)	---

DIVISION D, ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
<b>TITLE II - DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR</b>					
<b>Central Utah Project Completion Account</b>					
Central Utah Project Completion Account.....	8,725	---	9,874	+1,149	+9,874
Bureau of Reclamation					
Water and Related Resources.....	954,085	760,700	978,131	+24,046	+217,431
Central Valley Project Restoration Fund.....	53,288	56,995	56,995	+3,707	---
California Bay-Delta Restoration.....	37,000	37,000	37,000	---	---
Policy and Administration.....	60,000	59,500	58,500	-1,500	-1,000
Indian Water Rights Settlements.....	---	90,000	---	---	-90,000
San Joaquin River Restoration Fund.....	---	32,000	---	---	-32,000
Central Utah Project Completion Account.....	---	7,300	---	---	-7,300
Bureau of Reclamation Loan Program Account (Rescission).....	---	-500	-500	-500	---
<b>Total, Bureau of Reclamation.....</b>	<b>1,104,373</b>	<b>1,042,995</b>	<b>1,130,126</b>	<b>+25,753</b>	<b>+87,131</b>
<b>Total, title II, Department of the Interior.....</b>					
Appropriations.....	1,113,098	1,042,995	1,140,000	+26,902	+97,005
Rescissions.....	(1,113,098)	(1,043,495)	(1,140,500)	(+27,402)	(+97,005)
	---	(-500)	(-500)	(-500)	---

DIVISION D. ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
TITLE III - DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY					
Energy Programs					
Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy.....	1,912,104	2,316,749	1,937,000	+24,896	-379,749
Rescissions.....	-10,418	---	-13,065	-2,647	-13,065
Subtotal, Energy efficiency.....	1,901,686	2,316,749	1,923,935	+22,249	-392,814
Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability.....	139,306	180,000	147,306	+8,000	-32,694
Defense function.....	8,000	---	---	-8,000	---
Subtotal.....	147,306	180,000	147,306	---	-32,694
Nuclear Energy.....	795,190	753,386	805,000	+9,810	+51,614
Defense function.....	94,000	110,000	108,500	+14,500	-1,500
Rescission.....	---	---	-80,000	-80,000	-80,000
Subtotal.....	889,190	863,386	833,500	-55,690	-29,886
Fossil Energy Research and Development.....	562,065	475,500	571,000	+8,935	+95,500
Naval Petroleum and Oil Shale Reserves.....	20,000	19,950	19,950	-50	---
Elk Hills School Lands Fund.....	---	15,580	15,580	+15,580	---
Strategic Petroleum Reserve.....	189,400	205,000	200,000	+10,600	-5,000
Northeast Home Heating Oil Reserve.....	8,000	1,600	7,600	-400	+6,000



DIVISION D, ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Rescission.....	---	---	-6,000	-6,000	-6,000
Subtotal.....	8,000	1,600	1,600	-6,400	---
Energy Information Administration.....	117,000	122,500	117,000	---	-5,500
Non-defense Environmental Cleanup.....	231,765	226,174	246,000	+14,235	+19,826
Uranium Enrichment Decontamination and Decommissioning Fund.....	598,823	530,976	625,000	+26,177	+94,024
Science.....	5,071,000	5,111,155	5,071,000	---	-40,155
Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy.....	280,000	325,000	280,000	---	-45,000
Office of Indian Energy Policy and Programs.....	---	16,000	---	---	-16,000
Title 17 Innovative Technology Loan Guarantee Program. Offsetting collection.....	42,000	42,000	42,000	---	---
	-22,000	-25,000	-25,000	-3,000	---
Subtotal.....	20,000	17,000	17,000	-3,000	---
Advanced Technology Vehicles Manufacturing Loans program.....	6,000	4,000	4,000	-2,000	---
Clean Coal Technology (Rescission).....	---	-6,600	-6,600	-6,600	---
Departmental Administration.....	234,637	248,223	245,142	+10,505	-3,081
Miscellaneous revenues.....	-108,188	-119,171	-119,171	-10,983	---
Net appropriation.....	126,449	129,052	125,971	-478	-3,081
Office of the Inspector General.....	42,120	39,868	40,500	-1,620	+632
Total, Energy programs.....	10,210,804	10,592,890	10,232,742	+21,938	-360,148

DIVISION D, ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
<b>Atomic Energy Defense Activities</b>					
<b>National Nuclear Security Administration</b>					
Weapons Activities.....	7,845,000	8,314,902	8,231,770	+386,770	-83,132
Rescission.....	-64,000	---	-45,113	+18,887	-45,113
Subtotal.....	7,781,000	8,314,902	8,186,657	+405,657	-128,245
Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation.....	1,954,000	1,555,156	1,641,369	-312,631	+86,213
Rescission.....	---	---	-24,731	-24,731	-24,731
Subtotal.....	1,954,000	1,555,156	1,616,638	-337,362	+61,482
Naval Reactors.....	1,095,000	1,377,100	1,238,500	+143,500	-138,600
Rescission.....	---	---	-4,500	-4,500	-4,500
Subtotal.....	1,095,000	1,377,100	1,234,000	+139,000	-143,100
Office of the Administrator.....	377,000	---	---	-377,000	---
Federal Salaries and Expenses.....	---	410,842	370,000	+370,000	-40,842
Total, National Nuclear Security Administration.....	11,207,000	11,658,000	11,407,295	+200,295	-250,705
<b>Environmental and Other Defense Activities</b>					
Defense Environmental Cleanup.....	5,000,000	4,864,538	5,010,830	+10,830	+146,292

DIVISION D, ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Rescission.....	---	---	-10,830	-10,830	-10,830
Subtotal.....	5,000,000	4,864,538	5,000,000	---	+135,462
Defense Uranium Enrichment Decontamination and Decommissioning.....	---	463,000	463,000	+463,000	---
Other Defense Activities.....	755,000	753,000	754,000	-1,000	+1,000
Total, Environmental and Other Defense Activities.....	5,755,000	6,080,538	6,217,000	+462,000	+136,462
Total, Atomic Energy Defense Activities.....	16,962,000	17,738,538	17,624,295	+662,295	-114,243
Power Marketing Administrations /1					
Operation and maintenance, Southeastern Power Administration.....	7,750	7,220	7,220	-530	---
Offsetting collections.....	-7,750	-7,220	-7,220	+530	---
Subtotal.....	---	---	---	---	---
Operation and maintenance, Southwestern Power Administration.....	45,456	46,240	46,240	+784	---
Offsetting collections.....	-33,564	-34,840	-34,840	-1,276	---
Subtotal.....	11,892	11,400	11,400	-492	---

DIVISION D, ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Construction, Rehabilitation, Operation and Maintenance, Western Area Power Administration.....	299,919	304,402	304,402	+4,483	---
Offsetting collections.....	-203,989	-211,030	-211,030	-7,041	---
Subtotal.....	95,930	93,372	93,372	-2,558	---
Falcon and Amistad Operating and Maintenance Fund.....	5,331	4,727	4,727	-604	---
Offsetting collections.....	-4,911	-4,499	-4,499	+412	---
Subtotal.....	420	228	228	-192	---
Total, Power Marketing Administrations.....	108,242	105,000	105,000	-3,242	---
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission					
Salaries and expenses.....	304,600	327,277	304,389	-211	-22,888
Revenues applied.....	-304,600	-327,277	-304,389	+211	+22,888
General Provisions					
Title III Rescissions:					
Department of Energy:					
Energy Efficiency and Energy Reliability.....	---	---	-9,740	-9,740	-9,740
Science.....	---	---	-3,262	-3,262	-3,262
Nuclear Energy.....	---	---	-121	-121	-121
Fossil Energy Research and Development.....	---	---	-10,413	-10,413	-10,413

DIVISION D, ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability.....	---	---	-331	-331	-331
Advanced Research Projects Agency - Energy.....	---	---	-18	-18	-18
Construction, Rehabilitation, Operation and Maintenance, Western Area Power Administration..	---	---	-1,632	-1,632	-1,632
Weapons activities (050).....	---	---	-6,298	-6,298	-6,298
Office of the Administrator (050).....	---	---	-413	-413	-413
Departmental Administration.....	---	---	-928	-928	-928
Defense Environmental Cleanup (050).....	---	---	-9,983	-9,983	-9,983
Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation (050).....	---	---	-1,390	-1,390	-1,390
Naval Reactors (050).....	---	---	-160	-160	-160
Other Defense Activities (050).....	---	---	-551	-551	-551
Subtotal.....	---	---	-45,240	-45,240	-45,240
Total, title III, Department of Energy.....	27,281,046	28,436,428	27,916,797	+635,751	-519,631
Appropriations.....	(27,355,464)	(28,443,028)	(28,152,876)	(+797,412)	(-290,152)
Rescissions.....	(-74,418)	(-6,600)	(-236,079)	(-161,661)	(-229,479)

TITLE IV - INDEPENDENT AGENCIES

Appalachian Regional Commission.....	80,317	68,200	90,000	+9,683	+21,800
Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board.....	28,000	30,150	28,500	+500	-1,650
Delta Regional Authority.....	12,000	12,319	12,000	---	-319

DIVISION D, ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Denali Commission.....	10,000	7,396	10,000	---	+2,604
Northern Border Regional Commission.....	5,000	3,000	5,000	---	+2,000
Southeast Crescent Regional Commission.....	250	---	250	---	+250
<b>Nuclear Regulatory Commission:</b>					
Salaries and expenses.....	1,043,937	1,047,433	1,003,233	-40,704	-44,200
Revenues.....	-920,721	-925,155	-885,375	+35,346	+39,780
<b>Subtotal.....</b>	<b>123,216</b>	<b>122,278</b>	<b>117,858</b>	<b>-5,358</b>	<b>-4,420</b>
<b>Office of Inspector General:</b>					
Revenues.....	11,955	12,071	12,071	+116	---
	-9,994	-10,099	-10,099	-105	---
<b>Subtotal.....</b>	<b>1,961</b>	<b>1,972</b>	<b>1,972</b>	<b>+11</b>	<b>---</b>
<b>Total, Nuclear Regulatory Commission.....</b>	<b>125,177</b>	<b>124,250</b>	<b>119,830</b>	<b>-5,347</b>	<b>-4,420</b>
<b>Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board.....</b>	<b>3,400</b>	<b>3,400</b>	<b>3,400</b>	<b>---</b>	<b>---</b>

DIVISION D, ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Office of the Federal Coordinator for Alaska Natural Gas Transportation Projects.....	1,000	---	---	-1,000	---
Total, title IV, Independent agencies.....	265,144	248,715	268,980	+3,836	+20,265
Appropriations.....	(265,144)	(248,715)	(268,980)	(+3,836)	(+20,265)
Grand total.....	34,126,787	34,261,138	34,780,277	+653,490	+519,139
Appropriations.....	(34,201,205)	(34,296,238)	(35,044,856)	(+843,651)	(+748,618)
Rescissions.....	(-74,418)	(-35,100)	(-264,579)	(-190,161)	(-229,479)

1/ Totals adjusted to net out alternative financing costs, reimbursable agreement funding, and power purchase and wheeling expenditures. Offsetting collection totals only reflect funds collected for annual expenses, excluding power purchase wheeling

**DIVISION E—FINANCIAL SERVICES AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015**

Language included in House Report 113–508 that is not changed by this explanatory statement is approved. This explanatory statement, while repeating some report language for emphasis, is not intended to negate the language referenced in the House Committee report unless expressly provided herein.

**Program, Project and Activity.**—During fiscal year 2015, for the purposes of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (Public Law 99–177), as amended, with respect to appropriations contained in Division E of the agreement, the terms “program, project, and activity” (PPA) shall mean any item for which a dollar amount is contained in appropriations acts (including joint resolutions providing continuing appropriations) or accompanying reports of the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate (Committees), or accompanying conference reports and joint explanatory statements of the committee of conference.

**Operating Plan.**—Each agency shall submit an operating plan to the Committees not later than 60 days after enactment of this Act to establish the baseline for application of reprogramming and transfer authorities. The operating plan shall provide a table for each appropriation with columns displaying the budget request; adjustments made by Congress; adjustments for rescissions, if appropriate; and the fiscal year enacted level. The table shall delineate the appropriation both by object class and by PPA, and identify items of special congressional interest.

**Reprogramming of Funds.**—The bill includes a general provision (section 608) establishing the authority of agencies to reprogram funds, the limitation on that authority, and the circumstances under which the advance approval of the Committees is required prior to the reprogramming of funds. Except in emergency situations, reprogramming requests should be submitted no later than June 30.

When a Department or agency submits a reprogramming or transfer request to the Committees and does not receive identical responses from the House and the Senate, it is the responsibility of the Department or agency to reconcile the House and the Senate differences before proceeding, and if reconciliation is not possible, to consider the request to reprogram funds unapproved.

**Relationship with Budget Offices.**—The bill directs that justifications submitted with the fiscal year 2016 budget requests by agencies funded under this Act must contain the customary level of detailed data and explanatory statements to support the appropriations requests at the level of detail contained in the funding table included at the end of the report. Among other items, agencies shall provide a detailed discussion of proposed new initiatives, proposed changes in the agency's financial plan from prior year enactment, and detailed data on all programs and comprehensive information on any office or agency restructurings. At a minimum, each agency must also provide adequate justification for funding and staffing changes for each individual office. Explanatory materials should compare programs, projects, and activities that are proposed for fiscal year 2016 to the fiscal year 2015 enacted level. The budget justification materials shall also incorporate a separate table briefly describing the top management challenges for fiscal year 2015 as identified by the agency inspector general, along with

an explanation of how the fiscal year 2016 budget request addresses each such management challenge.

**Agency Reports.**—Agencies funded by this Act that currently provide separate copies of periodic reports and correspondence to the chairs and ranking members of the House and Senate Appropriations Committees and Subcommittees on Financial Services and General Government are directed to use a single cover letter jointly addressed to the chairs and ranking members of the Committees and Subcommittees of both the House and the Senate. To the greatest extent feasible, agencies should include in the cover letter a reference or hyperlink to facilitate electronic access to the report and provide the documents by electronic mail delivery. These measures will help reduce costs, conserve paper, expedite agency processing, and ensure that consistent information is conveyed concurrently to the majority and minority committee offices of both chambers of Congress.

**TITLE I—DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY**

**DEPARTMENTAL OFFICES  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES**

The bill provides \$210,000,000 for departmental offices salaries and expenses. Within the amount provided under this heading, \$9,500,000 is for the audit, oversight, and administration of the Gulf Coast Restoration Trust Fund, including evaluation of implementation plans submitted by Gulf Coast States and coastal political subdivisions; \$3,400,000 is for the development and implementation of programs within the Office of Critical Infrastructure Protection and Compliance Policy; and up to \$1,000,000 is for continued contributions to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development to cover the Department's participation in programs related to global tax administration.

**Communication Failures.**—The Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate are concerned about the responsiveness of the Office of the Secretary and the Office of Legislative Affairs to Congressional requests. Communication failures undermine the Administration's ability to achieve its legislative priorities and the Congress' ability to understand the activities, expenditures, budget needs and policy priorities of the Department's bureaus and offices. The Office of the Secretary and the Office of Legislative Affairs are strongly encouraged to provide timely and complete responses to Congressional requests, to make officials and staff available for briefings, and to follow through when additional agency action is required.

**Cloud Computing Usage.**—Well-planned cloud-based computing solutions offer the opportunity for potential savings on the order of millions of dollars. The Department shall provide a report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate by September 30, 2015, on current and planned cloud computing usage by bureau and office. The report should also include the costs and savings in 2014–15 realized as a result of such usage, plans to retire associated legacy systems, and milestones in meeting Federal security standards.

**Wildlife Trafficking.**—The Secretary shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate and the appropriate authorizing committees, not later than 90 days after the date of enactment, outlining the specific steps being taken by the Department to further address wildlife trafficking and illegal natural re-

sources trade, the engagement of the Department with the Presidential Task Force on Wildlife Trafficking, steps taken by the Department to implement the National Strategy on Wildlife Trafficking, resources aligned to activities and initiatives to address wildlife and natural resources trafficking, and recommendations for any authorities needed to combat money laundering related to wildlife trafficking and the trade of illegally harvested timber.

**Foreclosure Crisis.**—The Secretary is directed to encourage mortgage servicers and investors, including Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, to consider and implement foreclosure mitigation authorities as provided in P.L. 110–343 to help save taxpayer dollars while allowing homeowners to remain in their homes. The Department shall also ensure mortgage servicers are properly complying with the Home Affordable Modification Program (HAMP) agreements and to provide ample technical assistance and outreach to properly educate servicers about their responsibilities under the program.

**Crimea.**—Due to concerns about the Russian aggression in Ukraine, Russia's illegal annexation of Crimea, and Russia's illegal and unacceptable efforts to exploit stolen Crimean resources, the Department is urged to spend none of the funds in this Act to recognize, or imply recognition, of the sovereignty of the Russian Federation over Crimea, its territory, airspace, or territorial waters.

**Cybercrime.**—To better enhance data protection, the Department of the Treasury shall report to Congress within 120 days after enactment identifying ways in which it engages with various Federal law enforcement agencies and regulators, including but not limited to the Department of Homeland Security, including the Secret Service, and the Department of Justice, as well as key international partners, to coordinate to combat cybercrime and data breaches. In particular, this report should include ways that these law enforcement entities currently, or may in the future, leverage resources of other agencies in order to enhance data security. Further, the report should identify where Federal regulatory agencies fail to effectively cooperate with each other as well as with law enforcement to ensure the most effective protections, standards, and enforcement measures are in place to protect consumers' financial data. The report should also identify recommendations for additional supervision, legislation, regulation and enforcement where significant gaps exist.

**Ivory Poaching.**—The Department is directed to pursue and enforce money laundering and other related laws as related to the illegal ivory trade, particularly in Africa, and to report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate semi-annually during fiscal year 2015 on enforcement actions taken during such fiscal year.

**Gulf Coast Restoration.**—The Department is directed to report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate within 180 days of enactment on staffing for oversight and implementation of the Gulf Coast Restoration Trust Fund, including full-time equivalents hired and their specific responsibilities, and applications for the fund, including number of applications received, and the average number of days to approve or reject complete applications. Consistent with Subtitle F of Public Law 112–141, the Department's statutory role in administering the Direct Component is not to determine which projects and programs will best benefit the Gulf Coast region. Instead, Treasury is expected to expeditiously review applications



to solely determine compliance with eligibility criteria and other requirements set forth in the Resources and Ecosystem Sustainability, Tourist Opportunities, and Revived Economies of the Gulf Coast States (RESTORE) Act and other Federal laws and policies.

*Management of Capital Investments.*—As required by Section 120 of this bill, the Department is directed to submit a Capital Investment Plan to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate, including estimated funding requirements for the lifetime capital needs of a project, not just the budget year, and meaningful, understandable summaries of capital investments by project type.

OFFICE OF TERRORISM AND FINANCIAL  
INTELLIGENCE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill provides \$112,500,000 for the Office of Terrorism and Financial Intelligence, of which no more than \$27,000,000 is for administrative expenses and \$1,000,000 is available until September 30, 2016.

*Economic Sanctions and Divestments.*—The Department of the Treasury will fully implement sanctions and divestment measures applicable to the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant, Russia, North Korea, Syria, Iran, Sudan, Zimbabwe and designated rebel groups operating in and around the Democratic Republic of Congo. The Department will promptly notify the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate of any resource constraints that adversely impact the implementation of these sanctions programs.

DEPARTMENT-WIDE SYSTEMS AND CAPITAL  
INVESTMENTS PROGRAMS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill provides \$2,725,000 for the Department-Wide Systems and Capital Investments Programs.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill provides \$35,351,000 for the Office of Inspector General.

The Inspector General shall utilize funds provided to perform audits on Treasury's anti-money laundering and terrorist financing activities, capital investment spending and planning, and the Community Development Financial Institutions Fund.

TREASURY INSPECTOR GENERAL FOR TAX  
ADMINISTRATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill provides \$158,210,000 for salaries and expenses of the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration (TIGTA).

TIGTA is directed to keep the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate regularly informed about its ongoing audit, investigative, and examination work, including briefings on final reports before such reports are publicly released.

SPECIAL INSPECTOR GENERAL FOR THE  
TROUBLED ASSET RELIEF PROGRAM

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill provides \$34,234,000 for salaries and expenses of the Office of the Special Inspector General for the Troubled Asset Relief Program (SIGTARP).

SIGTARP is expected, within its audits and investigations, to continue to monitor the Hardest Hit Fund (HHF) and alert the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate if any HHF funds are used inappropriately by any State or local govern-

ment for the purpose of funding pension obligations.

FINANCIAL CRIMES ENFORCEMENT NETWORK  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill provides \$112,000,000 for salaries and expenses of the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN).

FinCEN is directed to continue efforts to improve the completeness and reliability of Bank Secrecy Act data in accordance with Treasury Inspector General and Government Accountability Office (GAO) recommendations. FinCEN is directed to submit a written update to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate within 60 days of enactment on the status of its reorganization including information about any significant impacts on productivity due to staff transitions, as well as a final report one year after the last step of the reorganization is completed. As part of marshalling its unique expertise in analyzing financial flows to combat human trafficking, in the course of ongoing strategic operations, FinCEN shall routinely monitor the effectiveness of its September 2014 advisory to financial institutions on including red flag indicators in relevant suspicious activity report narratives.

TREASURY FORFEITURE FUND  
(RESCISSION)

The bill includes a rescission of \$769,000,000 of the unobligated balances in the Treasury Forfeiture Fund.

BUREAU OF THE FISCAL SERVICE  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill provides \$348,184,000 for salaries and expenses of the Bureau of the Fiscal Service, and provides \$165,000 to be derived from the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund to reimburse Fiscal Service personnel for financial management of the fund.

*Do Not Pay Center.*—The Bureau is directed to submit a report within 180 days of enactment of this Act to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate on its progress toward developing the Do Not Pay Center, including how the center incorporates (1) comparisons of payment and beneficiary enrollment lists for State programs that use Federal funds to identify improper payments, (2) reviews of payments across Federal programs to identify payment duplication, and (3) metrics used to determine the effectiveness of analytical and investigatory efforts to reduce improper payments.

ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO TAX AND TRADE  
BUREAU

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill provides \$100,000,000 for salaries and expenses of the Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau. Within this amount, \$3,000,000 is for the cost of special law enforcement agents to target tobacco smuggling and other criminal diversion activities.

The Bureau is directed to include in their fiscal year 2016 budget request the full cost of supporting special law enforcement agents working on tobacco smuggling and other criminal diversion activities solely within the Bureau. These activities are clearly within the Bureau's expertise and should be better reflected in the Bureau's future budget requests.

UNITED STATES MINT

UNITED STATES MINT PUBLIC ENTERPRISE FUND

The bill specifies that not more than \$20,000,000 in new liabilities and obligations may be incurred during fiscal year 2015 for circulating coinage and protective service capital investments of the U.S. Mint.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FINANCIAL  
INSTITUTIONS FUND PROGRAM ACCOUNT

The bill provides \$230,500,000 for the Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI) Fund program. Within this amount, not less than \$152,400,000 is for financial and technical assistance grants; not less than \$15,000,000 is for technical assistance and other purposes for Native American, Native Hawaiian, and Alaskan Native communities; not less than \$22,000,000 is for the Healthy Food Financing Initiative; not less than \$18,000,000 is for the Bank Enterprise Award program; and up to \$23,100,000 is for administrative expenses. The bill limits the total loan principal for the Bond Guarantee program to \$750,000,000.

*Healthy Food Financing Initiative.*—The CDFI Fund is directed to encourage awardees to include food hubs as part of the overall strategy for increasing the availability of healthy, affordable foods, as required under the Healthy Food Financing Initiative.

*CDFI Capacity Building.*—To enhance the CDFI Fund's efforts in building the capacity of CDFIs to serve the needs of underserved communities, \$1,000,000 is provided to support the enhancement of CDFIs' presence and activities in underserved communities.

*Non-Metropolitan and Rural Areas.*—The Treasury Department is directed to take into consideration the unique conditions, challenges and scale of non-metropolitan areas when designing programs to address economic revitalization and community development.

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE

*Operating Plan and Notification.*—In its operating plan submitted to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate (Committees), the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) shall include comments of the IRS Oversight Board as well as details on any planned agency reorganizations, job reductions, or increases to offices or activities, and modifications to any service or enforcement activity, and shall promptly notify the Committees and the IRS Oversight Board of any substantial changes to these plans.

*Budget Presentation for Staffing of New Initiatives.*—The IRS is directed to ensure that the justification materials submitted to the Committees for fiscal year 2016 accurately reflect the anticipated hiring dates for staff identified for proposed new initiatives, rather than assuming that such planned hiring will occur at the start of the fiscal year.

*Reconciliation.*—The IRS shall submit quarterly reports about reconciling advance premium tax credits as described in House Report 113-508.

*Bonuses.*—Not later than 30 days after enactment of this Act, the Commissioner shall submit a report to the Committees on the policy used to consider conduct issues resulting in disciplinary actions, including the nonpayment of taxes, prior to awarding all types of employee performance and discretionary awards. This report shall also explain the internal controls that ensure strict adherence to the policy by IRS management.

TAXPAYER SERVICES

The bill provides \$2,156,554,000 for Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Taxpayer Services. Within the overall amount, not less than \$10,000,000 is for low-income taxpayer clinic grants, not less than \$7,000,000 is for the Tax Counseling for the Elderly program, and not less than \$206,000,000 is provided for operating expenses of the IRS Taxpayer Advocate Service, of which not less than \$5,000,000 is for identity theft casework.

In addition, within the overall amount provided, not less than \$12,000,000, available

until September 30, 2016, is included for the Community Volunteer Income Tax Assistance matching grants program.

**Free File.**—In lieu of the House report language requiring monthly reports on the Free File program, IRS is directed to provide quarterly briefings to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate on actions taken and planned to complete a five-year Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Free File Alliance in a timely manner. The current MOU expires in October 2015 and this valuable service should continue without interruption.

**Taxpayer Assistance Blueprint Updates.**—The IRS, the IRS Oversight Board, and the National Taxpayer Advocate are directed to continue to submit to Congress annual updates to the Taxpayer Assistance Blueprint identifying any changes to the current strategic plan for taxpayer service, including the results of any new research and relevant findings, and any open issues requiring additional research.

**Rural Service Delivery Issues.**—The IRS is directed to identify changes to its current strategic plan for taxpayer service delivery to help alleviate difficulties faced by rural taxpayers seeking guidance and assistance to properly file their tax returns. The IRS is directed to examine the impacts on minority, rural, elderly, disabled, and low-income populations of closing Taxpayer Assistance Center locations, limiting the types of questions and time of year IRS employees can answer such questions, and eliminating the tax return preparation assistance for qualifying taxpayers.

**Taxpayer Services in Alaska and Hawaii.**—As directed annually since fiscal year 1997, the IRS shall continue to staff each Taxpayer Advocate Service Center in Alaska and Hawaii with a collection technical advisor and an examination technical advisor in addition to the current complement of office staff.

#### ENFORCEMENT

The bill provides \$4,860,000,000 for Enforcement.

**Combating Refund Fraud and Identity Theft.**—The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) is directed to institute, and share with the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate (Committees) within 90 days of enactment of this Act, an updated action plan and timetable predicated on a goal of reducing by half the average amount of time a taxpayer must await a disposition of a refund fraud claim.

**Preventing Payroll Tax Fraud.**—The IRS is directed to intensify its scrutiny of questionable practices of payroll service providers and continue to inform taxpayers of their responsibility for payment of all Federal and State employment taxes notwithstanding any contractual relationship with a payroll service provider. The IRS is further directed to update its 2014 report to the Committees within 60 days of enactment of this Act of changes in information provided in the earlier submission.

**Addressing Fraud and Filing Errors in Refundable Credit Programs.**—In an effort to reduce intentional fraud and filing errors in refundable credit programs intended to help taxpayers, the Department of the Treasury is directed to ensure that the same questions are being asked of taxpayers whether they are preparing their returns with a paid tax preparer or via do it-yourself methods such as paper forms, preparation software, or online preparation tools. Implementing uniform questions for refundable credit filers is a common sense step that will help alleviate confusion over eligibility and better estab-

lish qualification for these credits. The Department of the Treasury shall ensure that all questions asked on forms 8867 or 9867, or for any other refundable tax credit programs, will be the same questions the Internal Revenue Service requires tax filers to answer regardless of filing method.

**Misclassification of Contractors.**—Prior to any staffing reductions at IRS SS-8 processing locations, the IRS shall provide a report to the Committees detailing the past 5 years of staffing levels and employee productivity, SS-8 receipt volumes, and rationale for the proposed workforce changes.

#### OPERATIONS SUPPORT

The bill provides \$3,638,446,000 for Operations Support.

**Information Technology Management and Oversight.**—The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) shall include within its fiscal year 2016 budget request a proposed long-term multiyear funding strategy and timetable to upgrade and modernize the aging legacy IRS information technology infrastructure. The IRS shall utilize and keep the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate informed of a strategic plan, including identification of specific short-term and long-term opportunities for new or enhanced uses of e-services and an assessment of the related resource needs.

#### BUSINESS SYSTEMS MODERNIZATION

The bill provides \$290,000,000 for Business Systems Modernization.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE

##### (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill includes the following provisions: Section 101 provides transfer authority.

Section 102 requires the IRS to maintain an employee training program on topics such as taxpayers' rights.

Section 103 requires the IRS to safeguard taxpayer information and to protect taxpayers against identity theft.

Section 104 permits funding for 1-800 help line services for taxpayers and directs the Commissioner to make improving phone service a priority and to enhance response times.

Section 105 prohibits funds for videos unless reviewed in advance by the IRS' Video Editorial Board for cost, topic, tone, and purpose.

Section 106 requires the IRS to issue notices to employers of any address change request and to give special consideration to offers in compromise for taxpayers who have been victims of payroll tax preparer fraud.

Section 107 prohibits the use of funds by the IRS to target United States citizens for exercising any right guaranteed under the First Amendment to the Constitution.

Section 108 prohibits the use of funds by the IRS to target groups for regulatory scrutiny based on their ideological beliefs.

Section 109 requires the IRS to comply with procedures and policies on conference spending in accordance with IRS policies issued as a result of Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration recommendations.

Section 110 prohibits the IRS from using funds made available by this Act to contravene a provision of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 related to the confidentiality and disclosure of returns and return information.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

##### (INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The bill includes the following provisions:

Section 111 allows Treasury to use funds for certain specified expenses.

Section 112 allows for the transfer of up to 2 percent of funds among various Treasury bureaus and offices.

Section 113 allows for the transfer of up to 2 percent from the IRS accounts to the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration.

Section 114 prohibits funding to redesign the \$1 note.

Section 115 allows for the transfer of funds from the Bureau of Fiscal Service-Salaries and Expenses to the Debt Collection Fund conditional on future reimbursement.

Section 116 prohibits funds to build a United States Mint museum without the approval of the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate and the authorizing committees of jurisdiction.

Section 117 prohibits funding for consolidating the functions of the United States Mint and the Bureau of Engraving and Printing without the approval of the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate and the authorizing committees of jurisdiction.

Section 118 specifies that funds for Treasury intelligence activities are deemed to be specifically authorized until enactment of the fiscal year 2015 intelligence authorization act.

Section 119 permits the Bureau of Engraving and Printing to use up to \$5,000 from the Industrial Revolving Fund for reception and representation expenses.

Section 120 requires the Secretary to submit a Capital Investment Plan.

Section 121 requires the Office of Financial Research and Office of Financial Stability Oversight to submit quarterly reports.

Section 122 requires a Franchise Fund report.

Section 123 requires the Department to submit a report on economic warfare and financial terrorism.

**Health Insurance Exchange Premium Payments.**—The Secretary shall submit each month to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate an accounting of the number of individuals who have not paid the full amount of any premium owed for the preceding month for coverage under a qualified health plan that was enrolled in through a health insurance exchange.

#### TITLE II—EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT AND FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT

##### THE WHITE HOUSE

##### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill provides \$55,000,000 for the salaries and expenses of the White House. The Executive Office of the President is directed to allocate sufficient resources to continue the robust operation of the Office of National AIDS Policy and to continue to coordinate a Government-wide effort to achieve the goals of the National HIV/AIDS strategy.

##### EXECUTIVE RESIDENCE AT THE WHITE HOUSE

##### OPERATING EXPENSES

The bill provides \$12,700,000 for the Executive Residence at the White House.

##### WHITE HOUSE REPAIR AND RESTORATION

The bill provides \$625,000 for repair, alteration and improvement of the Executive Residence at the White House.

##### COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISERS

##### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill provides \$4,184,000 for the salaries and expenses of the Council of Economic Advisers.

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL AND HOMELAND  
SECURITY COUNCIL

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill provides \$12,600,000 for the salaries and expenses of the National Security Council and Homeland Security Council.

OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill provides \$111,300,000 for the salaries and expenses of the Office of Administration. The bill includes not to exceed \$12,006,000, to remain available until expended, for information technology modernization. The Office of Administration is directed to continue to implement comprehensive policies to preserve all records, including electronic records, consistent with the Presidential Records Act, the Federal Records Act, and other pertinent laws, and in close coordination with the National Archives and Records Administration.

OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill provides \$91,750,000 for the salaries and expenses of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

OMB is directed to allocate increased funds toward non-politically appointed civil service staff and to utilize additional resources to respond to, in a timely and complete manner, requests from Congress.

In lieu of House report language regarding reports on personnel and obligations, OMB is directed to provide the Committees with quarterly reports on personnel and obligations, including: on-board staffing levels by office, estimated staffing levels by office for the remainder of the fiscal year, total obligations incurred to date, estimated total obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year, and a narrative description of current hiring initiatives and any other issues that affect OMB's ability to add additional staff as intended.

OMB is directed to continue to enhance the Federal Budgeting System, which is accessed by over 1,000 users Government-wide to collect, analyze and publish information related to the Federal budget, and to notify the Committees of any cost-effective opportunities that OMB may identify to further improve the system.

Agency staffing decisions should be based on agency workload and the level of funds made available rather than pre-determined formulaic reductions. Decisions to backfill vacant positions should be based on the number of staff with the combination of skills and qualifications necessary to carry out the agency's mission within available funding levels. The OMB Director shall report within 60 days of enactment of this Act to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate (Committees) on any agencies not adhering to the policies mentioned above.

OMB is directed to issue guidance, consistent with section 735 of division D of the Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009, Public Law 111-8, and section 739(a)(1) of division D of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2008 (Public Law 110-161), and section 327 of the 2008 National Defense Authorization Act (Public Law 110-181), regarding use of direct conversions to contract out, in whole or in part, activities or functions last performed by Federal employees.

OMB is directed to issue guidance within 60 days of enactment of this Act, notifying all agencies of their responsibilities to adhere to the requirements included in the Government-wide general provisions.

OMB shall notify the Committees annually of any agencies that fail to report conference

expenditures on their agency websites, as required by OMB Memorandum M-12-12.

OMB shall report to the Committees within 180 days of enactment of this Act on recommendations to improve the Federal Acquisition Regulation to prevent agencies from issuing contract incentives to underperforming contractors.

In lieu of the general provision previously included in this bill to require certain agencies to provide quarterly reports on unobligated balances, OMB is directed to report to the Committees within 45 days of the end of each fiscal quarter on available balances at the start of the fiscal year, current year obligations, and resulting unobligated balances for each discretionary account within the following agencies: the Department of the Treasury, the Executive Office of the President, the Federal Communications Commission, the Federal Trade Commission, the General Services Administration, the National Archives and Records Administration, the Securities and Exchange Commission, and the Small Business Administration.

OFFICE OF NATIONAL DRUG CONTROL POLICY

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill provides \$22,647,000 for salaries and expenses of the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP).

There is cause for concern about the increasing popularity of synthetic drugs, particularly among teens and young adults. Synthetic drugs have caused significant abuse, addiction, emergency department visits, organ damage, and overdose deaths. ONDCP is directed to report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate no later than 90 days after enactment of this Act on: (1) what preventative steps the Administration is taking to educate people about the health risks posed by these substances; (2) how the Administration intends to address the manufacture, distribution, sale and use of synthetic drugs; and (3) ONDCP's coordination with other Federal agencies, Drug-Free Community coalitions, and High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) partners to combat this threat.

FEDERAL DRUG CONTROL PROGRAMS

HIGH INTENSITY DRUG TRAFFICKING AREAS  
PROGRAM

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The bill provides \$245,000,000 for the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA) Program.

ONDCP is directed to consult with the HIDTAs in advance of deciding programmatic spending allocations for discretionary (supplemental) funding.

ONDCP is directed to transfer HIDTA funds to the appropriate drug control agencies expeditiously and provisions are included in the bill to help prevent delay. Transferred funds that are no longer necessary for their original purpose may be transferred back to the HIDTA program.

HIDTA funds should not be used to supplant existing support for ongoing Federal, State, or local drug control operations normally funded out of the operating budgets of each agency. ONDCP is directed to withhold all HIDTA funds from a State until such time as a State or locality has met its financial obligation.

The Midwest region continues to serve as a strategic conduit for drug traffickers between the east and west coasts. ONDCP is directed to update the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate on how its programs are addressing these challenges.

In previous years, ONDCP has provided HIDTA discretionary funding for a Native

American program to combat drug trafficking on tribal lands. This is a worthwhile and necessary investment that should be continued.

Opioid addiction and the resultant increase in trafficking of, and addiction to, heroin is an emergent threat to communities across the nation. To the extent practicable, ONDCP is encouraged, in consultation with the HIDTA Directors, to prioritize discretionary funds to aid States that have identified heroin addiction as an emergent threat and that are developing community responses to combat addiction to heroin and other opioids.

OTHER FEDERAL DRUG CONTROL PROGRAMS

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The bill provides \$107,150,000 for Other Federal Drug Control Programs. The agreement allocates funds among specific programs as follows:

Drug-Free Communities Program .....	93,500,000
(Training .....	2,000,000)
Drug court training and technical assistance .....	1,400,000
Anti-Doping activities .....	9,000,000
World Anti-Doping Agency (U.S. membership dues) .....	2,000,000
Discretionary Grants as authorized by P.L. 109-469, section 1105 .....	1,250,000

ONDCP and Drug Free Communities grantees should emphasize training and assistance in the prevention of prescription drug and heroin abuse in States that have seen a spike in opioid abuse. Training, assistance, and coordination with other State and local efforts can reduce heroin and prescription opioid addiction through education and prevention efforts.

UNANTICIPATED NEEDS

The bill provides \$800,000 for Unanticipated Needs.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY OVERSIGHT AND  
REFORM

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill provides \$20,000,000 for information technology oversight and reform activities. The bill continues language requiring the submission of quarterly reports outlining the savings achieved through the Administration's information technology reform efforts.

**High Priority IT Investments.**—The Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate are concerned about the large number of major IT development projects that are over-budget, off-schedule and ultimately fail to function. To address these concerns, funding is included to support the budget request for the new "Digital Service", which will provide enhanced oversight and guidance for major IT investments. As one component of this oversight, the Executive Office of the President (EOP) shall identify the 10 highest priority IT investment projects that are under development across Federal agencies and report quarterly to the Committees on Appropriations, the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform on the status of these projects. In addition, the EOP shall provide the Committees on Appropriations a quarterly report describing progress made by the Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Affairs to build interoperability between the current Electronic Health Records (EHR) legacy systems and future EHR systems.

**IT Dashboard.**—The EOP is directed to issue guidance to Federal agencies requiring all major IT investments to be consistently included on the IT Dashboard, to explore other meaningful data to include on the

Dashboard, and to ensure the accuracy of investment data.

**SPECIAL ASSISTANCE TO THE PRESIDENT  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES**

The bill provides \$4,211,000 for salaries and expenses to enable the Vice President to provide special assistance to the President.

**OFFICIAL RESIDENCE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT  
OPERATING EXPENSES  
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)**

The bill provides \$299,000 for operating expenses for the official residence of the Vice President.

**ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT AND FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT**

**(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)**

The bill provides the following Administrative Provisions under this title:

Section 201 provides transfer authority among various Executive Office of the President accounts.

Section 202 requires the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to report on the costs of implementing the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (Public Law 111-203).

Section 203 requires the Director of the OMB to include a statement of budgetary impact with any Executive order issued during fiscal year 2015.

Section 204 requires a detailed narrative and financial plan for Office of National Drug Control Policy Funds.

Section 205 provides transfer authority among Office of National Drug Control Policy accounts.

Section 206 governs reprogramming of Office of National Drug Control Policy funds.

Section 207 provides a technical correction to the fiscal year 2014 Data-Driven Innovation appropriations language.

**TITLE III—THE JUDICIARY**

**SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES**

The bill provides \$74,967,000 for the salaries and expenses of the Supreme Court. In addition, the bill provides mandatory costs as authorized by current law for the salaries of the chief justice and associate justices of the court.

**CARE OF THE BUILDING AND GROUNDS**

The bill provides \$11,640,000 for the care of the Supreme Court building and grounds.

The Supreme Court shall provide biannual updates of the facade stone restoration project as well as any other significant rehabilitative work to be undertaken, including descriptions, timelines, and funding details.

**UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE  
FEDERAL CIRCUIT**

**SALARIES AND EXPENSES**

The bill provides \$30,212,000 for the salaries and expenses of the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit. In addition, the bill provides mandatory costs as authorized by current law for the salaries of the chief judge and judges of the court.

**UNITED STATES COURT OF INTERNATIONAL  
TRADE**

**SALARIES AND EXPENSES**

The bill provides \$17,807,000 for the salaries and expenses of the United States Court of International Trade. In addition, the bill provides mandatory costs as authorized by current law for the salaries of the chief judge and judges of the court.

**COURTS OF APPEALS, DISTRICT COURTS, AND  
OTHER JUDICIAL SERVICES**

**SALARIES AND EXPENSES**

The bill provides \$4,846,818,000 for the salaries and expenses of the Courts of Appeals,

District Courts, and Other Judicial Services. In addition, the bill provides mandatory costs as authorized by current law for the salaries of circuit and district judges (including judges of the territorial courts of the United States), bankruptcy judges, and justices and judges retired from office or from regular active service. The bill provides the Judiciary with its most current estimate of costs for this account. The bill also provides \$5,423,000 from the Vaccine Injury Compensation Trust Fund.

The Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts in coordination with the Court of Federal claims is directed to submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate (Committees) on the historical caseload, staffing, and spending levels for the Vaccine Injury Compensation Trust Fund within 120 days of enactment of this Act.

Beginning in fiscal year 2016, the Judiciary shall provide to the Committees annually, as part of its budget justification, a description of its courthouse capital planning process, including the Judiciary's highest priorities for that fiscal year.

**DEFENDER SERVICES**

The bill provides \$1,016,499,000 for Defender Services. The bill provides the Judiciary with its most current estimate of costs for this account.

**FEES OF JURORS AND COMMISSIONERS**

The bill provides \$52,191,000 for Fees of Jurors and Commissioners. The bill provides the Judiciary with its most current estimate of costs for this account.

**COURT SECURITY**

**(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)**

The bill provides \$513,975,000 for Court Security. The bill provides the Judiciary with its most current estimate of costs for this account.

**ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE UNITED  
STATES COURTS**

**SALARIES AND EXPENSES**

The bill provides \$84,399,000 for the salaries and expenses of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts.

**FEDERAL JUDICIAL CENTER**

**SALARIES AND EXPENSES**

The bill provides \$26,959,000 for the salaries and expenses of the Federal Judicial Center.

**UNITED STATES SENTENCING COMMISSION**

**SALARIES AND EXPENSES**

The bill provides \$16,894,000 for the salaries and expenses of the United States Sentencing Commission.

**ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—THE JUDICIARY  
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)**

The bill includes the following administrative provisions:

Section 301 makes funds appropriated for salaries and expenses available for services authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109.

Section 302 provides transfer authority among Judiciary appropriations.

Section 303 permits not more than \$11,000 to be used for official reception and representation expenses of the Judicial Conference.

Section 304 extends through fiscal year 2015 the delegation of authority to the Judiciary for contracts for repairs of less than \$100,000.

Section 305 continues a pilot program where the United States Marshals Service provides perimeter security services at selected courthouses.

Section 306 extends temporary judgeships in the eastern district of Missouri, Kansas, Arizona, the central district of California,

Hawaii, the northern district of Alabama, the southern district of Florida, New Mexico, the western district of North Carolina, and the eastern district of Texas.

Section 307 establishes a place of holding court in Bakersfield, California.

Section 308 eliminates a reporting requirement.

**TITLE IV—DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
FEDERAL FUNDS**

**FEDERAL PAYMENT FOR RESIDENT TUITION  
SUPPORT**

The bill provides \$30,000,000 for District of Columbia resident tuition support. The State Superintendent is directed to include, as a component of the fiscal year 2016 budget justification submission, an annual update of the District's efforts, including research findings, to enhance the retention, persistence, and graduation rates of program participants, including early awareness and readiness initiatives to promote academic college preparation, guidance, and other support mechanisms and partnerships. The budget justification should also describe the status and effectiveness of cost containment measures instituted.

**FEDERAL PAYMENT FOR EMERGENCY PLANNING  
AND SECURITY COSTS IN THE DISTRICT OF  
COLUMBIA**

The bill provides \$12,500,000 for emergency planning and security costs in the District of Columbia. The District of Columbia is directed to submit a detailed budget justification for emergency planning and security with its funding request for fiscal year 2016. The District of Columbia shall also submit, within 60 days of the end of fiscal year 2015, a report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate detailing the purposes and amounts expended using the funds, particularly noting any deviation from the original proposed spending.

**FEDERAL PAYMENT TO THE DISTRICT OF  
COLUMBIA COURTS**

The bill provides \$245,110,000 for the District of Columbia Courts. Within the amount provided, \$13,622,000 is for the District of Columbia Court of Appeals; \$116,443,000 is for the Superior Court of the District of Columbia; \$71,155,000 is for the District of Columbia Court System; and \$43,890,000 is for capital improvements for District of Columbia court facilities.

**FEDERAL PAYMENT FOR DEFENDER SERVICES IN  
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURTS**

The bill provides \$49,890,000 for Defender Services in District of Columbia Courts.

**FEDERAL PAYMENT TO THE COURT SERVICES  
AND OFFENDER SUPERVISION AGENCY FOR THE  
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

The bill provides \$234,000,000 to the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency for the District of Columbia. Within the amount provided, \$173,155,000 is for Community Supervision and Sex Offender Registration and \$60,845,000 is for the Pretrial Services Agency for the District of Columbia. The recommendation includes \$9,000,000 in multi-year funds for costs associated with the expiration of facility leases.

**FEDERAL PAYMENT TO THE DISTRICT OF  
COLUMBIA PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICE**

The bill provides \$41,231,000 for the District of Columbia Public Defender Service. The recommendation includes a \$1,150,000 multi-year funds provision for costs associated with the expiration of facility leases.

**FEDERAL PAYMENT TO THE DISTRICT OF  
COLUMBIA WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY**

The bill provides \$14,000,000 for the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority.

# FEDERAL PAYMENT TO THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL

The bill provides \$1,900,000 for the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC). The CJCC is directed to submit annual performance measures in a report to accompany the fiscal year 2016 budget justification, which should also describe progress made on specific CJCC initiatives.

# FEDERAL PAYMENT FOR JUDICIAL COMMISSIONS

The bill provides \$565,000 for Judicial Commissions. Within the amount provided, \$295,000 is for the Commission on Judicial Disabilities and Tenure, and \$270,000 is for the Judicial Nomination Commission.

# FEDERAL PAYMENT FOR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

The bill provides \$45,000,000 for school improvement in the District of Columbia, in accordance with the provisions of the Scholarship for Opportunity and Results Act (P.L. 112-10) (SOAR Act).

The Secretary of Education (Secretary) shall ensure that all students eligible for a scholarship are aware of the program and have an opportunity to participate. Within the funds available in this and prior years, the Secretary shall provide scholarships for students currently enrolled and as many new students as financially feasible based on the eligibility requirements outlined in section 3013(3) of the SOAR Act and using the priorities outlined in section 3006 of the SOAR Act.

The Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate (Committees) understand that the Secretary is working on a grant competition for the administration of the Opportunity Scholarships Program (OSP) in accordance with the requirements in section 3004 of the SOAR Act and using the criteria outlined in section 3005 of the SOAR Act. The Committees support this process. In reviewing potential grantees, it is imperative that the Secretary ensure that the administrator of the program improves oversight of the participating schools and increases awareness of the program to eligible students.

In November 2013, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) published a report regarding the management of OSP (GAO-13-805). GAO identified weaknesses in program management signaling a need for improved oversight and attention. The Secretary is directed to submit a written report to the Committees, no later than 60 days following enactment of this Act, describing the specific corrective actions undertaken and the current status of progress to address GAO's recommendations.

The Secretary shall ensure that any grant-ee awarded funds to administer OSP can implement GAO's recommendations and ensure participating schools are in compliance with the statutory requirements of section 3007(a)(4) of the SOAR Act. The Secretary shall also ensure that any grantee awarded funds to administer OSP can increase awareness and participation in the program.

The Mayor is directed to submit, as part of the 2016 budget, a detailed FY 2016-2019 public education facilities plan that will ensure public charter schools access to surplus and underutilized space.

The District of Columbia Public Schools and the Office of the State Superintendent of Education are reminded of the requirement of section 3011 of the SOAR Act to provide annual reports on how the funds provided for the SOAR Act are utilized.

# FEDERAL PAYMENT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA NATIONAL GUARD

The bill provides \$435,000 for the Major General David F. Wherley, Jr. District of Co-

lumbia National Guard Retention and College Access Program.

# FEDERAL PAYMENT FOR TESTING AND TREATMENT OF HIV/AIDS

The bill provides \$5,000,000 for the purpose of HIV/AIDS testing and treatment.

# DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA FUNDS

The bill provides authority for the District of Columbia to spend its local funds in accordance with the Fiscal Year 2015 Budget Request Act of 2014.

# TITLE V—INDEPENDENT AGENCIES

# ADMINISTRATIVE CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED STATES

# SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill provides \$3,100,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016, for the Administrative Conference of the United States.

# COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION (INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The explanatory statement remains silent on provisions that were in the House Report (H. Rpt. 113-468) that remain unchanged by this agreement, except as noted.

The agreement provides \$250,000,000 for the Commodity Futures Trading Commission. This total includes not less than \$50,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016, for information technology investments; not less than \$2,620,000 for the Office of the Inspector General; and not to exceed \$10,000,000 for transfers between the amounts for salaries and expenses and information technology.

The agreement directs the Commission to consult with the Committees in developing its five-year strategic plan as required by Public Law 111-352. The agreement further directs the Commission to develop a comprehensive, multi-year technology plan as a separate appendix with defined goals for overseeing electronic trading environments.

The agreement directs the Commission to submit, within 30 days of enactment, a detailed spending plan for the allocation of the funds made available, displayed by discrete program, project, and activity, including staffing projections, specifying both FTEs and contractors, and planned investments in information technology.

# CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

# SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill includes \$123,000,000 for the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC).

Within the amount provided, \$1,000,000 is for test burden reduction. Resolution is expected on the question of whether the CPSC, within its authority and without materially impacting its core safety work, can provide meaningful third-party testing cost relief while still assuring compliance. The CPSC is urged to articulate to the regulated community any additional data or information the CPSC needs to provide third-party testing cost relief while still assuring compliance. Upon receipt of such information, the CPSC shall inform the regulated community what, if any, steps it can take, and along what timeline, to reduce third-party testing costs while still assuring compliance. The CPSC shall report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate (Committees) on the status of this effort within 90 days of enactment.

Within the amount provided, \$4,000,000 is for port surveillance. This funding increase is provided to address CPSC's ongoing need to fulfill the statutory requirements of section 222 of the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act (CPSIA) of 2008 (P.L. 110-314)

to develop and implement a risk assessment methodology for the identification of shipments of consumer products that are intended for import into the United States and likely to include consumer products in violation of section 17(a) of the CPSIA or other import provisions enforced by the Commission.

As the Commission considers new upholstered furniture flammability standards, CPSC is directed to take steps to reduce or limit the use of flame retardant chemicals.

CPSC is directed to report to the Committees within 180 days of enactment of this Act on the progress to update the current National Operating Committee on Standards for Athletic Equipment (NOCSAE) football helmet standards regarding new and reconditioned football helmets.

In some cases, voluntary standards go further than the existing safety criteria set forth under CPSC mandatory standards for identical products. However, since manufacturers are required by law to comply with the mandatory, but not voluntary standards, the public might not derive the added safety benefit of a more effective voluntary standard. Toward this end, the Commission is requested to report to the committees of jurisdiction within 180 days of enactment of this Act: (1) the extent to which any voluntary standards go further in terms of safety criteria than any similar mandatory standards enforced by the Commission, and, if any, (2) the legislative changes that would be necessary to allow the Commission to make updates more expeditiously to the relevant mandatory standards.

# ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

# SALARIES AND EXPENSES

# (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill provides \$10,000,000 for the salaries and expenses of the Election Assistance Commission (EAC). This includes \$1,900,000 to be transferred to the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST).

As in previous years, within 30 days of the transfer to NIST, NIST shall provide to EAC and the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate a detailed expenditure plan. Both EAC and NIST shall establish priorities for the work jointly in order to meet timelines.

# FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

# SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill provides \$339,844,000 for the salaries and expenses of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). This includes \$300,000 for consultation with Federally recognized Indian tribes, Alaskan Native villages, and entities related to Hawaiian Home Lands, and \$11,090,000 for the FCC Office of Inspector General. The bill provides that \$339,844,000 be derived from offsetting collections, resulting in no net appropriation.

*Call Completion in Rural Areas.*—The FCC shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate within 90 days of enactment of this Act detailing the agency's efforts to resolve call completion issues and to prevent discriminatory delivery of calls to any area of the country.

*Joint Sales Agreements.*—The FCC is directed to outline the process and factors it will use in evaluating waiver requests regarding the recently promulgated rules addressing Joint Sales Agreements. There is concern that questions surrounding this waiver process have caused uncertainty for many broadcasters and possible delays in approval of applications for broadcast license transfers.

# ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

The bill includes the following administrative provisions for the Federal Communications Commission:

Section 501 extends an exemption for the Universal Service Fund.

Section 502 prohibits the FCC from changing rules governing the Universal Service Fund regarding single connection or primary line restrictions.

## FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

The bill provides a transfer of \$34,568,000 to fund the Office of Inspector General (OIG) for the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. The OIG's appropriations are derived from the Deposit Insurance Fund and the FSLIC Resolution Fund.

## FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill provides \$67,500,000 for the salaries and expenses of the Federal Election Commission.

## FEDERAL LABOR RELATIONS AUTHORITY SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill provides \$25,548,000 for the Federal Labor Relations Authority.

## FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill provides \$293,000,000 for the salaries and expenses of the Federal Trade Commission. This appropriation is partially offset by premerger filing and Telemarketing Sales Rule fees estimated at \$100,000,000 and \$14,000,000.

## GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

**White Oak Consolidation.**—The General Services Administration (GSA), in consultation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, is directed to provide a detailed report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate within 120 days of enactment of this Act on the progress for completion, including identification of necessary funding levels, of the fiscal year 2009 Master Plan (Phases II and III) for the White Oak Consolidation.

**Use of Stairs.**—GSA is directed to display signage at various locations in future GSA-owned and leased buildings to encourage the use of stairs and to utilize new building designs that promote the use of stairs.

**Rural Leases.**—GSA is directed to take further steps to improve its leasing process in rural areas.

**Feasibility Studies.**—The Judiciary has completed three-fourths of its asset management planning reviews of Federal courthouse facilities, which were undertaken to address cost containment concerns and to incorporate changes recommended by the Government Accountability Office (GAO) for courthouse construction. However, several of the Federal courthouses that ranked highest in relative urgency under the new evaluation criteria have not received a feasibility study. GSA is directed to perform feasibility studies for the highest ranking Federal courthouses by urgency evaluation scores, as prioritized by the Judiciary's urgency evaluation rating, that have not already undergone such a study.

**Large Scale Construction.**—GSA is encouraged to procure construction goods and services at the best value for the Federal Government on behalf of American taxpayers and to follow existing laws with regard to worker protections and wages.

**Activities Report.**—GSA is directed to submit a report to the Committees on Appropria-

tions of the House and Senate within 120 days of enactment of this Act regarding how it ensures an appropriate level of minority, women, and veteran owned firm participation in its facilities and procurement activities.

**FBI Headquarters Consolidation.**—The FBI headquarters consolidation is expected to result in a full consolidation of FBI headquarters so that employees currently located at the J. Edgar Hoover building may be collocated with colleagues who are currently spread out across 20 leased offices in the region. GSA has begun this important process and narrowed the field down to a short list of 3 possible sites. GSA is expected to move forward in a timely and transparent way so that the agency does not fall behind its acquisition timeline, seeking the appropriate authorization and appropriation as required as the agency works to complete the project.

## REAL PROPERTY ACTIVITIES

### FEDERAL BUILDINGS FUND

#### LIMITATIONS ON AVAILABILITY OF REVENUE (INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The bill provides resources from the General Services Administration (GSA) Federal Buildings Fund totaling \$9,238,310,000.

**Construction and Acquisition.**—The bill provides \$509,670,000 for construction and acquisition.

### CONSTRUCTION AND ACQUISITION

State	Description	Amount
CA .....	Calexico, United States Land Port of Entry .....	\$98,062,000
CA .....	San Ysidro, United States Land Port of Entry ..	\$216,828,000
DC .....	Washington, DHS Consolidation at St. Elizabeths.	\$144,000,000
	National Capital Region, Civilian Cyber Campus.	\$35,000,000
NY .....	Glenville, Scotia Depot Remediation .....	\$15,780,000

**Repairs and Alterations.**—The bill provides \$818,160,000 for repairs and alterations. Funds are provided in the amounts indicated:

Major Repairs and Alterations .....	\$306,894,000
Basic Repairs and Alterations .....	\$390,266,000
Energy and Water Retrofit and Conservation Measures .....	\$5,000,000
Fire and Life Safety Program .....	\$26,000,000
Judiciary Capital Security Program .....	\$20,000,000
Consolidation Activities .....	\$70,000,000

For Major Repairs and Alterations, GSA is directed to submit a spending plan, by project, as specified in Section 516 of this Act to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate (Committees) and to provide notification to the Committees, within 15 days prior to any changes in the use of these funds.

**Rental of Space.**—The bill provides \$5,666,348,000 for rental of space.

**Building Operations.**—The bill provides \$2,244,132,000 for building operations. Within this amount, \$1,122,727,000 is for building services and \$1,121,405,000 is for salaries and expenses. Up to five percent of the funds may be transferred between these activities upon the advance notification to Committees. Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall submit a spend plan, by region, regarding the use of these funds to the Committees.

## GENERAL ACTIVITIES

### GOVERNMENT-WIDE POLICY

The bill provides \$58,000,000 for General Services Administration (GSA) Government-wide policy activities.

**GSA Contracting Issues.**—Untimely payments from prime contractors to subcontractors continue to be a problem. Following up on the guidance in the previous fiscal year, GSA is directed to report to the Committees

on Appropriations of the House and Senate, no later than 120 days after enactment of this Act, on steps taken to improve payments to subcontractors.

**Federal Fleet Maintenance.**—GSA is encouraged to utilize remanufactured vehicle components to maintain Federal vehicles, if using such components reduces the cost while maintaining quality, but not if using such components: (1) does not reduce the cost; (2) lowers the quality of vehicle performance, as determined by the employee of the Federal agency responsible for the repair decision; or (3) delays the return to service of a vehicle.

## OPERATING EXPENSES

### (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill provides \$61,049,000 for operating expenses. Within the amount provided under this heading, the bill provides \$26,328,000 for Real and Personal Property Management and Disposal, \$25,729,000 for the Office of the Administrator, and \$8,992,000 for the Civilian Board of Contract Appeals. Up to five percent of the funds for the Office of the Administrator may be transferred to Real and Personal Property Management and Disposal upon the advance notification to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate.

## OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

The bill provides \$65,000,000 for the Office of Inspector General (OIG).

## ALLOWANCES AND OFFICE STAFF FOR FORMER PRESIDENTS

The bill provides \$3,250,000 for allowances and office staff for former Presidents.

## FEDERAL CITIZEN SERVICES FUND

### (INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The bill provides \$53,294,000 for deposit into the Federal Citizen Services Fund (the Fund) and authorizes use of appropriations, revenues and collections in the Fund in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$90,000,000. Within the amount provided, \$14,135,000 is for Electronic Government projects. GSA is directed to submit a spending plan, by project, as specified in Section 516 of this Act to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate. The bill merges the funding and authorities of the Federal Citizen Services Fund and the Electronic Government Fund in fiscal year 2015 as proposed by the budget request.

## ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

### (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill includes the following provisions: Section 510 specifies that funds are available for hire of motor vehicles.

Section 511 authorizes transfers within the Federal Buildings Fund, with advance approval of the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate.

Section 512 requires transmittal of a fiscal year 2016 request for courthouse construction that meets design guide standards, reflects the priorities in the Judicial Conference's 5-year construction plan, and includes a standardized courtroom utilization study.

Section 513 specifies that funds in this Act may not be used to increase the amount of occupiable space or provide services such as cleaning or security for any agency that does not pay the rental charges assessed by GSA.

Section 514 permits GSA to pay certain construction-related claims against the Federal Government from savings achieved in other projects.

Section 515 requires that the delineated area of procurement for leased space match



the approved prospectus, unless the Administrator provides an explanatory statement to the appropriate congressional committees.

Section 516 requires a spend plan for certain accounts and programs.

Section 517 requires that any consolidation of the headquarters of the Federal Bureau of Investigation result in a full consolidation.

**HARRY S TRUMAN SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES**

The bill provides \$750,000 for a payment to the Harry S Truman Scholarship Foundation Trust Fund.

**MERIT SYSTEMS PROTECTION BOARD  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES  
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)**

The bill provides \$45,085,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016, for the salaries and expenses of the Merit Systems Protection Board. Within the amount provided, \$42,740,000 is a direct appropriation and \$2,345,000 is a transfer from the Civil Service Retirement and Disability Fund to adjudicate retirement appeals.

**MORRIS K. UDALL AND STEWART L. UDALL  
FOUNDATION**

**MORRIS K. UDALL AND STEWART L. UDALL  
TRUST FUND**

**(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)**

The bill provides \$1,995,000 for payment to the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Trust Fund, of which \$200,000 shall be transferred to the Department of the Interior Office of Inspector General to conduct audits and investigations.

Previous reports that the Udall Foundation (Foundation) may have not been implementing basic internal controls related to contract oversight and personnel management are deeply concerning. A recent review by the Government Accountability Office (GAO) of the Foundation's internal controls found that the Foundation was beginning to overhaul its internal controls and implement the recommended reforms. GAO is directed to conduct an additional evaluation of the Foundation's internal controls to determine the degree to which internal controls are being fully implemented. The Foundation is directed to fully cooperate with GAO and implement the reforms as soon as possible, and to report semiannually to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate regarding its progress on instituting reformed internal controls, including milestones achieved.

**ENVIRONMENTAL DISPUTE RESOLUTION FUND**

The bill provides \$3,400,000 for payment to the Environmental Dispute Resolution Fund.

**NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS  
ADMINISTRATION  
OPERATING EXPENSES**

The bill provides \$365,000,000 for the operating expenses of the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA).

Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Archivist of the United States shall conduct an inspection and submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and the Senate, the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs on the compliance by the Internal Revenue Service with the provisions of chapters 29, 31, and 33 of title 44, United States Code, during calendar years 2009 through 2013.

It is noted that NARA is taking steps to reduce costs by reducing its real property footprint. However, NARA facilities play an

important role in providing citizens with access to archival Federal records, and there is concern that relocation of records out of the State where they are currently stored will require researchers to travel significant distances to access original records. NARA is encouraged to digitize and post on-line archival records that are relocated as a result of a facility closure; however, there is concern that NARA has not yet provided detailed plans that show a firm commitment to digitizing relocated archival records in a timely manner. NARA is directed to report, within 90 days of enactment of this Act, on its plans to digitize and preserve physical access to archival records that have been or will be relocated to another State by any facility closure occurring in fiscal year 2014 or planned for fiscal year 2015. The report shall: (1) describe NARA's digitization priorities for any relocated archival records; (2) explain how NARA incorporated stakeholder input when developing its priorities; (3) include a timeline for digitization and posting on-line; (4) identify any relocated archival records that NARA does not believe are suitable for digitizing or making publicly available on-line; and (5) describe the services that NARA will provide to facilitate access for researchers who must travel significant distances to access records previously stored in their States of residence. NARA is further directed to give due consideration and appropriate adjudication, within the limits of the Federal Records Act and all applicable laws, of any request to review archival records that are relocated as a result of a facility closure, to determine whether those records continue to require permanent preservation in the National Archives.

**OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL**

The bill provides \$4,130,000 for NARA's Office of Inspector General.

**REPAIRS AND RESTORATION**

The bill provides \$7,600,000 for repairs and restoration.

**NATIONAL HISTORICAL PUBLICATIONS AND  
RECORDS COMMISSION GRANTS PROGRAM**

The bill provides \$5,000,000 for the National Historical Publications and Records Commission grants program.

**NATIONAL CREDIT UNION ADMINISTRATION  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REVOLVING LOAN  
FUND**

The bill provides \$2,000,000 for the Community Development Revolving Loan Fund.

**OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT ETHICS**

**SALARIES AND EXPENSES**

The bill provides \$15,420,000 for salaries and expenses of the Office of Government Ethics.

**OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES**

**(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF TRUST FUNDS)**

The bill provides \$214,464,000 for salaries and expenses of the Office of Personnel Management (OPM). Within the amount provided, \$96,039,000 is a direct appropriation and \$118,425,000 is a transfer from OPM trust funds.

OPM is directed to provide monthly updates on its progress to address the backlog of retirement claims and continue to report on retirement modernization efforts.

OPM is directed to review the Department of Veterans Affairs request to consider the establishment of two new General Schedule occupational series to meet the hiring needs of the Department. OPM is directed to report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate within 90 days of enactment of this Act on its progress.

An inherent conflict of interest exists when Federal security clearance contractors are contractually permitted to conduct final quality reviews of their own work. Agencies conducting background investigations for Federal suitability and security clearances should prevent future occurrences of potential contractor conflicts of interest by enacting stricter contractual control mechanisms. OPM should implement internal controls to ensure that contractor activities are properly monitored and investigations are being done appropriately.

**OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES**

**(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF TRUST FUNDS)**

The bill provides \$25,724,000 for salaries and expenses of the Office of Inspector General. Within the amount provided, \$4,384,000 is a direct appropriation and \$21,340,000 is a transfer from OPM trust funds.

**OFFICE OF SPECIAL COUNSEL  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES**

The bill includes \$22,939,000 for the salaries and expenses of the Office of Special Counsel. The amount provided above the request level is to address new casework estimates.

**POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES**

**(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)**

The bill provides \$14,700,000 for the salaries and expenses of the Postal Regulatory Commission.

**PRIVACY AND CIVIL LIBERTIES OVERSIGHT  
BOARD**

**SALARIES AND EXPENSES**

The bill provides \$7,500,000 for the salaries and expenses of the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board.

**RECOVERY ACCOUNTABILITY AND  
TRANSPARENCY BOARD  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES**

The bill provides \$18,000,000 for the salaries and expenses of the Recovery Accountability and Transparency Board.

**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES**

The bill provides \$1,500,000,000 for the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). The bill provides \$56,613,000 for the Division of Economic and Risk Analysis, and stipulates that \$1,500,000,000 be derived from offsetting collections resulting in no net appropriation. The bill provides that the SEC Office of Inspector General shall receive no less than \$9,239,000.

*Reserve Fund.*—In its written notifications to Congress regarding amounts obligated from the Reserve Fund as required by 15 U.S.C. 78d(i)(3), the SEC shall specify: 1) the balance in the fund remaining available after the obligation is deducted; 2) the estimated total cost of the project for which amounts are being deducted; 3) the total amount for all projects that have withdrawn funding from the Reserve Fund since fiscal year 2012; and 4) the estimated amount, per project, that will be required to complete all ongoing projects which use funding derived from the Reserve Fund.

*Disclosures.*—The Commission is directed to submit an updated report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate on SEC's efforts to modernize disclosure requirements within 90 days of enactment of this Act, including an update on cybersecurity.

**SELECTIVE SERVICE SYSTEM  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES**

The bill provides \$22,500,000 for the salaries and expenses of the Selective Service System.

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill provides \$257,000,000 for the salaries and expenses of the Small Business Administration (SBA).

*Loan and Lender Monitoring System.*—The SBA is directed to continue its use of the Loan and Lender Monitoring System (L/LMS) to ensure that lenders are employing sound financial risk management techniques to manage and monitor risk within their SBA loan portfolios. SBA is directed to continue to maintain the current capability and capacity of the L/LMS system, and to strongly consider ways to upgrade the system to improve lender oversight.

*IT Modernization.*—The SBA is directed to continue to report quarterly to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate summarizing the agency's progress regarding the IT modernization effort. In its report, the SBA shall include progress on schedule and spending, both estimated and actual, beginning with the first fiscal year of the modernization project. Such reports are expected to include plain language descriptions of the project rather than technical jargon.

ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

The bill provides \$220,000,000 for SBA Entrepreneurial Development Programs. The SBA shall not reduce these amounts and shall not merge any of the entrepreneurial development programs without the advance written approval from the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate (Committees).

Project	(\$000)
7(j) Technical Assistance Program (Contracting Assistance)	2,800
Boots to Business	7,500
Entrepreneurship Education	7,000
Growth Accelerators	4,000
HUBZone Program	3,000
Microloan Technical Assistance	22,300
National Women's Business Council	1,000
Native American Outreach	2,000
PRIME Technical Assistance	5,000
Regional Innovation Clusters	6,000
SCORE	8,000
Small Business Development Centers (SBDC)	115,000
State Trade & Export Promotion (STEP)	17,400
Veterans Business Outreach Centers (VBOC)	3,000
Women's Business Centers (WBC)	15,000
Intermediate Lending Program	1,000
Total, Entrepreneurial Development Programs	220,000

*Veterans Programs.*—The SBA is directed to report to the Committees within 180 days of enactment of this Act on outreach to veterans, including an analysis of the efficacy of providing counseling and training services before deployment, an assessment of the current level of outreach to women veterans provided by Women's Business Centers, Veterans Business Centers and Small Business Development Centers, and recommendations for improving outreach to these demographic groups.

*Native American Outreach.*—The SBA is directed to submit a spending plan within 60 days of enactment of this Act to the Committees detailing planned spending on Native American out-reach programs in fiscal year 2015.

*Growth Accelerators.*—The SBA is directed to require \$4 of matching funds for every \$1 awarded under the growth accelerator program, and to report within 60 days of enactment of this Act to the Committees on the use of fiscal year 2014 funds, including performance metrics to assess the success of the program.

*HUBZone.*—The HUBZone program is a critical resource for distressed communities,

especially those surrounding military bases closed under the Base Realignment and Closure [BRAC] process. Businesses located in a BRAC HUBZone face unique challenges in qualifying for the program and competing for Federal procurement opportunities. SBA is directed to examine ways to address these issues in any future revisions of the Small Business Act or other legislation.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

The bill provides \$19,400,000 for the Office of Inspector General of the Small Business Administration.

The Inspector General is directed to continue routine analysis and reporting on SBA's modernization of its loan management and accounting systems, including acquisition, contractor oversight, implementation, and progress regarding budget and schedule.

OFFICE OF ADVOCACY

The bill provides \$9,120,000 for the Office of Advocacy.

A recent Government Accountability Office (GAO) study found weaknesses in the Office of Advocacy's internal controls over research and regulatory activities (GAO 14-525), strengthening concerns over the transparency and inclusivity of the Office's efforts to solicit the views of small businesses in the regulatory process. The Office of Advocacy is directed to report within 60 days of enactment of this Act to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate on steps it has taken to address the concerns raised by the GAO and improve transparency of its regulatory functions.

BUSINESS LOANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill provides \$195,226,000 for the Business Loans Program Account. Of the amount provided, \$2,500,000 is for the cost of direct loans in the microloan program, \$45,000,000 is for the cost of guaranteed loans, and \$147,726,000 is for administrative expenses to carry out the direct and guaranteed loan programs which may be transferred to and merged with Salaries and Expenses.

*504 loans.*—A recent change to the 504 loan program has resulted in significant delays in the approval process for 504 loans due to existing indemnities, covenants or liens. The SBA is directed to report to the Committees on Appropriations and Small Business of the House and Senate explaining the legal rationale for the change in interpretation of this longstanding policy and, if needed, recommend any legislative changes to address this issue.

*Loan Application Process.*—The SBA's recent efforts to streamline the application and approval process for SBA guaranteed loans are appreciated. The SBA is encouraged to continue to assess options to improve and streamline the loan process while collecting necessary information. The SBA is directed to report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate on the steps the agency has taken to streamline the application and review process for 7(a) and 504 loans, including recommendations for further improvements.

*Microloans.*—The SBA is directed to assess the impact of the requirement that only 25 percent of funds for microloan technical assistance may be used for prospective buyers, and to submit any recommendations for statutory changes to improve the microloan technical assistance program to the Committees on Appropriations and Small Business of the House and Senate within 90 days of enactment of this Act.

DISASTER LOANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT  
(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The bill includes \$186,858,000 for the administrative costs of the Disaster Loans Program Account.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill includes the following administrative provisions for the Small Business Administration:

Section 520 concerns transfer authority and availability of funds.

Section 521 waives 7(a) loan guarantee fees for veterans and their spouses.

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

PAYMENT TO THE POSTAL SERVICE FUND

The bill provides \$70,000,000 for a payment to the Postal Service Fund of which \$41,000,000 is an advance appropriation.

*Letter Carrier Safety.*—Since October 2011, there have been more than 130 robberies and 330 assaults committed against postal workers. The Postmaster General is directed to report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate within 90 days of enactment of this Act on the steps the United States Postal Service (USPS) will take in fiscal year 2015 to improve postal worker safety.

*Facility Closures.*—On June 30, 2014 the Postmaster General announced the USPS' plan to begin consolidating up to 82 mail processing facilities, beginning in January 2015. The USPS Office of Inspector General reported that the USPS had not completed all of the impact analysis as required in the Area Mail Processing feasibility studies under the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act of 2006. The USPS is encouraged to complete the required analysis in advance of the proposed closings, with sufficient outreach and communication to the affected communities.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill provides \$243,883,000 for the Office of Inspector General.

UNITED STATES TAX COURT

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill provides \$51,300,000 for the salaries and expenses of the United States Tax Court.

TITLE VI—GENERAL PROVISIONS—THIS ACT (INCLUDING RESCISSION)

The bill includes the following provisions: Section 601 prohibits paying expenses or otherwise compensating non-Federal parties in regulatory or adjudicatory proceedings funded in this Act.

Section 602 prohibits obligations beyond the current fiscal year and transfers of funds unless expressly so provided herein.

Section 603 limits consulting service expenditures to contracts where such expenditures are a matter of public record, with exceptions.

Section 604 prohibits funds from being transferred to any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States without express authority provided in this or any other appropriations Act.

Section 605 prohibits the use of funds to engage in activities that would prohibit the enforcement of section 307 of the 1930 Tariff Act.

Section 606 prohibits funds from being expended unless the recipient agrees to comply with the Buy American Act.

Section 607 prohibits funding to a person or entity convicted of violating the Buy American Act.



Section 608 provides reprogramming authority and requires agencies to submit financial plans to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate.

Section 609 provides that not to exceed 50 percent of unobligated balances from salaries and expenses may remain available for certain purposes.

Section 610 prohibits funds for the Executive Office of the President to request either a Federal Bureau of Investigation background investigation, except with the express consent of the individual involved in an investigation or in extraordinary circumstances involving national security, or an Internal Revenue Service determination with respect to section 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

Section 611 provides that cost accounting standards not apply to a contract under the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program.

Section 612 permits the Office of Personnel Management to accept funds related to non-foreign area cost-of-living allowances.

Section 613 prohibits the expenditure of funds for abortions under the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program.

Section 614 provides an exemption from section 613 if the life of the mother is in danger or the pregnancy is a result of an act of rape or incest.

Section 615 waives certain restrictions on the purchase of non-domestic articles, materials, and supplies for information technology acquired by the Federal Government.

Section 616 prohibits the acceptance by any regulatory agency or commission funded by this Act, or by their officers or employees, of payment or reimbursement for travel, subsistence, or related expenses from any person or entity, or their representative, that engages in activities regulated by such agency or commission.

Section 617 permits the Securities and Exchange Commission and Commodity Futures Trading Commission to fund a joint advisory committee to advise on emerging regulatory issues, notwithstanding section 708 of this Act.

Section 618 requires agencies covered by this Act with independent leasing authority to consult with the General Services Administration before seeking new office space or making alterations to existing office space.

Section 619 provides funding for several appropriated mandatory accounts. These are accounts where authorizing language requires the payment of funds. The budget request assumes the following estimated cost for the programs addressed in this provision: \$450,000 for Compensation of the President including \$50,000 for expenses, \$143,600,000 for the Judicial Retirement Funds (Judicial Officers' Retirement Fund, Judicial Survivors' Annuities Fund, and the United States Court of Federal Claims Judges' Retirement Fund), \$11,806,000,000 for the Government Payment for Annuity, Employee Health Benefits, \$55,000,000 for the Government Payment for Annuity, Employee Life Insurance, and \$8,975,000,000 for the Payment to the Civil Service Retirement and Disability Fund.

Section 620 provides authority for the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board to obligate funds for a scholarship program.

Section 621 prohibits funds for the Federal Trade Commission to complete the draft report on food marketed to children unless certain requirements are met.

Section 622 prohibits funds for certain positions.

Section 623 addresses conflicts of interest by preventing contractor security clearance-related background investigators from un-

dertaking final Federal reviews of their own work.

Section 624 extends the Internet Tax Freedom Act through October 1, 2015.

Section 625 provides authority for Chief Information Officers over information technology spending.

Section 626 prohibits funds from being used in contravention of the Federal Records Act.

Section 627 prohibits funds to enter into any contract with an incorporated entity if such entity's sealed bid or competitive proposal shows that such entity is incorporated or chartered in Bermuda or the Cayman Islands, and such entity's sealed bid or competitive proposal shows that such entity was previously incorporated in the United States.

Section 628 prohibits funds to lease or purchase new light duty vehicles unless in accordance with the Presidential Federal Fleet Memorandum including certain exceptions.

Section 629 rescinds \$25,000,000 from the Securities and Exchange Commission Reserve Fund established by the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act.

Section 630 amends section 716 of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act.

#### TITLE VII—GENERAL PROVISIONS— GOVERNMENT-WIDE

##### DEPARTMENTS, AGENCIES, AND CORPORATIONS (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill includes the following provisions: Section 701 requires all agencies to have a written policy for ensuring a drug-free workplace.

Section 702 sets specific limits on the cost of passenger vehicles with exceptions for police, protective, heavy duty, electric hybrid and clean fuels vehicles.

Section 703 makes appropriations available for quarters and cost-of-living allowances.

Section 704 prohibits the use of appropriated funds to compensate officers or employees of the Federal Government in the continental United States unless they are citizens of the United States or qualify under other specified exceptions.

Section 705 ensures that appropriations made available to any department or agency for space, services and rental charges shall also be available for payment to the General Services Administration.

Section 706 allows the use of receipts from the sale of materials for acquisition, waste reduction and prevention, environmental management programs and other Federal employee programs as appropriate.

Section 707 allows funds for administrative expenses of government corporations and certain agencies to also be available for rent in the District of Columbia, services under 5 U.S.C. 3109, and the objects specified under this head.

Section 708 prohibits funds for interagency financing of boards (with exception), commissions, councils, committees or similar groups to receive multi-agency funding without prior statutory approval.

Section 709 precludes funds for regulations which have been disapproved by joint resolution.

Section 710 limits the amount of funds that can be used for redecoration of offices under certain circumstances to \$5,000, unless advance notice is transmitted to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate.

Section 711 allows for interagency funding of national security and emergency preparedness telecommunications initiatives.

Section 712 requires agencies to certify that a Schedule C appointment was not cre-

ated solely or primarily to detail the employee to the White House.

Section 713 prohibits the salary payment of any employee who prohibits, threatens, prevents or otherwise penalizes another employee from communicating with Congress.

Section 714 prohibits Federal employee training not directly related to the performance of official duties.

Section 715 prohibits executive branch agencies from using funds for propaganda or publicity purposes in support or defeat of legislative initiatives.

Section 716 prohibits any Federal agency from disclosing an employee's home address to any labor organization, absent employee authorization or court order.

Section 717 prohibits funds to be used to provide non-public information such as mailing, electronic mailing, or telephone lists to any person or organization outside the government without the approval of the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate.

Section 718 prohibits the use of funds for propaganda and publicity purposes not authorized by Congress.

Section 719 directs agency employees to use official time in an honest effort to perform official duties.

Section 720 authorizes the use of funds to finance an appropriate share of the Federal Accounting Standards Advisory Board administrative costs.

Section 721 authorizes the transfer of funds to the General Services Administration to finance an appropriate share of various government-wide boards and councils under certain conditions.

Section 722 permits breastfeeding in a Federal building or on Federal property if the woman and child are authorized to be there.

Section 723 permits interagency funding of the National Science and Technology Council and requires the Office of Management and Budget to provide a report to the House and Senate on the budget and resources of the National Science and Technology Council.

Section 724 requires that the Federal forms that are used in distributing Federal funds to a State must indicate the agency providing the funds, the Federal Domestic Assistance Number, and the amount provided.

Section 725 prohibits Federal agencies from monitoring individuals' internet use.

Section 726 requires health plans participating in the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program to provide contraceptive coverage and provides exemptions to certain religious plans.

Section 727 recognizes the United States is committed to ensuring the health of the Olympic, Pan American and Paralympic athletes, and supports the strict adherence to antidoping in sport activities.

Section 728 allows funds for official travel to be used by departments and agencies, if consistent with OMB and Budget Circular A-126, to participate in the fractional aircraft ownership pilot program.

Section 729 prohibits funds for implementation of the Office of Personnel Management regulations limiting detailees to the Legislative Branch or implementing limitations on the Coast Guard Congressional Fellowship Program.

Section 730 restricts the use of funds for Federal law enforcement training facilities with an exception for the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center.

Section 731 prohibits executive branch agencies from creating prepackaged news stories that are broadcast or distributed in

the United States unless the story includes a clear notification within the text or audio of that news story that the prepackaged news story was prepared or funded by that executive branch agency.

Section 732 prohibits funds from being used in contravention of the Privacy Act or associated regulations.

Section 733 prohibits funds in this or any other Act to be used for Federal contracts with inverted domestic corporations, unless the contract preceded this Act or the Secretary grants a waiver in the interest of national security.

Section 734 requires agencies to pay a fee to the Office of Personnel Management for processing retirements of employees who separate under Voluntary Early Retirement Authority or who receive Voluntary Separation Incentive payments.

Section 735 prohibits funds to require any entity submitting an offer for a Federal contract to disclose political contributions.

Section 736 prohibits funds for the painting of a portrait of an employee of the Federal government including the President, the Vice President, a Member of Congress, the head of an executive branch agency, or the head of an office of the legislative branch.

Section 737 limits the pay increases of certain prevailing rate employees.

Section 738 eliminates automatic statutory pay increases for the Vice President, political appointees paid under the executive schedule, ambassadors who are not career members of the Foreign Service, politically appointed (noncareer) Senior Executive Service employees, and any other senior political appointee paid at or above level IV of the executive schedule.

Section 739 requires reports to Inspectors General concerning expenditures for agency conferences.

Section 740 prohibits the use of funds to increase, eliminate, or reduce a program or project unless such change is made pursuant to reprogramming or transfer provisions.

Section 741 prohibits agencies from using funds to implement regulations changing the competitive areas under reductions-in-force for Federal employees.

Section 742 prohibits funds to begin or announce a study or public-private competition regarding conversion to contractor performance pursuant to OMB Circular A-76.

Section 743 ensures that contractors are not prevented from reporting waste, fraud, or abuse by signing confidentiality agreements that would prohibit such disclosure.

Section 744 prohibits funds to any corporation with certain unpaid Federal tax liabilities unless an agency has considered suspension or debarment of the corporation and made a determination that further action is not necessary to protect the interests of the Government.

Section 745 prohibits funds to any corporation that was convicted of a felony criminal violation within the preceding 24 months unless an agency has considered suspension or debarment of the corporation and made a determination that further action is not necessary to protect the interests of the Government.

Section 746 improves financial reporting and Government transparency.

Section 747 prohibits the expenditure of funds for the implementation of certain nondisclosure agreements unless certain provisions are included in the agreements.

Section 748 requires the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection to notify the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate, the Committee on Financial Services of the House, and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate of requests for a transfer of funds from the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

*Budget Briefing.*—Given the need for transparency and accountability in the Federal budgeting process, and that the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection's budget is funded independently of the annual appropriations spending bills, the Bureau is directed to provide an informal, nonpublic full briefing at least annually before the relevant subcommittee of the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate on the Bureau's finances and expenditures.

Section 749 prohibits funds to implement a new Federal Flood Risk Management Standard until the Administration has solicited and considered input from Governors, mayors, and other stakeholders.

Section 750 declares references to "this Act" contained in any title other than title IV or VIII shall not apply to such titles IV or VIII.

*Federal Disaster Programs.*—The Comptroller General of the United States shall report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate (Committees) on disaster assistance expenditures by the Federal Government. For purposes of this report, "disaster assistance" should go beyond the definition included in the Budget Control Act (Public Law 112-25). The report should include expenditures for major disaster, emergencies, and fire management assistance grants under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Public Law 93-288 as amended), and encompass disaster-related spending in all Federal departments and agencies, whether or not they are specifically referenced in the Stafford Act. The resulting report shall also include recommendations for how the process of estimating future disaster accounting can be improved. The Government Accountability Office shall consult with the Committees in its development of the scope of the report, and complete its work no later than 1 year after enactment.

*Restrictions on Use of Funds.*—Executive Branch agencies shall not use appropriated funds to hire contractors to train staff on how to support or defeat legislation pending before Congress. Section 1913 of title 18 of the United States Code and section 715 of this Act, prohibit the use of appropriated funds for the purpose of lobbying to support or defeat pending legislation except in normal executive-legislative relationships. These legislative prohibitions should be vigorously enforced.

#### TITLE VIII—GENERAL PROVISIONS— DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The bill includes the following general provisions for the District of Columbia:

Section 801 allows the use of local funds for making refunds or paying judgments against the District of Columbia government.

Section 802 prohibits the use of Federal funds for publicity or propaganda designed to support or defeat legislation before Congress or any State legislature.

Section 803 establishes reprogramming procedures for Federal funds.

Section 804 prohibits the use of Federal funds for the salaries and expenses of a shadow U.S. Senator or U.S. Representative.

Section 805 places restrictions on the use of District of Columbia government vehicles.

Section 806 prohibits the use of Federal funds for a petition or civil action which seeks to require voting rights for the District of Columbia in Congress.

Section 807 prohibits the use of Federal funds in this Act to distribute, for the purpose of preventing the spread of blood borne pathogens, sterile needles or syringes in any location that has been determined by local public health officials or local law enforcement authorities to be inappropriate for such distribution.

Section 808 concerns a "conscience clause" on legislation that pertains to contraceptive coverage by health insurance plans.

Section 809 prohibits Federal funds to enact or carry out any law, rule, or regulation to legalize or reduce penalties associated with the possession, use or distribution of any schedule I substance under the Controlled Substances Act or any tetrahydrocannabinols derivative. In addition, section 809 prohibits Federal and local funds to enact any law, rule, or regulation to legalize or reduce penalties associated with the possession, use or distribution of any schedule I substance under the Controlled Substances Act or any tetrahydrocannabinols derivative for recreational purposes.

Section 810 prohibits the use of funds for abortion except in the cases of rape or incest or if necessary to save the life of the mother.

Section 811 requires the CFO to submit a revised operating budget no later than 30 calendar days after the enactment of this Act for agencies the CFO certifies as requiring a reallocation in order to address unanticipated program needs.

Section 812 requires the CFO to submit a revised operating budget for the District of Columbia Public Schools, no later than 30 calendar days after the enactment of this Act, that aligns school budgets to actual enrollment.

Section 813 allows for transfers of local funds between operating funds and capital and enterprise funds.

Section 814 prohibits the obligation of Federal funds beyond the current fiscal year and transfers of funds unless expressly provided herein.

Section 815 provides that not to exceed 50 percent of unobligated balances from Federal appropriations for salaries and expenses may remain available for certain purposes. This provision will apply to the District of Columbia Courts, the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency and the District of Columbia Public Defender Service.

Section 816 appropriates local funds during fiscal year 2016 if there is an absence of a continuing resolution or regular appropriation for the District of Columbia. Funds are provided under the same authorities and conditions and in the same manner and extent as provided for fiscal year 2015.

Section 817 specifies that references to "this Act" in this title or title IV are treated as referring only to the provisions of this title and title IV.

Division E - Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

TITLE I - DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY						
Departmental Offices						
	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request	
Salaries and Expenses.....	312,400	308,734	210,000	-102,400	-98,734	
Office of Terrorism and Financial Intelligence.....	---	---	112,500	+112,500	+112,500	
Department-wide Systems and Capital Investments Programs.....	2,725	2,725	2,725	---	---	
Office of Inspector General.....	34,800	35,351	35,351	+551	---	
Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration.....	156,375	157,419	158,210	+1,835	+791	
Special Inspector General for TARP.....	34,923	34,234	34,234	-689	---	
Financial Crimes Enforcement Network.....	112,000	108,661	112,000	---	+3,339	
Subtotal, Departmental Offices.....	653,223	647,124	665,020	+11,797	+17,896	
Treasury Forfeiture Fund (rescission).....	-736,000	-950,000	-769,000	-33,000	+181,000	
Total, Departmental Offices.....	-82,777	-302,876	-103,980	-21,203	+198,896	
Bureau of the Fiscal Service.....	360,165	348,184	348,184	-11,981	---	
Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau.....	99,000	96,000	100,000	+1,000	+4,000	
Community Development Financial Institutions Fund Program Account.....	226,000	224,900	230,500	+4,500	+5,600	
Payment of Government Losses in Shipment.....	2,000	2,000	2,000	---	---	
Total, Department of the Treasury, non-IRS.....	604,388	368,208	576,704	-27,684	+208,496	

Division E - Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
<b>Internal Revenue Service</b>					
Taxpayer Services.....	2,156,554	2,317,633	2,156,554	---	-161,079
Enforcement.....	5,022,178	5,133,988	4,860,000	-162,178	-273,988
Program integrity initiatives.....	---	237,838	---	---	-237,838
Subtotal.....	5,022,178	5,371,826	4,860,000	-162,178	-511,826
Operations Support.....	3,798,942	4,215,169	3,638,446	-160,496	-576,723
Program integrity initiatives.....	---	241,689	---	---	-241,689
Subtotal.....	3,798,942	4,456,858	3,638,446	-160,496	-818,412
Business Systems Modernization.....	312,938	330,210	290,000	-22,938	-40,210
Total, Internal Revenue Service.....	11,290,612	12,476,527	10,945,000	-345,612	-1,531,527
Total, title I, Department of the Treasury.....	11,895,000	12,844,735	11,521,704	-373,296	-1,323,031
Appropriations.....	(12,631,000)	(13,315,208)	(12,290,704)	(-340,296)	(-1,024,504)
Rescissions.....	(-736,000)	(-950,000)	(-769,000)	(-33,000)	(+181,000)
(Mandatory).....	(2,000)	(2,000)	(2,000)	---	---
(Discretionary).....	(11,893,000)	(12,842,735)	(11,519,704)	(-373,296)	(-1,323,031)

Division E - Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
-----					
TITLE II - EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT AND FUNDS					
APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT					
-----					
The White House					
Salaries and Expenses.....	55,000	55,110	55,000	---	-110
Compensation of the President.....	---	450	---	---	-450
Sec. 619.....	(450)	---	(450)	---	(+450)
Subtotal.....	55,000	55,560	55,000	---	-560
Executive Residence at the White House:					
Operating Expenses.....	12,700	12,700	12,700	---	---
White House Repair and Restoration.....	750	750	625	-125	-125
Subtotal.....	13,450	13,450	13,325	-125	-125
Council of Economic Advisers.....					
National Security Council and Homeland Security	4,184	4,192	4,184	---	-8
Council.....	12,600	12,621	12,600	---	-21
Office of Administration.....	112,726	111,441	111,300	-1,426	-141
Total, The White House.....	197,960	197,264	196,409	-1,551	-855

Division E - Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Office of Management and Budget.....	89,300	93,450	91,750	+2,450	-1,700
Office of National Drug Control Policy					
Salaries and Expenses.....	22,750	22,647	22,647	-103	---
High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas Program.....	238,522	193,400	245,000	+6,478	+51,600
Other Federal Drug Control Programs.....	105,394	95,376	107,150	+1,756	+11,774
Total, Office of National Drug Control Policy...	366,666	311,423	374,797	+8,131	+63,374
Unanticipated Needs.....	800	1,000	800	---	-200
Data-driven Innovation.....	2,000	---	---	-2,000	---
Information Technology Oversight and Reform.....	8,000	20,000	20,000	+12,000	---
Special Assistance to the President and Official Residence of the Vice President:					
Salaries and Expenses.....	4,319	4,221	4,211	-108	-10
Operating Expenses.....	305	299	299	-6	---
Subtotal.....	4,624	4,520	4,510	-114	-10
Total, title II, Executive Office of the President and Funds Appropriated to the President.....	669,350	627,657	688,266	+18,916	+60,609
(Mandatory).....	---	(450)	---	---	(-450)
(Discretionary).....	(669,350)	(627,207)	(688,266)	(+18,916)	(+61,059)

Division E - Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
TITLE III - THE JUDICIARY					
Supreme Court of the United States					
Salaries and Expenses:					
Salaries of Justices.....	2,442	2,527	2,527	+85	---
Other salaries and expenses.....	72,625	74,967	74,967	+2,342	---
Subtotal.....	75,067	77,494	77,494	+2,427	---
Care of the Building and Grounds.....	11,158	11,640	11,640	+482	---
Total, Supreme Court of the United States.....	86,225	89,134	89,134	+2,909	---
United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit					
Salaries and Expenses:					
Salaries of judges.....	2,798	2,893	2,893	+95	---
Other salaries and expenses.....	29,600	30,212	30,212	+612	---
Total, United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit.....	32,398	33,105	33,105	+707	---

Division E - Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
<b>United States Court of International Trade</b>					
Salaries and Expenses:					
Salaries of judges.....	1,916	1,981	1,981	+65	---
Other salaries and expenses.....	19,200	17,807	17,807	-1,393	---
<b>Total, U.S. Court of International Trade.....</b>	<b>21,116</b>	<b>19,788</b>	<b>19,788</b>	<b>-1,328</b>	<b>---</b>
<b>Courts of Appeals, District Courts, and Other Judicial Services</b>					
Salaries and Expenses:					
Salaries of judges and bankruptcy judges.....	388,664	412,000	412,000	+23,336	---
Other salaries and expenses.....	4,658,830	4,827,588	4,846,818	+187,988	+19,230
<b>Subtotal.....</b>	<b>5,047,494</b>	<b>5,239,588</b>	<b>5,258,818</b>	<b>+211,324</b>	<b>+19,230</b>
Vaccine Injury Compensation Trust Fund.....	5,327	5,423	5,423	+96	---
Defender Services.....	1,044,394	1,053,158	1,016,499	-27,895	-36,659
Fees of Jurors and Commissioners.....	53,891	55,827	52,191	-1,700	-3,636
Court Security.....	497,500	530,763	513,975	+16,475	-16,788
<b>Total, Courts of Appeals, District Courts, and Other Judicial Services.....</b>	<b>6,648,606</b>	<b>6,884,759</b>	<b>6,846,906</b>	<b>+198,300</b>	<b>-37,853</b>
<b>Administrative Office of the United States Courts</b>					
Salaries and Expenses.....	81,200	84,399	84,399	+3,199	---



Division E - Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
-----					
Federal Judicial Center					
Salaries and Expenses.....	26,200	26,959	26,959	+759	---
Judicial Retirement Funds					
Payment to Judiciary Trust Funds.....	---	143,600	---	---	-143,600
(Sec. 619).....	(126,931)	---	(143,600)	(+16,669)	(+143,600)
United States Sentencing Commission					
Salaries and Expenses.....	16,200	16,894	16,894	+694	---
=====					
Total, title III, the Judiciary.....	6,911,945	7,298,638	7,117,185	+205,240	-181,453
(Mandatory).....	(395,820)	(563,001)	(419,401)	(+23,581)	(-143,600)
(Discretionary).....	(6,516,125)	(6,735,637)	(6,697,784)	(+181,659)	(-37,853)
=====					
TITLE IV - DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA					
Federal Payment for Resident Tuition Support.....	30,000	40,000	30,000	---	-10,000
Federal Payment for Emergency Planning and Security					
Costs in the District of Columbia.....	23,800	14,900	12,500	-11,300	-2,400
Federal Payment to the District of Columbia Courts....	232,812	255,819	245,110	+12,298	-10,709
Federal Payment for Defender Services in District of					
Columbia Courts.....	49,890	49,890	49,890	---	---

Division E - Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Federal Payment to the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency for the District of Columbia.....	226,484	232,568	234,000	+7,516	+1,432
Federal Payment to the District of Columbia Public Defender Service.....	40,607	41,231	41,231	+624	---
Federal Payment to the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority.....	14,000	16,000	14,000	---	-2,000
Federal Payment to the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council.....	1,800	1,900	1,900	+100	---
Federal Payment for Judicial Commissions.....	500	565	565	+65	---
Federal Payment for School Improvement.....	48,000	43,000	45,000	-3,000	+2,000
Federal Payment for the D.C. National Guard.....	375	435	435	+60	---
Federal Payment for Testing and Treatment of HIV/AIDS. Federal Payment for D.C. Commission on the Arts and Humanities Grants.....	5,000 ---	5,000 1,000	5,000 ---	---	---
	673,268	702,308	679,631	+6,363	-22,677
Total, Title IV, District of Columbia.....					
TITLE V - OTHER INDEPENDENT AGENCIES					
Administrative Conference of the United States.....	3,000	3,200	3,100	+100	-100
Christopher Columbus Fellowship Foundation.....	150	---	---	-150	---
Commodity Futures Trading Commission.....	215,000	280,000	250,000	+35,000	-30,000
Consumer Product Safety Commission.....	118,000	123,000	123,000	+5,000	---

Division E - Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
<b>Election Assistance Commission</b>					
Salaries and Expenses.....	10,000	10,000	10,000	---	---
<b>Federal Communications Commission</b>					
Salaries and Expenses.....	339,844	375,380	339,844	---	-35,536
Offsetting fee collections - current year.....	-339,844	-375,380	-339,844	---	+35,536
Direct appropriation.....	---	---	---	---	---
<b>Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation: Office of Inspector General (by transfer).....</b>					
Federal Election Commission.....	(34,568)	(34,568)	(34,568)	---	---
Federal Labor Relations Authority.....	65,791	67,500	67,500	+1,709	---
	25,500	25,548	25,548	+48	---
<b>Federal Trade Commission</b>					
Salaries and Expenses.....	298,000	293,000	293,000	-5,000	---
Offsetting fee collections - current year.....	-103,300	-100,000	-100,000	+3,300	---
Offsetting fee collections, telephone database.....	-15,000	-14,000	-14,000	+1,000	---
Direct appropriation.....	179,700	179,000	179,000	-700	---

Division E - Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
<b>General Services Administration</b>					
<b>Federal Buildings Fund</b>					
Limitations on Availability of Revenue:					
Construction and acquisition of facilities.....	506,178	745,449	509,670	+3,492	-235,779
Repairs and alterations.....	1,076,823	1,256,738	818,160	-258,663	-438,578
New construction and repair.....	69,500	---	---	-69,500	---
Installment acquisition payments.....	109,000	---	---	-109,000	---
Rental of space.....	5,387,109	5,671,348	5,666,348	+279,239	-5,000
Building operations.....	2,221,432	2,244,132	2,244,132	+22,700	---
Subtotal, Limitations on availability of revenue.....	9,370,042	9,917,667	9,238,310	-131,732	-679,357
Rental income to fund.....	-9,950,560	-9,917,667	-9,917,667	+32,893	---
Total, Federal Buildings Fund.....	-580,518	---	-679,357	-98,839	-679,357
Government-wide Policy.....	58,000	59,206	58,000	---	-1,206
Operating Expenses.....	63,466	61,049	61,049	-2,417	---
Office of Inspector General.....	65,000	66,978	65,000	---	-1,978
Electronic Government Fund.....	16,000	---	---	-16,000	---
Allowances and Office Staff for Former Presidents.....	3,550	3,344	3,250	-300	-94
Federal Citizen Services Fund.....	34,804	53,294	53,294	+18,490	---
Total, General Services Administration.....	-339,698	243,871	-438,764	-99,066	-682,635
Harry S Truman Scholarship Foundation.....	750	---	750	---	+750

Division E - Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
<b>Merit Systems Protection Board</b>					
Salaries and Expenses.....	42,740	40,300	42,740	---	+2,440
Limitation on administrative expenses.....	2,345	2,345	2,345	---	---
<b>Total, Merit Systems Protection Board.....</b>	<b>45,085</b>	<b>42,645</b>	<b>45,085</b>	<b>---</b>	<b>+2,440</b>
<b>Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Foundation</b>					
Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Trust Fund.....	2,100	1,995	1,995	-105	---
Environmental Dispute Resolution Fund.....	3,400	3,420	3,400	---	-20
<b>Total, Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Foundation.....</b>	<b>5,500</b>	<b>5,415</b>	<b>5,395</b>	<b>-105</b>	<b>-20</b>
<b>National Archives and Records Administration</b>					
Operating Expenses.....	370,000	360,000	365,000	-5,000	+5,000
Reduction of debt.....	-18,000	-19,514	-19,514	-1,514	---
<b>Subtotal.....</b>	<b>352,000</b>	<b>340,486</b>	<b>345,486</b>	<b>-6,514</b>	<b>+5,000</b>
Office of the Inspector General.....	4,130	4,130	4,130	---	---
Repairs and Restoration.....	8,000	7,600	7,600	-400	---
National Historical Publications and Records Commission Grants Program.....	4,500	5,000	5,000	+500	---
<b>Total, National Archives and Records Administration.....</b>	<b>368,630</b>	<b>357,216</b>	<b>362,216</b>	<b>-6,414</b>	<b>+5,000</b>

Division E - Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
<b>National Credit Union Administration</b>					
Community Development Revolving Loan Fund.....	1,200	1,071	2,000	+800	+929
Office of Government Ethics.....	15,325	15,420	15,420	+95	---
<b>Office of Personnel Management</b>					
Salaries and Expenses.....	95,757	96,039	96,039	+282	---
Limitation on administrative expenses.....	118,578	118,425	118,425	-153	---
Office of Inspector General.....	4,684	4,384	4,384	-300	---
Limitation on administrative expenses.....	21,340	21,340	21,340	---	---
Govt Payment for Annuitants, Employees Health Benefits (Sec. 619).....	---	11,806,000	---	---	-11,806,000
Govt Payment for Annuitants, Employee Life Insurance (Sec. 619).....	---	55,000	---	(+402,000)	(+11,806,000)
Payment to Civil Svc Retirement and Disability Fund (Sec. 619).....	(53,000)	---	(55,000)	(+2,000)	-55,000
.....	---	8,975,000	---	---	-8,975,000
.....	(9,178,000)	---	(8,975,000)	(-203,000)	(+8,975,000)
<b>Total, Office of Personnel Management.....</b>	<b>240,359</b>	<b>21,076,188</b>	<b>240,188</b>	<b>-171</b>	<b>-20,836,000</b>
Mandatory.....	---	(20,836,000)	---	---	(-20,836,000)
Discretionary.....	(240,359)	(240,188)	(240,188)	(-171)	---
<b>Office of Special Counsel</b>					
Prior year balances.....	20,639	21,452	22,939	+2,300	+1,487
.....	125	---	---	-125	---
<b>Postal Regulatory Commission</b>					
Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board.....	14,152	15,283	14,700	+548	-583
Recovery and Accountability Transparency Board.....	3,100	8,008	7,500	+4,400	-508
Securities and Exchange Commission.....	20,000	20,000	18,000	-2,000	-2,000
.....	1,350,000	1,700,000	1,500,000	+150,000	-200,000

Division E - Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
SEC fees.....	-1,350,000	-1,700,000	-1,500,000	-150,000	+200,000
SEC Reserve Fund (rescission).....	-25,000	---	-25,000	---	-25,000
Selective Service System.....	22,900	22,900	22,500	-400	-400
Small Business Administration					
Salaries and expenses.....	250,000	256,882	257,000	+7,000	+118
Entrepreneurial Development Programs.....	196,165	197,825	220,000	+23,835	+22,175
Office of Inspector General.....	19,000	19,400	19,400	+400	---
Office of Advocacy.....	8,750	8,455	9,120	+370	+665
Business Loans Program Account:					
Direct loans subsidy.....	4,600	2,500	2,500	-2,100	---
Guaranteed loans subsidy.....	107,000	45,000	45,000	-62,000	---
Administrative expenses.....	151,560	147,726	147,726	-3,834	---
Total, Business loans program account.....	263,160	195,226	195,226	-67,934	---
Disaster Loans Program Account:					
Administrative expenses.....	191,900	32,222	186,858	-5,042	+154,636
Disaster relief category.....	---	154,636	---	---	-154,636
Total, Small Business Administration.....	928,975	864,646	887,604	-41,371	+22,958

Division E - Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
<b>United States Postal Service</b>					
Payment to the Postal Service Fund.....	---	---	29,000	+29,000	+29,000
Advance appropriations.....	70,751	70,371	41,000	-29,751	-29,371
Office of Inspector General.....	241,468	243,883	243,883	+2,415	---
Total, United States Postal Service.....	312,219	314,254	313,883	+1,664	-371
United States Tax Court.....	53,453	52,300	51,300	-2,153	-1,000
Total, title V, Independent Agencies .....	2,304,855	23,748,917	2,203,864	-100,991	-21,545,053
Appropriations.....	(2,259,104)	(23,523,910)	(2,187,864)	(-71,240)	(-21,336,046)
Rescissions.....	(-25,000)	---	(-25,000)	---	(-25,000)
Disaster relief category.....	---	(154,636)	---	---	(-154,636)
Advances.....	(70,751)	(70,371)	(41,000)	(-29,751)	(-29,371)
(by transfer).....	(34,568)	(34,568)	(34,568)	---	---
(Mandatory).....	---	(20,836,000)	---	---	(-20,836,000)
(Discretionary).....	(2,304,855)	(2,912,917)	(2,203,864)	(-100,991)	(-709,053)



Division E - Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
TITLE VI - GENERAL PROVISIONS					
Mandatory appropriations (Sec. 619).....	20,762,381	---	20,980,050	+217,669	+20,980,050
Mandatory appropriations.....	---	(20,980,050)	---	---	(-20,980,050)
Grand total.....	43,216,799	45,222,255	43,190,700	-26,099	-2,031,555
Appropriations.....	(43,907,048)	(45,947,248)	(43,943,700)	(+36,652)	(-2,003,548)
Rescissions.....	(-761,000)	(-950,000)	(-794,000)	(-33,000)	(+156,000)
Disaster relief category.....	---	(154,636)	---	---	(-154,636)
Advances.....	(70,751)	(70,371)	(41,000)	(-29,751)	(-29,371)
(by transfer).....	(34,568)	(34,568)	(34,568)	---	---
Discretionary total.....	22,066,000	23,822,184	21,820,000	-246,000	-2,002,184

**DIVISION F—DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015**

The following statement is an explanation of the effects of Division F, which makes appropriations for the Department of the Interior, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Forest Service, the Indian Health Service, and related agencies for fiscal year 2015. Language contained in House Report 113-551 providing specific guidance to agencies regarding the administration of appropriated funds and any corresponding reporting requirements carries the same emphasis as the language included in this explanatory statement and should be complied with unless specifically addressed to the contrary herein.

In instances where the House report speaks more broadly to policy issues or offers views that are subject to interpretation, such views remain those of the House and are not affirmed by this explanatory statement unless repeated herein. In cases where the House report or this explanatory statement directs the submission of a report, such report is to be submitted to both the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations. Where this explanatory statement refers to the Committees or the Committees on Appropriations, unless otherwise noted, this reference is to the House Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies and the Senate Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies.

The Committees direct each department and agency funded in this Act to follow the directions set forth in this Act and the accompanying statement, and not reallocate resources or reorganize activities except as provided herein or otherwise approved by the Committees through the reprogramming process as described in this explanatory statement. This explanatory statement addresses only those agencies and accounts for which there is a need for greater explanation than provided in the Act itself. Funding levels for appropriations by account, program, and activity, with comparisons to the fiscal year 2014 enacted level and the fiscal year 2015 budget request, can be found in the table at the end of this division.

Unless expressly stated otherwise, any reference to “this Act” or “at the end of this statement” shall be treated as referring only to the provisions of this division.

**National Ocean Policy.**—The President’s budget submission for fiscal year 2016 shall identify all funding and associated actions proposed for the implementation of the National Ocean Policy. In addition, not later than 90 days after the date on which the President’s fiscal year 2016 budget request is submitted to the Congress, the President shall submit a comprehensive report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations identifying Federal expenditures since fiscal year 2012 by agency and account that have supported the development, administration, or implementation of the National Ocean Policy developed under Executive Order 13547. The report shall also identify funding proposed for the implementation of the National Ocean Policy in the fiscal year 2016 budget. In addition, the Administration is directed to include in the report a summary of the actions taken to date to execute the April 2013 National Ocean Policy Implementation Plan and the outcomes of such actions.

**State Wildlife Data.**—The Department of the Interior and the Forest Service are expected to prioritize continued coordination with other Federal agencies and State fish

and wildlife agencies to recognize and fully utilize State fish and wildlife data and analyses as a primary source to inform land use, planning, and related natural resource decisions. Federal agencies should not unnecessarily duplicate raw data, and when appropriate, evaluate existing analysis of data prepared by the States, and reciprocally share data with State wildlife managers, to ensure that the most complete data set is available for decision support systems.

**Making Litigation Costs Transparent.**—The Department of the Interior, EPA, and the Forest Service are directed to provide to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations, and to make publicly available no later than 60 days after enactment of this Act, detailed Equal Access to Justice Act (EAJA) fee information as specified in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014.

**Public Access.**—The Department of the Interior and the Forest Service are directed to notify the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations in advance of any proposed project specifically intending to close an area to recreational shooting, hunting, or fishing on a non-emergency basis of more than 30 days.

**Sage-Grouse.**—The agreement includes a general provision in Title I of the bill, prohibiting for fiscal year 2015 any use of funds to write or issue a final rule to list the Gunnison sage-grouse or the bi-State Distinct Population Segment of greater sage-grouse, and any proposed rule to list the greater sage-grouse range-wide or in the Columbia Basin. The Committees recognize the unprecedented collaboration regarding sage-grouse conservation. This provision is not intended to impede current conservation efforts; it is imperative that stakeholders continue on-the-ground conservation and monitoring activities. The Committees direct the Fish and Wildlife Service to include with its fiscal year 2016 budget submission an update on the status of all sage-grouse. The agreement does not contain the other directives pertaining to sage-grouse in the front of House Report 113-551, with the exception of guidance provided within the Wildland Fire Management accounts later in this explanatory statement.

**Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT).**—Section 11 of this consolidated Act provides \$372,000,000 for payments in lieu of taxes under chapter 69 of title 31, United States Code. Together with an additional \$33,000,000 available for fiscal year 2015, and \$37,000,000 available on October 1, 2015, provided by section 3096 of the Carl Levin and Howard P. “Buck” McKeon National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015, a total of \$442,000,000 will be available for the program.

#### REPROGRAMMING GUIDELINES

The following are the procedures governing reprogramming actions for programs and activities funded in the Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act. The Committees remind the agencies funded in this Act that these reprogramming guidelines are in effect, and must be complied with, until such time as the Committees modify them through bill or report language.

**Definitions.**—“Reprogramming,” as defined in these procedures, includes the reallocation of funds from one budget activity, budget line-item, or program area, to another within any appropriation funded in this Act.

For construction, land acquisition, and forest legacy accounts, a reprogramming constitutes the reallocation of funds, including unobligated balances, from one construction, land acquisition, or forest legacy project to another such project.

A reprogramming shall also consist of any significant departure from the program described in the agency’s budget justifications. This includes proposed reorganizations, especially those of significant national or regional importance, even without a change in funding. Any change to the organization table presented in the budget justification shall be subject to this requirement.

#### General Guidelines for Reprogramming.

(a) A reprogramming should be made only when an unforeseen situation arises, and then only if postponement of the project or the activity until the next appropriation year would result in actual loss or damage.

(b) Any project or activity, which may be deferred through reprogramming, shall not later be accomplished by means of further reprogramming, but instead, funds should again be sought for the deferred project or activity through the regular appropriations process.

(c) Except under the most urgent situations, reprogramming should not be employed to initiate new programs or increase allocations specifically denied or limited by Congress, or to decrease allocations specifically increased by the Congress.

(d) Reprogramming proposals submitted to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations for approval shall be considered approved 30 calendar days after receipt if the Committees have posed no objection. However, agencies will be expected to extend the approval deadline if specifically requested by either Committee.

**Criteria and Exceptions.**—A reprogramming must be submitted to the Committees in writing prior to implementation if it exceeds \$1,000,000 annually or results in an increase or decrease of more than 10 percent annually in affected programs, with the following exceptions:

(a) With regard to the tribal priority allocations of the Bureau of Indian Affairs and Bureau of Indian Education, there is no restriction on reprogrammings among these programs. However, the Bureaus shall report on all reprogrammings made during a given fiscal year no later than 60 days after the end of the fiscal year.

(b) With regard to the EPA, State and Tribal Assistance Grants account, the Committee does not require reprogramming requests associated with States and Tribes Partnership Grants.

**Assessments.**—“Assessment” as defined in these procedures shall refer to any charges, reserves, or holdbacks applied to a budget activity or budget line item for costs associated with general agency administrative costs, overhead costs, working capital expenses, or contingencies.

(a) No assessment shall be levied against any program, budget activity, sub-activity, budget line item, or project funded by the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act unless such assessment and the basis therefor are presented to the Committees on Appropriations in the budget justifications and are subsequently approved by the Committees. The explanation for any assessment in the budget justification shall show the amount of the assessment, the activities assessed, and the purpose of the funds.

(b) Proposed changes to estimated assessments, as such estimates were presented in annual budget justifications, shall be submitted through the reprogramming process and shall be subject to the same dollar and reporting criteria as any other reprogramming.

(c) The Committees direct that each agency or bureau which utilizes assessments shall

submit an annual report to the Committees which provides details on the use of all funds assessed from any other budget activity, line item, sub-activity, or project.

(d) In no case shall contingency funds or assessments be used to finance projects and activities disapproved or limited by Congress, or to finance programs or activities that could be foreseen and included in the normal budget review process.

(e) New programs requested in the budget should not be initiated before enactment of the bill without notification to, and the approval of, the Committees on Appropriations. This restriction applies to all such actions regardless of whether a formal reprogramming of funds is required to begin the program.

**Quarterly Reports.**—All reprogrammings between budget activities, budget line-items, program areas, or the more detailed activity levels shown in this agreement, including those below the monetary thresholds established above, shall be reported to the Committees within 60 days of the end of each quarter and shall include cumulative totals for each budget activity, budget line item, or construction, land acquisition, or forest legacy project.

**Land Acquisitions, Easements, and Forest Legacy.**—Lands shall not be acquired for more than the approved appraised value (as addressed in section 301(3) of Public Law 91-646), unless such acquisitions are submitted to the Committees on Appropriations for approval in compliance with these procedures.

**Land Exchanges.**—Land exchanges, wherein the estimated value of the Federal lands to be exchanged is greater than \$1,000,000, shall not be consummated until the Committees have had a 30-day period in which to examine the proposed exchange. In addition, the Committees shall be provided advance notification of exchanges valued between \$500,000 and \$1,000,000.

**Budget Structure.**—The budget activity or line item structure for any agency appropriation account shall not be altered without advance approval of the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations.

TITLE I—DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

MANAGEMENT OF LANDS AND RESOURCES

The bill provides \$970,016,000 for Management of Lands and Resources. In addition to the funding allocation table at the end of

this explanatory statement, the agreement includes the following instructions:

**Soil, Water, and Air Management.**—The agreement includes \$1,130,000 for the requested Colorado River Basin Salinity Program, \$300,000 above the fiscal year 2014 level.

**Rangeland Management.**—The Committees direct the Bureau, to the greatest extent practicable, to make vacant grazing allotments available to a holder of a grazing permit or lease when lands covered by the holder of the permit or lease are unusable because of drought or wildfire.

The Committees urge the Secretary to convene a stakeholders meeting on the California Desert Conservation Area to resolve remaining issues, as described in House Report 113-551.

The Committees direct the Bureau to comply with the language in House Report 113-551 regarding the Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Act of 2000.

**Wild Horse and Burro Management.**—The Committees encourage the Bureau to consider sterilization as a tool for population management and to request funding for a pilot program in fiscal year 2016, in accordance with recommendations from the National Research Council and others.

**Wildlife Management.**—The agreement includes \$15,000,000 as requested for sage-grouse. The BLM should dedicate funding for collaboration with States on the development of State plans designed to promote sustainable sage-grouse populations through conservation of sensitive habitat and to avoid an Endangered Species Act listing designation of the species. The Bureau is urged to support advanced collaboration efforts that could be models for conservation strategies in other places.

**Recreation Management.**—The Committees encourage the Bureau to continue its collaborative efforts with non-Federal partners to teach outdoor ethics and stewardship to staff and visitors.

**Realty and Ownership Management.**—Section 326 of Public Law 101-512 required the Secretary of the Interior to report to Congress on contaminated lands conveyed through the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA). Section 103 of Public Law 104-42 required the Secretary of the Interior to provide a more detailed report on contaminants on lands prior to conveyance to Alaska Native Corporations. In December 1998, the Department submitted a report to

Congress in which it acknowledged conveying approximately 650 contaminated sites on lands conveyed through ANCSA. The Bureau shall provide the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations with a detailed report within 180 days of enactment of this Act, which includes the following information: (1) a comprehensive inventory of contaminated sites conveyed through ANCSA, including sites identified subsequent to the 1998 report; (2) an updated status on the six recommendations listed in the 1998 report; and (3) a detailed plan on how the Department intends to complete cleanup of each contaminated site.

**Resource Protection and Maintenance.**—The agreement includes \$1,000,000 for the requested enterprise geospatial system.

The Bureau is expected to defer any final decision-making regarding land use plans as part of the Oklahoma, Kansas, and Texas Resource Management Plan Revision until appropriate surveys have been conducted to determine ownership along the Red River.

**Law Enforcement.**—The Bureau is encouraged to focus on visitor safety and archaeological resource protection, and work with the Department of Justice and the Department of Homeland Security on other matters of Federal law not unique to Bureau lands or property.

**Challenge Cost Share.**—The Committees encourage the Bureau to consider how it might leverage program partnerships to support the goals of the Youth in the Great Outdoors Initiative through projects such as the development and maintenance of trails.

**BLM Foundation.**—The Administration is encouraged to submit a legislative proposal to create such a foundation for the Bureau of Land Management with the fiscal year 2016 budget request.

LAND ACQUISITION

The bill provides \$19,746,000 for Land Acquisition. The amounts recommended by this bill compared with the budget estimates by activity are shown in the table below, listed in priority order pursuant to the budget request for fiscal year 2015. The Bureau of Land Management is directed to prioritize recreational access projects that significantly enhance access to existing public lands that have inadequate access for hunting, fishing, and other recreational activities.

State	Bureau of Land Management	Budget Request	This Bill
CA	CA Southwest Desert—California Wilderness	\$1,720,000	\$1,720,000
CA	CA Southwest Desert—Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains NM	1,000,000	1,000,000
CA	CA Southwest Desert—Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail	950,000	950,000
CA	CA Southwest Desert—San Sebastian Marsh/San Felipe Creek ACEC	982,000	982,000
ID	Upper Snake/South Fork Snake River ACEC/SRMA	1,000,000	1,000,000
OR	John Day National Wild and Scenic River	600,000	600,000
OR	Sandy River ACEC/Oregon National Historic Trail	1,000,000	1,000,000
WY	North Platte River SRMA	1,200,000	1,200,000
CO	Canyons of the Ancients National Monument	1,200,000	1,200,000
ID	National Trails System—Nez Perce National Historic Trail/Henry's Lake ACEC	3,000,000	3,000,000
OR	National Trails System—Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail	542,000	542,000
MT	National Trails System—Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail	1,032,000	1,032,000
	Additional project requests	5,254,000	0
Subtotal, Acquisitions		19,480,000	14,226,000
	Inholding, emergency, and hardship	1,616,000	1,616,000
	Acquisition management	1,904,000	1,904,000
	Sportsmen/Recreational Access	2,000,000	2,000,000
Total, BLM Land Acquisition		25,000,000	19,746,000

OREGON AND CALIFORNIA GRANT LANDS

The bill provides \$113,777,000 for Oregon and California Grant Lands, to be distributed as displayed in the funding allocation table at the end of this explanatory statement.

Improvement in Federal forest management will improve forest health, reduce hazardous fuels, increase timber production, and restore forest jobs. The Bureau is encouraged to engage with regional academic institu-

tions to conduct research that furthers these goals. The Bureau is also encouraged to prioritize hiring that will expedite the backlog of planning work.

## RANGE IMPROVEMENTS

The bill provides \$10,000,000 to be derived from public lands receipts and Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act lands grazing receipts.

## SERVICE CHARGES, DEPOSITS, AND FORFEITURES

The bill provides an indefinite appropriation estimated to be \$32,465,000 for Service Charges, Deposits, and Forfeitures.

## MISCELLANEOUS TRUST FUNDS

The bill provides an indefinite appropriation estimated to be \$24,000,000 for Miscellaneous Trust Funds.

UNITED STATES FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

The bill provides \$1,207,658,000 for Resource Management. In addition to the funding allocation table at the end of this explanatory statement, the agreement includes the following instructions:

**Budget Structure.**—The agreement keeps in place the budget structure from fiscal year 2014.

**Candidate Conservation.**—The agreement includes \$500,000 above the fiscal year 2014 enacted level, which may be used for but is not limited to sage-grouse conservation.

**Consultation and HCPs.**—The agreement includes \$1,000,000 above the fiscal year 2014 enacted level for Habitat Conservation Plans.

**Listing and Critical Habitat.**—In agreement with the request, funding caps for petition processing and for listing activities related to foreign species have been retained. The agreement does not include the directive contained in House Report 113-551.

**Recovery.**—The agreement includes \$2,500,000 for the State of the Birds program and \$1,000,000 to continue the livestock loss demonstration program as authorized by Public Law 111-11. States with de-listed wolf populations shall continue to be eligible for funding, provided that those States continue to meet the eligibility criteria contained in Public Law 111-11.

The Service is directed to prioritize the recovery of the California condor and northern aplomado falcon and provide the necessary funding to enable the longstanding public-private partnerships to continue to support the wild populations through captive propagation, releases, and management, as the Service and the States work to address the continued environmental threats to these species.

The agreement does not include the directive regarding the Recovery Report to Congress contained in House Report 113-551.

The Service is directed to publish in the Federal Register advance notice of its intent to approve any future phase of the La

Purissima Conservation Bank project involving a split estate, and to invite public comment on the proposed agreement.

**Coastal Barrier Resources Act.**—The agreement includes \$500,000 above the fiscal year 2014 enacted level to accelerate technical corrections and updates of coastal floodplain maps.

**National Wildlife Refuge System.**—In recognition of the important bottomland hardwood research being conducted by the Forest Service Southern Research Station at the Yazoo National Wildlife Refuge, the Service is encouraged to continue cooperating in these efforts.

**Migratory Bird Management.**—The agreement does not include the directive contained in House Report 113-551. The Service is encouraged to submit with its fiscal year 2016 budget request: (a) an estimate of average permit processing times and a goal to minimize such times; and (b) an estimate of costs, FTE, and a timeline to develop and test an appropriate survey protocol to assess black vulture distribution and population size, and to determine whether and where the species may be overabundant.

The Service's strategy of allocating increased Migratory Bird Conservation Fund dollars to mitigate against conversion of natural waterfowl habitat to cropland is supported. The Service is encouraged to consider the important value of the nesting habitat in the southern prairie potholes region to ensure that waterfowl habitat acquisition and preservation continue to occur across the entire prairie potholes region.

**Law Enforcement and International Affairs.**—The agreement includes the increases as requested to combat wildlife trafficking. The Secretary is directed to submit a status update report, not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, outlining the specific steps being taken by the Department to further address wildlife trafficking and illegal natural resources trade, including steps to improve coordination with the Department of Homeland Security and Department of Justice related to wildlife trafficking, and what, if any, authorizations are required to implement the National Strategy for Combating Wildlife Trafficking.

**Science Support.**—The agreement is \$250,000 below the fiscal year 2014 enacted level. The Service is directed to take the reduction from Landscape Conservation Cooperatives grants. White-nose syndrome in bats research is level-funded at \$2,500,000.

**National Fish Hatchery System Operations.**—The bill provides \$52,860,000 for operations, including not less than \$237,000 for the Aquatic Animal Drug Approval Partnership as requested. None of the funds may be used

to terminate operations or to close any facility. No production programs may be reduced or terminated without advance, informal consultation with affected States and Indian tribes. Within 90 days of enactment of this Act, the Service shall publish an operations and maintenance plan for fiscal year 2015 for the National Fish Hatchery System that includes funding allocations by region, together with an explanation of the allocation methodology. The Service is directed to publish fiscal year 2015 funding allocations and production targets for each facility of the National Fish Hatchery System before the end of the fiscal year, and to submit estimates for fiscal year 2016 along with the President's budget request.

The Committees support the Service's position that its hatchery mitigation activities should be fully reimbursed by the Federal agencies responsible for the Federal water development projects. The Service is directed to submit as part of its annual budget request an estimate of its mitigation activities by facility, along with an estimate of sources of reimbursement funding by agency.

The Committees direct the Service, through its Fisheries Program, to continue the nation's 140-year tradition of supporting commercial, subsistence, and recreational fishing. In addition, the fisheries archives, including the National Fishery Artifacts and Records Center and the Collection Management Facility, shall be maintained in its current location.

**Aquatic Habitat and Species Conservation.**—The agreement includes \$3,000,000 for the Klamath Basin restoration program, \$5,500,000 for the Asian carp program, and \$2,000,000 for the quagga and zebra mussel program.

Population Assessment and Cooperative Management are funded at the requested level. This funding supports inventory, monitoring, management, restoration, and maintenance of healthy and diverse aquatic species populations. These activities include working with hatcheries to monitor captive propagation programs across the country, including both the Pacific Northwest and the Great Lakes fisheries.

## CONSTRUCTION

The bill provides \$15,687,000 for Construction. The detailed allocation of funding by activity is included in the table at the end of this statement. The Service is expected to follow the construction project priority list included in the President's fiscal year 2015 budget request, and as shown in the table below.

State	Refuge, Hatchery, or Other Unit	Budget Request	This Bill
National Wildlife Refuge System			
CA	Bitter Creek NWR	\$313,000	\$313,000
TX	Buffalo Lake NWR	300,000	300,000
CA	Modoc NWR	2,000,000	2,000,000
CO	Rocky Mountain Arsenal NWR	300,000	300,000
IA	De Soto NWR	793,000	793,000
NU	Walkkill River NWR / Great Swamp NWR	632,000	632,000
National Fish Hatchery System			
WA	Quinalt NWH	862,000	862,000
WA	Abernathy FTC	1,019,000	1,019,000
AZ	Williams Creek NWH	120,000	120,000
Other			
N/A	Service Wide Seismic Safety	215,000	215,000
Total, Line Item Construction		6,554,000	6,554,000

## LAND ACQUISITION

The bill provides \$47,535,000 for Land Acquisition. The amounts recommended by this bill compared with the budget estimates by activity are shown in the table below, listed

in priority order pursuant to the budget request for fiscal year 2015.

**Highlands Conservation Act Grants.**—Since budgetary constraints only allow for a limited number of new land acquisition projects,

it is critical to support programs that leverage public-private partnerships for land conservation like the Highlands Conservation Act, which has a record of more than a 2 to 1 ratio in non-Federal matching funds. This

bill provides \$3,000,000 for the Highlands Conservation Act Grants and the Committees direct the Fish and Wildlife Service to work with the Highlands States regarding priority projects for fiscal year 2015.

*California Foothills Legacy Area.*—During the past year, the Fish and Wildlife Service has been developing a proposal to place certain private rangeland in central California into permanent Federal conservation easements. In recognition of the concerns raised

in House Report 113-551, the Service, in a letter dated December 3, 2014, has committed not to proceed any further in development of this program. The Committees on Appropriations expect the Service to adhere to this agreement.

State	Fish and Wildlife Service	Budget Request	This Bill
CA .....	CA Southwest Desert—San Diego National Wildlife Refuge .....	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000
ND/SD .....	Dakota Tallgrass Prairie Wildlife Management Area .....	3,000,000	3,000,000
ND/SD .....	Dakota Grassland Conservation Area .....	7,000,000	7,000,000
VA .....	National Trails System—Rappahannock River National Wildlife Refuge .....	2,000,000	2,000,000
MT .....	Rocky Mountain Front Conservation Area .....	2,000,000	2,000,000
FL .....	Everglades Headwaters National Wildlife Refuge and Conservation Area .....	3,000,000	3,000,000
AR .....	Cache River National Wildlife Refuge .....	1,071,000	1,071,000
CT/MA/NH/VT .....	Silvio O. Conte National Fish and Wildlife Refuge .....	2,000,000	2,000,000
	Additional project requests .....	10,000,000	0
Subtotal, Acquisitions .....		35,071,000	25,071,000
	Inholding, emergency, and hardships .....	5,351,000	5,351,000
	Exchanges .....	1,500,000	1,500,000
	Acquisition Management .....	12,613,000	12,613,000
	Land protection planning .....	465,000	0
	Highlands Conservation Act Grants (CT/NJ/NY/PA) .....	0	3,000,000
Total, FWS Land Acquisition .....		55,000,000	47,535,000

#### COOPERATIVE ENDANGERED SPECIES CONSERVATION FUND

The bill provides \$50,095,000 for the Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund, of which \$22,695,000 is to be derived from the Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund, and \$27,400,000 is to be derived from the Land and Water Conservation Fund. The detailed allocation of funding by activity is included in the table at the end of this statement.

#### NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE FUND

The bill provides \$13,228,000 for payments to counties authorized by the National Wildlife Refuge Fund.

#### NORTH AMERICAN WETLANDS CONSERVATION FUND

The bill provides \$34,145,000 for the North American Wetlands Conservation Fund.

#### NEOTROPICAL MIGRATORY BIRD CONSERVATION FUND

The bill provides \$3,660,000 for the Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Fund.

#### MULTINATIONAL SPECIES CONSERVATION FUND

The bill provides \$9,061,000 for the Multinational Species Conservation Fund. The detailed allocation of funding by activity is included in the table at the end of this statement.

#### STATE AND TRIBAL WILDLIFE GRANTS

The bill provides \$58,695,000 for State and Tribal Wildlife Grants. The detailed allocation of funding by activity is included in the table at the end of this statement.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

The bill does not provide the Service with the authority to seek compensation from responsible parties who injure or destroy National Wildlife Refuge System or other Service resources. The Service should resubmit the proposal in the next budget justification and provide more detail regarding the Service's current practice for litigating and seeking damages from responsible parties and a discussion of how the new process would differ.

The bill does not contain reprogramming language proposed in H.R. 5171. The Committees have been concerned in recent years with actions taken by the Service that have the appearance of attempting to sidestep the long-standing reprogramming guidelines contained in this explanatory statement. This concern has been further compounded by requested reprogrammings that have on

occasion appeared to be not unforeseen or not a true emergency. In lieu of the language proposed by the House, the Committees expect the Service to fulfill both the letter and spirit of the existing reprogramming guidelines. Failure to do so will result in the Committees revisiting the House language next year.

#### NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

##### OPERATION OF THE NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM

The bill provides \$2,275,773,000 for the Operation of the National Park System. The detailed allocation of funding by program area and activity is included in the table at the end of this division.

*Operation of the National Park System.*—The bill provides \$25,000,000 in new discretionary funding within the Operation of the National Park System (ONPS) appropriation to strengthen visitor services, public safety, and infrastructure programs in anticipation of increased visitation leading up to the Centennial of the National Park Service in 2016. The agreement includes \$6,000,000 to support youth and veterans programs; \$8,000,000 to increase seasonal ranger staff and enhance education and interpretation services; and \$11,000,000 to improve facilities at national park units across the country. These funds will be supplemented by a \$10,000,000 Centennial Challenge appropriation to fund joint public-private infrastructure investments. These funds are complemented by language in Title I General Provisions addressing the Volunteers in Parks program, as requested. The Service is directed to provide a report, no later than 90 days after enactment of this Act, to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations detailing the distribution of funds supporting the Centennial Initiative and the anticipated return on this Federal investment.

*Operating Plan.*—The Service is directed to submit to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations, within 60 days of enactment of this Act, an operating plan for the Operation of the National Park System appropriations account that includes any necessary adjustments to the amounts provided to maintain park operations of all units budgeted in the fiscal year 2015 request. Such plan shall be subject to the reprogramming guidelines contained in this explanatory statement.

*Quagga and Zebra Mussel Control.*—The Committees remain concerned about the rapid spread of quagga and zebra mussels in the West. The Secretary of the Interior is directed to develop and continue to update,

using the best available science, minimum protocols and training techniques for Federal, State, local, and private entities, a consistent standard of inspection and decontamination of recreational watercraft and equipment, as prescribed in the February 2010 Quagga/Zebra Mussel Action Plan for Western U.S. Waters. Further, the Service is directed to provide no less than \$2,000,000 for quagga and zebra mussel containment, prevention, and enforcement and prioritize the decontamination of watercraft and equipment leaving the watersheds of contaminated bodies, including Lake Powell and Lake Mead. Lastly, the Service is directed to report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations, no later than 90 days after enactment of this Act, on steps taken to address this pervasive threat to western watersheds.

*White-Nose Syndrome in Bats.*—The Committees urge the Service to provide no less than \$3,000,000 within the funds provided for monitoring and surveillance activities associated with white-nose syndrome in bats.

*Park Partnerships.*—The Committees continue to support ongoing public-private partnerships which leverage Federal dollars and promote the efficient management of park resources. Such partnerships are fundamental to the long-term fiscal and administrative health of the Service. There is merit in the Service partnering with qualified entities to cooperatively finance and manage improvements to park facilities and programs. Efforts made by the Service thus far to expand partnerships are commendable, but more can be done. The Department and the Service are urged to continue reassessing recent policy interpretations and review procedures to promote the greater use of partnerships that have historically proven beneficial to national parks and partners.

*Sewall-Beimont House and Museum.*—The Sewall-Beimont House and Museum occupies an important role in the history of the women's suffrage and equal rights movements and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Service is presently conducting a study to determine whether this historic landmark merits inclusion in the national park system as a standalone unit. The Service is directed to complete the study in a timely manner and share its findings with the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations.

*National Capital Area Performing Arts Program.*—Within the amounts provided, the Service is directed to maintain funding for the National Capital Area Performing Arts

Program, including the summer concert series staged on the U.S. Capitol grounds, at the fiscal year 2014 enacted level.

**National Mall and Memorial Parks.**—Within 60 days of enactment of this Act, the Service is directed to provide the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations a long-term plan for renewal of the concessions contract on the National Mall. The Plan shall include options for expanding services and increasing revenues to the park.

**Ozark National Scenic Riverways.**—The Service is directed to work collaboratively with affected parties to ensure that any Draft Management Plan for the Ozark National Scenic Riverways addresses the legitimate concerns of affected stakeholders including, but not limited to, local communities and businesses.

**Roosevelt-Campobello International Park.**—Funding for Roosevelt-Campobello International Park on the Maine-Canada border is jointly supported by the U.S. and Canadian governments. The Service is encouraged to provide funding for the park that is commensurate with past fiscal years and consistent with international agreements.

**Jefferson National Expansion Memorial.**—The CityArchRiver project has raised significant private donations for the Gateway Arch in St. Louis, Missouri. The Service is expected to exercise the maximum flexibility with respect to the recognition of private donors. The Service is further urged to engage with all stakeholders to reach agreements on donor recognition which will help to facilitate the raising of private funds while protecting the values of the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial.

**Mississippi Civil Rights Sites.**—There are a number of historically significant civil rights sites in Mississippi, such as the Medgar Evers House in Jackson, which are deserving of special recognition and preser-

vation. Within 180 days of enactment of this Act, the Service, working with the State of Mississippi and other interested stakeholders, shall provide the Committees an inventory of such sites that includes a listing of each site's current historic designation status and an analysis of possible threats to their preservation.

**Affiliated Areas.**—The bill includes language within the Operation of the National Park System account addressing certain longstanding affiliated areas of the National Park System.

#### NATIONAL RECREATION AND PRESERVATION

The bill provides \$63,117,000 for National Recreation and Preservation with the following specific directives:

**Chesapeake Gateways and Trails Program.**—As requested, the agreement includes \$1,999,000 for the Chesapeake Gateways and Trails Program.

**Heritage Partnership Program.**—The agreement provides \$20,321,000 for the Heritage Partnership Program. The recommendation rejects the Administration's proposal to reduce funding for national heritage areas. This proposed reduction would have a particularly acute impact since the Service is in the process of approving management plans for newer areas which allow them access to additional funding to implement their restoration and recreation programs.

In order to maintain stable funding sources for all areas, the bill restores funding for longstanding areas to each area's fiscal year 2014 level; provides a total of \$300,000 to national heritage areas with recently approved management plans, known as tier 2 areas, including funding for those areas whose plans are expected to be approved during the fiscal year; and provides \$150,000 to each tier 1 area that has been authorized and is still in the process of having its management plan approved. The Service is directed to refrain

from further funding reallocations from longstanding areas.

The agreement includes within Title I General Provisions bill language extending by one year the authorization for the Automobile National Heritage Area, as requested. The agreement also includes language addressing a national heritage area in Wheeling, West Virginia.

The agreement includes within Title IV General Provisions bill language extending until 2021 the authorization for the American Battlefield Protection Program.

#### HISTORIC PRESERVATION FUND

The bill provides \$56,410,000 for the Historic Preservation Fund. Within this amount, \$46,925,000 is provided for grants to States and \$8,985,000 is provided to Tribes, consistent with the request. The recommendation also includes \$500,000 for grants to underserved communities, as requested.

#### CONSTRUCTION

The bill provides \$138,339,000 for Construction with the following specific directives:

**Line Item Construction.**—The bill provides \$61,678,000 for line item construction projects in the fiscal year 2015 budget request and as shown in the table below. Requests for reprogramming will be considered pursuant to the guidelines in the front of this statement.

**Brooks Lodge, Katmai National Park.**—Funds have been provided, as requested, for the Service to construct a new bridge across the Brooks River within Katmai National Park. However, additional plans to relocate the lodge, based on the existing outdated Development Concept Plan (DCP), are unwarranted. No fundamental changes at Brooks Lodge shall be undertaken unless and until the Service prepares a new factually and legally sufficient DCP.

State	Park Unit	Budget Request	This Bill
FL	Dry Tortugas National Park	\$4,500,000	\$4,500,000
KY	Mammoth Cave National Park	6,734,000	6,734,000
NY	Theodore Roosevelt Birthplace National Historic Site	4,375,000	4,375,000
PR	San Juan National Historic Site	1,770,000	1,770,000
VA	Petersburg National Battlefield	4,993,000	4,993,000
MT	Glacier National Park	6,300,000	6,300,000
CA	Golden Gate National Recreation Area	3,872,000	3,872,000
CA	Yosemite National Park	5,575,000	5,575,000
AK	Katmai National Park & Preserve	4,374,000	4,374,000
WA	Olympic National Park	6,275,000	6,275,000
DC	National Mall and Memorial Parks	5,000,000	5,000,000
DC	National Capital Regional Office	6,060,000	6,060,000
AK	Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve, Denali National Park and Preserve	452,000	452,000
MA	Cape Cod National Seashore	1,158,000	1,158,000
CT, MA, MD, ME, NH, NY, PA, VA, VT	Appalachian National Scenic Trail	240,000	240,000
Total, Line Item Construction		61,678,000	61,678,000

#### LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND (RESCISSION)

The bill includes a rescission of \$28,000,000 in annual contract authority. This authority has not been used in recent years and there

are no plans to use this authority in fiscal year 2015.

#### LAND ACQUISITION AND STATE ASSISTANCE

The bill provides \$98,960,000 for Land Acquisition and State Assistance. The amounts

recommended by this bill compared with the budget estimates by activity are shown in the table below, listed in priority order pursuant to the budget request for fiscal year 2015.

State	National Park Service	Budget Request	This Bill
CA	CA Southwest Desert—Joshua Tree National Park	\$138,000	\$138,000
CA	CA Southwest Desert—Mojave National Preserve	1,873,000	1,873,000
CA	Redwood National Park	6,250,000	6,250,000
MO	Wilson's Creek National Battlefield	900,000	900,000
NM	Pecos National Historical Park	1,205,000	1,205,000
VA	Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania County Battlefields National Military Park	1,519,000	1,519,000
PA	Gettysburg National Military Park	376,000	376,000
HI	National Trails System—Ala Kahakai National Historic Trail	2,000,000	2,000,000
VT	National Trails System—Appalachian National Scenic Trail	533,000	533,000
NH	National Trails System—Appalachian National Scenic Trail	2,251,000	2,251,000
VA	National Trails System—Captain John Smith National Historic Trail	4,000,000	4,000,000
WI	National Trails System—Ice Age National Scenic Trail	1,664,000	1,664,000
MA	National Trails System—New England National Scenic Trail	247,000	247,000
MI	National Trails System—North Country National Scenic Trail	519,000	519,000
	Additional project requests	5,510,000	0
Subtotal, Acquisitions		28,985,000	23,475,000

State	National Park Service	Budget Request	This Bill
	American Battlefield Protection Program .....	8,516,000	8,986,000
	Emergencies and hardships .....	3,928,000	3,928,000
	Acquisition management .....	9,526,000	9,526,000
	Inholdings, donations, and exchanges .....	4,928,000	4,928,000
	<b>Total, NPS Land Acquisition .....</b>	<b>55,883,000</b>	<b>50,843,000</b>
Assistance to States:			
	State conservation grants (formula) .....	42,000,000	42,000,000
	State conservation grants (competitive) .....	3,000,000	3,000,000
	Administrative expenses .....	3,117,000	3,117,000
	<b>Total, Assistance to States .....</b>	<b>48,117,000</b>	<b>48,117,000</b>
	<b>Total, NPS Land Acquisition and State Assistance .....</b>	<b>104,000,000</b>	<b>98,960,000</b>

## CENTENNIAL CHALLENGE

The bill provides \$10,000,000 for the Centennial Challenge matching grant program, a key component of the Service's Centennial Initiative. The program provides dedicated Federal funding to leverage partnerships for signature projects and programs for the national park system, including critical infrastructure investments. The amount provided for the Centennial Challenge is intended to complement funding for core operations provided in the Operation of the National Park System account to enhance the visitor experience and to protect cultural and natural resources at national park system units in anticipation of the Service's Centennial celebration. A one-to-one matching requirement is required for projects to qualify for these funds. The Service is urged to give preference to projects that demonstrate additional leveraging capacity from its partners.

## UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

## SURVEYS, INVESTIGATIONS, AND RESEARCH

The bill provides \$1,045,000,000 for Surveys, Investigations, and Research of the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). In addition to the funding allocation table at the end of this explanatory statement, the agreement includes the following instructions:

**Ecosystems.**—Within the Ecosystems activity, \$1,005,000 is provided to address white-nose syndrome in bats, and \$5,646,000 is included for Asian carp control efforts. The Survey is directed to continue to analyze the distribution and magnitude of endocrine-disrupting chemicals impacting fish and wildlife in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed; therefore, the bill includes the requested increases for research in the Chesapeake Bay.

**Climate and Land Use Change.**—Within the Climate and Land Use Change activity, \$3,000,000 is provided for drought impacts and adaptive management; \$3,343,000 is provided for Landsat science activities; and \$5,024,000 is provided for the National Civil Applications Program.

**Natural Hazards.**—Funding for Natural Hazards programs includes \$59,503,000 for earthquake hazards, of which \$5,000,000 is provided to transition the earthquake early warning demonstration project into an operational capability on the West Coast. A critical component of the earthquake early warning system is maintaining the existing real-time broadband and strong motion seismic networks along with geodetic monitoring networks. As the earthquake early warning system is developed, USGS is directed to collaborate with universities, companies and other Federal agencies with expertise and existing digital seismic observing networks to continue precise observation of critical fault locations.

The bill includes \$25,121,000 for volcano hazards, of which \$2,000,000 is provided for repairing and upgrading current systems, with a focus on the highest risk volcanoes as described in the Survey's 2005 volcano assessment inventory. Several monitors are cur-

rently inoperable and maintenance is needed to continue rapid detection for public safety dissemination, including information critical to civilian and military air routes.

The bill also includes \$3,485,000 for landslide hazards. This important public safety program is encouraged to continue and strengthen its partnerships with other Federal agencies, such as the U.S. Forest Service, as well as with State and local emergency managers, in order to increase the dissemination of information and enhance coordination among them.

In order to develop a better understanding of marine hazard risk and resource availability, the Survey is encouraged to work in partnership with other Federal agencies and non-governmental organizations where practicable to support research and assessments of marine hazards and critical minerals on deepwater ships of exploration.

**Water Resources.**—Within Water Resources, \$34,901,000 is provided for the National Streamflow Information Program, and \$6,500,000 is provided for Water Resources Research Institutes. The National Groundwater Monitoring Network is funded at \$2,600,000 and the Survey is directed to provide cost-share grants to States in the form of cooperative agreements to upgrade monitoring networks to national standards and to incorporate wells into the network. This funding will also support the additional work by the Survey to manage the network and provide data access through an Internet web portal.

## BUREAU OF OCEAN ENERGY MANAGEMENT

## OCEAN ENERGY MANAGEMENT

The bill provides \$169,770,000 for Ocean Energy Management to be partially offset with the collection of rental receipts and cost recovery fees totaling \$97,348,000, for a net discretionary appropriation of \$72,422,000. The request did not include any funds for coastal marine spatial planning and accordingly the bill provides no funds for such activities. The agreement includes the following additional guidance:

**Renewable Energy.**—The Bureau should continue to work with the Department of Energy to identify and permit a national offshore wind test site that incorporates new technology related to the structural material of transitional depth and floating wind turbines. The Bureau is also expected to continue working with coastal States and other stakeholders to study new wind energy areas, including those in shallow, transitional, and deep (over 200 feet) waters.

## BUREAU OF SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT

## OFFSHORE SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT

The bill provides \$189,726,000 for Offshore Safety and Environmental Enforcement to be partially offset with the collection of rental receipts, cost recovery fees and inspection fees totaling \$123,579,000, for a net discretionary appropriation of \$66,147,000.

## OIL SPILL RESEARCH

The bill provides \$14,899,000 for Oil Spill Research.

## OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT

## REGULATION AND TECHNOLOGY

The bill provides \$122,713,000 for Regulation and Technology. Within this amount, the bill funds regulatory grants at \$68,590,000, equal to the fiscal year 2014 enacted level. The Committees find that the budget proposal to reduce regulatory grants would undermine the State-based regulatory system. It is imperative that States continue to operate protective regulatory programs as delegation of authority to the States is the cornerstone of the surface mining regulatory program. Further, the agreement does not provide funds to expand and enhance Federal oversight activities of State programs.

**Coal Miners' Benefits.**—For nearly 20 years, Congress has facilitated the secure retirement of coal miners by providing funding for retiree healthcare benefits through the Abandoned Mine Lands program. However, there are additional threats to miners' pension and health plans as the result of the 2008 financial crisis and a recent corporate bankruptcy. If Congressional action is not taken to address the long-term solvency of these pension and healthcare funds prior to the end of the 113th Congress, the Administration is encouraged to consider legislative alternatives to address these concerns as part of the fiscal year 2016 budget request.

## ABANDONED MINE RECLAMATION FUND

The bill provides \$27,399,000 for the Abandoned Mine Reclamation Fund.

## BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS AND BUREAU OF INDIAN EDUCATION

## OPERATION OF INDIAN PROGRAMS (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill provides \$2,429,236,000 for Operation of Indian Programs. In addition to the funding allocation table at the end of this explanatory statement, the agreement includes the following instructions and changes to the budget request:

**New Tribes.**—The agreement supports the requested amount of \$463,000 for new Tribes and notes the challenge of reconciling the timing of the tribal recognition process with the annual budget formulation process. If additional Tribes are recognized during fiscal year 2015 beyond those contemplated in the budget request, the Bureau is urged to support their capacity building efforts to the extent feasible.

**Road Maintenance.**—The agreement includes \$2,000,000 above the budget request which may be used for school bus routes. The agreement does not include further reporting requirements.

**Trust-Real Estate Services.**—Consistent with the request, \$127,002,000 is provided for trust-real estate services programs, including \$7,000,000 to implement Klamath Basin Restoration Agreement activities.

*Education.*—The agreement includes \$2,000,000 for the development and operation of tribal departments or divisions of education as authorized in 25 U.S.C. 2020.

The Bureau is directed to publish its internal review of Early Child and Family Development programs and to consult with Tribes, other current program partners, and Congress before initiating the pilot projects proposed in the request. Any new pilot projects shall not reduce funding for currently operating Family and Child Education programs.

The Bureau is directed to publish the results of the most recent Johnson-O'Malley student count, and to consult with Tribes and Congress before proposing any changes in the distribution of future funds or in the frequency or method of future counts.

The Bureau is encouraged to coordinate with the Indian Health Service to establish a pilot program integrating preventive dental care at schools within the Bureau system.

The agreement includes bill language providing the Secretary with the authority to approve satellite locations of existing BIE schools if a Tribe can demonstrate that the establishment of such locations would provide comparable levels of education as are being offered at such existing BIE schools, and would not significantly increase costs to the Federal Government. The intent is for this authority to be exercised only in extraordinary circumstances to provide Tribes with additional flexibility regarding where students are educated without compromising how they are educated, and to significantly reduce the hardship and expense of transporting students over long distances, all without unduly increasing costs that would otherwise unfairly come at the expense of other schools in the BIE system.

In order to be successful, the Administration's emphasis on education must be complemented by efforts to improve interagency coordination for the multiplicity of programs that affect the wellbeing of Native American children. In addition to education, these include healthcare, social services, child welfare and juvenile justice programs. It is recommended that the Bureau, working in concert with other affected Federal agencies, examine ways to support such a cross-cutting coordination effort, including the establishment of a commission on Native American children.

*Public Safety and Justice.*—The agreement includes \$1,000,000 above the budget request to provide training in Indian country to carry out the new provisions in the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013.

The Indian Law and Order Commission's November 2013 report notes that Federal investment in tribal justice for Public Law 83-280 States has been more limited than elsewhere in Indian country. Within 180 days of enactment of this Act, the Bureau, in coordination with the Department of Justice, is directed to report to the House and Senate committees of jurisdiction on the budgetary needs of tribal courts in these States.

*Executive Direction and Administrative Services.*—The Bureau is directed to fund the requested program evaluations for education and social service programs within the amounts provided in this program.

*Indian Arts and Crafts Board.*—Funding for the Indian Arts and Crafts Board is retained within the Office of the Secretary rather than transferred to the Bureau as requested.

#### CONSTRUCTION

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill provides \$128,876,000 for Construction. In addition to the funding allocation table at the end of this explanatory state-

ment, the agreement includes the following instructions and changes to the budget request:

*Education.*—The agreement includes \$20,165,000 for school replacement, \$3,823,000 for employee housing repair, and \$50,513,000 for facilities improvement and repair. The amount for school replacement completes the funding requirements for the school construction project started in fiscal year 2014 and covers design costs for the final two schools on the 2004 priority list. The Bureau is directed to publish a new list in time for the fiscal year 2016 funding cycle.

Significant health and safety hazards exist at Indian educational facilities across the country, including the Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig School of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe. The Bureau is urged to continue to work with Tribes to repair and replace substandard educational facilities.

*Public Safety and Justice.*—The Committees continue to encourage the Bureau to consider establishing regional detention centers at new or existing facilities, such as the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes' Justice Center, as it works to combat the crime problem in Indian Country.

*Maintenance Shortfalls.*—The Bureau is encouraged to request full funding for facilities maintenance needs in future budget requests.

#### INDIAN LAND AND WATER CLAIMS SETTLEMENTS AND MISCELLANEOUS PAYMENTS TO INDIANS

The bill provides \$35,655,000 for Indian Land and Water Claims Settlements and Miscellaneous Payments to Indians. The detailed allocation of funding by activity is included in the table at the end of this explanatory statement.

#### INDIAN GUARANTEED LOAN PROGRAM ACCOUNT

The bill provides \$7,731,000 for the Indian Guaranteed Loan Program Account.

#### DEPARTMENTAL OFFICES

##### OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

##### DEPARTMENTAL OPERATIONS

The bill provides \$265,263,000 for Departmental Offices, Office of the Secretary, Departmental Operations. The detailed allocation of funding by program area and activity is included in the table at the end of the statement. The bill provides \$12,000,000 for the Office of Valuation Services. The amount provided for the Office of Natural Resources Revenue includes fixed costs and partial funding for verification pilots, as requested.

*National Monument Designations.*—The Department is directed to work collaboratively with interested parties, including the Congress, States, local communities, Tribal governments and others before making national monument designations.

*Indian Arts and Crafts Board.*—The Committees have provided funding for the Indian Arts and Crafts Board within the Office of the Secretary rather than moving it to the Bureau of Indian Affairs as proposed in the budget request.

*Invasive Species.*—The National Invasive Species Council is directed to submit an interagency crosscut budget for fiscal years 2013 through 2016 not later than 90 days after the President submits a fiscal year 2016 budget to the Congress. The crosscut budget should include the same seven general spending categories as in prior year reports.

#### INSULAR AFFAIRS

##### ASSISTANCE TO TERRITORIES

The bill provides \$85,976,000 for Assistance to Territories, equal to the fiscal year 2014 enacted level. In addition to the funding allocation table at the end of this explanatory

statement, the agreement includes the following instructions:

Within these amounts, the bill includes a total of \$3,000,000 to continue discretionary grants to mitigate the impact of Compact-related migration on affected jurisdictions, as authorized by section 104(e) of Public Law 108-188. This amount is equal to the fiscal year 2014 level. As in previous years, the Department shall allocate these grants in conjunction with other currently authorized mandatory grants in order to help offset educational costs incurred by these jurisdictions.

#### COMPACT OF FREE ASSOCIATION

The bill provides \$3,318,000 for Compact of Free Association. The detailed allocation of funding is included in the table at the end of this explanatory statement.

#### OFFICE OF THE SOLICITOR

##### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill provides \$65,800,000 for the Office of the Solicitor. The detailed allocation of funding is included in the table at the end of this explanatory statement.

#### OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

##### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill provides \$50,047,000 for the Office of Inspector General. The detailed allocation of funding is included in the table at the end of this explanatory statement.

#### OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL TRUSTEE FOR

##### AMERICAN INDIANS

##### FEDERAL TRUST PROGRAMS

##### (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill provides \$139,029,000 for the Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians. The detailed allocation of funding by activity is included in the table at the end of this explanatory statement.

#### DEPARTMENT-WIDE PROGRAMS

##### WILDLAND FIRE MANAGEMENT

##### (INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The bill provides \$804,779,000 for Department of the Interior Wildland Fire Management, which is \$63,797,000 above the fiscal year 2014 enacted level (excluding the additional fire suppression funding that was included as repayment for fire transfers in fiscal year 2013). Of the funds provided, \$291,657,000 is for suppression operations, which combined with \$92,000,000 in the FLAME Wildfire Suppression Reserve Fund fully funds the 10-year average for fire suppression at \$383,657,000. Total funding provided in fiscal year 2015 for Department of the Interior Wildland Fire Management accounts is \$896,779,000. The detailed allocation of funding for these accounts is included in the table at the end of this statement. The following directions are also provided:

*Hazardous Fuels Management.*—The bill provides \$164,000,000 for hazardous fuels management activities, of which \$10,000,000 is for resilient landscapes activities. The total for hazardous fuels management activities is \$18,976,000 above the fiscal year 2014 enacted level.

The Department of the Interior is encouraged to evaluate existing commercial satellite technology to determine whether such technology may provide a low-cost early warning capability to save lives and property.

*Sage-Grouse Habitat.*—The Department of the Interior is directed to work collaboratively with the Forest Service and other stakeholders in developing hazardous fuels management plans that take into consideration the conservation of sage-grouse habitat. The Committees encourage the Administration to seek additional funding in fiscal



year 2016 and subsequent fiscal years to continue this concerted effort.

**FLAME WILDFIRE SUPPRESSION RESERVE FUND  
(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)**

The bill provides \$92,000,000 for the FLAME Wildfire Suppression Reserve Fund.

**CENTRAL HAZARDOUS MATERIALS FUND**

The bill provides \$10,010,000 for the Central Hazardous Materials Fund.

**NATURAL RESOURCE DAMAGE ASSESSMENT AND RESTORATION**

**NATURAL RESOURCE DAMAGE ASSESSMENT FUND**

The bill provides \$7,767,000 for the Natural Resource Damage Assessment Fund. The detailed allocation of funding by activity is included in the table at the end of this explanatory statement.

**WORKING CAPITAL FUND**

The bill provides \$57,100,000 for the Department of the Interior, Working Capital Fund. Within the funds provided, a total of \$1,200,000 above the fiscal year 2014 enacted level has been provided to initiate office space consolidation in lieu of the amounts requested. The Secretary may proceed with additional consolidation activities if cost savings are realized from other Working Capital Fund programs during the fiscal year, consistent with reprogramming guidelines.

**GENERAL PROVISIONS, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)**

The agreement includes various legislative provisions affecting the Department in Title I of the bill, "General Provisions, Department of the Interior." The provisions are:

Section 101 provides Secretarial authority for the intra-bureau transfer of program funds for expenditures in cases of emergencies when all other emergency funds are exhausted.

Section 102 provides for the Department-wide expenditure or transfer of funds by the Secretary in the event of actual or potential emergencies including forest fires, range fires, earthquakes, floods, volcanic eruptions, storms, oil spills, grasshopper and Mormon cricket outbreaks, and surface mine reclamation emergencies.

Section 103 provides for the use of appropriated funds by the Secretary for contracts, rental cars and aircraft, telephone expenses, and other certain services.

Section 104 provides for the transfer of funds from the Bureau of Indian Affairs and Bureau of Indian Education, and Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians.

Section 105 permits the redistribution of tribal priority allocation and tribal base funds to alleviate funding inequities.

Section 106 authorizes the acquisition of lands for the purpose of operating and maintaining facilities that support visitors to Ellis, Governors, and Liberty Islands.

Section 107 continues Outer Continental Shelf inspection fees to be collected by the Secretary of the Interior.

Section 108 authorizes the Bureau of Land Management to implement an oil and gas leasing Internet program.

Section 109 authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to continue the reorganization of the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation, and Enforcement in conformance with Committee reprogramming guidelines.

Section 110 provides the Secretary of the Interior with authority to enter into multi-year cooperative agreements with non-profit organizations for long-term care of wild horses and burros.

Section 111 addresses the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's responsibilities for mass marking of salmonid stocks.

Section 112 continues a provision which directs the Secretary of the Interior to make certain certifications with respect to existing rights of way. The section also retains a provision limiting funding for a proposal to approve specified rights-of-way on the Mojave National Preserve or lands managed by the Needles Field Office of the Bureau of Land Management.

Section 113 extends authorization for certain payments to the Republic of Palau for fiscal year 2015.

Section 114 addresses Bureau of Land Management actions regarding grazing on public lands.

Section 115 continues a provision prohibiting funds to implement, administer, or enforce Secretarial Order 3310 issued by the Secretary of the Interior on December 22, 2010.

Section 116 extends a provision allowing the Bureau of Indian Education authority to rent or lease land and facilities and retain the receipts.

Section 117 continues through fiscal year 2020 forest ecosystem health and recovery activities.

Section 118 addresses the National Park Service's ability to implement the Volunteers in Parks program in anticipation of increased volunteer activity related to the Service's Centennial in 2016.

Section 119 allows the Bureau of Indian Affairs and Bureau of Indian Education to more efficiently and effectively perform reimbursable work.

Section 120 addresses National Heritage Areas.

Section 121 addresses certain payments made by the National Park Service.

Section 122 addresses the issuance of rules for sage-grouse.

**TITLE II—ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

The bill provides \$8,139,887,000 for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Based on estimates provided by EPA in the fiscal year 2015 congressional budget justification, the funding level provided is adequate to fully fund payroll. EPA shall make payroll its top priority as it executes its fiscal year 2015 appropriation. Further, this amount fully funds rent needs in each account and program project area, taking into account the fiscal year 2014 reprogramming that shifted funds between program areas to restore rent.

*Congressional Budget Justification.*—The Agency is directed to continue to include the information requested in House Report 112-331 and any proposals to change State allocation formulas that affect the distribution of appropriated funds in future budget justifications.

*Reprogramming.*—The Agency is held to the reprogramming limitation of \$1,000,000 and should continue to follow the reprogramming directives as provided in the front of this explanatory statement. Further, the Agency may not use any amount of deobligated funds to initiate a new program, office, or initiative, without the prior approval of the Committees.

Within 30 days of enactment of this Act, the Agency is directed to submit to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations its annual operating plan for fiscal year 2015, which shall detail how the Agency plans to allocate funds at the program project level.

**SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

The bill provides \$734,648,000 for Science and Technology programs and transfers

\$18,850,000 from the Hazardous Substance Superfund account to this account. The bill provides the following specific funding levels and direction:

*Indoor Air and Radiation.*—The agreement includes \$5,997,000. The proposed elimination of radon activities has been rejected.

*Research: Chemical Safety and Sustainability.*—The agreement includes \$126,930,000. The agreement rejects the proposed reduction for the IRIS program and provides no further directives related to the program.

*Research: National Priorities.*—The bill provides \$4,100,000 which shall be used for extramural research grants, independent of the Science to Achieve Results grant program, to fund high-priority water quality and availability research by not-for-profit organizations who often partner with the Agency. Funds shall be awarded competitively with priority given to partners proposing research of national scope and who provide a 25 percent match. The Agency is directed to allocate funds to grantees within 180 days of enactment of this Act.

*Research: Safe and Sustainable Water Resources.*—The agreement includes \$107,434,000. The proposed elimination of the beach program has been rejected and the agreement provides no further directives.

*Research: Sustainable and Healthy Communities.*—The agreement includes \$149,975,000. Funding is included for the Agency's STAR and the Greater Research Opportunities fellowship programs consistent with fiscal year 2014 levels.

*Additional Guidance.*—The agreement includes the following additional guidance:

*Bristol Bay Assessment.*—The agreement does not include a directive on the Bristol Bay Watershed assessment.

*Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS).*—The Agency is directed to provide the report requested in House Report 113-551.

*Nanomaterial Research.*—The Agency is encouraged to continue collaborative research efforts with the Food and Drug Administration and, where possible, seek to maximize the impact of their respective research program related to nanotechnology and safe and sustainable molecular design.

*Public Access to Research.*—In February 2013, the Office of Science and Technology Policy, Executive Office of the President issued guidelines on increasing public access to the results of federally funded scientific research. Given the importance of research funded by EPA, the Agency is encouraged to comply expeditiously.

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS AND MANAGEMENT**

The bill provides \$2,613,679,000 for Environmental Programs and Management and includes the following specific funding levels and direction:

*Enforcement.*—The agreement includes \$240,637,000 and includes no further directives under this heading.

*Environmental Protection: National Priorities.*—The bill provides \$12,700,000 for a competitive grant program to provide technical assistance for improved water quality or safe drinking water to rural and urban communities or individual private well owners. The Agency is directed to provide \$11,000,000 for grants to qualified not-for-profit organizations, on a national or multi-State regional basis, for on-site training and technical assistance for water systems in rural or urban communities. The Agency is also directed to provide \$1,700,000 for grants to qualified not-for-profit organizations for technical assistance for individual private well owners, with priority given to organizations that currently provide technical and educational assistance to individual private well owners.

The Agency shall require each grantee to provide a minimum 10 percent match, including in-kind contributions. The Agency is directed to allocate funds to grantees within 180 days of enactment of this Act.

**Geographic Programs.**—The bill provides \$427,737,000, as distributed in the table at the end of this division, and includes the following direction:

**Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI).**—The bill provides \$300,000,000. EPA shall follow the direction provided in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014 as it implements the program in fiscal year 2015. Further, new research tools are providing more rapid tests of organism health and environmental conditions, which can serve to reduce costs and leverage public investment in the health of the Great Lakes. The Agency is encouraged to consider such promising fields of study as they allocate research funding under the GLRI.

**Chesapeake Bay.**—The bill provides \$73,000,000. From within the amount, the Committees direct \$6,000,000 for nutrient and sediment removal grants and \$6,000,000 for small watershed grants to control polluted runoff from urban, suburban and agricultural lands, and include no further directives.

**Gulf of Mexico.**—The bill provides \$4,482,000. The increasing problem of hypoxia is a cause for concern. The Gulf of Mexico program is crucial in partnering with States and universities to study and monitor the effects of hypoxia.

**Indoor Air and Radiation.**—The agreement includes \$27,637,000. The proposed elimination of radon activities has been rejected.

**Information Exchange.**—The agreement includes \$126,538,000, including \$3,427,000 for the Immediate Office of the Administrator and \$7,163,000 for the Office of Congressional Affairs (OCIR). Bill language is included withholding \$856,750 from the Immediate Office and \$1,790,750 from OCIR until the following overdue reports from the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014 are submitted to the Committees: (1) the progress report under the heading Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS); (2) the report under the heading Drinking Water Treatment Compliance Flexibility; (3) the report under the heading State Role in Clean Air Act Implementation; and (4) the report under the heading Infrastructure Assistance.

**Operations and Administration.**—The agreement includes \$482,751,000, including \$2,966,000 for the Immediate Office of the Chief Financial Officer. Bill language is included withholding \$741,500 from the Immediate Office until the following overdue reports from the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014 are submitted to the Committees: (1) the progress report under the heading Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS); (2) the report under the heading Drinking Water Treatment Compliance Flexibility; (3) the report under the heading State Role in Clean Air Act Implementation; and (4) the report under the heading Infrastructure Assistance.

**Water: Ecosystems.**—The agreement includes \$47,788,000. The Agency is strongly encouraged to provide cooperative funding to enhance real-time monitoring of coastal and estuarine water quality in areas affected by extreme weather events, and to develop tools to provide real time and dynamic information to inform management decisions. In addition, the Committees direct EPA to use the funds provided to accelerate the processing of mining permits with the Corps of Engineers. Further, the Committees direct EPA, in consultation with the Corps of Engineers, to report monthly on the number of

Section 404 permits under EPA's review. The report should include the information requested under this heading in House Report 112-589, and the Committees include no further directives under this heading.

**Water: Human Health Protection.**—The agreement includes \$98,507,000. The proposed elimination of the beach program has been rejected and funding for this program has been restored within the funds provided.

**Water Quality Protection.**—The agreement includes \$210,417,000. From within this amount, \$2,200,000 is for hiring and staffing needs to implement the Agency's new responsibilities under the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act of 2014 (WIFIA). The Committees support the Agency's development of the Integrated Planning Guidance to enhance flexibility for communities struggling to meet compliance costs mandated under the Clean Water Act (CWA) as well as the Agency's efforts to consider a community's ability to pay for compliance costs when determining settlement agreements under the CWA. Further, the Agency is directed to maintain technical assistance and outreach to communities seeking to develop and implement an integrated planning approach to meeting Clean Water Act requirements.

**Additional Guidance.**—The agreement includes additional guidance detailed in House Report 113-551 related only to Antimicrobial Solutions for Citrus Disease, Brown Marmorated Stink Bug, Composite Wood Products, Consent Decree, E15 outreach, and Pending herbicide registrations. The agreement also includes the following:

**Administrator Priorities.**—Funding for Administrator priorities shall not exceed the fiscal year 2014 enacted level. The Agency is directed to submit a report within 90 days of enactment of this Act that identifies how the fiscal year 2013 and 2014 funding was used by account, program area and program project and includes a description of the activities and any anticipated results. Future congressional budget justifications should identify funding in each program project that has been set aside for Administrator priorities, and include a justification for the effort and any anticipated results.

**Combined Sewer Overflows (CSOs).**—CSOs are a major contributor to water quality issues in the Lake Michigan Basin and it is noted that many communities have made strides to update wastewater infrastructure to mitigate the impact of CSOs. As such, the Agency is directed to provide a report based on available data indicating, for each CSO community in the Great Lakes Basin, the implementation status of each CSO long term control plan. Additionally, the report should include a summary of annual discharge volumes.

**Lead Test Kit.**—In 2008, EPA adopted the Lead Renovation, Repair and Painting rule which included criteria by which the Agency could certify a test kit that contractors could use onsite to comply with the rule; yet, six years later no kit has been developed that meets these standards. The Agency is directed to prioritize efforts with stakeholders in fiscal year 2015 to identify solutions that would allow for a test kit to meet the criteria within the 2008 rule to reduce costs for consumers, remodelers and families to comply with the rule. If no solution is reached by the end of the fiscal year, EPA should revisit the test kit criteria in the 2008 rule and solicit public comment on alternatives.

**Protection of Personal Information.**—The Committees understand that the Govern-

ment Accountability Office's (GAO's) investigation into the EPA's policies for protecting personal information is ongoing. The Committees look forward to the GAO's findings and recommendations to ensure that all personally identifiable information, when collected, is appropriately safeguarded.

**Reclaimed and Recycled Oil.**—The Agency is urged to support public-private partnerships that address the reclamation, recycling and beneficial reuse of refined petroleum products.

#### HAZARDOUS WASTE ELECTRONIC MANIFEST SYSTEM FUND

The bill provides \$3,674,000 for the Hazardous Waste Electronic Manifest System Fund.

#### OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

The bill provides \$41,489,000 for the Office of Inspector General.

#### BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

The bill provides \$42,317,000 for Buildings and Facilities. From within this amount \$7,850,000 is provided for design and engineering plans for a new research facility as described in the budget request, and the Agency is directed to submit a status report to the Committees on Appropriations on a quarterly basis.

#### HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE SUPERFUND (INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The bill provides \$1,088,769,000 for the Hazardous Substance Superfund account and includes bill language to transfer \$9,939,000 to the Office of Inspector General account and \$18,850,000 to the Science and Technology account. The agreement only includes the following directives for the Superfund program:

**Community Involvement.**—The Agency is directed to factor community acceptance into its Superfund remedial cleanup remedy selection process and, when supported by a community, consider remedial cleanup remedies that provide green space as part of a remedial action.

**Financial Assurance.**—Prior to proposing any rule pursuant to section 108(b) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9608(b)), the Administrator is directed to collect and analyze information from the commercial insurance and financial industries regarding the use and availability of necessary instruments (including surety bonds, letters of credit and insurance) for meeting any new financial responsibility requirements and to make that analysis available to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations and to the general public on the Agency website 90 days prior to a proposed rulemaking. In addition, the analysis shall include the Agency's plan to avoid requiring financial assurances that are duplicative of those already required by other Federal agencies.

#### LEAKING UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK TRUST FUND PROGRAM

The bill provides \$91,941,000 for the Leaking Underground Storage Tank Trust Fund Program.

#### INLAND OIL SPILL PROGRAMS

The bill provides \$18,209,000 for Inland Oil Spill Programs.

#### STATE AND TRIBAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS

The bill provides \$3,545,161,000 for the State and Tribal Assistance Grants (STAG) program and includes the following specific funding levels and direction:

**Diesel Emissions Reductions Grants (DERA).**—The bill provides \$30,000,000 for DERA grants. The Agency shall continue to

make at least 70 percent of DERA grants available to improve air quality in non-attainment areas.

**Targeted Airshed Grants.**—The bill provides \$10,000,000 for targeted airshed grants to reduce air pollution in non-attainment areas. These grants shall be distributed on a competitive basis to non-attainment areas that EPA determines are ranked as the top five most polluted areas relative to annual ozone or particulate matter 2.5 standards. To determine these areas, the Agency shall use the most recent design values calculated from validated air quality data. The Committees note that these funds are available for emission reduction activities deemed necessary for compliance with national ambient air quality standards and included in a State Implementation Plan submitted to EPA.

**Categorical Grants.**—The bill provides \$1,054,378,000 for Categorical Grants and funding levels are specified in the table at the end of this division. The amount also includes \$228,219,000 for the State and Local Air Quality Management grant program. The Agency is directed to allocate funds for this program using the same formula as fiscal year 2014.

**Use of Iron and Steel.**—The bill includes language in Title IV General Provisions that stipulates requirements for the use of iron and steel in State Revolving Fund projects. The Committees acknowledge that EPA may issue a waiver of said requirements for de minimis amounts of iron and steel building materials. The Committees emphasize that any coating processes that are applied to the external surface of iron and steel components that otherwise qualify under the procurement preference shall not render such products ineligible for the procurement preference regardless of where the coating processes occur, provided that final assembly of the products occurs in the United States.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
(INCLUDING TRANSFER AND RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

The bill includes language that addresses the collection and expenditure of pesticide fees, allows cooperative agreements to Tribes, allows transfer of funds for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, and authorizes amounts for one-time facility repairs. EPA shall follow the direction provided in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014 as it utilizes its special pay authority, and submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations that details the Agency's use of such authority within 60 days of the date of enactment of this Act. The report should include the number of employees, by program office, that the Agency has hired in the last two years using its authority. The report should include a breakdown of how many employees were hired from outside the Agency, and how many were internal hires.

**Rescission.**—The bill rescinds \$40,000,000 of unobligated balances from the State and Tribal Assistance Grants account. The Committee is aware that the Agency has \$16,600,000 of remaining balances from prior year special project infrastructure grants that grantees could not use or repurpose and therefore returned to the Agency. The Agency is directed to rescind these balances; however, beyond this amount the Agency is not to include any other unobligated balances from prior year special project infrastructure grants. The remaining \$23,400,000 of the rescission shall be taken from all other unobligated balances in the State and Tribal Assistance Grants appropriation account, ap-

plying a percentage that is proportional to the unobligated balance remaining for each program project, except that the Committee does not expect EPA to include brownfield infrastructure assistance grants in the rescission. Thirty days prior to executing the rescission, the Agency shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations detailing the amount of rescission by program project.

**Purchase Cards.**—The recent Inspector General report detailing significant improper transactions on purchase cards issued to employees is concerning. Employees whose purchase card transactions are found to be prohibited, improper, or erroneous should have their purchase card privileges immediately revoked. Further, the Agency shall submit a report within 60 days of enactment of this Act to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations detailing what steps it has taken to ensure further violations will not occur if it wishes to reinstate the card, and that restitution by the employee has been made.

TITLE III—RELATED AGENCIES  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FOREST SERVICE  
FOREST AND RANGELAND RESEARCH

The bill provides \$296,000,000 for Forest and Rangeland Research, which includes \$70,000,000 for Forest Inventory and Analysis. The following directions are also provided:

The Forest Service is directed to continue making significant investments in research and development and to prioritize white-nose syndrome in bats, research to improve management of the stressors impacting forests, and development of markets to offset the increasing cost of forest management. The Forest Service is urged to invest in high value, high volume markets for low value wood through a wide range of biomass uses, including nanotechnology, wood for energy, and green building construction. This includes innovative building systems to support growth in the market share of wood in both residential and non-residential construction; research, grants, and demonstration projects to advance the use of wood products in high-rise construction; and wood-based nanotechnology.

**Urban Forest Research.**—The Forest Service is encouraged to maintain a vibrant urban forest research program to assist urban communities in inventorying and assessing the changing conditions and health of urban forests and develop strategic plans to sustain these natural resources.

**Bighorn Sheep Research.**—The Forest Service is urged to collaborate with the Bureau of Land Management and the Agricultural Research Service on research involving the risk of disease transmission between domestic and bighorn sheep.

STATE AND PRIVATE FORESTRY

The bill provides \$232,653,000 for State and Private Forestry. The following directions are also provided:

**Landscape Scale Restoration.**—The Forest Service is expected to continue the competitive process and to award the funding in a manner that provides each State with funds to implement the highest priorities in their Forest Action Plans, engage woodland owners in active forest management, leverage non-Federal resources, and produce measurable economic, ecological and social benefits. The Forest Service is directed to report to the Committees on Appropriations within 90 days of enactment of this Act on the progress made during the first year of implementation and projections for the coming year.

**Cooperative Forestry.**—The Forest Stewardship Program is uniquely positioned to engage woodland owners on active forest management and conservation activities to address the growing threats of fire, insects and disease, fragmentation, and other challenges facing privately owned forest lands. The Forest Service is directed to provide the Committees on Appropriations with a report on its actions to improve this program, better leverage partner resources, engage additional landowners, and ensure sustained follow-up, as part of the fiscal year 2016 budget justification.

The Forest Service is directed to report to the Committees on Appropriations within 90 days of enactment of this Act on the progress being made with regard to salvage and rehabilitation operations on the Stanislaus National Forest.

**Forest Legacy.**—The bill provides \$53,000,000 for the Forest Legacy program. This includes \$6,400,000 for program administration and \$46,600,000 for projects. The Service should fund projects in priority order according to the competitively selected national priority list submitted by the Forest Service as part of its fiscal year 2015 budget request.

**International Forestry.**—The Forest Service is expected to continue making investments in this program that plays a large role in protecting the U.S. forest products industry by improving the sustainability and legality of timber management overseas, thereby reducing the amount of underpriced and illegally harvested timber on the world market.

NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM  
(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The bill provides \$1,494,330,000 for the National Forest System. The following directions are also provided:

**Integrated Resource Restoration (IRR).**—The bill continues funding for the IRR pilot in Regions 1, 3, and 4. The Forest Service is expected to complete an evaluation during fiscal year 2015 of the first three years of the proof of concept pilot, including the metrics required in the initiation of the pilot in fiscal year 2012. If the Forest Service expects due consideration of a fiscal year 2016 request to expand IRR beyond these three regions, the report should be provided no later than 90 days after enactment of this Act.

**Land Management Planning, Inventory and Monitoring.**—The bill provides \$37,754,000 for Land Management Planning and \$151,019,000 for Inventory and Monitoring. The agreement does not approve the consolidation of these two line items.

**Travel Management Plans.**—The Committees expect the Forest Service to work with impacted communities prior to and during the travel management planning process to gain comprehensive information regarding current and historic road location and usage and to ensure understanding of the social, cultural and economic impact of travel management plans.

**Recreation, Heritage and Wilderness.**—The Forest Service is urged to provide sufficient funding for the maintenance of rural airstrips in future budget requests and to consult with Congress, State and local officials, and affected stakeholders, prior to making a determination to close or terminate the use of any rural airstrips. The Forest Service is encouraged to work with local partners to facilitate the rehabilitation of historic structures, some of which were constructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps, to generate revenue and provide opportunities for interpretation.

The Forest Service is directed to report to the Committees on Appropriations within 90

days of enactment of this Act on its plans for continued operation of the Philadelphia Peak radio repeater in the Green Mountain National Forest.

The Forest Service is urged to target a higher board feet volume and to implement larger projects and reduce unit costs.

**Grazing Management.**—The Committees direct the Forest Service, to the greatest extent practicable, to make vacant grazing allotments available to a holder of a grazing permit or lease when lands covered by the holder of the permit or lease are unusable because of drought or wildfire.

**Law Enforcement Operations.**—The Forest Service is directed to report to the Committees on Appropriations 90 days after the enactment of this Act, regarding the steps taken to include Law Enforcement and Investigations as an integral participant in the annual forest planning process as a means to ensure stronger collaboration among all partners and focused enforcement strategies aimed at safety, interdiction and mitigation of illegal marijuana cultivation on public lands.

**Valles Caldera National Preserve.**—In accordance with Sec. 3043 of the National Defense Authorization Act of Fiscal Year 2015, this bill provides the Secretary of Agriculture with the necessary authority to transfer all unobligated balances from the Valles

Caldera National Preserve account to the Secretary of the Interior.

**Stewardship Contracting.**—The Forest Service is strongly encouraged to expeditiously prepare and publish draft rulemaking to establish a small business set-aside program for timber contracts undertaken using stewardship contracting authority that is consistent with previous commitments made by the Service and the Department of Agriculture on this matter.

#### CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT AND MAINTENANCE (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill provides \$360,374,000 for Capital Improvement and Maintenance programs offset by a \$17,000,000 scoring credit related to the road and trail fund. The following directions are also provided:

**Facilities.**—The bill provides \$71,600,000 for Facilities including \$16,231,000 for construction and \$55,369,000 for maintenance.

**Roads.**—The bill provides \$168,094,000 for Roads including \$24,640,000 for construction and \$143,454,000 for maintenance.

**Trails.**—The bill provides \$77,530,000 for Trails including \$7,753,000 for construction and \$69,777,000 for maintenance.

**Legacy Roads and Trails.**—The bill provides \$40,000,000 for the Legacy Roads and Trails program. The Forest Service is expected to allocate this funding in a manner proportionate to the distribution of roads in need of attention across the system and to direct

funds to regions most in need of road remediation.

**Gifford Pinchot National Forest.**—Within the Gifford Pinchot National Forest, the Forest Service is encouraged to give preference to the reduction of a road to Maintenance Level 1 over decommissioning and to decommission only after final plantation restoration work in Late Successional Reserve habitat development, or on a portion of road where resource protection cannot be adequately met by closing and stabilizing.

#### LAND ACQUISITION

The bill provides \$47,500,000 for Land Acquisition. The amounts recommended by this bill compared with the budget estimates by activity are shown in the table below, listed in priority order pursuant to the budget request for fiscal year 2015. The Forest Service is expected to use the Cash Equalization, Critical Inholdings, and Priority Recreational Access line items to acquire high priority lands that maximize benefits to the public through consolidated Federal ownership that creates management efficiencies, or protects critical resources, including wilderness. The Forest Service is directed to prioritize recreational access projects that significantly enhance access to existing public lands that have inadequate access for hunting, fishing, and other recreational activities.

State	Forest Service	Forest Unit	Budget Request	This Bill
CA	California Southwest Desert	San Bernardino	\$2,100,000	\$2,100,000
CA	California Southwest Desert	Pacific Crest NST	1,265,000	1,265,000
CA	Sierra Nevada Checkerboard; Royal Gorge	Tahoe	2,200,000	2,200,000
MT	Tenderfoot	Lewis and Clark	2,000,000	2,000,000
TN	National Trails System	Appalachian NST	330,000	330,000
WA	National Trails System	Pacific Northwest NST	2,700,000	2,700,000
WA	National Trails System	Pacific Crest NST	1,320,000	1,320,000
NC	North Carolina Threatened Treasures	Pisgah	2,100,000	2,100,000
NM	Wilderness Inholdings	Gila Wilderness	500,000	500,000
NM	Wilderness Inholdings	White Mountain Wilderness	100,000	100,000
KY	Wilderness Inholdings	Beaver Creek Wilderness	50,000	50,000
AK	Wilderness Inholdings	Stikine LeConte Wilderness	145,000	145,000
CA	Wilderness Inholdings	Ventana Wilderness	240,000	240,000
FL	Florida-Georgia Longleaf Pine Initiative	Oscola	5,000,000	5,000,000
IL	Mid-America's Great Rivers	Shawnee	2,200,000	2,200,000
OR	Pacific Northwest Streams	Siuslaw	150,000	150,000
WA	Pacific Northwest Streams	Rogue River-Siskiyou	350,000	350,000
WA	Washington Cascades-Yakima River Watershed	Okanogan-Wenatchee	2,700,000	2,700,000
MI	Great Lakes Northwoods	Ottawa	650,000	650,000
WI	Great Lakes Northwoods	Chequamegon-Nicolet	2,500,000	2,500,000
NM	Miranda Canyon South Carolina's Longleaf	Carson	2,600,000	2,600,000
SC	Legacy Wasatch Watersheds	Francis Marion	2,000,000	2,000,000
UT	Bonneville Shoreline Trail	Uinta-Wasatch-Cache	1,500,000	1,500,000
CA	Hurdygurdy	Six Rivers	1,300,000	1,300,000
	Additional project requests		5,000,000	0
Subtotal, Acquisitions			41,000,000	36,000,000
	Acquisition Management		7,500,000	7,500,000
	Cash equalization		500,000	500,000
	Priority recreational access		2,000,000	2,000,000
	Critical Inholdings		0	1,500,000
Total, FS Land Acquisition			51,000,000	47,500,000

#### ACQUISITION OF LANDS FOR NATIONAL FORESTS SPECIAL ACTS

The bill provides \$950,000 for the Acquisition of Lands for National Forests Special Acts.

#### ACQUISITION OF LANDS TO COMPLETE LAND EXCHANGES

The bill provides \$216,000 for the Acquisition of Lands to Complete Land Exchanges.

#### RANGE BETTERMENT FUND

The bill provides \$2,320,000 for the Range Betterment Fund.

#### GIFTS, DONATIONS AND BEQUESTS FOR FOREST AND RANGELAND RESEARCH

The bill provides \$45,000 for Gifts, Donations and Bequests for Forest and Rangeland Research.

#### MANAGEMENT OF NATIONAL FOREST LANDS FOR SUBSISTENCE USES

The bill provides \$2,500,000 for the Management of National Forest Lands for Subsistence Uses and does not support the proposed elimination of this appropriation.

#### WILDLAND FIRE MANAGEMENT (INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The bill provides \$2,333,298,000 for Forest Service Wildland Fire Management, which is \$170,996,000 above the fiscal year 2014 enacted level, (excluding the additional fire suppression funding that was included as repayment for fire transfers in fiscal year 2013). Of the funds provided, \$708,000,000 is for suppression operations, which combined with \$303,060,000 in the FLAME Wildfire Suppression Reserve Fund fully funds the 10-year average for suppression at \$1,011,060,000. Total funding provided in fiscal year 2015 for Forest Service

Wildland Fire Management accounts is \$2,636,358,000. The following directions are also provided:

**Wildfire Preparedness Operations.**—The bill provides an additional \$65,000,000 for the acquisition of aircraft for the next-generation airtanker fleet to enhance firefighting mobility, effectiveness, efficiency, and safety. Funding for the acquisition of new airtankers is essential to support the need of the Forest Service to phase out numerous antiquated aircraft and its desire to maintain 18 to 28 airtankers for wildland fire suppression. While aircraft being transferred to the Forest Service from the Coast Guard under the National Defense Authorization Act, 2014 will be a helpful short-term solution, the Forest Service anticipates a life expectancy of six to twelve years once they take possession, due to the mission stressors of aerial firefighting. Therefore, it is critical

to begin the process of developing a long-term solution for air support in fighting wildfires. The Forest Service is directed to budget for ongoing airtanker modernization needs in fiscal year 2016 and subsequent fiscal years, and to continue to provide regular updates to the Committees on Appropriations on cost-containment and risk management efforts and the budgetary impact of additional aviation assets.

The Forest Service is encouraged to evaluate existing commercial satellite technology to determine whether such technology may provide a low-cost early warning capability to save lives and property.

**Hazardous Fuels Management.**—The bill provides \$361,749,000 for hazardous fuels management activities, \$55,249,000 above the fiscal year 2014 enacted level. Within this amount, \$15,000,000 is for biomass utilization grants, which the Forest Service is expected to use for the development of bioenergy and bio-based products that will expand commercial markets for low value wood to facilitate increased removal of biomass beyond traditional fuels treatment. The Forest Service is urged to work proactively with States, as well as new and existing local forest collaboratives on project areas where risk from fire to communities, sensitive wildlife habitat, and healthy forests is high, where risk can effectively be mitigated, and where communities are proactively investing in risk reduction activities on adjacent private lands.

**Sage-Grouse Habitat.**—The Forest Service is directed to work collaboratively with the Department of the Interior and other stakeholders in developing hazardous fuels management plans that take into consideration the conservation of sage-grouse habitat. The Committees encourage the Administration to seek additional funding in fiscal year 2016 and subsequent fiscal years to continue this concerted effort.

#### FLAME WILDFIRE SUPPRESSION RESERVE FUND (INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The bill provides \$303,060,000 for the FLAME Wildfire Suppression Reserve Fund.

#### DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE INDIAN HEALTH SERVICES

The bill provides \$4,182,147,000 for Indian Health Services. In addition to the table at the end of this explanatory statement, the agreement includes the following instructions and changes to the budget request:

The agreement includes \$662,970,000 for contract support costs. This amount includes \$45,765,000 to meet the fiscal year 2015 shortfall estimate that was provided to the Committees following submission of the President's budget request. The agreement includes funds requested to re-pay other budget line items which were reprogrammed in order to cover the fiscal year 2014 contract support cost shortfall.

The agreement does not include requested funds for medical inflation.

The agreement includes \$914,139,000 for Purchased/Referred Care, which is an increase of \$35,564,000 above the fiscal year 2014 enacted level. Additional dollars in support of Purchased/Referred Care remains a top priority for Tribes.

The agreement includes a transfer of \$4,876,000 in loan repayment funds from Hospitals and Health Clinics to Indian Health Professions. In addition, there is a \$5,000,000 program increase above the budget request for loan repayments.

The agreement includes \$62,324,000 for the staffing of newly opened health facilities.

Funds for the staffing of new facilities are limited to facilities funded through the Health Care Facilities Construction Priority System or the Joint Venture Construction Program that have opened in fiscal year 2014 or will open in fiscal year 2015. None of these funds may be allocated to a facility until such facility has achieved beneficial occupancy status.

The Service is encouraged to coordinate with the Bureau of Indian Education to establish a pilot program integrating preventive dental care at schools within the Bureau system.

The Service is encouraged to work with Tribes and health care organizations to find creative ways to address the Service's health care provider shortage, including improvements to the credentialing process.

#### INDIAN HEALTH FACILITIES

The bill provides \$460,234,000 for Indian Health Facilities. In addition to the table at the end of this explanatory statement, the agreement includes the following instructions:

The agreement includes \$8,494,000 for the staffing of newly opened health facilities. The stipulations included in the 'Indian Health Services' account regarding the allocation of funds pertains to this account as well.

#### NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SCIENCES

The bill provides \$77,349,000 for the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences.

#### AGENCY FOR TOXIC SUBSTANCES AND DISEASE REGISTRY

#### TOXIC SUBSTANCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH

The bill provides \$74,691,000 for the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry.

#### OTHER RELATED AGENCIES

#### EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY AND OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

The bill provides \$3,000,000 for the Council on Environmental Quality and Office of Environmental Quality.

#### CHEMICAL SAFETY AND HAZARD INVESTIGATION BOARD

#### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill provides \$11,000,000 for the Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board.

#### OFFICE OF NAVAJO AND HOPI INDIAN RELOCATION

#### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

#### (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill provides \$7,341,000 for the Office of Navajo and Hopi Indian Relocation.

#### INSTITUTE OF AMERICAN INDIAN AND ALASKA NATIVE CULTURE AND ARTS DEVELOPMENT PAYMENT TO THE INSTITUTE

The bill provides \$9,469,000 for the Institute of American Indian and Alaska Native Culture and Arts Development.

#### SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

#### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill provides a total of \$819,541,000 for all Smithsonian Institution accounts, of which \$675,343,000 is provided for salaries and expenses. The Committees maintain their longstanding commitment to the preservation of priceless, irreplaceable Smithsonian collections and have provided funds, as requested, for improving the stewardship of national collections. The Committees direct

the Smithsonian to provide, within 90 days of enactment of this Act, a progress report on the multi-year effort to improve the stewardship of national collections including those within the National Museum of American History. The Committees support the Smithsonian Latino Center's goal of promoting the inclusion of Latino contributions in Smithsonian Institution programs, exhibitions, collections, and public outreach. The Committees continue to urge collaboration between the Smithsonian Latino Center and appropriate Federal and local organizations in order to advance these goals and expand the American Latino presence at the Institution. The Committees have not included requested funding for the Administration's Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) initiative believing that the administrative costs of implementing such a program are not sustainable and would divert scarce resources that could be applied to greater advantage among the Institution's existing programs. The Committees have received the report requested from the Smithsonian in the fiscal year 2014 joint explanatory statement describing the Asian Pacific American Center's current activities and future plans. The Committees support the Center's goal of developing a more robust program, both within the Institution and through external partnerships, which will promote a better understanding of the Asian Pacific American experience.

#### FACILITIES CAPITAL

The bill provides \$144,198,000 for the Facilities Capital account, of which \$24,010,000 is to complete the construction of the National Museum of African American History and Culture.

#### NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill provides \$119,500,000 for the Salaries and Expenses account of the National Gallery of Art, of which not to exceed \$3,578,000 is for the special exhibition program.

#### REPAIR, RESTORATION AND RENOVATION OF BUILDINGS

The bill provides \$19,000,000 for the Repair, Restoration and Renovation of Buildings account. This funding level includes the requested increase to address fire protection and life safety requirements in the East Building, which will allow the building to reopen to the public, as scheduled, in 2016.

#### JOHN F. KENNEDY CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

#### OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE

The bill provides \$22,000,000 for the Operations and Maintenance account.

#### CAPITAL REPAIR AND RESTORATION

The bill provides \$10,800,000 for the Capital Repair and Restoration account.

#### WOODROW WILSON INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR SCHOLARS

#### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill provides \$10,500,000 for the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars.

#### NATIONAL FOUNDATION ON THE ARTS AND THE HUMANITIES

#### NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS GRANTS AND ADMINISTRATION

The bill provides \$146,021,000 for the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA).

The Committees greatly value the longstanding collaborative relationship between the NEA and the States. The Committees commend the NEA for its work through its

Healing Arts Partnerships with Walter Reed National Military Medical Center and Fort Belvoir Community Hospital to incorporate arts therapy into the treatment of active-duty military patients and their families. The Committees direct that priority be given to providing services and grant funding for projects, productions, or programs that encourage public knowledge, education, understanding, and appreciation of the arts. Any reduction in support to the States for arts education should be no more than proportional to other funding decreases taken in other NEA programs.

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES  
GRANTS AND ADMINISTRATION

The bill provides \$146,021,000 for the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). The Committees commend the NEH for its support of grant programs to benefit Wounded Warriors and to ensure educational opportunities for American heroes transitioning to civilian life. The Committees commend the NEH Federal/State partnership for its ongoing, successful collaboration with State humanities councils in each of the 50 States as well as Washington, DC, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and American Samoa. The Committees urge the NEH to provide program funding to support the critical work of State humanities councils consistent with guidance provided in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014.

COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill provides \$2,524,000 for the Commission of Fine Arts.

NATIONAL CAPITAL ARTS AND CULTURAL  
AFFAIRS

The bill provides \$2,000,000 for the National Capital Arts and Cultural Affairs program.

ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill provides \$6,204,000 for the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation.

NATIONAL CAPITAL PLANNING COMMISSION  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill provides \$7,948,000 for the National Capital Planning Commission.

UNITED STATES HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL MUSEUM

The bill provides \$52,385,000 for the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER MEMORIAL COMMISSION  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill provides \$1,000,000 for the Salaries and Expenses account. The Committees understand that the Eisenhower Memorial

Commission is continuing to meet with the Commission of Fine Arts and the National Capital Planning Commission in an effort to refine the Eisenhower Memorial's design and obtain final agency approvals that are required before construction can begin. Less clear, however, is whether the concerns of the Eisenhower family and Congress regarding the Memorial design have been addressed satisfactorily in the revisions that have been proposed. This remains an area of significant concern for the Committees that must be resolved before the project plans are finalized and ground is broken. Resolution of any outstanding disagreements is in the best interest of all involved in this effort and the Committees hope this can be done expeditiously. No funds have been appropriated to the "Construction" account for fiscal year 2015 because of ongoing delays in the planning and approval process. The agreement includes in Section 423 of Title IV General Provisions bill language contained in the Continuing Appropriations Resolution, 2015 (PL 113-164).

TITLE IV—GENERAL PROVISIONS

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The agreement includes various legislative provisions in Title IV of the bill. The provisions are:

Section 401 continues a provision providing that appropriations available in the bill shall not be used to produce literature or otherwise promote public support of a legislative proposal on which legislative action is not complete.

Section 402 continues a provision providing for annual appropriations unless expressly provided otherwise in this Act.

Section 403 continues a provision providing restrictions on departmental assessments unless approved by the Committees on Appropriations.

Section 404 continues a limitation on accepting and processing applications for patents and on the patenting of Federal lands.

Section 405 continues a provision regarding the payment of contract support costs.

Section 406 addresses the payment of contract support costs for fiscal year 2014.

Section 407 addresses the payment of contract support costs for fiscal year 2015.

Section 408 continues a provision providing that the Secretary of Agriculture shall not be considered in violation of certain provisions of the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act solely because more than 15 years have passed without revision of a forest plan, provided that the Secretary is working in good faith to complete the plan revision.

Section 409 continues a provision limiting preleasing, leasing, and related activities

within the boundaries of National Monuments.

Section 410 restricts funding appropriated for acquisition of land or interests in land from being used for declarations of taking or complaints in condemnation.

Section 411 continues a provision addressing timber sales involving Alaska western red and yellow cedar.

Section 412 continues a provision which prohibits no-bid contracts.

Section 413 continues a provision which requires public disclosure of certain reports.

Section 414 continues a provision which delineates the grant guidelines for the National Endowment for the Arts.

Section 415 continues a provision which delineates the program priorities for the programs managed by the National Endowment for the Arts.

Section 416 adjusts existing statutory caps for international and domestic arts exhibition indemnity agreements under the Arts and Artifacts Indemnity Act.

Section 417 requires the Department of the Interior, Environmental Protection Agency, Forest Service and Indian Health Service to provide the Committees on Appropriations quarterly reports on the status of balances of appropriations.

Section 418 requires the President to submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations no later than 120 days after submission of the fiscal year 2016 budget request describing Federal agency obligations and expenditures for climate change programs in fiscal years 2014 and 2015.

Section 419 continues a provision prohibiting the use of funds to promulgate or implement any regulation requiring the issuance of permits under Title V of the Clean Air Act for carbon dioxide, nitrous oxide, water vapor, or methane emissions.

Section 420 continues a provision prohibiting the use of funds to implement any provision in a rule if that provision requires mandatory reporting of greenhouse gas emissions from manure management systems.

Section 421 extends the authorization for American Battlefield Protection program grants.

Section 422 provides an extension of the current recreation fee authority.

Section 423 continues a provision modifying authorities relating to the Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial Commission.

Section 424 sets requirements for the use of American iron and steel for certain loans and grants.

Section 425 prohibits the use of funds to regulate the lead content of ammunition or fishing tackle.

DIVISION F -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
TITLE I - DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR					
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT					
Management of Lands and Resources					
Land Resources:					
Soil, water and air management.....	42,939	45,352	43,239	+300	-2,113
Rangeland management.....	79,000	74,928	79,000	---	+4,072
Grazing administration management.....	---	6,500	---	---	-6,500
Grazing administration management offsetting collections.....	---	-6,500	---	---	+6,500
Forestry management.....	9,838	9,929	9,838	---	-91
Riparian management.....	21,321	23,000	21,321	---	-1,679
Cultural resources management.....	15,131	16,000	15,131	---	-869
Wild horse and burro management.....	77,245	80,238	77,245	---	-2,993
Subtotal.....	245,474	249,447	245,774	+300	-3,673
Wildlife and Fisheries:					
Wildlife management.....	52,338	52,589	52,338	---	-251
Fisheries management.....	12,530	12,626	12,530	---	-96
Subtotal.....	64,868	65,215	64,868	---	-347

DIVISION F -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Threatened and endangered species.....	21,458	21,636	21,458	---	-178
Recreation Management:					
Wilderness management.....	18,264	18,435	18,264	---	-171
Recreation resources management.....	48,697	50,022	48,697	---	-1,325
Subtotal.....	66,961	68,457	66,961	---	-1,496
Energy and Minerals:					
Oil and gas management.....	80,877	53,183	53,183	-27,694	---
Oil and gas permit processing fund.....	32,500	32,500	32,500	---	---
Oil and gas inspection and enforcement.....	---	48,000	41,126	+41,126	-6,874
Subtotal, Oil and gas/permit processing fund....	113,377	133,683	126,809	+13,432	-6,874
Oil and gas offsetting permit processing fees.....	-32,500	-32,500	-32,500	---	---
Inspection and enforcement offsetting collections...	---	-48,000	---	---	+48,000
Subtotal, offsetting collections.....	-32,500	-80,500	-32,500	---	+48,000
Coal management.....	9,595	9,680	9,595	---	-85
Other mineral resources.....	10,586	10,684	10,586	---	-98
Renewable energy.....	29,061	29,232	29,061	---	-171
Subtotal, Energy and Minerals.....	130,119	102,779	143,551	+13,432	+40,772



DIVISION F -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
<b>Realty and Ownership Management:</b>					
Alaska conveyance.....	22,000	19,000	22,000	---	+3,000
Cadastral survey.....	11,276	---	---	-11,276	---
Land and realty management.....	34,382	---	---	-34,382	---
Cadastral, lands, and realty management.....	---	51,082	45,658	+45,658	-5,424
<b>Subtotal.....</b>	<b>67,658</b>	<b>70,082</b>	<b>67,658</b>	<b>---</b>	<b>-2,424</b>
<b>Resource Protection and Maintenance:</b>					
Resource management planning.....	37,125	42,399	38,125	+1,000	-4,274
Abandoned mine lands.....	16,687	19,583	16,987	+300	-2,596
Resource protection and law enforcement.....	25,325	25,657	25,325	---	-332
Hazardous materials management.....	15,612	15,718	15,612	---	-106
<b>Subtotal.....</b>	<b>94,749</b>	<b>103,357</b>	<b>96,049</b>	<b>+1,300</b>	<b>-7,308</b>
<b>Transportation and Facilities Maintenance:</b>					
Annual maintenance.....	38,637	39,447	38,637	---	-810
Deferred maintenance.....	26,995	31,304	26,995	---	-4,309
<b>Subtotal.....</b>	<b>65,632</b>	<b>70,751</b>	<b>65,632</b>	<b>---</b>	<b>-5,119</b>
<b>Workforce and Organizational Support:</b>					
Administrative support.....	47,127	47,931	47,127	---	-804
Bureauwide fixed costs.....	92,901	91,010	91,010	-1,891	---
Information technology management.....	25,696	25,841	25,696	---	-145
<b>Subtotal.....</b>	<b>165,724</b>	<b>164,782</b>	<b>163,833</b>	<b>-1,891</b>	<b>-949</b>

DIVISION F -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
-----					
Challenge cost share.....	2,413	3,579	2,413	---	-1,166
National landscape conservation system, base program...	31,819	34,000	31,819	---	-2,181
Communication site management.....	2,000	2,000	2,000	---	---
Offsetting collections.....	-2,000	-2,000	-2,000	---	---
-----					
Subtotal, Management of lands and resources.....	956,875	954,085	970,016	+13,141	+15,931
-----					
Mining Law Administration:					
Administration.....	39,696	39,696	39,696	---	---
Offsetting collections.....	-58,000	-57,000	-57,000	+1,000	---
-----					
Subtotal, Mining Law Administration.....	-18,304	-17,304	-17,304	+1,000	---
-----					
Total, Management of Lands and Resources.....	938,571	936,781	952,712	+14,141	+15,931
-----					
Land Acquisition					
Land Acquisition.....	15,949	19,480	14,226	-1,723	-5,254
Inholding, emergency, and hardship.....	1,616	1,616	1,616	---	---
Acquisition management.....	1,898	1,904	1,904	+6	---
Sportsmen/Recreational access.....	---	2,000	2,000	+2,000	---
-----					
Total, Land acquisition.....	19,463	25,000	19,746	+283	-5,254
-----					
Oregon and California Grant Lands					
Western Oregon resources management.....	101,423	91,603	101,423	---	+9,820
Western Oregon information and resource data systems..	1,923	1,772	1,772	-151	---

DIVISION F -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Western Oregon transportation & facilities maintenance	10,063	9,517	9,517	-546	---
Western Oregon construction and acquisition.....	310	312	312	+2	---
Western Oregon national monument.....	748	753	753	+5	---
Total, Oregon and California Grant Lands.....	114,467	103,957	113,777	-690	+9,820
Range Improvements					
Current appropriations.....	10,000	10,000	10,000	---	---
Service Charges, Deposits, and Forfeitures					
Service charges, deposits, and forfeitures.....	32,465	32,465	32,465	---	---
Offsetting fees.....	-32,465	-32,465	-32,465	---	---
Total, Service Charges, Deposits & Forfeitures..	---	---	---	---	---
Miscellaneous Trust Funds and Permanent Operating Funds					
Current appropriations.....	24,000	24,000	24,000	---	---
TOTAL, BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT.....	1,106,501	1,099,738	1,120,235	+13,734	+20,497
(Mandatory).....	(34,000)	(34,000)	(34,000)	---	---
(Discretionary).....	(1,072,501)	(1,065,738)	(1,086,235)	(+13,734)	(+20,497)

DIVISION F -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
<b>UNITED STATES FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE</b>					
<b>Resource Management</b>					
Ecological Services:					
Endangered species:					
Candidate conservation.....	11,530	---	12,030	+500	+12,030
Listing and critical habitat.....	20,515	---	20,515	---	+20,515
Consultation and HCPs.....	61,550	---	62,550	+1,000	+62,550
Recovery.....	76,916	---	77,916	+1,000	+77,916
Subtotal.....	170,511	---	173,011	+2,500	+173,011
Habitat conservation:					
Partners for fish and wildlife.....	51,776	---	51,776	---	+51,776
Conservation planning assistance.....	32,014	---	33,014	+1,000	+33,014
Coastal programs.....	13,184	---	13,184	---	+13,184
National wetlands inventory.....	4,361	---	4,861	+500	+4,861
Subtotal.....	101,335	---	102,835	+1,500	+102,835
Environmental contaminants.....	9,557	---	9,557	---	+9,557
Ecological Services:					
Listing.....	---	22,779	---	---	-22,779
Planning and consultation.....	---	105,173	---	---	-105,173

DIVISION F -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Conservation and restoration.....	---	124,253	---	---	-124,253
(National wetlands inventory).....	---	(4,871)	---	---	(-4,871)
Subtotal.....	---	252,205	---	---	-252,205
Habitat conservation:					
Partners for fish and wildlife.....	---	52,066	---	---	-52,066
Coastal programs.....	---	13,266	---	---	-13,266
Subtotal.....	---	65,332	---	---	-65,332
National Wildlife Refuge System:					
Wildlife and habitat management.....	229,843	232,441	230,343	+500	-2,098
Visitor services.....	70,319	70,888	70,319	---	-569
Refuge law enforcement.....	37,554	38,463	38,054	+500	-409
Conservation planning.....	2,988	2,608	2,988	---	+380
Refuge maintenance.....	131,498	132,020	132,498	+1,000	+478
Subtotal.....	472,202	476,400	474,202	+2,000	-2,198
Conservation and Enforcement:					
Migratory bird management.....	46,468	46,922	46,468	---	-454
Law enforcement.....	64,275	66,737	66,737	+2,462	---
International affairs.....	13,506	14,599	14,506	+1,000	-93
Science support.....	17,235	---	16,985	-250	+16,985
Subtotal.....	141,484	128,258	144,696	+3,212	+16,438

DIVISION F -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
<b>Fish and Aquatic Conservation:</b>					
National fish hatchery system operations.....	46,528	48,617	52,860	+6,332	+4,243
Maintenance and equipment.....	16,055	17,920	17,920	+1,865	---
Aquatic habitat and species conservation.....	72,736	72,382	76,668	+3,932	+4,286
Subtotal.....	135,319	138,919	147,448	+12,129	+8,529
<b>Cooperative landscape conservation.....</b>	14,416	17,706	13,988	-428	-3,718
<b>Science Support:</b>					
Adaptive science.....	---	15,149	---	---	-15,149
Service science.....	---	16,485	---	---	-16,485
Subtotal.....	---	31,634	---	---	-31,634
<b>General Operations:</b>					
Central office operations.....	40,186	41,279	39,985	-201	-1,294
Regional office operations.....	37,912	41,298	37,722	-190	-3,576
Service-wide bill paying.....	36,430	35,227	35,227	-1,203	---
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation.....	7,022	7,022	7,022	---	---
National Conservation Training Center.....	21,965	24,720	21,965	---	-2,755
Subtotal.....	143,515	149,546	141,921	-1,594	-7,625
<b>Total, Resource Management.....</b>	1,188,339	1,260,000	1,207,658	+19,319	-52,342

DIVISION F -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
<b>Construction</b>					
<b>Construction and rehabilitation:</b>					
Line item construction projects.....	6,661	6,554	6,554	-107	---
Bridge and dam safety programs.....	1,852	1,972	1,972	+120	---
Nationwide engineering service.....	7,209	7,161	7,161	-48	---
Total, Construction.....	15,722	15,687	15,687	-35	---
<b>Land Acquisition</b>					
Acquisitions.....	35,071	35,071	25,071	-10,000	-10,000
Inholdings/emergencies and hardships.....	7,351	5,351	5,351	-2,000	---
Exchanges.....	1,500	1,500	1,500	---	---
Acquisition management.....	10,500	12,613	12,613	+2,113	---
Land protection planning.....	---	465	---	---	-465
Highlands Conservation Act Grants (CT, NJ, NY, PA)...	---	---	3,000	+3,000	+3,000
Total, Land Acquisition.....	54,422	55,000	47,535	-6,887	-7,465
<b>Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund</b>					
<b>Grants and administration:</b>					
Conservation grants.....	10,508	10,508	10,508	---	---
HCP assistance grants.....	9,485	7,390	9,485	---	+2,095
Administration.....	2,702	3,002	2,702	---	-300
Subtotal.....	22,695	20,900	22,695	---	+1,795

DIVISION F -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
-----					
Land acquisition:					
Species recovery land acquisition.....	9,462	11,162	9,462	---	-1,700
HCP land acquisition grants to states.....	17,938	17,938	17,938	---	---
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Subtotal.....	27,400	29,100	27,400	---	-1,700
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total, Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund.....	50,095	50,000	50,095	---	+95
National Wildlife Refuge Fund					
Payments in lieu of taxes.....	13,228	---	13,228	---	+13,228
North American Wetlands Conservation Fund					
North American Wetlands Conservation Fund.....	34,145	34,145	34,145	---	---
Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation					
Migratory bird grants.....	3,660	3,660	3,660	---	---
Multinational Species Conservation Fund					
African elephant conservation fund.....	1,582	1,582	1,582	---	---
Rhinoceros and tiger conservation fund.....	2,440	2,440	2,440	---	---



DIVISION F -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Asian elephant conservation fund.....	1,557	1,557	1,557	---	---
Great ape conservation fund.....	1,975	1,975	1,975	---	---
Marine turtle conservation fund.....	1,507	1,507	1,507	---	---
Total, Multinational Species Conservation Fund..	9,061	9,061	9,061	---	---
State and Tribal Wildlife Grants					
State wildlife grants (formula).....	49,124	41,000	49,124	---	+8,124
State wildlife grants (competitive).....	5,487	5,000	5,487	---	+487
Tribal wildlife grants.....	4,084	4,000	4,084	---	+84
Total, State and tribal wildlife grants.....	58,695	50,000	58,695	---	+8,695
Landowner Incentive Program					
Rescission of prior year balances.....	---	-1,327	---	---	+1,327
Private Stewardship Grants					
Rescission of prior year balances.....	---	-24	---	---	+24
TOTAL, U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE.....	1,427,367	1,476,202	1,439,764	+12,397	-36,438

DIVISION F -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
<b>NATIONAL PARK SERVICE</b>					
<b>Operation of the National Park System</b>					
<b>Park Management:</b>					
Resource stewardship.....	329,683	331,858	331,858	+2,175	---
Visitor services.....	237,763	248,192	248,192	+10,429	---
Park protection.....	356,665	361,708	361,708	+5,043	---
Facility operations and maintenance.....	679,904	702,676	697,597	+17,693	-5,079
Park support.....	454,938	459,414	456,414	+1,476	-3,000
Subtotal.....	2,058,953	2,103,848	2,095,769	+36,816	-8,079
<b>External administrative costs.....</b>	<b>177,800</b>	<b>180,004</b>	<b>180,004</b>	<b>+2,204</b>	<b>---</b>
<b>Total, Operation of the National Park System....</b>	<b>2,236,753</b>	<b>2,283,852</b>	<b>2,275,773</b>	<b>+39,020</b>	<b>-8,079</b>
<b>National Recreation and Preservation</b>					
Recreation programs.....	584	589	589	+5	---
Natural programs.....	13,456	13,560	13,560	+104	---
Cultural programs.....	24,662	24,562	24,562	-100	---
International park affairs.....	1,636	1,648	1,648	+12	---
Environmental and compliance review.....	430	433	433	+3	---
Grant administration.....	1,738	2,004	2,004	+266	---
Heritage Partnership Programs.....	18,289	9,202	20,321	+2,032	+11,119
<b>Total, National Recreation and Preservation.....</b>	<b>60,795</b>	<b>51,998</b>	<b>63,117</b>	<b>+2,322</b>	<b>+11,119</b>

DIVISION F -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
<b>Historic Preservation Fund</b>					
State historic preservation offices.....	47,425	46,925	46,925	-500	---
(Grants to underserved communities).....	(500)	---	---	(-500)	---
Tribal grants.....	8,985	8,985	8,985	---	---
Grants to underserved communities.....	---	500	500	+500	---
Total, Historic Preservation Fund.....	56,410	56,410	56,410	---	---
<b>Construction</b>					
<b>General Program:</b>					
Line item construction and maintenance.....	60,563	61,678	61,678	+1,115	---
Emergency and unscheduled.....	3,855	3,855	3,855	---	---
Housing.....	2,200	2,200	2,200	---	---
Dam safety.....	1,248	1,248	1,248	---	---
Equipment replacement.....	13,500	13,500	13,500	---	---
Planning, construction.....	7,265	7,266	7,266	+1	---
Construction program management.....	37,082	36,771	36,771	-311	---
General management plans.....	11,748	11,821	11,821	+73	---
Total, Construction.....	137,461	138,339	138,339	+878	---

DIVISION F -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Land and Water Conservation Fund (rescission of contract authority).....	-28,000	-30,000	-28,000	---	+2,000
Land Acquisition and State Assistance					
Assistance to States:					
State conservation grants (formula).....	42,000	42,000	42,000	---	---
State conservation grants (competitive).....	3,000	3,000	3,000	---	---
Administrative expenses.....	3,090	3,117	3,117	+27	---
Subtotal.....	48,090	48,117	48,117	+27	---
National Park Service:					
Acquisitions.....	22,067	28,985	23,475	+1,408	-5,510
American Battlefield Protection Program.....	8,986	8,516	8,986	---	+470
Emergencies and hardships.....	3,093	3,928	3,928	+835	---
Acquisition management.....	9,500	9,526	9,526	+26	---
Inholdings, donations, and exchanges.....	6,364	4,928	4,928	-1,436	---
Subtotal.....	50,010	55,883	50,843	+833	-5,040
Total, Land Acquisition and State Assistance.....	98,100	104,000	98,960	+860	-5,040

DIVISION F -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Centennial Challenge.....	---	10,000	10,000	+10,000	---
TOTAL, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE.....	2,561,519	2,614,599	2,614,599	+53,080	---

UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

Surveys, Investigations, and Research

Ecosystems:

Status and trends.....	20,473	20,917	20,473	---	-444
Fisheries: Aquatic and endangered resources.....	20,886	22,257	20,886	---	-1,371
Wildlife: Terrestrial and endangered resources.....	44,757	45,123	45,257	+500	+134
Terrestrial, Freshwater and marine environments.....	36,244	37,538	36,224	-20	-1,314
Invasive species.....	13,080	17,639	16,830	+3,750	-809
Cooperative research units.....	17,371	18,551	17,371	---	-1,180
Total, Ecosystems.....	152,811	162,025	157,041	+4,230	-4,984

Climate and Land Use Change:

Climate variability:

Climate science centers.....	23,735	35,335	26,735	+3,000	-8,600
Climate research and development.....	20,495	25,249	21,495	+1,000	-3,754
Carbon sequestration.....	9,359	11,390	9,359	---	-2,031
Subtotal.....	53,589	71,974	57,589	+4,000	-14,385

DIVISION F -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Land Use Change:					
Land remote sensing.....	67,894	66,539	67,894	---	+1,355
Land change science.....	10,492	10,568	10,492	---	-76
Subtotal.....	78,386	77,107	78,386	---	+1,279
Total, Climate and Land Use Change.....	131,975	149,081	135,975	+4,000	-13,106
Energy, Minerals, and Environmental Health:					
Minerals resources.....	45,931	46,345	45,931	---	-414
Energy resources.....	25,970	26,902	24,895	-1,075	-2,007
Contaminant biology.....	9,647	12,000	10,197	+550	-1,803
Toxic substances hydrology.....	9,967	13,826	11,248	+1,281	-2,578
Total, Energy, Minerals, and Env Health.....	91,515	99,073	92,271	+756	-6,802
Natural Hazards:					
Earthquake hazards.....	53,803	54,117	59,503	+5,700	+5,386
Volcano hazards.....	23,121	23,308	25,121	+2,000	+1,813
Landslide hazards.....	3,485	3,511	3,485	---	-26
Global seismographic network.....	4,853	4,866	4,853	---	-13
Geomagnetism.....	1,888	1,905	1,888	---	-17
Coastal and marine geology.....	41,336	40,632	40,336	-1,000	-296
Total, Natural Hazards.....	128,486	128,339	135,186	+6,700	+6,847

DIVISION F -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Water Resources:					
Groundwater resources.....	8,948	11,429	11,348	+2,400	-81
National water quality assessment.....	58,859	59,090	59,459	+600	+369
National streamflow information program.....	33,701	35,060	34,901	+1,200	-159
Hydrologic research and development.....	10,915	11,323	11,215	+300	-108
Hydrologic networks and analysis.....	28,884	30,423	30,134	+1,250	-289
Cooperative Water Program.....	59,474	59,561	57,710	-1,764	-1,851
Water Resources Research Act Program.....	6,500	3,500	6,500	---	+3,000
Total, Water Resources.....	207,281	210,386	211,267	+3,986	+881
Core Science Systems:					
Science, synthesis, analysis, and research.....	24,314	24,439	24,299	-15	-140
National cooperative geological mapping.....	24,397	24,533	24,397	---	-136
National Geospatial Program.....	60,096	60,428	58,532	-1,564	-1,896
Total, Core Science Systems.....	108,807	109,400	107,228	-1,579	-2,172
Science Support:					
Administration and Management.....	86,985	86,392	84,192	-2,793	-2,200
Information Services.....	23,719	21,875	21,419	-2,300	-456
Total, Science Support.....	110,704	108,267	105,611	-5,093	-2,656
Facilities:					
Rental payments and operations & maintenance.....	93,141	99,417	93,141	---	-6,276

DIVISION F -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Deferred maintenance and capital improvement.....	7,280	7,280	7,280	--	--
Total, Facilities.....	100,421	106,697	100,421	--	-6,276
TOTAL, UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY.....	1,032,000	1,073,268	1,045,000	+13,000	-28,268
BUREAU OF OCEAN ENERGY MANAGEMENT					
Ocean Energy Management					
Renewable energy.....	23,656	23,104	23,104	-552	--
Conventional energy.....	49,441	49,633	49,633	+192	--
Environmental assessment.....	63,218	65,712	65,712	+2,494	--
General support services.....	14,320	15,002	15,002	+682	--
Executive direction.....	16,256	16,319	16,319	+63	--
Subtotal.....	166,891	169,770	169,770	+2,879	--
Offsetting rental receipts.....	-95,162	-94,868	-94,868	+294	--
Cost recovery fees.....	-2,729	-2,480	-2,480	+249	--
Subtotal, offsetting collections.....	-97,891	-97,348	-97,348	+543	--
TOTAL, BUREAU OF OCEAN ENERGY MANAGEMENT.....	69,000	72,422	72,422	+3,422	--



DIVISION F -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
BUREAU OF SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT					
Offshore Safety and Environmental Enforcement					
Environmental enforcement.....	8,314	---	8,314	---	+8,314
Operations, safety and regulation.....	132,207	141,911	133,597	+1,390	-8,314
Administrative operations.....	15,560	15,676	15,676	+116	---
General support services.....	13,513	13,912	13,912	+399	---
Executive direction.....	18,121	18,227	18,227	+106	---
Subtotal.....	187,715	189,726	189,726	+2,011	---
Offsetting rental receipts.....	-50,568	-50,412	-50,412	+156	---
Inspection fees.....	-65,000	-65,000	-65,000	---	---
Cost recovery fees.....	-8,402	-8,167	-8,167	+235	---
Subtotal, offsetting collections.....	-123,970	-123,579	-123,579	+391	---
Total, Offshore Safety and Environmental Enforcement.....	63,745	66,147	66,147	+2,402	---
Oil Spill Research					
Oil spill research.....	14,899	14,899	14,899	---	---
TOTAL, BUREAU OF SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT.....	78,644	81,046	81,046	+2,402	---

DIVISION F -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT					
Regulation and Technology					
Environmental protection.....	91,832	81,191	91,832	---	+10,641
Permit fees.....	40	1,900	40	---	-1,860
Offsetting collections.....	-40	-1,900	-40	---	+1,860
Technology development and transfer.....	14,455	18,009	14,455	---	-3,554
Financial management.....	505	707	505	---	-202
Executive direction.....	15,921	16,203	15,921	---	-282
Civil penalties (indefinite).....	100	100	100	---	---
Subtotal.....	122,813	116,210	122,813	---	+6,603
Civil penalties (offsetting collections).....	-100	-100	-100	---	---
Total, Regulation and Technology.....	122,713	116,110	122,713	---	+6,603
Abandoned Mine Reclamation Fund					
Environmental restoration.....	9,480	9,853	9,480	---	-373
Technology development and transfer.....	3,544	4,269	3,544	---	-725
Financial management.....	6,396	6,448	6,396	---	-52

DIVISION F -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Executive direction.....	7,979	8,125	7,979	---	-146
Total, Abandoned Mine Reclamation Fund.....	27,399	28,695	27,399	---	-1,296
TOTAL, OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT.....	150,112	144,805	150,112	---	+5,307
BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS AND BUREAU OF INDIAN EDUCATION					
Operation of Indian Programs					
Tribal Budget System					
Tribal Government:					
Aid to tribal government.....	25,839	24,614	24,614	-1,225	---
Consolidated tribal government program.....	74,623	76,348	76,348	+1,725	---
Self governance compacts.....	152,881	158,767	158,767	+5,886	---
Contract support.....	242,000	246,000	246,000	+4,000	---
Indian self determination fund.....	5,000	5,000	5,000	---	---
New tribes.....	463	463	463	---	---
Small and needy tribes.....	1,845	1,845	1,845	---	---
Road maintenance.....	24,303	24,461	26,461	+2,158	+2,000
Tribal government program oversight.....	8,128	8,181	8,181	+53	---
Subtotal.....	535,082	545,679	547,679	+12,597	+2,000

DIVISION F -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Human Services:					
Social services.....	35,763	40,871	40,871	+5,108	---
Welfare assistance.....	74,809	74,809	74,809	---	---
Indian child welfare act.....	10,710	15,433	15,433	+4,723	---
Housing improvement program.....	8,000	8,009	8,009	+9	---
Human services tribal design.....	411	407	407	-4	---
Human services program oversight.....	3,085	3,105	3,105	+20	---
Subtotal.....	132,778	142,634	142,634	+9,856	---
Trust - Natural Resources Management:					
Natural resources, general.....	5,165	5,089	5,089	-76	---
Irrigation operations and maintenance.....	11,342	11,359	11,359	+17	---
Rights protection implementation.....	35,297	35,420	35,420	+123	---
Tribal management/development program.....	9,230	9,244	9,244	+14	---
Endangered species.....	2,673	2,675	2,675	+2	---
Cooperative landscape conservation.....	9,947	9,948	9,948	+1	---
Integrated resource information program.....	1,996	3,996	2,996	+1,000	-1,000
Agriculture and range.....	30,558	30,494	30,494	-64	---
Forestry.....	47,735	45,895	47,735	---	+1,840
Water resources.....	10,543	10,297	10,297	-246	---
Fish, wildlife and parks.....	13,823	13,577	13,577	-246	---
Resource management program oversight.....	5,986	6,018	6,018	+32	---
Subtotal.....	184,295	184,012	184,852	+557	+840

DIVISION F -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Trust - Real Estate Services.....	126,758	127,002	127,002	+244	---
Education:					
Elementary and secondary programs (forward funded)...	518,318	520,755	536,897	+18,579	+16,142
(Tribal grant support costs).....	(48,253)	(48,253)	(62,395)	(+14,142)	(+14,142)
Post secondary programs (forward funded).....	69,793	69,793	69,793	---	---
Subtotal, forward funded education.....	588,111	590,548	606,690	+18,579	+16,142
Elementary and secondary programs.....	118,402	119,195	119,195	+793	---
Post secondary programs.....	61,887	64,182	64,182	+2,295	---
Education management.....	20,354	20,464	20,464	+110	---
Subtotal, Education.....	788,754	794,389	810,531	+21,777	+16,142
Public Safety and Justice:					
Law enforcement.....	325,696	327,296	328,296	+2,600	+1,000
Tribal courts.....	23,241	23,280	23,280	+39	---
Fire protection.....	1,077	1,274	1,274	+197	---
Subtotal.....	350,014	351,850	352,850	+2,836	+1,000
Community and economic development.....	35,300	35,996	35,996	+696	---
Executive direction and administrative services.....	225,782	229,755	227,692	+1,910	-2,063
(housing improvement, road maint, etc. in bill lang)...	(46,361)	(46,553)	(48,553)	(+2,192)	(+2,000)

DIVISION F -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Indian Arts and Crafts Board.....	---	1,279	---	---	-1,279
Total, Operation of Indian Programs.....	2,378,763	2,412,596	2,429,236	+50,473	+16,640
Construction					
Education.....	55,285	55,533	74,501	+19,216	+18,968
Public safety and justice.....	11,306	11,306	11,306	---	---
Resources management.....	32,759	34,427	34,427	+1,668	---
General administration.....	10,774	8,642	8,642	-2,132	---
Total, Construction.....	110,124	109,908	128,876	+18,752	+18,968
Indian Land and Water Claim Settlements and Miscellaneous Payments to Indians					
White Earth Land Settlement Act (Admin) (P.L. 99-264)...	625	625	625	---	---
Hoopla-Yurok Settlement Fund (P.L. 96-420)(P.L. 100-580)...	250	250	250	---	---
Pyramid Lake Water Rights Settlement (P.L. 101-618)....	142	142	142	---	---
Navajo Water Resources Development Trust Fund (P.L. 111-11).....	6,000	4,000	4,000	-2,000	---
Navajo Gallup Water Settlement (P.L. 111-11).....	7,782	9,000	9,000	+1,218	---
Duck Valley Water Rights Settlement (P.L. 111-11).....	12,044	---	---	-12,044	---
Taos Pueblo Water Rights Settlement (P.L. 111-291).....	8,812	15,392	15,392	+6,580	---
Ammodt Settlement (P.L. 111-291).....	---	6,246	6,246	+6,246	---
Total, Indian Land and Water Claim Settlements and Miscellaneous Payments to Indians.....	35,655	35,655	35,655	---	---

DIVISION F -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
-----					
Indian Guaranteed Loan Program Account					
Indian guaranteed loan program account.....	6,731	6,731	7,731	+1,000	+1,000
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
TOTAL, BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS AND INDIAN EDUCATION.....	2,531,273	2,564,890	2,601,498	+70,225	+36,608
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
DEPARTMENTAL OFFICES					
Office of the Secretary					
Leadership and administration.....	123,053	122,885	122,885	-168	---
Management services.....	21,564	19,468	20,747	-817	+1,279
Office of Natural Resources Revenue.....	119,383	122,919	121,631	+2,248	-1,288
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total, Office of the Secretary.....	264,000	265,272	265,263	+1,263	-9
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Insular Affairs					
Assistance to Territories					
Territorial Assistance					
Office of Insular Affairs.....	9,448	9,779	9,448	---	-331
Technical assistance.....	14,504	17,504	14,504	---	-3,000
Maintenance assistance fund.....	1,081	2,857	1,081	---	-1,776
Brown tree snake.....	3,500	3,000	3,500	---	+500

DIVISION F -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Coral reef initiative.....	1,000	1,000	1,000	---	---
Empowering Insular Communities.....	2,971	2,971	2,971	---	---
Compact impact.....	3,000	1,344	3,000	---	+1,656
Subtotal, Territorial Assistance.....	35,504	38,455	35,504	---	-2,951
American Samoa operations grants.....	22,752	22,752	22,752	---	---
Northern Marianas covenant grants.....	27,720	27,720	27,720	---	---
Total, Assistance to Territories.....	85,976	88,927	85,976	---	-2,951
(discretionary).....	(58,256)	(61,207)	(58,256)	---	(-2,951)
(mandatory).....	(27,720)	(27,720)	(27,720)	---	---
Compact of Free Association					
Compact of Free Association - Federal services.....	2,818	2,818	2,818	---	---
Enewetak support.....	500	500	500	---	---
Compact payments, Palau.....	13,147	---	13,147	---	+13,147
Total, Compact of Free Association.....	16,465	3,318	16,465	---	+13,147
Total, Insular Affairs.....	102,441	92,245	102,441	---	+10,196
(discretionary).....	(74,721)	(64,525)	(74,721)	---	(+10,196)
(mandatory).....	(27,720)	(27,720)	(27,720)	---	---
Office of the Solicitor					
Legal services.....	59,658	59,091	59,091	-567	---



DIVISION F -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
General administration.....	4,647	4,971	4,971	+324	---
Ethics.....	1,495	1,738	1,738	+243	---
Total, Office of the Solicitor.....	65,800	65,800	65,800	---	---
Office of Inspector General					
Audit and investigations.....	36,883	37,538	37,538	+655	---
Administrative services and information management....	13,948	12,509	12,509	-1,439	---
Total, Office of Inspector General.....	50,831	50,047	50,047	-784	---
Office of Special Trustee for American Indians					
Federal Trust Programs					
Program operations, support, and improvements.....	137,651	136,998	136,998	-653	---
(Office of Historical Accounting).....	(23,045)	(23,061)	(23,061)	(+16)	---
Executive direction.....	2,026	2,031	2,031	+5	---
Total, Office of Special Trustee for American Indians.....	139,677	139,029	139,029	-648	---
TOTAL, DEPARTMENTAL OFFICES.....	622,749	612,393	622,580	-169	+10,187
(Discretionary).....	(595,029)	(584,673)	(594,860)	(-169)	(+10,187)
(Mandatory).....	(27,720)	(27,720)	(27,720)	---	---

DIVISION F -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
<b>DEPARTMENT-WIDE PROGRAMS</b>					
<b>Wildland Fire Management</b>					
<b>Fire Operations:</b>					
Preparedness.....	281,928	318,970	318,970	+37,042	---
Fire suppression operations.....	285,878	268,560	291,657	+5,779	+23,097
Subtotal, Fire operations.....	567,806	587,530	610,627	+42,821	+23,097
<b>Other Operations:</b>					
Fuels Management.....	145,024	146,287	164,000	+18,976	+17,713
Resilient Landscapes.....	---	30,000	---	---	-30,000
Burned area rehabilitation.....	16,035	18,035	18,035	+2,000	---
Fire facilities.....	6,127	6,127	6,127	---	---
Joint fire science.....	5,990	5,990	5,990	---	---
Subtotal, Other operations.....	173,176	206,439	194,152	+20,976	-12,287
Subtotal, Wildland fire management.....	740,982	793,969	804,779	+63,797	+10,810
Additional suppression funding (P.L. 113-46).....	36,000	---	---	-36,000	---
Rescission of unobligated balances.....	-7,500	---	---	+7,500	---
Total, Wildland fire management.....	769,482	793,969	804,779	+35,297	+10,810

DIVISION F -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
FLAME Wildfire Suppression Reserve Account					
FLAME wildfire suppression reserve account.....	92,000	---	92,000	---	+92,000
Total, all wildland fire accounts .....	861,482	793,969	896,779	+35,297	+102,810
Suppression Cap Adjustment.....	---	240,440	---	---	-240,440
Total, Wildland Fire Management with cap adjustment.....	861,482	1,034,409	896,779	+35,297	-137,630
Central Hazardous Materials Fund					
Central hazardous materials fund.....	9,598	10,010	10,010	+412	---
Natural Resource Damage Assessment Fund					
Damage assessments.....	3,157	2,500	2,500	-657	---
Program management.....	1,935	2,192	2,192	+257	---
Restoration support.....	1,171	2,075	2,075	+904	---
Oil Spill Preparedness.....	---	1,000	1,000	+1,000	---
Total, Natural Resource Damage Assessment Fund..	6,263	7,767	7,767	+1,504	---

DIVISION F -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Working Capital Fund.....	57,000	64,307	57,100	+100	-7,207
TOTAL, DEPARTMENT-WIDE PROGRAMS.....	934,343	1,116,493	971,656	+37,313	-144,837
Appropriations.....	(941,843)	(876,053)	(971,656)	(+29,813)	(+95,603)
Disaster Relief cap adjustment.....	---	(240,440)	---	---	(-240,440)
GENERAL PROVISIONS					
State royalty administrative cost deduction.....	-39,000	---	---	+39,000	---
TOTAL, TITLE I, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR.....	10,474,508	10,855,856	10,718,912	+244,404	-136,944
Appropriations.....	(10,510,008)	(10,887,207)	(10,746,912)	(+236,904)	(-140,295)
Rescissions.....	(-7,500)	(-1,351)	---	(+7,500)	(+1,351)
Rescissions of contract authority.....	(-28,000)	(-30,000)	(-28,000)	---	(+2,000)
(Mandatory).....	(61,720)	(61,720)	(61,720)	---	---
(Discretionary without cap adjustment).....	(10,412,788)	(10,553,696)	(10,657,192)	(+244,404)	(+103,496)
(Disaster Relief cap adjustment).....	---	(240,440)	---	---	(-240,440)
TITLE II - ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY					
Science and Technology					
Clean Air and Climate.....	120,429	118,486	116,541	-3,888	-1,945
(Climate protection program).....	(8,313)	(8,018)	(8,018)	(-295)	---

DIVISION F -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Enforcement.....	14,125	14,149	13,669	-456	-480
Homeland security.....	38,360	39,443	37,122	-1,238	-2,321
Indoor air and Radiation.....	6,449	6,098	5,997	-452	-101
IT / Data management / Security.....	3,525	3,089	3,089	-436	---
Operations and administration.....	70,370	75,824	68,339	-2,031	-7,485
Pesticide licensing.....	6,228	6,225	6,027	-201	-198
Research: Air, climate and energy.....	94,972	101,942	91,906	-3,066	-10,036
Research: Chemical safety and sustainability.....	130,832	136,509	126,930	-3,902	-9,579
(Research: Computational toxicology).....	(21,409)	(28,626)	(21,409)	---	(-7,217)
(Research: Endocrine disruptor).....	(16,253)	(15,677)	(16,253)	---	(+576)
Research: National priorities.....	4,234	---	4,100	-134	+4,100
Research: Safe and sustainable water resources.....	111,018	114,175	107,434	-3,584	-6,741
Research: Sustainable and healthy communities.....	154,978	144,144	149,975	-5,003	+5,831
Water: Human health protection.....	3,636	3,688	3,519	-117	-169
Total, Science and Technology.....	759,156	763,772	734,648	-24,508	-29,124
(by transfer from Superfund).....	(19,216)	(18,850)	(18,850)	(-366)	---
Environmental Programs and Management					
Brownfields.....	26,002	28,280	25,593	-409	-2,687
Clean air and climate.....	277,491	305,718	273,108	-4,383	-32,610
(Climate protection program).....	(95,436)	(103,996)	(95,436)	---	(-8,560)

DIVISION F -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Compliance.....	103,297	118,892	101,665	-1,632	-17,227
Enforcement.....	244,499	257,303	240,637	-3,862	-16,666
(Environmental justice).....	(6,737)	(7,936)	(6,737)	---	(-1,199)
Environmental protection: National priorities.....	12,700	---	12,700	---	+12,700
Geographic programs:					
Great Lakes Restoration Initiative.....	300,000	275,000	300,000	---	+25,000
Chesapeake Bay.....	70,000	73,098	73,000	+3,000	-98
San Francisco Bay.....	4,819	4,763	4,819	---	+56
Puget Sound.....	25,000	25,011	28,000	+3,000	+2,989
Long Island Sound.....	3,940	2,893	3,940	---	+1,047
Gulf of Mexico.....	4,482	3,804	4,482	---	+678
South Florida.....	1,704	1,402	1,704	---	+302
Lake Champlain.....	1,399	1,399	4,399	+3,000	+3,000
Lake Pontchartrain.....	948	948	948	---	---
Southern New England Estuaries.....	2,000	5,000	5,000	+3,000	---
Other geographic activities.....	1,445	962	1,445	---	+483
Subtotal.....	415,737	394,280	427,737	+12,000	+33,457
Homeland security.....	10,359	10,822	10,195	-164	-627
Indoor air and radiation.....	28,081	30,193	27,637	-444	-2,556

DIVISION F -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Information exchange / Outreach.....	128,569	152,830	126,538	-2,031	-26,292
(Children and other sensitive populations:					
Agency coordination).....	(6,548)	(8,077)	(6,548)	---	(-1,529)
(Environmental education).....	(8,702)	---	(8,702)	---	(+8,702)
International programs.....	15,647	16,677	15,400	-247	-1,277
IT / Data management / Security.....	91,989	93,397	90,536	-1,453	-2,861
Legal/science/regulatory/economic review.....	113,202	122,096	111,414	-1,788	-10,682
Operations and administration.....	480,482	506,293	482,751	+2,269	-23,542
Pesticide licensing.....	104,006	110,995	102,363	-1,643	-8,632
Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA).....	107,738	104,877	104,877	-2,861	---
Toxics risk review and prevention.....	93,826	96,204	92,521	-1,305	-3,683
(Endocrine disruptors).....	(7,553)	(6,365)	(7,553)	---	(+1,188)
Underground storage tanks (LUST / UST).....	12,714	11,295	11,295	-1,419	---
Water: Ecosystems:					
National estuary program / Coastal waterways.....	25,098	26,723	26,723	+1,625	---
Wetlands.....	21,065	24,220	21,065	---	-3,155
Subtotal.....	46,163	50,943	47,788	+1,625	-3,155
Water: Human health protection.....	100,088	101,653	98,507	-1,581	-3,146
Water quality protection.....	211,559	224,408	210,417	-1,142	-13,991
Total, Environmental Programs and Management.....	2,624,149	2,737,156	2,613,679	-10,470	-123,477

DIVISION F -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
-----					
Hazardous Waste Electronic Manifest System Fund					
E-Manifest System Fund.....	3,674	10,423	3,674	---	-6,749
Office of Inspector General					
Audits, evaluations, and investigations.....	41,849	46,130	41,489	-360	-4,641
(by transfer from Superfund).....	(9,939)	(11,064)	(9,939)	---	(-1,125)
Buildings and Facilities					
Homeland security: Protection of EPA personnel and infrastructure.....	6,676	7,875	6,676	---	-1,199
Operations and administration.....	27,791	45,632	35,641	+7,850	-9,991
Total, Buildings and Facilities.....	34,467	53,507	42,317	+7,850	-11,190
-----					
Hazardous Substance Superfund					
Audits, evaluations, and investigations.....	9,939	11,064	9,939	---	-1,125
Compliance.....	998	1,083	995	-3	-88
Enforcement.....	175,518	170,855	166,375	-9,143	-4,480
Homeland security.....	38,067	36,867	36,362	-1,705	-505
Indoor air and radiation.....	1,991	2,044	1,985	-6	-59



DIVISION F -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Information exchange / Outreach.....	1,340	1,466	1,328	-12	-138
IT /data management/security.....	14,575	14,938	14,485	-90	-453
Legal/science/regulatory/economic review.....	1,295	1,269	1,253	-42	-16
Operations and administration.....	120,525	137,314	128,105	+7,580	-9,209
Research: Chemical safety and sustainability.....	3,040	2,843	2,843	-197	---
Research: Sustainable communities.....	14,380	14,032	14,032	-348	---
Superfund cleanup:					
Superfund: Emergency response and removal.....	177,826	186,987	181,306	+3,480	-5,681
Superfund: Emergency preparedness.....	8,150	7,636	7,636	-514	---
Superfund: Federal facilities.....	21,125	24,805	21,125	---	-3,680
Superfund: Remedial.....	500,000	543,400	501,000	+1,000	-42,400
Subtotal.....	707,101	762,828	711,067	+3,966	-51,761
Total, Hazardous Substance Superfund.....	1,088,769	1,156,603	1,088,769	---	-67,834
(transfer out to Inspector General).....	(-9,939)	(-11,064)	(-9,939)	---	(+1,125)
(transfer out to Science and Technology).....	(-19,216)	(-18,850)	(-18,850)	(+366)	---
Leaking Underground Storage Tank Trust Fund (LUST)					
Enforcement.....	746	639	620	-126	-19
Operations and administration.....	1,550	1,377	1,352	-198	-25
Research: Sustainable communities.....	320	405	320	---	-85

DIVISION F -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Underground storage tanks (LUST / UST).....	91,950	95,501	89,649	-2,301	-5,852
(LUST/UST).....	(10,195)	(9,240)	(9,240)	(-955)	---
(LUST cooperative agreements).....	(56,126)	(57,402)	(55,040)	(-1,086)	(-2,362)
(Energy Policy Act grants).....	(25,629)	(28,859)	(25,369)	(-260)	(-3,490)
Total, Leaking Underground Storage Tank Trust Fund.....	94,566	97,922	91,941	-2,625	-5,981
Inland Oil Spill Program (formerly Oil Spill Response)					
Compliance.....	139	147	139	---	-8
Enforcement.....	2,413	2,514	2,413	---	-101
Oil.....	14,409	20,489	14,409	---	-6,080
Operations and administration.....	584	498	584	---	+86
Research: Sustainable communities.....	664	485	664	---	+179
Total, Inland Oil Spill Program.....	18,209	24,133	18,209	---	-5,924
State and Tribal Assistance Grants (STAG)					
Alaska Native villages.....	10,000	10,000	10,000	---	---
Brownfields projects.....	90,000	85,000	80,000	-10,000	-5,000
Clean water state revolving fund (SRF).....	1,448,887	1,018,000	1,448,887	---	+430,887

DIVISION F -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Diesel emissions grants.....	20,000	---	30,000	+10,000	+30,000
Drinking water state revolving fund (SRF).....	906,896	757,000	906,896	---	+149,896
Mexico border.....	5,000	5,000	5,000	---	---
Targeted airshed grants.....	---	---	10,000	+10,000	+10,000
Subtotal, Infrastructure assistance grants.....	2,480,783	1,875,000	2,490,783	+10,000	+615,783
Categorical grants:					
Beaches protection.....	9,549	---	9,549	---	+9,549
Brownfields.....	47,745	47,745	47,745	---	---
Environmental information.....	9,646	25,664	9,646	---	-16,018
Hazardous waste financial assistance.....	99,693	99,604	99,693	---	+89
Lead.....	14,049	14,049	14,049	---	---
Nonpoint source (Sec. 319).....	159,252	164,915	159,252	---	-5,663
Pesticides enforcement.....	18,050	18,050	18,050	---	---
Pesticides program implementation.....	12,701	12,701	12,701	---	---
Pollution control (Sec. 106).....	230,806	249,164	230,806	---	-18,358
(Water quality monitoring).....	(17,848)	(18,500)	(17,848)	---	(-652)
Pollution prevention.....	4,765	4,765	4,765	---	---
Public water system supervision.....	101,963	109,700	101,963	---	-7,737
Radon.....	8,051	---	8,051	---	+8,051
State and local air quality management.....	228,219	243,229	228,219	---	-15,010
Toxics substances compliance.....	4,919	4,919	4,919	---	---
Tribal air quality management.....	12,829	12,829	12,829	---	---
Tribal general assistance program.....	65,476	96,375	65,476	---	-30,899

DIVISION F -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Underground injection control (UIC).....	10,506	10,506	10,506	---	---
Underground storage tanks.....	1,498	1,498	1,498	---	---
Wetlands program development.....	14,661	14,661	14,661	---	---
Subtotal, Categorical grants.....	1,054,378	1,130,374	1,054,378	---	-75,996
Total, State and Tribal Assistance Grants.....	3,535,161	3,005,374	3,545,161	+10,000	+539,787
Subtotal, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY.....	8,200,000	7,895,020	8,179,887	-20,113	+284,867
Administrative Provisions					
Rescission.....	---	-5,000	-40,000	-40,000	-35,000
TOTAL, TITLE II, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY	8,200,000	7,890,020	8,139,887	-60,113	+249,867
Appropriations.....	(8,200,000)	(7,895,020)	(8,179,887)	(-20,113)	(+284,867)
Rescissions.....	---	(-5,000)	(-40,000)	(-40,000)	(-35,000)
(By transfer).....	(29,155)	(29,914)	(28,789)	(-366)	(-1,125)
(Transfer out).....	(-29,155)	(-29,914)	(-28,789)	(+366)	(+1,125)

DIVISION F -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
TITLE III - RELATED AGENCIES					
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE					
FOREST SERVICE					
Forest and Rangeland Research					
Forest inventory and analysis.....	66,805	66,805	70,000	+3,195	+3,195
Research and development programs.....	226,000	208,510	226,000	---	+17,490
Total, Forest and rangeland research.....	292,805	275,315	296,000	+3,195	+20,685
State and Private Forestry					
Landscape scale restoration.....	14,000	23,513	14,000	---	-9,513
Forest Health Management:					
Federal lands forest health management.....	58,922	58,922	58,922	---	---
Cooperative lands forest health management.....	45,655	45,655	45,655	---	---
Subtotal.....	104,577	104,577	104,577	---	---

DIVISION F -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Cooperative Forestry:					
Forest stewardship.....	22,398	23,036	23,036	+638	---
Forest legacy.....	50,965	53,000	53,000	+2,035	---
Community forest and open space conservation.....	2,000	1,683	2,000	---	+317
Urban and community forestry.....	28,040	23,676	28,040	---	+4,364
Subtotal, Cooperative Forestry.....	103,403	101,395	106,076	+2,673	+4,681
International forestry.....	8,000	---	8,000	---	+8,000
Total, State and Private Forestry.....	229,980	229,485	232,653	+2,673	+3,168
National Forest System					
Integrated resource restoration.....	---	820,000	---	---	-820,000
Restoration Partnerships.....	2,000	---	---	-2,000	---
Land management planning.....	37,754	---	37,754	---	+37,754
Inventory and monitoring.....	151,019	---	151,019	---	+151,019
Land management planning, assessment and monitoring.....	---	183,928	---	---	-183,928
Recreation, heritage and wilderness.....	261,719	259,090	261,719	---	+2,629
Grazing management.....	55,356	49,600	55,356	---	+5,756
Grazing permit administration fee.....	---	5,000	---	---	-5,000
Grazing permit fee offsetting collections.....	---	-5,000	---	---	+5,000
Forest products.....	339,130	---	339,130	---	+339,130
Vegetation and watershed management.....	184,716	---	184,716	---	+184,716
Wildlife and fish habitat management.....	140,466	---	140,466	---	+140,466

DIVISION F -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Fund.....	40,000	60,000	40,000	---	-20,000
Minerals and geology management.....	76,423	70,566	76,423	---	+5,857
Landowner management.....	77,730	71,440	77,730	---	+6,290
Law enforcement operations.....	126,653	125,860	126,653	---	+793
Valles Caldera National Preserve.....	3,364	---	3,364	---	+3,364
Total, National Forest System.....	1,496,330	1,640,484	1,494,330	-2,000	-146,154
Capital Improvement and Maintenance					
Facilities:					
Maintenance.....	59,000	55,369	55,369	-3,631	---
Construction.....	12,000	16,231	16,231	+4,231	---
Subtotal.....	71,000	71,600	71,600	+600	---
Roads:					
Maintenance.....	143,454	129,360	143,454	---	+14,094
Construction.....	22,546	24,640	24,640	+2,094	---
Subtotal.....	166,000	154,000	168,094	+2,094	+14,094
Trails:					
Maintenance.....	58,000	69,777	69,777	+11,777	---
Construction.....	17,000	7,753	7,753	-9,247	---
Subtotal.....	75,000	77,530	77,530	+2,530	---

DIVISION F -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Deferred maintenance.....	3,000	3,150	3,150	+150	---
Legacy road and trail remediation.....	35,000	---	40,000	+5,000	+40,000
Subtotal, Capital improvement and maintenance...	350,000	306,280	360,374	+10,374	+54,094
Deferral of road and trail fund payment.....	-17,000	-18,000	-17,000	---	+1,000
Total, Capital improvement and maintenance.....	333,000	288,280	343,374	+10,374	+55,094
Land Acquisition					
Acquisitions.....	31,300	41,000	36,000	+4,700	-5,000
Acquisition management.....	7,500	7,500	7,500	---	---
Cash equalization.....	---	500	500	+500	---
Critical Inholdings/Cash Equalization/Recreational Access.....	4,725	---	---	-4,725	---
Priority recreational access.....	---	2,000	2,000	+2,000	---
Critical Inholdings.....	---	---	1,500	+1,500	+1,500
Total, Land Acquisition.....	43,525	51,000	47,500	+3,975	-3,500
Acquisition of land for national forests, special acts	912	950	950	+38	---
Acquisition of lands to complete land exchanges.....	217	216	216	-1	---
Range betterment fund.....	3,000	2,320	2,320	-680	---
Gifts, donations and bequests for forest and rangeland research.....	40	45	45	+5	---
Management of national forest lands for subsistence uses.....	2,500	---	2,500	---	+2,500



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(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
<b>Wildland Fire Management</b>					
<b>Fire operations:</b>					
Wildland fire preparedness.....	1,057,580	1,080,840	1,145,840	+88,260	+65,000
Wildland fire suppression operations.....	680,488	708,000	708,000	+27,512	---
Additional suppression funding.....	600,000	---	---	-600,000	---
Subtotal, Fire operations.....	2,338,068	1,788,840	1,853,840	-484,228	+65,000
<b>Other operations:</b>					
Hazardous fuels.....	306,500	358,564	361,749	+55,249	+3,185
(Hazardous Fuels Base Program).....	(296,500)	(343,564)	(346,749)	(-50,249)	(-3,185)
(Biomass Grants).....	(10,000)	(15,000)	(15,000)	(+5,000)	---
Fire plan research and development.....	19,795	19,795	19,795	---	---
Joint fire sciences program.....	6,914	6,914	6,914	---	---
State fire assistance.....	78,000	78,000	78,000	---	---
Volunteer fire assistance.....	13,025	13,000	13,000	-25	---
Subtotal, Other operations.....	424,234	476,273	479,458	+55,224	+3,185
Subtotal, Wildland Fire Management.....	2,762,302	2,265,113	2,333,298	-429,004	+68,185
<b>FLAME Wildfire Suppression Reserve Account</b>					
FLAME wildfire suppression reserve account.....	315,000	---	303,060	-11,940	+303,060
Total, all wildland fire accounts.....	3,077,302	2,265,113	2,636,358	-440,944	+371,245

DIVISION F -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Suppression cap adjustment.....	---	954,000	---	---	-954,000
Total, Wildland Fire Management with cap adjustment.....	3,077,302	3,219,113	2,636,358	-440,944	-582,755
Total, Forest Service without Wildland Fire Management.....	2,402,309	2,488,095	2,419,888	+17,579	-68,207
TOTAL, FOREST SERVICE.....	5,479,611	5,707,208	5,056,246	-423,365	-650,962
Appropriations.....	(5,479,611)	(4,753,208)	(5,056,246)	(-423,365)	(+303,038)
Disaster Relief cap adjustment.....	---	(954,000)	---	---	(-954,000)
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES					
INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE					
Indian Health Services					
Clinical Services:					
Hospital and health clinics.....	1,790,904	1,862,501	1,836,789	+45,885	-25,712
Dental health.....	165,290	175,654	173,982	+8,692	-1,672
Mental health.....	77,980	82,025	81,145	+3,165	-880
Alcohol and substance abuse.....	186,378	193,824	190,981	+4,603	-2,843
Purchased/referred care.....	878,575	929,041	914,139	+35,564	-14,902
Subtotal.....	3,099,127	3,243,045	3,197,036	+97,909	-46,009

DIVISION F -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
<b>Preventive Health:</b>					
Public health nursing.....	70,909	76,353	75,640	+4,731	-713
Health education.....	17,001	18,263	18,026	+1,025	-237
Community health representatives.....	58,345	59,386	58,469	+124	-917
Immunization (Alaska).....	1,826	1,855	1,826	---	-29
<b>Subtotal.....</b>	<b>148,081</b>	<b>155,857</b>	<b>153,961</b>	<b>+5,880</b>	<b>-1,896</b>
<b>Other services:</b>					
Urban Indian health.....	40,729	41,375	43,604	+2,875	+2,229
Indian health professions.....	33,466	38,466	48,342	+14,876	+9,876
Tribal management grant program.....	1,442	2,442	2,442	+1,000	---
Direct operations.....	67,894	68,065	68,065	+171	---
Self-governance.....	4,727	5,727	5,727	+1,000	---
Contract support costs.....	587,376	617,205	662,970	+75,594	+45,765
<b>Subtotal.....</b>	<b>735,634</b>	<b>773,280</b>	<b>831,150</b>	<b>+95,516</b>	<b>+57,870</b>
<b>Total, Indian Health Services.....</b>	<b>3,982,842</b>	<b>4,172,182</b>	<b>4,182,147</b>	<b>+199,305</b>	<b>+9,965</b>
<b>Indian Health Facilities</b>					
Maintenance and improvement.....	53,614	53,614	53,614	---	---
Sanitation facilities construction.....	79,423	79,423	79,423	---	---
Health care facilities construction.....	85,048	85,048	85,048	---	---

DIVISION F -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Facilities and environmental health support.....	211,051	220,585	219,612	+8,561	-973
Equipment.....	22,537	23,325	22,537	---	-788
Total, Indian Health Facilities.....	451,673	461,995	460,234	+8,561	-1,761
TOTAL, INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE.....	4,434,515	4,634,177	4,642,381	+207,866	+8,204
NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH					
National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences...	77,349	77,349	77,349	---	---
AGENCY FOR TOXIC SUBSTANCES AND DISEASE REGISTRY					
Toxic substances and environmental public health.....	74,691	74,691	74,691	---	---
TOTAL, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES..	4,586,555	4,786,217	4,794,421	+207,866	+8,204
OTHER RELATED AGENCIES					
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT					
Council on Environmental Quality and Office of Environmental Quality.....	3,000	3,009	3,000	---	-9

DIVISION F -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015 (Amounts in thousands)					
	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
-----					
CHEMICAL SAFETY AND HAZARD INVESTIGATION BOARD					
Salaries and expenses.....	11,000	12,253	11,000	---	-1,253
OFFICE OF NAVAJO AND HOPI INDIAN RELOCATION					
Salaries and expenses.....	7,341	8,499	7,341	---	-1,158
INSTITUTE OF AMERICAN INDIAN AND ALASKA NATIVE CULTURE AND ARTS DEVELOPMENT					
Payment to the Institute.....	9,369	11,469	9,469	+100	-2,000
SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION					
Salaries and Expenses					
Museum and Research Institutes:					
National Air and Space Museum.....	18,123	18,775	18,603	+480	-172
Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory.....	23,746	24,159	23,957	+211	-202
Major scientific instrumentation.....	4,118	4,118	4,118	---	---
Universe Center.....	184	184	184	---	---
National Museum of Natural History.....	47,428	48,424	47,992	+564	-432
National Zoological Park.....	24,533	25,641	25,420	+887	-221
Smithsonian Environmental Research Center.....	3,873	3,945	3,909	+36	-36
Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute.....	13,940	14,280	14,175	+235	-105

DIVISION F -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Biodiversity Center.....	1,520	1,520	1,520	---	---
Arthur M. Sackler Gallery/Freer Gallery of Art.....	6,019	6,107	6,049	+30	-58
Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage.....	2,490	2,525	2,503	+13	-22
Cooper-Hewitt, National Design Museum.....	4,710	4,787	4,755	+45	-32
Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden.....	4,270	4,342	4,301	+31	-41
National Museum of African Art.....	4,209	4,266	4,227	+18	-39
World Cultures Center.....	284	284	284	---	---
Anacostia Community Museum.....	2,079	2,112	2,093	+14	-19
Archives of American Art.....	1,844	1,877	1,859	+15	-18
National Museum of African American History and Culture.....	34,162	43,969	40,648	+6,486	-3,321
National Museum of American History.....	22,433	23,051	22,840	+407	-211
National Museum of the American Indian.....	31,293	31,745	31,444	+151	-301
National Portrait Gallery.....	5,943	6,051	5,997	+54	-54
Smithsonian American Art Museum.....	9,391	9,562	9,474	+83	-88
American Experience Center.....	593	593	593	---	---
Subtotal, Museums and Research Institutes.....	267,185	282,317	276,945	+9,760	-5,372
Mission enabling: Program support and outreach:					
Outreach.....	9,121	19,238	9,150	+29	-10,088
Communications.....	2,556	2,593	2,567	+11	-26
Institution-wide programs.....	7,778	11,305	10,505	+2,727	-800
Office of Exhibits Central.....	2,950	3,002	2,974	+24	-28
Museum Support Center.....	1,836	1,866	1,848	+12	-18

DIVISION F -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Museum Conservation Institute.....	3,222	3,275	3,244	+22	-31
Smithsonian Institution Archives.....	2,149	2,187	2,167	+18	-20
Smithsonian Institution Libraries.....	10,337	10,493	10,399	+62	-94
Subtotal, Program support and outreach.....	39,949	53,959	42,854	+2,905	-11,105
Office of Chief Information Officer.....	47,856	50,464	48,929	+1,073	-1,535
Administration.....	34,185	34,637	34,067	-118	-570
Inspector General.....	3,392	3,441	3,416	+24	-25
Facilities services:					
Facilities maintenance.....	69,032	75,180	71,380	+2,348	-3,800
Facilities operations, security and support.....	185,401	200,802	197,752	+12,351	-3,050
Subtotal, Facilities services.....	254,433	275,982	269,132	+14,699	-6,850
Subtotal, Mission enabling.....	379,815	418,483	398,398	+18,583	-20,085
Total, Salaries and expenses.....	647,000	700,800	675,343	+28,343	-25,457
Facilities Capital					
Revitalization.....	89,220	103,490	97,568	+8,368	-5,902

DIVISION F -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Facilities planning and design.....	13,780	22,600	22,600	+8,820	---
Construction.....	55,000	24,010	24,010	-30,990	---
Total, Facilities Capital.....	158,000	150,100	144,198	-13,802	-5,902
TOTAL, SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION.....	805,000	850,900	819,541	+14,541	-31,359
NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART					
Salaries and Expenses					
Care and utilization of art collections.....	39,083	39,753	39,418	+335	-335
Operation and maintenance of buildings and grounds....	33,028	34,688	33,858	+830	-830
Protection of buildings, grounds and contents.....	22,305	22,532	22,418	+113	-114
General administration.....	23,584	24,027	23,806	+222	-221
Total, Salaries and Expenses.....	118,000	121,000	119,500	+1,500	-1,500
Repair, Restoration and Renovation of Buildings					
Base program.....	15,000	19,000	19,000	+4,000	---
TOTAL, NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART.....	133,000	140,000	138,500	+5,500	-1,500



DIVISION F -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
-----					
JOHN F. KENNEDY CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS					
Operations and maintenance.....	22,193	22,000	22,000	-193	---
Capital repair and restoration.....	12,205	10,800	10,800	-1,405	---
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
TOTAL, JOHN F. KENNEDY CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS.....	34,398	32,800	32,800	-1,598	---
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
WOODROW WILSON INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR SCHOLARS					
Salaries and expenses.....	10,500	9,975	10,500	---	+525
NATIONAL FOUNDATION ON THE ARTS AND THE HUMANITIES					
National Endowment for the Arts					
Grants and Administration					
Grants:					
Direct grants.....	56,681	57,630	62,380	+5,699	+4,750
Challenge America grants.....	7,987	7,600	7,600	-387	---
Our Town.....	4,992	4,750	---	-4,992	-4,750
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Subtotal.....	69,660	69,980	69,980	+320	---

DIVISION F -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
State partnerships:					
State and regional.....	36,816	36,716	36,716	-100	---
Underserved set-aside.....	9,812	9,937	9,937	+125	---
Subtotal.....	46,628	46,653	46,653	+25	---
Subtotal, Grants.....	116,288	116,633	116,633	+345	---
Program support.....	2,250	1,990	1,990	-260	---
Administration.....	27,483	27,398	27,398	-85	---
Total, Arts.....	146,021	146,021	146,021	---	---
National Endowment for the Humanities					
Grants and Administration					
Grants:					
Bridging cultures.....	3,494	3,500	3,500	+6	---
Federal/State partnership.....	42,435	42,528	42,528	+93	---
Preservation and access.....	15,426	15,460	15,460	+34	---
Public programs.....	13,654	13,684	13,684	+30	---
Research programs.....	14,752	14,784	14,784	+32	---
Education programs.....	13,237	13,265	13,265	+28	---
Program development.....	499	500	500	+1	---
Digital humanities initiatives.....	4,388	4,400	4,400	+12	---
Subtotal, Grants.....	107,885	108,121	108,121	+236	---

DIVISION F -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
-----					
Matching Grants:					
Treasury funds.....	2,381	2,400	2,400	+19	---
Challenge grants.....	8,357	8,500	8,500	+143	---
Subtotal, Matching grants.....	10,738	10,900	10,900	+162	---
Administration.....	27,398	27,000	27,000	-398	---
Total, Humanities.....	146,021	146,021	146,021	---	---
=====					
TOTAL, NATIONAL FOUNDATION ON THE ARTS AND THE HUMANITIES.....	292,042	292,042	292,042	---	---
=====					
COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS					
Salaries and expenses.....	2,396	2,524	2,524	+128	---
NATIONAL CAPITAL ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS					
Grants.....	2,000	---	2,000	---	+2,000
ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION					
Salaries and expenses.....	6,531	6,204	6,204	-327	---

DIVISION F -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015 (Amounts in thousands)					
	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
-----					
NATIONAL CAPITAL PLANNING COMMISSION					
Salaries and expenses.....	8,084	7,948	7,948	-136	---
UNITED STATES HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL MUSEUM					
Holocaust Memorial Museum.....	52,385	52,385	52,385	---	---
DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER MEMORIAL COMMISSION					
Salaries and expenses.....	1,000	2,000	1,000	---	-1,000
Capital construction.....	---	19,300	---	---	-19,300
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Total, DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER MEMORIAL COMMISSION.	1,000	21,300	1,000	---	-20,300
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
TOTAL, TITLE III, RELATED AGENCIES.....	11,444,212	11,944,733	11,246,921	-197,291	-697,812
Appropriations.....	(11,444,212)	(10,990,733)	(11,246,921)	(-197,291)	(+256,188)
(Disaster Relief cap adjustment).....	---	(954,000)	---	---	(-954,000)
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
TITLE IV - GENERAL PROVISIONS					
Stewardship contracting (Sec. 431).....	1,000	---	---	-1,000	---

DIVISION F -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
GRAND TOTAL.....	30,119,720	30,690,609	30,105,720	-14,000	-584,889
Appropriations.....	(30,155,220)	(29,532,520)	(30,173,720)	(+18,500)	(+641,200)
Rescissions.....	(-7,500)	(-6,351)	(-40,000)	(-32,500)	(-33,649)
Rescissions of contract authority.....	(-28,000)	(-30,000)	(-28,000)	---	(+2,000)
Disaster Relief cap adjustment.....	---	(1,194,440)	---	---	(-1,194,440)
(By transfer).....	(29,155)	(29,914)	(28,789)	(-366)	(-1,125)
(Transfer out).....	(-29,155)	(-29,914)	(-28,789)	(+366)	(+1,125)
(Discretionary total).....	(30,058,000)	(30,628,889)	(30,044,000)	(-14,000)	(-584,889)

**DIVISION G—DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015**

The Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2015, put in place by this division incorporates the following agreements. Funds for the individual programs and activities within the accounts in this division are displayed in the detailed table at the end of the explanatory statement for this division. Funding levels that are not displayed in the detailed table are identified within this explanatory statement.

**TITLE I—DEPARTMENT OF LABOR**

**EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ADMINISTRATION**

**TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT SERVICES**

**(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)**

The agreement notes that Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs) are eligible for grants under section 166 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). Since TCUs are well-positioned to positively impact the employment and training of native populations, the agreement urges the Department to give full and fair consideration to TCUs competing for grant funds.

The agreement includes language that allows the Secretary to transfer and utilize additional funds to provide technical assistance activities related to the implementation of the WIOA. The additional funds are intended to be a one-time provision only. The agreement expects the Department to use the funds to help implement the WIOA as quickly and effectively as possible.

In January 2011, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) issued a report entitled “Multiple Employment and Training Programs” (GAO-11-92) and stated that “even when programs overlap, the services they provide and the populations they serve may differ in meaningful ways.” The agreement supports efforts by the Department to work with other agencies, specifically the Department of Health and Human Services, to evaluate the delivery strategies and increase administrative efficiencies in employment and training programs.

Not later than 180 days after enactment of this act, the Department, in collaboration with the other agencies identified in the GAO report, shall submit to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations a report on the status of efforts to implement the GAO recommendation to facilitate further progress by States and localities in increasing administrative efficiencies in employment and training programs. The report should also include how the Department is supporting improved collaboration among job training programs in response to GAO Report 12-97 entitled “Innovative Collaborations between Workforce Boards and Employers Helped Meet Local Needs.”

**OFFICE OF JOB CORPS**

The agreement notes continued concern about the Department's mismanagement of Job Corps, and in particular the deficient financial oversight which resulted in projected costs exceeding the funding provided for the operations account in program years 2011 and 2012. After the Department implemented a series of cost cutting measures, including freezes on new student enrollment, Job Corps ended program year 2012 with more than \$40,000,000 in cost underruns. The agreement notes that Job Corps announced plans to increase On-Board Strength, utilizing \$12,000,000 from the underruns to support this

effort. The agreement places a high priority on maximizing student enrollment within the appropriation provided, and directs the Secretary to provide a report on the policies and procedures in place to address this priority within 60 days of enactment of this act. The Department is directed to provide semi-annual updates to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations on its implementation of the recommendations in the Office of Inspector General (OIG) report No. 22-13-015-03-370 (May 31, 2013) and the OIG report No. 26-14-001-03-370 (April 29, 2014) to improve Job Corps financial management and controls.

The Department is directed to submit in its fiscal year 2015 operating plan, in coordination with the Department of Agriculture, a detailed and comprehensive estimate of all costs and savings related to the closure of the Treasure Lake Job Corps center.

**FEDERAL UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS AND ALLOWANCES**

The agreement provides funding to carry out the Trade Adjustment Assistance for Workers program at the requested level to allow for the full operation of the program throughout fiscal year 2015, including the provision of benefits to groups of workers certified after December 31, 2014.

**STATE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE AND EMPLOYMENT SERVICE OPERATIONS**

The agreement continues to support investments in unemployment insurance program integrity activities, including technology-based programs that identify and reclaim overpayments. The agreement expects the Secretary to submit a follow-up report by September 30, 2015 on the Department's progress in meeting the outcomes identified in the plan requested in Senate Report 113—71.

To the extent that funds not needed for workload become available at the end of the fiscal year, the Department is encouraged to make funding available to States for program integrity, performance improvement, and technology investments, including associated implementation and operational support services for each, with a portion of funds not needed for workload to be distributed to all States proportionally based on each State's base allocation.

There is significant concern that automation acquisition being carried out through consortia of States has fallen critically behind schedule and that funds provided for this purpose, as far back as fiscal year 2011, are at risk of lapsing before the projects are completed. The Department is directed to collect and approve detailed automation acquisition plans for each project that include lifecycle systems cost estimates and implementation timelines, and to submit to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations a report by April 1 of each fiscal year, until funds available to consortia are expended or expire, that includes the status of all project funds and analysis of each project's progress toward executing the acquisition plan.

The agreement supports the use of combining reemployment and eligibility assessments and reemployment services and training referrals to address unemployment and urges the Department to use its evaluation authority to evaluate and report on their effectiveness.

**PENSION BENEFIT GUARANTY CORPORATION**

The agreement treats investment management fees as program expenses, not subject to the limitation on administrative expenses established by this act. These fees will con-

tinue to be subject to oversight through various mechanisms, including reviews by the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC) Board, PBGC Inspector General and GAO. PBGC should continue to report on these expenses, including an analysis of the forces driving any trends, in its annual congressional budget justification.

**WAGE AND HOUR DIVISION**

The Wage and Hour Division is directed to submit a report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations within 180 days of enactment of this act on the steps taken to improve the process for wage determinations for public works projects and correct the deficiencies found in the 2004 OIG report titled “Concerns Persist with the Integrity of Davis-Bacon Act Prevailing Wage Determinations.”

The Wage and Hour Division is directed to submit a report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations within 120 days of enactment of this act on the methodology and accuracy of the Adverse Effect Wage Rates.

**OFFICE OF FEDERAL CONTRACT COMPLIANCE PROGRAMS**

Compensation discrimination is one form of discrimination that is prohibited by Executive Order 11246. The Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs is directed to seek input from stakeholders on issues related to scope, content and format of the Nondiscrimination in Compensation: Compensation Data Collection Tool and to carefully consider input and public comments on any proposed rule.

**BLACK LUNG DISABILITY TRUST FUND**

The agreement provides \$4,860,000 in addition to the \$25,543,000 requested in the fiscal year 2015 budget for Departmental Management Salaries and Expenses within the Black Lung Disability Trust Fund account. These additional funds shall be used to reduce the backlog of black lung cases pending before the Department.

**OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION**

The bill continues the exemption of small farming operations from Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) regulation. The OSHA is encouraged to continue working with the Department of Agriculture before moving forward with any attempts to redefine and regulate post-harvest activities, to include, but not limited to, storing, drying, grinding, and other activities necessary to market farm products to subsequent users in the agricultural value chain, and clarify that this exemption shall apply to on farm post-harvest activities.

OSHA is directed to notify the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations 10 days prior to the announcement of any new National, Regional or Local Emphasis Program including the circumstances and data used to determine the need for the launch of a new Program.

OSHA is urged to consider all currently available technology as it develops any new standard for workers' exposure to silica dust.

**BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS**

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) is directed to conduct a review of the methodology for the collection and reporting of data for Metropolitan Statistical Areas within the Current Employment Statistics program. Within 180 days of enactment of this act, BLS shall submit a report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations on ways that reporting for Metropolitan Statistical areas could be improved and any estimated costs of implementation.

DEPARTMENTAL MANAGEMENT  
IT MODERNIZATION

The Department is directed to submit to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations a detailed IT modernization implementation plan by May 29, 2015. The plan shall include: a complete list of all new systems and significant improvements of existing systems proposed for development; the projected cost of each development project each year to completion including the total estimated cost of development; the estimated annual operations and maintenance costs for each system once development is complete; and a timeline and estimated maintenance cost savings of any legacy systems that will no longer be necessary and are proposed to be eliminated. The plan should also include an assessment of the Department's information technology management controls that includes: How the systems integrate into the Department's enterprise architecture; an analysis of the Department's project management capabilities; and a review of the Department's information technology investment and human capital management practices. The requested plan shall address IT funding provided in this account, the related general provision established in title I of this Act and other spending authority planned for or proposed to be used for such purposes.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

The Office of Inspector General (OIG) plans to initiate a long-term, cyclical oversight program to independently review, on a prioritized basis, individual States' efforts to identify and recover UI overpayments. The OIG should conduct as many multi-State reviews as funding will allow in fiscal year 2015 and submit a report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations by March 31, 2016 on the progress and effectiveness of this effort.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

The bill includes a new provision related to Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation actions under 4062(e) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act.

The bill includes a new provision related to information technology transfer authority.

The bill includes a new provision related to the Fair Labor Standards Act.

TITLE II—DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND  
HUMAN SERVICES

The agreement includes tables within and at the end of the statement allocating funding for the programs, projects, and activities in this act. The agencies within this act are directed to fully implement these allocations in accordance with the statement, except as permitted by the reprogramming and transfer authorities provided in this act. Any action to eliminate or consolidate programs, projects, and activities should be pursued through a proposal in the President's budget so it can be considered by the Committees on Appropriations.

The Department is directed to include in its fiscal year 2016 congressional budget justification the amount of expired unobligated balances available for transfer to the non-recurring expenses fund (NEF) and the amount of any such balances transferred to the NEF. This should include actual or estimated amounts for the prior, current, and budget years.

HEALTH RESOURCES AND SERVICES  
ADMINISTRATION  
PRIMARY HEALTHCARE

*Health Centers.*—Of the available funding for fiscal year 2015, the agreement directs

not less than \$165,000,000 shall be awarded for base grant adjustments to existing centers and not less than \$350,000,000 shall be awarded for the establishment of new delivery sites, medical capacity expansions, and expanded medical services including oral, behavioral, pharmacy, or vision services. In addition, not more than \$150,000,000 will be awarded for construction and capital improvement projects. In addition, within the funds provided for Primary Health Care, the agreement includes not less than the fiscal year 2014 level for the Native Hawaiian Health Care Program.

HEALTH WORKFORCE

*National Health Service Corps.*—The agreement includes section 223 of this act to modify the rules governing National Health Service Corps (NHSC) to allow every Corps member 60 days to cancel their contract. HRSA is directed to evaluate the establishment of a demonstration project within the NHSC in which optometrists are recognized as primary health services providers for purposes of the Loan Repayment Program.

*Oral Health Training.*—The agreement includes not less than \$9,000,000 for General Dentistry programs and not less than \$10,000,000 for Pediatric Dentistry programs.

*Alternative Dental Health Providers.*—While the agreement continues to carry bill language that prohibits the use of funds for alternative dental health care provider demonstration projects, this language is not intended to prohibit or preclude a State's ability to independently develop policies to increase patient access to dental care in underserved areas in order to address the unique needs and demands of that State.

*Mental and Behavioral Health.*—The agreement provides \$8,916,000 for Mental and Behavioral Health programs. With increasing numbers of military service members reintegrating into civilian life following multiple deployments, the Administrator of HRSA is directed to devote the increase to the Graduate Psychology Education Program for a special effort to focus additional grants on the inter-professional training of doctoral psychology graduate students and interns to address the psychological needs of military personnel, veterans and their families in civilian and community-based settings, including those in rural areas. The agreement continues funding for the Leadership Training Program in Social Work to support centers of excellence at schools of social work to help develop the next generation of social workers and to provide critical leadership, resources, and training.

*Public Health and Preventive Medicine Training.*—The agreement provides \$21,000,000 for Public Health Workforce Development and directs that no less than \$6,000,000 for preventive medicine residencies and no less than \$4,000,000 for existing programs and residencies related to integrative medicine.

MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH

*Maternal and Child Health Block Grant.*—The agreement includes bill language setting aside \$77,093,000 for Special Projects of Regional and National Significance (SPRANS), which is intended to include sufficient funding to continue the set-asides for oral health, epilepsy, sickle cell, and fetal alcohol syndrome at not less than fiscal year 2014 levels. The agreement also provides \$551,631,000 for the State grants.

*Autism and Other Developmental Disorders.*—The agreement provides \$47,099,000 for the Autism and Other Developmental Disorders program and directs that HRSA provide no less than the fiscal year 2014 level for the

LEND programs. Further, the agreement acknowledges that the Autism and Other Developmental Disorders program has demonstrated an ability to develop early detection, education, and intervention activities on autism and other developmental disorders. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recently announced that the highest rate of increased diagnoses for children with autism is from minority and rural communities. HRSA is directed to ensure that competitive funding opportunities are made available to specifically target innovative diagnosis and treatment models, including the use of telehealth networks, to improve the diagnosis and treatment of Autism Spectrum Disorders in minority and rural communities.

*Heritable Disorders Program.*—The agreement provides \$13,883,000 for the Heritable Disorders Program, of which \$2,000,000 is provided for a new grant competition to support the wider implementation, education and awareness of newborn screening for Severe Combined Immune Deficiency (SCID) and related disorders. The qualifying grantee must have at least five years of direct involvement in the effort to support implementation of SCID screening in State newborn screening protocols and offer a national network of medical centers to provide linkage to care for diagnosed newborns.

*Healthy Start.*—The Fetal Infant Mortality Review (FIMR) program is an important component of many Healthy Start Initiatives and that providing evidence-based interventions are crucial to improving infant health in high risk communities. HRSA is encouraged to continue to support the FIMR program with Healthy Start funding while educating Healthy Start Programs on the successes of the FIMR.

HRSA is also encouraged to assist Healthy Start grantees that did not receive grants in fiscal year 2014 due to changes in the grant process, but were funded in previous years, with transitional funding to help alleviate their shortfalls.

HEALTH CARE SYSTEMS

*340B Drug Program.*—HRSA is required to make 340B ceiling prices available to covered entities through a secure Web site. Funding was provided in fiscal year 2014 to implement such requirements, including the creation of a Web site. HRSA is directed to provide a briefing to update the House and Senate Appropriations Committees on implementation by March 3, 2015. There are concerns that HRSA has been unable to demonstrate that the 340B program benefits the most vulnerable patients. In order to best serve the public need, the program should examine its ability to ensure patients' access to 340B savings for outpatient drugs. HRSA is directed to work with covered entities to better understand the way these entities support direct patient benefits from 340B discounted sales.

*Poison Control Centers.*—Increased education and outreach services provided by the poison control centers to Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries could result in substantial savings by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. The Secretary is directed to continue the discussions with the Nation's poison control centers to develop an action plan to achieve these possible new Medicare and Medicaid cost savings.

RURAL HEALTH

The agreement includes sufficient funding to continue the five key program areas identified in the President's budget: outreach services grants, rural network development

grants, network planning grants, small healthcare provider quality improvement grants, and the Delta States network grant program.

**Oral Health.**—There is a significant need for dental providers in rural communities who can provide oral healthcare and education to individuals on the importance of proper oral care and prevention, and concerns remain about the number of unnecessary hospital emergency room visits for oral health issues. The Office of Rural Health Policy is encouraged to support mobile dentistry programs led by properly licensed dental providers.

**Rural Access to Emergency Devices.**—The agreement provides \$4,500,000 for the Rural Access to Emergency Devices program. In past fiscal years, the funding was used to purchase automated external defibrillators for public locations and to train emergency responders in their use. The increase over fiscal year 2014 should be competitively awarded for the purchase of other emergency devices used to rapidly reverse the effects of opioid overdoses, as well as training licensed healthcare professionals and emergency responders on their use. Funding will be used to buy automated external defibrillators and other emergency devices used to rapidly reverse the effects of opioid overdoses and put them in public areas where cardiac arrests and other life threatening events are likely to occur as well as train licensed healthcare professionals to include paramedics on their use.

**Telehealth.**—The Office of the Advancement of Telehealth (OAT) expands high quality medical care to rural communities that do not have adequate access to medical providers including many medical specialties. OAT is directed to use these funds to expand existing telehealth networks and to award new grants under the Telehealth Network Grant Program while also increasing activities that demonstrate the use and success of telehealth networks across the country.

OAT is commended for its work to provide greater access, quality, and scope of care to medically underserved populations. OAT is urged to fund sustainable programs with demonstrable accomplishments, placing particular emphasis on programs seeking to aid diverse populations in regions with significant chronic disease burden and evident health disparities such as diabetes.

#### VACCINE INJURY COMPENSATION PROGRAM TRUST FUND

HHS is directed to implement the Advisory Commission on Childhood Vaccines' recommendations on maternal immunization that were adopted in 2013 as HRSA administers the Vaccine Injury Compensation Program under existing authorities.

#### CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION

The agreement includes a program level of \$6,925,776,000, which includes \$6,023,476,000 in appropriated funds for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). In addition, it provides \$887,300,000 in transfers from the Prevention and Public Health (PPH) Fund and \$15,000,000 in Public Health and Social Services Emergency Fund (PHSSEF) unobligated balances from pandemic influenza supplemental appropriations.

#### IMMUNIZATION AND RESPIRATORY DISEASES

The agreement includes a total of \$798,405,000 for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases, which includes \$573,105,000 in discretionary appropriations, \$210,300,000 in transfers from the PPH Fund and \$15,000,000 in transfers from PHSSEF unob-

gated balances. Within this total, the agreement includes the following amounts:

Budget Activity	FY 2015 Agreement
Section 317 Immunization Program .....	\$610,847,000
National Immunization Survey .....	12,864,000
Influenza Planning and Response .....	187,558,000

**Cost Estimates.**—CDC is requested to update its report on estimated funding needs of the Section 317 Immunization Program, which should be submitted not later than February 1, 2015, to reflect fiscal year 2016 cost estimates.

**Influenza.**—The agreement directs the Department to use \$15,000,000 in pandemic influenza supplemental balances to support CDC's global influenza activity. CDC and the Department are expected to clearly identify in budget documents when and how prior year supplemental appropriations are used.

#### HIV/AIDS, VIRAL HEPATITIS, SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES AND TUBERCULOSIS PREVENTION

The agreement includes \$1,117,609,000 for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, Sexually Transmitted Diseases and Tuberculosis Prevention, in discretionary appropriations.

Within this total, the agreement includes the following amounts:

Budget Activity	FY 2015 Agreement
Domestic HIV/AIDS Prevention and Research .....	\$786,712,000
HIV Prevention by Health Departments .....	397,161,000
HIV Surveillance .....	119,861,000
Activities to Improve Program Effectiveness .....	103,208,000
National, Regional, Local, Community and Other Organizations .....	135,401,000
School Health .....	31,081,000
Viral Hepatitis .....	31,331,000
Sexually Transmitted Infections .....	157,310,000
Tuberculosis .....	142,256,000

**HIV Screening.**—The agreement notes concerns have been raised related to CDC's promotion of draft HIV screening algorithms that would limit antibody testing.

**Tuberculosis (TB).**—The agreement notes the high costs associated with treating TB, especially multi-drug resistant TB. CDC and the Federal Tuberculosis Task Force are urged to work with the FDA and other partners to identify long-term strategies to ensure an adequate and affordable supply of tuberculosis drugs.

**Youth-based Programs.**—Youth under the age of 24 have one of the highest rates of HIV diagnosis. CDC is encouraged to improve outreach and education to this population via youth-based programs.

#### EMERGING AND ZOONOTIC INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The agreement includes \$404,990,000 for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases, which includes \$352,990,000 in discretionary appropriations and \$52,000,000 that is made available from amounts in the PPH Fund.

Budget Activity	FY 2015 Agreement
Emerging and Zoonotic core activities .....	\$29,840,000
Vector-borne Diseases .....	26,410,000
Lyme Disease .....	10,663,000
Prion Disease .....	5,850,000
Chronic Fatigue Syndrome .....	5,400,000
Emerging Infectious Diseases .....	147,230,000
Food Safety .....	47,993,000
National Healthcare Safety Network .....	18,032,000
Quarantine .....	31,572,000
Advanced Molecular Detection .....	30,000,000
Epidemiology and Lab Capacity program .....	40,000,000
Healthcare-Associated Infections .....	12,000,000

**CDC Lab Capacity.**—The agreement includes an increase of \$7,250,000 to increase CDC's internal lab capacity. CDC shall use the additional funding provided to establish cutting-edge lab diagnostics to improve

rapid identification and detection of emerging pathogens; establish an innovative e-pathology system to speed communication and establish virtual specimen sharing in real time; and increase research capacity and safety in high-containment labs.

**Food Safety.**—The agreement includes an increase of \$8,000,000 to apply advanced DNA technology to improve and modernize our diagnostic capabilities; and enhance surveillance, detection, and prevention efforts at the State and local level.

**Lyme Disease.**—The agreement encourages CDC to consider expanding activities related to developing sensitive and more accurate diagnostic tools and tests for Lyme disease, including evaluating emerging diagnostic methods and improving the utilization of adequate diagnostic testing; expanding its epidemiological research to determine the frequency and nature of the long-term complications of Lyme disease; improving surveillance and reporting of Lyme disease to produce more accurate data on its incidence; evaluate developing a national reporting system; and expanding prevention activity such as community-based public education and healthcare provider programs based on the latest scientific research on the disease.

**Responding to Emerging Threats.**—The agreement continues to support the Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity and Advanced Molecular Detection programs to strengthen epidemiologic and laboratory capacity by providing critical resources to address 21st century public health challenges.

**Surveillance.**—The agreement commends CDC for its surveillance strategy, and expects CDC to continue to take steps to modernize and improve this strategy across all CDC-wide public health programs. CDC is urged to expeditiously improve standardization and commonality of platforms across all CDC systems, which would reduce duplication, tackle workforce and informatics challenges at CDC, and State and local public health agencies, and reduce the burden of participation in surveillance. The agreement requests an update on the plans and progress in the fiscal year 2016 congressional budget request.

#### CHRONIC DISEASE PREVENTION AND HEALTH PROMOTION

The agreement includes \$1,199,220,000 for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, which includes \$747,220,000 in discretionary appropriations, and \$452,000,000 that is made available from amounts in the PPH Fund.

Within this total, the agreement includes the following amounts:

Budget Activity	FY 2015 Agreement
Tobacco .....	\$216,492,000
Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Obesity .....	47,585,000
High Obesity Rate Counties .....	7,500,000
School Health .....	15,383,000
Health Promotion .....	19,970,000
Community Health Promotion .....	6,348,000
Glaucoma .....	3,294,000
Visual Screening Education .....	512,000
Alzheimer's Disease .....	3,344,000
Inflammatory Bowel Disease .....	716,000
Interstitial Cystitis .....	659,000
Excessive Alcohol Use .....	3,000,000
Chronic Kidney Disease .....	2,097,000
Prevention Research Centers .....	25,461,000
Heart Disease and Stroke .....	130,037,000
Diabetes .....	140,129,000
National Diabetes Prevention Program .....	10,000,000
Cancer Prevention and Control .....	352,649,000
Breast and Cervical Cancer .....	206,993,000
WISWOMAN .....	21,114,000
Breast Cancer Awareness for Young Women .....	4,951,000
Cancer Registries .....	49,440,000
Colorectal Cancer .....	43,294,000
Comprehensive Cancer .....	19,673,000
Johanna's Law .....	5,500,000
Ovarian Cancer .....	7,000,000



Budget Activity	FY 2015 Agreement
Prostate Cancer .....	13,205,000
Skin Cancer .....	2,121,000
Cancer Survivorship Resource Center .....	472,000
Oral Health .....	15,749,000
Safe Motherhood/Infant Health .....	45,473,000
Arthritis .....	9,598,000
Epilepsy .....	7,994,000
National Lupus Patient Registry .....	5,750,000
REACH .....	50,950,000
Community Prevention Grants .....	80,000,000
Million Hearts .....	4,000,000
Workplace Wellness .....	10,000,000
National Early Child Care Collaboratives .....	4,000,000
Hospitals Promoting Breastfeeding .....	8,000,000

**Alzheimer's and Healthy Aging.**—The agreement notes the importance of developing and maintaining a population-based surveillance system with longitudinal follow-up. The agreement also urges that significant effort be made to ensure comprehensive implementation of the action steps listed in the updated Road Map. The agreement supports this important initiative to further develop and expand the surveillance system on cognitive decline and caregiving, including widespread dissemination of the data gathered, and to implement the updated Road Map.

**Burden of Disease.**—The agreement directs the CDC Director to implement a population-adjusted burden of disease criteria as a significant factor for new competitive awards within the Chronic Disease portfolio for Heart Disease, Stroke, and Diabetes.

**Chronic Disease.**—The agreement directs that the CDC Director shall not consolidate programs under Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion in any manner, including through use of contracting, grant, cooperative agreement, or other such mechanism, which does not allow for an auditable accounting process to certify that all the funding provided supported the programs and activities at the levels identified in this statement.

**Division of Oral Health (DOH).**—The agreement provides the DOH support for enhancements to the State oral health infrastructure grants, national surveillance activities and community prevention programs. The agreement urges DOH to support clinical and public health interventions that target pregnant women and young children at highest risk for dental caries. CDC is encouraged to work across HHS to improve the coordination of oral health surveillance in a manner that reliably measures and reports health outcomes.

**Diabetes, Heart Disease, and Stroke.**—The agreement expects a significant portion of resources will support local communities with the highest burden of these diseases. Further, CDC shall conduct an evaluation of supported activities to ensure they are effective and achieve the anticipated results. The agreement requests a report within 180 days of enactment on how much of the funding directly supported local communities with the highest disease burden and an analysis on how CDC evaluates its program effectiveness.

**Epilepsy.**—The agreement applauds the CDC epilepsy program for the progress it has made in advancing a public health agenda to improve the lives of people living with epilepsy. CDC is encouraged to support internal and external collaborations that advance the recommendations of the 2012 Institute of Medicine Report "Epilepsy Across the Spectrum: Promoting Health and Understanding".

**Excessive Alcohol Use.**—The agreement includes an increase above the fiscal year 2014 level for CDC to increase its support of alco-

hol epidemiologists in State and local health departments, and to widely disseminate existing research on effective strategies for reducing underage drinking, including translational research, and to make that research easily accessible to the public.

**Interstitial Cystitis.**—The agreement commends CDC for developing partnerships to enhance awareness of Interstitial Cystitis (IC). It also recognizes the progress made to assure proper diagnosis and treatment of IC through the development of continuing medical education and patient self-management modules available online.

**Mississippi Delta Health Collaborative (MDHC).**—The Mississippi Delta Region experiences some of the Nation's highest rates of chronic diseases, such as diabetes, hypertension, obesity, heart disease, and stroke. The agreement recognizes CDC's expertise in supporting evidence-based programs to prevent the leading causes of death and disability and commends their partnership with the MDHC. The CDC is urged to continue to support MDHC's work to strengthen linkages between the community and clinical services in the region and to continue CDC's support for implementation of strategies that increase prevention efforts and improve access to physical activity and healthy nutrition.

**Moderate Drinking.**—The agreement notes that numerous epidemiological and basic science studies have demonstrated that moderate drinking can be beneficial to health by reducing risk for coronary artery disease, type 2 diabetes, and rheumatoid arthritis, among others. However, these studies used different protocols or questionnaires, and may be difficult to compare. The agreement urges the Center to work with National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism on this issue.

**National Diabetes Prevention Program (NDPP).**—The agreement provides support for the NDPP that encourages collaboration among federal agencies, community-based organizations, employers, insurers, health care professionals, academia, and other stakeholders to prevent or delay the onset of type 2 diabetes among people in the United States. The agreement expects CDC to have measurable long-term public health measures for this program that are reported annually in the congressional budget request. Further, the agreement requests CDC provide an update in the fiscal year 2016 budget request on how this program coordinates with other CDC and HHS programs.

**Obesity.**—The agreement expands support for the rural extension and outreach services pilot to support additional grants for rural counties with an obesity prevalence of over 40 percent. The agreement expects CDC to work with State and local public health departments to support measurable outcomes through evidenced based obesity research, intervention and prevention programs. CDC should focus its efforts in areas of the country with the highest burden of obesity and with the co-morbidities of hypertension, cardiac disease and diabetes from county level data in the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System. The agreement encourages CDC childhood obesity efforts to only support activities that are supported by scientific evidence.

**Special Interest Projects.**—The agreement directs CDC to ensure that any funds used to support Special Interest Projects will be competitively awarded through an open process that is available to all qualified entities, including non-profit organizations, small businesses, and for-profit organizations.

**Vitiligo.**—The agreement directs the CDC to report on the epidemiology of vitiligo, including incidence, causal factors, any associations with minority populations, and hereditary occurrence. The agreement requests a report within 180 days on the medical research that has been done to date, suggestions on treatment for consequent conditions, and prospects for a cure.

#### BIRTH DEFECTS AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

The agreement includes \$131,781,000 for Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities.

Within the total for Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities, the agreement includes the following amounts:

Budget Activity	FY 2015 Agreement
Child Health and Development .....	\$64,232,000
Birth Defects .....	18,074,000
Fetal Death .....	891,000
Fetal Alcohol Syndrome .....	10,505,000
Folic Acid .....	3,121,000
Infant Health .....	8,639,000
Autism .....	23,002,000
Health and Development for People with Disabilities .....	52,440,000
Disability & Health .....	20,042,000
Tourette Syndrome .....	2,000,000
Early Hearing Detection and Intervention .....	10,752,000
Muscular Dystrophy .....	6,000,000
Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder .....	1,850,000
Fragile X .....	1,800,000
Spina Bifida .....	5,996,000
Congenital Heart Failure .....	4,000,000
Public Health Approach to Blood Disorders .....	4,500,000
Hemophilia CDC Activities .....	3,504,000
Hemophilia Treatment Centers .....	5,000,000
Thalassemia .....	2,105,000

**Birth Defects Prevention.**—The Center for Birth Defects Research and Prevention is commended for its work toward greater understanding of the causes of birth defects and for expanding the National Birth Defects Prevention Network to include the work of the BD-STEPS program. CDC is encouraged to allocate additional resources to expand the BD-STEPS program, with the goal of incorporating States that do not currently have a birth defects surveillance system. Priority should be given to programs in these States that have previously submitted meritorious applications but did not receive grant funding due to budget constraints.

**Congenital Heart Defects (CHDs).**—The agreement provides \$4,000,000 to expand CDC's surveillance of CHD among adolescents and adults in order to better understand issues relating to CHDs incidence, prevalence, disparities and barriers to optimal care for those with CHDs.

**Hemophilia.**—The agreement includes sufficient funding to maintain the Center's hemophilia programs, particularly the surveillance and research activities of the national network of hemophilia treatment centers and CDC's national outreach and education programs on hemophilia.

**Limb Loss Resource Center.**—The agreement transfers funding for the Limb Loss Resource Center to the Administration for Community Living (ACL). CDC is expected to work with ACL to ensure a smooth transition for grantees and those served by this program.

**Thalassemia.**—The agreement continues to support blood safety surveillance at major thalassemia research and treatment centers, as well as support patients outside of major research and treatment centers by working with the thalassemia patient advocacy community.

#### PUBLIC HEALTH SCIENTIFIC SERVICES

The agreement includes a total of \$481,061,000 for Public Health Scientific Services in discretionary appropriations.

Within the total for Public Health Scientific Services, the agreement includes the following amounts:

Budget Activity	FY 2015 Agreement
Health Statistics .....	\$155,397,000
Surveillance, Epidemiology, and Informatics .....	273,464,000
Public Health Workforce .....	52,200,000

**Alzheimer's Disease & Dementia.**—CDC is directed to recommend ways to obtain more accurate and complete measurements of the death rate due to Alzheimer's disease and dementia and to develop a consensus on the mortality burden of the disease.

#### ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

The agreement includes \$179,404,000 for Environmental Health programs, which includes \$166,404,000 in discretionary appropriations, and \$13,000,000 that is made available from amounts in the PPH Fund.

Within this total, the agreement includes the following amounts:

Budget Activity	FY 2015 Agreement
Environmental Health Laboratory .....	\$55,870,000
Newborn Screening Quality Assurance Program .....	8,243,000
Newborn Screening/Severe Combined Immuno-deficiency Diseases .....	1,175,000
Environmental Health Activities .....	45,580,000
Environmental Health Activities .....	17,703,000
Safe Water .....	8,601,000
Amotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Registry .....	7,820,000
Built Environment & Health Initiative .....	2,843,000
Climate Change .....	8,613,000
Environmental and Health Outcome Tracking Network .....	34,904,000
Asthma .....	27,528,000
Childhood Lead Poisoning .....	15,522,000

**Amotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) Registry.**—The agreement supports CDC's national ALS registry, which may help to identify the incidence and prevalence of the disease in the United States and advance research into the causes and treatments of ALS. CDC is encouraged to promote enrollment in the registry and facilitate the use of registry information for ALS research. CDC is also encouraged to continue to consult with other Federal agencies, including the NIH and the Department of Veterans Affairs to coordinate efforts and to avoid duplication.

**Environmental Public Health Tracking Network.**—The agreement includes sufficient funding for this network to continue to support the 23 States and one city that are currently funded through the program. The program has strengthened State and local agencies' ability to prevent and control diseases and health conditions that may be linked to environmental hazards.

**Harmonization of Laboratory Test Results.**—Laboratory professionals use a variety of test methods to obtain accurate and informative results to diagnose and treat patients, which may result in the reporting of different numeric values for the same test. CDC is urged to partner with the private sector in "harmonizing" clinical laboratory test results.

**Primary Immunodeficiency.**—The agreement recognizes CDC's support for physician education and public awareness for primary immunodeficiency diseases and strongly encourages the agency to maintain its efforts to elevate the understanding of this important set of disorders.

#### INJURY PREVENTION AND CONTROL

The agreement includes \$170,447,000 for Injury Prevention and Control activities.

Within this total, the agreement includes the following amounts:

Budget Activity	FY 2015 Agreement
Intentional Injury .....	\$92,001,000
Domestic Violence and Sexual Violence .....	32,674,000
Child Maltreatment .....	7,250,000

Budget Activity	FY 2015 Agreement
Youth Violence Prevention .....	15,086,000
Domestic Violence Community Projects .....	5,414,000
Rape Prevention .....	38,827,000
National Violent Death Reporting System .....	11,302,000
Unintentional Injury .....	8,598,000
Traumatic Brain Injury .....	6,548,000
Elderly Falls .....	2,050,000
Injury Prevention Activities .....	28,950,000
Prescription Drug Overdose .....	20,000,000

**Prescription Drug Overdose Prevention.**—The agreement applauds CDC's public health approach to combating this problem. However, it does not concur with the administration's proposal to fund this initiative through the Core Violence and Injury Prevention Program because it does not sufficiently target funds where they are most needed. Instead, the agreement directs CDC to fund this initiative through cooperative agreements that target States that contribute significantly to the national burden of prescription drug overdose morbidity and mortality. The agreement directs CDC to incorporate State burden of prescription drug overdose, including CDC's mortality data (age adjusted rate), in the competitive process to test and implement best practices for identification, treatment, and control of prescription drug abuse. Further, the States are expected to work with local businesses, medical providers, medical organizations, law enforcement, and support not-for-profit organizations to prevent prescription drug overdose. Further, the agreement directs that funding to States should address data issues, improve data standards and the ability to share data across State lines and nationally to improve prescription drug overdose prevention activities. The agreement expects the activities will include working with States to establish or expand prescription drug monitoring databases of physicians writing prescriptions for opiates and pharmacists filling prescriptions. Finally, the agreement requests CDC to develop performance measures with annual targets for this program.

#### NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH

The agreement includes a total of \$334,863,000 for the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) in discretionary appropriations.

Within the total for NIOSH, the agreement includes the following amounts:

Budget Activity	FY 2015 Agreement
National Occupational Research Agenda .....	\$114,500,000
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing .....	24,000,000
Education and Research Centers .....	27,445,000
Personal Protective Technology .....	19,695,000
Healthier Workforce Centers .....	4,976,000
Mining Research .....	59,420,000
Other Occupational Safety and Health Research .....	107,721,000
National Mesothelioma Registry and Tissue Bank .....	1,106,000

**Combination Unit Respirator.**—The agreement notes with concern the lack of progress by NIOSH in the development of a certification standard for Combination Unit Respirators. Therefore, the agreement directs NIOSH to provide an update on the progress of the research needed to validate the requirements and standards for combination unit respirators within one year from the date of enactment.

**Facilities.**—NIOSH is urged to maximize the use of existing federally owned research facilities and property to conduct its work, in particular its Catastrophic Failure and Prevention, Mining Injury and Disease Prevention and Mining and Surveillance and Statistical programs. Utilization of non-rental, non-leased, existing federally owned prop-

erties, such as those located near the newly revitalized Silver Valley of Idaho, the gold mining areas of Nevada, the platinum area in Montana, mines in Wyoming, and mines of various types in Alaska, would allow NIOSH to use Federal funds efficiently.

#### ENERGY EMPLOYEES OCCUPATIONAL ILLNESS COMPENSATION PROGRAM

The agreement includes \$55,358,000 in mandatory funding for CDC's responsibilities with respect to the Energy Employee Occupational Illness Compensation Program.

#### GLOBAL HEALTH

The agreement includes \$416,517,000 for Global Health activities. Within this total, the agreement includes the following amounts:

Budget Activity	FY 2015 Agreement
Global AIDS Program .....	\$128,421,000
Global Immunization Program .....	208,608,000
Polio Eradication .....	158,774,000
Measles and Other Vaccine Preventable Diseases .....	49,834,000
Global Disease Detection and Emergency Response .....	45,360,000
Parasitic Diseases/Malaria .....	24,369,000
Global Public Health Capacity .....	9,759,000

**Global Public Health.**—The agreement requests an operating plan, within 90 days after enactment, for all international activities funded through this CDC activity to the Appropriations Committees of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

#### PUBLIC HEALTH PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE

The agreement includes \$1,352,551,000 for public health preparedness and response activities.

Within the total for Public Health Preparedness and Response, the agreement includes the following amounts:

Budget Activity	FY 2015 Agreement
Public Health Emergency Preparedness Cooperative Agreements .....	\$643,609,000
Academic Centers for Public Health Preparedness .....	8,018,000
All Other State and Local Capacity .....	9,415,000
CDC Preparedness and Response .....	133,797,000
BioSense .....	23,369,000
Strategic National Stockpile .....	534,343,000

**Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) Cooperative Agreement Program.**—The agreement is aware that State and local health departments rely on the PHEP cooperative agreement program to support their work with Federal government officials, law enforcement, emergency management, health care, business, education, and religious groups to plan, train, and prepare for emergencies so that when disaster strikes communities are prepared. The agreement requests that the fiscal year 2016 budget request describe how PHEP funding is distributed at the local level and how CDC coordinates with States to ensure the funds are being directed toward the highest priorities. The agreement continues the traditional breakout of separate funding lines. The agreement does not expect the cooperative agreements to fund any CDC programmatic operating costs.

**Strategic National Stockpile (SNS).**—The agreement is concerned that CDC's response plans do not include guidance to State, county, and local public health officials regarding new acquisitions to the SNS and how those new acquisitions should be used in a response effort. Therefore, the agreement directs CDC to update all current response plans within 120 days of enactment to include countermeasures procured with Project BioShield funds since its inception in an effort to ensure that first responders and health care providers have the most up-to-date guidance

to respond to potential threats, including anthrax, smallpox, and acute radiation syndrome. Further, the agreement requests CDC to develop a process to ensure that all plans are reviewed annually and that new countermeasures acquired are in the plan within 60 days of receipt into the SNS program.

BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

The agreement includes \$10,000,000 for Buildings and Facilities.

The agreement includes separate bill language for buildings and facilities given the recent implementation of the working capital fund and distribution of the funds to the appropriate centers, in lieu of having this account within the CDC-wide activity account.

**Underground Mine Safety.**—The agreement is disappointed that the administration has not taken steps necessary to ensure that the mine explosive research capacity that was present at the now-closed CDC Lake Lynn facility in Pennsylvania continues to exist. The agreement is concerned with the CDC's proposal to abandon plans to find an alternative site for the underground mining research facility at Lake Lynn. The Lake Lynn Laboratory and Experimental Mine is a unique and critical resource for conducting large scale explosion tests and mine fire research, which are essential components of preventing accidents and disasters in the mining industry. The agreement rejects the budget proposal to redirect existing resources intended for a new mine safety research center to other CDC facility projects and expects this funding to remain available for an alternative site for Lake Lynn. Further, CDC shall move forward with a new site selection process and report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations no later than 60 days after enactment of this act on a specific timeline for replacing this research capability.

CDC-WIDE ACTIVITIES

The agreement includes \$273,570,000 for CDC-wide activities, which includes \$113,570,000 in discretionary appropriations and \$160,000,000 made available through the PPH Fund.

Within this total, the agreement includes the following amounts:

Budget Activity	FY 2015 Agreement
Preventive Health & Health Services Block Grant .....	\$160,000,000
Public Health Leadership and Support .....	113,570,000

**Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant (PHHSBG).**—The agreement rejects the Administration's proposed elimination of the PHHSBG. The agreement restores the PHHSBG to a level of \$160,000,000. CDC is expected to provide these flexible funds to State public health agencies. CDC is urged to enhance reporting and accountability for the PHHSBG, such as providing technical assistance to States regarding using funds for core public health capacities that may not be supported through other CDC categorical funding streams, such as information exchange systems, health information technology, billing capacity, public health accreditation preparation, and implementation of evidence-based practices.

**CDC Director's Discretionary Fund.**—The CDC Director shall provide timely quarterly reports on all obligations made with the Director's Discretionary Fund to the Appropriations Committees of the House of Representatives and Senate.

**Grant Table.**—The agreement directs the CDC Director to include in the fiscal year 2016 and future budget requests a table that identifies each type of grant awarded under

each CDC program. It should clearly include for each program the percentage of funds awarded by formula and non-formula for each type of and competitive grant for each of the past three years, current year, and budget year.

**Public Health Leadership and Support Detail.**—The agreement expects the budget request for fiscal year 2016 and future years to include specific breakouts and details by budget activity with typical object class data for each activity.

**Single Web-based Data Collection Information Technology (IT) Platform.**—The agreement recognizes the efforts by CDC to develop a plan for a single Web-based data collection IT platform for public health. A significant need exists for an agile, cloud-based, and flexible IT platform to reduce the reporting burden on State public health departments, and create economic efficiencies. The agreement directs CDC to continue to work with State and local health officials to develop a timeline for a cloud-based and flexible IT public health data reporting platform for CDC programs and provide it to the House and Senate Appropriations Committees no later than 180 days after enactment of this act.

**Scientific Research Coordination with NIH.**—The agreement directs CDC programs to coordinate with the Institutes and Centers of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and share scientific gaps to accelerate knowledge research related to disease and prevention activity supported through NIH's research portfolios. The Director shall include an update in the fiscal year 2016 budget request on this effort.

**Strategic Plan.**—The agreement includes language to require CDC to establish a budget based on measurable public health goals and objectives. Further, CDC is expected to develop a report examining options on how to align funding based on measurable public health and preparedness goals to address countries with the highest burden of each disease.

The agreement continues to support CDC public health and preparedness activities in the following areas and requests an update for each listed disease, condition, or topic in the fiscal year 2016 budget request to describe the latest efforts ongoing and planned for the fiscal year 2016 request:

**Advocacy Restrictions.**—Describe mechanisms, processes, and on-going efforts to educate its staff and recipients to prevent violations;

**Autism.**—How CDC works with NIH and other agencies to identify research gaps;

**Chikungunya.**—How the National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases works with the Center for Global Health on this cross-cutting issue;

**Cerebral Palsy;**

**Colorectal Cancer;**

**Duchene Muscular Dystrophy;**

**Duplication.**—Process to ensure no funds support activities funded via a competitive announcement from the NIH or other Federal agency, such as the Federal Trade Commission's report to Congress on alcohol industry self-regulatory initiatives;

**Fragile X;**

**Global Health Strategy.**—How CDC, FDA, and NIH jointly develop, coordinate, plan, and prioritize global health research activities;

**Healthcare-Associated Infections (HAIs);**

**Hepatitis C.**—Details on progress and activities undertaken to prevent new infections;

**Inflammatory Bowel Disease;**

**National Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) Registry;**

**National Environmental Public Health Tracking Network;**

**Neglected Tropical Diseases;**

**National Lupus Patient Registry;**

**Ovarian Cancer;**

**Public Health Emergency Preparedness**

**Index;**

**Preterm Birth;**

**Psoriasis and Psoriatic Arthritis Data Col-**

**lection;**

**Sepsis;**

**Tourette Syndrome;**

**Thalassemia;**

**Vaccine Safety.**—Specific actions with State and local officials and the provider community to reduce waste and ensure vaccine potency;

**West Virginia Tap Project; and**

**Spina Bifida Registry.**

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) receives a total of \$30,084,304,000 in this agreement. Within this total, increases are generally distributed proportionately among NIH Institutes and Centers (ICs). Additional amounts have been added to the National Institute on Aging (NIA), in recognition of the Alzheimer's disease research initiative throughout NIH, several institutes received support in connection with the Brain Research through Application of Innovative Neurotechnologies (BRAIN) initiative, National Cancer Institute for cancer research, and the Common Fund to support the Gabriella Miller Kids First Research Act (Kids First).

The agreement also includes an important reform for NIH and the stakeholder community. In response to growing concern at the loss of NIH funds to PHS Act section 241 transfers, the agreement reforms section 241 allocations such that NIH, still subject to the transfer, now will receive \$715,000,000 in return which is more than the estimated \$700,000,000 it will contribute. All the section 241 transfer funds are allocated to the National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS). This reform ensures the section 241 transfers are a net benefit to NIH rather than a liability.

The NIH is expected to base its funding decisions only on scientific opportunities and the peer review process. In accordance with longstanding tradition, funding is not directed to any specific disease research area.

The agreement notes concern that the number of Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Awards has declined since fiscal year 2007. The agreement expects the NIH to provide no less than last year in stipend levels and training awards.

The agreement expects NIH to promote the advancement of biomedical science in a manner that builds public trust and accountability and expects NIH to conduct rigorous oversight prior to the awarding of funds to ensure that all grants are connected to the core mission and priorities of NIH.

Recent GAO reports (GAO-14-490R and GAO-14-246) on NIH research allocations highlight that NIH's research allocation process does not significantly take into account any method related to burden of disease on the American public, such as death or prevalence rate. Therefore, the agreement urges NIH to ensure research dollars are invested in areas in which Americans lives may be improved.

The agreement continues to protect the Clinical and Translational Science Awards program, the Institutional Development Awards program, and the mission of the National Children's Study.

The Common Fund is supported as a set-aside within the Office of the Director at \$545,639,000, which includes the \$12,600,000 to support pediatric research as described in the recently enacted Kids First legislation.

The agreement directs the NIH Director and each IC Director to ensure a process is in place to make certain new scientific information reaches the public and health care providers through the various other HHS outreach programs. The agreement requests a report within 180 days of enactment to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate on how this process operates across each IC and the HHS agencies, with an eye toward reducing duplication, and improving dissemination of information.

**Administrative Burden Workgroup.**—The agreement for FY 2014 requested that the NIH Director to initiate an Administrative Burden Workgroup that included relevant stakeholders to develop a plan to reduce the administrative burden on grantees and their organizations. The NIH has not yet chartered this workgroup and is directed to do so within 60 days of enactment and conduct the first meeting within 30 days of that date. The agreement requests a copy of the plan and any applicable goals or reduction targets within 180 days of enactment to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

**Antibiotic Resistance.**—The agreement reflects concern about growing antibiotic resistance. The agreement encourages NIAID, BARDA, CDC, and other appropriate partners, within 180 days, to conduct a workshop and develop a coordinated action plan to address research, public health and preparedness issues in this field. It is anticipated that NIAID will work with partners to develop a comprehensive plan with a timeline and measurable objectives for each partner to address the issues over the next five years. The agreement also urges NIAID to increase its efforts to accelerate the development of new antibiotics.

**Alzheimer's Disease.**—The agreement includes an increase of \$25,000,000 for NIA. In keeping with longstanding practice, the agreement does not recommend a specific amount of NIH funding for this purpose or for any other individual disease. Doing so would establish a dangerous precedent that could politicize the NIH peer review system. Nevertheless, in recognition that Alzheimer's disease poses a serious threat to the Nation's long-term health and economic stability, the agreement expects that a significant portion of the recommended increase for NIA should be directed to research on Alzheimer's. The exact amount should be determined by scientific opportunity of additional research on this disease and the quality of grant applications that are submitted for Alzheimer's relative to those submitted for other diseases.

**Autism and Telehealth.**—The agreement supports NIMH's funding of meaningful research into the use of telehealth resources in the diagnosis and treatment of autism spectrum disorders. NIMH shall report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations within 90 days of enactment of this act detailing the current research opportunities involving telehealth and autism diagnosis and treatment.

**Basic Biomedical Research.**—The agreement urges the NIH Director to continue the traditional focus on basic biomedical research. The purpose of basic research is to discover the nature and mechanics of disease and identify potential therapeutic avenues likely to lead to the prevention and treatment of

human disease. Without this early scientific investigation, future development of treatments and cures would be impossible. Basic biomedical research must remain a key component of both the intramural and extramural research portfolio at the NIH.

**Big Data.**—The agreement continues to expect NIH to protect the privacy of individuals who are the subject of research. As the Big Data to Knowledge Initiative (or any similar initiative) creates new methods of collecting data from research, attention must be paid to new ways of protecting the data of individuals involved. NIH is directed to include requirements related to privacy protections in every grant that involves human research, such as the issuance of certificates of confidentiality.

**Blue Ribbon Commission on Scientific Standing.**—The agreement directs the NIH Office of the Director to fund, in consultation with the National Science Foundation and Department of Education, a contract with the National Academy of Sciences to establish a Blue Ribbon Commission charged with discerning American public opinion on, understanding of, and acceptance of scientific research. The Commission shall examine the present state of scientific repute in America and present recommendations for how to improve scientific literacy, education, and enhance scientific regard amongst the American public.

**Cardiovascular Disease.**—The agreement reflects awareness that in March 2014, Cambridge University researchers reported that current evidence does not clearly support cardiovascular guidelines that encourage high consumption of polyunsaturated fatty acids and low consumption of total saturated fats. The agreement recognizes that these findings create conflicting information being provided to the public. The agreement requests NHLBI convene a state of the science meeting within 180 days after enactment with participants from CDC and other appropriate scientists from all sides of this debate to identify the open questions arising from this new study.

**Clinical Trials.**—The agreement requests GAO to conduct a review of how NIH applied the recommendations from the 2010 IOM report on NCI's clinical trials across all NIH ICs to improve NIH-wide clinical trial activity. Specifically, the review should provide recommendations related to administering, monitoring, managing, and supporting an appropriate NIH-wide portfolio of clinical trial activity. Further, the agreement expects NIH to review its policies and make changes as appropriate to ensure appropriate minority participation in clinical trials across all NIH ICs.

**Commitment to New and Early Stage Investigators.**—The agreement appreciates NIH's commitment to identifying and attracting new biomedical researchers and expects it will continue to explore novel ways to encourage early transition to independence. The agreement reflects significant concern that the average age at which an investigator first obtains R01 funding from NIH remains around age 42. Therefore, NIH is directed to develop a new approach with actionable steps to reduce the average age at which an investigator first obtains R01 funding. The agreement requests NIH to provide the Committees a report within 120 days of enactment on the steps it will take, measurement methods, and a senior level IC Director monitoring plan. Further, the plan should include an analysis of the role of the universities in this effort. It is also requested that future budget requests include

the past ten years of actual data on the average age at which an investigator obtains R01 funding and the next three years of future estimates.

**Common Fund.**—NIH is expected to continue the longstanding policy for Common Fund projects to be short-term, high-impact awards, with no projects receiving funding for more than 10 years. Funding is not included for research within the Common Fund specifically related to health care financing reform and insurance incentive activities related to the Affordable Care Act. The agreement continues to encourage NIH to consider research related to new treatments, diagnostics, and the impact of widespread adoption of the results of biomedical science done with taxpayer dollars.

**Dental Caries.**—Although dental caries have significantly decreased for most Americans over the past four decades, disparities remain among some population groups. The agreement is concerned with these trends and encourages NIDCR to explore more opportunities related to dental caries research. In addition, NIDCR should coordinate with CDC Division of Oral Health to identify research opportunities.

**Enhanced NIH Reporting on Research Spending by Disease and Affected Populations.**—The NIH reports and makes available to the public on an annual basis the amount of research spending by disease. This information is helpful and provides insight to the public and the research community about overall NIH research. The agreement requests NIH include, no later than 180 days after enactment and thereafter, the number of Americans affected by each category listed in the RCDC database, according to CDC or another federally-sourced data file.

**Extramural and Intramural Research.**—The agreement requests an update in the fiscal year 2016 budget request on what processes NIH has in place to ensure consistency between the application of scientific policies to both extramural and intramural researchers. The update should also describe how NIH has implemented the request that all peer reviewers for extramural research are provided detailed knowledge on the scope of intramural activities that are related to the subjects under consideration within their study sections to prevent unintended support for duplicative research activity.

**Health Disparities.**—The principles that serve as the foundation of NCATS (public-private partnerships, community outreach, and faster access to clinical trials) have tremendous potential for addressing the longstanding diseases associated with health disparities. NIH is encouraged to support NCATS centers with a history of serving health disparity populations so that research funding provided through the various institutes can be leveraged to address the higher incidences of cancer, stroke, and heart disease disproportionately suffered by minority populations.

**Improve Data Availability.**—The agreement directs that within 90 days after enactment, the NIH Director should submit a report that assures the Committees on Appropriations that all journals supported with NIH resources are consistent with the February 2013 memorandum from the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy in the White House, which states that data sets used in publications supported by government grants should be made available to the public where possible. The agreement expects NIH to take immediate actionable steps to ensure all data from NIH supported journals is available and reproducible.

*Institutional Development Award (IDEA).*—Many institutions in Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) qualifying States that could benefit from the IDEA program are ineligible for funding. The IDEA Director is directed to develop a legislative plan, including legislative language, to update eligibility criteria and specifically incorporate flexibility into the program to address EPSCoR eligibility. The NIH is directed to report to the Committees on Appropriations within 60 days after enactment of this act.

*Microbicides.*—With NIH and USAID leadership, research has shown the potential for antiretroviral (ARV) drugs to prevent HIV infection in women. NIAID is encouraged to continue coordination with USAID, the State Department and others to advance ARV based microbicide development efforts with the goal of enabling regulatory approval of the first safe and effective microbicide for women and supporting product development and efficacy trials of alternative ARV based microbicides.

*Moderate Drinking.*—Numerous epidemiological and basic science studies have demonstrated that moderate drinking can be beneficial to health by reducing risk for coronary artery disease, type 2 diabetes, and rheumatoid arthritis, among others. However, these studies used different protocols or questionnaires, and may be difficult to compare. The agreement encourages NIAAA to undertake a multicenter, multiyear clinical study to clarify the health impact of moderate alcohol consumption.

*NIH Workforce Study.*—NIH performed a workforce study in 2008 that examined the state of the biomedical workforce in the United States and provided insight on the future workforce capacity and the need for new investigators to sustain the enterprise. The agreement requests NIH update the NIH New Investigator Projection (PI) report developed by the NIH Office of Budget, assuming level funding. It should consider the historical data, success rates of new investigators, the success rates of second R01 (first renewal) applications for early stage investigators, trends in the workforce, data and actuarially sound assumptions with updates on the number of researchers who receive NIH F or K funding who then go on to work in industry. In addition, the report should survey the historical change over time of university policies that feed into the length of time to become a PI and use that data to update the PI projection model to ensure it has the correct mix of new and experienced PIs in the workforce.

*National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine.*—The agreement includes a provision to change the name of this center from the “National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine” to the “National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health.” Since the inception of this center, the practices it researches have grown in use to the point that Americans no longer consider them an alternative to medical care: well over half of Americans report using a dietary supplement; CDC data shows that Americans spend \$3,900,000,000 annually on spinal manipulation therapy; and a recent survey showed that three-quarters of healthcare workers prefer to utilize complementary methods when suffering from illness or injury. These methods are no longer being used instead of medical care; they are increasingly being integrated into the Nation’s healthcare system, whether by practitioners or by patients themselves. For that reason, the term “alternative medicine” is

being retired in favor of supporting research on integrative health.

*National Children’s Study (NCS).*—The recommendations of the Institute of Medicine’s (IOM) June 2014 NCS assessment provided valuable insight. The NCS’s goals and mission has the potential to add immeasurably to the scientific knowledge on children’s health and the Committees on Appropriations have supported this project for numerous years. The IOM provided a framework of recommendations and concerns about the recent changes to the NCS. The NIH Director is expected to use this framework to ensure the mission and goals of the NCS are realized to generate the anticipated returns from the years of tax-payer support.

NIH has an on-going workgroup reviewing the NCS that will provide input to the NIH Director who will consider the NCS’s next phase over the coming weeks. In particular, the NIH decision process should ensure full consideration of IOM comments prior to any changes. The NIH Director is to provide the House and Senate Appropriations Committees, within 90 days of enactment, a detailed report and plan about the actions taken, decision making process, options under consideration, and other similar structural issues identified by the IOM.

*Nurturing Talent and Innovation in Research.*—The agreement understands that NIDA is considering a new kind of award, which would blend NIH’s Pioneer and new innovator award mechanisms. The agreement requests that NIH provide the data used to develop this approach, the expected outcome measures for this mechanism, and annual updates on the progress related to the measures prior to any forward movement on this approach.

*Office of the Director.*—The agreement encourages the NIH Director to ensure all ICs continue to support the pathways to independence program, which provides new investigators with mentored grants that convert into independent research project grants. In addition, the agreement continues to support new innovator awards, pioneer awards, and the transformative R01 program through the Common Fund. The agreement has provided bill language for specific funds authorized by the recently enacted Kids First Act within the Common Fund to support the first year of the 10-year Pediatric Research Initiative.

*Pediatric Cancer.*—The agreement understands NCI reduced support for some pediatric cancer clinical trials. The agreement requests an update in the fiscal year 2016 budget request with a summary of all pediatric cancer activity supported in fiscal years 2013, 2014, and 2015 estimate. Further, the agreement expects NIH to review how it can use the Cures Acceleration Network (CAN) activity and funds to develop regulatory and other tools that can be used to accelerate the development of pediatric drugs.

*Pilot on Third Party Collections.*—The agreement understands from NIH that it determined, after much effort that it could not effectively implement the 3rd party collections pilot. Thus, the agreement deletes the 3rd party collections language that appeared in prior appropriations bills.

*Prioritization of Funding.*—NIH is expected to prioritize Federal funds for medical research over outreach and education. The agreement expects NIH to distribute grant funding in the spirit of its long-standing reputation as a meritocracy, basing eligibility requirements on the merit of the researchers’ ideas and productivity, with no discriminatory review requirements, and supporting both research institutes and team-based research.

*Quarterly Updates of NIH Operating Plans.*—The agreement acknowledges the IC mechanism tables serve as the NIH operating plans for available resources and directs NIH to provide quarterly updates of these plans to the Appropriations Committees of the House and Senate.

*Rehabilitation Research.*—The agreement expects the NIH Rehabilitation Coordinating Committee (NIH RCC) to host a trans-NIH State of the Science Conference on Medical Rehabilitation Research, develop and regularly update a trans-NIH plan for medical rehabilitation science, and better coordinate the grants to adhere to the definition of rehabilitation research recommended by the Blue Ribbon Panel on Medical Rehabilitation Research. NIH is urged to establish certain benchmarks to assess whether the coordination proposals being implemented are having a positive impact on rehabilitation science at NIH. Finally, the agreement requests the NICHD and the NIH Director receive an annual briefing to discuss progress in rehabilitation research and the level of trans-NIH activity in this area of research.

*Reproducibility of Research Results.*—The agreement expects NIH to stress the importance of experimental rigor and transparency of reporting of research findings in order to enhance the ability of others to replicate them. The agreement concurs in the view that the gold standard of good science is the ability of a lab to reproduce a method and finding and is therefore concerned with reports that so much published biomedical research cannot be easily reproduced. The agreement expects that NIH will develop incentives for scientists to undertake confirmation studies, best practice guidelines that would facilitate the conduct of replicable research and guidelines to encourage research transparency in the reporting of methods and findings. In addition, the agreement expects an NIH-wide policy and trans-NIH oversight to address the replication concerns. The agreement requests an update in the fiscal year 2016 budget request on the activities NIH has on-going toward this effort, the annual measure and amount of resources spent or estimated each year toward this effort.

*Science, Technology, Education and Mathematics (STEM).*—The President’s fiscal year 2015 budget recommends eliminating several STEM programs at the NIH as part of a government-wide consolidation of STEM education activities. The proposed STEM consolidation would affect NIAID Science Education Awards, NIDA Science Education Drug Abuse Partnership Award, NIEHS Short Term Education Experience for Research, and NINDS Diversity Research Education Grants in Neuroscience. NIH is directed to continue funding these programs in fiscal year 2015 and sufficient funding is provided to do so.

*Study Sections Pediatric Expertise.*—The agreement recognizes the importance of having experts in pediatric cancer serve on study sections that review pediatric cancer applications to provide a better understanding of the value and implication of pediatric cancer research proposals. The agreement expects NIH to ensure that when study sections are reviewing pediatric research applications they have permanent or ad hoc members who are experts in the field as part of the review.

*Transforming Basic Science to Preventive Medicine through Technology.*—The agreement requests NIH to develop an NIH-wide approach (including all ICs) to rapidly improve the speed and validity of personalized

preventative medicine through the convergence of technology and biomedical science. The agreement requests NIH hold a joint forum with these types of industries, academic engineers, and appropriate biomedical research organizations to develop a range of potential scientific questions, capabilities, gaps, and related biomedical scientific constraints.

**Undiagnosed Disease Program.**—The agreement encourages NIH to create a public/private partnership for the Undiagnosed Disease Network (UDN) similar to other partnerships NIH has fostered with other entities. The partnership should include how the UDN can support physicians who are handling cases of undiagnosed diseases with new knowledge, consistent with applicable privacy laws, including HIPAA privacy and security law, through an ability to search for similar cases and to network and collaborate with physicians handling similar cases in order to accelerate the diagnosis, treatment options, and improve patient outcomes across the country. The agreement expects NIH to fully leverage the public/private partnership with other federal research agencies to facilitate even earlier recognition and improved treatment options of undiagnosed symptoms and diseases across the country.

**Women's Health Research.**—The agreement notes the recent 25th anniversary of the NIH's Office of Research on Women's Health. This office was authorized by Congress to correct the gender imbalance of research and highlight the importance of women's health issues to the larger scientific community. The agreement congratulates the office on its longevity and success. In that vein, the agreement supports NIH's recent shift toward achieving balance between females and males in pre-clinical research and encourages the NIH to ensure this applies to experimental models used for basic science research and that both males and females are utilized to investigate diseases that affect men and women. It is recommended that the NIH expand its current policies to require NIH funded investigators to prominently indicate the sex of their experimental model in their grant application and progress reports. Further, those investigators studying both sexes, should be required to report, and when appropriate, analyze their data by sex as part of grant progress reporting to the Agency. The same should be encouraged in all published results resulting from NIH funding. When it is unknown what proportions of women and men are affected by a specific disease, NIH is encouraged to require investigators to utilize valid experimental design including consideration of sex as a biological variable in relevant research on animals, cells, and human subjects, as scientifically appropriate.

The agreement recognizes NIH's efforts to include female participants in all phases of pre-clinical and clinical trials, as scientifically appropriate. The agreement also supports requiring investigators to analyze study results by sex/gender and minority subpopulations as appropriate, based on the scope of the research. Proposals that include adequate numbers of women and men and include a robust plan for analysis, publication, and distribution of findings should be given priority in funding decisions, when appropriate.

NIH is directed to include in their biannual report the proportion of women and minorities as subjects in clinical research participant enrollment by trial phase and in all studies of human subjects. The NIH is also directed to report on preclinical research in

terms of the proportion of studies that incorporate sex as a biological variable and of those studies which analyze data by sex as part of grant review, award, and oversight processes and this data should be reported by Institute and Center across the Agency.

The National Library of Medicine is urged to implement changes to Clinicaltrials.gov that will require users to input the number of participants that drop out of trials and break those participants out by sex/gender and race.

**Valley Fever.**—The agreement acknowledges the joint NIH and CDC efforts to combat coccidioidomycosis, also known as Valley Fever. Specifically, the agreement supports ongoing efforts by NIH and CDC to develop a Randomized Controlled Trial (RCT) to identify an effective treatment for coccidioidomycosis, develop a vaccine, and increase awareness of this disease among medical professionals and the public, which can help with early diagnosis and treatments to reduce the length and severity of this disease. The agreement encourages NIH and CDC to work with relevant experts in coccidioidomycosis endemic areas to consider RCT activity.

**Young Investigators.**—The agreement requests NIH review the grant success rates for early stage investigators in their first two grant submissions to consider whether the grant applications submitted by all early stage investigators, regardless of whether they successfully achieved their first submission, should compete against other early stage investigators instead of all submissions as a whole.

In particular, the agreement continues to support NIH biomedical research activities in the following areas and requests an update for each listed disease, condition, or topic in the fiscal year 2016 budget request to describe the latest efforts ongoing and planned for the fiscal year 2016 request:

Amyloidosis; Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis; Angelman syndrome; ARV based microbicides; Autism; autoimmune diseases; behavioral research and cancer; biomarkers; botanical products to treat cancer; Brain Research through Advancing Innovative Neurotechnologies initiative; breast cancer screenings; chemical risk assessments; chromosome abnormalities; chronic constipation; chronic overlapping pain conditions; chronic pelvic pain; chronic obstructive pulmonary disease; congenital heart disease; contraception research and development; cures related to blindness-inducing illnesses; Cystic Fibrosis; diabetes; diabetes-related kidney disease; DPCPSI portfolio analysis NIH-wide policies; drug rescue and repurposing; Duchenne muscular dystrophy; The Entrepreneurs-in-Residence initiative; fiscal management; focal gastric cancer; Fragile X research; gastrointestinal cancer; global health technologies; health disparities in children and adolescents; Healthy Homes; Hepatitis B; heterotaxy research; high risk and high reward research; human placenta project; implementation of CTSA IOM recommendations; implementation of the Recalcitrant Cancer Research Act; inflammatory bowel disease; information technology related to behavioral risk factors for cancer; infusion pumps; interstitial cystitis; Jackson Heart Study; Kennedy's disease; liver cancer; lower life expectancy; Lupus;

Lymphangioleiomyomatosis; Malaria and neglected tropical diseases; marijuana research; maternal morbidity; medications in pregnancy; metastasis genetics; minority participation in clinical trials; mitochondrial disease; multiple sclerosis;

National Pediatric Research Network Act; Nephrotic syndrome; Neurofibromatosis; Network for Excellence in Neuroscience Clinical Trials; non-small lung cancer; opioid drug abuse; ovarian cancer; palliative care; pancreatic cancer; pediatric low grade astrocytoma research; pediatric kidney disease; performance measures for each NCATS program, project, or activity; precision medicine; preterm birth; psychosocial distress complications; psychotropic medications and children; rare bone diseases; research centers in minority institutions; research focused on drug abuse in veterans; segmental glomerulosclerosis; scleroderma; Sickle Cell disease; sleep disorders; Spina Bifida; spinal muscular atrophy; stroke; telemedicine; temporomandibular disorders; training and career development for clinical investigators ("K" and "T" Awards); translational research results and expenditures since FY 2013; trans-NIH basic behavioral and social science opportunity network; type 1 diabetes; universal flu vaccine; Usher Syndrome; vision research relating to "Regenerating Neurons and Neural Connections in the Eye and Visual System"; and Wilms tumor.

#### SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

The agreement continues bill language directing the Administrator of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) to exempt the Mental Health Block Grant and the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant from being used as a source for the PHS evaluation set-aside in fiscal year 2015, as was done prior to fiscal year 2012.

#### MENTAL HEALTH

Within the total provided for Mental Health Programs of Regional and National Significance, the agreement includes the following amounts:

Budget Activity	FY 2015 Agreement
Capacity:	
Seclusion & Restraint .....	\$1,147,000
Youth Violence Prevention .....	23,099,000
Project Aware State Grants .....	39,902,000
Mental Health First Aid .....	14,963,000
Healthy Transitions .....	19,951,000
National Traumatic Stress Network .....	45,887,000
Children and Family Programs .....	6,458,000
Consumer and Family Network Grants .....	4,954,000
MH System Transformation and Health Reform .....	3,779,000
Project LAUNCH .....	34,555,000
Primary and Behavioral Health Care Integration .....	49,877,000
National Strategy for Suicide Prevention .....	2,000,000
Suicide Lifeline .....	7,198,000
GLS—Youth Suicide Prevention—States .....	35,427,000
GLS—Youth Suicide Prevention—Campus .....	6,488,000
AI/AN Suicide Prevention Initiative .....	2,931,000
Homelessness Prevention Programs .....	30,696,000
Minority AIDS .....	9,224,000
Criminal and Juvenile Justice Programs .....	4,269,000
Tribal Behavioral Health Grants .....	4,988,000
Science and Service:	
GLS—Suicide Prevention Resource Center .....	5,988,000
Consumer & Consumer Support T.A. Centers .....	1,918,000
Primary/Behavioral Health Integration T.A. .....	1,991,000
Minority Fellowship Program .....	8,059,000
Disaster Response .....	1,953,000
Homelessness .....	2,296,000
HIV/AIDS Education .....	771,000

**Access to Mental Health Services for Veterans.**—Many localities have successfully used customized web portals to assist veterans struggling with mental health and substance abuse issues. SAMHSA is encouraged to promote locally-customized web portals in order to expand their use nationwide.

**Primary and Behavioral Healthcare Integration.**—The agreement directs SAMHSA to ensure that new Integration grants awarded for fiscal year 2015 are funded under the authorities in section 520K of the PHS Act.

**Community Mental Health Services Block Grant.**—The agreement continues bill language from last year requiring that at least



5 percent of the funds for the Mental Health Block Grant program be set-aside for evidence-based programs that address the needs of individuals with early serious mental illness, including psychotic disorders. SAMHSA is expected to continue its collaboration with NIMH to ensure that funds from this set-aside are used only for programs showing strong evidence of effectiveness.

**Children's Mental Health Services.**—The agreement includes bill language requested by the administration allowing SAMHSA to provide technical assistance to communities wanting to establish comprehensive children's mental health services even if they are not current grantees. The authorization currently limits the provision of technical assistance by SAMHSA only to current grantees.

#### SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT

Within the total provided for Substance Abuse Treatment Programs of Regional and National Significance, the agreement includes the following amounts:

Budget Activity	FY15 Agreement
Capacity:	
Opioid Treatment Programs/Regulatory Activities ..	\$8,724,000
Screening, Brief Intervention, Referral, and Treatment ..	44,889,000
PHS Evaluation Funds ..	2,000,000
TCE.—General ..	23,223,000
Pregnant & Postpartum Women ..	15,931,000
Strengthening Treatment Access and Retention ..	1,000,000
Recovery Community Services Program ..	2,434,000
Access to Recovery ..	38,223,000
Children and Families ..	29,605,000
Treatment Systems for Homeless ..	41,386,000
Minority AIDS ..	65,570,000
Criminal Justice Activities ..	78,000,000
Science and Service:	
Addiction Technology Transfer Centers ..	9,046,000
Minority Fellowship Program ..	2,539,000
Special Initiatives/Outreach ..	1,432,000

**Addiction Technology Transfer Centers (ATTC).**—The agreement rejects the administration request to reduce funding for the ATTCs. SAMHSA is directed to ensure that ATTCs maintain a primary focus on addiction treatment and recovery services.

**Criminal Justice Activities.**—The agreement provides \$78,000,000 for Criminal Justice Activities and directs that no less than \$50,000,000 will be used exclusively for Drug Court activities. SAMHSA is directed to ensure that all Drug Treatment Court funding is allocated to serve people diagnosed with a substance use disorder as their primary condition. SAMHSA is further directed to ensure that all drug treatment court grant recipients work directly with the corresponding State substance abuse agency in the planning, implementation, and evaluation of the grant. SAMHSA is further directed to expand training and technical assistance to drug treatment court grant recipients to ensure evidence-based practices are fully implemented.

SAMHSA is directed to make Criminal Justice funding available for competitive grants to community-based providers through the Offender Reentry Program to implement overdose prevention programs for incarcerated and recently released individuals. The Administrator is directed to ensure an equitable amount of grant opportunities are available to grantees that serve those currently in custody, prior to release from incarceration, and continue for at least two months post-release into community-based services as part of a transition plan. Overdose prevention programs should include an educational component that includes SAMHSA's Opioid Overdose Prevention Toolkit. Additionally, grant award decisions should give particular weight to overdose

prevention programs that collaborate with community corrections and law enforcement entities as well as judges.

**Adult Behavioral Health Court Collaborative.**—SAMHSA is directed to provide a briefing within 30 days of enactment to explain the basis for awarding Behavioral Health Court Collaborative grants. There are concerns that such awards may not be based primarily on factors that demonstrate the effectiveness of these grants.

**Opioid Treatment Education and Training Programs.**—The agreement reflects concern that the United States has seen a 500 percent increase in admissions to treatment for prescription drug abuse since 2000. Further, according to a recent study, 37 States saw an increase in admissions to treatment for heroin dependence during the past 2 years. To address the ongoing opioid crisis, SAMHSA is directed to update all of its professional education and training programs for opioid treatment programs (OTPs), office-based opioid treatment programs (OBOTs) and other addiction treatment settings, such that evidence-based innovations in counseling, recovery support, and abstinence-based relapse prevention medication assisted treatments, are fully incorporated.

**Prescription Drug and Heroin Treatment.**—Of the amount provided for Targeted Capacity Expansion, the agreement includes \$12,000,000 for discretionary grants to States for the purpose of expanding treatment services to those with heroin or opioid dependence. The agreement directs CSAT to ensure that these grants include as an allowable use the support of medication assisted treatment and other clinically appropriate services. These grants should be made available to States with the highest rates of primary treatment admissions for heroin and opiates per capita, and should target those States that have demonstrated a dramatic increase in admissions for the treatment of opiates and heroin in recent years.

**Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT).**—SAMHSA is directed to ensure that funds provided for SBIRT are used for existing evidence-based models of providing early intervention and treatment services to those at risk of developing substance abuse disorders.

**Overdose Fatality Prevention.**—The agreement reflects strong concerns about the increasing number of unintentional overdose deaths attributable to prescription and non-prescription opioids. SAMHSA is urged to take steps to encourage and support the use of Substance Abuse and Prevention Block Grant funds for opioid safety education and training, including initiatives that improve access for licensed healthcare professionals, to include paramedics, to emergency devices used to rapidly reverse the effects of opioid overdoses. Such initiatives should incorporate robust evidence-based intervention training, and facilitate linkage to treatment and recovery services.

#### SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION

Within the total provided for Substance Abuse Prevention Programs of Regional and National Significance, the agreement includes the following amounts:

Budget Activity	FY15 Agreement
Capacity:	
Strategic Prevention Framework/Partnerships for Success ..	\$109,484,000
Mandatory Drug Testing ..	4,894,000
Minority AIDS ..	41,205,000
Sober Truth on Preventing Underage Drinking (STOP Act) ..	7,000,000
National Adult-Oriented Media Public Service Campaign ..	1,000,000

Budget Activity	FY15 Agreement
Community-based Coalition Enhancement Grants ..	5,000,000
Intergovernmental Coordinating Committee on the Prevention of Underage Drinking ..	1,000,000
Science and Service:	
Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder ..	1,000,000
Center for the Application of Prevention Technologies ..	7,493,000
Science and Service Program Coordination ..	4,072,000
Minority Fellowship Program ..	71,000

The agreement directs that all of the funding appropriated explicitly for substance abuse prevention purposes both in CSAP's PRNS lines as well as the funding from the 20 percent prevention set-aside in the SAPT Block Grant be used only for bona fide substance abuse prevention programs and not for any other purpose.

**Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant (SPFSIG) and Partnerships for Success.**—The agreement provides \$109,484,000 for the Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant and Partnerships for Success program. These two programs shall continue to focus exclusively on: addressing State- and community-level indicators of alcohol, tobacco, and drug use; targeting and implementing appropriate universal prevention strategies; building infrastructure and capacity; and preventing substance use and abuse.

The agreement does not approve of SAMHSA's proposal to use \$1,500,000 from the SPFSIG to expand the focus of community coalitions to include mental health promotion and mental illness prevention. SAMHSA is directed not to use any SPFSIG funds for this initiative.

**STOP Act.**—SAMHSA is commended for delivering annual reports to Congress that include best practices standards and provide guidance to States regarding underage drinking prevention policies. In recognition of the increasingly strong evidence of a relationship between youth exposure to alcohol marketing and underage drinking, SAMHSA is urged to add to its data collection activities monitoring and reporting of State laws and regulations that address alcohol marketing targeting young people, including but not limited to: sponsorships of family events, marketing on college campuses, and signage in locales where children are likely to be present. SAMHSA is also encouraged to initiate a dissemination program to alert community coalitions, policy makers, researchers, and other interested parties to the findings and resources found in the reports to Congress, working collaboratively with STOP Act Drug Free Community coalition grantees. All funds appropriated for STOP Act community based coalition enhancement grants shall be used for making grants to eligible communities and not for any other purposes or activities.

#### HEALTH SURVEILLANCE AND PROGRAM SUPPORT

Within the total provided for health surveillance and program support, the agreement includes the following amounts:

Budget Activity	FY15 Agreement
Health Surveillance ..	\$16,830,000
PHS Evaluation Fund ..	30,428,000
Program Management ..	72,002,000
Behavioral Health Workforce ..	35,000,000
Public Awareness and Support ..	13,482,000
Performance and Quality Info. Systems ..	12,918,000
Behavioral Health Workforce Data ..	0
PHS Evaluation Fund ..	1,000,000

The agreement includes bill language requested by the administration to allow funds tapped for emergency response grants, as authorized by section 501(m) of the PHS Act, to

be available for an additional year. SAMHSA shall provide a report within 90 days of enactment on its use of this authority for the past 5 years, which should include the amount of funds tapped from programs and the amount lapsing at the end of the year.

The agreement notes that SAMHSA is taking steps to change the platforms used to collect data describing outcomes associated with substance abuse grants and mental health grants. Any data collection effort must reflect the fact that mental illness and addiction are two separate and unique diseases requiring different data elements to accurately assess program performance. SAMHSA is directed to submit a report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations by March 31, 2015, describing any changes made to date; any plans for additional changes to data platforms; the reasons behind the changes; and the process by which input has been, or is being, sought regarding any proposed changes.

The agreement includes \$1,000,000 for the Behavioral Health Minimum Data Set, which will develop consistent data collection methods to identify and track behavioral health workforce needs.

#### AGENCY FOR HEALTHCARE RESEARCH AND QUALITY

##### HEALTHCARE RESEARCH AND QUALITY

The agreement provides \$363,698,000 for the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ).

Within the total for Health Costs, Quality, and Outcomes, the agreement includes the following amounts:

Budget Activity	FY 2015 Agreement
Patient-Centered Health Research .....	\$0
Prevention/Care Management .....	11,590,000
Value .....	0
Health Information Technology (IT) .....	28,170,000
Patient Safety Research .....	76,584,000
Healthcare Delivery Systems .....	10,000,000
Crosscutting Activities Related to Quality, Effectiveness and Efficiency Research .....	112,207,000
Investigator-Initiated Research Grants .....	45,882,000
MEPS .....	65,447,000
Program Management .....	69,700,000

The agreement expects AHRQ to focus its research on its traditional mission, such as improving patient safety and preventing healthcare associated infections.

**Health IT.**—The agreement continues to fund research on safe health IT practices specifically related to the design, implementation, usability, and safe use of health IT systems.

**Healthcare Delivery Systems.**—The agreement includes a \$5,000,000 increase for Healthcare Delivery Systems grants, or “patient safety learning labs.” This funding supports a systems model approach to patient safety issues in order to identify interrelated threats, generate new ways of thinking about these threats, and establish new environments conducive to brainstorming and rapid prototyping techniques.

**Investigator-Initiated Research.**—The agreement provides support for investigator-initiated research at the same level provided in fiscal year 2014. Investigator-initiated research should not be targeted to any specific area of health services research so as to generate the best unsolicited ideas from the research community about a wide variety of topics. For this reason the agreement rejects the administration’s request to target \$15,000,000 of the investigator-initiated grants to health economics. No funds are included for this purpose.

#### CENTERS FOR MEDICARE AND MEDICAID SERVICES

##### PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

The agreement includes \$3,669,744,000 for the Program Management account to support a broad range of activities including claims processing and program safeguard activities performed by Medicare contractors.

**Access to Home Health Care.**—The agreement requests that in the fiscal year 2016 budget request, CMS quantify and explain how the policy directing physicians to conduct face-to-face certifications for home health care has prevented fraud, increased access to health care, and impacted costs to the Medicare and Medicaid programs. The agreement requests that CMS include in the budget request how provider documentation for face-to-face encounters can be simplified. In addition, CMS should provide a public analysis related to rebasing Medicare home health agencies within 90 days of enactment of this act.

**Budget Request.**—The CMS is expected to provide the detailed plans for all of the agency’s mandatory and discretionary resources. The CMS tables should include the prior year actual, current year request level, current year actual (based on the operating plan) and budget request year level. Further, include a description in the fiscal year 2016 budget request on the CMS fiscal management processes.

**Congressional Notice.**—CMS has not been providing congressional notification on issues of importance to the Committees, such as ACA innovation grants and Health Insurance Marketplace enrollment figures. These notifications often are provided to organizations and the media prior to notification to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations, and in some cases without any notification provided to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations. CMS is directed to notify the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations not less than one full business day before ACA-related data and grant opportunities are released by the Department.

**CMS Test Environment for Testing Industry Solutions.**—The agreement requests an update in the fiscal year 2016 budget request on how CMS is making users aware of this IT solution test space.

**Critical Access Hospitals (CAH).**—The agreement continues to be concerned about the proposal to eliminate CAH status from facilities located less than 10 miles from another hospital as this would require individuals to travel long distances to access proper care and would fail to consider whether nearby hospitals are capable of providing the services that would be lost if a CAH is closed as a result of losing its designation. It would also cause individuals to delay seeking medical treatment and preventive care. The agreement requests that CMS provide a report within 90 days of enactment of this act to the appropriate Committees of the House and Senate on how this proposal is expected to impact access to services in rural communities, including the analysis and criteria.

**Demonstration of Part C and D Update.**—The agreement requests CMS provide an update in the fiscal year 2016 budget request on demonstrations related to parts C and D. It should specifically include evaluations that examine the advantages and disadvantages of the service area of such plans that may impact senior housing options in a given geographical area.

**Dialysis Facilities.**—The agreement notes that dialysis facilities and manufacturers may be receiving contradictory guidance

from State surveyors regarding conditions for coverage. CMS is directed to review this issue and take appropriate corrective actions as needed.

**Emergency Preparedness Plans.**—The agreement encourages CMS to partner with the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response as the Department moves forward on a rule to require emergency preparedness planning for all Medicare and Medicaid providers.

**Enteral Nutrition.**—In 2004, CMS concluded in a report to Congress that enteral nutrition formulas and supplies were not well suited for competitive acquisition. CMS is directed to submit a report within 90 days after enactment of this act that assesses the impact of the program on changes in treatment patterns of enteral nutrition patients residing in skilled nursing facilities, nursing facilities, and intermediate care facilities, including the impact on the patient’s health, whether access has been reduced, and if costs have increased due to new suppliers unfamiliar with the clinical demands associated with such care.

**Fraud, Waste, and Abuse.**—The agreement requests an update in the fiscal year 2016 budget request on CMS’ process, across all operations, to ensure CMS maintains a focus on preventing improper payments and paying claims right the first time. The update shall include a proposal to measure prevention as opposed to typical “pay and chase” measures reported by CMS. Further, CMS is directed to increase its collaboration with the HHS OIG on the oversight of ACA-related contracts to ensure all contract recipients meet their performance obligations and are held accountable for any actions not in accordance to the contract. The agreement requests a report no later than 90 days after enactment of this act describing the current oversight measures in place for contracts awarded by CMS, including the recourse available in the event that an organization fails to meet its contractual obligations.

**Health Insurance Marketplace Transparency.**—The agreement includes modified bill language in section 226 that requires CMS to provide cost information for the following categories: Federal Payroll and Other Administrative Costs; Marketplace related Information Technology (IT); Non IT Program Costs, including Health Plan Benefit and Rate Review, Marketplace Oversight, Payment and Financial Management, Eligibility and Enrollment; Consumer Information and Outreach, including the Call Center, Navigator Grants and Consumer Education and Outreach; Marketplace Quality Review; Small Business Health Options Program and Employer Activities; and Other Marketplace Activities. Cost information should be provided for each fiscal year since the enactment of Public Law 111-148. CMS is also required to include the estimated costs for fiscal year 2016.

**Hepatitis C.**—The agreement encourages CMS to consider the prevalence of chronic viral hepatitis among beneficiaries and the cost of providing care to those who are in the late stages of this disease. The agreement encourages CMS to educate Medicare beneficiaries and healthcare providers about hepatitis C and the need for screening while identifying opportunities to improve the quality of treatments and services.

**Implantable Pain Pumps.**—For 20 years, both pharmacies and providers have billed Medicare directly for patient-specific Part B drugs prescribed by providers and used for certain implantable pain pumps. The agreement encourages CMS to review their technical billing change made in 2013 whereby



only providers could bill CMS for these Part B drugs, so that patient access to these medications will not be restricted in States where State law prohibits pharmacies from selling these medications to providers who directly bill CMS.

**Indian Eligibility.**—The agreement directs CMS to work with the Internal Revenue Service to review federal regulations under their respective jurisdictions to determine who is eligible as an Indian for the benefits and protections provided to Indians. The agreement directs CMS to submit a report with the agency's findings to the Senate and House Appropriations Committees within 180 days of enactment of this act.

**Medicaid Authority.**—CMS is strongly urged to continue any hospital pool payment authorities granted under Sec. 1115 of the Social Security Act on the same terms and conditions as the authorities currently apply to the demonstration project for states not provided a disproportionate share hospital allotment by law.

**Medicare Star Quality Rating System's (Stars).**—The agreement requests CMS provide an update on the status of implementing the changes to the Stars methodology in the fiscal year 2016 budget request.

**Physician Fee Schedule.**—The agreement is concerned that CMS has not provided adequate opportunity for public comment on changes to surgical procedures described in the annual Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (MPFS) final rules, and is concerned appropriate methodology has not been tested to ensure no negative impact on patient care, patient access, and undue administrative burdens are not placed on providers and CMS. The agreement believes additional consideration should be given to these changes prior to implementation of changes outlined in the MPFS.

**Provider Nondiscrimination.**—The fiscal year 2014 omnibus directed HHS to correct the 2013 FAQ on Section 2706 of the ACA to reflect the law and congressional intent; CMS has not complied with this directive. CMS is directed to provide a corrected FAQ by March 3, 2016 or an explanation for ignoring congressional intent.

**Ophthalmology.**—The agreement directs CMS to review its current policy regarding awarding in-patient hospital status for the purpose of Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement for specialty eye hospitals and report to the Senate and House Appropriations Committees on results of the review within 180 days of enactment of this act.

**Outpatient Drug Dispensing.**—The agreement directs the Administrator of CMS to develop additional proposals designed to encourage short-cycle dispensing of outpatient prescription drugs in long-term care facilities and investigate the effects of dispensing fee changes on cost savings in the short-cycle dispensing program. These proposals should be submitted to the Senate and House Appropriations Committees no later than 90 days after enactment of this act.

**Recovery Audit Contractors (RACs).**—Unintended consequences of RAC audits can reduce patient access to care and jeopardize the economic viability of critical health care providers. The Office of Medicare Hearings and Appeals (OMHA) has a backlog of nearly 750,000 appeals. The length of time to resolve an appeal, including OMHA's assignment of an Administrative Law Judge, can take over five years. CMS has an obligation to find a reasonable balance to eliminate true fraud and abuse while not slowing payment to the majority of honest providers that are negatively impacted by the RAC process. CMS is

directed to educate providers on how to reduce errors, develop procedures to reduce the OMHA backlog; and establish a process that provides educational feedback from the OMHA to CMS and RAC contractors to reduce the identification of claims that are likely to be overturned once elevated to the OMHA. The fiscal year 2016 budget request shall include a timeline, milestones, and measurable goals to address these concerns with the RACs to reduce the appeals backlog. The budget request for fiscal year 2016, and subsequent years, shall include an actuarial estimate on the amount of improper payments, actual and estimated recoveries by year with percentage of recovered payments. CMS is directed to submit a report to the appropriate committees of the House and Senate, within 180 days of enactment, on the cross-agency working group reviewing the Medicare appeals process and its recommendations. The report should include the agency's strategy to analyze and improve the entire appeals process, as well as areas related to Medicare audit contractors' quality of medical reviews; proposed statutory challenges; timeline and strategy to eliminate the backlog; steps to address the high overturn rates at OMHA; and steps to improve stakeholder confidence that Medicare policies are interpreted consistently and transparently throughout the system.

**Rehabilitation Innovation Centers.**—Comprehensive rehabilitation research centers in the United States serve a unique role in complex fields such as brain injury, strokes, multiple traumas, and wartime injuries. Given the high volume of Medicare and Medicaid patients served by these centers, HHS is urged to evaluate the current prospective payment rate with the goal of maintaining these centers of excellence and continuing the high quality of care provided by these centers.

**Risk Corridor Program.**—In 2014, HHS issued a regulation stating that the risk corridor program will be budget neutral, meaning that the federal government will never pay out more than it collects from issuers over the three year period risk corridors are in effect. The agreement includes new bill language to prevent the CMS Program Management appropriation account from being used to support risk corridors payments.

**Ventricular Assist Devices.**—The agreement is concerned with the Medicare National Coverage Analysis for Ventricular Assist Devices for Bridge-to-Transplant and Destination Therapy (CAG-00432R), Decision Memo dated October 30, 2013. CMS is encouraged to review the decision, and upon receipt of appropriate new evidence, to consider whether to cover ventricular assist devices for 1) individuals who are undergoing an evaluation to determine candidacy for heart transplantation; and 2) individuals who would be potential heart transplant candidates, but are not eligible because of a contraindication that may be favorably modified by the use of a ventricular assist device.

#### HEALTH CARE FRAUD AND ABUSE CONTROL ACCOUNT

The agreement includes \$672,000,000, to be transferred from the Medicare trust funds, for Health Care Fraud and Abuse Control activities. This includes a base amount of \$311,000,000 and an additional \$361,000,000 through a budget cap adjustment authorized by section 251(b) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

#### ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

**Technical assistance, training, and monitoring.**—The director of the Office of Commu-

nity Services should ensure that funds provided for training and technical assistance are provided to organizations with significant expertise working with State, tribal, and local home energy assistance programs.

#### REFUGEE AND ENTRANT ASSISTANCE

**Refugee Social Services.**—In allocating social services funding to States, the director of Office of Refugee Resettlement should account for secondary migration of refugees to ensure, to the greatest extent practicable, that funding is allocated based on the total need for such services in the State, and the total number of eligible refugees living in that State. The director should work with national resettlement agencies, State refugee coordinators, and other organizations to determine ways to improve data collection on secondary migration, and the mental and physical health care and housing needs of refugees. Finally, the director should also provide guidance to national resettlement agencies and State refugee coordinators on how to best consult with local stakeholders in the refugee resettlement process.

#### PAYMENTS TO STATES FOR THE CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT

**State plan requirements.**—In submitting plans under section 658E of the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) Act, States shall include an assurance that CCDBG Act funds received by the State will not be used to develop or implement an assessment for children that will be the primary or sole basis for a child care provider being determined to be ineligible to participate in the program.

#### CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SERVICES

**Head Start Designation Renewal System.**—The agreement continues to encourage HHS to consider the unique challenges faced by Head Start providers in remote and frontier areas when reviewing grantees as part of the Designation Renewal System.

**Child Abuse Discretionary Activities.**—The agreement includes funding to continue the Quality Improvement Center for Research-Based Infant-Toddler Court Teams program. These funds support efforts that bring together the court system, child welfare agencies, health professionals, and community leaders to improve current practices in the child welfare system and make better informed decisions on behalf of the child.

**Child Welfare Research, Training and Demonstration.**—The agreement includes funding within this program to resume the National Survey of Child and Adolescent Well-Being.

The Administration for Children and Families is encouraged to continue to work with the Department of Housing and Urban Development to improve the availability and coordination of housing, child welfare, and foster care services for older youth in or aging out of the child welfare and foster care systems.

**Community Services Block Grant (CSBG).**—The Office of Community Services (OCS) is commended for developing additional assessment measures of the CSBG program and management performance at the State, federal and local levels in collaboration with grantees and community action agencies. In addition, the agreement encourages OCS to renew support for implementing a standard of excellence initiative for community action agencies.

The director of OCS should ensure CSBG funding is released to grantees in a timely manner, and instruct grantees to allocate funds to sub-grantees as quickly as reasonably possible. Delays in awarding and distributing these funds can cause unnecessary

hardships on both State and local agencies administering these funds and the individuals they serve.

#### ADMINISTRATION FOR COMMUNITY LIVING AGING AND DISABILITY SERVICES PROGRAMS

The agreement includes a new general provision that supports implementation of section 491 of the WIOA and the transfer of the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research, independent living programs under chapter 1 of title VII of the Rehabilitation Act, and programs under the Assistive Technology Act from the Department of Education to the Department of Health and Human Services.

*Home- and Community-Based Supportive Services.*—ACL is directed to work with States to prioritize innovative service models, like naturally occurring retirement communities, which help older Americans remain independent as they age.

*Elder Rights Support Activities.*—The agreement includes \$7,874,000 for Elder Rights Support Activities, of which \$4,000,000 is included for a new Elder Justice Initiative to provide competitive grants to States to test and evaluate innovative approaches to preventing and responding to elder abuse.

*Aging Network Support Activities.*—The agreement provides \$9,961,000 for Aging Network Support Activities. The agreement includes \$2,500,000 to help provide supportive services for aging Holocaust survivors living in the United States.

*Limb Loss.*—Funding and administrative responsibility for the Limb Loss Program is transferred from CDC to ACL in fiscal year 2015 because the program is better aligned with the ACL mission of increasing the independence and well-being of people with disabilities. ACL is directed to work with CDC on a smooth transition of the program, which ensures that support for current grantees is continued in fiscal year 2015.

*University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD).*—Within the amount appropriated for UCEDD, the agreement provides no less than the fiscal year 2014 level for technical assistance for the UCEDD network.

*Human Services Transportation.*—The agreement includes \$1,000,000 for a competitive grant or contract for the purpose of providing generally available technical assistance to local government and nonprofit transportation providers. This assistance should focus on the most cost-effective ways to provide transportation assistance to all persons of any age with disabilities.

#### OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

##### GENERAL DEPARTMENTAL MANAGEMENT

*Overhead Costs.*—The Department is directed to include in its annual budget justification for fiscal year 2016, the amount of administrative and overhead costs spent by the Department for every major budget line. Beginning in fiscal year 2017, and each year thereafter, the agreement directs the Department to include the amount and percentage of administrative and overhead costs spent by the Department for every program, project and activity.

*Office of Women's Health.*—The agreement includes \$3,100,000 to continue the State partnership initiative to reduce violence against women, which provides funding to state-level public and private health programs to improve healthcare providers' ability to help victims of violence and improve prevention programs.

*Sports-Related Injuries.*—The agreement encourages the Department to investigate the development of new and better standards for

testing sports equipment that is supported through independent research, governance, and industrial independence. These standards should actually replicate on-field impacts and produce testing data for "worst-practical-impact" conditions. Such standards will lead to research and development of new safety equipment to ensure that athletes have state-of-the-art gear that significantly reduces injuries.

*Lupus.*—The agreement includes \$2,000,000 to continue the national health education program on lupus for healthcare providers, with the goal of improving diagnosis for those with lupus and reducing health disparities. The agreement reflects strong support for this program, which is intended to engage healthcare providers, educators, and schools of health professions in working together to improve lupus diagnosis and treatment through education.

*Tribal Lease Agreements.*—The agreement encourages the Secretary to work with tribal governments in recognizing the unique circumstances of Native Americans while maximizing their full participation in Federal programs. Specifically, the Secretary should review issues relating to real property lease agreements when such agreements are "less-than-arm's-length" as defined under the Office of Management and Budget's Circular A-87. The Secretary should work with tribes in resolving such issues in the future.

*Transparency in Health Plans.*—The agreement directs the Secretary to provide additional clarification to qualified health plans, based upon relevant and related GAO findings, to ensure greater consistency and full transparency of coverage options included in health insurance plans prior to plan purchase in the marketplace enrollment process. The agreement requests a timeline for such clarifying guidance to be submitted to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations within 30 days after enactment of this act.

*Seafood Sustainability.*—The agreement prohibits the Department from using or recommending third party, nongovernmental certification for seafood sustainability.

*Healthcare Provider Complaints.*—Legislation appropriating funding for the Department of Health and Human Services has carried a general provision relating to health care providers since fiscal year 2005 (Division H, Section 507(d) of Public Law 113-76). Complaints regarding reported violations of these provisions have been filed with the Office for Civil Rights at the Department of Health and Human Services. The Secretary is directed to respond to these complaints expeditiously in accordance with final rule 45 CFR Part 88 published in Federal Register Vol. 76 No. 36.

*Evaluation Set-Aside.*—The agreement expects that the Department's calculation of the PHS evaluation set-aside will be consistent with that of previous years.

#### OFFICE OF MEDICARE HEARINGS AND APPEALS

*Appeals Backlog.*—The agreement continues to be concerned over the substantial backlog in the number of cases pending before the administrative law judges at the Office of Medicare Hearings and Appeals (OMHA) and the two-year moratorium on assigning new cases. OMHA is directed to use the additional funds provided to address the current backlog and to increase its capacity to process the rising caseload. The agreement requests a report no later than 90 days after enactment of this act describing the plan to resolve the current and future backlog at OMHA.

#### OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL COORDINATOR FOR HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

*Information Blocking.*—The Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC) is urged to use its certification program judiciously in order to ensure certified electronic health record technology (CEHRT) provides value to eligible hospitals, eligible providers and taxpayers. ONC should use its authority to certify only those products that clearly meet current meaningful use program standards and that do not block health information exchange. ONC should take steps to decertify products that proactively block the sharing of information because those practices frustrate congressional intent, devalue taxpayer investments in CEHRT, and make CEHRT less valuable and more burdensome for eligible hospitals and eligible providers to use. The agreement requests a detailed report from ONC no later than 90 days after enactment of this act regarding the extent of the information blocking problem, including an estimate of the number of vendors or eligible hospitals or providers who block information. This detailed report should also include a comprehensive strategy on how to address the information blocking issue.

*Interoperability.*—The agreement directs the Health IT Policy Committee to submit a report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations and the appropriate authorizing committees no later than 12 months after enactment of this act regarding the challenges and barriers to interoperability. The report should cover the technical, operational and financial barriers to interoperability, the role of certification in advancing or hindering interoperability across various providers, as well as any other barriers identified by the Policy Committee.

#### OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

The agreement includes \$71,000,000 for the HHS Office of the Inspector General (OIG) account.

The agreement expects the OIG to improve its annual budget request and looks forward to a revised format with more details and performance measures related to discretionary oversight. Further, the agreement expects the OIG to ensure full oversight of ACA activities are included and described in the fiscal year 2015 work plan. The work plan should provide substantive activity for all HHS operating divisions including the Food and Drug Administration.

*Lobbying.*—The agreement requests an update on how the OIG is working with the HHS agencies to improve monitoring of grantee activities to ensure that no taxpayer resources are used for lobbying.

*Top-25 Unimplemented Recommendations.*—The agreement again requests that within 90 days of enactment the OIG provide a revised top-25 unimplemented recommendations report under the same terms and condition as described in the explanatory statement accompanying the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2014.

*Office for Human Research Protections (OHRP).*—Recent reviews by the OIG raise questions about the independence of the OHRP during the process to make determinations. The agreement requests the OIG conduct a formal review of OHRP procedures and make appropriate recommendations to ensure and strengthen human subjects protections in future research and ensure the independence of OHRP.

*Health Reform Oversight.*—The agreement provides support for oversight activities related to health reform. The OIG is expected to provide a plan of how it will conduct these

oversight activities within 60 days after enactment to the appropriate House of Representatives and Senate Committees.

**Effectiveness of Subsidy Data.**—No later than June 1, 2015, the HHS OIG, in consultation with the Treasury Inspector General, shall submit a report to Congress that assesses Internal Revenue Service procedures to reconcile Advance Premium Tax Credit (APTC) amounts paid to individual taxpayers for health care coverage in Federal and State Health Insurance Exchanges and how HHS uses IRS information to reduce fraud and overpayments.

#### PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES EMERGENCY FUND

The agreement reflects strong support for the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response's (ASPR) International Influenza Vaccine Manufacturing program and includes \$15,000,000 in annual pandemic influenza funding for this purpose. The funding level provided by the agreement reflects a recognition that balances from previous pandemic flu supplemental appropriations remain unobligated and available for use by the Department. The agreement does not support the request to establish a strategic investor program.

**Pandemic Influenza Response Activities.**—The agreement is increasingly concerned about the threat posed to public health by novel influenza strains such as H7N9, which caused an outbreak in 2013. As a result of these potentially devastating outbreaks, the agreement continues to support the goals of protecting the U.S. population from national health security threats posed by pandemic influenza and other new and emerging threats.

**Project BioShield.**—The agreement is committed to ensuring the nation is adequately prepared against chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear attacks. The agreement recognizes a public-private partnership to develop medical countermeasures (MCMs) is required to successfully prepare and defend the nation against these threats as has been demonstrated in the decade since the initiation of the Project BioShield Special Reserve Fund (SRF). Where there is little or no commercial market, the agreement supports the goal of an explicit commitment by the Government to biodefense medical countermeasures, such as was provided during fiscal years 2004–2013 by the initial SRF. Although the agreement cannot provide the authorized 5-year amount of \$2,800,000,000, it continues to support the procurement of MCMs. Further, the agreement requests the agency provide an update in the fiscal year 2016 congressional budget on how it can support training and simulated events to prepare for the coordinated management and utilization of medical countermeasures.

**Spend Plan.**—ASPR has still not provided the 5-year spend plan for the MCM enterprise as referenced in Senate report 113–71, as well as the Explanatory Statement accompanying Public Law 113–76, and as required by Public Law 113–5, the Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness Reauthorization Act of 2013. ASPR is directed to brief the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations within 90 days of enactment on the status of this report and the reasons for the delay in its receipt.

#### GENERAL PROVISIONS

##### PREVENTION AND PUBLIC HEALTH TRANSFER TABLE

The agreement includes a provision that directs the transfer of the Prevention and Public Health (PPH) Fund. In fiscal year

2015, the level appropriated for the fund is \$927,000,000 after accounting for sequestration. The agreement includes bill language in section 219 of this act that requires that funds be transferred within 45 days of enactment of this act to the following accounts, for the following activities, and in the following amounts:

Agency	Budget Activity	FY 2015 Agreement
ACL	Alzheimer's Disease Prevention Education and Outreach .....	\$14,700,000
ACL	Chronic Disease Self Management .....	8,000,000
ACL	Falls Prevention .....	5,000,000
CDC	Breast Feeding Grants (Hospitals Promoting Breastfeeding) .....	8,000,000
CDC	Cancer Prevention & Control .....	104,000,000
CDC	Diabetes .....	73,000,000
CDC	Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity Grants .....	40,000,000
CDC	Healthcare Associated Infections .....	12,000,000
CDC	Heart Disease & Stroke Prevention Program .....	73,000,000
CDC	Million Hearts Program .....	4,000,000
CDC	Nutrition, Physical Activity, & Obesity Base Activities .....	35,000,000
CDC	Office of Smoking and Health .....	110,000,000
CDC	Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grants .....	160,000,000
CDC	Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health (REACH) .....	30,000,000
CDC	Section 317 Immunization Grants .....	210,300,000
CDC	Lead Poisoning Prevention .....	13,000,000
CDC	Workplace Wellness Grants .....	10,000,000
CDC	Early Care Collaboratives ...	4,000,000
SAMHSA	Suicide Prevention (Garrett Lee Smith) .....	12,000,000

The agreement modifies the qualifying recipients of National Research Service Awards funding for research in primary medical care.

The agreement includes a new provision renaming the National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine as the National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health.

The agreement includes a new provision allowing NIH to retain reimbursements for research substances and credit them to NIH Institutes and Centers.

The agreement modifies the provision related to ACA exchange funding transparency.

The agreement includes new bill language to prevent the CMS Program Management appropriation account from being used to support risk corridors payments.

The agreement includes a reauthorization of the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program.

The agreement includes a new provision requiring unused abstinence education funding to be reallocated to qualifying States.

The agreement includes a new provision requiring the NIH Director to prepare and submit an annual independent Alzheimer's budget request directly to Congress.

#### TITLE III—DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION EDUCATION FOR THE DISADVANTAGED

The Department shall continue to use its existing formula in allocating funds to Bureau of Indian Education schools and to follow this practice in any relevant future emergency funding that provides it the same authority and discretion.

With regard to the School Improvement Grants (SIG) program, the Department's proposed implementation of bill language that allows local educational agencies (LEAs) to implement a State-determined school improvement strategy falls short of Congressional intent. Several new bill language pro-

visions provide flexibility from the existing prescriptive SIG requirements, so that LEAs will have the opportunity to implement alternative strategies beyond those previously required by the Department. However, the Department's Notice of Proposed Requirements would require a State-determined intervention strategy to be aligned with turnaround principles, as well as impose seven additional requirements on the State-determined strategy. The Department shall ensure that any Final Requirements for the SIG program strictly adhere to bill language which stipulates that LEAs may implement an alternative State-determined school improvement strategy that has been established by a State educational agency (SEA) with the approval of the Secretary. In addition, not later than 15 days prior to the publication of a Notice Inviting Applications to submit State-determined school improvement strategies, the Department shall brief the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations, Committee on Education and the Workforce, and Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions on the Final Notice Inviting Applications.

#### SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS

The Department should recognize that the roles and responsibilities of principals continue to expand, including the implementation of State-led teacher evaluation systems, college and career-ready standards and new on-line assessments, so they must be afforded specialized opportunities for professional learning and growth targeted to their role as instructional leaders. Therefore, the Department should provide guidance to SEAs on ensuring that sufficient professional development opportunities are provided to principals in order to help them improve instructional leadership capacity.

**Civic Education.**—The agreement includes funding within the SEED program for competitive grants to non-profit organizations with demonstrated effectiveness in the development and implementation of civic learning programs. Priority should be given to applicants that demonstrate innovation, scalability, and a focus on underserved populations, including rural schools and students.

The 21st Century Community Learning Center initiative is the only federal funding source authorized specifically for before-school, afterschool and summer learning programs for students attending high-poverty, low-performing schools. Data demonstrates that quality afterschool programs have a positive impact on a number of measures of student academic achievement, positively affecting behavior and discipline and helping relieve parents' worries about their children's safety during the hours when school is out.

The Department shall conduct a new grant competition in fiscal year 2015 for the Alaska Native Educational Equity Assistance program. Additionally, the Department should continue its efforts to ensure maximum participation of Alaska Native organizations in programs funded under the Alaska Native Education Equity Act, implement statutory requirements that SEAs and LEAs apply in consortia with Alaska Native organizations, ensure that all grantees have meaningful plans for consultation with Alaska Native leaders, and strictly adhere to the programmatic priorities contained in the statute.

#### INNOVATION AND IMPROVEMENT

Within the funds for the Javits Gifted and Talented Students Education program, funds shall be used for projects that build the capacity of elementary and secondary schools

to meet the educational needs of gifted and talented students, a group that includes high achieving students as well as those capable of high achievement. The Department also should continue support to a National Research Center on the Gifted and Talented.

Within the Fund for the Improvement of Education, the agreement includes funding for the following activities in the following amounts:

Budget Activity	FY 2015 Agreement
Arts in Education .....	\$25,000,000
Non-cognitive Skills Initiative .....	2,000,000
Full Service Community Schools .....	10,000,000
Educational Facilities Clearinghouse .....	1,000,000
Preschool development grants .....	250,000,000
Innovative Approaches to Literacy .....	25,000,000
Javits Gifted and Talented Students Education Program .....	10,000,000
Teacher Incentive Fund .....	230,000,000
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>553,000,000</b>

The bill also modifies existing language related to charter school renewals.

In 2012, the Government Accountability Office recommended that an effective and inclusive Early Childhood Education coordinating group could help mitigate early care and education program fragmentation through simplifying children's access to these services, identifying and managing service gaps, meeting data requirements for the coordinated operation and evaluation of these programs, and identifying and minimizing any unwarranted overlap. This effort, along with the review required by section 13 of Public Law 113-186, could also provide a vehicle to conduct a coordinated analysis of child care tax expenditures and program spending. The Departments of Health and Human Services and Education are directed, in consultation with the heads of all federal agencies that administer federal early education and care programs, to provide to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate and relevant authorizing Committees the report on the review of federal early learning and care programs required by section 13 of Public Law 113-186.

The Department is directed to establish an absolute priority in the investing in innovation notice inviting applications for funds available in this act for the implementation of comprehensive high school reform strategies that will increase the number and percentage of students who graduate from high school and enroll in postsecondary education without the need for remediation and with the ability to think critically, solve complex problems, evaluate arguments on the basis of evidence, and communicate effectively. This competition should target schools where not less than 40 percent of the students to be served will be from low-income families as calculated under section 1113 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

#### SPECIAL EDUCATION

The Department should continue to make progress in accessible images, graphics and math, including further research, development, and dissemination of new and emerging platforms and tools for students with disabilities to access images, graphics, math, and chemistry. The Department should also take note of the growing challenge of ensuring accessibility for interactive educational content for students with visual disabilities and the need for useful tools, standards or guidelines in this fast-emerging arena.

#### REHABILITATION SERVICES AND DISABILITY RESEARCH

The agreement continues language allowing excess funds above those requested dur-

ing the reallocation process to support innovative activities aimed at improving outcomes for individuals with disabilities, including activities under the Promoting Readiness of Minors in Supplemental Security Income (PROMISE) program. After covering the continuation costs of PROMISE, the agreement includes VR funds remaining available at the end of fiscal year 2015 to support a new Transition Model System (TMS) that addresses the complex challenges facing youth with disabilities as they transition from school to adult life. The agreement expects that an estimated \$15,000,000 will be needed to support the cost of the 5-year TMS projects. The Department shall notify the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations in advance of announcements related to the initiative.

Access to and knowledge of public transportation—especially in rural areas—is critical for transition-aged youth with disabilities to participate in employment programs and receive services. Given the challenges facing youth with disabilities in accessing reliable public transportation, the Secretary shall collaborate with transit experts on increasing transportation access for transition-aged youth with disabilities when designing and implementing the TMS. Partnerships with local transportation providers to develop transportation education and coordination strategies shall be a strong component of the initiative.

The agreement includes \$1,000,000 in increased funding for Client Assistance State Grants to help transition-aged students with disabilities and persons with disabilities in subminimum wage positions obtain competitive, integrated employment through advocacy and the enforcement of their rights under the Rehabilitation Act.

The agreement includes not less than \$985,000 to continue support for the Parent Information and Training Centers as well as the National Parent Technical Assistance Center.

The agreement includes \$33,000,000 for the Assistive Technology programs. This includes \$25,704,000 for State grant activities authorized under section 4 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; \$4,300,000 for protection and advocacy systems authorized by section 5; and \$996,000 for technical assistance activities authorized under section 6.

The agreement also includes \$2,000,000 within the Assistive Technology program for competitive grants to support alternative financing programs that provide for the purchase of assistive technology devices. The goal in providing these funds is to allow greater access to affordable financing to help people with disabilities purchase the specialized technologies needed to live independently, to succeed at school and work and to otherwise live active and productive lives. Applicants should incorporate credit building activities in their programs, including financial education and information about other possible funding sources. Successful applicants must emphasize consumer choice and control and build programs that will provide financing for the full array of assistive technology devices and services and ensure that all people, regardless of type of disability or health condition, age, level of income and residence have access to the program.

#### SPECIAL INSTITUTIONS FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

The agreement includes \$24,931,000 to support the American Printing House for the Blind, of which \$475,000 is to support the Resources with Enhanced Accessibility for Learning (REAL) plan.

The agreement includes \$67,016,000 for the National Technical Institute for the Deaf. Funding for construction will be considered in the future as needs may warrant.

#### CAREER, TECHNICAL, AND ADULT EDUCATION

The agreement includes \$13,712,000 for adult education national leadership activities, including up to \$3,000,000 for continued support for the reentry education model demonstration initiative.

#### STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The agreement includes \$8,390,000 for the Work Colleges program authorized under section 448 of the HEA from the Federal Work Study appropriation.

The Department is directed to submit a report to the House and Senate Appropriations Committees, no later than 120 days after the enactment of this Act, on enrollment and graduation information for Pell Grant recipients included in the National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS) Enrollment Reporting roster files for the 2013-2014 Pell Grant Award Year. The Department is also directed to continue to provide enrollment and graduation information to the House and Senate Appropriations Committees in the future as more robust and useful information becomes available.

Since Pell Grant recipient enrollment and graduation information was not included in the NSLDS Enrollment Reporting roster files as a separate category for an institution's Pell Grants-only recipients until the 2012-2013 Pell Grant Award Year, it is understood that six year graduation cohort rates will not be available for analysis until 2019. While understanding the limitation of the data, the report should continue to include enrollment and graduation information for Pell Grant recipients by each institution of higher education. The report should also include an updated plan to minimize the burden of recent changes to the NSLDS Enrollment Reporting roster files on institutions of higher education, an updated proposal to improve the tracking of enrollment and graduation rates for students that transfer and nontraditional students, and strategies to increase enrollment and improve graduation rates for Pell Grant recipients.

#### STUDENT AID ADMINISTRATION

The agreement directs the Department to continue to provide quarterly reports detailing its obligation plan by quarter for student aid administrative activities broken out by servicer and activity.

The agreement includes new bill language providing the Department with the authority to administer the Health Education Assistance Loan (HEAL) program, since Public Law 113-76 required HHS to transfer the HEAL program to the Department to improve administrative efficiencies.

The agreement commends the Department for the increased focus it has placed on preventing campus sexual violence. Within the amount for Student Aid Administration, the agreement expects the Department to continue its efforts to prevent sexual violence on campus.

The agreement requests an update on the progress of the interagency task force to ensure oversight of for-profit institutions of higher education in the fiscal year 2016 congressional justification.

The agreement requests that the fiscal year 2016 congressional budget justification include an update on the Department's implementation of the expanded student complaint system detailed in Senate Report 113-71.

In October 2013, the Department announced that the impact of the 7.3 percent reduction

in funds for NFP servicers, pursuant to the mandatory sequester provisions in the Budget Control Act of 2011, prevented the Department from entering into contracts with new not-for-profit (NFP) servicers, including those that had signed memoranda of understanding. The agreement notes that the Department expects to begin the process of re-competing servicing contracts not later than fiscal year 2016. One of the evaluation factors will be the servicers' utilization of small business subcontractors, with the goal of broadening opportunities for new entities to participate in Federal student loan servicing. The agreement directs the Secretary to hold a full and open competition consistent with legal procurement requirements that allows eligible NFP servicers to compete for servicing contracts, including those NFP servicers that were affected by the mandatory sequester.

#### HIGHER EDUCATION

The agreement requests that a report be submitted to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations no later than March 2, 2015, providing the following information about the fiscal year 2014 First in the World competition: number of applicants; number of applicants and awardees that applied under the competitive priority, including how many applicants and awardees each submitted as supporting evidence correlational studies, randomized control trials, or quasi-experimental design studies; analysis of geographic distribution of applicants and awardees; and the number of applicants and awardees that partnered with public and private organizations and agencies as well as a description of the types of partner organizations and agencies.

The agreement includes \$67,775,000 for the Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE). Within the amounts for FIPSE, the agreement includes \$60,000,000 for the First in the World Initiative (FITW). Of the amount recommended for FITW, the agreement includes \$16,000,000 to continue the set-aside for minority-serving institutions, as defined in titles III and V of the HEA.

The agreement includes new bill language allowing up to 2.5 percent of the funds made available for FITW to be used for technical assistance and evaluation. Within the remaining funding for FIPSE, the agreement includes \$2,500,000 for a National Center for Information and Technical Support for Postsecondary Students with Disabilities, as authorized by section 777(a) of the HEA. The agreement also includes \$5,000,000 for the Centers of Excellence for Veteran Student Success program, as authorized by section 873 of the HEA, and \$275,000 for a database contract.

The agreement includes \$11,800,000 for the Model Comprehensive Transition and Postsecondary Programs for Students with Intellectual Disabilities (TPSID). Of that amount, the agreement includes no less than \$2,000,000 to support a national coordinating center to conduct and disseminate research on strategies to promote positive academic, social, employment, and independent living outcomes for students with intellectual disabilities. The coordinating center will establish a comprehensive research and evaluation protocol for TPSID programs; administer a mentoring program matching current and new TPSID grantees based on areas of expertise; and coordinate longitudinal follow-up data collection and technical assistance to TPSID grantees on programmatic components and evidence-based practices. The coordinating center will also provide

technical assistance to build the capacity of K-12 transition services as well as postsecondary education inclusive practices, among other activities.

The agreement recognizes the important role the Jacob K. Javits Fellowship has played in encouraging scholarship in the social sciences and humanities. As the Secretary consults with appropriate agencies and organizations to designate the fields that are considered "areas of national need," the Secretary is strongly encouraged to consider the humanities and social sciences as eligible fields and take into account the extent to which these areas fulfill a compelling national interest during the fiscal year 2015 Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need grant competition.

The agreement supports the Department's effort in developing and testing competency-based education as an alternative method for delivering federal financial aid, including its most recent Experimental Sites Initiative that will provide institutions flexibility in how they provide financial aid to students enrolled in self-paced competency-based education programs. The agreement encourages the Department to continue incentivizing institutions to develop and test this model.

#### INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION SCIENCES

Increased NAEP contract costs and the 2013 sequester led to decisions in 2013 to postpone indefinitely implementation of assessments for 4th and 12th grade students in United States History, Civics and Geography. Previous assessments conducted by the National Assessment Governing Board indicate that fewer than one in four 4th, 8th, and 12th grade students at all grade levels is proficient in United States History. Reducing the frequency of assessments in this area will limit the ability of Congress to track the progress of the American education system in addressing this important problem. At its next scheduled meeting, the National Assessment Governing Board should consider options for implementing assessments in 4th and 12th grade United States History, Civics and Geography and schedule them to be conducted as soon as is feasible.

#### DEPARTMENTAL MANAGEMENT

The GAO shall conduct a study on the use of State, local, Federal, and philanthropic funds to support year-round learning activities. The study should include (1) what is known about LEAs' and SEAs' use of funds to support year-round school calendars; (2) a discussion of barriers, if any, to the use of funds to implement year-round school calendars; and (3) a review of what is known about the effectiveness of summer learning in improving the achievement gap, addressing summer-slide, the propensity of involvement in criminal behavior, and other key challenges facing the Nation's school systems. To address the third objective, the study should include information about evaluations from schools and school districts that have implemented year-round school calendars, to the extent such evaluations are available.

*Vision and Educational Performance.*—According to the NIH, one out of four children in the United States has a vision problem and at least two million schoolchildren start the school year not being able to see clearly. As a result, thousands of schoolchildren from economically disadvantaged families are unable to make the most of their education. Most of these cases of poor vision are due to refractive error and can be easily corrected. The Department of Education is encouraged to consider steps it could take to raise

awareness of the need to identify children with poor vision and promote options for children from low-income families to acquire prescription eyeglasses. These steps could help such children achieve educational performance and future vocational success that otherwise may be hindered due to poor vision.

#### OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS

The agreement includes an increase in the Office for Civil Rights to help ensure that educational institutions are protecting students from sexual violence.

#### GENERAL PROVISIONS

The Secretary, in consultation with the Director of the Institute of Education Sciences, is required to provide the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations, Committee on Education and the Workforce, and Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions an operating plan describing the proposed uses of this evaluation authority as well as the source appropriation for such activities. In addition, not later than 45 days prior to the submission of the required operating plan, the Department shall brief the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations, Committee on Education and the Workforce, and Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions on the programs and activities being considered for inclusion in the plan, how ESEA programs will be regularly evaluated, and how finding of evaluations completed under this section will be widely disseminated. Further, the Secretary and Director shall include in future congressional budget justifications a discussion of the planned use of this authority.

The agreement includes a new provision reinstating student aid eligibility for students enrolled in career pathways programs.

The agreement includes a new provision allowing certain institutions to continue to use endowment income for student scholarships.

The agreement includes a new provision to ensure that TRIO Student Support Services Grants are awarded in a timely manner.

#### TITLE IV—RELATED AGENCIES

##### CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

The agreement rejects the budget request's proposal to restructure the Senior Corps programs, and includes funding for each of the Senior Corps programs at no less than the fiscal year 2014 level.

The agreement includes new bill language to reinforce longstanding policy that a professional corps program may demonstrate an inadequate number of professionals in a community in a number of ways, including a determination of need by the local community. Further, the Corporation for National and Community Service is directed to ensure that any changes in policies regarding professional corps programs operating expenses do not adversely impact the ability of AmeriCorps programs to operate in certain communities. The Corporation should provide AmeriCorps programs the maximum amount of flexibility in demonstrating the importance of these operating costs as part of their grant application to ensure the viability of such programs in all communities.

Consistent with the authorization of the Social Innovation Fund (SIF) in section 198K(e) of the National and Community Service Act of 1990, the Corporation is directed to allow current high-performing SIF grantees to apply for renewal funding to continue implementation and evaluation of their current projects, and to compete for new SIF funding for projects not currently funded by the SIF.

The agreement includes an increase in funding for Innovation, Demonstration, and Other Activities to support national call to service activities, including the September 11th National Day of Service and Remembrance and the Martin Luther King, Jr. National Day of Service.

#### INSTITUTE OF MUSEUM AND LIBRARY SERVICES

Within the total for IMLS, the bill includes funds for the following activities in the following amounts:

Budget Activity	FY15 Agreement
Library Services Technology Act:	
Grants to States .....	\$154,848,000
Native American Library Services .....	3,861,000
National Leadership: Libraries .....	12,200,000
Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian .....	10,000,000
Museum Services Act:	
Museums for America .....	20,200,000
Native American/Hawaiian Museum Services .....	924,000
National Leadership: Museums .....	7,600,000
African American History and Culture Act:	
Museum Grants for African American History & Culture .....	1,407,000
Program Administration .....	16,820,000
Total .....	227,860,000

The agreement includes an increase of \$1,000,000 to assist with relocation costs.

#### MEDICARE PAYMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION

Current law requires the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission (MedPAC) to be comprised of a mix of individuals with expertise in the financing and delivery of healthcare services and have a broad geographic representation, including, but not limited to, those with rural backgrounds and experience. The Government Accountability Office is directed to continue to follow the statute when making appointments to MedPAC.

#### SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY INCOME

*Disability Early Intervention Initiative.*—Within the total for research and demonstration, the agreement includes \$35,000,000 for a disability early intervention initiative. This demonstration project will test innovative and evidence-based approaches to improve outcomes for individuals with disabilities who are not yet receiving Social Security disability benefits, but who are likely to be eligible for benefits in the future, focusing on helping them remain in the workforce. The Social Security Administration (SSA) is directed to work in close consultation with the Departments of Labor, Education, HHS, and other agencies as appropriate, in developing and administering this demonstration project, including determining the appropriate target population and the types of interventions or services to be tested. Prior to issuing a funding opportunity announcement (FOA) for this demonstration project, SSA should publish a detailed executive summary of a proposed FOA, or a draft FOA itself, and allow for public comment by outside organizations. SSA should also ensure that participation in any demonstration is voluntary and that individuals are not required to waive any of their rights under the Social Security Act.

#### LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

*Continuing disability reviews and SSI redeterminations of eligibility.*—The agreement includes a total of \$1,527,000,000 for SSA to conduct continuing disability reviews (CDRs) under the Disability Insurance and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) programs, and redeterminations of eligibility under the SSI

program. This includes \$1,396,000,000 specified to meet the terms of section 251(b)(2)(B)(ii)(III) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act, and \$131,000,000 in additional funding provided under SSA's Limitation on Administrative Expenses (LAE) account. This allocation is consistent with the funding decisions of the agency in recent years but reprioritizes proposed funding to improve basic services to the public. The Commissioner may allocate more or less than \$131,000,000 from SSA's regular LAE account for CDRs and redeterminations but only for reconciling estimated and actual unit costs for conducting such activities, and after notifying the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate at least 15 days prior to any such reallocation. If less funding is allocated for such activities, the funding will be available for regular activities within the LAE account. Finally, the Commissioner is directed to provide in its fiscal year 2016 budget justification a consolidated accounting of total funding spent, or estimated to be spent, on CDRs and redeterminations in the prior year, current year, and budget year.

*Field office closings and consolidations.*—The Commissioner is directed to provide an opportunity for community input and public comment prior to making a decision to permanently close, consolidate, or significantly reduce service hours or services available at any field office. Before deciding to permanently close or consolidate an office, SSA should make detailed information widely available to the public about any proposed closure, including demographic information of the service area affected; distance to other office locations; access to and the availability of public transportation to other office locations; availability of services for people with disabilities, seniors, non-English speakers, and other vulnerable populations living in the impacted area; and any specific plans for SSA to mitigate any burdens on the public from closing the office. Allowing public input in these decisions will help SSA consider even more information about the impact of closing an office on individual communities and improve the overall transparency of these critical decisions. Further, the Commissioner is directed to provide a widely-available public notice no later than 180 days prior to permanently closing, consolidating, or significantly reducing services available at any field office. SSA is directed to brief the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate within 120 days of enactment on how they plan to implement these changes.

*Access and availability of Benefit Verification Letters and SSN printouts.*—The Commissioner is directed, consistent with SSA's current guidance, to continue to make Benefit Verification Letters available upon request at field offices. Reducing the availability of this document at field offices could adversely impact individuals who are required to provide proof of this information for a variety of purposes. SSA should continue to encourage third parties to use existing online tools to verify this same information, and eliminate the need for individuals to provide these documents altogether, but this ultimately relies on third parties to do so. Similarly, the Commissioner is directed to ensure the maximum amount of flexibility in helping individuals verify their SSN through a field office. Individuals need to verify their SSN for a variety of purposes, often for time-sensitive issues where waiting for a replacement SSN card is not possible or practical.

*ANNUAL SOCIAL SECURITY STATEMENTS.*—The agreement includes sufficient resources

for SSA to resume mailing Social Security Statements, and to otherwise increase the number of individuals viewing and receiving their statement annually, in accordance with its plan submitted to Congress in March 2014.

*Work Incentives Planning and Assistance (WIPA) and Protection and Advocacy for Beneficiaries of Social Security (PABSS).*—The agreement includes \$23,000,000 for WIPA and \$7,000,000 for PABSS.

#### TITLE V—GENERAL PROVISIONS

The agreement modifies the general provision related to Performance Partnerships Pilot.

The agreement includes a new general provision that supports implementation of section 491 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act and the transfer of the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research, independent living programs under chapter 1 of title VII of the Rehabilitation Act, and programs under the Assistive Technology Act from the Department of Education to the Department of Health and Human Services.

The agreement prohibits funding from going to the Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now (ACORN), or any of its affiliates, subsidiaries, allied organizations, or successors.

#### TITLE VI—EBOLA RESPONSE AND PREPAREDNESS

The agreement provides \$2,742,000,000 across the various accounts of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to support Ebola activities. Within the total for Ebola Response, the agreement includes the following amounts:

Budget Activity	FY 2015 Agreement
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Domestic Ebola Response:	
Public Health Emergency Preparedness .....	\$155,000,000
State and Local .....	255,000,000
Worker Training .....	10,000,000
Migration/Quarantine .....	114,000,000
Other .....	37,000,000
International Response and Preparedness .....	1,200,000,000
Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority (BARDA) .....	157,000,000
Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response .....	576,000,000
National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases .....	238,000,000

*Ebola Reporting.*—The Secretary of HHS shall provide a detailed spend plan within 30 days of enactment and quarterly obligation reports by program to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate. HHS should also provide obligation updates to the Committees every six months until all funds are expended or expire. HHS is further reminded that all funding provided to the agency is subject to the reprogramming requirements in title V of this Act.

*Ebola Oversight.*—The Secretary is directed to ensure procedures are in place to prevent fraud and waste in the expenditure of these funds. Specifically, HHS is directed to work with the HHS Office of Inspector General to develop an oversight plan, which shall be submitted to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate within 90 days of enactment.

*International Preparedness.*—Of the total for international response and preparedness, the agreement provides \$597,000,000 to CDC for setting up and strengthening National Public Health Institutes (NPHIs) and for other international preparedness activities. Funding is included to continue and expand the work of NPHI grantees who received awards from fiscal year 2014 funding.

*Treatment Centers.*—The agreement does not concur with the Administration's request to designate at least one treatment

center in every State. Instead, the agreement provides funding to the Department to implement a regional strategy for designating treatment centers which balances both geographic need and the fact that different institutional capabilities may be necessary for a successful strategy.

*Worker training.*—Funds are provided for medical worker training related to Ebola response. Recent incidents involving hospital personnel point to the current shortage of state-of-the-art personal protective equip-

ment, and the need for alternative methods of protection, particularly in small community hospitals. CDC is expected to conduct an independent review of best practices and the training of personnel in the use of alternative methods of protection when first-line personal protective equipment is not available.

#### GENERAL PROVISIONS

The bill includes a provision relating to the use of funds by the Secretary.

The bill includes a provision relating to notification requirements to the Committees on Appropriations.

The bill includes a provision allowing the Secretary to condition grant funding on agreement by the awardee to follow Departmental guidance regarding the control of the spread of Ebola.

The bill includes a provision allowing the Secretary to transfer funds between accounts.

DIVISION G- DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
-----					
TITLE I - DEPARTMENT OF LABOR					
EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ADMINISTRATION					
Training and Employment Services					
Grants to States:					
Adult Training, current year.....	54,080	54,080	64,736	+10,656	+10,656 FF
Advance from prior year.....	(712,000)	(712,000)	(712,000)	---	---
FY 2016.....	712,000	712,000	712,000	---	---
Subtotal.....	766,080	766,080	776,736	+10,656	+10,656
Youth Training.....	820,430	820,430	831,842	+11,412	+11,412 FF
Dislocated Worker Assistance, current year.....	141,598	141,598	155,530	+13,932	+13,932 FF
Advance from prior year.....	(860,000)	(860,000)	(860,000)	---	---
FY 2016.....	860,000	860,000	860,000	---	---
Subtotal.....	1,001,598	1,001,598	1,015,530	+13,932	+13,932
Subtotal, Grants to States.....	2,588,108	2,588,108	2,624,108	+36,000	+36,000
Current Year.....	(1,016,108)	(1,016,108)	(1,052,108)	(+36,000)	(+36,000)
FY 2016.....	(1,572,000)	(1,572,000)	(1,572,000)	---	---
					UA



DIVISION G- DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
<b>Federally Administered Programs:</b>					
Dislocated Worker Assistance National Reserve:					
Current Year.....	20,859	20,859	20,859	---	---
Advance from prior year.....	(200,000)	(200,000)	(200,000)	---	---
FY 2016.....	200,000	200,000	200,000	---	---
Subtotal.....	220,859	220,859	220,859	---	---
Subtotal, Dislocated Worker Assistance.....	1,222,457	1,222,457	1,236,389	+13,932	+13,932
Native American Programs.....	46,082	46,082	46,082	---	---
Migrant and Seasonal Farmworker programs.....	81,896	81,896	81,896	---	---
Women in Apprenticeship.....	994	---	994	---	---
YouthBuild activities.....	77,534	77,534	79,689	+2,155	+2,155
Workforce Innovation Fund.....	47,304	60,000	---	-47,304	-60,000
Sector Strategies.....	---	15,000	---	---	-15,000
Subtotal, Federally Administered Programs (FAP).....	474,669	501,371	429,520	-45,149	-71,851
Current Year.....	(274,669)	(301,371)	(229,520)	(-45,149)	(-71,851)
FY 2016.....	(200,000)	(200,000)	(200,000)	---	---

DIVISION G- DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
<b>National Activities:</b>					
Reintegration of Ex-Offenders.....	80,078	80,078	82,078	+2,000	+2,000
Workforce Data Quality Initiative.....	6,000	6,000	4,000	-2,000	-2,000
WIA incentive grants.....	---	80,000	---	---	-80,000
<b>Subtotal.....</b>	<b>86,078</b>	<b>166,078</b>	<b>86,078</b>	<b>---</b>	<b>-80,000 FF UA</b>
<b>Total, Training and Employment Services (TES)...</b>					
Current Year.....	3,148,855	3,255,557	3,139,706	-9,149	-115,851
FY 2016.....	(1,376,855)	(1,483,557)	(1,367,706)	(-9,149)	(-115,851)
	(1,772,000)	(1,772,000)	(1,772,000)	---	---
<b>Office of Job Corps</b>					
<b>Administration.....</b>					
Operations.....	30,147	32,330	32,330	+2,183	---
Construction, Rehabilitation and Acquisition.....	1,578,008	1,580,825	1,580,825	+2,817	FF
	80,800	75,000	75,000	-5,000	FF
<b>Total, Office of Job Corps.....</b>	<b>1,688,155</b>	<b>1,688,155</b>	<b>1,688,155</b>	<b>---</b>	<b>UA</b>
Current Year.....	(1,688,155)	(1,688,155)	(1,688,155)	---	UA
<b>Community Service Employment For Older Americans 1/...</b>					
Federal Unemployment Benefits and Allowances.....	434,371	380,000	434,371	---	+54,371 FF
	656,000	710,600	710,600	+54,600	---

DIVISION G- DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

		FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
STATE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE AND EMPLOYMENT SERVICE OPERATIONS						
Unemployment Compensation (UI):						
State Operations.....	TF	2,881,575	2,855,443	2,777,793	-103,782	-77,850
National Activities.....	TF	10,676	14,547	12,892	+2,216	-1,655
Subtotal, Unemployment Compensation.....		2,892,251	2,869,990	2,790,685	-101,566	-79,305
Employment Service (ES):						
Alloiments to States:						
Federal Funds.....	D	21,413	21,413	21,413	---	---
Trust Funds.....	TF	642,771	642,771	642,771	---	---
Subtotal.....		664,184	664,184	664,184	---	FF
ES National Activities.....	TF	19,818	19,818	19,818	---	---
Subtotal, Employment Service.....		684,002	684,002	684,002	---	---
Federal Funds.....		(21,413)	(21,413)	(21,413)	---	---
Trust Funds.....		(662,589)	(662,589)	(662,589)	---	---
Foreign Labor Certification:						
Federal Administration.....	TF	47,691	48,028	48,028	+337	---
Grants to States.....	TF	14,282	14,282	14,282	---	---
Subtotal, Foreign Labor Certification.....		61,973	62,310	62,310	+337	---

DIVISION G- DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
One-Stop Career Centers/Labor Market Information..... D	60,153	60,153	60,153	---	FF
Total, State UI and ES.....	3,698,379	3,676,455	3,597,150	-101,229	-79,305
Federal Funds.....	(81,566)	(81,566)	(81,566)	---	---
Trust Funds.....	(3,616,813)	(3,594,889)	(3,515,584)	(-101,229)	(-79,305)
State Paid Leave Fund..... D	---	5,000	---	---	-5,000
Advances to the Unemployment Trust Fund and Other Funds 2/..... M	600,000	---	---	-600,000	---
Program Administration					
Training and Employment..... D	60,074	60,853	60,074	---	-779
Trust Funds..... TF	8,639	8,727	8,639	---	-88
Employment Security..... D	3,469	3,512	3,469	---	-43
Trust Funds..... TF	39,264	39,845	39,264	---	-581
Apprenticeship Services..... D	30,000	33,384	34,000	+4,000	+616
Executive Direction..... D	7,034	7,140	7,034	---	-106
Trust Funds..... TF	2,079	2,102	2,079	---	-23
Total, Program Administration.....	150,559	155,563	154,559	+4,000	-1,004
Federal Funds.....	(100,577)	(104,889)	(104,577)	(+4,000)	(-312)
Trust Funds.....	(49,982)	(50,674)	(49,982)	---	(-692)
Total, Employment and Training Administration.....	10,376,319	9,871,330	9,724,541	-651,778	-146,789
Federal Funds.....	6,709,524	6,225,767	6,158,975	-550,549	-66,792
Current Year.....	(4,937,524)	(4,453,767)	(4,386,975)	(-550,549)	(-66,792)
FY 2016.....	(1,772,000)	(1,772,000)	(1,772,000)	---	---
Trust Funds.....	3,666,795	3,645,563	3,565,566	-101,229	-79,997

DIVISION G- DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
<b>EMPLOYEE BENEFITS SECURITY ADMINISTRATION (EBSA)</b>					
Salaries and Expenses					
Enforcement and Participant Assistance .....	D 145,000	154,520	147,400	+2,400	-7,120
Policy and Compliance Assistance .....	D 26,901	27,224	26,901	---	-323
Executive Leadership, Program Oversight and Administration .....	D 6,599	6,703	6,699	+100	-4
Total, EBSA .....	178,500	188,447	181,000	+2,500	-7,447
<b>PENSION BENEFIT GUARANTY CORPORATION (PBGC)</b>					
Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation Fund					
Pension Insurance Activities .....	NA (80,000)	(79,526)	(79,526)	(-474)	---
Pension Plan Termination .....	NA (268,230)	(179,230)	(179,230)	(-89,000)	---
Operational Support .....	NA (157,211)	(156,638)	(156,638)	(-573)	---
Total, PBGC (program level) .....	(505,441)	(415,394)	(415,394)	(-90,047)	---
<b>WAGE AND HOUR DIVISION</b>					
OFFICE OF LABOR-MANAGEMENT STANDARDS .....	D 224,330	265,766	227,500	+3,170	-38,266
OFFICE OF FEDERAL CONTRACT COMPLIANCE PROGRAMS .....	D 39,129	41,236	39,129	---	-2,107
	104,976	107,903	106,476	+1,500	-1,427

DIVISION G- DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

		FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
<b>OFFICE OF WORKERS' COMPENSATION PROGRAMS</b>						
	D					
Salaries and Expenses.....	D	109,641	112,938	110,823	+1,182	-2,115
Trust Funds.....	TF	2,142	2,177	2,177	+35	---
Total, Salaries and Expenses.....		111,783	115,115	113,000	+1,217	-2,115
Federal Funds.....		(109,641)	(112,938)	(110,823)	(+1,182)	(-2,115)
Trust Funds.....		(2,142)	(2,177)	(2,177)	(+35)	---
<b>Special Benefits</b>						
	M					
Federal Employees' Compensation Benefits.....	M	393,000	207,000	207,000	-186,000	---
Longshore and Harbor Workers' Benefits.....	M	3,000	3,000	3,000	---	---
Total, Special Benefits.....		396,000	210,000	210,000	-186,000	---
<b>Special Benefits for Disabled Coal Miners</b>						
	M					
Benefit Payments.....	M	128,000	96,000	96,000	-32,000	---
Administration.....	M	5,235	5,262	5,262	+27	---
Subtotal, FY 2016 program level.....		133,235	101,262	101,262	-31,973	---
Less funds advanced in prior year.....	M	-40,000	-24,000	-24,000	+16,000	---
Total, Current Year.....		93,235	77,262	77,262	-15,973	---
New advances, 1st quarter, FY 2016.....	M	24,000	21,000	21,000	-3,000	---
Total, Special Benefits for Disabled Coal Miners		117,235	98,262	98,262	-18,973	---

DIVISION G- DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Fund					
Part B Administrative Expenses..... M	55,176	56,406	56,406	+1,230	---
Black Lung Disability Trust Fund					
Benefit Payments and Interest on Advances..... M	257,478	261,548	261,548	+4,070	---
Workers' Compensation Programs, Salaries and Expenses..... M	33,033	33,321	33,321	+288	---
Departmental Management, Salaries and Expenses..... M	25,365	25,543	30,403	+5,038	+4,880
Departmental Management, Inspector General..... M	327	327	327	---	---
Subtotal, Black Lung Disability.....	316,203	320,739	325,599	+9,396	+4,880
Treasury Department Administrative Costs..... M	356	356	356	---	---
Total, Black Lung Disability Trust Fund.....	316,559	321,095	325,955	+9,396	+4,880
Total, Workers' Compensation Programs.....	996,753	800,878	803,623	-193,130	+2,745
Federal Funds.....	994,611	798,701	801,446	-193,165	+2,745
Current year.....	(970,611)	(777,701)	(780,446)	(-190,165)	(+2,745)
FY 2016.....	(24,000)	(21,000)	(21,000)	(-3,000)	---
Trust Funds.....	2,142	2,177	2,177	+35	---

DIVISION 6- DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION (OSHA)					
Salaries and Expenses					
Safety and Health Standards.....	20,000	20,292	20,000	---	-292
Federal Enforcement.....	207,785	210,838	208,000	+215	-2,838
Whistleblower enforcement.....	17,000	21,253	17,500	+500	-3,753
State Programs.....	100,000	103,987	100,850	+850	-3,137
Technical Support.....	24,344	24,224	24,469	+125	+245
Compliance Assistance:					
Federal Assistance.....	69,433	70,380	68,433	-1,000	-1,947
State Consultation Grants.....	57,775	57,775	57,775	---	---
Training Grants.....	10,687	10,687	10,537	-150	-150
Subtotal, Compliance Assistance.....	137,895	138,842	136,745	-1,150	-2,097
Safety and Health Statistics.....	34,250	34,488	34,250	---	-238
Executive Direction and Administration.....	10,973	11,086	10,973	---	-113
Total, OSHA.....	552,247	565,010	552,787	+540	-12,223



DIVISION 6- DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
<b>MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION</b>					
Salaries and Expenses					
Total Enforcement.....	167,859	169,693	167,859	---	-1,834
Metal/Non-Metal Enforcement.....	91,697	92,634	91,697	---	-937
Standards Development.....	5,416	6,070	5,416	---	-654
Assessments.....	6,976	8,043	6,976	---	-1,067
Educational Policy and Development.....	36,320	30,923	36,320	---	+5,397
Technical Support.....	33,791	34,252	33,791	---	-461
Program Evaluation and Information Resources (PEIR).....	17,990	19,593	17,990	---	-1,603
Program Administration.....	15,838	16,026	15,838	---	-188
Total, Mine Safety and Health Administration.....	375,887	377,234	375,887	---	-1,347
Total, Worker Protection Agencies.....	1,586,852	1,660,711	1,595,779	+8,927	-64,932
Federal Funds.....	(1,584,710)	(1,658,534)	(1,593,602)	(-8,892)	(-64,932)
Trust Funds.....	(2,142)	(2,177)	(2,177)	(+35)	---
<b>BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS</b>					
Salaries and Expenses					
Employment and Unemployment Statistics.....	204,788	208,728	204,788	---	-3,940
Labor Market Information.....	65,000	65,000	65,000	---	---
Prices and Cost of Living.....	200,000	207,791	200,000	---	-7,791
Compensation and Working Conditions.....	78,000	83,032	78,000	---	-5,032

DIVISION G- DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
Productivity and Technology.....	11,424	10,406	11,424	---	+1,018
Executive Direction and Staff Services.....	33,000	35,125	33,000	---	-2,125
Total, Bureau of Labor Statistics.....	592,212	610,082	592,212	---	-17,870
Federal Funds.....	527,212	545,082	527,212	---	-17,870
Trust Funds.....	65,000	65,000	65,000	---	---
OFFICE OF DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT POLICY					
Salaries and Expenses.....	37,745	37,833	38,500	+755	+667
DEPARTMENTAL MANAGEMENT					
Salaries and Expenses					
Executive Direction.....	31,482	31,187	31,010	-472	-177
Departmental Program Evaluation.....	8,040	9,000	8,040	---	-960
Legal Services.....	125,136	131,890	126,136	+1,000	-5,754
Trust Funds.....	308	308	308	---	---
International Labor Affairs.....	91,125	91,319	91,125	---	-194
Administration and Management.....	28,698	28,563	28,413	-285	-150
Adjudication.....	29,113	31,996	29,420	+307	-2,576
Women's Bureau.....	11,536	9,047	11,536	---	+2,489
Civil Rights Activities.....	6,430	7,789	6,880	+450	-909
Chief Financial Officer.....	5,061	5,090	5,061	---	-29
Total, Departmental Management.....	336,929	346,189	337,929	+1,000	-8,260
Federal Funds.....	(336,621)	(345,881)	(337,621)	(+1,000)	(-8,260)
Trust Funds.....	(308)	(308)	(308)	---	---

DIVISION 6- DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
<b>Veterans Employment and Training</b>					
State Administration, Grants.....	175,000	175,000	175,000	---	---
Transition Assistance Program.....	14,000	14,000	14,000	---	---
Federal Administration.....	39,000	39,458	39,458	+458	---
National Veterans Training Institute.....	3,414	3,414	3,414	---	---
Homeless Veterans Program.....	38,109	38,109	38,109	---	---
	---	---	---	---	---
Total, Veterans Employment and Training.....	269,523	269,981	269,981	+458	---
Federal Funds.....	38,109	38,109	38,109	---	---
Trust Funds.....	231,414	231,872	231,872	+458	---
<b>Information Technology Modernization</b>					
Departmental support systems.....	4,898	4,898	4,898	---	---
Infrastructure technology modernization.....	14,880	20,880	10,496	-4,384	-10,384
Digital Government Integrated Platform.....	---	4,800	---	---	-4,800
	---	---	---	---	---
Total, IT Modernization.....	19,778	30,578	15,394	-4,384	-15,184

DIVISION G- DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
<b>Office of Inspector General</b>					
Program Activities.....	74,721	78,403	76,000	+1,279	-2,403
Trust Funds.....	5,590	5,590	5,590	---	---
<b>Total, Office of Inspector General.....</b>	<b>80,311</b>	<b>83,993</b>	<b>81,590</b>	<b>+1,279</b>	<b>-2,403</b>
<b>Total, Departmental Management.....</b>	<b>706,541</b>	<b>730,741</b>	<b>704,894</b>	<b>-1,647</b>	<b>-25,847</b>
Federal Funds.....	469,229	492,971	467,124	-2,105	-25,847
Current Year.....	(469,229)	(492,971)	(467,124)	(-2,105)	(-25,847)
Trust Funds.....	237,312	237,770	237,770	+458	---
<b>Total, Workforce Investment Act Programs.....</b>	<b>4,836,016</b>	<b>4,943,712</b>	<b>4,826,867</b>	<b>-9,149</b>	<b>-116,845</b>
Current Year.....	(3,064,016)	(3,171,712)	(3,054,867)	(-9,149)	(-116,845)
FY 2016.....	(1,772,000)	(1,772,000)	(1,772,000)	---	---
<b>Total, Title I, Department of Labor.....</b>	<b>14,184,639</b>	<b>13,596,460</b>	<b>13,346,549</b>	<b>-838,090</b>	<b>-249,911</b>
Federal Funds.....	10,213,390	9,645,950	9,476,036	-737,354	-169,914
Current Year.....	(8,417,390)	(7,852,950)	(7,683,036)	(-734,354)	(-169,914)
FY 2016.....	(1,796,000)	(1,793,000)	(1,793,000)	(-3,000)	---
Trust Funds.....	3,971,249	3,950,510	3,870,513	-100,736	-79,997

**Title I Footnotes:**

- 1/ Budget request includes funds under the Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Community Living
- 2/ Two year availability

DIVISION G- DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
<b>TITLE II - DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES</b>					
<b>HEALTH RESOURCES AND SERVICES ADMINISTRATION (HRSA)</b>					
<b>HEALTH RESOURCES AND SERVICES</b>					
<b>Primary Health Care</b>					
Community Health Centers.....	1,495,236	1,000,000	1,491,422	-3,814	+491,422
Free Clinics Medical Malpractice.....	40	---	100	+60	+100
<b>Total, Primary Health Care.....</b>	<b>1,495,276</b>	<b>1,000,000</b>	<b>1,491,522</b>	<b>-3,754</b>	<b>+491,522</b>
<b>Health Professions</b>					
National Health Service Corps.....	---	100,000	---	---	-100,000
Training for Diversity:					
Centers of Excellence.....	21,711	21,711	21,711	---	---
Health Careers Opportunity Program.....	14,189	---	14,189	---	+14,189
Faculty Loan Repayment.....	1,190	1,190	1,190	---	---
Scholarships for Disadvantaged Students.....	44,970	44,970	45,970	+1,000	+1,000
<b>Subtotal, Training for Diversity.....</b>	<b>82,060</b>	<b>67,871</b>	<b>83,060</b>	<b>+1,000</b>	<b>+15,189</b>
Training in Primary Care Medicine.....	36,924	36,924	38,924	+2,000	+2,000
Oral Health Training.....	32,008	32,008	33,928	+1,920	+1,920
<b>Subtotal, Oral Health programs.....</b>	<b>32,008</b>	<b>32,008</b>	<b>33,928</b>	<b>+1,920</b>	<b>+1,920</b>

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	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
<b>Interdisciplinary Community-Based Linkages:</b>					
Area Health Education Centers.....	30,326	---	30,250	-76	+30,250
Geriatric Programs.....	33,321	33,321	34,237	+916	+916
Clinical Training in Interprofessional Practice.....	---	10,000	---	---	-10,000
Mental and Behavioral Health.....	7,916	7,916	8,916	+1,000	+1,000
Total, Interdisciplinary Community Linkages....	71,563	51,237	73,403	+1,840	+22,166
Rural Physician Training Grants.....	---	4,000	---	---	-4,000
Workforce Information and Analysis.....	4,663	4,663	4,663	---	---
Public Health and Preventive Medicine programs.....	18,177	18,177	21,000	+2,823	+2,823
Subtotal.....	18,177	18,177	21,000	+2,823	+2,823
<b>Nursing Programs:</b>					
Advanced Education Nursing.....	61,581	---	63,581	+2,000	+63,581
Evaluation Tap Funding.....	---	(61,581)	---	---	(-61,581)
Nurse Education, Practice, and Retention.....	38,008	38,008	39,913	+1,905	+1,905
Nursing Workforce Diversity.....	15,343	15,343	15,343	---	---
Loan Repayment and Scholarship Program.....	79,986	79,986	81,785	+1,799	+1,799
Comprehensive Geriatric Education.....	4,361	4,361	4,500	+139	+139
Nursing Faculty Loan Program.....	24,562	24,562	26,500	+1,938	+1,938
Subtotal, Nursing programs.....	223,841	162,260	231,622	+7,781	+69,362
Subtotal, Evaluation Tap Funding.....	---	(61,581)	---	---	(-61,581)
Total, Nursing programs.....	223,841	223,841	231,622	+7,781	+7,781

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	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
Children's Hospitals Graduate Medical Education.....	265,000	---	265,000	---	+265,000
National Practitioner Data Bank.....	27,456	18,814	18,814	-8,642	---
User Fees.....	-27,456	-18,814	-18,814	+8,642	---
Subtotal, Health Professions.....	734,236	477,140	751,000	+17,364	+274,460
(Evaluation tap funding).....	---	(61,581)	---	---	(-61,581)
Total, Health Professions.....	734,236	538,721	751,000	+17,364	+212,879
Maternal and Child Health					
Maternal and Child Health Block Grant.....	634,000	634,000	637,000	+3,000	+3,000
Sickle Cell Anemia Demonstration Program.....	4,466	4,466	4,455	-11	-11
Traumatic Brain Injury.....	9,344	9,344	9,321	-23	-23
Autism and Other Developmental Disorders.....	47,218	47,218	47,099	-119	-119
Heritable Disorders.....	11,913	11,913	13,883	+1,970	+1,970
Healthy Start.....	101,000	101,000	102,000	+1,000	+1,000
Universal Newborn Hearing Screening.....	17,863	17,863	17,818	-45	-45
Emergency Medical Services for Children.....	20,213	20,213	20,162	-51	-51
Total, Maternal and Child Health.....	846,017	846,017	851,738	+5,721	+5,721

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Ryan White HIV/AIDS

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
<b>Ryan White HIV/AIDS:</b>					
Emergency Assistance.....	655,876	655,876	655,876	---	---
Comprehensive Care Programs.....	1,315,005	1,315,005	1,315,005	---	---
AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) (NA).....	(900,313)	(900,313)	(900,313)	---	---
Early Intervention Program.....	201,079	280,167	201,079	---	-79,088
Children, Youth, Women, and Families.....	75,088	---	75,088	---	+75,088
AIDS Dental Services.....	13,122	13,122	13,122	---	---
Education and Training Centers.....	33,611	33,611	33,611	---	---
Special Projects of National Significance.....	---	---	25,000	+25,000	---
Subtotal, Ryan White HIV/AIDS program.....	2,293,781	2,297,781	2,318,781	+25,000	+25,000
(Evaluation Tap Funding).....	(25,000)	(25,000)	---	(-25,000)	(-25,000)
Total, Ryan White HIV/AIDS program level.....	(2,318,781)	(2,322,781)	(2,318,781)	---	(-4,000)
<b>Health Care Systems</b>					
Organ Transplantation.....	23,549	24,015	23,549	---	-466
National Cord Blood Inventory.....	11,266	11,266	11,266	---	---
Bone Marrow Program.....	22,109	22,109	22,109	---	---
Office of Pharmacy Affairs.....	10,238	10,238	10,238	---	---
340B Drug Pricing User Fees.....	---	7,000	---	---	-7,000
User Fees.....	---	-7,000	---	---	+7,000
Poison Control.....	---	---	---	---	---
National Hansen's Disease Program.....	18,846	18,846	18,846	---	---
Hansen's Disease Program Buildings and Facilities.....	15,206	15,206	15,206	---	---
Payment to Hawaii, Treatment of Hansen's.....	1,122	122	1,122	---	---
Subtotal, Health Care Systems.....	103,193	103,659	103,193	---	-466



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	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
<b>Rural Health</b>					
Rural Outreach Grants.....	57,000	57,000	59,000	+2,000	+2,000
Rural Health Research/Policy Development.....	9,351	9,351	9,351	---	---
Rural Hospital Flexibility Grants.....	40,609	26,200	41,609	+1,000	+15,409
Rural and Community Access to Emergency Devices.....	3,364	---	4,500	+1,136	+4,500
State Offices of Rural Health.....	9,511	9,511	9,511	---	---
Black Lung Clinics.....	6,766	6,766	6,766	---	---
Radiation Exposure Screening and Education Program.....	1,834	1,834	1,834	---	---
Telehealth.....	13,900	13,900	14,900	+1,000	+1,000
<b>Total, Rural Health.....</b>	<b>142,335</b>	<b>124,562</b>	<b>147,471</b>	<b>+5,136</b>	<b>+22,909</b>
Family Planning.....	286,479	286,479	286,479	---	---
Program Management.....	153,061	157,061	154,000	+939	-3,061
HEAL Liquidating Account.....	(1,000)	---	---	(-1,000)	---
Health Education Assistance Loans Program Account.....	2,687	---	---	-2,687	---

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	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
<b>Vaccine Injury Compensation Program Trust Fund</b>					
Post-FY 1988 Claims.....	235,000	235,000	235,000	---	---
HRSA Administration.....	6,464	7,500	7,500	+1,036	---
<b>Total, Vaccine Injury Compensation Trust Fund...</b>	<b>241,464</b>	<b>242,500</b>	<b>242,500</b>	<b>+1,036</b>	<b>---</b>
<b>Total, Health Resources &amp; Services Administration</b>	<b>6,298,529</b>	<b>5,535,199</b>	<b>6,347,284</b>	<b>+48,755</b>	<b>+812,085</b>
(Evaluation Tap Funding).....	(25,000)	(86,581)	---	(-25,000)	(-86,581)
<b>Total, HRSA program level.....</b>	<b>(6,323,529)</b>	<b>(5,621,780)</b>	<b>(6,347,284)</b>	<b>(+23,755)</b>	<b>(+725,504)</b>
<b>CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION</b>					
Immunization and Respiratory Diseases.....	571,536	607,942	573,105	+1,569	-34,837
Evaluation Tap Funding.....	(12,864)	(12,864)	---	(-12,864)	(-12,864)
Pandemic Flu balances (Public Law 111-32).....	---	---	(15,000)	(+15,000)	(+15,000)
Prevention and Public Health Fund 1/.....	(160,300)	(127,260)	(210,300)	(+50,000)	(+83,040)
<b>Subtotal .....</b>	<b>(744,700)</b>	<b>(748,066)</b>	<b>(798,405)</b>	<b>(+53,705)</b>	<b>(+50,339)</b>
HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention.....	1,072,834	1,124,942	1,117,609	+44,775	-7,333
Evaluation Tap Funding.....	---	(3,000)	---	---	(-3,000)
<b>Subtotal.....</b>	<b>1,072,834</b>	<b>1,127,942</b>	<b>1,117,609</b>	<b>+44,775</b>	<b>-10,333</b>

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		FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases.....	D	287,300	393,549	352,990	+65,690	-40,559
Prevention and Public Health Fund 1/.....	NA	(52,000)	(51,750)	(52,000)	---	(+250)
Subtotal.....		339,300	445,299	404,990	+65,690	-40,309
Subtotal, Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious.....		287,300	393,549	352,990	+65,690	-40,559
Subtotal, Prevention and Public Health Fund 1/.....		(52,000)	(51,750)	(52,000)	---	(+250)
Total.....		339,300	445,299	404,990	+65,690	-40,309
Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion.....	D	711,650	608,253	747,220	+35,570	+138,967
Prevention and Public Health Fund 1/.....	NA	(446,000)	(469,704)	(452,000)	(+6,000)	(-17,704)
Subtotal.....		1,157,650	1,077,957	1,199,220	+41,570	+121,263
Birth Defects, Developmental Disabilities, Disabilities, and Health.....	D	122,435	61,541	131,781	+9,346	+70,240
Prevention and Public Health Fund 1/.....	NA	---	(70,796)	---	---	(-70,796)
Subtotal.....		122,435	132,337	131,781	+9,346	-556
Public Health Scientific Services.....	D	347,179	377,723	481,061	+133,882	+103,338
Evaluation Tap Funding.....	NA	(85,691)	(95,086)	---	(-85,691)	(-95,086)
Prevention and Public Health Fund 1/.....	NA	---	(53,000)	---	---	(-53,000)
Subtotal.....		(432,870)	(525,809)	(481,061)	(+48,191)	(-44,748)
Environmental Health.....	D	147,555	131,811	166,404	+18,849	+34,593
Prevention and Public Health Fund 1/.....	NA	(13,000)	(37,000)	(13,000)	---	(-24,000)
Subtotal.....		160,555	168,811	179,404	+18,849	+10,593

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		FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
Injury Prevention and Control.....	D	142,311	188,699	170,447	+28,136	-18,252
Evaluation Tap Funding.....	NA	---	(5,605)	---	---	(-5,605)
Subtotal.....		142,311	194,304	170,447	+28,136	-23,857
National Institute for Occupational Safety & Health 1/	D	180,300	---	334,863	+154,563	+334,863
Evaluation Tap Funding.....	NA	(112,000)	(280,590)	---	(-112,000)	(-280,590)
Subtotal.....		(292,300)	(280,590)	(334,863)	(+42,563)	(+54,273)
Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program.....	M	55,358	55,358	55,358	---	---
Global Health.....	D	383,000	464,301	416,517	+33,517	-47,784
Ebola funding (Public Law 113-164).....	NA	---	---	(30,000)	(+30,000)	(+30,000)
Subtotal.....		(383,000)	(464,301)	(446,517)	(+63,517)	(-17,784)
Public Health Preparedness and Response.....	D	1,323,450	1,317,375	1,352,551	+29,101	+35,176
Buildings and Facilities.....	D	24,000	10,000	10,000	-14,000	---

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	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
<b>CDC-wide Activities and Program Support</b>					
Prevention and Public Health Fund 1/.....	NA	---	(160,000)	---	(+160,000)
Business Services.....	D	---	---	---	---
Office of the Director.....	D	113,570	113,570	-380,000	---
Title VI Ebola funding.....	NA	(1,830,000)	(1,771,000)	(+1,771,000)	(-59,000)
Subtotal, CDC-Wide (including Ebola funding).....		(1,943,570)	(2,044,570)	(+1,391,000)	(+101,000)
Subtotal, CDC-Wide Activities.....		(113,570)	(273,570)	(-380,000)	(+160,000)
=====					
Total, Centers for Disease Control.....		5,455,064	6,023,476	+160,998	+568,412
Discretionary.....		5,807,120	5,968,118	+160,998	+568,412
Evaluation Tap Funding (NA).....	NA	(210,555)	---	(-210,555)	(-397,145)
Pandemic Flu balances (Public Law 111-32).....	NA	---	(15,000)	(+15,000)	(+15,000)
Prevention and Public Health Fund 1/.....	NA	(809,510)	(897,300)	(+56,000)	(+77,790)
Title VI Ebola funding.....	NA	(1,830,000)	(1,771,000)	(+1,771,000)	(-59,000)
=====					
Total, Centers for Disease Control Program Level (including Ebola funding).....		(6,904,333)	(8,696,776)	(+1,792,443)	(+205,057)
Total, Centers for Disease Control Program Level		(6,904,333)	(6,925,776)	(+21,443)	(+264,057)
<b>NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH</b>					
National Cancer Institute.....	D	4,930,715	4,950,396	+27,158	+19,681
National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute.....	D	2,988,605	2,997,870	+9,265	+10,185
National Institute of Dental & Craniofacial Research..	D	398,650	399,686	+1,236	+2,755
National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK).....	D	1,743,336	1,749,681	+5,407	+6,345
Juvenile Diabetes (mandatory).....	NA	(150,000)	(150,000)	---	---
=====					
Subtotal, NIDDK program level.....		1,893,336	1,899,681	+5,407	+6,345

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National Institute of Neurological Disorders & Stroke.....	1,587,982	1,608,461	1,605,205	+17,223	-3,256
National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.....	4,358,841	4,423,357	4,358,841	---	-64,516
Title VI Ebola funding.....	---	(238,000)	(238,000)	(+238,000)	---
National Institute of General Medical Sciences.....	2,364,147	2,368,877	1,656,476	-707,671	-712,401
Evaluation Tap Funding.....	---	---	(715,000)	(+715,000)	(+715,000)
Subtotal, NIGMS program level.....	2,364,147	2,368,877	2,371,476	+7,329	+2,599
National Institute of Child Health & Human Development.....	1,282,595	1,283,487	1,286,571	+3,976	+3,084
National Eye Institute.....	682,077	675,168	684,191	+2,114	+9,023
National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences.....	665,439	665,080	687,502	+2,063	+2,422
National Institute on Aging.....	1,171,038	1,170,880	1,199,468	+28,430	+28,588
National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases.....	520,053	520,189	521,665	+1,612	+1,476
National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders.....	404,049	403,933	405,302	+1,253	+1,369
National Institute of Nursing Research.....	140,517	140,452	140,953	+436	+501
National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism.....	446,025	446,017	447,408	+1,383	+1,391
National Institute on Drug Abuse.....	1,025,435	1,023,268	1,028,614	+3,179	+5,346
National Institute of Mental Health.....	1,446,172	1,440,076	1,463,036	+16,864	+22,960
National Human Genome Research Institute.....	497,813	498,451	499,356	+1,543	+905
National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering.....	329,172	328,532	330,192	+1,020	+1,660
National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health.....	124,296	124,509	124,681	+385	+172
National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities.....	268,322	267,953	269,154	+832	+1,201
John E. Fogarty International Center.....	67,577	67,775	67,786	+209	+10
National Center for Advancing Translation Sciences.....	633,267	657,471	635,230	+1,963	-22,241

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National Library of Medicine (NLM).....	D	327,723	336,939	+9,216	-35,912
Evaluation Tap Funding.....	NA	(8,200)	---	(-8,200)	(-8,200)
Subtotal.....		335,923	336,939	+1,016	-44,112
Office of the Director.....	D	1,400,134	1,401,134	+1,000	-50,652
Common Fund (non-add).....	NA	(533,039)	(533,039)	---	(-50,000)
Gabriella Miller Kids First Research Act (Common Fund non-add).....		---	12,600	+12,600	+12,600
Subtotal.....		1,400,134	1,413,734	+13,600	-38,052
Buildings and Facilities.....	D	128,663	128,663	+200	+200
Total, National Institutes of Health (NIH).....		29,926,104	29,369,000	-557,104	-757,104
(Evaluation Tap Funding).....		(8,200)	(715,000)	(+706,800)	(+706,800)
(Title VI Ebola funding).....		---	(238,000)	(+238,000)	---
Total, NIH Program Level (including Ebola funding).....		(29,934,304)	(30,322,000)	(+387,696)	(-50,304)
Total, NIH Program Level.....		(29,934,304)	(30,084,000)	(+149,696)	(-50,304)
SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION (SAMHSA)					
Mental Health					
Programs of Regional and National Significance.....	D	374,295	386,597	-7,698	+54,857
Evaluation Tap Funding.....	NA	---	---	---	(-5,000)
Prevention and Public Health Fund 1/.....	NA	(12,000)	(12,000)	---	(-26,000)
Subtotal.....		386,295	378,597	-7,698	+23,857

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Mental Health block grant.....	D	462,705	461,532	-1,173	-1,173
Evaluation Tap Funding.....	NA	(21,039)	(21,039)	---	---
Subtotal.....		(483,744)	(482,571)	(-1,173)	(-1,173)
Children's Mental Health.....	D	117,315	117,026	-289	-289
Grants to States for the Homeless (PATH).....	D	64,794	64,635	-159	-159
Protection and Advocacy.....	D	36,238	36,146	-92	-92
Subtotal, Mental Health.....		1,055,347	1,045,936	-9,411	+53,144
(Evaluation Tap Funding).....		(21,039)	(21,039)	---	(-5,000)
Subtotal, Mental Health program level.....		(1,086,386)	(1,078,975)	(-9,411)	(+22,144)
Substance Abuse Treatment					
Programs of Regional and National Significance.....	D	312,005	362,002	+49,997	+94,602
Evaluation Tap Funding.....	NA	(2,000)	(2,000)	---	(-28,000)
Prevention and Public Health Fund 1/.....	NA	(50,000)	---	(-50,000)	---
Subtotal.....		(364,005)	(364,002)	(-3)	(+66,602)
Substance Abuse block grant.....	D	1,740,656	1,740,656	---	---
Evaluation Tap Funding.....	NA	(79,200)	(79,200)	---	---
Subtotal, block grant.....		(1,819,856)	(1,819,856)	---	---
Subtotal, Substance Abuse Treatment.....		2,052,861	2,102,658	+49,997	+94,602
(Evaluation Tap Funding).....		(81,200)	(81,200)	---	(-28,000)
Subtotal, Program level.....		(2,183,861)	(2,183,858)	(-3)	(+66,602)



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		FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
<b>Substance Abuse Prevention</b>						
Programs of Regional and National Significance.....	D	175,631	169,092	175,219	-412	+6,127
Evaluation Tap Funding.....	NA	---	(16,468)	---	---	(-16,468)
Subtotal.....		175,631	169,092	175,219	-412	+6,127
Health Surveillance and Program Support.....	D	151,296	127,729	150,232	-1,064	+22,503
Evaluation Tap Funding (NA).....	NA	(30,428)	(58,995)	(31,428)	(+1,000)	(-27,587)
Prevention and Public Health Fund 1/.....	NA	---	(20,000)	---	---	(-20,000)
Subtotal.....		181,724	206,724	181,660	-64	-25,064
Total, SAMHSA.....		3,434,935	3,297,669	3,474,045	+39,110	+176,376
(Evaluation Tap Funding).....		(132,867)	(210,702)	(133,667)	(+1,000)	(-77,035)
(Prevention and Public Health Fund 1/.).....		(62,000)	(58,000)	(12,000)	(-50,000)	(-48,000)
Total, SAMHSA Program Level.....		(3,629,802)	(3,566,371)	(3,619,712)	(-9,890)	(+53,341)

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	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
<b>AGENCY FOR HEALTHCARE RESEARCH AND QUALITY (AHRQ)</b>					
<b>Healthcare Research and Quality</b>					
Research on Health Costs, Quality, and Outcomes:			228,551	+228,551	+228,551
Federal Funds.....	---	---	---	---	(-105,600)
Patient-Centered Outcomes Research transfer.....	---	(105,600)	---	---	(-105,600)
Patient Safety Research and Health (NA).....	(101,156)	(96,079)	---	(-101,156)	(-96,079)
Preventive/Care Management (NA).....	(124,060)	(212,979)	---	(-124,060)	(-212,979)
Evaluation Tap funding.....	(15,904)	(11,300)	---	(-15,904)	(-11,300)
(Prevention and Public Health Fund) 1/.....	(7,000)	---	---	(-7,000)	---
Value Research (NA).....	(3,252)	---	---	(-3,252)	---
Crosscutting (NA).....	(111,072)	(93,209)	---	(-111,072)	(-93,209)
Subtotal, Health Costs, Quality, and Outcomes.....	(238,384)	(306,188)	(228,551)	(-9,833)	(-77,637)
(Evaluation Tap Funding).....	(231,384)	(200,588)	---	(-231,384)	(-200,588)
(Prevention and Public Health Fund 1/.....)	(7,000)	---	---	(-7,000)	---
Medical Expenditures Panel Surveys:					
Federal Funds.....	---	---	65,447	+65,447	+65,447
Evaluation Tap Funding (NA).....	(63,811)	(63,811)	---	(-63,811)	(-63,811)
Subtotal, Medical Expenditures Panel Surveys....	(63,811)	(63,811)	(65,447)	(+1,636)	(+1,636)

DIVISION G- DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
Program Support:					
Federal Funds.....	D				
Evaluation Tap Funding (NA).....	NA				
Subtotal, Program Support.....			69,700	+69,700	+69,700
Total, AHRQ Program Level.....				(-68,813)	(-69,700)
Federal funds.....					
(Evaluation Tap Funding).....			(363,698)	(-7,310)	(-29,599)
(Prevention and Public Health Fund 1).....			(363,698)	(+363,698)	(+363,698)
				(-364,008)	(-334,099)
				(-7,000)	(-7,000)
Total, Public Health Service (PHS) appropriation					
Total, Public Health Service Program Level.....			45,577,503	+55,457	+1,163,467
			(47,163,776)	(+176,694)	(+916,597)
CENTERS FOR MEDICARE AND MEDICAID SERVICES					
Grants to States for Medicaid					
Medicaid Current Law Benefits.....	M				
State and Local Administration.....	M				
Vaccines for Children.....	M				
Subtotal, Medicaid Program Level.....			315,238,600	+51,776,482	---
Less funds advanced in prior year.....			18,766,022	+2,312,907	---
Total, Grants to States for Medicaid.....			4,076,617	-216,766	---
New advance, 1st quarter, FY 2016.....					
			338,081,239	+53,872,623	---
			-103,472,323	+2,863,308	---
			234,608,916	+56,735,931	---
			113,272,140	+9,789,817	---

DIVISION G- DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

		FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
<b>Payments to Health Care Trust Funds</b>						
Supplemental Medical Insurance.....	M	194,565,000	194,343,000	194,343,000	-222,000	---
Federal Uninsured Payment.....	M	204,000	187,000	187,000	-17,000	---
Program Management.....	M	1,319,000	763,000	763,000	-556,000	---
General Revenue for Part D Benefit.....	M	58,596,000	63,342,000	63,342,000	+4,746,000	---
General Revenue for Part D Administration.....	M	373,000	418,000	418,000	+45,000	---
HCFA Reimbursement.....	M	129,000	153,000	153,000	+25,000	---
State Low-Income Determination for Part D.....	M	---	6,000	6,000	+6,000	---
Total, Payments to Trust Funds, Program Level...		255,185,000	259,212,000	259,212,000	+4,027,000	---
<b>Program Management</b>						
Research, Demonstration, Evaluation.....	TF	20,054	---	20,054	---	+20,054
Program Operations.....	TF	2,519,823	2,987,981	2,519,823	---	-468,158
State Survey and Certification.....	TF	376,330	424,353	397,334	+22,004	-27,019
High Risk Insurance Pools.....	TF	22,004	---	---	-22,004	---
Federal Administration.....	TF	732,533	787,500	732,533	---	-54,967
Total, Program management.....		3,669,744	4,199,834	3,669,744	---	-530,090
<b>Health Care Fraud and Abuse Control Account</b>						
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.....	TF	207,636	262,344	477,120	+269,484	+214,776
HHS Office of Inspector General.....	TF	28,122	---	67,200	+39,078	+67,200
Medicaid/CHIP.....	TF	29,708	28,122	67,200	+37,492	+39,078
Department of Justice.....	TF	28,122	28,122	80,480	+52,358	+32,358
Total, Health Care Fraud and Abuse Control.....		293,588	318,588	672,000	+378,412	+353,412

DIVISION G- DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
<b>Total, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services</b>					
Federal funds.....	540,493,840	611,611,478	611,434,800	+70,941,160	-176,678
Current year.....	536,530,308	607,093,056	607,093,056	+70,562,748	---
New advance, FY 2016.....	(433,057,985)	(493,820,916)	(493,820,916)	(+60,762,931)	---
Trust Funds.....	(103,472,323)	(113,272,140)	(113,272,140)	(+9,799,817)	---
	3,963,332	4,518,422	4,341,744	+376,412	-176,678
<b>ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES (ACF)</b>					
<b>Payments to States for Child Support Enforcement and Family Support Programs</b>					
Payments to Territories.....	33,000	33,000	33,000	---	---
Repatriation.....	1,000	1,000	1,000	---	---
Subtotal.....	34,000	34,000	34,000	---	---
<b>Child Support Enforcement:</b>					
State and Local Administration.....	3,480,340	3,117,555	3,117,555	-362,785	---
Federal Incentive Payments.....	540,905	526,968	526,968	-13,937	---
Access and Visitation.....	10,000	10,000	10,000	---	---
Subtotal, Child Support Enforcement.....	4,031,245	3,654,523	3,654,523	-376,722	---
Total, Family Support Payments Program Level.....	4,065,245	3,688,523	3,688,523	-376,722	---
Less funds advanced in previous years.....	-1,100,000	-1,250,000	-1,250,000	-150,000	---
Total, Family Support Payments, current year.....	2,965,245	2,438,523	2,438,523	-526,722	---
New advance, 1st quarter, FY 2016.....	1,250,000	1,160,000	1,160,000	-90,000	---

DIVISION G- DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

		FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
<b>Low Income Home Energy Assistance (LIHEAP)</b>						
Formula Grants.....	D	3,424,549	2,550,000	3,390,304	-34,245	+840,304
Contingency Fund.....	D	---	200,000	---	---	-200,000
Energy burden reduction grants.....	D	---	50,000	---	---	-50,000
<b>Total, LIHEAP, Program Level.....</b>		<b>3,424,549</b>	<b>2,800,000</b>	<b>3,390,304</b>	<b>-34,245</b>	<b>+590,304</b>
<b>Refugee and Entrant Assistance</b>						
Transitional and Medical Services.....	D	391,477	383,266	383,266	-8,211	---
Victims of Trafficking.....	D	13,755	22,000	15,755	+2,000	-6,245
Social Services.....	D	149,927	149,927	149,927	---	---
Preventive Health.....	D	4,600	4,600	4,600	---	---
Targeted Assistance.....	D	47,601	47,601	47,601	---	---
Unaccompanied Minors.....	D	868,000	868,000	868,000	+80,000	+80,000
Victims of Torture.....	D	10,735	10,735	10,735	---	---
<b>Total, Refugee and Entrant Assistance.....</b>		<b>1,486,095</b>	<b>1,486,129</b>	<b>1,559,884</b>	<b>+73,789</b>	<b>+73,785</b>
Child Care and Development Block Grant.....	D	2,360,000	2,417,000	2,435,000	+75,000	+18,000
Social Services Block Grant (Title XX).....	M	1,700,000	1,700,000	1,700,000	---	---

DIVISION 6- DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
<b>Children and Families Services Programs</b>					
<b>Programs for Children, Youth and Families:</b>					
Head Start, current funded.....	8,598,095	8,968,389	8,598,095	---	-270,294
Consolidated Runaway, Homeless Youth Program.....	97,000	99,000	97,000	---	-2,000
Prevention Grants to Reduce Abuse of Runaway Youth	17,141	17,141	17,141	---	---
Child Abuse State Grants.....	25,310	25,310	25,310	---	---
Child Abuse Discretionary Activities.....	28,744	28,744	28,744	---	---
Community Based Child Abuse Prevention.....	39,764	39,764	39,764	---	---
Abandoned Infants Assistance.....	11,063	11,063	11,063	---	---
Child Welfare Services.....	268,735	268,735	268,735	---	---
Child Welfare Training/					
Innovative Approaches to Foster Care.....	24,984	24,984	15,984	-9,000	-9,000
Adoption Opportunities.....	40,622	40,622	39,100	-1,522	-1,522
Adoption Incentive.....	37,943	37,943	37,943	---	---
Social Services and Income Maintenance Research.....	---	9,000	5,762	+5,762	-3,238
Evaluation Tap Funding.....	(5,762)	(5,762)	---	(-5,762)	(-5,762)
NA					
Subtotal, Program Level.....	(5,762)	(14,762)	(5,762)	---	(-9,000)

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DIVISION G—DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request	
Native American Programs.....	D 46,520	46,520	46,520	---	---	UA
Community Services:						
Community Services Block Grant Act programs:						
Grants to States for Community Services.....	D 674,000	350,000	674,000	---	+324,000	UA
Economic Development.....	D 29,883	---	29,883	---	+29,883	UA
Rural Community Facilities.....	D 5,971	---	6,500	+529	+6,500	UA
Subtotal.....	709,854	350,000	710,383	+529	+360,383	
Individual Development Account Initiative.....	D 19,026	19,026	18,950	-76	-76	UA
Subtotal, Community Services.....	728,880	369,026	729,333	+453	+360,307	
Domestic Violence Hotline.....	D 4,500	4,500	4,500	---	---	UA
Family Violence/Battered Women's Shelters.....	D 133,521	135,000	135,000	+1,479	---	UA
Independent Living Training Vouchers.....	D 43,257	43,257	43,257	---	---	
Faith-Based Center.....	D 1,299	1,368	1,299	---	-69	
Disaster Human Services Case Management.....	D 1,864	1,864	1,864	---	---	
Program Direction.....	D 197,701	204,832	199,701	+2,000	-5,131	
Total, Children and Families Services Programs.....	10,346,943	10,277,062	10,346,115	-828	+69,053	
Current Year.....	(10,346,943)	(10,277,062)	(10,346,115)	(-828)	(+69,053)	
(Evaluation Tap Funding).....	(5,762)	(5,762)	---	(-5,762)	(-5,762)	
Total, Program Level.....	(10,352,705)	(10,282,824)	(10,346,115)	(-6,590)	(+63,291)	



DIVISION G- DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

		FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
Promoting Safe and Stable Families.....	M	345,000	345,000	345,000	---	---
Discretionary Funds.....	D	59,765	59,765	59,765	---	---
Total, Promoting Safe and Stable Families.....		404,765	404,765	404,765	---	---
Payments for Foster Care and Permanency						
Foster Care.....	M	4,279,000	4,289,000	4,289,000	+10,000	---
Adoption Assistance.....	M	2,463,000	2,504,000	2,504,000	+41,000	---
Kinship Guardianship.....	M	124,000	99,000	99,000	-25,000	---
Independent Living.....	M	140,000	140,000	140,000	---	---
Total, Payments to States.....		7,006,000	7,032,000	7,032,000	+26,000	---
Less Advances from Prior Year.....	M	-2,200,000	-2,200,000	-2,200,000	---	---
Total, payments, current year.....		4,806,000	4,832,000	4,832,000	+26,000	---
New Advance, 1st quarter, FY 2016.....	M	2,200,000	2,300,000	2,300,000	+100,000	---
Total, ACF.....		30,943,597	29,815,479	30,566,591	-377,006	+751,112
Current year.....		(27,493,597)	(26,355,479)	(27,106,591)	(-387,006)	(+751,112)
FY 2016.....		(3,450,000)	(3,460,000)	(3,460,000)	(+10,000)	---
(Evaluation Tap Funding).....		(5,762)	(5,762)	---	(-5,762)	(-5,762)
Total, ACF Program Level.....		30,949,359	29,821,241	30,566,591	-382,768	+745,350

DIVISION G- DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
<b>ADMINISTRATION FOR COMMUNITY LIVING</b>					
Aging and Disability Services Programs					
Grants to States:					
Home and Community-based Supportive Services.....	347,724	347,724	347,724	---	---
Preventive Health.....	19,848	19,848	19,848	---	---
Protection of Vulnerable Older Americans-Title VII D	20,658	20,658	20,658	---	---
Subtotal.....	388,230	388,230	388,230	---	---
Family Caregivers.....	145,586	145,586	145,586	---	---
Native American Caregivers Support.....	6,031	6,031	6,031	---	---
Subtotal, Caregivers.....	151,617	151,617	151,617	---	---
Nutrition:					
Congregate Meals.....	438,191	438,191	438,191	---	---
Home Delivered Meals.....	216,397	216,397	216,397	---	---
Nutrition Services Incentive Program.....	160,069	160,069	160,069	---	---
Subtotal.....	814,657	814,657	814,657	---	---
Subtotal, Grants to States.....	1,354,504	1,354,504	1,354,504	---	---

DIVISION G- DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

		FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
Grants for Native Americans.....	D	26,158	26,158	26,158	---	---
Aging Network Support Activities.....	D	7,461	7,461	9,961	+2,500	+2,500
Alzheimer's Disease Demonstrations.....	D	3,800	---	3,800	---	+3,800
Evaluation Tap Funding.....	NA	---	(3,800)	---	---	(-3,800)
Prevention and Public Health Fund 1/.....	NA	(14,700)	(10,500)	(14,700)	---	(+4,200)
Lifespan Respite Care.....	D	2,360	---	2,360	---	+2,360
Evaluation Tap Funding.....	NA	---	(2,360)	---	---	(-2,360)
Chronic Disease Self-Management Program.....	D	---	---	---	---	---
Prevention and Public Health Fund 1/.....	NA	(8,000)	(8,000)	(8,000)	---	---
Elder Falls.....	D	---	---	---	---	---
Prevention and Public Health Fund 1/.....	NA	(5,000)	(5,000)	(5,000)	---	---
Senior Medicare Patrol Program.....	D	8,910	8,910	8,910	---	---
Elder Rights Support Activities.....	D	3,874	3,874	7,874	+4,000	+4,000
Aging and Disability Resources.....	D	6,119	---	6,119	---	+6,119
State Health Insurance Program.....	TF	52,115	52,115	52,115	---	---
National Clearinghouse for Long-Term Care Information.....	D	---	1,000	---	---	-1,000
Paralysis Resource Center.....	D	6,700	---	6,700	---	+6,700
Evaluation Tap Funding.....	NA	---	(6,700)	---	---	(-6,700)
Limb loss.....	D	---	---	2,800	+2,800	+2,800

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DIVISION G- DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
<b>Developmental Disabilities Programs:</b>					
State Councils.....	70,876	70,876	71,692	+816	+816
Protection and Advocacy.....	38,734	38,734	38,734	---	---
Voting Access for Individuals with Disabilities.....	4,963	4,963	4,963	---	---
Prevention and Public Health Fund 1/.....	---	(4,200)	---	---	(-4,200)
Developmental Disabilities Projects of National Significance.....	8,880	8,880	8,857	-23	-23
University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities.....	36,769	36,769	37,674	+905	+905
<b>Subtotal, Developmental Disabilities Programs...</b>	<b>160,222</b>	<b>160,222</b>	<b>161,920</b>	<b>+1,698</b>	<b>+1,698</b>
<b>UA</b>					
<b>Agency-wide Initiatives:</b>					
Elder Justice.....	---	25,000	---	---	-25,000
Youth transitions.....	---	5,000	---	---	-5,000
Holocaust survivor assistance fund.....	---	5,000	---	---	-5,000
White House Conference on Aging.....	---	3,000	---	---	-3,000
Program Administration.....	30,035	30,035	30,035	---	---
<b>Total, Administration for Community Living (ACL)</b>	<b>1,662,258</b>	<b>1,682,279</b>	<b>1,873,256</b>	<b>+10,998</b>	<b>-9,023</b>
Federal funds.....	1,610,143	1,630,164	1,621,141	+10,998	-9,023
Trust Funds.....	(52,115)	(52,115)	(52,115)	---	---
(Evaluation Tap Funding).....	---	(12,860)	---	---	(-12,860)
(Prevention and Public Health Fund 1/.....)	(27,700)	(27,700)	(27,700)	---	---
<b>Total, ACL program level.....</b>	<b>1,669,958</b>	<b>1,722,839</b>	<b>1,700,956</b>	<b>+10,998</b>	<b>-21,883</b>

DIVISION G- DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

		FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
<b>OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY</b>						
<b>General Departmental Management</b>						
General Departmental Management, Federal Funds.....	D	208,112	220,704	200,000	-8,112	-20,704
Teen Pregnancy Prevention and Abstinence Education	D					
Community Grants.....	D	101,000	---	101,000	---	+101,000
Prevention and Public Health Fund 1/.....	NA	---	(104,790)	---	---	(-104,790)
Evaluation Tap Funding.....	NA	(8,455)	(6,800)	(6,800)	(-1,655)	---
Subtotal, Grants.....		(109,455)	(111,590)	(107,800)	(-1,655)	(-3,790)
Abstinence Education.....	D	5,000	---	5,000	---	+5,000
Minority Health.....	D	56,670	36,000	56,670	---	+20,670
Office of Women's Health.....	D	34,050	29,500	32,140	-1,910	+2,640
Minority HIV/AIDS.....	D	52,224	---	52,224	---	+52,224
Evaluation Tap Funding.....	NA	---	(53,900)	---	---	(-53,900)
Embryo Adoption Awareness Campaign.....	D	1,000	---	1,000	---	+1,000
Planning and Evaluation, Evaluation Tap Funding.....	NA	(60,756)	(58,028)	(58,028)	(-2,728)	---
Total, General Departmental Management.....		458,056	286,204	448,034	-10,022	+161,830
Federal Funds.....		(458,056)	(286,204)	(448,034)	(-10,022)	(+161,830)
(Evaluation Tap Funding).....		(68,211)	(118,728)	(84,828)	(-4,383)	(-53,900)
(Prevention and Public Health Fund 1/.....)		---	(104,790)	---	---	(-104,790)
Total, General Departmental Management Program..		527,267	509,722	512,862	-14,405	+3,140

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DIVISION G- DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
Office of Medicare Hearings and Appeals.....	82,381	100,000	87,381	+5,000	-12,619
Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology.....	15,556	---	60,367	+44,811	+60,367
Evaluation Tap Funding.....	(44,811)	(74,688)	---	(-44,811)	(-74,688)
Total, Program Level.....	(60,367)	(74,688)	(60,367)	---	(-14,321)
Office of Inspector General					
Inspector General Federal Funds.....	71,000	75,000	71,000	---	-4,000
HIPAA/HCFAC Funding (NA).....	(186,269)	(285,129)	(240,455)	(+54,186)	(-44,674)
Total, Inspector General Program Level.....	(296,779)	(400,251)	(311,455)	(+14,676)	(-88,796)
Office for Civil Rights					
Federal Funds.....	38,798	41,205	38,798	---	-2,407
Retirement Pay and Medical Benefits for Commissioned Officers					
Retirement Payments.....	415,331	432,177	432,177	+16,846	---
Survivors Benefits.....	28,239	28,186	28,186	-53	---
Dependents' Medical Care.....	106,802	101,878	101,878	-4,924	---
Total Medical Benefits for Commissioned Officers	550,372	562,241	562,241	+11,869	---

DIVISION G- DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

		FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
<b>Public Health and Social Services Emergency Fund (PHSSEF)</b>						
<b>Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response D</b>						
Operations.....	D	31,305	31,305	31,305	---	---
Preparedness and Emergency Operations.....	D	28,079	24,789	24,789	-3,290	---
National Disaster Medical System.....	D	50,054	50,054	50,054	---	---
Hospital Preparedness Cooperative Agreement Grants: Formula Grants.....	D	254,555	254,560	254,555	---	-5
Emergency Systems for Advanced Registration of Volunteer Health Professionals (ESAR-VHP).....	D	505	500	---	-505	-500
Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority (BARDA).....	D	415,000	395,000	415,000	---	+20,000
Ebola funding (Public Law 113-164).....	NA	---	---	(58,000)	(+58,000)	(+58,000)
Title VI Ebola funding.....	NA	---	(1,084,000)	(733,000)	(+733,000)	(-351,000)
Medical Countermeasure Strategic Investment Corp.....	D	---	20,000	---	---	-20,000
Medical Countermeasure Dispensing.....	D	5,000	---	---	-5,000	---
Policy and Planning.....	D	14,877	---	14,877	---	+14,877
Evaluation tap funding.....	D	---	(14,877)	---	---	(-14,877)
Project BioShield.....	D	255,000	415,000	255,000	---	-160,000
Subtotal, Preparedness and Response (including Ebola funding).....	D	1,054,375	2,275,208	1,778,580	+724,205	-496,628
Subtotal, Preparedness and Response.....	D	1,054,375	1,191,208	1,045,580	-8,795	-145,628

DIVISION G- DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

		FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
Assistant Secretary for Administration	D					
Assistant Secretary for Administration, Cybersecurity	D	41,125	45,270	41,125	---	-4,145
Office of Security and Strategic Information	D	6,118	7,470	7,470	+1,352	---
Public Health and Science	D					
Medical Reserve Corps	D	10,672	8,979	8,979	-1,693	---
Office of the Secretary	D					
HHS Lease Replacements	D	16,131	---	---	-16,131	---
Pandemic Influenza Preparedness	D					
Pandemic Influenza Preparedness	D	115,009	170,009	71,915	-43,094	-98,094
Subtotal, Non-pandemic flu/BioShield/Parklawn/Other construction	D	873,421	1,916,804	1,581,154	+707,733	-335,650
Total, PHSSEF (including Ebola funding)		1,243,430	2,521,813	1,908,069	+684,639	-613,744
Total, PHSSEF		1,243,430	1,422,936	1,175,069	-68,361	-247,867



DIVISION G- DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
Total, Office of the Secretary.....	2,459,593	2,487,586	2,442,890	-16,703	-44,696
Federal Funds.....	2,377,212	2,387,586	2,355,509	-21,703	-32,077
Trust Funds.....	82,381	100,000	87,381	+5,000	-12,619
(Evaluation Tap Funding).....	(114,022)	(208,293)	(84,828)	(-49,194)	(-143,485)
(Title VI Ebola Funding).....	---	(1,084,000)	(733,000)	(+733,000)	(-351,000)
Total, Office of the Secretary Program Level....	2,573,615	2,800,669	2,507,718	-65,897	-292,951
Total, Title II, Health and Human Services.....	621,081,134	690,010,858	691,895,040	+70,613,906	+1,684,182
Federal Funds.....	616,983,306	685,340,321	687,213,800	+70,230,494	+1,873,479
Current year.....	(510,060,983)	(568,608,181)	(570,481,660)	(+60,420,677)	(+1,873,479)
FY 2016.....	(106,922,323)	(116,732,140)	(116,732,140)	(+9,809,817)	---
Trust Funds.....	4,097,828	4,670,537	4,481,240	+383,412	-189,297
Pandemic Flu balances (Public Law 111-32)....	---	---	(15,000)	(+15,000)	(+15,000)
Total, Prevention and Public Health Fund 1/.....	(928,000)	(1,000,000)	(927,000)	(-1,000)	(-73,000)

Title II Footnotes:

1/ Sec. 4002 of Public Law 111-148

DIVISION G- DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
TITLE III - DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION					
EDUCATION FOR THE DISADVANTAGED					
Grants to Local Educational Agencies (LEAs)					
Basic Grants:					
Advance from prior year.....	(3,313,597)	(2,915,776)	(2,915,776)	(-397,821)	---
Forward funded.....	3,539,641	2,698,920	3,564,641	+25,000	+865,721
Current funded.....	3,984	3,984	3,984	---	---
Subtotal, Basic grants current year approp..	3,543,625	2,702,904	3,568,625	+25,000	+865,721
Subtotal, Basic grants total funds available	(6,857,222)	(5,618,680)	(6,484,401)	(-372,821)	(+865,721)
Basic Grants FY 2016 Advance.....	2,915,776	3,756,497	2,890,776	-25,000	-865,721
Subtotal, Basic grants, program level.....	6,459,401	6,459,401	6,459,401	---	---
Concentration Grants:					
Advance from prior year.....	(1,293,919)	(1,362,301)	(1,362,301)	(+68,382)	---
FY 2016 Advance.....	1,362,301	1,362,301	1,362,301	---	---
Targeted Grants:					
Advance from prior year.....	(3,116,831)	(3,281,550)	(3,281,550)	(+164,719)	---
FY 2016 Advance.....	3,281,550	3,281,550	3,294,050	+12,500	+12,500
Subtotal.....	3,281,550	3,281,550	3,294,050	+12,500	+12,500

DIVISION G- DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
Education Finance Incentive Grants:					
Advance from prior year.....	(3,116,831)	(3,281,550)	(3,281,550)	(+164,719)	---
FY 2016 Advance.....	3,281,550	3,281,550	3,284,050	+12,500	+12,500
Subtotal.....	3,281,550	3,281,550	3,294,050	+12,500	+12,500
Subtotal, Grants to LEAs, program level.....	14,384,802	14,384,802	14,409,802	+25,000	+25,000
School Improvement Grants.....	505,756	505,756	505,756	---	FF
Striving Readers.....	158,000	---	180,000	+2,000	+160,000
State Agency Programs:					
Migrant.....	374,751	374,751	374,751	---	FF
Neglected and Delinquent/High Risk Youth.....	47,614	47,614	47,614	---	FF
Subtotal, State Agency programs.....	422,365	422,365	422,365	---	---
Evaluation.....	880	---	710	-170	+710
High School Graduation Initiative.....	46,267	---	---	-46,267	---
Migrant Education:					
High School Equivalency Program.....	34,623	34,623	37,474	+2,851	+2,851
Total, Education for the disadvantaged.....	15,552,693	15,347,546	15,536,107	-16,586	+188,561
Current Year.....	(4,711,516)	(3,665,648)	(4,694,930)	(-16,586)	(+1,029,282)
FY 2016.....	(10,841,177)	(11,681,898)	(10,841,177)	---	(-840,721)
Subtotal, Forward Funded.....	(4,625,762)	(3,627,041)	(4,652,762)	(+27,000)	(+1,025,721)
PRESCHOOL DEVELOPMENT GRANTS.....	---	500,000	---	---	-500,000

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DIVISION G- DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
<b>IMPACT AID</b>					
Basic Support Payments.....	1,151,233	1,151,233	1,151,233	---	---
Payments for Children with Disabilities.....	48,316	48,316	48,316	---	---
Facilities Maintenance (Sec. 8008).....	4,835	4,835	4,835	---	---
Construction (Sec. 8007).....	17,406	17,406	17,406	---	---
Payments for Federal Property (Sec. 8002).....	66,813	---	66,813	---	+66,813
Total, Impact aid.....	1,288,603	1,221,790	1,288,603	---	+66,813
<b>SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS</b>					
Effective Teaching and Learning: Literacy.....	---	183,741	---	---	-183,741
Effective Teaching and Learning: STEM.....	---	319,717	---	---	-319,717
Effective Teaching and Learning for Well-Rounded Educ.	---	25,000	---	---	-25,000
College Pathways.....	---	74,750	---	---	-74,750
State Grants for Improving Teacher Quality.....	668,389	---	668,389	---	+668,389
Current funded.....	---	2,000,000	---	---	-2,000,000
Advance from prior year.....	(1,681,441)	(1,681,441)	(1,681,441)	---	---
FY 2016.....	1,681,441	---	1,681,441	---	+1,681,441
Subtotal, State Grants for Improving Teacher Quality, program level.....	2,349,830	2,000,000	2,349,830	---	+349,830

DIVISION G—DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
Mathematics and Science Partnerships.....	149,717	---	152,717	+3,000	+152,717 FF
Supplemental Education Grants.....	16,699	16,699	16,699	---	---
21st Century Community Learning Centers.....	1,149,370	1,149,370	1,151,673	+2,303	+2,303 FF
State Assessments/Enhanced Assessment Instruments.....	378,000	378,000	378,000	---	---
Consolidated Runaway and Homeless Youth Programs.....	65,042	65,042	65,042	---	---
Training and Advisory Services (Civil Rights).....	6,598	6,598	6,575	-23	-23 FF
Education for Native Hawaiians.....	32,397	32,397	32,397	---	---
Alaska Native Education Equity.....	31,453	31,453	31,453	---	---
Rural Education.....	169,840	169,840	169,840	---	---
Comprehensive Centers.....	48,445	48,445	48,445	---	---
Total, School Improvement Programs.....	4,397,391	4,501,052	4,402,671	+5,280	-98,381
Current Year.....	(2,715,950)	(4,501,052)	(2,721,230)	(-5,280)	(-1,779,822)
FY 2016.....	(1,681,441)	---	(1,681,441)	---	(+1,681,441)
Subtotal, Forward Funded.....	(2,580,358)	(1,762,252)	(2,585,661)	(-5,303)	(+823,409)
INDIAN EDUCATION					
Grants to Local Educational Agencies.....	100,381	100,381	100,381	---	---
Federal Programs:					
Special Programs for Indian Children.....	17,993	17,993	17,993	---	---
National Activities.....	5,565	5,565	5,565	---	---
Subtotal, Federal Programs.....	23,558	23,558	23,558	---	---
Total, Indian Education.....	123,939	123,939	123,939	---	---

Race to the Top.....	D	250,000	300,000	---	---	-250,000	-300,000
Investing in Innovation Fund.....	D	141,602	165,000	120,000	---	-21,602	-45,000
High School Redesign.....	D	---	150,000	---	---	---	-150,000
Teacher and Leader Innovation Fund.....	D	---	320,000	---	---	---	-320,000
Expanding Educational Options.....	D	---	248,172	---	---	---	-248,172
Troops-to-Teachers.....	D	---	200,000	---	---	---	-200,000
Transition to Teaching.....	D	13,762	---	13,700	---	-62	+13,700
Teaching of Traditional American History.....	D	---	---	---	---	---	---
School Leadership.....	D	25,763	35,000	16,368	---	-9,395	-18,632
Charter Schools Grants.....	D	248,172	---	253,172	---	+5,000	+253,172
Magnet Schools Assistance.....	D	91,647	91,647	91,647	---	---	---
Fund for the Improvement of Education (FIE).....	D	67,376	24,276	323,000	---	+255,624	+298,724
Teacher Incentive Fund.....	D	288,771	---	230,000	---	-58,771	+230,000
Ready-to-Learn television.....	D	25,741	---	25,741	---	---	+25,741
Advanced Placement.....	D	28,483	---	28,483	---	---	+28,483
Total, Innovation and Improvement.....		1,181,317	1,534,095	1,102,111	---	-79,206	-431,984
Current Year.....		(1,181,317)	(1,534,095)	(1,102,111)	---	(-79,206)	(-431,984)

DIVISION G- DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
SAFE SCHOOLS AND CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION					
Successful, Safe and Healthy Students.....	---	214,000	---	---	-214,000
Promise Neighborhoods.....	56,754	100,000	56,754	---	-43,246
National Programs.....	90,000	---	70,000	-20,000	+70,000
Elementary and Secondary School Counseling.....	49,561	---	49,561	---	+49,561
Carol M. White Physical Education Program.....	74,577	---	47,000	-27,577	+47,000
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Total, Safe Schools and Citizenship Education...	270,892	314,000	223,315	-47,577	-90,685
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ACQUISITION					
Current funded.....	47,021	47,021	61,021	+14,000	+14,000
Forward funded.....	676,379	676,379	676,379	---	---
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Total, English Language Acquisition.....	723,400	723,400	737,400	+14,000	+14,000
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
					FF

DIVISION G- DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

SPECIAL EDUCATION

State Grants:						
Grants to States Part B current year.....	D	2,189,465	1,448,745	2,214,465	+25,000	+765,720 FF
Part B advance from prior year.....	NA	(9,283,383)	(9,283,383)	(9,283,383)	---	---
Grants to States Part B (FY 2016).....	D	9,283,383	10,124,103	9,283,383	---	-840,720
Subtotal, program level.....		11,472,848	11,572,848	11,497,848	+25,000	-75,000
Preschool Grants.....	D	353,238	353,238	353,238	---	---
Grants for Infants and Families.....	D	436,498	441,825	436,556	+58	-3,269 FF
Subtotal, program level.....		12,264,584	12,367,911	12,289,642	+25,058	-78,269
IDEA National Activities (current funded):						
State Personnel Development.....	D	41,630	41,630	41,630	---	---
Technical Assistance and Dissemination.....	D	51,928	51,928	51,928	---	---
Personnel Preparation.....	D	83,700	83,700	83,700	---	---
Parent Information Centers.....	D	27,411	27,411	27,411	---	---
Technology and Media Services.....	D	28,047	28,047	28,047	---	---
Subtotal, IDEA special programs.....		232,716	232,716	232,716	---	---
Total, Special education.....		12,497,300	12,600,627	12,522,358	+25,058	-78,269
Current Year.....		(3,213,917)	(2,476,524)	(3,238,975)	(+25,058)	(+762,451)
FY 2016.....		(9,283,383)	(10,124,103)	(9,283,383)	---	(-840,720)
Subtotal, Forward Funded.....		(2,981,201)	(2,243,808)	(3,006,259)	(+25,058)	(+762,451)



DIVISION G- DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
<b>REHABILITATION SERVICES AND DISABILITY RESEARCH</b>					
Vocational Rehabilitation State Grants.....	3,302,053	3,335,074	3,335,074	+33,021	---
Client Assistance State grants.....	12,000	12,000	13,000	+1,000	+1,000
Training.....	33,857	30,188	30,188	-3,469	---
Demonstration and Training programs.....	5,796	5,796	5,796	---	---
Migrant and Seasonal Farmworkers.....	1,196	---	---	-1,196	---
Protection and Advocacy of Individual Rights (PAIR)...	17,650	17,650	17,650	---	---
Supported Employment State grants.....	27,548	---	27,548	---	+27,548
<b>Independent Living:</b>					
State Grants.....	22,878	22,878	22,878	---	---
Centers.....	78,305	78,305	78,305	---	---
Services for Older Blind Individuals.....	33,317	33,317	33,317	---	---
<b>Subtotal.....</b>	<b>134,500</b>	<b>134,500</b>	<b>134,500</b>	<b>---</b>	<b>---</b>
<b>Helen Keller National Center for Deaf/Blind Youth and Adults.....</b>	<b>9,127</b>	<b>9,127</b>	<b>9,127</b>	<b>---</b>	<b>---</b>
National Inst. Disability and Rehab. Research (NIDRR)...	103,970	108,000	103,970	---	-4,030
Assistive Technology.....	33,000	31,000	33,000	---	+2,000
<b>Subtotal, Discretionary programs.....</b>	<b>378,444</b>	<b>348,261</b>	<b>374,779</b>	<b>-3,665</b>	<b>+26,518</b>
<b>Total, Rehabilitation services.....</b>	<b>3,680,497</b>	<b>3,683,335</b>	<b>3,709,853</b>	<b>+29,356</b>	<b>+26,518</b>

DIVISION G- DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
-----					
SPECIAL INSTITUTIONS FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES					
American Printing House for the Blind..... D	24,456	24,456	24,931	+475	+475
National Technical Institute for the Deaf (NTID):					
Operations..... D	66,291	66,291	67,016	+725	+725
Gallaudet University:					
Operations..... D	119,000	119,000	120,275	+1,275	+1,275
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Total, Special Institutions for Persons with Disabilities.....	209,747	209,747	212,222	+2,475	+2,475
CAREER, TECHNICAL, AND ADULT EDUCATION					
Career Education:					
Basic State Grants/Secondary & Technical Education					FF
State Grants, current funded..... D	326,598	326,598	326,598	---	---
Advance from prior year..... NA	(791,000)	(791,000)	(791,000)	---	---
FY 2016..... D	791,000	791,000	791,000	---	---
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Subtotal, Basic State Grants, program level.	1,117,598	1,117,598	1,117,598	---	---
National Programs..... D	7,421	7,421	7,421	---	---
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Subtotal, Career Education.....	1,125,019	1,125,019	1,125,019	---	---

DIVISION G- DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
<b>Adult Education:</b>					
State Grants/Adult Basic and Literacy Education: D					
State Grants, current funded..... D	563,955	563,955	568,955	+5,000	+5,000 FF
National Leadership Activities..... D	13,712	33,712	13,712	---	-20,000 FF
<b>Subtotal, Adult education.....</b>	<b>577,667</b>	<b>597,667</b>	<b>582,667</b>	<b>+5,000</b>	<b>-15,000</b>
<b>Total, Career, Technical, and Adult Education...</b>	<b>1,702,686</b>	<b>1,722,686</b>	<b>1,707,686</b>	<b>+5,000</b>	<b>-15,000</b>
Current Year.....	(911,686)	(931,686)	(916,686)	(+5,000)	(-15,000)
FY 2016.....	(791,000)	(791,000)	(791,000)	---	---
<b>Subtotal, Forward Funded.....</b>	<b>(911,686)</b>	<b>(931,686)</b>	<b>(916,686)</b>	<b>(+5,000)</b>	<b>(-15,000)</b>
<b>STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE</b>					
Pell Grants -- maximum grant (NA)..... NA	(4,860)	(4,860)	(4,860)	---	---
Pell Grants..... D	22,778,352	22,778,352	22,475,352	-303,000	-303,000
Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants... D	733,130	733,130	733,130	---	---
Federal Work Study..... D	974,728	974,728	989,728	+15,000	+15,000
<b>Total, Student Financial Assistance (SFA).....</b>	<b>24,486,210</b>	<b>24,486,210</b>	<b>24,198,210</b>	<b>-288,000</b>	<b>-288,000</b>
<b>STUDENT AID ADMINISTRATION</b>					
Salaries and Expenses ..... D	663,251	675,224	675,224	+11,973	---
Servicing Activities..... D	502,749	771,700	721,700	+218,951	-50,000
<b>Total, Student Aid Administration.....</b>	<b>1,166,000</b>	<b>1,446,924</b>	<b>1,396,924</b>	<b>+230,924</b>	<b>-50,000</b>

DIVISION G- DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
<b>HIGHER EDUCATION</b>					
Aid for Institutional Development:					
Strengthening Institutions.....	79,139	79,139	80,462	+1,323	+1,323
Hispanic Serving Institutions.....	98,583	98,583	100,231	+1,648	+1,648
Promoting Post-Baccalaureate Opportunities for					
Hispanic Americans.....	8,845	8,845	8,992	+147	+147
Strengthening Historically Black Colleges (HBCUs).	223,783	223,783	227,524	+3,741	+3,741
Strengthening Historically Black Graduate					
Institutions.....	57,872	57,872	58,840	+968	+968
Strengthening Predominantly Black Institutions....	9,092	9,092	9,244	+152	+152
Asian American Pacific Islander.....	3,062	3,062	3,113	+51	+51
Strengthening Alaska Native and					
Native Hawaiian-Serving Institutions.....	12,622	12,622	12,833	+211	+211
Strengthening Native American-Serving Nontribal					
Institutions.....	3,062	3,062	3,113	+51	+51
Strengthening Tribal Colleges.....	25,239	25,239	25,862	+623	+623
Subtotal, Aid for Institutional development.....	521,299	521,299	530,014	+8,715	+8,715
International Education and Foreign Language:					
Domestic Programs.....	65,103	69,103	65,103	---	-4,000
Overseas Programs.....	7,061	7,061	7,061	---	---
Subtotal, International Education & Foreign Lang	72,164	76,164	72,164	---	-4,000

DIVISION G- DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
Fund for the Improvement of Postsec. Ed. (FIPSE).....	79,400	175,000	67,775	-11,625	-107,225
Postsecondary Program for Students with Intellectual Disabilities.....	10,384	---	11,800	+1,416	+11,800
Minority Science and Engineering Improvement.....	8,971	8,971	8,971	---	---
Tribally Controlled Postsec Voc/Tech Institutions.....	7,705	7,705	7,705	---	---
Federal TRIO Programs.....	838,252	838,252	839,752	+1,500	+1,500
GEAR UP.....	301,639	301,639	301,639	---	---
Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need.....	29,293	29,293	29,293	---	---
Teacher Quality Partnerships.....	40,592	---	40,592	---	+40,592
Child Care Access Means Parents in School.....	15,134	15,134	15,134	---	---
GPRA Data/HEA Program Evaluation.....	575	52,000	---	-575	-52,000
Total, Higher Education.....	1,925,408	2,025,457	1,924,839	-569	-100,618
HOWARD UNIVERSITY					
Academic Program.....	191,091	191,091	191,091	---	---
Endowment Program.....	3,405	3,405	3,405	---	---
Howard University Hospital.....	27,325	27,325	27,325	---	---
Total, Howard University.....	221,821	221,821	221,821	---	---
COLLEGE HOUSING AND ACADEMIC FACILITIES LOANS.....					
	435	435	435	---	---

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DIVISION G- DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

		FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
<b>HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY (HBCU) CAPITAL FINANCING PROGRAM</b>						
HBCU Federal Administration.....	D	334	334	334	---	---
HBCU Loan Subsidies.....	D	19,096	19,096	19,096	---	---
Total, HBCU Capital Financing Program.....		19,430	19,430	19,430	---	---
<b>INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION SCIENCES (IES)</b>						
Research, Development and Dissemination.....	D	179,860	190,273	179,860	---	-10,413
Statistics.....	D	103,060	122,748	103,060	---	-19,688
Regional Educational Laboratories.....	D	54,423	54,423	54,423	---	---
Research in Special Education.....	D	54,000	54,000	54,000	---	---
Special Education Studies and Evaluations.....	D	10,818	13,415	10,818	---	-2,597
Statewide Data Systems.....	D	34,539	70,000	34,539	---	-35,461
Assessment:						
National Assessment.....	D	132,000	124,616	129,000	-3,000	+4,384
National Assessment Governing Board.....	D	8,235	7,705	8,235	---	+530
Subtotal, Assessment.....		140,235	132,321	137,235	-3,000	+4,914
Total, IES.....		576,935	637,180	573,935	-3,000	-63,245

DIVISION G- DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
<b>DEPARTMENTAL MANAGEMENT</b>					
Program Administration:					
Salaries and Expenses.....	421,917	440,487	410,000	-11,917	-30,487
Building Modernization.....	1,000	1,513	1,000	---	-513
Total, Program administration.....	422,917	442,000	411,000	-11,917	-31,000
Office for Civil Rights.....	98,356	102,000	100,000	+1,644	-2,000
Office of the Inspector General.....	57,791	59,181	57,791	---	-1,390
Total, Departmental management.....	579,064	603,181	568,791	-10,273	-34,390
Total, Title III, Department of Education.....	70,603,768	71,922,855	70,470,650	-133,118	-1,452,205
Current Year.....	(48,006,767)	(49,325,854)	(47,873,649)	(-133,118)	(-1,452,205)
FY 2016.....	(22,597,001)	(22,597,001)	(22,597,001)	---	---

DIVISION G- DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
-----					
TITLE IV - RELATED AGENCIES					
COMMITTEE FOR PURCHASE FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND OR SEVERELY DISABLED..... D					
	5,257	5,441	5,362	+105	-79
CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE					
Operating Expenses					
Domestic Volunteer Service Programs:					
Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA)..... D	92,364	92,364	92,364	---	---
National Senior Volunteer Corps:					
Foster Grandparents Program..... D	107,702	92,806	107,702	---	+14,896
Senior Companion Program..... D	45,512	38,330	45,512	---	+7,182
Retired Senior Volunteer Program..... D	48,903	---	48,903	---	+48,903
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Subtotal, Senior Volunteers.....	202,117	131,136	202,117	---	+70,981
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Subtotal, Domestic Volunteer Service.....	294,481	223,500	294,481	---	+70,981
National and Community Service Programs:					
AmeriCorps State and National Grants..... D	335,430	335,430	335,430	---	---
Training and Technical Assistance..... D	---	1,000	---	---	-1,000
Innovation, Assistance, and Other Activities..... D	76,900	92,125	77,400	+500	-14,725
Evaluation..... D	5,000	5,000	5,000	---	---
National Civilian Community Corps..... D	30,000	30,000	30,000	---	---
State Commissions Support Grants..... D	15,038	16,038	16,038	+1,000	---
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Subtotal, National and Community Service.....	462,368	479,593	463,868	+1,500	-15,725
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Total, Operating expenses.....	756,849	703,093	758,349	+1,500	+55,256



DIVISION G- DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

		FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
National Service Trust.....	D	207,368	253,885	209,618	+2,250	-44,267
Salaries and Expenses.....	D	80,737	87,257	81,737	+1,000	-5,520
Office of Inspector General.....	D	5,000	6,000	5,250	+250	-750
		=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Total, Corp. for National and Community Service.		1,049,954	1,050,235	1,054,954	+5,000	+4,719
CORPORATION FOR PUBLIC BROADCASTING:						
FY 2017 (current) with FY 2016 comparable.....	D	445,000	445,000	445,000	---	---
FY 2016 advance with FY 2015 comparable (NA).....	NA	(445,000)	(445,000)	(445,000)	---	---
FY 2015 advance with FY 2014 comparable (NA).....	NA	(445,000)	(445,000)	(445,000)	---	---
FEDERAL MEDIATION AND CONCILIATION SERVICE.....	D	45,149	45,666	45,666	+517	---
FEDERAL MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH REVIEW COMMISSION.....	D	16,423	17,061	16,751	+328	-310
INSTITUTE OF MUSEUM AND LIBRARY SERVICES.....	D	226,860	226,448	227,860	+1,000	+1,412
MEDICARE PAYMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION.....	TF	11,519	12,300	11,749	+230	-561
MEDICAID AND CHIP PAYMENT AND ACCESS COMMISSION.....	D	7,500	8,700	7,650	+150	-1,050
NATIONAL COUNCIL ON DISABILITY.....	D	3,186	3,264	3,250	+64	-14
NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD.....	D	274,224	277,840	274,224	---	-3,616
NATIONAL MEDIATION BOARD.....	D	13,116	13,227	13,227	+111	---
OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH REVIEW COMMISSION.....	D	11,411	12,651	11,639	+228	-1,012

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DIVISION G- DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

		FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
<b>RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD</b>						
Dual Benefits Payments Account.....	D	39,000	34,000	34,000	-5,000	---
Less Income Tax Receipts on Dual Benefits.....	D	-3,000	-3,000	-3,000	---	---
Subtotal, Dual Benefits.....		36,000	31,000	31,000	-5,000	---
Federal Payment to the RR Retirement Accounts.....	M	150	150	150	---	---
Limitation on Administration.....	TF	110,300	112,150	111,225	+925	-925
Limitation on the Office of Inspector General.....	TF	8,272	8,750	8,437	+165	-313
<b>SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION</b>						
Payments to Social Security Trust Funds.....	M	16,400	16,400	16,400	---	---
<b>Supplemental Security Income Program</b>						
Federal Benefit Payments.....	M	55,579,000	56,201,000	56,201,000	+622,000	---
Beneficiary Services.....	M	3,000	70,000	70,000	+67,000	---
Research and Demonstration.....	M	47,000	53,000	83,000	+36,000	+30,000
Administration.....	D	4,920,064	4,302,029	4,578,978	-341,086	+276,949
Subtotal, SSI program level.....		60,549,064	60,626,029	60,932,978	+383,914	+306,949
Less funds advanced in prior year.....	M	-19,300,000	-19,700,000	-19,700,000	-400,000	---
Subtotal, regular SSI current year.....		41,249,064	40,926,029	41,232,978	-16,086	+306,949
New advance, 1st quarter, FY 2016.....	M	19,700,000	19,200,000	19,200,000	-500,000	---
Total, SSI program.....		60,949,064	60,126,029	60,432,978	-516,086	+306,949

DIVISION G- DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
<b>Limitation on Administrative Expenses</b>					
OASI/IDI Trust Funds.....	4,225,519	4,987,833	4,913,260	+687,741	-74,573
HI/SMI Trust Funds.....	1,807,407	1,837,623	1,755,376	-52,031	-82,247
Social Security Advisory Board.....	2,300	2,300	2,300	--	--
SSI.....	4,292,814	3,675,245	3,614,009	-678,805	-61,236
Subtotal, regular LAE.....	10,328,040	10,503,001	10,284,945	-43,095	-218,056
<b>User Fees:</b>					
SSI User Fee activities.....	171,000	124,000	124,000	-47,000	--
SSPA User Fee Activities.....	1,000	1,000	1,000	--	--
Subtotal, User fees.....	172,000	125,000	125,000	-47,000	--
Subtotal, Limitation on administrative expenses.....	10,500,040	10,628,001	10,409,945	-90,095	-218,056
<b>Program Integrity:</b>					
OASDI Trust Funds.....	569,750	769,216	431,031	-138,719	-338,185
SSI.....	627,250	626,784	964,969	+337,719	+338,185
Subtotal, Program integrity funding.....	1,197,000	1,396,000	1,396,000	+199,000	--
Total, Limitation on Administrative Expenses....	11,697,040	12,024,001	11,805,945	+108,905	-218,056

DIVISION G- DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
<b>Office of Inspector General</b>					
Federal Funds.....	28,829	29,000	28,829	---	-171
Trust Funds.....	73,249	75,822	74,521	+1,272	-1,101
Total, Office of Inspector General.....	102,078	104,822	103,350	+1,272	-1,272
Adjustment: Trust fund transfers from general revenues TF	-4,920,064	-4,302,029	-4,578,978	+341,086	-276,949
Total, Social Security Administration.....	67,844,518	67,969,023	67,779,895	-64,823	-189,328
Federal Funds.....	61,166,293	60,296,429	60,603,207	-563,086	+306,778
Current year.....	(41,466,293)	(41,096,429)	(41,403,207)	(-63,086)	(+306,778)
New advances, 1st quarter, FY 2016.....	(19,700,000)	(19,200,000)	(19,200,000)	(-500,000)	---
Trust funds.....	6,678,225	7,672,594	7,176,488	+498,263	-496,106
Total, Title IV, Related Agencies.....	70,108,839	70,236,906	70,047,839	-61,000	-191,067
Federal Funds.....	63,300,523	62,433,112	62,739,940	-560,583	+306,828
Current Year.....	(43,155,523)	(42,788,112)	(43,094,940)	(-60,583)	(+306,828)
FY 2016 Advance.....	(19,700,000)	(19,200,000)	(19,200,000)	(-500,000)	---
FY 2017 Advance.....	(445,000)	(445,000)	(445,000)	---	---
Trust Funds.....	6,808,316	7,805,794	7,307,899	+499,593	-497,895
TITLE VI - EBOLA RESPONSE AND PREPAREDNESS (total)...	---	(3,152,000)	(2,742,000)	(+2,742,000)	(-410,000)

DIVISION G- DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
<b>RECAP</b>					
Mandatory, total in bill.....	612,125,856	681,293,165	681,328,025	+69,202,169	+34,860
Less advances for subsequent years.....	-126,646,323	-135,953,140	-135,953,140	-9,306,817	---
Plus advances provided in prior years.....	128,975,631	126,646,323	126,646,323	-2,329,308	---
Total, mandatory, current year.....	614,455,164	671,986,348	672,021,208	+57,566,044	+34,860
Discretionary, total in bill.....	163,852,524	164,475,914	164,232,053	+379,529	-243,861
Less advances for subsequent years.....	-24,814,001	-24,814,001	-24,814,001	---	---
Plus advances provided in prior years.....	24,814,001	24,814,001	24,814,001	---	---
Subtotal, discretionary, current year.....	163,852,524	164,475,914	164,232,053	+379,529	-243,861
Discretionary Scorekeeping adjustments:					
MSHA spending of receipts (CHIMP).....	2,000	---	---	-2,000	---
SSI/SSPA User Fee Collection.....	-172,000	-123,000	-123,000	+49,000	---
Ebola funding (Public Law 113-164).....	---	---	88,000	+88,000	+88,000
Average Weekly Insured Unemployment (AWIU) Conting	10,000	20,000	20,000	+10,000	---
Medicare Eligible Accruals (permanent, indefinite).....	26,476	27,947	27,947	+1,471	---
Childrens Health Insurance Program (rescission).....	-6,317,000	-1,751,000	-1,745,000	+4,572,000	+6,000
Childrens Health Insurance Program one-time	---	---	---	---	---
payment (rescission)(Public Law 113-164).....	---	-1,384,000	-4,549,000	-4,549,000	-3,165,000
Child Enrollment contingency fund (rescission).....	---	-2,099,000	---	---	+2,099,000
Independent Payment Advisory Board (rescission).....	-10,000	---	-10,000	---	-10,000
Career pathways included in Pell grant benefit.....	---	---	1,000	+1,000	+1,000
Traditional Medicare program.....	305,000	---	305,000	---	+305,000
Total, discretionary.....	157,697,000	159,166,861	158,247,000	+550,000	-919,861
Grand Total, current year.....	772,152,164	831,153,209	830,268,208	+58,116,044	-885,001

# DIVISION H—LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015

The following is an explanation of the effects of Division H, which makes appropriations for the Legislative Branch for fiscal year 2015. Unless otherwise noted, reference to the House and Senate reports are to House Report 113-417 and Senate Report 113-196. The language included in House Report 113-417 and Senate Report 113-196 should be compiled with and carry the same emphasis as the language included in the explanatory statement, unless specifically addressed to the contrary in this explanatory statement. While repeating some report language for emphasis, this explanatory statement does not intend to negate the language referred to above unless expressly provided herein.

**Reprogramming Guidelines.**—It is expected that all agencies notify the Committees on Appropriations of the House and the Senate of any significant departures from budget plans presented to the Committees in any agency's budget justifications. In particular, agencies funded through this bill are required to notify the Committees prior to each reprogramming of funds in excess of the lesser of 10 percent or \$500,000 between programs, projects or activities, or in excess of \$500,000 between object classifications (except for shifts within the pay categories, object class 11, 12, and 13 or as further specified in each agency's respective section). This includes cumulative reprogrammings that together total at least \$500,000 from or to a particular program, activity, or object classification as well as reprogramming FTEs or funds to create new organizational entities within the Agency or to restructure entities which already exist. The Committees desire to be notified of reprogramming actions which involve less than the above-mentioned amounts if such actions would have the effect of changing an agency's funding requirements in future years or if programs or projects specifically cited in the Committee's reports are affected.

## TITLE I—SENATE

The agreement includes \$864,285,102 for Senate operations. This item relates solely to the Senate, and is in accordance with long practice under which each body determines its own housekeeping requirements and the other concurs without intervention.

The Government Accountability Office (GAO) is directed to evaluate the methods available to Senate offices to both communicate with blind and deaf constituents as well as to support congressional staff covered under the Americans with Disabilities Act. GAO should also make recommendations on additional steps needed to reasonably accommodate such constituents and staff, including new technologies that are not currently being utilized.

### ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION

The agreement eliminates an outdated requirement that the Secretary of the Senate purchase newspaper advertisements to solicit bids for procuring stationary products for the Senate.

### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The agreement includes \$1,180,736,000 for House operations. This item relates solely to the House, and is in accordance with long practice under which each body determines its own housekeeping requirements and the other concurs without intervention.

To ensure that employees and supervisors of Member, Committee, and House Offices prevent and maintain harassment free work environments, the Chief Administrative Officer is directed to develop and offer online

training on workplace sexual harassment. The CAO shall utilize already developed materials from other Federal agencies and build on training already available through the House on similar subject matter. The CAO shall brief the Committee on Appropriations on strategies for dissemination of this new training.

### ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

The agreement provides for unspent amounts remaining in Members' Representational Allowances account to be used for deficit or debt reduction, prohibits the delivery of bills and resolutions, prohibits the delivery of printed copies of the Congressional record, places a limitation on amount available to lease vehicles, places a limitation on print copies of the U.S. Code, prohibits delivery of reports of disbursements, and prohibits delivery of daily calendar.

### JOINT ITEMS

#### JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

The agreement includes \$4,203,000 for salaries and expenses.

#### JOINT COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

The Joint Committee on Taxation is provided \$10,095,000 for salaries and expenses, as requested. As proposed in the budget request, this amount adjusts the fiscal year 2014 level for cost-of-living increases and therefore maintains current services.

#### OFFICE OF THE ATTENDING PHYSICIAN

The agreement includes \$3,371,000.

#### OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES

#### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement includes \$1,387,000.

#### CAPITOL POLICE

#### SALARIES

The agreement includes \$286,500,000 for salaries of the Capitol Police. This will support a staffing level of 1,775 sworn officers and 370 civilian personnel.

#### GENERAL EXPENSES

The agreement includes \$61,459,000 for general expenses of the Capitol Police.

#### OFFICE OF COMPLIANCE

#### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement includes \$3,959,000.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION

The agreement allows the Office of Compliance to send certain notifications to employees electronically.

#### CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE

#### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement includes \$45,700,000 for salaries and expenses.

#### ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL

#### GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

The agreement includes \$91,455,000 for General Administration.

Projects that were requested in this account were moved to the account of jurisdiction.

#### CAPITOL BUILDING

The agreement includes \$54,665,000, for maintenance, care, and operation of the Capitol, of which \$9,134,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2019 and \$21,222,000 shall remain available until expended.

With respect to operations and projects, the following is agreed to:

Operating Budget .....	\$24,309,000
Project Budget:	
1. West Grand Stair Enclosure ...	1,568,000
2. Dome Restoration, Phase IIC, Rotunda .....	21,222,000

3. Exterior Stone & Metal Preservation, South Extension, Phase IIA .....	2,527,000
4. Brumidi Corridors Restoration & Conservation Plan .....	1,340,000
5. Conservation of Fine and Architectural Art .....	199,000
6. Minor Construction .....	3,500,000
	<hr/>
	30,356,000

Total, Capitol Building ..... \$54,665,000

### CAPITOL GROUNDS

The agreement includes \$11,973,000 for the care and improvements of the grounds surrounding the Capitol, House and Senate office buildings, and the Capitol Power Plant, of which \$2,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2019.

With respect to operations and projects, the following was agreed to:

Operating Budget .....	\$9,973,000
Project Budget:	
1. Minor Construction .....	2,000,000
	<hr/>
Total, Capitol Grounds .....	\$11,973,000

The Committees support the Light Pole Structural Repairs and Improvement project and direct the Architect of the Capitol to make this a priority to accomplish within existing funds.

### SENATE OFFICE BUILDINGS

The agreement includes \$94,313,000 for the maintenance, care and operation of the Senate office buildings, of which \$36,488,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2019.

This item relates solely to the Senate and is in accordance with long practice under which each body determines its own housekeeping requirements, and the other concurs without intervention.

Operating Budget ..... \$57,825,000

Project Budget:	
1. Senate Underground Garage Renovations & Landscape Restoration, Phase I .....	19,300,000
2. Exterior Envelope Repair & Restoration, Phase II East Facade, RSOB .....	12,188,000
3. Minor Construction .....	5,000,000
	<hr/>
	36,488,000

Total, Senate Office Buildings .. \$94,313,000

Based on information provided by AOC, AOC is directed to use existing unobligated balances within Senate Office Buildings to complete Phase II of the Kitchen Exhaust System Upgrade, DSOB.

### HOUSE OFFICE BUILDINGS

The agreement includes \$89,446,898 for the basic and recurring needs of the House within the House Office Buildings account, of which \$24,824,898 shall remain available until September 30, 2019.

Operating Budget ..... \$64,622,000

Project Budget:	
1. Garage Rehabilitation, Phase I, RHOB .....	17,824,898
2. Minor Construction .....	7,000,000
	<hr/>
	24,824,898

Total, House Office Buildings (base program) ..... \$89,446,898

**House Historic Buildings Revitalization Trust Fund.**—In addition to funding for core facility needs, the agreement includes \$70,000,000 for the Historic Buildings Revitalization Trust Fund, to remain available until expended.

As these funds relate solely to the House, and is in accordance with long practice under which each body determines its own housekeeping requirements and the other concurs without intervention.

## CAPITOL POWER PLANT

In addition to the \$9,000,000 made available from receipts credited as reimbursements to this appropriation, the agreement includes \$90,652,000 for maintenance, care and operation of the Capitol Power Plant, of which \$8,686,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2019.

With respect to operations and project differences, the agreement includes the following:

Operating Budget .....	\$90,966,000
Project Budget:	
1. WRP Chiller System Replacement, RPR, Phase IIIS, CPP ..	4,686,000
2. Minor Construction .....	4,000,000
	8,686,000
Subtotal, Capitol Power Plant .....	\$99,652,000
Offsetting Collections ....	(9,000,000)
Total, Capitol Power Plant .....	\$90,652,000

Based on information provided by AOC on available balances within the Capitol Power Plant account, AOC is directed to utilize existing funds to continue development of the Cogeneration program.

## LIBRARY BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

The agreement includes \$42,180,000 for Library of Congress buildings and grounds, of which \$17,042,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2019.

With respect to operations and projects, the following is agreed to:

Operating Budget .....	\$25,138,000
Project Budget:	
1. Book Conveyor & Pneumatic Messenger System Removal & Infrastructure Repairs, JAB ...	2,925,000
2. Infrastructure UPS Replacement, Main Data Center, Phase I, JMMB .....	4,500,000
3. Fall Protection, JMMB .....	3,911,000
4. Direct Digital Controls Upgrade, Phase II, JMMB .....	3,706,000
5. Minor Construction .....	2,000,000
	17,042,000
Total, Library Buildings and Grounds .....	\$42,180,000

## CAPITOL POLICE BUILDINGS, GROUNDS, AND SECURITY

The agreement includes \$19,159,000 for Capitol Police Buildings, Grounds, and Security, of which \$1,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2019.

With respect to operations and projects, the following is agreed to:

Operating Budget .....	\$18,159,000
Project Budget:	
1. Minor Construction .....	1,000,000
Total, Capitol Police Buildings, Grounds, and Security .....	\$19,159,000

## BOTANIC GARDEN

The agreement includes \$15,573,000 for salaries and expenses for the Botanic Garden, of which \$5,693,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2019.

With respect to operations and projects, the following is agreed to:

Operating Budget .....	\$9,880,000
Project Budget:	
1. Exterior Stone Repair & Roof Replacement, BG .....	3,593,000
2. Minor Construction .....	2,100,000
	5,693,000

Total, Botanic Garden ..... \$15,573,000

## CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER

The agreement includes \$20,844,000 for the Capitol Visitor Center.

## ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

The agreement prohibits AOC from awarding contractor bonuses if the contractor is behind schedule or over budget, with certain exceptions.

The agreement authorizes the U.S. Botanic Garden to participate in certain educational exhibits, programs, outreach, and related services at no cost to the taxpayer.

The agreement prohibits funding in this Act from being used for scrims containing photographs of building facades during restoration or construction projects.

## LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

## SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement includes \$413,007,000 in direct appropriations, of which \$8,231,000 is to remain available until expended for digital collections and educational curricula program.

The agreement has provided an additional \$1,000,000 for the Teaching with Primary Sources program to be used to increase competitive opportunities for developing online interactive and apps for classroom use on Congress and civic participation.

In addition, the agreement has provided \$200,000 for the purchase of books law and \$1,090,000 for the purchase of books general.

It is expected that the \$2,000,000 remainder from the one-time cost for the financial system migration be applied proportionately to all Library of Congress, Salary and Expenses activities to partially offset the impact of the fiscal year 2013 sequestration.

The agreement provides \$2,041,000 for the Veterans History Project and \$226,000 for the Civil Rights History Project, equal to the budget request.

Included is \$5,500,000 base funding for the Preservation Directorate to continue the 30 year program of mass deacidification. In addition, \$1,000,000 is provided for compact shelving at the Library's Packard Campus.

## COPYRIGHT OFFICE

## SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement includes \$20,721,000 in direct appropriations to the Copyright Office. An additional \$33,582,000 is made available from receipts for salaries and expenses.

## CONGRESSIONAL RESEARCH SERVICE

## SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement includes \$106,945,000 for salaries and expenses.

## BOOKS FOR THE BLIND AND PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED

## SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement includes \$50,248,000 for salaries and expenses.

## ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION

The agreement authorizes obligational authority for reimbursable and revolving funds.

Under current law, funds appropriated for the Library of Congress may be transferred between accounts upon approval of the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives. Not more than 10 percent of the total amount of funds appropriated to an account may be transferred from that account as a result of all such transfers made.

## GOVERNMENT PUBLISHING OFFICE

To acknowledge that the information needs of Congress, Federal agencies, and the public have evolved beyond print and that GPO has transformed itself to meet those needs, section 1301 changes the formal name of the organization from the Government Printing Office to the Government Publishing Office.

## CONGRESSIONAL PUBLISHING

## (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The agreement includes \$79,736,000 for authorized publishing, printing and binding for the Congress.

This appropriation was previously titled "Congressional Printing and Binding".

## PUBLIC INFORMATION PROGRAMS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF DOCUMENTS

## SALARIES AND EXPENSES

## (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The agreement includes \$31,500,000. This appropriation was previously titled "Office of Superintendent of Documents".

## GOVERNMENT PUBLISHING OFFICE BUSINESS OPERATIONS REVOLVING FUND

The agreement includes \$8,757,000.

This appropriation was previously titled "Government Printing Office Revolving Fund".

## ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION

The agreement redesignates the Government Printing Office as the Government Publishing Office and makes other conforming changes pertaining to the name of the office and its staff.

## GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE

## SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement includes \$522,000,000 in direct appropriations for salaries and expenses of the Government Accountability Office. In addition, \$23,750,000 is available from offsetting collections.

Senate Report language related to communications and individuals with disabilities is addressed within Senate accounts.

## ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION

The agreement establishes the Center for Audit Excellence to be operated on a fee-based basis.

## OPEN WORLD LEADERSHIP CENTER TRUST FUND

The agreement includes \$5,700,000 for payment to the Open World Leadership Center Trust Fund. Funds made available to support Russian participants shall only be used for those engaging in free market development, humanitarian activities, and civic engagement, and shall not be used for officials of the central government of Russia.

## JOHN C. STENNIS CENTER FOR PUBLIC SERVICE TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

The agreement includes \$430,000.

## TITLE II—GENERAL PROVISIONS

The agreement continues provisions related to maintenance and care of private vehicles, fiscal year limitations, rates of compensation and designation, consulting services, costs of the LBFMC, landscape maintenance, limitation on transfers, and guided tours of the capitol.

A Senate provision restricting bonuses for contractors behind schedule and over budget is included as an administrative provision under the Architect of the Capitol.

DIVISION H -- LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
-----					
TITLE I - LEGISLATIVE BRANCH					
SENATE					
Payment to Widows and Heirs of Deceased Members of Congress (PL 113-46).....	174	---	---	-174	---
Expense allowances:					
Vice President.....	19	19	19	---	---
President Pro Tempore of the Senate.....	38	38	38	---	---
Majority Leader of the Senate.....	40	40	40	---	---
Minority Leader of the Senate.....	40	40	40	---	---
Majority Whip of the Senate.....	10	10	10	---	---
Minority Whip of the Senate.....	10	10	10	---	---
Chairman of the Majority Conference Committee.....	5	5	5	---	---
Chairman of the Minority Conference Committee.....	5	5	5	---	---
Chairman of the Majority Policy Committee.....	5	5	5	---	---
Chairman of the Minority Policy Committee.....	5	5	5	---	---
Subtotal, expense allowances.....	177	177	177	---	---
Representation allowances for the Majority and Minority Leaders.....	28	28	28	---	---
Total, Expense allowances and representation.....	205	205	205	---	---



DIVISION H -- LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
<b>Salaries, Officers and Employees</b>					
Office of the Vice President.....	2,393	2,432	2,417	+24	-15
Office of the President Pro Tempore.....	715	727	723	+8	-4
Offices of the Majority and Minority Leaders.....	5,202	5,288	5,256	+54	-32
Offices of the Majority and Minority Whips.....	3,321	3,379	3,359	+38	-20
Committee on Appropriations.....	14,942	14,942	15,142	+200	+200
Conference committees.....	3,278	3,336	3,316	+38	-20
Offices of the Secretaries of the Conference of the Majority and the Conference of the Minority.....	805	821	817	+12	-4
Policy committees.....	3,348	3,405	3,386	+38	-19
Office of the Chaplain.....	411	419	417	+6	-2
Office of the Secretary.....	24,524	24,919	24,772	+248	-147
Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper.....	68,000	71,000	69,000	+1,000	-2,000
Offices of the Secretaries for the Majority and Minority.....	1,740	1,772	1,762	+22	-10
Agency contributions and related expenses.....	47,271	47,423	47,356	+85	-67
<b>Total, Salaries, officers and employees.....</b>	<b>175,950</b>	<b>179,863</b>	<b>177,723</b>	<b>+1,773</b>	<b>-2,140</b>
<b>Office of the Legislative Counsel of the Senate</b>					
Salaries and expenses.....	5,192	5,277	5,409	+217	+132
<b>Office of Senate Legal Counsel</b>					
Salaries and expenses.....	1,109	1,126	1,120	+11	-6

DIVISION H -- LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
Expense Allowances of the Secretary of the Senate, Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper of the Senate, and Secretaries for the Majority and Minority of the Senate: Expenses allowances.....	28	28	28	---	---
Contingent Expenses of the Senate					
Inquiries and investigations.....	132,000	134,000	133,265	+1,265	-735
Expenses of United States Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control.....	494	520	508	+14	-12
Secretary of the Senate .....	6,250	6,250	6,250	---	---
Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper of the Senate.....	128,210	128,800	128,300	+90	-500
Miscellaneous items.....	19,400	21,178	21,178	+1,778	---
Senators' Official Personnel and Office Expense Account.....	390,000	429,724	390,000	---	-39,724
Official Mail Costs					
Expenses.....	281	300	300	+19	---
Total, Contingent expenses of the Senate.....	676,635	720,772	679,801	+3,166	-40,971
Total, Senate .....	859,293	907,271	864,286	+4,993	-42,985

DIVISION H -- LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
<b>HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES</b>					
Payment to Widows and Heirs of Deceased Members of Congress.....	174	---	---	-174	---
<b>Salaries and Expenses</b>					
<b>House Leadership Offices</b>					
Office of the Speaker.....	6,645	6,778	6,645	---	-133
Office of the Majority Floor Leader.....	2,180	2,224	2,180	---	-44
Office of the Minority Floor Leader.....	7,114	7,257	7,114	---	-143
Office of the Majority Whip.....	1,887	1,924	1,887	---	-37
Office of the Minority Whip.....	1,460	1,489	1,460	---	-29
Republican Conference.....	1,505	1,536	1,505	---	-31
Democratic Caucus.....	1,487	1,517	1,487	---	-30
Subtotal, House Leadership Offices.....	22,278	22,725	22,278	---	-447
Members' Representational Allowances Including Members' Clerk Hire, Official Expenses of Members, and Official Mail					
Expenses.....	554,318	565,404	554,318	---	-11,086

DIVISION H -- LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
<b>Committee Employees</b>				
Standing Committees, Special and Select.....	123,903	126,335	---	-2,432
Committee on Appropriations (including studies and investigations).....	23,271	23,736	---	-465
Subtotal, Committee employees.....	147,174	150,071	---	-2,897
<b>Salaries, Officers and Employees</b>				
Office of the Clerk.....	24,009	24,639	---	-630
Office of the Sergeant at Arms.....	14,777	12,058	-2,850	-131
Office of the Chief Administrative Officer.....	113,100	116,163	---	-3,063
Office of the Inspector General.....	4,742	4,742	---	---
Office of General Counsel.....	1,341	1,353	---	-12
Office of the Parliamentarian.....	1,952	1,971	---	-19
Office of the Law Revision Counsel of the House.....	3,088	4,114	+1,000	-26
Office of the Legislative Counsel of the House.....	8,353	8,893	+540	---
Office of Interparliamentary Affairs.....	814	814	---	---
Other authorized employees.....	479	479	---	---
Subtotal, Salaries, officers and employees.....	172,655	175,226	-1,310	-3,881

DIVISION H -- LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
<b>Allowances and Expenses</b>					
Supplies, materials, administrative costs and Federal tort claims.....	3,503	4,153	4,153	+650	---
Official mail for committees, leadership offices, and administrative offices of the House.....	190	190	190	---	---
Government contributions.....	258,081	258,081	256,636	-1,445	-1,445
Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery.....	16,217	16,217	16,217	---	---
Transition activities.....	1,631	3,737	3,737	+2,106	---
Wounded Warrior program.....	2,500	2,500	2,500	---	---
Office of Congressional Ethic.....	1,467	1,485	1,467	---	-18
Miscellaneous items.....	720	720	720	---	---
Subtotal, Allowances and expenses.....	284,309	287,083	285,620	+1,311	-1,463
Total, House of Representatives.....	1,180,908	1,200,509	1,180,735	-173	-19,774
<b>JOINT ITEMS</b>					
Joint Economic Committee.....	4,203	4,270	4,203	---	-67
Joint Committee on Taxation.....	10,004	10,149	10,095	+91	-54
<b>Office of the Attending Physician</b>					
Medical supplies, equipment, expenses, and allowances.	3,400	3,371	3,371	-29	---
Office of Congressional Accessibility Services.....	1,387	1,405	1,387	---	-18
Total, Joint items.....	18,994	19,195	19,056	+62	-139

DIVISION H -- LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
<b>CAPITOL POLICE</b>					
Salaries.....	279,000	291,403	286,500	+7,500	-4,903
General expenses.....	59,459	64,260	61,459	+2,000	-2,801
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Total, Capitol Police.....	338,459	355,663	347,959	+9,500	-7,704
<b>OFFICE OF COMPLIANCE</b>					
Salaries and expenses.....	3,868	4,020	3,959	+91	-61
<b>CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE</b>					
Salaries and expenses.....	45,700	46,078	45,700	---	-378
<b>ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL</b>					
General administration.....	90,277	96,433	91,455	+1,178	-4,978
Capitol building.....	61,376	57,545	54,665	-6,711	-2,880
Capitol grounds.....	13,860	14,366	11,973	-1,887	-2,393
Senate office buildings.....	72,990	109,221	94,313	+21,323	-14,908
House of Representatives buildings:					
House office buildings.....	71,622	108,934	89,447	+17,825	-19,487
House Historic Buildings Revitalization Fund.....	70,000	70,000	70,000	---	---
Capitol Power Plant.....	125,678	103,990	99,652	-26,026	-4,338
Offsetting collections.....	-9,000	-9,000	-9,000	---	---
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Subtotal, Capitol Power Plant.....	116,678	94,990	90,652	-26,026	-4,338

DIVISION H -- LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
Library buildings and grounds.....	53,391	62,756	42,180	-11,211	-20,576
Capitol police buildings, grounds and security.....	19,348	25,605	19,159	-189	-6,446
Botanic Garden.....	11,856	15,686	15,573	+3,717	-113
Capitol Visitor Center:					
CVC operations.....	20,632	21,095	20,844	+212	-251
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Total, Architect of the Capitol.....	602,030	676,631	600,261	-1,769	-76,370
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
LIBRARY OF CONGRESS					
Salaries and expenses.....	412,052	420,852	419,357	+7,305	-1,495
Authority to spend receipts.....	-6,350	-6,350	-6,350	---	---
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Subtotal, Salaries and expenses.....	405,702	414,502	413,007	+7,305	-1,495
Copyright Office, salaries and expenses.....	51,624	53,068	54,303	+2,679	+1,235
Authority to spend receipts.....	-33,444	-33,582	-33,582	-138	---
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Subtotal, Copyright Office.....	18,180	19,486	20,721	+2,541	+1,235
Congressional Research Service, Salaries and expenses.	105,350	108,382	106,945	+1,595	-1,437
Books for the blind and physically handicapped,					
Salaries and expenses.....	49,750	50,696	50,248	+498	-448
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Total, Library of Congress.....	578,982	593,066	590,921	+11,939	-2,145

DIVISION H -- LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
<b>GOVERNMENT PUBLISHING OFFICE 1/</b>					
Congressional publishing 2/.....	79,736	85,400	79,736	---	-5,664
Public Information Programs of the Superintendent of Documents.					
Salaries and expenses 3/.....	31,500	32,171	31,500	---	-671
Government Publishing Office Business Operations					
Revolving Fund 4/.....	8,064	11,348	8,757	+693	-2,591
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Total, Government Publishing Office 1/.....	119,300	128,919	119,993	+693	-8,926
<b>GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE</b>					
Salaries and expenses.....	537,751	548,866	545,750	+7,999	-3,116
Offsetting collections.....	-32,368	-23,750	-23,750	+8,618	---
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Total, Government Accountability Office.....	505,383	525,116	522,000	+16,617	-3,116



DIVISION H -- LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
<b>OPEN WORLD LEADERSHIP CENTER TRUST FUND</b>					
Payment to the Open World Leadership Center Trust Fund.....	6,000	8,000	5,700	-300	-2,300
<b>JOHN C. STENNIS CENTER FOR PUBLIC SERVICE TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT</b>					
Stennis Center for Public Service.....	430	430	430	---	---
<b>GENERAL PROVISIONS</b>					
Scorekeeping adjustment (CBO estimate).....	-1,000	---	-1,000	---	-1,000
Grand total.....	4,258,347	4,464,898	4,300,000	+41,653	-164,898
Discretionary.....	(4,257,999)	(4,464,898)	(4,300,000)	(+42,001)	(-164,898)
Mandatory.....	(348)	---	---	(-348)	---
1/ Formerly named Government Printing Office 2/ Formerly named Congressional Printing and Binding 3/ Formerly named Office of Superintendent of Documents 4/ Formerly named Government Printing Office Revolving Fund					

DIVISION H -- LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2014	Final Bill vs. Request
<b>RECAPITULATION</b>					
Senate .....	859,293	907,271	864,286	+4,993	-42,985
House of Representatives .....	1,180,908	1,200,509	1,180,735	-173	-19,774
Joint Items .....	18,994	19,195	19,056	+62	-139
Capitol Police .....	338,459	355,663	347,959	+9,500	-7,704
Office of Compliance .....	3,868	4,020	3,959	+91	-61
Congressional Budget Office .....	45,700	46,078	45,700	---	-378
Architect of the Capitol .....	602,030	676,631	600,261	-1,769	-76,370
Library of Congress .....	578,982	593,066	590,921	+11,939	-2,145
Government Publishing Office 1/ .....	119,300	128,919	119,993	+693	-8,926
Government Accountability Office .....	505,383	525,116	522,000	+16,617	-3,116
Open World Leadership Center .....	6,000	8,000	5,700	-300	-2,300
Stennis Center for Public Service .....	430	430	430	---	---
General Provisions .....	-1,000	---	-1,000	---	-1,000
Grand total .....	4,258,347	4,464,898	4,300,000	+41,653	-164,898
Discretionary .....	(4,257,999)	(4,464,898)	(4,300,000)	(+42,001)	(-164,898)
Mandatory .....	(348)	---	---	(-348)	---

1/ Formerly named Government Printing Office

**DIVISION I.—MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015**

*Matters Addressed by Only One Committee.*—The language and allocations set forth in House Report 113-416 and Senate Report 113-174 should be complied with unless specifically addressed to the contrary in this explanatory statement. Report language included by the House, which is not changed by the report of the Senate or this explanatory statement, and Senate report language, which is not changed by this explanatory statement, is approved by the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress. This explanatory statement, while repeating some report language for emphasis, does not intend to negate the language referred to above unless expressly provided herein. In cases where the House or the Senate has directed the submission of a report, such report is to be submitted to both Houses of Congress. House or Senate reporting requirements with deadlines prior to, or within 15 days after, enactment of this Act shall be submitted no later than 60 days after enactment of this Act. All other reporting deadlines not changed by this explanatory statement are to be met.

**TITLE I—DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**

*Incrementally Funded Projects.*—The Administration requested several large military construction projects that can be incrementally funded, but were instead submitted as large single-year requests, in accordance with a directive from the Office of Management and Budget to the Department of Defense (DOD) to severely restrict the use of incremental funding for military construction. The Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress (hereinafter, “the Committees”) have previously notified the Administration that they reserve the prerogative to provide incremental funding where appropriate, in accordance with authorizing legislation. In general, the agreement supports full funding for military construction projects. In some cases, however, incremental funding makes fiscal and programmatic sense. The agreement therefore incrementally funds the following projects: Fort Bliss Hospital Replacement, Texas, and Rhine Ordnance Barracks Medical Center Replacement, Germany.

*Real Property.*—It is important for DOD to eliminate wasteful spending on unused facilities and properties that have been rated at zero percent utilization. The DOD is urged to manage its facilities and properties in a responsible manner that does not waste taxpayer resources.

*Defense Access Roads and Road Improvement Requirements at Military Installations.*—Military construction budget constraints are negatively affecting the ability of the Department to address urgent transportation requirements at certain U.S. military installations. This includes both Defense Access Roads (DAR) and internal road improvements that are necessary for the safety and well-being of employees, both civilian and military. This problem is particularly acute on growth installations that serve as host commands for a variety of military departments.

Fort George G. Meade in Maryland is illustrative of the seriousness of this situation. Fort Meade is the epicenter of Department of Defense cyber security in the United States, a mission that has grown exponentially over the past few years. As a result, the Army, as the installation host, is tasked with providing the resources within its budget to

support the infrastructure of not only the 6,000 Army personnel assigned to the base, but also of an additional 44,000 military and civilian employees representing other services and Defense agencies, primarily associated with the cyber security missions of the National Security Agency and the U.S. Cyber Command. The recent growth of these affiliated commands has put enormous pressure on the Army to provide necessary road and access improvements at Fort Meade, but as the host command, the Army has been unable to provide the military construction funding within its budget to accommodate these requirements. As a result, access to Fort Meade and traffic congestion on base present increasingly serious problems both on base and on surrounding public roads.

This problem is not unique to Fort Meade. In response to a directive in the report accompanying H.R. 4486, the House of Representatives Fiscal Year 2015 Military Construction, Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill, the Department submitted a list of certified unfunded DAR requirements totaling \$92,900,000. Significantly, the report noted that these requirements do not compete well against other infrastructure requirements for declining military construction dollars and are not included in the current Future Years Defense Program.

There is concern that the Department does not have a coherent strategy to address the growing problem of access and traffic congestion on installations experiencing rapid growth during a time of severe budget constraints. As a result, traffic congestion and safety concerns on both internal base roads and public connecting roads at growth installations are likely to increase.

Therefore, the Department is directed to submit to the congressional defense committees with the fiscal year 2016 military construction budget request the following reports:

- An updated list of certified unfunded Defense Access Road requirements;
- A list of unfunded requirements for internal road improvements at military installations (1) which have experienced a growth rate of 10 percent or more in tenant populations within the past five years, or (2) where tenant organizations comprise more than 50 percent of the workforce; and
- Recommendations of ways in which the Department can facilitate the contribution and coordination of multiple service and Defense agency components of an installation's population to address unfunded base access and internal transportation requirements.

Each of the services is further directed to submit, with the fiscal year 2016 military construction budget request, a list of unfunded internal road improvement requirements on installations that host other service or Defense agency organizations that could be accomplished within the limit for unspecified minor construction as established in the fiscal year 2015 National Defense Authorization Act, and a plan for how those requirements will be incorporated into their minor construction requests for fiscal years 2017 through 2021.

*Unfunded Quality of Life Military Construction Requirements.*—Increasingly severe budget constraints have resulted in a precipitous decline in funding for essential quality of life (QOL) military construction requirements, including child development centers, physical fitness facilities and troop housing. Both the Department and the services have acknowledged that they are taking risk in their military construction programs, espe-

cially QOL requirements, to provide additional funds for operational readiness.

Unfortunately, deferral of needed QOL investment can adversely impact troop readiness and jeopardize the health and safety of service members. Undersized, overcrowded, and poorly equipped physical fitness centers can impede strength, endurance, and agility training, which are key to troop readiness across all services. Deteriorating barracks can harbor health hazards, such as mold and mildew, and pose other safety concerns. Prolonged waiting lists for child care due to unfunded child development center requirements can endanger the well-being of children and create additional stress on military personnel and their families.

In an era in which repeated combat deployments have imposed increased strain on the military, the assurance of adequate QOL facilities on military installations is of paramount importance to the readiness, health, and well-being of military personnel and their families.

The fiscal year 2015 Senate Military Construction, Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill provided additional funding for unfunded QOL military construction requirements identified by the services, subject to authorization. However, no additional funding for QOL projects was authorized in either the fiscal year 2015 Senate or House of Representatives Defense authorization bills.

The Department is therefore directed to provide, with the submission of the fiscal year 2016 budget request, a prioritized list of unfunded QOL requirements to include, but not limited to, troop housing, child development and youth centers, and physical fitness centers, for each of the services, and a plan across the Future Years Defense Program to address these requirements.

**MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, ARMY**

The agreement provides \$528,427,000 for Military Construction, Army. Within this amount, the agreement provides \$51,127,000 for study, planning, design, architect and engineer services, and host nation support.

**MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS**

The agreement provides \$1,018,772,000 for Military Construction, Navy and Marine Corps. Within this amount, the agreement provides \$33,366,000 for study, planning, design, architect and engineer services.

**MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, AIR FORCE**

The agreement provides \$811,774,000 for Military Construction, Air Force. Within this amount, the agreement provides \$10,738,000 for study, planning, design, architect and engineer services.

**MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, DEFENSE-WIDE (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)**

The agreement provides \$1,991,690,000 for Military Construction, Defense-Wide. Within this amount, the agreement provides \$162,240,000 for study, planning, design, architect and engineer services. Within this amount, \$58,704,000 is provided for the Missile Defense Agency planning and design account, which is an increase of \$20,000,000 over the request. The additional funding is to expedite the construction and deployment of urgently needed missile defense assets, including the second Aegis Ashore system in Redzikowo, Poland, and the Long Range Discrimination Radar in the Pacific Region.

*Energy Conservation Investment Program (ECIP).*—The agreement provides \$150,000,000 for ECIP. Additionally, the agreement provides \$10,000,000 in dedicated funding for

ECIP planning and design as requested in the budget. The agreement supports the efforts of the Department of Defense to promote energy conservation, green building initiatives, energy security, and investment in renewable energy resources. The Department and the Services are commended for making energy efficiency a key component of construction on military installations. The Department is urged to use the dedicated planning and design funds to invest in innovative renewable energy projects as well as projects that enhance energy security at military installations.

#### MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

The agreement provides \$128,920,000 for Military Construction, Army National Guard. Within this amount, the agreement provides \$17,600,000 for study, planning, design, architect and engineer services.

#### MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, AIR NATIONAL GUARD

The agreement provides \$92,663,000 for Military Construction, Air National Guard. Within this amount, the agreement provides \$7,700,000 for study, planning, design, architect and engineer services.

#### MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, ARMY RESERVE

The agreement provides \$103,946,000 for Military Construction, Army Reserve. Within this amount, the agreement provides \$8,337,000 for study, planning, design, architect and engineer services.

#### MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, NAVY RESERVE

The agreement provides \$51,528,000 for Military Construction, Navy Reserve. Within this amount, the agreement provides \$2,123,000 for study, planning, design, architect and engineer services.

#### MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, AIR FORCE RESERVE

The agreement provides \$49,492,000 for Military Construction, Air Force Reserve. Within this amount, the agreement provides \$6,892,000 for study, planning, design, architect and engineer services.

#### NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION SECURITY INVESTMENT PROGRAM

The agreement provides \$199,700,000 for the North Atlantic Treaty Organization Security Investment Program.

#### FAMILY HOUSING CONSTRUCTION, ARMY

The agreement provides \$78,609,000 for Family Housing Construction, Army.

#### FAMILY HOUSING OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY

The agreement provides \$350,976,000 for Family Housing Operation and Maintenance, Army.

#### FAMILY HOUSING CONSTRUCTION, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS

The agreement provides \$16,412,000 for Family Housing Construction, Navy and Marine Corps.

#### FAMILY HOUSING OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS

The agreement provides \$354,029,000 for Family Housing Operation and Maintenance, Navy and Marine Corps.

#### FAMILY HOUSING CONSTRUCTION, AIR FORCE

The agreement does not provide funds for Family Housing Construction, Air Force. The budget request did not propose funds.

#### FAMILY HOUSING OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR FORCE

The agreement provides \$327,747,000 for Family Housing Operation and Maintenance, Air Force.

#### FAMILY HOUSING OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, DEFENSE-WIDE

The agreement provides \$61,100,000 for Family Housing Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide.

#### DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE FAMILY HOUSING IMPROVEMENT FUND

The agreement provides \$1,662,000 for the Department of Defense Family Housing Improvement Fund.

#### CHEMICAL DEMILITARIZATION CONSTRUCTION, DEFENSE-WIDE

The agreement provides \$38,715,000 for Chemical Demilitarization Construction, Defense-Wide.

#### DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE ACCOUNT

The agreement provides \$315,085,000 for the Department of Defense Base Closure Account, \$45,000,000 above the request. The additional funding is for the Navy to accelerate environmental remediation at installations closed under previous Base Closure and Realignment rounds.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS (INCLUDING TRANSFERS AND RESCISSIONS OF FUNDS)

The agreement includes section 101 limiting the use of funds under a cost-plus-a-fixed-fee contract.

The agreement includes section 102 allowing the use of construction funds in this title for hire of passenger motor vehicles.

The agreement includes section 103 allowing the use of construction funds in this title for advances to the Federal Highway Administration for the construction of access roads.

The agreement includes section 104 prohibiting construction of new bases in the United States without a specific appropriation.

The agreement includes section 105 limiting the use of funds for the purchase of land or land easements that exceed 100 percent of the value.

The agreement includes section 106 prohibiting the use of funds, except funds appropriated in this title for that purpose, for family housing.

The agreement includes section 107 limiting the use of minor construction funds to transfer or relocate activities.

The agreement includes section 108 prohibiting the procurement of steel unless American producers, fabricators, and manufacturers have been allowed to compete.

The agreement includes section 109 prohibiting the use of construction or family housing funds to pay real property taxes in any foreign nation.

The agreement includes section 110 prohibiting the use of funds to initiate a new installation overseas without prior notification.

The agreement includes section 111 as modified, establishing a preference for American architectural and engineering services for overseas projects.

The agreement includes section 112 as modified, establishing a preference for American contractors in United States territories and possessions in the Pacific and on Kwajalein Atoll and in countries bordering the Arabian Gulf. The Department's military construction program remains key to advancing U.S. security interests in these regions.

The agreement includes section 113 requiring congressional notification of military exercises when construction costs exceed \$100,000.

The agreement includes section 114 limiting obligations in the last two months of the fiscal year.

The agreement includes section 115 allowing funds appropriated in prior years for new projects authorized during the current session of Congress.

The agreement includes section 116 allowing the use of expired or lapsed funds to pay the cost of supervision for any project being completed with lapsed funds.

The agreement includes section 117 allowing military construction funds to be available for five years.

The agreement includes section 118 allowing the transfer of proceeds between BRAC accounts.

The agreement includes section 119 as modified, allowing the transfer of funds from Family Housing Construction accounts to the Family Housing Improvement Fund.

The agreement includes section 120 allowing transfers to the Homeowners Assistance Fund.

The agreement includes section 121 limiting the source of operation and maintenance funds for flag and general officer quarters and allowing for notification by electronic medium.

The agreement includes section 122 extending the availability of funds in the Ford Island Improvement Account.

The agreement includes section 123 allowing the transfer of expired funds to the Foreign Currency Fluctuations, Construction, Defense account.

The agreement includes section 124 restricting the obligation of funds for relocating an Army unit that performs a testing mission.

The agreement includes section 125 allowing for the reprogramming of construction funds among projects and activities subject to certain criteria.

The agreement includes section 126 prohibiting the obligation or expenditure of funds provided to the Department of Defense for military construction for projects at Arlington National Cemetery.

The agreement includes section 127 making funds available for previously authorized military construction projects.

The agreement includes section 128 making funds available for accelerated military construction projects requested by the Department of the Army. The agreement provides for Military Construction, Army, the first two projects requested for acceleration; for Military Construction, Army National Guard, the first project requested for acceleration; and for Military Construction, Army Reserve, the first two projects requested for acceleration.

The agreement includes section 129 rescinding unobligated balances from the Military Construction, Army account.

The agreement includes section 130 rescinding unobligated balances from the Military Construction, Navy and Marine Corps account.

The agreement includes section 131 rescinding unobligated balances from the Military Construction, Air Force account.

The agreement includes section 132 rescinding unobligated balances from the NATO Security Investment Program.

The agreement includes section 133 rescinding unobligated balances from the fund established by Sec. 1013(d) of 42 U.S.C. 3374 for expenses associated with the Homeowners Assistance Program.

The agreement includes section 134 defining the congressional defense committees.

The agreement includes section 135 prohibiting funds to be used for the closure or abandonment of any facility at Lajes Field.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION (AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)		
	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
-----		
ALASKA		
AIR FORCE		
CLEAR AFS		
EMERGENCY POWER PLANT FUEL STORAGE.....	11,500	11,500
ARIZONA		
NAVY		
YUMA		
AVIATION MAINTENANCE AND SUPPORT COMPLEX.....	16,608	16,608
AIR FORCE		
LUKE AFB		
F-35 AIRCRAFT MX HANGAR - SQDN #2.....	11,200	11,200
F-35 FLIGHTLINE FILLSTANDS.....	15,600	15,600
DEFENSE-WIDE		
FORT HUACHUCA		
JITC BUILDING 52120 RENOVATION.....	1,871	1,871
CALIFORNIA		
ARMY		
CONCORD		
ACCESS CONTROL POINT.....	9,900	9,900
GENERAL PURPOSE MAINTENANCE SHOP.....	5,300	5,300
FORT IRWIN		
UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLE HANGAR.....	45,000	45,000
NAVY		
BRIDGEPORT		
E-LMR COMMUNICATIONS TOWERS.....	16,180	16,180
LEMOORE		
F-35C FACILITY ADDITION AND MODIFICATION.....	16,594	16,594
F-35C OPERATIONAL TRAINING FACILITY.....	22,391	22,391
SAN DIEGO		
STEAM DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM DECENTRALIZATION.....	47,110	47,110
DEFENSE-WIDE		
CAMP PENDLETON		
SOF COMM/ELEC MAINTENANCE FACILITY.....	11,841	11,841
CORONADO		
SOF LOGISTICS SUPPORT UNIT 1 OPS FACILITY #1.....	41,740	41,740
SOF SUPPORT ACTIVITY OPS FACILITY #2.....	28,600	28,600
LEMOORE		
REPLACE FUEL STORAGE & DISTRIBUTION FAC.....	52,500	52,500
ARMY RESERVE		
FRESNO		
ARMY RESERVE CENTER/AMSA.....	22,000	22,000
COLORADO		
ARMY		
FORT CARSON		
AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE HANGAR.....	60,000	60,000
UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLE HANGAR.....	29,000	29,000
DEFENSE-WIDE		
PETERSON AFB		
DENTAL CLINIC REPLACEMENT.....	15,200	15,200
ARMY RESERVE		
FORT CARSON		
TRAINING BUILDING ADDITION.....	5,000	5,000
CONNECTICUT		
AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
BRADLEY IAP		
CONSTRUCT C-130 FUEL CELL AND CORROSION CONTR.....	16,306	16,306
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA		
NAVY		
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA		
ELECTRONICS SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY LABORATORY.....	31,735	31,735

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION  
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
-----		
FLORIDA		
NAVY		
JACKSONVILLE		
MH-60 PARKING APRON.....	8,583	8,583
P-8A RUNWAY THRESHOLDS AND TAXIWAYS.....	21,652	21,652
MAYPORT		
LCS OPERATIONAL TRAINING FACILITY.....	20,520	20,520
GEORGIA		
DEFENSE-WIDE		
HUNTER ARMY AIRFIELD		
SOF COMPANY OPERATIONS FACILITY.....	7,692	7,692
ROBINS AFB		
REPLACE HYDRANT FUEL SYSTEM.....	19,900	19,900
AIR FORCE RESERVE		
ROBINS AFB		
AFRC CONSOLIDATED MISSION COMPLEX, PH I.....	27,700	27,700
HAWAII		
ARMY		
FORT SHAFTER		
COMMAND AND CONTROL FACILITY (SCIF).....	96,000	85,000
NAVY		
KANEHOE BAY		
FACILITY MODIFICATIONS FOR VMU, MWSD, & CH-53E....	51,182	51,182
ROAD AND INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS.....	2,200	2,200
PEARL HARBOR		
SUBMARINE MANEUVERING ROOM TRAINER FACILITY.....	9,698	9,698
DEFENSE-WIDE		
JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM		
REPLACE FUEL TANKS.....	3,000	3,000
UPGRADE FIRE SUPPRESSION & VENTILATION SYS.....	49,900	49,900
IOWA		
AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
DES MOINES MAP		
REMOTELY PILOTED AIRCRAFT AND TARGETING GROUP.....	8,993	8,993
KANSAS		
AIR FORCE		
MCCONNELL AFB		
KC-46A ADAL MOBILITY BAG STRG EXPANSION.....	2,300	2,300
KC-46A ADAL REGIONAL MX TNG FACILITY.....	16,100	16,100
KC-46A ALTER COMPOSITE MX SHOP.....	4,100	4,100
KC-46A ALTER TAXIWAY FOXTROT.....	5,500	5,500
KC-46A FUSELAGE TRAINER.....	6,400	6,400
KENTUCKY		
ARMY		
FORT CAMPBELL		
UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLE HANGAR.....	23,000	23,000
DEFENSE-WIDE		
BLUE GRASS ARMY DEPOT		
AMMUNITION DEMILITARIZATION PH XV.....	38,715	38,715
FORT CAMPBELL		
SOF SYSTEM INTEGRATION MAINTENANCE OFFICE FAC.....	18,000	18,000
MAINE		
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
AUGUSTA		
NATIONAL GUARD RESERVE CENTER.....	30,000	32,000

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION (AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)		
	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
-----		
MARYLAND		
NAVY		
ANNAPOLIS		
CENTER FOR CYBER SECURITY STUDIES BUILDING.....	120,112	120,112
INDIAN HEAD		
ADVANCED ENERGETICS RESEARCH LAB COMPLEX PH 2.....	15,346	15,346
PATUXENT RIVER		
ATLANTIC TEST RANGE FACILITY.....	9,860	9,860
AIR FORCE		
FORT MEADE		
CYBERCOM JOINT OPERATIONS CENTER, INCREMENT 2.....	166,000	166,000
DEFENSE-WIDE		
FORT MEADE		
NSAW CAMPUS FEEDERS PHASE 1.....	54,207	54,207
NSAW RECAPITALIZE BUILDING #1/SITE M INC 3.....	45,521	45,521
JOINT BASE ANDREWS		
CONSTRUCT HYDRANT FUEL SYSTEM.....	18,300	18,300
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
HAVRE DE GRACE		
NATIONAL GUARD READINESS CENTER.....	12,400	12,400
MASSACHUSETTS		
AIR FORCE		
HANSCOM AFB		
DORMITORY (72 RM).....	13,500	13,500
MICHIGAN		
DEFENSE-WIDE		
SELFRIDGE ANGB		
REPLACE FUEL DISTRIBUTION FACILITIES.....	35,100	35,100
AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
W. K. KELLOGG REGIONAL AIRPORT		
RPA BEDDOWN.....	6,000	6,000
MISSISSIPPI		
DEFENSE-WIDE		
STENNIS		
SOF APPLIED INSTRUCTION FACILITY.....	10,323	10,323
SOF LAND ACQUISITION WESTERN MANEUVER AREA.....	17,224	17,224
MONTANA		
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
HELENA		
NATIONAL GUARD READINESS CENTER ADD/ALT.....	38,000	38,000
NEBRASKA		
AIR FORCE		
OFFUTT AFB		
USSTRATCOM REPLACEMENT FACILITY- INCR 4.....	180,000	180,000
NEVADA		
NAVY		
FALLON		
AIR WING TRAINING FACILITY.....	27,763	27,763
FACILITY ALTERATION FOR F-35 TRAINING MISSION.....	3,499	3,499
AIR FORCE		
NELLIS AFB		
F-22 FLIGHT SIMULATOR FACILITY.....	14,000	14,000
F-35 AIRCRAFT MX UNIT - 4 BAY HANGAR.....	31,000	31,000
F-35 WEAPONS SCHOOL FACILITY.....	8,900	8,900
DEFENSE-WIDE		
FALLON		
SOF TACTICAL GROUND MOB. VEHICLE MAINT FAC.....	20,241	20,241

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION  
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
NEW HAMPSHIRE		
AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
PEASE INTERNATIONAL TRADE PORT		
KC-46A ADAL AIRFIELD PAVEMENTS & HYDRANT SYST.....	7,100	7,100
KC-46A ADAL FUEL CELL BUILDING 253.....	16,800	16,800
KC-46A ADAL MAINT HANGAR BUILDING 254.....	18,002	18,002
NEW JERSEY		
AIR FORCE		
JOINT BASE MCGUIRE-DIX-LAKEHURST		
FIRE STATION.....	5,900	5,900
ARMY RESERVE		
JOINT BASE MCGUIRE-DIX-LAKEHURST		
ARMY RESERVE CENTER.....	26,000	26,000
NEW MEXICO		
DEFENSE-WIDE		
CANNON AFB		
SOF SQUADRON OPERATIONS FACILITY (STS).....	23,333	23,333
NEW YORK		
ARMY		
FORT DRUM		
UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLE HANGAR.....	27,000	27,000
U.S. MILITARY ACADEMY		
CADET BARRACKS, INCR 3.....	58,000	58,000
ARMY RESERVE		
MATTYDALE		
ARMY RESERVE CENTER/AMSA.....	23,000	23,000
NORTH CAROLINA		
NAVY		
CHERRY POINT MARINE CORPS AIR STATION		
WATER TREATMENT PLANT REPLACEMENT.....	41,588	41,588
DEFENSE-WIDE		
CAMP LEJEUNE		
LEJEUNE HIGH SCHOOL ADDITION/RENOVATION.....	41,306	41,306
SOF INTEL/OPS EXPANSION.....	11,442	11,442
FORT BRAGG		
SOF BATTALION OPERATIONS FACILITY.....	37,074	37,074
SOF TACTICAL EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE FACILITY.....	8,000	8,000
SOF TRAINING COMMAND BUILDING.....	48,062	48,062
SEYMOUR JOHNSON AFB		
REPLACE HYDRANT FUEL SYSTEM.....	8,500	8,500
AIR FORCE RESERVE		
SEYMOUR JOHNSON AFB		
KC-135 TANKER PARKING APRON EXPANSION.....	9,800	9,800
NORTH DAKOTA		
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
VALLEY CITY		
NATIONAL GUARD VEHICLE MAINTENANCE SHOP.....	10,800	10,800
OKLAHOMA		
AIR FORCE		
TINKER AFB		
KC-46A DEPOT MAINT COMPLEX SPT INFRASTR.....	48,000	48,000
KC-46A TWO-BAY DEPOT MX HANGAR.....	63,000	63,000
PENNSYLVANIA		
ARMY		
LETTERKENNY ARMY DEPOT		
REBUILD SHOP.....	16,000	16,000



MILITARY CONSTRUCTION  
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
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NAVY		
PHILADELPHIA		
OHIO REPLACEMENT POWER & PROPULSION FACILITY.....	23,985	23,985
AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
WILLOW GROVE ARF		
RPA OPERATIONS CENTER.....	5,662	5,662
NAVY RESERVE		
PITTSBURGH		
RESERVE TRAINING CENTER.....	17,650	17,650
SOUTH CAROLINA		
ARMY		
FORT JACKSON		
TRAINEE BARRACKS COMPLEX 3, PH1.....	52,000	52,000
NAVY		
CHARLESTON		
NUCLEAR POWER OPERATIONAL SUPPORT FACILITY.....	35,716	35,716
DEFENSE-WIDE		
BEAUFORT		
REPLACE FUEL DISTRIBUTION FACILITIES.....	40,600	40,600
SOUTH DAKOTA		
DEFENSE-WIDE		
ELLSWORTH AFB		
CONSTRUCT HYDRANT SYSTEM.....	8,000	8,000
TEXAS		
AIR FORCE		
JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO		
FIRE STATION.....	5,800	5,800
DEFENSE-WIDE		
FORT BLISS		
HOSPITAL REPLACEMENT INCR 6.....	131,500	131,500
JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO		
MEDICAL CLINIC REPLACEMENT.....	38,300	38,300
AIR FORCE RESERVE		
FORT WORTH		
EOD FACILITY.....	3,700	3,700
VERMONT		
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
NORTH HYDE PARK		
NATIONAL GUARD VEHICLE MAINTENANCE SHOP.....	4,400	4,400
VIRGINIA		
ARMY		
JOINT BASE LANGLEY-EUSTIS		
TACTICAL VEHICLE HARDSTAND.....	7,700	7,700
NAVY		
DAHLGREN		
MISSILE SUPPORT FACILITY.....	27,313	27,313
NORFOLK		
EOD CONSOLIDATED OPS & LOGISTICS FACILITIES.....	39,274	39,274
PORTSMOUTH		
SUBMARINE MAINTENANCE FACILITY.....	9,743	9,743
QUANTICO		
AMMUNITION SUPPLY POINT EXPANSION.....	12,613	12,613
YORKTOWN		
BACHELOR ENLISTED QUARTERS.....	19,152	19,152
FAST COMPANY TRAINING FACILITY.....	7,836	7,836
DEFENSE-WIDE		
CRANEY ISLAND		
REPLACE & ALTER FUEL DISTRIBUTION FACILITIES.....	36,500	36,500
DEF DISTRIBUTION DEPOT RICHMOND		
REPLACE ACCESS CONTROL POINT.....	5,700	5,700

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION  
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
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FORT BELVOIR		
PARKING LOT.....	7,239	7,239
JOINT BASE LANGLEY-EUSTIS		
HOSPITAL ADDITION/CUP REPLACEMENT.....	41,200	41,200
JOINT EXPEDITIONARY BASE LITTLE CREEK - STORY		
SOF HUMAN PERFORMANCE CENTER.....	11,200	---
SOF INDOOR DYNAMIC RANGE.....	14,888	14,888
SOF MOBILE COMM DET SUPPORT FACILITY.....	13,500	13,500
PENTAGON		
REDUNDANT CHILLED WATER LOOP.....	15,100	15,100
ARMY RESERVE		
FORT LEE		
TASS TRAINING CENTER.....	16,000	16,000
WASHINGTON		
NAVY		
BREMERTON		
INTEGRATED WATER TREATMENT SYST. DD 1, 2, & 5....	16,401	16,401
KITSAP		
EXPLOSIVES HANDLING WHARF #2 (INC).....	83,778	83,778
PORT ANGELES		
TPS PORT ANGELES FORWARD OPERATING LOCATION.....	20,638	20,638
WHIDBEY ISLAND		
P-8A AIRCRAFT APRON AND SUPPORTING FACILITIES....	24,390	24,390
NAVY RESERVE		
WHIDBEY ISLAND		
C-40 AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE HANGAR.....	27,755	27,755
AUSTRALIA		
DEFENSE-WIDE		
GERALDTON		
COMBINED COMMUNICATIONS GATEWAY GERALDTON.....	9,600	9,600
BAHRAIN ISLAND		
NAVY		
SW ASIA		
P-8A HANGAR.....	27,826	27,826
BELGIUM		
DEFENSE-WIDE		
BRUSSELS		
BRUSSELS ELEMENTARY/HIGH SCHOOL REPLACEMENT.....	41,626	41,626
NATO HEADQUARTERS FACILITY.....	37,918	37,918
CUBA		
ARMY		
GUANTANAMO BAY		
DINING FACILITY.....	12,000	12,000
HEALTH CLINIC.....	11,800	11,800
DEFENSE-WIDE		
GUANTANAMO BAY		
REPLACE FUEL TANK.....	11,100	11,100
W.T. SAMPSON E/M AND HS CONSOLID/REPLACEMENT.....	65,190	65,190
DJIBOUTI		
NAVY		
CAMP LEMONNIER		
ENTRY CONTROL POINT.....	9,923	9,923
GERMANY		
DEFENSE-WIDE		
RHINE ORDNANCE BARRACKS		
MEDICAL CENTER REPLACEMENT INCR 4.....	259,695	189,695

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION (AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)		
	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
-----		
GUAM		
NAVY		
JOINT REGION MARIANAS		
GSE SHOPS AT NORTH RAMP.....	21,880	21,880
MWSS FACILITIES AT NORTH RAMP.....	28,771	28,771
AIR FORCE		
JOINT REGION MARIANAS		
GUAM STRIKE FUEL SYSTEMS MAINT.HANGAR INC 2.....	64,000	64,000
PRTC - COMBAT COMM INFRASTR FACILITY.....	3,750	3,750
PRTC - RED HORSE LOGISTICS FACILITY.....	3,150	3,150
PRTC - SATELLITE FIRE STATION.....	6,500	6,500
JAPAN		
ARMY		
KADENA AB		
MISSILE MAGAZINE.....	10,600	10,600
NAVY		
IWAKUNI		
SECURITY MODS DPRI MC167-T (CVW-5 E2D EA-18G)....	6,415	6,415
KADENA AB		
AIRCRAFT MAINT HANGAR ALTERATIONS AND SAP-F.....	19,411	19,411
MCAS FUTENMA		
HANGAR & RINSE FACILITY MODERNIZATIONS.....	4,639	4,639
OKINAWA		
LHD PRACTICE SITE IMPROVEMENTS.....	35,685	35,685
DEFENSE-WIDE		
MISAWA AB		
EDGREN HIGH SCHOOL RENOVATION.....	37,775	37,775
OKINAWA		
KILLIN ELEMENTARY REPLACEMENT/RENOVATION.....	71,481	71,481
KUBASAKI HIGH SCHOOL REPLACEMENT/RENOVATION.....	99,420	99,420
SASEBO		
E.J. KING HIGH SCHOOL REPLACEMENT/RENOVATION.....	37,681	37,681
SPAIN		
NAVY		
ROTA		
SHIP BERTHING POWER UPGRADES.....	20,233	20,233
UNITED KINGDOM		
AIR FORCE		
CROUGHTON RAF		
JAC CONSOLIDATION - PHASE 1.....	92,223	92,223
NATO SECURITY INVESTMENT PROGRAM.....	199,700	199,700
CONUS CLASSIFIED		
DEFENSE-WIDE		
CLASSIFIED LOCATION		
SOF SKILLS TRAINING FACILITY.....	53,073	53,073
WORLDWIDE UNSPECIFIED		
ARMY		
HOST NATION SUPPORT.....	33,000	33,000
MINOR CONSTRUCTION.....	25,000	25,000
PLANNING AND DESIGN.....	18,127	18,127
NAVY		
PLANNING AND DESIGN.....	33,366	33,366
MINOR CONSTRUCTION.....	7,163	7,163
AIR FORCE		
PLANNING AND DESIGN.....	10,738	10,738

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION  
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
MINOR CONSTRUCTION.....	22,613	22,613
DEFENSE-WIDE		
CONTINGENCY CONSTRUCTION.....	9,000	---
ENERGY CONSERVATION INVESTMENT PROGRAM.....	150,000	150,000
PLANNING AND DESIGN		
DEFENSE-WIDE.....	24,425	24,425
DEFENSE INFORMATION SYSTEMS AGENCY.....	745	745
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE DEPENDENT EDUCATION.....	42,387	42,387
MISSILE DEFENSE AGENCY.....	38,704	58,704
NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY.....	599	599
SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND.....	24,197	24,197
WASHINGTON HEADQUARTERS SERVICE.....	1,183	1,183
ENERGY CONSERVATION INVESTMENT PROGRAM DESIGN.....	10,000	10,000
SUBTOTAL, PLANNING AND DESIGN.....	142,240	162,240
UNSPECIFIED MINOR CONSTRUCTION		
DEFENSE-WIDE.....	2,700	2,700
DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY.....	5,932	5,932
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE DEPENDENT EDUCATION.....	6,846	6,846
MISSILE DEFENSE AGENCY.....	2,000	2,000
NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY.....	2,994	2,994
JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF.....	8,581	8,581
SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND.....	10,334	10,334
DEFENSE HEALTH AGENCY.....	4,100	4,100
SUBTOTAL, UNSPECIFIED MINOR CONSTRUCTION.....	43,487	43,487
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
PLANNING AND DESIGN.....	17,600	17,600
MINOR CONSTRUCTION.....	13,720	13,720
AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
PLANNING AND DESIGN.....	7,700	7,700
MINOR CONSTRUCTION.....	8,100	6,100
ARMY RESERVE		
PLANNING AND DESIGN.....	8,337	8,337
MINOR CONSTRUCTION.....	3,609	3,609
NAVY RESERVE		
PLANNING AND DESIGN.....	2,123	2,123
MINOR CONSTRUCTION.....	4,000	4,000
AIR FORCE RESERVE		
PLANNING AND DESIGN.....	6,892	6,892
MINOR CONSTRUCTION.....	1,400	1,400
FAMILY HOUSING, ARMY		
ILLINOIS		
ROCK ISLAND		
FAMILY HOUSING NEW CONSTRUCTION (33 units).....	19,500	19,500
KOREA		
CAMP WALKER		
FAMILY HOUSING NEW CONSTRUCTION (90 units).....	57,800	57,800
PLANNING AND DESIGN.....	1,309	1,309
SUBTOTAL, CONSTRUCTION.....	78,609	78,609

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION  
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
-----		
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE		
UTILITIES ACCOUNT.....	82,686	82,686
SERVICES ACCOUNT.....	9,108	9,108
MANAGEMENT ACCOUNT.....	46,597	46,597
MISCELLANEOUS ACCOUNT.....	700	700
FURNISHINGS ACCOUNT.....	14,136	14,136
LEASING.....	112,504	112,504
MAINTENANCE OF REAL PROPERTY.....	65,245	65,245
PRIVATIZATION SUPPORT COSTS.....	20,000	20,000
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SUBTOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE.....	350,976	350,976
FAMILY HOUSING, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS		
CONSTRUCTION IMPROVEMENTS.....	15,940	15,940
PLANNING AND DESIGN.....	472	472
	-----	-----
SUBTOTAL, CONSTRUCTION.....	16,412	16,412
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE		
UTILITIES ACCOUNT.....	71,092	71,092
SERVICES ACCOUNT.....	18,079	18,079
MANAGEMENT ACCOUNT.....	55,124	55,124
MISCELLANEOUS ACCOUNT.....	366	366
FURNISHINGS ACCOUNT.....	17,881	17,881
LEASING.....	65,999	65,999
MAINTENANCE OF REAL PROPERTY.....	97,612	97,612
PRIVATIZATION SUPPORT COSTS.....	27,876	27,876
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SUBTOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE.....	354,029	354,029
FAMILY HOUSING, AIR FORCE		
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE		
UTILITIES ACCOUNT.....	42,322	42,322
MANAGEMENT ACCOUNT.....	47,834	47,834
SERVICES ACCOUNT.....	12,709	12,709
FURNISHINGS ACCOUNT.....	38,543	38,543
MISCELLANEOUS ACCOUNT.....	1,993	1,993
LEASING.....	43,651	43,651
MAINTENANCE.....	99,934	99,934
PRIVATIZATION SUPPORT COSTS.....	40,761	40,761
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SUBTOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE.....	327,747	327,747
FAMILY HOUSING, DEFENSE-WIDE		
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE		
NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY		
UTILITIES.....	659	659
FURNISHING.....	746	746
LEASING.....	11,179	11,179
MAINTENANCE OF REAL PROPERTY.....	2,128	2,128
DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY		
FURNISHINGS.....	3,362	3,362
LEASING.....	42,083	42,083
DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY		
UTILITIES.....	170	170
FURNISHINGS.....	20	20
SERVICES.....	31	31
MANAGEMENT.....	378	378
MAINTENANCE OF REAL PROPERTY.....	344	344
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SUBTOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE.....	61,100	61,100

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION  
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
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DOD FAMILY HOUSING IMPROVEMENT FUND.....	1,662	1,662
BASE REALIGNMENT AND CLOSURE		
DOD BASE CLOSURE ACCOUNT.....	270,085	315,085
ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS		
MILITARY CONSTRUCTION - FISCAL YEAR 2014 (SEC. 127)...	---	125,000
MILITARY CONSTRUCTION - FISCAL YEAR 2015 (SEC. 128)...	---	117,000
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TOTAL, ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS.....	---	242,000
RESCISSIONS FROM PRIOR YEAR UNOBLIGATED BALANCES		
ARMY (SEC. 129).....	---	-49,533
NAVY AND MARINE CORPS (SEC. 130).....	---	-25,522
AIR FORCE (SEC. 131).....	---	-41,392
NATO SECURITY INVESTMENT PROGRAM (SEC. 132).....	---	-25,000
42 USC 3374 (SEC. 133).....	---	-63,800

## TITLE II—DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

VETERANS BENEFITS ADMINISTRATION  
COMPENSATION AND PENSIONS  
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides \$79,071,000,000 for Compensation and Pensions, reflecting new estimates provided in the Administration's mid-session review. Of the amount provided, not more than \$15,430,000 is to be transferred to General Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) and Information Technology Systems for reimbursement of necessary expenses in implementing provisions of title 38.

## READJUSTMENT BENEFITS

The agreement provides \$14,997,136,000 for Readjustment Benefits, reflecting new estimates provided in the Administration's mid-session review.

## VETERANS INSURANCE AND INDEMNITIES

The agreement provides \$63,257,000 for Veterans Insurance and Indemnities.

## VETERANS HOUSING BENEFIT PROGRAM FUND

The agreement provides such sums as may be necessary for costs associated with direct and guaranteed loans for the Veterans Housing Benefit Program Fund. The agreement limits obligations for direct loans to not more than \$500,000 and provides that \$160,881,000 shall be available for administrative expenses.

VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION LOANS PROGRAM  
ACCOUNT

The agreement provides \$10,000 for the cost of direct loans from the Vocational Rehabilitation Loans Program Account, plus \$361,000 to be paid to the appropriation for General Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration. The agreement provides for a direct loan limitation of \$2,877,000.

NATIVE AMERICAN VETERAN HOUSING LOAN  
PROGRAM ACCOUNT

The agreement provides \$1,130,000 for administrative expenses of the Native American Veteran Housing Loan Program Account.

VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION  
MEDICAL SERVICES

The agreement provides \$47,603,202,000 in advance for fiscal year 2016 for Medical Services. The agreement also provides \$209,189,000 for fiscal year 2015 in addition to the advance appropriation provided last year.

In an effort to address the severe crisis of access to medical care at many Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) hospitals and clinics across the country, Congress took the unusual step of creating as part of the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014 (VACAA) a new contract care program designed for veterans who live more than 40 miles from a VA facility or who have to wait an unreasonable time for medical appointments, funding this effort with a total of \$10,000,000,000 over three years. In addition, section 801(a) of VACAA provided an additional \$5,000,000,000 to increase veterans access to healthcare and improve VA's physical infrastructure. This funding is in addition to the funds appropriated in this Act or the advance funding provided in the fiscal year 2014 appropriations Act, although the appropriated funds are used for many of the same purposes as those provided in VACAA. At this time, the VA is developing the programs to administer the new VACAA authority, and there are many uncertainties about which activities can be funded with which authority, and whether there are significant

unfunded liabilities created by the new legislation. To address this uncertainty, the agreement includes bill language permitting the transfer of funding from various VA appropriations accounts to Medical Services to address any unfunded needs.

**Rural Healthcare**—The agreement includes \$250,000,000 for rural healthcare, as requested. This funding continues the Rural Health Initiative established by Congress in fiscal year 2009 to ensure that the VA dedicates sufficient resources to reach veterans residing in rural and highly rural areas who do not have immediate access to a veterans medical center or community-based outpatient clinic. The VA is strongly encouraged to continue to improve the accessibility, efficiency and effectiveness of care for rural veterans.

The funds provided for the Rural Health Initiative include support for Project Access Received Closer to Home (Project ARCH). Section 104 of the VACAA extended the authorization of Project ARCH for an additional two years. The Project ARCH pilot program has been successful for veterans who are enrolled in VA healthcare in five rural and highly rural Veterans Integrated Service Networks (VISNs). Prior to program reauthorization, the Senate bill included an administrative provision (section 237) directing the Department of Veterans Affairs to utilize existing authorities to continue the program at no less than \$35,000,000 in fiscal year 2015. This level of funding was intended to allow the VA to continue the program so that veterans depending on the services provided by Project ARCH did not experience any lapse in service until follow-on programs were proven adequate. In addition, the funding level was intended to provide for the expansion of the program to other rural and highly rural areas. Since the Project ARCH authorization has been extended, this agreement does not include the Senate proposed administrative provision. However, the VA is directed to continue funding the program at no less than the estimated fiscal year 2015 funding level and to consider utilizing existing authorities to provide contract care for veterans in other rural and highly rural areas.

The agreement incorporates directions in the House and Senate reports regarding providing an operating plan for the Office of Rural Health, including information on full-time equivalent (FTE) requirements and future requirements for initiatives and programs. As directed in the Senate report, the VA is instructed to conduct a comprehensive needs assessment of veterans in rural and highly rural areas who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. The agreement incorporates the Senate direction regarding filling healthcare professional vacancies, especially in rural areas, and Health Professional Shortage Areas with the greatest need. The agreement also reflects the Senate direction to the VA to conduct a full assessment of all community-based outpatient clinics in rural and highly rural areas.

The agreement includes \$7,448,900,000 for mental health programs in fiscal year 2016 and \$436,700,000 for gender-specific healthcare for women veterans in fiscal year 2016.

Concerns continue to be raised in Congress about vacant mental health provider positions at VA clinics, especially in locations where the VA does not receive suitable applications for published job notices. There are several positions in high cost rural and highly rural areas that continue to be vacant for many months after a previous provider's departure, and the VA is not offering competi-

tive salaries. In addition to the elements of the report already requested in House Report 113-416, the VHA is instructed to detail the steps the VA will take to hire replacements after no more than 120 days of a vacancy. The VA is to provide a comprehensive list of current vacant mental health positions, highlighting vacancies in rural and highly rural areas and how long those positions have been vacant. Further, VHA is instructed to provide the VA proposed salary range as well as the salary range of a private provider in the same city.

**Women Veterans**—Despite efforts over the past few years, the VA must make better progress at addressing the needs of women veterans. Toward this end, the advance appropriation for fiscal year 2015 provided last year and the fiscal year 2016 advance appropriation included in this Act fully fund gender-specific healthcare. Access to and utilization of VA benefits and services by women veterans remain low, with women often encountering cultural roadblocks in a system that was largely designed to meet the needs of male veterans. As part of an effort to better address access, the Department is currently undertaking a system-wide review to determine what type and number of healthcare workers the system should have to address current and future demand. The Department is directed to include in this review whether VHA's current number of healthcare professionals providing gender-specific care is adequate. This review will help the VA properly staff hospitals and clinics with healthcare professionals providing gender-specific care and lead to improved access for women veterans.

Understanding demand is key to providing high-quality services, yet the VA does not collect, analyze, and publish data by gender or minority status. This type of data is essential for the VA and Congress to enhance services for women veterans by developing programs and ensuring adequate funding levels of those programs. The stratification of data would also allow the VA to better understand the demand mix in the system, how it is being met, and what changes need to be implemented to the system to meet current and future trends. The Department is directed through the Women's Health Service and the Center for Women Veterans to collect and analyze gender-specific data and to develop programs and funding recommendations based on this data.

To better assist women veterans and increase their knowledge of the services and benefits to which they are entitled, the Department is directed to continue the Women Veterans Call Center (WVCC). The WVCC answers questions and responds to concerns from women veterans, their families, and caregivers across the Nation about VA services and resources. Additionally, in an effort to leverage the VA's existing local community partnerships, such as those for homeless veterans, the VA should establish support networks for women veterans to assist in accessing healthcare, employment services, financial counseling, and housing.

None of the VA's partnerships is more important than that with the DOD. High priority collaboration and resource sharing between the VA and the DOD are governed by the Joint Executive Committee (JEC). The JEC allows senior leadership at both Departments a forum to develop policies and programs to address overlapping priorities, including transition programs for veterans. While the JEC, through its subordinate committees and working groups, has made tremendous progress in addressing several

pressing issues facing active duty military and veterans, there is currently no working group focused solely on the transition of women from active duty to veteran status. The VA, in consultation with the DOD, is encouraged to establish a women's working group within the JEC aimed at creating or strengthening transition programs which address female concerns and cultural roadblocks so that more women veterans access VA benefits and services.

Recent studies have shown that service-women who experience sexual assault while serving in the military are far more likely to develop post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) compared to other female veterans. The VA must be prepared to provide these veterans with mental health services designed to treat the effects of military sexual trauma (MST). The Department is directed to maximize the availability of mental health services available to veterans who were victims of MST.

**Physician Ambassadors Helping Veterans Program**—In some communities non-VA physicians have encountered difficulties when seeking to volunteer time at VA medical facilities. Under existing authority, Section 7405(a)(1) of title 38, United States Code, the Secretary may appoint on a without compensation basis such personnel found necessary for the provision of healthcare for veterans. At medical facilities exhibiting staffing shortages and appointment backlogs due to waiting time issues, the VA is urged to utilize this existing authority to appoint physicians on a volunteer basis to serve veterans' healthcare needs at VA medical facilities.

To further understand the benefit to the Department of the utilization of volunteer physicians, the VA is directed to establish a three-year pilot program, under the authorities contained in Section 7405(a)(1) of title 38, United States Code, entitled the "Physician Ambassadors Helping Veterans Program." The Secretary is directed to establish this pilot program in no fewer than two medical facilities in two distinct VISNs. The Secretary is urged to select medical facilities for this pilot program that have a demonstrated need for additional physicians in any practice area or specialty, yet have been unable to expeditiously fill such vacancies and/or continue to exceed VA's appointment waiting time goals in any area of practice.

Each pilot location shall establish a volunteer coordinator who shall develop relationships with local medical associations to educate non-VA physicians in the area about the program. The volunteer coordinator shall be the initial point of contact for physicians seeking to volunteer at the medical facility.

Due to the cost and effort exerted to credential and educate physicians for such volunteer opportunities, the Department, as part of this pilot program, shall establish a required number of hours per year physician ambassadors must commit to serving at a facility that is cost beneficial to the Department. This metric should be no fewer than 60 hours a year and no more than 100 hours a year, though there is no limit to the total number of hours a physician ambassador may volunteer a year. The medical facility shall enter into agreement with the physician ambassadors regarding the minimum number of hours required before beginning the credentialing or privilege granting process.

The Department is directed to provide a report no later than 90 days after enactment of this Act to the Committees on Appropriations and the Veterans Affairs Committees

of both Houses of Congress detailing the current credentialing process for volunteer physicians, the current cost of credentialing volunteer physicians, and the current utilization rate of volunteer physicians. This report shall also outline the parameters of the pilot program and the reasons for choosing the participating VISNs and facilities.

The Department is also directed to report quarterly, beginning with the first quarter after enactment of this Act, to the Committees on Appropriations and the Veterans Affairs Committees of both Houses of Congress the number of physician ambassadors participating in the pilot program; the number of hours per week physician ambassadors volunteer; the process of bringing on board physician volunteers, to include the amount of time elapsed from the date a physician contacts the facility expressing interest in volunteering, to the time the volunteer and the medical facility enter into an agreement regarding the minimum number of hours required, to the date of completion of the credentialing process; and the appointment waiting times and staffing shortages at each facility. This report shall also include a comparison to an equal number of medical facilities not participating in the pilot program to determine if mandating a minimum number of hours required improves volunteer participation and increases the cost-benefit to the Department.

The agreement reiterates the language in the Senate report directing the VA to provide regular updates on its efforts to rebalance institutional and home-based care, including what metrics have been developed to track implementation.

The agreement incorporates the direction in the Senate report for the VA to provide more detailed explanations within its budget justifications about data that have been modified for the updated actuarial model. The agreement also incorporates the House direction to the VA to provide a healthcare expenditure plan within 20 days of receiving a full-year appropriation.

#### MEDICAL SUPPORT AND COMPLIANCE

The agreement provides \$6,144,000,000 in advance for fiscal year 2016 for Medical Support and Compliance.

The Office of the Medical Inspector (OMI) of the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) is directed to provide the Committees a semi-annual report describing the problems or deficiencies in the VHA identified by the OMI; whether the General Counsel of the Department has reviewed these OMI findings; any violations of law by an employee of the Department identified in the OMI review, with identity redacted; and what legal or administrative action was taken.

#### MEDICAL FACILITIES

The agreement provides \$4,915,000,000 in advance for fiscal year 2016 for Medical Facilities.

The agreement incorporates the House directive requiring the VA to provide a report explaining how non-recurring maintenance projects are rated, scheduled, and budgeted.

#### MEDICAL AND PROSTHETIC RESEARCH

The agreement provides \$588,922,000 for Medical and Prosthetic Research, available until September 30, 2016.

#### NATIONAL CEMETERY ADMINISTRATION

The agreement provides \$256,800,000 for the National Cemetery Administration. Of the amount provided, \$25,600,000 is available until September 30, 2016.

Public Law 113-6 required the National Cemetery Administration (NCA) to develop a

strategy that included eight elements to serve the burial needs of veterans residing in rural areas and mandated the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to review the strategy. The GAO review of the VA strategy was completed in September 2014. The Department is instructed to report to the Committees within 90 days of enactment of this Act explaining why it has not included in its strategy all eight elements mandated by Congress and why it has not accepted the GAO recommendation to use census tract level data to calculate the veteran population served, since the GAO analysis demonstrates that the VA's use of county level data understates the number and location of unserved veterans.

#### DEPARTMENTAL ADMINISTRATION

##### GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

##### (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides \$321,591,000 for General Administration. Of the amount provided, \$9,660,000 is available for obligation until September 30, 2016. The agreement continues to include language permitting the transfer of funds from this account to General Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration.

The agreement includes the following funding levels:

[In thousands of dollars]	
Office	Amount
Office of the Secretary .....	\$10,032
Office of General Counsel .....	80,365
Office of Management .....	44,098
Office of Human Resources and Administration .....	62,064
Office of Policy and Planning .....	25,009
Office of Operations, Security and Preparedness .....	17,901
Office of Public and Intergovernmental Affairs .....	22,279
Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs .....	5,969
Office of Acquisition, Logistics and Construction .....	53,874
Total .....	\$321,591

The Department is required to submit an annual report identifying the amount of third party health billings owed to the VA, the annual amount collected, and efforts underway to increase the efficiency and accuracy in the collections process. The report should describe the VA's contingency plan to ensure that the provision of healthcare does not suffer should there be a failure to meet billing and collection expectations.

In an effort to improve management and reduce redundancy, the Department has undertaken a review of its organizational structure and will potentially reorganize many functions within the VA. The Department is directed to report on a monthly basis to the Committees the status of reorganization within the Department. The Department is also reminded that while the Committees reserve the right to call upon all offices for information, the primary point of communication should be through the Office of Management. The Committees require timely access to the Department's professional budget staff in order to effectively and efficiently evaluate resource requirements and proposals requested by the Administration. Any reorganization with regard to budgetary matters should take this into consideration. In addition to concerns about the principal point of contact in the VA, Department leadership should be aware that there are continuing problems with the Department's lack of responsiveness to the Committees' information requests, as well as lack of detail in responses when finally received.

#### BOARD OF VETERANS APPEALS

The agreement provides \$99,294,000 for the Board of Veterans Appeals, of which not to exceed \$9,429,000 shall remain available until



September 30, 2016. Bill language is included in section 239 permitting the VA to transfer funding between this account and the General Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration account if needed to align funding with the appropriate account to hire staff to address the appeals backlog. The agreement also includes the Senate report directive to the VA to refresh the Department's strategic plan to transform the appeals process.

GENERAL OPERATING EXPENSES, VETERANS BENEFITS ADMINISTRATION

The agreement provides \$2,534,254,000 for General Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration and makes available not to exceed \$124,000,000 of this funding until the end of fiscal year 2016.

*Disability Claims Processing.*—The backlog of veterans compensation claims for service-connected disabilities remains one of the most pressing problems at the VA. Despite progress made over the past year and the efforts of the VA to improve its processes, increase staffing, and increase automation, it is clear that problems persist, and more needs to be done to ensure that veterans are receiving timely access to the benefits they have earned. To that end, the agreement includes provisions to give the VA additional tools to address the backlog and strengthen accountability. This effort is focused not only on production but also on accuracy in an effort to ensure veterans receive fair compensation at the outset and do not encounter additional delays by having to appeal decisions.

To further the reforms instituted by the Committees in response to the backlog, the agreement:

—Includes \$40,000,000 above the budget request to hire additional claims and support personnel at the regional offices; to expand the Veterans Claims Intake Program records scanning system; and to implement the centralized mail initiative. The VA is instructed to provide a spending plan for this funding within 30 days of enactment of this Act.

—Directs the VA to continue to provide quality review teams and to conduct spot audits at regional offices to assess the performance of claims processing operations and flag any management or operational weaknesses.

—Includes bill language in section 239 permitting the transfer of funding between this account and the Board of Veterans Appeals if necessary to permit the hiring of staffing at the appropriate stage of the appeals process to address mounting claims appeals workload.

—Continues the requirement first enacted for fiscal year 2014 to provide rigorous, publicly available Web-based monthly reports to the Committees on performance measures for each regional office, including the number of backlogged claims, the average number of days to complete a claim, and error rates.

—Continues the fiscal year 2014 requirement to submit quarterly reports that include the number of claims personnel in each regional office, corrective action taken to remedy any problems at poorly performing offices, training programs undertaken by regional offices, and quality review team audits performed during the quarter.

—Requires the VA to report whether it is feasible to conduct a study to analyze data regarding the statistical progression of disabilities over time and whether this data could be used to more quickly adjudicate claims for increased compensation.

—Directs the VA to develop a plan to execute a uniform mail processing and scanning system throughout all regional offices.

—Directs the VA to contract with the National Academy of Public Administration to review the Department's planned claims processing activities and strategies to prevent future claims processing backlogs.

Eradicating the veterans benefits claims backlog must remain a top priority of the VA, and the agency will continue to be closely monitored to assess progress on this front.

To inform the Committees of its progress in resolving issues of paper claims record retention, the VA is directed to report the status of its work with the Department of Defense (DOD): in obtaining certification of the Veterans Benefits Management System's (VBMS) compliance with DOD data storage requirements; in finalizing the Memorandum of Agreement with DOD allowing DOD appropriate access to electronic records maintained by the VA; and in developing a plan and timeline for selecting courses of action for resolving the storage of paper service treatment records and the associated costs. The report should also include VA plans to brief the various veterans service organizations on the improvements made in the scanning process and its approach and safeguards for transferring the documents to DOD, as well as the VA plan for the most efficient utilization of its office and storage warehouse space once the records are transferred back to DOD.

The VBA has begun to develop and implement new training initiatives and procedures for PTSD claims related to military sexual trauma (MST). The Department is directed to continue to publicize benefits veterans may be entitled to as a result of MST. As stipulated in Senate Report 113-174, the Department is directed to submit a report on the current standard of proof for service-connection under chapter 11 of title 38, U.S.C., for covered mental health conditions based on military sexual trauma. The agreement also incorporates the House direction regarding reporting data sets of information regarding military sexual trauma-related claims.

The agreement incorporates the House direction prohibiting a change in the location of VBA regional offices without providing the Committees a cost-benefit analysis and information on benefits to veterans and operational efficiency.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SYSTEMS (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides \$3,903,344,000 for Information Technology (IT) Systems. The agreement identifies separately the funding available for pay (\$1,039,000,000); operations and maintenance (\$2,316,009,000); and systems development, modernization, and enhancement (\$548,335,000). The agreement makes \$30,792,000 of pay funding available until the end of fiscal year 2016; \$160,000,000 of operations and maintenance funding available until the end of fiscal year 2016; and all IT systems development, modernization and enhancement funding available until the end of fiscal year 2016.

The agreement includes \$137,000,000 in information technology funding for VBMS; \$99,614,000 in information technology funding for the Veterans Relationship Management System; and \$343,614,000 for total funding of the interoperable electronic health record (both VHA and IT funding).

The agreement assumes an additional \$20,000,000 above the request will be used for additional hardware upgrades at regional offices to ensure that increased VBMS functionality can be supported in the field. The Secretary is directed to report to the Committees within 30 days after enactment

of this Act how the Department is implementing this directive.

The agreement includes language prohibiting the obligation of IT development, modernization, and enhancement funding until the VA submits a certification of the amounts to be obligated, in part or in full, for each development project.

The agreement includes language permitting funding made available for the three IT subaccounts to be transferred among them after the VA requests and receives approval from the Committees.

The agreement includes language providing that funding may be transferred between development projects or to new projects subject to the Committees' approval.

The agreement provides \$269,406,000 for the VistA Evolution interoperable health record and \$74,208,000 for the interoperability actions taking place within the Interagency Program Office (IPO) and the execution of the Virtual Lifetime Electronic Health Record (VLER Health). As with the fiscal year 2014 bill, the fiscal year 2015 agreement includes a prohibition on obligation or expenditure of more than 25 percent of fiscal year 2015 funds provided for development, modernization, and enhancement of the Department's VistA electronic health record until the Department meets reporting and accountability requirements that are similar to those in the House and Senate bills.

The agreement for the DOD appropriations bill includes similar electronic health record requirements.

The agreement requires the VA to provide quarterly briefings to the Committees regarding schedule, milestones, and obligations for the VistA Evolution program, as directed in the Senate report. It also requires quarterly briefings from the IPO on the electronic health record interoperability project and monthly updates to the Federal Chief Information Officer of the United States, as directed in the Senate report. In addition, the agreement requires the VA to report on the process the VA and DOD will follow to establish security standards and identify technology to secure data, as directed in the Senate report.

Bill language is included making funds available for IT development, modernization, and enhancement for the projects and in the amounts specified in the following table:

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS (In thousands of dollars)

Project	Amount
Access to Healthcare .....	\$9,686
Healthcare Efficiency IT Development .....	10,723
Electronic Health Record Interoperability/VLER Health ...	49,208
VistA Evolution .....	179,922
New Models of Care .....	30,551
Veterans Benefits Management System (VBMS) .....	63,500
Virtual Lifetime Electronic Record (VLER) .....	18,600
Veterans Relationship Management (VRM) .....	76,600
Health Management Platform .....	5,746
Other IT Systems Development .....	103,799
Total All Development .....	\$548,335

This table is intended to serve as the Department's approved list of development projects; any requested changes are subject to reprogramming guidelines.

The agreement directs the Department to continue to provide an IT expenditure plan to the Committees within 30 days of enactment of this Act and on a monthly basis thereafter, as indicated in both the House and Senate reports. This plan should be in the same format as the table above.

The pending Transformation Twenty-One Total Technology Next Generation (T4NG)

draft request for proposals will be the principal information technology procurement vehicle for the VA for up to ten years, with potential total funding of \$23,000,000,000. With the complexity and magnitude of VA expenditures on information technology in areas such as electronic health records and appointment scheduling, it is important that the VA permit proposals from a wide range of firms, both large and small, veteran-owned and disabled veteran-owned, in order to benefit from the broad array of IT services that exist. The VA is urged to expand the number of awards under T4NG that are not reserved for particular categories of vendors in order to maximize its consideration of emerging technologies.

#### OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

The agreement appropriates \$126,411,000 for the Office of Inspector General (OIG). Of the amount provided, \$12,141,000 is available for obligation until September 30, 2016. The increase above the budget request is intended to be used for ongoing responsibilities associated with the waitlist/appointment scheduling audits as well as the two reviews described below.

The OIG is instructed to review a complaint to the Montana Board of Psychologists reprimanding a VA psychologist in Ft. Harrison, Montana, for practicing outside the scope of his professional qualifications when performing a Compensation and Pensions examination for traumatic brain injury (TBI). The OIG review should address the specific Montana case, but also the protocols the VA uses for examinations for TBI throughout the VA medical system to judge whether the VA needs to revise its protocols nationwide.

Due to questions about VA residential substance abuse treatment in Miami, Florida, that have been raised by the VA OIG (Report No. 13-03089-104, March 27, 2014), the OIG is requested to conduct a broader review of the operations and effectiveness of VA substance abuse inpatient rehabilitation programs and report back to the Committees by August 1, 2015, on the following: the current number of VA inpatient rehabilitation programs; the annual number of veterans who participate and their average length of treatment; the average length of time for VA treatment compared to that of non-VA residential treatment programs; the rate of recidivism for both types of programs; the process used to refer patients to VA inpatient treatment; the degree of supervision of patients in VA programs and how often drug tests are performed; and how well mental health and substance abuse treatment are integrated for veterans with comorbidities.

#### CONSTRUCTION, MAJOR PROJECTS

The agreement provides \$561,800,000 for Construction, Major Projects. The agreement makes this funding available for five years, except that \$34,000,000 is made available until expended.

As requested in the House and Senate reports, the agreement requires an annual report on the process used to identify construction project priority listing and directs the VA to work collaboratively with other executive branch agencies with substantial construction portfolios, private sector contractors and other non-governmental experts to explore the feasibility of new funding mechanisms, such as private development lease-backs.

The agreement directs the VA to increase its use of design-build contracting processes and off-site construction methods, including prefabricated components and panelized structures.

The agreement funds the following items as requested in the budget submission:

#### CONSTRUCTION, MAJOR PROJECTS

(In thousands of dollars)

Location and description	Amount
Veterans Health Admin. (VHA):	
West Los Angeles, CA seismic corrections .....	\$35,000
Long Beach, CA seismic corrections, mental health and community living replacements .....	101,900
Canandaigua, NY community living center, outpatient clinic, and domiciliary .....	122,400
San Diego, CA spinal cord injury and seismic corrections .....	187,500
Advance Planning Fund—various locations .....	69,000
Major Construction Staff—various locations .....	24,000
Claims Analysis—various locations .....	2,000
Hazardous Waste—various locations .....	6,000
Total VHA .....	547,800
National Cemetery Admin. (NCA):	
Advance Planning Fund—various locations .....	2,500
NCA Land Acquisition Fund .....	7,500
Total NCA .....	10,000
General Admin.:	
Staff Offices Advance Planning Fund .....	4,000
Major Construction total .....	\$561,800

The agreement acknowledges the inclusion of the prospectuses of two NCA projects—Ohio Western Reserve and National Cemetery of the Alleghenies, Pennsylvania—in the 2015 budget request so that these projects may be funded in the future if monies should become available through reprogramming.

#### CONSTRUCTION, MINOR PROJECTS

The agreement provides \$495,200,000 for Construction, Minor Projects. The agreement makes this funding available for five years.

The agreement includes the directive to provide an expenditure plan within 30 days of enactment of this Act, as provided in the Senate report.

#### GRANTS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF STATE EXTENDED CARE FACILITIES

The agreement provides \$90,000,000 for Grants for Construction of State Extended Care Facilities, to remain available until expended.

#### GRANTS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF VETERANS CEMETERIES

The agreement provides \$46,000,000 for Grants for Construction of Veterans Cemeteries, to remain available until expended.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS (INCLUDING TRANSFERS AND RESCISSIONS OF FUNDS)

The agreement includes section 201 allowing for transfer of funds among the three mandatory accounts.

The agreement includes section 202 allowing for the transfer of funds among the three medical accounts.

The agreement includes section 203 allowing salaries and expenses funds to be used for related authorized purposes.

The agreement includes section 204 restricting the accounts that may be used for the acquisition of land or the construction of any new hospital or home.

The agreement includes section 205 limiting the use of funds in the Medical Services account only for entitled beneficiaries unless reimbursement is made to the Department.

The agreement includes section 206 allowing for the use of certain mandatory appropriations accounts for payment of prior year accrued obligations for those accounts.

The agreement includes section 207 allowing the use of appropriations available in this title to pay prior year obligations.

The agreement includes section 208 allowing the Department to use surplus earnings

from the National Service Life Insurance Fund, the Veterans' Special Life Insurance Fund, and the United States Government Life Insurance Fund to administer these programs.

The agreement includes section 209 allowing the Department to cover the administrative expenses of enhanced-use leases and provides authority to obligate these reimbursements in the year in which the proceeds are received.

The agreement includes section 210 limiting the amount of reimbursement the Office of Resolution Management and the Office of Employment Discrimination Complaint Adjudication can charge other offices of the Department for services provided.

The agreement includes section 211 limiting the use of funds for any lease with an estimated annual rental cost of more than \$1,000,000 unless approved by the Committees.

The agreement includes section 212 requiring the Department to collect third-party payer information for persons treated for a non-service connected disability.

The agreement includes section 213 allowing for the use of enhanced-use leasing revenues for Construction, Major Projects and Construction, Minor Projects.

The agreement includes section 214 outlining authorized uses for Medical Services funds.

The agreement includes section 215 allowing for funds deposited into the Medical Care Collections Fund to be transferred to the Medical Services account.

The agreement includes section 216 which allows Alaskan veterans to use medical facilities of the Indian Health Service or tribal organizations.

The agreement includes section 217 permitting the transfer of funds from the Department of Veterans Affairs Capital Asset Fund to the Construction, Major Projects and Construction, Minor Projects accounts and makes those funds available until expended.

The agreement includes section 218 prohibiting the use of funds for any policy prohibiting the use of outreach or marketing to enroll new veterans.

The agreement includes section 219 requiring the Secretary to submit quarterly reports on the financial status of the Veterans Health Administration.

The agreement includes section 220 requiring the Department to notify and receive approval from the Committees of any proposed transfer of funding to or from the Information Technology Systems account.

The agreement includes section 221 limiting the obligation of non-recurring maintenance funds during the last two months of the fiscal year.

The agreement does not include Senate section 221. The provision is carried as a government—wide provision in division E of this consolidated Act.

The agreement includes section 222 providing up to \$259,251,213 for transfer to the Joint DOD-VA Medical Facility Demonstration Fund.

The agreement includes section 223 which permits \$245,398,000 of fiscal year 2016 medical care funding to be transferred to the Joint DOD-VA Medical Facility Demonstration Fund.

The agreement includes section 224 which authorizes transfers from the Medical Care Collections Fund to the Joint DOD-VA Medical Facility Demonstration Fund.

The agreement includes section 225 which transfers at least \$15,000,000 from VA medical accounts to the DOD-VA Health Care Sharing Incentive Fund.

The agreement includes section 226 which rescinds fiscal year 2015 medical account funding and re-appropriates it to be available for two years. The provision rescinds and re-appropriates \$1,400,000,000 for Medical Services, rescinds and re-appropriates \$100,000,000 for Medical Support and Compliance, and rescinds and re-appropriates \$250,000,000 for Medical Facilities.

The agreement includes section 227 requiring that the Department notify the Committees of bid savings in major construction projects of at least \$5,000,000 or five percent within 14 days of a contract identifying the programmed amount.

The agreement includes section 228 which prohibits the VA from increasing the scope of work for a major construction project above the scope specified in the original budget request.

The agreement includes section 229 requiring a quarterly report from each VBA regional office on pending disability claims, error rates, the number of claims processing personnel, corrective actions taken, training programs and review audit results.

The agreement includes section 230 requiring the VA to submit a reprogramming request whenever funding allocated in the expenditure plan for a Medical Care initiative differs by more than \$25,000,000 from the allocation shown in the 2015 congressional budget justification.

The agreement includes section 231 limiting the funding from the Medical Services and Medical Support and Compliance accounts for the VistA Evolution and electronic health record interoperability projects.

The agreement includes section 232 requiring the VA to notify the Committees 15 days prior to any staff office relocations within the VA of 25 or more FTE.

The agreement includes section 233 rescinding \$41,000,000 in VA discretionary funds to be allocated from fiscal year 2015 funding provided in this Act or in advance in other appropriations Acts. These funds constitute the savings created by section 705 of the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014, which limits the aggregate amount of awards and bonuses paid by the Secretary in fiscal year 2015 to \$360,000,000. The Secretary is directed to allocate the rescission in alignment with the amount of funding allocated for awards in each appropriation account and to report this allocation to the Committees within 20 days of enactment of this Act.

The agreement includes section 234 requiring the Secretary to report to the Committees each quarter about any single national outreach and awareness marketing campaign exceeding \$2,000,000.

The agreement includes section 235 prohibiting the closing of VA medical facilities in VISN 23 as part of a planned realignment of VA services until the Secretary meets a series of reporting requirements.

The agreement includes section 236 prohibiting funds available to the Department in this or any other Act from being used to replace the current system by which VISNs select and contract for diabetes monitoring supplies and equipment.

The agreement includes section 237 prohibiting funding provided in this Act or prior years to duplicate the capacity of contractor-provided dialysis care until the later of September 30, 2015, or the full independent evaluation of the four-site dialysis pilot program being conducted by the VA.

The agreement includes section 238 permitting the transfer to the Medical Services account of fiscal year discretionary 2015 funds

appropriated in this Act or available from advance fiscal year 2015 funds already appropriated, except for funds appropriated to General Operating Expenses, VBA, to address possible unmet, high priority needs in Medical Services. Such unanticipated demands may result from circumstances such as increased utilization of Caregiver program benefits, newly available hepatitis C medications, or VACAA requirements. Any such transfer requires the approval of the Committees.

The agreement includes section 239 permitting the transfer of funding between the General Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration account and the Board of Veterans Appeals account if necessary to permit the hiring of staffing at the appropriate stage of the appeals process to address mounting claims appeals workload. Any such transfer requires the approval of the Committees.

The agreement includes section 240 rescinding \$15,000,000 in unobligated balances in the DOD-VA Health Care Sharing Incentive Fund.

The agreement includes section 241 expanding the contract disability examinations pilot program authorized in section 504 of the Veterans' Benefits Improvements Act of 1996 to not more than twelve regional offices in 2015; fifteen in 2016; and the number considered appropriate by the Secretary in 2017 and beyond.

The agreement includes section 242 clarifying that the payment rates used by the VA for VA medical care in the State of Alaska and in those States with an all-payer model agreement under the Social Security Act that became effective on January 1, 2014, should also be used in implementation of the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014.

The agreement includes section 243 changing the eligibility period for VA health benefits under the Honoring America's Veterans and Caring for Camp Lejeune Families Act of 2012 (P.L. 112-154) from a minimum 30-day presence at Camp Lejeune during the period of January 1, 1957, through December 31, 1987 to the period from August 1, 1953, to December 31, 1987. This date change conforms to more recent contamination information from the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry.

The agreement includes section 244 creating the authority to provide advance appropriations for three mandatory VA programs within the Veterans Benefits Administration—Compensation and Pensions, Readjustment Benefits, and Veterans Insurance and Indemnities.

#### TITLE III—RELATED AGENCIES AMERICAN BATTLE MONUMENTS COMMISSION

##### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement includes \$74,100,000 for Salaries and Expenses of the American Battle Monuments Commission (ABMC). The agreement provides an additional \$4,000,000 above the budget request to support ABMC's interpretive program and nonrecurring maintenance needs.

#### FOREIGN CURRENCY FLUCTUATIONS ACCOUNT

The agreement includes such sums as necessary, estimated at \$1,900,000 for the Foreign Currency Fluctuations Account.

#### UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR VETERANS CLAIMS

##### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement includes \$31,386,000 for Salaries and Expenses. The United States Court

of Appeals for Veterans Claims (Court) is the last step in the VA claims process and has exclusive jurisdiction to review decisions made by the Board of Veterans Appeals (BVA). The number of appeals filed with the Court is generally affected by the number of claims processed by the BVA. For the past two years, Congress has increased funding for BVA to hire additional staff and attorneys to address the BVA appeals backlog, and the Court needs to prepare for an increase in appeals as this backlog is resolved. The Court is directed to undertake a five year strategic analysis to determine whether staffing, including the number of judges, will need to grow to handle future demand. The Court is directed to submit this analysis to Congress with the fiscal year 2016 budget request.

#### DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE—CIVIL CEMETERIAL EXPENSES, ARMY

##### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement provides \$65,800,000 for Salaries and Expenses, which includes \$20,000,000 to address the maintenance and infrastructure repairs proposed for funding through the Operation and Maintenance, Army account. The Committee directs that future budget requests will include all funding proposed for Arlington National Cemetery, to include any funding required for cemetery expansion, within the Cemeterial Expenses, Army account. Language is included to make \$3,000,000 available until September 30, 2016.

#### ARMED FORCES RETIREMENT HOME TRUST FUND

The agreement includes \$63,400,000 for the Armed Forces Retirement Home, to be derived from the Trust Fund.

*Standardization of Healthcare Delivery.*—The Committee is in receipt of DOD IG Report, DODIG-2014-093, "Inspection of the Armed Forces Retirement Home" (AFRH) and notes this report makes numerous recommendations regarding the health and well-being of our Nation's veterans currently served by the AFRH. The Chief Operating Officer of the AFRH is directed to submit a report to the Committees not later than 120 days after enactment of this Act, on the status and implementation of recommendations 3.a, 7.b, and 14.b. The report should include specific actions taken to implement the recommendations.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION

The agreement includes section 301 permitting funds to be provided to Arlington County, Virginia, for the relocation of a water main located on the Arlington National Cemetery property.

#### TITLE IV—OVERSEAS CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS

##### DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

The agreement includes a new title IV, Overseas Contingency Operations, for military construction projects related to the Global War on Terrorism and the European Reassurance Initiative that were requested by the Administration in the FY 2015 Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO) budget request. The OCO request was submitted to Congress subsequent to congressional consideration of the FY 2015 Military Construction, Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies Appropriations bills.

##### MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, DEFENSE-WIDE

The agreement includes \$46,000,000 for "Military Construction, Defense-Wide", as requested in the FY 2015 Overseas Contingency Operations budget amendment, for a classified project at a classified location.

EUROPEAN REASSURANCE INITIATIVE MILITARY  
CONSTRUCTION

The agreement includes \$175,000,000 for military construction projects associated with the European Reassurance Initiative (ERI). The ERI proposal included a provision

to allow the use of up to \$175,000,000 in Operation and Maintenance funds for unspecified military construction projects associated with the initiative. Subsequent to the initial request, the Department of Defense identified and provided to the Committees line-item ERI military construction require-

ments. Military construction projects should be funded within the Military Construction appropriations bill, and thus the agreement provides funding in this division for specific ERI military construction projects as identified by the Department.

OVERSEAS CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS  
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
-----		
TITLE IV		
FY 2015 OVERSEAS CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS		
WORLDWIDE CLASSIFIED		
DEFENSE-WIDE		
CLASSIFIED PROJECT .....	46,000	46,000
EUROPEAN REASSURANCE INITIATIVE MILITARY CONSTRUCTION		
BULGARIA		
AIR FORCE		
GRAF IGNATIEVO		
AIRFIELD INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS.....	---	3,200
ESTONIA		
AIR FORCE		
AMARI		
AIRFIELD INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS.....	---	24,780
ITALY		
AIR FORCE		
CAMP DARBY		
WEAPONS STORAGE FACILITY PROJECT.....	---	44,450
LATVIA		
AIR FORCE		
LIELVARDE		
AIRFIELD INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS.....	---	10,710
LITHUANIA		
AIR FORCE		
SIAULIAI		
AIRFIELD INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS.....	---	13,120
POLAND		
AIR FORCE		
LASK AIR BASE		
SUPPORT INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS.....	---	22,400
ROMANIA		
ARMY		
MIHAIL KOGALNICEANU		
HAZARDOUS CARGO RAMP.....	---	5,000
MULTI-MODAL IMPROVEMENTS.....	---	17,000
FUEL STORAGE CAPACITY.....	---	15,000
AIR FORCE		
CAMP TURZII		
AIRFIELD INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS.....	---	2,900
WORLDWIDE UNSPECIFIED		
AIR FORCE		
PLANNING AND DESIGN FOR AIRFIELD INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS.....	---	11,500

OVERSEAS CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS  
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
-----		
DEFENSE-WIDE		
UNSPECIFIED MINOR CONSTRUCTION		
NAVY EUROPEAN MULTINATIONAL EXERCISE INFRASTRUCTURE.	---	2,940
STRENGTHEN THE CAPACITY OF NATO & NATO PARTNERS.....	---	2,000
-----		
TOTAL.....	46,000	221,000

NOTE: FUNDING FOR MILITARY CONSTRUCTION ASSOCIATED  
WITH THE EUROPEAN REASSURANCE INITIATIVE WAS  
ORIGINALLY REQUESTED IN THE DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS  
BILL AS AN ADDITIONAL TRANSFER AUTHORITY WITHIN THE  
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE ACCOUNTS.

## TITLE V—GENERAL PROVISIONS

The agreement includes section 501 prohibiting the obligation of funds in this Act beyond the current fiscal year unless expressly so provided.

The agreement includes section 502 prohibiting the use of the funds in this Act for programs, projects or activities not in compliance with Federal law relating to risk assessment, the protection of private property rights, or unfunded mandates.

The agreement includes section 503 encouraging all Departments to expand their use of “E-Commerce.”

The agreement includes section 504 specifying the congressional committees that are to receive all reports and notifications.

The agreement includes section 505 prohibiting the transfer of funds to any instrumentality of the United States Government without authority from an appropriations Act.

The agreement includes section 506 prohibiting the use of funds for a project or program named for a serving Member, Delegate, or Resident Commissioner of the United States House of Representatives.

The agreement includes section 507 requiring all reports submitted to the Congress to be posted on official Web sites of the submitting agency.

The agreement includes section 508 prohibiting the use of funds to establish or maintain a computer network unless such network blocks the viewing, downloading, and exchanging of pornography, except for law enforcement investigation, prosecution, or adjudication activities.

The agreement includes section 509 prohibiting the use of funds for the payment of first-class travel by an employee of the executive branch.

The agreement includes section 510 prohibiting the use of funds in this Act for any contract where the contractor has not complied with E-Verify requirements.

The agreement includes section 511 prohibiting the use of funds in this Act by the Department of Defense or the Department of Veterans Affairs for the purchase or lease of a new vehicle except in accordance with Presidential Memorandum—Federal Fleet Performance, dated May 24, 2011.

The agreement includes section 512 prohibiting the use of funds in this Act for the ren-

ovation, expansion, or construction of any facility in the continental United States for the purpose of housing any individual who has been detained at the United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

The agreement does not include House section 403/Senate section 404. The provision is carried as a government-wide provision in division E of this consolidated Act.

The agreement does not include House section 413. The provision is carried as a government-wide provision in division E of this consolidated Act.

The agreement does not include House section 414. The provision is carried as a government-wide provision in division E of this consolidated Act.

The agreement does not include Senate section 411. The provision is carried as a government-wide provision in division E of this consolidated Act.

The agreement does not include Senate section 412. The provision is carried as a government-wide provision in division E of this consolidated Act.

DIVISION I, MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS, AND RELATED  
AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

TITLE I - DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Military construction, Army.....	1,104,875	539,427	528,427	-576,448	-11,000
Military construction, Navy and Marine Corps.....	1,629,690	1,018,772	1,018,772	-610,918	---
Military construction, Air Force.....	1,052,796	811,774	811,774	-241,022	---
Military construction, Defense-Wide.....	3,445,423	2,061,890	1,991,690	-1,453,733	-70,200
Total, Active components.....	7,232,784	4,431,863	4,350,663	-2,882,121	-81,200
Military construction, Army National Guard.....	314,740	126,920	128,920	-185,820	+2,000
Military construction, Air National Guard.....	119,800	94,863	92,663	-27,137	-2,000
Military construction, Army Reserve.....	156,560	103,946	103,946	-52,614	---
Military construction, Navy Reserve.....	29,000	51,528	51,528	+22,528	---
Military construction, Air Force Reserve.....	45,659	49,492	49,492	+3,833	---
Total, Reserve components.....	665,759	426,549	426,549	-239,210	---
Total, Military construction.....	7,898,543	4,858,412	4,777,212	-3,121,331	-81,200
North Atlantic Treaty Organization Security Investment Program.....	199,700	199,700	199,700	---	---
Family housing construction, Army.....	27,408	78,609	78,609	+51,201	---
Family housing operation and maintenance, Army.....	512,871	350,976	350,976	-161,895	---
Family housing construction, Navy and Marine Corps....	73,407	16,412	16,412	-56,995	---



DIVISION I, MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS, AND RELATED  
AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Family housing operation and maintenance, Navy and Marine Corps.....	379,444	354,029	354,029	-25,415	---
Family housing construction, Air Force.....	76,360	---	---	-76,360	---
Family housing operation and maintenance, Air Force...	388,598	327,747	327,747	-60,851	---
Family housing operation and maintenance, Defense-Wide	55,845	61,100	61,100	+5,255	---
Department of Defense Family Housing Improvement Fund.....	1,780	1,662	1,662	-118	---
Total, Family housing.....	1,515,713	1,190,535	1,190,535	-325,178	---
Chemical demilitarization construction, Defense-Wide..					
Department of Defense Base Closure Account.....	122,536	38,715	38,715	-83,821	---
ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS	451,357	270,085	315,085	-136,272	+45,000
Military Construction - fiscal year 2014 (Sec. 127)...	---	---	125,000	+125,000	+125,000
Military Construction - fiscal year 2015 (Sec. 128)...	---	---	117,000	+117,000	+117,000
Military Construction, Army (Sec. 129).....	-200,000	---	-49,533	+150,467	-49,533
Military Construction, Navy and Marine Corps (Sec. 130).....	-12,000	---	-25,522	-13,522	-25,522
Military Construction, Air Force (Sec. 131).....	-39,700	---	-41,392	-1,692	-41,392
Military Construction, Defense-Wide.....	-14,000	---	---	+14,000	---
Military Construction, Air National Guard.....	-14,200	---	---	+14,200	---
NATO Security Investment Program (Sec. 132).....	---	---	-25,000	-25,000	-25,000

DIVISION I. MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS, AND RELATED  
AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
42 USC 3374 (Sec. 133).....	-99,949	---	-63,800	+36,149	-63,800
Total, Administrative Provisions.....	-379,849	---	36,753	+416,602	+36,753
Appropriations.....	---	---	(242,000)	(+242,000)	(+242,000)
Rescissions.....	(-379,849)	---	(-205,247)	(+174,602)	(-205,247)
Total, title I, Department of Defense.....	9,808,000	6,557,447	6,558,000	-3,250,000	+553
Appropriations.....	(10,187,849)	(6,557,447)	(6,763,247)	(-3,424,602)	(+205,800)
Rescissions.....	(-379,849)	---	(-205,247)	(+174,602)	(-205,247)

TITLE II - DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Veterans Benefits Administration

Compensation and pensions.....	71,476,104	78,687,709	79,071,000	+7,594,896	+383,291
Readjustment benefits.....	13,135,898	14,761,862	14,997,136	+1,861,238	+235,274
Veterans insurance and indemnities.....	77,567	63,257	63,257	-14,310	---
Veterans housing benefit program fund: (Limitation on direct loans).....	(500)	(500)	(500)	---	---
Administrative expenses.....	158,430	160,881	160,881	+2,451	---
Vocational rehabilitation loans program account.....	5	10	10	+5	---
(Limitation on direct loans).....	(2,500)	(2,877)	(2,877)	(+377)	---
Administrative expenses.....	354	361	361	+7	---

DIVISION I, MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS, AND RELATED  
AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Native American veteran housing loan program account...	1,109	1,130	1,130	+21	---
Total, Veterans Benefits Administration.....	84,849,467	93,675,210	94,293,775	+9,444,308	+618,565
Veterans Health Administration					
Medical services:					
Advance from prior year.....	(43,557,000)	(45,015,527)	(45,015,527)	(+1,458,527)	---
Current year request.....	40,000	367,885	209,189	+169,189	-158,696
Advance appropriation, FY 2016.....	45,015,527	47,603,202	47,603,202	+2,587,675	---
Subtotal.....	45,055,527	47,971,087	47,812,391	+2,756,864	-158,696
Medical support and compliance:					
Advance from prior year.....	(6,033,000)	(5,879,700)	(5,879,700)	(-153,300)	---
Advance appropriation, FY 2016.....	5,879,700	6,144,000	6,144,000	+264,300	---
Subtotal.....	5,879,700	6,144,000	6,144,000	+264,300	---
Medical facilities:					
Advance from prior year.....	(4,872,000)	(4,739,000)	(4,739,000)	(-133,000)	---
Current year request.....	85,000	---	---	-85,000	---
Advance appropriation, FY 2016.....	4,739,000	4,915,000	4,915,000	+176,000	---
Subtotal.....	4,824,000	4,915,000	4,915,000	+91,000	---

DIVISION I, MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS, AND RELATED  
AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Medical and prosthetic research.....	585,664	588,922	588,922	+3,258	---
Medical care cost recovery collections:					
Offsetting collections.....	-2,485,000	-2,456,000	-2,456,000	+29,000	---
Appropriations (indefinite).....	2,485,000	2,456,000	2,456,000	-29,000	---
Subtotal.....	---	---	---	---	---
DoD-VA Joint Medical Funds (transfers out).....	(-254,257)	(-269,366)	(-276,251)	(-21,994)	(-6,885)
DoD-VA Joint Medical Funds (by transfer).....	(254,257)	(269,366)	(276,251)	(+21,994)	(+6,885)
DoD-VA Health Care Sharing Incentive Fund (Transfer out).....	(-15,000)	(-15,000)	(-15,000)	---	---
DoD-VA Health Care Sharing Incentive Fund (by transfer).....	(15,000)	(15,000)	(15,000)	---	---
Total, Veterans Health Administration.....	56,344,891	59,619,009	59,460,313	+3,115,422	-158,696
Appropriations.....	(710,664)	(956,807)	(798,111)	(+87,447)	(-158,696)
Advance appropriations, FY 2016.....	(55,634,227)	(58,662,202)	(58,662,202)	(+3,027,975)	---
Advances from prior year appropriations.....	(54,462,000)	(55,634,227)	(55,634,227)	(+1,172,227)	---
National Cemetery Administration					
National Cemetery Administration.....	250,000	256,800	256,800	+6,800	---

DIVISION I. MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS, AND RELATED  
AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
<b>Departmental Administration</b>					
General administration.....	327,591	321,591	321,591	-6,000	---
Board of Veterans Appeals.....	88,294	94,294	99,294	+11,000	+5,000
General operating expenses, VBA.....	2,465,490	2,494,254	2,534,254	+68,764	+40,000
Information technology systems.....	3,703,344	3,903,344	3,903,344	+200,000	---
Office of Inspector General.....	121,411	121,411	126,411	+5,000	+5,000
Construction, major projects.....	342,130	561,800	561,800	+219,670	---
Construction, minor projects.....	714,870	495,200	495,200	-219,670	---
Grants for construction of State extended care facilities.....	85,000	80,000	90,000	+5,000	+10,000
Grants for the construction of veterans cemeteries....	46,000	45,000	46,000	---	+1,000
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Total, Departmental Administration.....	7,894,130	8,116,894	8,177,894	+283,764	+61,000
<b>Administrative Provisions</b>					
<b>Section 226</b>					
Medical services.....	1,400,000	1,400,000	1,400,000	---	---
(Rescission).....	-1,400,000	-1,400,000	-1,400,000	---	---
Medical support and compliance.....	100,000	100,000	100,000	---	---
(Rescission).....	-150,000	-100,000	-100,000	+50,000	---
Medical facilities.....	250,000	250,000	250,000	---	---
(Rescission).....	-250,000	-250,000	-250,000	---	---
General VA rescission (Sec. 233).....	-182,000	---	-41,000	+141,000	-41,000
JIF rescission (Sec. 240).....	---	---	-15,000	-15,000	-15,000

DIVISION I, MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS, AND RELATED  
AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Contract disability exams (Sec. 241).....	---	---	40,000	+40,000	+40,000
Total. Administrative Provisions.....	-232,000	---	-16,000	+216,000	-16,000
Total, title II.....	149,106,488	161,667,913	162,172,782	+13,066,294	+504,869
Appropriations.....	(95,454,261)	(104,755,711)	(105,316,580)	(+9,862,319)	(+560,869)
Rescissions.....	(-1,982,000)	(-1,750,000)	(-1,806,000)	(+176,000)	(-56,000)
Advance appropriations, FY 2016.....	(55,634,227)	(58,662,202)	(58,662,202)	(+3,027,975)	---
Advances from prior year appropriations.....	(54,462,000)	(55,634,227)	(55,634,227)	(+1,172,227)	---
(Limitation on direct loans).....	(3,000)	(3,377)	(3,377)	(+377)	---
Discretionary.....	(64,416,919)	(68,155,085)	(68,041,389)	(+3,624,470)	(-113,696)
Advances from prior year less FY 2016 advances	-1,172,227	-3,027,975	-3,027,975	-1,855,748	---
Net discretionary.....	(63,244,692)	(65,127,110)	(65,013,414)	(+1,768,722)	(-113,696)
Mandatory.....	(84,699,569)	(93,512,828)	(94,131,393)	(+9,441,824)	(+618,565)
Total mandatory and net discretionary.....	147,934,261	158,639,938	159,144,807	+11,210,546	+504,869
=====					
TITLE III - RELATED AGENCIES					
American Battle Monuments Commission					
Salaries and expenses.....	63,200	70,100	74,100	+10,900	+4,000

DIVISION I. MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS, AND RELATED  
AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Foreign currency fluctuations account.....	14,100	1,900	1,900	-12,200	---
Total, American Battle Monuments Commission.....	77,300	72,000	76,000	-1,300	+4,000
U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims					
Salaries and expenses.....	35,408	31,386	31,386	-4,022	---
Department of Defense - Civil					
Cemeterial Expenses, Army					
Salaries and expenses.....	65,800	45,800	65,800	---	+20,000
Armed Forces Retirement Home - Trust Fund					
Operation and maintenance.....	66,800	62,400	62,400	-4,400	---
Capital program.....	1,000	1,000	1,000	---	---
Total, Armed Forces Retirement Home.....	67,800	63,400	63,400	-4,400	---
Total, title III.....	246,308	212,586	236,586	-9,722	+24,000

DIVISION I. MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS, AND RELATED  
AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

TITLE IV - OVERSEAS CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Military Construction, Defense-Wide.....	---	46,000	46,000	+46,000	---
European Reassurance Initiative Military Construction.	---	---	175,000	+175,000	+175,000
Total, title IV.....	---	46,000	221,000	+221,000	+175,000
Grand total.....	159,160,796	168,483,946	169,188,368	+10,027,572	+704,422
Appropriations.....	(105,888,418)	(111,525,744)	(112,316,413)	(+6,427,995)	(+790,669)
Rescissions.....	(-2,361,849)	(-1,750,000)	(-2,011,247)	(+350,602)	(-261,247)
Advance appropriations, FY 2015.....	(55,634,227)	(58,662,202)	(58,662,202)	(+3,027,975)	---
Advances from prior year appropriations.....	(54,462,000)	(55,634,227)	(55,634,227)	(+1,172,227)	---
(By transfer).....	(269,257)	(284,366)	(291,251)	(+21,994)	(+6,885)
(Transfer out).....	(-269,257)	(-284,366)	(-291,251)	(-21,994)	(-6,885)
(Limitation on direct loans).....	(3,000)	(3,377)	(3,377)	(+377)	---



DIVISION J—DEPARTMENT OF STATE,  
FOREIGN OPERATIONS, AND RELATED  
PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015

In implementing this agreement, Federal departments, agencies, commissions, and other entities shall comply with the directives, reporting requirements, instructions, and allocations contained in H. Rept. 113-499 (House report) accompanying H.R. 5013 (House bill) and S. Rept. 113-195 (Senate report) accompanying S. 2499 (Senate bill) as though stated in this explanatory statement, unless specifically directed to the contrary. This explanatory statement, while repeating some House and Senate report language for emphasis or clarification, does not negate such language unless expressly provided herein.

The agreement modifies language in section 7019 by including all funding directives referenced in this explanatory statement. In executing the directives provided in this explanatory statement, the Secretary of State, the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), and the Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG) shall exercise the authority provided in section 7019(b) of this Act in a limited manner and in response to extraordinary circumstances. Additionally, the agreement assumes that the report required pursuant to section 653(a) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (FAA) shall be submitted within the specified time frame established by such Act.

In lieu of the funding directives in the House and Senate reports for Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Iraq, the Secretary of State shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations proposed funding levels for such countries in the report required in section 653(a) of the FAA and in the spend plan required by section 7076 of this Act. Prior to the submission of both reports, the Secretary of State shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations.

The Department of State, USAID, and other Federal agencies, as applicable, are directed to report to the Committees on Appropriations, not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act, on the estimated cost and steps required for the Department and such agencies to provide the compensation information requested under Executive Salaries and Compensation in the Introduction of the Senate report.

Section 7076(e) of this Act directs the Department of State and USAID to submit congressional budget justifications (CBJs) concurrent with the President's fiscal year 2016 budget request, including justifications for multi-year availability for funds requested under Diplomatic and Consular Programs and Operating Expenses. The Department of State, USAID, and other agencies shall also include in CBJs, as applicable, the information in the Introduction of the Senate report under Congressional Budget Request and Justifications, on reimbursement agreements, the Economy Act, Working Capital Fund, office closures, and representation expenses.

The Department of State, USAID, and other agencies funded by this Act are directed to notify the Committees on Appropriations of—

- 1) reprogrammings of funds, as required by sections 7015 and 7019 of this Act, at the most detailed level of the CBJ, this Act, or explanatory statement;
- 2) significant departures in funding from the CBJ or the final report submitted pursuant to section 653(a) of the FAA; and
- 3) commitments requiring significant funding and staffing in future fiscal years.

The regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations, including CBJ documents and operating and spend plans, shall not suffice for purposes of satisfying special notification requirements contained in this Act.

With respect to prior year reporting requirements referenced in the House and Senate reports, if such reporting requirements were completed prior to the enactment of this Act, the reporting agency shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations to determine if an additional report is required in fiscal year 2015. With regard to reporting requirements and instructions contained in prior year Acts that have not yet been submitted, unless specifically stated to the contrary, the agreement does not terminate such reporting requirements.

With respect to appropriations contained in this Act, the term “program, project, and activity” shall mean any item for which a dollar amount is specified in this Act or explanatory statement. In addition, the definition of program, project, and activity in section 7023 of this Act shall apply to the accounts listed in such section.

Funds that are described in this explanatory statement under title IX for Ebola response and preparedness are in addition to funds described under titles I through VIII.

TITLE I—DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND  
RELATED AGENCY

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
ADMINISTRATION OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR PROGRAMS

The agreement provides \$6,461,172,000 for Diplomatic and Consular Programs. The agreement provides an additional \$1,350,803,000 in title VIII under this heading designated for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism (OCO/GWOT) pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

Within the total provided, up to \$2,128,115,000 is for Worldwide Security Protection (WSP) and may remain available until expended, \$4,332,524,000 is for operations, of which \$650,000,000 may remain available until September 30, 2016, and \$533,000 is for the International Chancery Center. The Secretary of State is directed to report to the Committees on Appropriations, not later than September 1, 2015, on projected amounts that are to remain available for operations beyond fiscal year 2015, by category and bureau.

Funds for activities, bureaus, and offices under this heading are allocated according to the following table and are subject to paragraph (6)(A) under such heading and section 7019 of this Act:

DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR PROGRAMS (Budget authority in thousands of dollars)	
Category	Budget Authority
Human Resources .....	2,270,036
Public Diplomacy .....	[131,713]
Worldwide Security Protection .....	[331,885]
Overseas Programs .....	1,595,805
Public Diplomacy .....	[369,589]
Diplomatic Policy and Support .....	780,860
Security Programs .....	1,813,938
Worldwide Security Protection .....	[1,796,230]
Subtotal, Diplomatic and Consular Programs	
Appropriated Funds .....	6,460,639
International Chancery Center .....	533
Subtotal, Diplomatic and Consular Programs	6,461,172

Offices/Programs	Final Bill
Ambassadors Fund for Cultural Preservation .....	5,750

Offices/Programs	Final Bill
Cultural Antiquities Task Force .....	1,000
Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor .....	32,293
Human Rights Vetting (non-add) .....	[5,000]
Office of International Religious Freedom (non-add) .....	[4,000]
Office of Terrorism Financing and Economic Sanctions Policy .....	4,100
Office to Combat Trafficking in Persons .....	7,500
Office of the Coordinator for Cyber Issues .....	5,667
Office of the Special Coordinator for Tibetan Issues .....	1,000
Office for Global Women's Issues .....	9,988

The agreement provides \$2,128,115,000 for WSP under this heading and an additional \$989,706,000 for WSP is provided in title VIII and designated for OCO/GWOT, for a total of \$3,117,821,000 for WSP in this Act.

No funds were requested, and no funds are provided in the agreement, for a Foreign Affairs Security Training Center (FASTC). The Secretary of State shall comply with the reporting and information directives in the House and Senate reports. No funds from this Act or prior Acts may be made available for obligation for FASTC without prior notification to the appropriate congressional committees.

The agreement supports the efforts of the Department of State to monitor United States assistance for foreign security forces. In addition to funds made available for such activities, not less than \$5,000,000 under this heading is included to implement section 620M of the FAA.

The agreement includes the funds recommended in the Senate report for the Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs, including for the Arctic Council, and the authority included in the Senate bill to make grants pursuant to section 504 of Public Law 95-426.

The agreement includes section 7034(l)(1), which extends for one year the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative surcharge authority, which is the same authority included in prior years.

Section 7034(l)(7) of this Act continues the Foreign Service overseas pay comparability authority, but, as in prior years, prohibits implementation of the third phase of the authority and does not include funds requested for such implementation.

Section 7034(n) of this Act provides limitations on the uses of the Department of State Working Capital Fund. The Secretary of State is directed to include information on the Working Capital Fund in the operating plan required by section 7076 of this Act and reprogramming notifications for funds made available under this heading.

The agreement does not specifically designate funds for the new non-security positions related to the Department-wide hiring initiatives included in the fiscal year 2015 budget request. The Secretary of State is directed to examine the assignment of existing lower priority positions, including vacancies and such positions identified by the Department of State's Office of Inspector General, to meet higher priority staffing requirements, including those enumerated under this heading in the Senate report. If, however, the Secretary determines that it is in the national interest of the United States to redirect the funds appropriated under this heading for additional positions, the Committees on Appropriations will consider such request as part of the operating plan required by section 7076 of this Act. Such plan shall include a detailed description of any new or reassigned Foreign or Civil Service positions requested by a bureau or office, a justification of the request, and the salary and benefit costs for fiscal years 2015 and 2016.

The agreement designates up to \$23,500,000 under this heading for conflict and stabilization operations and permits such amount to be transferred to, and merged with, funds available under Conflict Stabilization Operations. In addition, \$15,000,000 is included under Conflict Stabilization Operations in title VIII.

The agreement does not include the requested authority to transfer \$1,000,000 of the funds available under this heading to funds available under Representation Expenses.

The agreement does not include a prohibition on the use of funds appropriated under this heading for the Ambassadors Fund for Cultural Preservation that was included in the House bill. Instead, the agreement continues the limitation on the use of funds for the preservation of religious sites as included in prior years.

The Office of Inspector General of the Department of State released three Management Alerts in fiscal year 2014 that included recommendations to strengthen contract files, grants management, and information system security programs. The Secretary of State, in coordination with the Department of State's Office of Inspector General, is directed to submit a report to the appropriate congressional committees, not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act, detailing the status of each of the recommendations included in the Alerts.

Funds made available by this Act should be used to support Department of State efforts to reopen and operate a diplomatic presence in the Eastern Congo, once the security environment permits such a presence.

The Secretary of State shall report to the appropriate congressional committees, not later than 45 days after enactment of this Act, on the Department of State's policy regarding its presence in Somalia, including personnel involved, current limitations imposed on temporary duty assignments, an assessment of the ability of such personnel to affect inter-agency and international donor coordination efforts and diplomacy under such limitations, an assessment of the security situation, and the costs associated with such activities, including for security.

#### CAPITAL INVESTMENT FUND

The agreement provides \$56,400,000 for Capital Investment Fund.

#### OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

The agreement provides \$73,400,000 for Office of Inspector General, of which \$11,000,000 may remain available until September 30, 2016, and an additional \$56,900,000 in title VIII under this heading is designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985. The agreement waives the requirement of section 209(a)(1) of the Foreign Service Act of 1980, as included in the Senate bill and in prior years.

Funding for the Department of State Office of Inspector General is provided under title I of this Act, which may be used for oversight of operations and programs funded under title VIII of this Act.

#### EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMS

The agreement provides \$589,900,000 for Educational and Cultural Exchange Programs, of which not less than \$236,485,000 shall be for the Fulbright Program.

The agreement does not include funds for an Exchanges Rapid Response program.

Funds under this heading are allocated according to the following table and are subject to section 7019 of this Act:

#### EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMS

(Budget authority in thousands of dollars)

Program/Activity	Final Bill
Academic Exchanges:	
Fulbright Program: Students, Scholars, Teachers, Humphrey, Undergraduates .....	236,485
Global Academic Exchanges .....	58,351
Special Academic Exchanges .....	36,800
Benjamin Gilman International Scholarship Program .....	(12,500)
Young African Leaders Initiative .....	(15,000)
Young Southeast Asian Leaders Initiative ....	(5,000)
Subtotal, Academic Programs .....	331,636
Professional and Cultural Exchanges:	
International Visitor Leadership Program .....	89,665
Citizen Exchange Programs .....	100,000
Special Professional and Cultural Exchanges .....	5,575
Subtotal, Professional and Cultural Exchanges .....	195,240
Program Evaluation and Performance .....	4,752
Exchanges Support .....	58,272
Total, Educational and Cultural Exchange Programs .....	589,900

#### REPRESENTATION EXPENSES

The agreement provides \$8,030,000 for Representation Expenses, to be provided in accordance with section 7020 of this Act.

#### PROTECTION OF FOREIGN MISSIONS AND OFFICIALS

The agreement provides \$30,036,000 for Protection of Foreign Missions and Officials.

Section 7034(j) of this Act includes authority for the Secretary of State to transfer expired unobligated balances from funds made available under Diplomatic and Consular Programs, which is similar to authority made available in fiscal year 2014 and that was proposed in the House and Senate bills.

#### EMBASSY SECURITY, CONSTRUCTION, AND MAINTENANCE

The agreement provides \$2,063,255,000 for Embassy Security, Construction, and Maintenance, of which \$1,240,500,000 is for Worldwide Security Upgrades and \$822,755,000 is for other construction, operations, and maintenance. The agreement provides an additional \$260,800,000 in title VIII under this heading designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, of which, \$250,000,000 is available for Worldwide Security Upgrades and is subject to the requirements and authorities of section 7004 of this Act.

The Secretary of State should consider providing additional support to protect soft targets in Kenya and such amounts should be included in the operating plan required by section 7076 of this Act.

Section 7004(d) of this Act directs that all purchase of land and award of construction contracts be subject to prior consultation with, and the regular notification procedures of, the Committees on Appropriations. Notifications made pursuant to such section shall include the information detailed under Embassy Security, Construction, and Maintenance in title I of the House report. The Department of State should not proceed with any purchase of land or award of contracts for construction without approval by the Committees on Appropriations. In addition, the Department of State is directed to consult with the Committees on Appropriations after both the rightsizing study and the planning for a major construction project are complete and before the pre-solicitation for the construction award is released.

Section 7004(f) of this Act continues, in modified form, the directives concerning expeditionary, interim, and temporary diplomatic facilities abroad.

#### EMERGENCIES IN THE DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR SERVICE

The agreement provides \$7,900,000 for Emergencies in the Diplomatic and Consular Service.

#### REPATRIATION LOANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

The agreement provides \$1,300,000 for Repatriation Loans Program Account.

#### PAYMENT TO THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE IN TAIWAN

The agreement provides \$30,000,000 for Payment to the American Institute in Taiwan.

#### PAYMENT TO THE FOREIGN SERVICE RETIREMENT AND DISABILITY FUND

The agreement provides \$158,900,000 for Payment to the Foreign Service Retirement and Disability Fund.

#### INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS CONTRIBUTIONS TO INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

The agreement provides \$1,399,151,000 for Contributions to International Organizations and an additional \$74,400,000 in title VIII under this heading is designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

The agreement does not include funds for an assessed contribution to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), which is prohibited due to the application of Public Law 101-246 and Public Law 103-236.

#### CONTRIBUTIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACEKEEPING ACTIVITIES

The agreement provides \$2,118,891,000 for Contributions for International Peacekeeping Activities. The agreement provides funding for the United States share of United Nations Operations in Somalia under Peacekeeping Operations in title VIII.

The agreement provides funding and authorities under titles I, VII, and VIII of this Act to fund fiscal year 2015 United States contributions to United Nations peacekeeping missions. The Secretary of State may not exceed the assessed rate described in the last proviso under this heading with appropriated funds, but credits may be applied to meet the current assessment rate. The Secretary of State is directed to submit an operating plan for international peacekeeping activities that specifies the planned apportionment of funds for all known fiscal year 2015 peacekeeping assessments, including funds available from this Act, prior year unobligated balances, credits, and the planned use of transfer and other authorities provided by this Act under sections 7009 and 8003, as necessary.

The Department of State has informed the Committees on Appropriations that, as of November 2014, unobligated balances under Diplomatic and Consular Programs from fiscal year 2014, excluding WSP and Diplomatic Security, totaled \$588,264,000. The Secretary of State should transfer unobligated fiscal year 2014 funds from Diplomatic and Consular Programs, as necessary and within the limitations and notification requirements of section 7009 of this Act, to fund assessed international peacekeeping contributions at the assessed rate described in the last proviso under this heading.

The Department of State and the United States Mission to the United Nations (USUN) should work with the UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations to evaluate and prioritize peacekeeping missions, and consider phase-out and withdrawal when mission goals have been substantially achieved. The Secretary of State is directed

to report to the Committees on Appropriations, not later than 180 days after enactment of this Act, on efforts and progress made to address these issues.

The Department of State and USUN should seek a reduction of the United States-assessed rate for international peacekeeping activities for future years.

USUN shall work to ensure that the United Nations is pursuing investigations and prosecutions of human rights abuses committed by international peacekeepers, including sexual exploitation, and shall encourage a focus on monitoring and investigating such abuses within the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

#### INTERNATIONAL COMMISSIONS

##### INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY AND WATER COMMISSION, UNITED STATES AND MEXICO

The agreement includes a limitation of \$6,000 on representation expenses of the International Boundary and Water Commission, United States and Mexico (IBWC).

#### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement provides \$44,707,000 for salaries and expenses of IBWC.

#### CONSTRUCTION

The agreement provides \$29,000,000 for planning, preparation, and construction.

Funds under this heading are allocated according to the following table, and are subject to section 7019 of this Act:

#### CONSTRUCTION

(Budget authority in thousands of dollars)

Program/Activity	Budget Authority
Water Quality Program .....	3,500
Water Quantity Program .....	22,600
Rio Grande Flood Control System Rehabilitation .....	(6,000)
Resource & Asset Management Program .....	2,900
<b>Total, Construction .....</b>	<b>29,000</b>

Section 7045(g)(3) of this Act directs the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Commissioner for the United States Section of the IBWC, to report to the Committees on Appropriations not later than 45 days after enactment of this Act.

If the mechanisms and actions detailed in section 7045(g)(3) of this Act are not in place or have not been taken by June 30, 2015, the Secretary of State shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations detailing why no such mechanisms are in place or no such actions have been taken and provide updated projections of the balance of the water delivery deficit at the end of the current 5-year cycle, and the estimated impact on the United States of such deficit.

The Secretary of State is directed to provide to the Committees on Appropriations the annual report required in section 12310 of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (Public Law 113-79) on efforts by Mexico to meet its deliveries of water to the Rio Grande in accordance with the treaty.

#### AMERICAN SECTIONS, INTERNATIONAL COMMISSIONS

The agreement provides \$12,561,000 for American Sections, International Commissions to support the International Boundary Commission, International Joint Commission, and Border Environment Cooperation Commission.

Funds under this heading are allocated according to the following table and are subject to section 7019 of this Act:

#### AMERICAN SECTIONS

(Budget authority in thousands of dollars)

Program/Activity	Budget Authority
International Boundary Commission .....	2,525
International Joint Commission .....	7,663
Border Environment Cooperation Commission .....	2,373
<b>Total, American Sections .....</b>	<b>12,561</b>

#### INTERNATIONAL FISHERIES COMMISSIONS

The agreement provides \$36,681,000 for International Fisheries Commissions at the levels requested, with the exception of the Great Lakes Fishery Commission and the International Pacific Halibut Commission.

Funds under this heading are allocated according to the following table and are subject to section 7019 of this Act:

#### INTERNATIONAL FISHERIES COMMISSIONS

(Budget authority in thousands of dollars)

Commission/Activity	Budget Authority
Great Lakes Fishery Commission .....	24,950
Lake Champlain Basin .....	(3,500)
Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission .....	1,750
Pacific Salmon Commission .....	2,800
International Pacific Halibut Commission .....	4,150
Other Marine Conservation Organizations .....	3,031
<b>Total, International Fisheries Commissions .....</b>	<b>36,681</b>

#### RELATED AGENCY

##### BROADCASTING BOARD OF GOVERNORS

##### INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING OPERATIONS

The agreement provides \$726,567,000 for International Broadcasting Operations, and an additional \$10,700,000 in title VIII under this heading is designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

Of the funds made available under this heading, up to \$44,025,000 may remain available until expended for satellite transmissions and Internet freedom programs, of which not less than \$17,500,000 is for Internet freedom and circumvention programs. BBG is directed to include amounts planned for Internet freedom in fiscal year 2015 as part of the operating plan required by section 7076 of this Act and to expand upon the planned activities in the Internet freedom spend plan required by section 7078 of this Act.

The agreement includes a one year extension of the personal services contract authority of the BBG, as included in prior year Acts.

The agreement includes \$27,130,000 for the Office of Cuba Broadcasting (OCB). In addition to the amount provided, funds may be transferred to OCB from Economic Support Fund for the purposes proposed in the Congressional Budget Request, Fiscal Year 2015, for the BBG up to the amount necessary to restore the proposed program reductions. The BBG is further directed to include in the fiscal year 2016 budget request the full amount required to support the proposed staffing and program requirements for OCB during fiscal year 2016 and to not rely on proposed interagency transfers to maintain program requirements.

The BBG is directed to consult with the Committees on Appropriations prior to the submission of the fiscal year 2015 operating plan on the program increases and reductions recommended under this heading in the House and Senate reports, including for enhanced broadcasts to Ukraine and the surrounding region. The BBG shall include in the operating plan detailed information on the increases and reductions the BBG proposes to implement in fiscal year 2015, in-

cluding the timeframe for implementation and the fiscal years 2015 and 2016 costs or savings for each of the program increases and reductions.

Title VIII of this Act provides \$4,400,000 for Voice of America (VOA) and Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty (RFE/RL) broadcasts to Afghanistan and Pakistan and \$6,300,000 for increases to VOA and Middle East Broadcasting Networks (MBN) broadcasts to Iraq and Syria. The BBG is directed to include in the operating plan a proposal for the use of such funds.

Funds in this Act under this heading are allocated according to the following table and are subject to section 7019 of this Act:

#### INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING OPERATIONS

(Budget authority in thousands of dollars)

BBG Entity	Budget Authority
BBG/International Broadcasting Bureau Operations .....	61,404
Voice of America .....	209,383
OCO—Afghanistan/Pakistan .....	2,200
OCO—Syria/Iraq .....	3,150
Subtotal, VOA Program Level .....	214,733
Office of Cuba Broadcasting .....	27,130
Technology, Services and Innovation .....	182,487
Internet Freedom and Circumvention Activities (non-add) .....	17,500
<b>Subtotal, Federal Entities .....</b>	<b>480,404</b>
<b>Subtotal, Federal Entities with OCO .....</b>	<b>485,754</b>
Independent Grantee Organizations:	
Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty .....	101,650
OCO—Afghanistan/Pakistan .....	2,200
Subtotal, RFE/RL Program Level .....	103,850
Radio Free Asia .....	38,255
Middle East Broadcasting Networks .....	106,258
OCO—Syria/Iraq .....	3,150
<b>Subtotal, MBN Program Level .....</b>	<b>109,408</b>
<b>Subtotal, Independent Grantee Organizations .....</b>	<b>246,163</b>
<b>Subtotal, Independent Grantee Organizations with OCO .....</b>	<b>251,513</b>
<b>Total, BBG Entities .....</b>	<b>726,567</b>
<b>Total, BBG Entities Program Level with OCO .....</b>	<b>737,267</b>
<b>Title VIII—OCO .....</b>	<b>10,700</b>

#### BROADCASTING CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

The agreement provides \$4,800,000 for Broadcasting Capital Improvements.

#### RELATED PROGRAMS

##### THE ASIA FOUNDATION

The agreement provides \$17,000,000 for The Asia Foundation.

The Asia Foundation is directed to comply with the reporting and consultation requirements in section 7034(s) of this Act and the accompanying explanatory statement.

##### UNITED STATES INSTITUTE OF PEACE

The agreement provides \$35,300,000 for United States Institute of Peace (USIP).

USIP is directed to comply with the reporting and consultation requirements in section 7034(s) of this Act and the accompanying explanatory statement. In addition, USIP is directed to submit the operating plan required by section 7076 of this Act.

##### CENTER FOR MIDDLE EASTERN-WESTERN DIALOGUE TRUST FUND

The agreement provides \$83,000 from interest and earnings from the Center for Middle Eastern-Western Dialogue Trust Fund.

The Center is directed to comply with the reporting and consultation requirements in section 7034(s) of this Act and the accompanying explanatory statement.

EISENHOWER EXCHANGE FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM  
The agreement provides \$400,000 from interest and earnings from the Eisenhower Exchange Fellowship Program Trust Fund.

##### ISRAELI ARAB SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The agreement provides \$26,000 from interest and earnings from the Israeli Arab Scholarship Endowment Fund.

## EAST-WEST CENTER

The agreement provides \$16,700,000 for East-West Center.

The East-West Center is directed to comply with the reporting and consultation requirements in section 7034(s) of this Act and the accompanying explanatory statement.

## NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR DEMOCRACY

The agreement provides \$135,000,000 for National Endowment for Democracy (NED).

Not later than 45 days after enactment of this Act, the President of the NED shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations on the proposed uses of funds appropriated under this heading on a regional and country basis.

The allocation of additional funding for the NED above the budget request shall be guided by the table under this heading in the Senate report.

The NED is directed to comply with the reporting and consultation requirements in section 7034(s) of this Act and the accompanying explanatory statement.

## OTHER COMMISSIONS

## COMMISSION FOR THE PRESERVATION OF AMERICA'S HERITAGE ABROAD

## SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement provides \$644,000 for Commission for the Preservation of America's Heritage Abroad.

The agreement provides for one year of expanded procurement authority, and directs the Chairman of the Commission to consult with the Committees on Appropriations prior to implementing such authority. The Chairman is also directed to ensure that no contractor makes in excess of the equivalent of the salary for executive level IV.

UNITED STATES COMMISSION ON INTERNATIONAL RELIGIOUS FREEDOM  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement provides \$3,500,000 for United States Commission on International Religious Freedom, subject to authorization, and includes a limitation of \$4,000 on representation expenses.

The Commission is directed to comply with the reporting and consultation requirements in section 7034(s) of this Act and the accompanying explanatory statement.

## COMMISSION ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE

## SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement provides \$2,579,000 for Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

The Commission is directed to comply with the reporting and consultation requirements in section 7034(s) of this Act and the accompanying explanatory statement.

## CONGRESSIONAL-EXECUTIVE COMMISSION ON THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

## SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement provides \$2,000,000 for Congressional-Executive Commission on the People's Republic of China.

The Commission is directed to comply with the reporting and consultation requirements in section 7034(s) of this Act and the accompanying explanatory statement.

## UNITED STATES-CHINA ECONOMIC AND SECURITY REVIEW COMMISSION

## SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement provides \$3,500,000 for United States-China Economic and Security Review Commission.

The Commission is directed to comply with the reporting and consultation requirements in section 7034(s) of this Act and the accompanying explanatory statement.

## TITLE II—UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

## FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT

## OPERATING EXPENSES

The agreement provides \$1,090,836,000 for USAID Operating Expenses, of which \$163,625,000 may remain available until September 30, 2016, and an additional \$125,464,000 in title VIII under this heading is designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

No funds are provided under this heading to increase the number of employee positions at USAID in fiscal year 2015. In addition to the reporting requirements regarding USAID staff included in the House and Senate reports, the USAID Administrator shall include the staffing levels and position titles for all Washington-based employees by bureau, office, or other unit. The USAID Administrator shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations prior to the submission of the report.

Section 7031(a)(1)(A)(iv) of this Act requires that "no level of acceptable fraud is assumed" by any implementing agency or ministry of a foreign government that receives direct government-to-government assistance. Recognizing that the risk of fraud exists in all countries, the USAID Administrator is directed to implement such section by ensuring that each implementing agency or ministry has fraud risk mitigation procedures that appropriately protect against fraud and the misappropriation of funds.

The agreement does not include a House provision that would authorize funds under Operating Expenses to remain available for an additional 4 years if such funds were initially obligated prior to expiration. The independent audit of USAID's fiscal year 2014 consolidated financial statements, dated November 17, 2014, states that USAID's process for de-obligating unliquidated obligations is ineffective and identifies this process as a significant internal control deficiency. In response, USAID set a target date of June 30, 2015, for completing actions to implement the audit recommendation. The USAID Administrator is directed to report to the Committees on Appropriations, not later than July 31, 2015, on the status of the implementation of the recommendation, any additional steps USAID has taken to improve the process for de-obligating unliquidated obligations, and the total unliquidated obligations by fiscal year funded in Operating Expenses.

Section 7057(j) of this Act directs the USAID Administrator to submit to the Committees on Appropriations, not later than 180 days after enactment of this Act, a plan to modify USAID's Foreign Service training, assignment, and promotion practices to enable all Foreign Service Officers to effectively incorporate local sustainable development practices into USAID assistance programs.

Using existing authority, funds are included under this heading for USAID to support the salaries and benefits for Global Development Lab (the Lab) program staff. No new authority is included to fund personnel from other accounts in this Act. USAID is encouraged to find innovative solutions to development challenges through the Lab and is further encouraged to seek buy-in from countries that the Lab programs seek to benefit. The USAID Administrator shall regularly consult with, and ensure the participation of, nongovernmental and governmental entities in developing countries at all stages of the Lab's activities. The Administrator

shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations, not later than April 1, 2015, detailing projects supported by the Lab since October 1, 2013.

Funds in this Act under this heading are allocated according to the following table and are subject to section 7019 of this Act:

## USAID OPERATING EXPENSES

(Budget authority in thousands of dollars)

Program	Budget Authority
Non-Frontline States Overseas Operations .....	641,915
Washington Operations .....	408,578
Office of Security .....	[18,270]
Oversight of Acquisition and Assistance .....	[7,000]
Central Support .....	251,507
Staff training .....	[25,075]
Less other sources <sup>1</sup> .....	-211,164
Total, USAID Operating Expenses .....	1,090,836
OCO/GWOT .....	125,464
Total, USAID Operating Expenses with OCO/GWOT .....	1,216,300

<sup>1</sup> Other sources include trust funds, reimbursements, and unobligated balances carried forward from prior years

## CAPITAL INVESTMENT FUND

The agreement provides \$130,815,000 for Capital Investment Fund.

## OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

The agreement provides \$54,285,000 for Office of Inspector General, of which \$8,143,000 may remain available until September 30, 2016.

The Inspector General shall submit the annual audit plan within the first quarter of fiscal year 2015.

## TITLE III—BILATERAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE

## FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT

## GLOBAL HEALTH PROGRAMS

The agreement provides \$8,453,950,000 for Global Health Programs.

The agreement provides \$59,000,000 for programs to combat polio, of which \$51,500,000 is provided under this heading and \$7,500,000 under Economic Support Fund.

## COUNTRIES

Laos.—The agreement provides not less than \$2,000,000 under this heading for nutrition programs in Laos as part of a multi-year effort to combat maternal and child mortality and malnutrition.

Funds under this heading are allocated according to the following table and are subject to section 7019 of this Act:

## GLOBAL HEALTH PROGRAMS

(Budget authority in thousands of dollars)

Program/Activity	Budget Authority
Maternal and Child Health .....	715,000
Polio .....	[51,500]
The GAVI Alliance .....	[200,000]
Nutrition (USAID) .....	115,000
Micronutrients .....	[33,000]
[of which, Vitamin A] .....	[22,500]
Iodine Deficiency Disorder .....	[2,500]
Vulnerable Children (USAID) .....	22,000
Blind Children .....	[2,500]
HIV/AIDS (USAID) .....	330,000
Microbicides .....	[45,000]
HIV/AIDS (Department of State) .....	5,670,000
The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria .....	[1,350,000]
UNAIDS .....	[45,000]
Family Planning/Reproductive Health (USAID) .....	523,950
Other Infectious Diseases (USAID) .....	1,078,000
Pandemic Influenza and Other Emerging Threats .....	[72,500]
Malaria .....	[669,500]
Tuberculosis .....	[236,000]
[of which, Global TB Drug Facility] .....	[15,000]
Neglected Tropical Diseases .....	[100,000]
Total, Global Health Programs .....	8,453,950

## DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE

The agreement provides \$2,507,001,000 for Development Assistance.

## PROGRAMS

Workforce Development Programs.—The agreement includes funding for workforce development and post-secondary training programs, which shall be focused on leadership development and industries with high-growth potential.

## COUNTRIES

Central America.—The agreement provides the budget request for El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras, which should support the strategy required by section 7045(a)(1) of this Act.

Vietnam.—Funds made available under this heading for assistance for Vietnam for health/disability activities should prioritize assistance for individuals with severe upper or lower body mobility impairment and/or cognitive or developmental disabilities.

Funds under this heading are allocated according to the following table, and are subject to section 7019 of this Act:

## DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE

(Budget authority in thousands of dollars)

Country/Program	Budget Authority
<b>Countries:</b>	
Bangladesh labor programs .....	3,000
Cambodia .....	31,250
El Salvador .....	25,000
Guatemala .....	57,387
Honduras .....	44,326
Indonesian human rights programs .....	350
Vietnam health/disability programs .....	7,500
<b>Global Programs:</b>	
Child Marriage .....	10,000
Education for Blind and Deaf .....	15,000
Global Crop Diversity Trust .....	15,000
Indigenous Peoples Grants .....	2,000
Leahy War Victims Fund .....	12,000
Reconciliation Programs .....	16,000
Trade Capacity Building .....	10,000

## INTERNATIONAL DISASTER ASSISTANCE

The agreement provides \$560,000,000 for International Disaster Assistance, and an additional \$1,335,000,000 in title VIII under this heading is designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

The USAID Administrator shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations, not later than October 30, 2015, on funds used for emergency food security during fiscal year 2015, including the amounts and justification. USAID should consult with the Committees on Appropriations not later than 45 days after enactment of this Act on the content of the report.

## TRANSITION INITIATIVES

The agreement provides \$47,000,000 for Transition Initiatives, and an additional \$20,000,000 in title VIII under this heading is designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

## COMPLEX CRISES FUND

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides \$20,000,000 for Complex Crises Fund, and an additional \$30,000,000 in title VIII under this heading is designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

## DEVELOPMENT CREDIT AUTHORITY

The agreement includes a \$40,000,000 limitation on funds that may be transferred from other programs in this title to the Development Credit Program, \$8,120,000 for administrative expenses, and a cap on total loan principal of \$1,500,000,000.

## ECONOMIC SUPPORT FUND

The agreement provides \$2,632,529,000 for Economic Support Fund, and an additional

\$2,114,266,000 in title VIII under this heading is designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

*Cambodia.*—Funds made available for democracy programs in Cambodia under this heading shall be subject to the requirements of section 7043(c)(1) of this Act.

*Colombia.*—The agreement provides \$133,000,000 for Colombia under this heading to be directly apportioned to USAID for alternative development/institution building, local governance programs, and support for victims of the violence in Colombia, of which not less than \$7,000,000 shall be transferred to Migration and Refugee Assistance.

*Residual Special Court for Sierra Leone.*—The Secretary of State is encouraged to continue support for the Residual Special Court, as needed, and is directed to consult with the Committees on Appropriations on any planned contributions in fiscal year 2015.

Funds in this Act under this heading are allocated according to the following table, and are subject to section 7019 of this Act:

## ECONOMIC SUPPORT FUND

(Budget authority in thousands of dollars)

Country/Program	Budget Authority
<b>Africa:</b>	
Anti-slavery Programs in Africa .....	3,000
Counter-Lord's Resistance Army .....	10,000
Democratic Republic of the Congo .....	71,440
Djibouti .....	5,000
<b>East Asia and the Pacific:</b>	
Nepal .....	33,000
Cambodia .....	5,000
People's Republic of China (Democracy, rule of law, and environment) .....	15,000
Tibet .....	7,900
Tibetan Communities in India and Nepal .....	3,000
Vietnam (Environmental remediation of dioxin) ....	15,000
<b>Europe and Eurasia:</b>	
Europe and Eurasia Regional .....	502,000
Research and Training .....	3,000
<b>Near East:</b>	
Bahrain (Democracy and governance) .....	3,500
Lebanon Scholarships .....	12,000
Marla Ruzicka Iraqi War Victims Fund .....	5,000
Middle East Partnership Initiative .....	70,000
Scholarships .....	(10,000)
Middle East Response .....	400,000
Middle East Regional Cooperation Program .....	5,000
Morocco .....	20,000
Near East Regional Democracy .....	32,000
Tunisia .....	30,000
Reconciliation Programs .....	10,000
<b>Western Hemisphere:</b>	
Caribbean Basin Security Initiative (CBSI) .....	28,000
Central America Regional Security Initiative (CARSI) .....	100,000
Colombia .....	133,000
Transfer to Migration and Refugee Assistance .....	(7,000)
Afro-Colombian and indigenous communities .....	(15,000)
Human rights .....	(6,500)
Biodiversity .....	(3,500)
Children disabled by violence .....	(500)
Haiti .....	110,000
Reforestation .....	(15,000)
Mexico .....	46,100
Trade Capacity Building .....	10,000
<b>Global Programs:</b>	
Forensic Anthropology Assistance .....	3,000
House Democracy Partnership .....	1,900
Polio .....	7,500
Disability Programs .....	7,000

## DEMOCRACY FUND

The agreement provides \$130,500,000 for Democracy Fund, of which \$75,500,000 is for the Department of State Human Rights and Democracy Fund and \$55,000,000 is for the USAID Center of Excellence for Democracy, Human Rights, and Governance.

## DEPARTMENT OF STATE

## MIGRATION AND REFUGEE ASSISTANCE

The agreement provides \$931,886,000 for Migration and Refugee Assistance, and an additional \$2,127,114,000 in title VIII under this heading is designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

Section 7034(p) of this Act directs that funds made available for monitoring and evaluation of humanitarian assistance shall be made available, as appropriate, for the regular collection of feedback obtained directly from beneficiaries of humanitarian programs funded under this heading and under International Disaster Assistance, to maximize effectiveness of programs and accountability to beneficiaries. In addition, grantees that receive funds under such headings shall establish procedures for collecting and responding to such feedback, including by developing a methodology for collecting the feedback that ensures a representative and accurate reflection of beneficiary views.

The agreement includes modified language in section 7048(d) of the House bill regarding the UN Relief and Works Agency.

## UNITED STATES EMERGENCY REFUGEE AND MIGRATION ASSISTANCE FUND

The agreement provides \$50,000,000 for United States Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance Fund.

## INDEPENDENT AGENCIES

## PEACE CORPS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides \$379,500,000 for Peace Corps.

## MILLENNIUM CHALLENGE CORPORATION

The agreement provides \$899,500,000 for Millennium Challenge Corporation, including up to \$105,000,000 for administrative expenses.

## INTER-AMERICAN FOUNDATION

The agreement provides \$22,500,000 for Inter-American Foundation.

## UNITED STATES AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

The agreement provides \$30,000,000 for United States African Development Foundation.

## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

## INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

The agreement provides \$23,500,000 for International Affairs Technical Assistance.

## TITLE IV—INTERNATIONAL SECURITY ASSISTANCE

## DEPARTMENT OF STATE

## INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL AND LAW ENFORCEMENT

The agreement provides \$853,055,000 for International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement, and an additional \$443,195,000 in title VIII under this heading is designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

The Secretary of State shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations, not later than 45 days after enactment of this Act and prior to the initial obligation of program and country funds appropriated under this heading, on the proposed uses of funds on a program and country-by-country basis for each program, project, and activity.

The agreement recommends that Department of State personnel involved in overseas police training, judicial reform, corrections, and related programs advise foreign partners of the potential benefits of not expending scarce criminal justice resources on the prosecution and incarceration of nonviolent, low level offenders.

The agreement includes funds for DNA forensic technology to combat human trafficking in Central America and Mexico.

Funds provided above the budget request for assistance for Mexico are for enhanced

border security initiatives with a focus on the southern border of Mexico, and for other law enforcement and judicial reform programs. Funds for border security shall be provided in accordance with the strategy required by section 7045(a)(1) of this Act.

Funds in this Act under this heading are allocated according to the following table and are subject to section 7019 of this Act:

#### INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL AND LAW ENFORCEMENT

[Budget authority in thousands of dollars]

Country/Program	Budget Authority
Country:	
Colombia .....	145,250
Office of the Attorney General Human Rights Unit .....	[10,000]
Guatemala—Sexual Assault Units .....	3,000
Mexico .....	148,131
Global Programs:	
CBSI .....	25,000
CARSI .....	160,000
Combating Piracy .....	5,000
Demand Reduction .....	12,500
DNA Forensic Technology .....	3,000
International Commission Against Impunity in Guatemala .....	5,000
International Law Enforcement Academies .....	27,000
Regional Training Partnerships .....	4,500
Wildlife Poaching and Trafficking .....	25,000

#### NONPROLIFERATION, ANTI-TERRORISM, DEMINING AND RELATED PROGRAMS

The agreement provides \$586,260,000 for Nonproliferation, Anti-terrorism, Demining and Related Programs, and an additional \$99,240,000 in title VIII under this heading is designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

The agreement includes \$10,000,000 above fiscal year 2014 to support a multi-year plan for unexploded ordnance (UXO) clearance in Southeast Asia and the Pacific Islands.

Funds in this Act under this heading are allocated according to the following table, and are subject to section 7019 of this Act:

#### NONPROLIFERATION, ANTI-TERRORISM, DEMINING AND RELATED PROGRAMS

[Budget authority in thousands of dollars]

Programs	Budget Authority
Nonproliferation Programs:	283,680
Nonproliferation and Disarmament Fund .....	[27,000]
Export Control and Related Border Security Assistance .....	[56,990]
Global Threat Reduction .....	[69,540]
Anti-terrorism Programs .....	219,091
Anti-terrorism Assistance .....	[173,000]
Terrorist Interdiction Program .....	[25,091]
Counterterrorism Financing .....	[15,000]
Regional Stability & Humanitarian Assistance:	
Conventional Weapons Destruction .....	182,729
Humanitarian Demining .....	[162,729]
[of which, UXO Laos] .....	[12,000]
[of which, additional UXO South East Asia and Pacific Islands] .....	[10,000]

#### PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS

The agreement provides \$144,993,000 for Peacekeeping Operations, and an additional \$328,698,000 in title VIII under this heading is designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

The agreement includes \$28,000,000 for the Multinational Force and Observers (MFO) mission in the Sinai. Funds for the MFO from this Act and prior Acts are intended to be used to address force protection enhancements.

#### FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT INTERNATIONAL MILITARY EDUCATION AND TRAINING

The agreement provides \$106,074,000 for International Military Education and Training.

#### FOREIGN MILITARY FINANCING PROGRAM

The agreement provides \$5,014,109,000 for Foreign Military Financing Program, and an additional \$866,420,000 in title VIII under this heading is designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

Funds in this Act under this heading are allocated according to the following table, and are subject to section 7019 of this Act:

#### FOREIGN MILITARY FINANCING PROGRAM

[Budget authority in thousands of dollars]

Country/Program	Budget Authority
Colombia .....	26,750
Egypt .....	1,300,000
Georgia .....	30,000
Israel .....	3,100,000
Mexico .....	7,000
Moldova .....	11,250
Morocco .....	7,000
Philippines .....	50,000
Ukraine .....	47,000
Western Hemisphere Regional .....	7,500

The agreement funds the \$75,000,000 requested for the European Reassurance Initiative through increased assistance for Ukraine, Georgia, and Moldova. In addition, the agreement includes \$25,000,000 above the budget request to support partners and allies in Europe and Eurasia. The Secretary of State is directed to consult with the Committees on Appropriations prior to the obligation of funds.

Morocco.—The agreement modifies the House and Senate provisions on Morocco and the Western Sahara and expects that no funds will be used for internal security purposes as none were requested for such purposes.

#### TITLE V—MULTILATERAL ASSISTANCE FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT

#### INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND PROGRAMS

The agreement provides \$344,170,000 for International Organizations and Programs.

The agreement does not include a direct contribution for UNESCO, which is prohibited due to the application of Public Law 101-246 and Public Law 103-236.

The Secretary of State shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations prior to the initial obligation of funds appropriated by this Act for the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights.

For purposes of sections 7048 and 7071 of this Act, the term “best practices” for the protection of whistleblowers means practices that are implemented consistent with terms specified in international conventions or adopted by international organizations such as the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development and the Organization of American States (OAS).

Funds under this heading are allocated according to the following table and are subject to section 7019 of this Act:

#### INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND PROGRAMS

[Budget authority in thousands of dollars]

Programs	Budget Authority
International Civil Aviation Organization .....	800
International Conservation Programs .....	7,900
International Development Law Organization .....	600
International Maritime Organization .....	360
Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change/UN Framework Convention on Climate Change .....	10,000
International Chemicals and Toxin Programs .....	3,610
Montreal Protocol Multilateral Fund .....	25,500
OAS Development Assistance Programs .....	3,400
OAS Fund for Strengthening Democracy .....	4,500
Inter-American Commission on Human Rights .....	[2,000]
Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships in Asia .....	50

#### INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND PROGRAMS—Continued

[Budget authority in thousands of dollars]

Programs	Budget Authority
UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs .....	3,000
UN Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights .....	1,250
UN Women .....	7,500
UN Human Settlements Program .....	1,400
UN Capital Development Fund .....	900
UN Democracy Fund .....	4,200
UN Development Program .....	80,000
UN Environment Program .....	7,550
UN Children's Fund .....	132,000
UN High Commissioner for Human Rights .....	5,500
UN Population Fund .....	35,000
UN Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture .....	6,500
World Meteorological Organization .....	1,650
World Trade Organization Technical Assistance .....	1,000
Total, International Organizations and Programs ..	344,170

#### INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

The agreement modifies language in section 7029 on the evaluation policies of the international financial institutions. The Secretary of the Treasury shall instruct the United States executive director of each IFI to work to strengthen the respective institution's independent evaluation policies and practices, including by: (a) adopting transparent, pre-established criteria for when impact, in-depth, and other evaluations shall be conducted; (b) increasing the use of external and peer reviews; (c) instituting regular external evaluations of the IFI's internal evaluation offices; (d) creating incentives and feedback mechanisms to ensure that lessons learned are incorporated into IFI programming; and (e) strengthening public disclosure of data in usable forms.

The Secretary of the Treasury shall instruct the United States Executive Directors of the World Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank to submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations, not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act and every 90 days thereafter until September 30, 2015, on actions taken in the previous 90 days by such institutions to support, and by the Government of Guatemala to implement, the Policy for Reparations to Communities Affected by the Construction of the Chixoy Hydroelectric Dam, Whose Human Rights Were Violated (Executive Decree 378–2014).

The agreement includes language in section 7029(f) that provides for application of the provision “to the maximum extent practicable,” to enable the Secretary of the Treasury to take into consideration important law enforcement objectives.

The Secretary of the Treasury, when evaluating a proposal by an IFI to finance construction of a large dam, shall apply due diligence, including reviewing for full compliance with IFI policies and legislative voting mandates and the relevant policies of other Federal agencies. The United States executive director of such IFI may vote to support such a project only if the Secretary, after consulting with USAID, the Department of State, and other technical personnel, as appropriate, determines that the IFI is taking the necessary steps to meet the following safeguards, which the Secretary shall encourage the IFI to adopt in relevant strategy and policy reviews—

1) Risk Assessment—Projects are selected based on resource and river basin management plans that include full stakeholder participation. These processes include a thorough, objective assessment of social and environmental impacts (including cumulative and life cycle gas emissions from sediment accumulation), and economic risks and returns;

2) Sustainability—Based on the comprehensive impact assessment described above, projects will safeguard river basin ecosystems, including by maintaining sufficient operational flows to protect existing ecosystems and critical natural habitats;

3) Citizens' Rights—Demonstrable public acceptance of projects, planned mitigation, and benefits are achieved through transparent, good faith engagement with full participation of affected people in the catchment, reservoir, and downstream areas. In addition, in recognition of communal ownership and usage rights of lands, territories, cultural and natural resources, decisions affecting indigenous people require meaningful informed participation during all phases of planning, implementation, and monitoring and good faith negotiations with affected indigenous people communities, including individuals and their representative bodies and organizations. Affected people have access to grievance mechanisms at the project and IFI level or through the borrowing country government;

4) Public Oversight—The project has been developed transparently, with timely public access to key documents including environmental and social impact assessments and management plans, feasibility studies, economic and risk analyses, and revenue management plans, with appropriate exceptions for proprietary information;

5) Management—The country has in place sound dam management practices, or, where necessary, commits to appropriate and timely capacity building. Outstanding operational problems with existing dams in the country in the same river basin are being addressed before investments in new dams; and

6) Independent Monitoring—The project includes environmental and social mitigation measures to be funded and implemented throughout the life of the project based on a monitoring and mitigation plan. Progress on these mitigation measures is regularly monitored and publicly reported.

#### GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY

The agreement provides \$136,563,000 for Global Environment Facility.

#### CONTRIBUTION TO THE INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

The agreement provides \$1,287,800,000 for Contribution to the International Development Association.

#### CONTRIBUTION TO THE INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT

The agreement provides \$186,957,000 for Contribution to the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

#### LIMITATION ON CALLABLE CAPITAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

The agreement provides \$2,928,990,899 for Limitation on Callable Capital Subscriptions.

#### CONTRIBUTION TO THE CLEAN TECHNOLOGY FUND

The agreement provides \$184,630,000 for Contribution to the Clean Technology Fund.

#### CONTRIBUTION TO THE STRATEGIC CLIMATE FUND

The agreement provides \$49,900,000 for Contribution to the Strategic Climate Fund.

#### CONTRIBUTION TO THE INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

The agreement provides \$102,020,448 for Contribution to the Inter-American Development Bank.

#### LIMITATION ON CALLABLE CAPITAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

The agreement provides \$4,098,794,833 for Limitation on Callable Capital Subscriptions.

#### CONTRIBUTION TO THE ENTERPRISE FOR THE AMERICAS MULTILATERAL INVESTMENT FUND

The agreement provides \$3,378,000 for Contribution to the Enterprise for the Americas Multilateral Investment Fund.

#### CONTRIBUTION TO THE ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

The agreement provides \$106,586,000 for Contribution to the Asian Development Bank.

#### LIMITATION ON CALLABLE CAPITAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

The agreement provides \$2,558,048,769 for Limitation on Callable Capital Subscriptions.

#### CONTRIBUTION TO THE ASIAN DEVELOPMENT FUND

The agreement provides \$104,977,000 for Contribution to the Asian Development Fund.

#### CONTRIBUTION TO THE AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

The agreement provides \$32,418,000 for Contribution to the African Development Bank.

#### LIMITATION ON CALLABLE CAPITAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

The agreement provides \$507,860,808 for Limitation on Callable Capital Subscriptions.

#### CONTRIBUTION TO THE AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT FUND

The agreement provides \$175,668,000 for Contribution to the African Development Fund.

#### CONTRIBUTION TO THE INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

The agreement provides \$30,000,000 for Contribution to the International Fund for Agricultural Development.

#### TITLE VI—EXPORT AND INVESTMENT ASSISTANCE

##### EXPORT-IMPORT BANK OF THE UNITED STATES INSPECTOR GENERAL

The agreement provides \$5,750,000 for the Inspector General for the Export-Import Bank.

The Inspector General shall submit the annual audit plan within the first quarter of fiscal year 2015.

##### PROGRAM ACCOUNT

The Export-Import Bank is directed to report to the Committees on Appropriations, and post on its Web site, any proposed use in fiscal year 2015 of the aggregate loan, guarantee, and insurance authorities available to the Export-Import Bank that would result in greenhouse gas emissions from the extraction or production of fossil fuels or the use of fossil fuels in electricity generation that exceeds the average of total emissions in the previous five fiscal years resulting from the use of such authorities, and the amount of the increase.

##### ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

The agreement provides \$106,250,000 for Administrative Expenses for the Export-Import Bank. Funds available under this heading shall be subject to sections 7015 and 7076(a) of this Act. The operating plan and any subsequent reprogramming of funds shall be at the budget cost levels presented in the Export-Import Bank's CBJ and for each investment listed in the CBJ, including to support small businesses. The President of the Export-Import Bank is directed to include in such plan a description of the small business program, regional office structure, and other outreach methods. The President is also directed to provide not less than the fiscal year 2014

level for personnel and other costs directly related to small business transactions.

#### OVERSEAS PRIVATE INVESTMENT CORPORATION NONCREDIT ACCOUNT

The agreement provides \$62,787,000 for Noncredit Account of the Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC).

Not later than January 15, 2015, the President of OPIC shall sign a memorandum of understanding with the USAID Office of Inspector General which includes an inspection/audit plan for fiscal year 2015. OPIC is also directed to fill the vacant Office of Accountability director position through an open and competitive hiring process.

The agreement includes a one-year extension of OPIC's authorization.

Not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act, the President of OPIC shall provide to the Committees on Appropriations OPIC management's plan to implement the recommendations of the September 2014 report by OPIC's Office of Accountability pertaining to Liberia.

The President of OPIC shall consult with the appropriate congressional committees regarding access to energy projects prior to the obligation of funds in fiscal year 2015.

##### PROGRAM ACCOUNT

The agreement provides \$25,000,000 for Program Account of OPIC.

##### TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

The agreement provides \$60,000,000 for Trade and Development Agency.

#### TITLE VII—GENERAL PROVISIONS

The following general provisions are continued in this Act substantively unchanged from the fiscal year 2014 Act (division K of Public Law 113-76):

Sec. 7001. Allowances and Differentials  
Sec. 7002. Unobligated Balances Report  
Sec. 7003. Consulting Services  
Sec. 7005. Personnel Actions  
Sec. 7006. Local Guard Contracts

The Secretary of State is directed to consult with the appropriate congressional committees on plans to use the expanded best value authority conferred in section 7006.

Sec. 7007. Prohibition Against Direct Funding for Certain Countries

Sec. 7011. Availability of Funds

Sec. 7012. Limitation on Assistance to Countries in Default

Sec. 7016. Notification on Excess Defense Equipment

Sec. 7018. Prohibition on Funding for Abortions and Involuntary Sterilization

Sec. 7020. Representation and Entertainment Expenses

Sec. 7021. Prohibition on Assistance to Governments Supporting International Terrorism

Sec. 7022. Authorization Requirements

Sec. 7023. Definition of Program, Project, and Activity

Sec. 7024. Authorities for the Peace Corps, Inter-American Foundation and United States African Development Foundation

Sec. 7025. Commerce, Trade and Surplus Commodities

Sec. 7026. Separate Accounts

Sec. 7027. Eligibility for Assistance

Sec. 7028. Local Competition

Sec. 7030. Debt-for-Development

Sec. 7033. Multi-Year Pledges

Sec. 7035. Arab League Boycott of Israel

Sec. 7036. Palestinian Statehood

Sec. 7037. Restrictions Concerning the Palestinian Authority

Sec. 7038. Prohibition on Assistance to the Palestinian Broadcasting Corporation

Sec. 7039. Assistance for the West Bank and Gaza



Sec. 7040. Limitation on Assistance for the Palestinian Authority

Sec. 7046. Prohibition of Payments to United Nations Members

Sec. 7047. War Crimes Tribunals

Sec. 7049. Community-Based Police Assistance

Sec. 7050. Prohibition on Promotion of Tobacco

Sec. 7051. International Conferences

Sec. 7052. Aircraft Transfer and Coordination

Sec. 7053. Parking Fines and Real Property Taxes Owed by Foreign Governments

Sec. 7054. Landmines and Cluster Munitions

Sec. 7055. Prohibition on Publicity or Propaganda

Sec. 7056. Limitation on Residence Expenses

Sec. 7061. Uzbekistan

Sec. 7062. Arms Trade Treaty

Sec. 7063. United Nations Population Fund

Sec. 7064. Requests for Documents

Sec. 7065. International Prison Conditions

Sec. 7067. Extradition

Sec. 7068. Commercial Leasing of Defense Articles

Sec. 7073. Overseas Private Investment Corporation

Sec. 7074. Special Defense Acquisition Fund

Sec. 7077. Use of Funds in Contravention of this Act

Sec. 7081. Prohibition on First-Class Travel  
The following general provisions are new or substantively modified from those included in division K of Public Law 113-76:

Sec. 7004. Diplomatic Facilities (Modified)

Sec. 7008. Coups d'Etat (Modified)

Sec. 7009. Transfer Authority (Modified)

Sec. 7010. Security Assistance Report (Modified)

For the purposes of the report required by section 7010, the Secretary of State is directed to include the specific countries and military services that received assistance and the amounts and purposes of such assistance.

Sec. 7013. Prohibition on Taxation of United States Assistance (Modified)

The agreement modifies section 7013(g) by deleting Personal Service Contractors (PSCs) from the Senate bill, but notes that USAID guidance requires that non-national PSCs be included in negotiated tax exemptions.

Sec. 7014. Reservations of Funds (Modified)

Sec. 7015. Notification Requirements (Modified)

Sec. 7017. Limitation on Availability of Funds for International Organizations and Programs (Modified)

Sec. 7019. Allocations (Modified)

Sec. 7029. International Financial Institutions (Modified)

Sec. 7031. Financial Management and Budget Transparency (Modified)

The Secretary of State shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations prior to the initial obligation of funds made available pursuant to section 7031(b).

Funds appropriated by this Act under titles I and II, and funds made available to independent agencies under title III, as appropriate, shall be made available to support the Department of State's foreign assistance Web site. The Department of State and USAID shall include in the fiscal year 2016 CBJ funding by account for the purposes of this section. The Secretary of State shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations, not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act, detailing the funding in fiscal years 2013 and 2014, estimated in fiscal year 2015, and projected in fiscal year 2016 for

maintaining the foreign assistance database and the expected future year costs as a result of increased data collection.

Sec. 7032. Democracy Programs (Modified)

The agreement does not include language proposed by the Senate in section 7032(c)(2)(A) regarding the policy and conduct of USAID democracy programs in closed societies. However, the USAID Administrator, in consultation with the Secretary of State, shall follow the directives contained in such section, which reflects such policy.

The agreement does not include language proposed by the Senate in section 7032(c)(2)(B) regarding the clarification of the role and responsibilities of the Department of State and USAID in the promotion of democracy abroad. However, such agencies shall submit the report required in the manner described. In addition, the Comptroller General of the United States shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations prior to evaluating such report.

Section 7032(j) is modified and provides \$10,000,000 above the budget request to countries in the Western Hemisphere following the consultation required in such section.

Sec. 7034. Special Provisions (Modified)

Section 7034(o) modifies section 7034(p) in the Senate bill to direct the Secretary of State to report to the Committees on Appropriations on the uses of funds to implement section 620M(c) of the FAA.

Section 7034(r) includes the authority to establish and operate one or more enterprise funds for Egypt and Tunisia. Such funds should be used to strengthen the private sector in Egypt and Tunisia with a strong focus on startup, small- and medium-sized private enterprises and women-led businesses, to create economic opportunity and employment.

Section 7034(s) directs the head of any non-Federal or quasi-Federal organization that is provided a direct appropriation with funds made available by this Act under titles I or III (defined for the purposes of this section as an organization receiving appropriated funds from an account heading under titles I or III that is the same as the organization's name) to report to the Committees on Appropriations on salary and compensation for such organization's executive level employees. Such report shall include—

1) The position title, base salary, bonuses, and other compensation for each employee whose base salary is equivalent to or higher than the salary of level IV of the Executive Schedule;

2) A description of current law, as applicable, related to salary and compensation limitations for such organization's executive level employees;

3) Other sources of funding (including donations and fees) available to such organization for salary, benefit, and other employee compensation costs, and whether such funds are currently used for such costs; and

4) A description of the executive salary information that is made publicly available, including where it is available.

The head of each such organization is also directed to consult with the Committees on Appropriations, not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act, on ways to reduce the amount of appropriated funds used for executive employee compensation costs and increase the amount of appropriated funds available for program costs.

Sec. 7041. Middle East and North Africa (Modified)

*Egypt.*—The agreement requires the Secretary of State to submit a report on any defense articles withheld from delivery to Egypt, which shall include a detailed de-

scription of the conditions the Government of Egypt must meet to resume the delivery of such defense articles, and any actions by the Government of Egypt to meet such conditions. The report shall also include a description of the cost incurred for each category of defense article withheld, including the cost of storage and subsequent delivery of such articles.

*Iraq.*—In fulfilling the reporting requirement in section 7041(c)(4), the Secretary of State shall be guided by the directives in the Senate report.

*Lebanon.*—The agreement includes language similar to that proposed in the Senate bill. The Secretary of State should inform the Committees on Appropriations of any further deterioration in security or stability in Lebanon that arises from the conflict in Syria, and should encourage political stability in Lebanon in order to strengthen the country's unity and sovereignty. The Secretary of State shall regularly consult with the Committees on Appropriations on the activities of the Lebanese Internal Security Forces and the Lebanese Armed Forces and assistance provided by the United States.

*Libya.*—The agreement does not include language proposed by the Senate in section 7041(f)(1) regarding assistance for Libya. However, the Department of State and USAID, as appropriate, should support programs that support security, stability, and governance in that country.

*Middle East Response.*—The agreement recommends the following amounts to address instability and conflict in the Middle East: \$400,000,000 under Economic Support Fund; \$15,000,000 under Nonproliferation, Anti-terrorism, Demining and Related Programs; \$5,000,000 under International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement; and \$110,000,000 under Foreign Military Financing Program. Section 8003 of the Act provides the Department of State with the necessary flexibility to transfer funding between specific accounts, if needed to address unanticipated contingencies.

Funds made available for Middle East Response shall be made available to meet the directives in sections 7041(d) and (h), regarding assistance for Jordan and non-lethal assistance to address the Syrian conflict, respectively. The agreement does not provide funding in a new Counterterrorism Partnerships Fund proposed by the Administration, and instead includes funding for similar purposes under existing headings.

Funds made available for Middle East Response should be used to promote inclusive governance in countries in the Middle East to maintain and enhance security; strengthen the rule of law, civil society, and institutions; and provide basic services to citizens, particularly in areas vulnerable to influence by extremist groups. In addition, funds should be used to disrupt and deny the financial revenue of extremist groups, counter violent extremism in accordance with section 7060(b) of this Act, and prevent the formation of splinter extremist groups.

The Secretary of State shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees, not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act, a strategy for countering, degrading, and marginalizing extremism in the Middle East, which shall be updated on an ongoing basis. The strategy shall include clear goals and objectives; data on the obligation and expenditure of funds appropriated for such a strategy; an assessment of political stability in countries in the Middle East affected by extremist-related conflict; an assessment of the military capabilities of such countries to



counter, degrade, and marginalize such groups; and a description of efforts taken to achieve a political solution to the Syrian conflict.

The agreement provides an additional \$1,011,626,000 above the budget request under Migration and Refugee Assistance and an additional \$505,000,000 above the budget request under International Disaster Assistance in titles III and VIII of this Act, a significant portion of which should address growing humanitarian needs in the Middle East.

**Sec. 7042. Africa (Modified)**

**Counterterrorism Programs.**—The Secretary of State, after consultation with the heads of other relevant Federal agencies, is directed to submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations, not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act, on the Trans-Sahara Counterterrorism Partnership (TSCTP) and Partnership for Regional East Africa Counterterrorism (PREACT). The report shall include the specific objectives of each program, how funds support such objectives, an assessment of the effectiveness of the programs, the criteria used to measure and evaluate results, and the extent to which the programs are capable of being sustained by partner governments. The report shall also include an update on the status of implementation of the recommendations made by the Government Accountability Office (GAO) in GAO-14-502 and GAO-14-518.

The Secretary of State is directed to submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations, not later than May 1, 2015, and 30 days after the end of fiscal year 2015, on the status of cumulative unobligated balances and obligated, but unexpended, balances made available for TSCTP and PREACT.

**Ethiopia.**—The agreement modifies section 7042(d) and recognizes the cooperation between the United States and Ethiopia on counterterrorism as well as Ethiopia's important role in support of peacekeeping efforts.

**Kenya.**—The agreement does not include section 7042(f) of the Senate bill regarding assistance for Kenya. However, not less than \$10,500,000 should be made available for such purposes under title IV of this Act. Not later than 45 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State is directed to consult with the Committees on Appropriations on the uses of such funds.

**Lord's Resistance Army.**—The Secretary of State is directed to continue the reporting requirement in the Joint Explanatory Statement of Public Law 113-76 during fiscal year 2015.

**Somalia.**—The agreement does not include a prohibition on lethal assistance for Somalia to train select units of the Somali National Forces. Such training should be conducted in an inclusive manner that reduces ethnic and clan rivalries. Prior to the initial obligation of funds appropriated by this Act for such assistance, the Secretary of State, in consultation with the heads of other relevant federal agencies, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees (as defined in section 1206(e) of Public Law 113-66) the updated strategy on Somalia required by section 1206(b)(3) of Public Law 113-66 and consult with the Committees on Appropriations on the content of such strategy, including specific program details, funding levels, and objectives. The Secretary shall also submit a report to such Committees, not later than September 30, 2015, detailing any obstacles encountered in implementing such strategy during the previous 12 months, and challenges for the future.

**South Sudan.**—The Secretary of State is directed to ensure that data collected by the

Intergovernmental Authority on Development's Monitoring and Verification Mechanism (MVM) is shared in a timely manner and in its entirety with the United States Government, including all relevant bureaus and offices of the Department of State, and is made publicly available as appropriate. The agreement recognizes that the United States provides the majority of international donor assistance for the MVM, and directs the Secretary of State to leverage assistance from other international donors to the extent practicable.

**Sudan.**—The Secretary of State should review United States assistance provided to the central government of any country that admits President Omar al-Bashir of Sudan and should consider reducing such assistance if the admission was for any reason other than to bring President Bashir to justice or to further the peace process between South Sudan and Sudan.

**Sec. 7043. East Asia and the Pacific (Modified)**

**Asia Rebalancing Initiative.**—Section 7043(a) modifies language in section 7043(a)(2) of the Senate bill regarding alliances and partnerships in Asia. The Department of State and USAID, as appropriate, shall include in congressional notifications any estimated costs associated with travel and accommodation for foreign government officials to regional conferences or other meetings.

The Secretary of State shall implement the directive on information regarding public and private economic investment in respective countries in the Asia region in the manner described in Section 7043(a)(3)(A) of the Senate bill.

The agreement does not include language proposed in the Senate bill regarding calculations for the Asia Rebalancing Initiative. However, in preparing the report required by section 7043(a)(4) of the agreement, the Secretary of State shall be guided by the direction in section 7043(a)(4) of the Senate bill, except that for purposes of such calculations the baseline fiscal year shall be 2011 instead of 2012, and may include programs initiated prior to fiscal year 2011 for which significant funding increases were proposed for the Initiative in subsequent fiscal years.

Prior to the obligation of funds for the purposes of section 7043(a)(7), the Secretary of State shall submit the report required in such section in the Senate bill in the manner described.

**Burma.**—Section 7043(b) prohibits assistance for Burma under International Military Education and Training and Foreign Military Financing Program.

**Cambodia.**—The agreement modifies language in section 7043(c) of the Senate bill regarding assistance for Cambodia.

The agreement includes no funds for Cambodia under Foreign Military Financing Program as none were included in the budget request. In addition, the reporting requirements for the Department of the Treasury in Senate Report 113-195 shall be submitted in the manner described in such report.

**Philippines.**—Section 7043(f) directs that funds under Foreign Military Financing Program should only be obligated for assistance for the Philippine army if the Secretary of State certifies and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that the Government of the Philippines is—

1) investigating and prosecuting army personnel who are credibly alleged to have committed, or aided or abetted, extra-judicial executions, forced disappearances, and other gross violations of human rights, and strengthening government institutions working to eliminate such crimes;

2) implementing a policy of promoting army personnel who demonstrate professionalism and respect for human rights; and

3) taking steps to ensure that the Philippine army and paramilitary groups under its control are not engaging in acts of intimidation or violence against journalists or human rights defenders.

**Sec. 7044. South and Central Asia (Modified)**

**Afghanistan.**—Section 7044(a)(2)(B) provides the Chief of Mission in Afghanistan with the responsibility for determining whether the Government of Afghanistan or other Afghan entities are capable of sustaining programs funded by this Act pursuant to the requirement of such section. Submission of congressional notifications for assistance for Afghanistan shall include a description of determinations on program sustainability for each program being notified.

Section 7044(a)(7) provides funding for an endowment to empower women and girls in Afghanistan, and the Secretary of State and USAID Administrator, as appropriate, shall submit a concept proposal and consult with the appropriate congressional committees prior to obligating funds for such purpose.

The spend plan required by section 7076 of this Act shall prioritize the following: governance, women's rights, rule of law, anti-trafficking, civil society, education, health, food security, natural resource management, private sector development, and counter-narcotics.

**Sri Lanka.**—Section 7044(e) continues restrictions on assistance, export licenses, sales and transfers of equipment for the Sri Lankan military unless the Secretary of State certifies and reports in writing to the Committees on Appropriations that the Government of Sri Lanka is—

1) conducting credible, thorough investigations of war crimes and violations of international humanitarian law by government forces and the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam;

2) bringing to justice individuals who have been credibly alleged to have committed such violations;

3) supporting and cooperating with any UN investigation of war crimes and violations of international humanitarian law;

4) implementing policies to protect judicial independence; freedom of expression, association, assembly, and religion; the right of political parties, civil society organizations, and journalists to operate without harassment or interference; and due process of law, including ending arrest and detention under emergency-type regulations;

5) providing access to detainees by humanitarian organizations; and

6) implementing policies to promote reconciliation and justice including the demilitarization of public administration and development activities in the north, and devolution of power.

**Sec. 7045. Western Hemisphere (Modified)**

**Central America Migration Prevention and Response.**—Section 7045(a) requires a strategy to address the key factors in the countries in Central America contributing to the migration of unaccompanied, undocumented minors to the United States. The Secretary of State, in consultation with the USAID Administrator, shall designate a lead office that is responsible for coordinating the strategy.

To implement such strategy, the agreement provides \$130,000,000 above the budget request under Development Assistance for El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras and under Economic Support Fund and International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement for CARSI. Economic and social development programs funded under Development

Assistance and Economic Support Fund should aim to improve prosperity in the region by focusing on education, vocational training, and employment opportunities, and should seek to strengthen families, including by reducing child abuse and neglect and facilitating foster care and adoption. Funds provided under International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement should be prioritized for enhanced border security initiatives, anti-trafficking and anti-gang programs, and counternarcotics and law enforcement activities.

**Colombia.**—The Government of Colombia has taken steps to improve respect for human rights and to dismantle illegal armed groups. However, significant challenges remain. In accordance with section 7045(b), 25 percent of the funds under Foreign Military Financing Program that are available for assistance for Colombia may be obligated only if the Secretary of State certifies and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that—

1) cases involving members of the Colombian military who have been credibly alleged to have violated human rights are subject only to civilian jurisdiction and the Colombian military is cooperating with civilian prosecutors and judicial authorities in such cases;

2) the Government of Colombia is upholding its international obligations by investigating, prosecuting, and punishing persons responsible for crimes against humanity, war crimes, and other gross violations of human rights, and is not offering amnesty to such persons; and

3) the Government of Colombia is making progress in dismantling illegal armed groups; taking effective steps to protect the rights of human rights defenders, journalists, trade unionists, and other social activists; and respecting the rights and territory of indigenous and Afro-Colombian communities, including protecting them from forced displacement, killings, and other violations.

**Guatemala.**—The agreement recognizes that the Government of Guatemala has a timeline for developing and implementing a proposal for the progressive reduction of the armed forces that support the police in citizen security activities. In accordance with section 7045(d), funds under Foreign Military Financing Program may be obligated for assistance for the Guatemalan army only if the Secretary of State certifies and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that—

1) the Government of Guatemala is implementing a credible plan to build a professional, accountable police force and end the army's involvement in internal law enforcement; and

2) civilian judicial authorities are investigating and prosecuting current and retired army personnel who are credibly alleged to have committed gross violations of human rights, and the Guatemalan army is fully cooperating in such cases, with the Inter-American Commission for Human Rights, and with the International Commission against Impunity in Guatemala, including providing timely access for investigators to witnesses, documents (including archival documents), forensic evidence, and other relevant information.

**Honduras.**—In accordance with section 7045(f), 25 percent of the funds under International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement and Foreign Military Financing Program that are available for assistance for the Honduran army and police may be obligated only if the Secretary of State certifies and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that—

1) agreements between the United States and Honduras concerning counternarcotics operations, including assistance for innocent victims of such operations, are being implemented;

2) the Government of Honduras is implementing policies to protect freedoms of expression, association, and assembly, and due process of law, including in the Bajo Aguan Valley, and taking steps to prevent threats and attacks against social activists and human rights defenders; and

3) civilian judicial authorities are investigating and prosecuting army and police personnel who are credibly alleged to have violated human rights, including forced evictions, or to have aided or abetted armed groups involved in such acts, the Honduran army and police are cooperating in such cases, and judicial proceedings are making steady progress.

**Mexico.**—The agreement supports assistance for Mexico to combat drug trafficking and related violence and corruption, and to strengthen judicial and law enforcement capacity. In recent years, Mexico has undertaken positive judicial reforms, including changes to the Code of Military Justice and enactment of the National Penal Procedures Code. However, significant challenges remain.

In accordance with section 7045(g), 15 percent of the funds under International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement and Foreign Military Financing Program that are available for assistance for the Mexican army and police may be obligated only if the Secretary of State reports to the Committees on Appropriations that—

1) the Government of Mexico is investigating and prosecuting violations of human rights in civilian courts;

2) the Government of Mexico is enforcing prohibitions against torture and the use of testimony obtained through torture;

3) the Mexican army and police are promptly transferring detainees to the custody of civilian judicial authorities, in accordance with Mexican law, and are cooperating with such authorities in such cases; and

4) the Government of Mexico is searching for the victims of forced disappearances and is investigating and prosecuting those responsible for such crimes.

Sec. 7048. United Nations (Modified)

Sec. 7057. United States Agency for International Development Management (Including Transfer of Funds) (Modified)

Sec. 7058. Global Health Activities (Modified)

Sec. 7059. Gender Equality (Modified)

Sec. 7060. Sector Allocations (Modified)

The agreement provides not less than \$1,153,500,000 for bilateral and multilateral environment programs in this Act, including not less than \$123,500,000 for sustainable landscapes and not less than \$250,000,000 for biodiversity. Funds for certain bilateral environment programs are allocated according to the following table and are subject to section 7019 of this Act:

#### ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMS

(Budget authority in thousands of dollars)

Program/Activity	Budget Authority
Andean Amazon .....	20,000
Brazilian Amazon .....	10,500
United States Forest Service .....	5,000
Mayan Biosphere—Department of Interior .....	1,000
Lacey Act .....	2,000
Toxic Chemicals .....	5,000
Waste Recycling .....	5,000
Central Africa Regional Program for the Environment ...	39,400

#### ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMS—Continued

(Budget authority in thousands of dollars)

Program/Activity	Budget Authority
of which, USAID .....	[21,900]
of which, USFWS .....	[17,500]

The agreement includes \$55,000,000 to combat wildlife poaching and trafficking, of which not less than \$10,000,000 shall be made available for programs to combat rhinoceros poaching and shall be used primarily for site-based anti-poaching activities to address immediate requirements. Funds are directed to support regional wildlife enforcement networks; address consumer demand, including in Asia; strengthen law enforcement; and enhance regional cooperation and anti-trafficking networks. The Secretary of State, USAID Administrator, and Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) are directed to consult with the Committees on Appropriations, not later than 45 days after enactment of this Act, on the uses of funds for these purposes. The Secretary of State is further directed to update the report required in the joint explanatory statement accompanying Public Law 113-76, and expects such strategy to include how funds are being used to implement the National Strategy for Combating Wildlife Trafficking. The Secretary of State shall include country and program funding levels for combating wildlife poaching and trafficking in the fiscal year 2016 CBJ.

Funds appropriated by this Act to support international conservation programs of the United States Forest Service and the USFWS shall be apportioned directly to such agencies and are in addition to funds otherwise available from this Act for such agencies.

The agreement provides authority for contributions to the multilateral environmental funds and facilities included in the fiscal year 2015 CBJ to support adaptation and mitigation programs. Any other funding made available for such funds and facilities not identified in the fiscal year 2015 CBJ may only be available subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations, except that no funds may be made available for the Green Climate Fund, for which no funds were requested in fiscal year 2015. Prior to the initial obligation of funds, the Secretary of State, or the Secretary of the Treasury, as appropriate, shall report to the Committees on Appropriations on the planned contributions for such funds in fiscal year 2015.

The agreement provides not less than \$60,000,000 for programs and activities to combat trafficking in persons internationally, including for assistance as provided in the following table:

#### TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS

(Budget authority in thousands of dollars)

Account	Budget Authority
Development Assistance .....	11,244
Economic Support Fund .....	10,912
International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement ...	30,344

The agreement includes \$7,500,000 under Diplomatic and Consular Programs for the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, Department of State. The agreement includes \$5,000,000 to support a multifaceted approach to combat human trafficking in Guatemala pursuant to section 7045(a) of this Act.

The agreement includes \$12,500,000 for latrines in Africa and Asia and expects funds

to be prioritized for programs that provide women and girls access to safe, public latrines.

Sec. 7066. Prohibition on Use of Torture (Modified)

Sec. 7069. Independent States of the Former Soviet Union (Modified)

Sec. 7070. Russia (Modified)

The agreement includes restrictions and conditions on assistance for the Russian Federation similar to that proposed by the House and the Senate.

The agreement does not include a requirement proposed in section 7070(c) of the Senate bill regarding the uses of funds appropriated under International Military Education and Training. However, the Secretary of State shall follow the directive of such section.

The agreement provides \$139,283,000 for assistance for Ukraine, and authority for loan guarantees under section 7034(r)(1) of this Act. In addition to amounts made available for bilateral assistance for Ukraine, the following amounts are provided in Europe and Eurasia Regional funding to counter Russian Federation aggression and influence: \$502,000,000 under Economic Support Fund, which may also be used for loan guarantees for Ukraine pursuant to the authority in section 7034(r)(1) of this Act; \$15,800,000 under International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement; \$5,850,000 under Nonproliferation, Anti-terrorism, Demining and Related Programs; and \$29,550,000 under Foreign Military Financing Program.

Sec. 7071. International Monetary Fund (Modified)

Sec. 7072. Public Posting of Reports (New)

Sec. 7075. Enterprise Funds (Modified)

Sec. 7076. Budget Documents (Modified)

Sec. 7078. Global Internet Freedom (Modified)

Sec. 7079. Disability Programs (Modified)

Sec. 7080. Small Grants Program (New)

Section 7080, which is modified from the Senate bill, establishes a Small Grants Program (SGP) to replace the existing Development Grants Program to provide small organizations access to USAID support for unsolicited proposals and funding through open and competitive processes. To ensure continuity of program expertise, the SGP program design and management shall be the responsibility of USAID's Local Sustainability Office of the Bureau for Economic Growth, Education and Environment. For purposes of this section, "eligible entities" means small local, international, and United States-based nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), educational institutions, and other small entities that have received less than a total of \$5,000,000 in direct United States Government support over the previous five years. USAID guidance shall include procedures in which not less than three USAID missions shall be competitively selected to run a multi-year SGP for their respective countries. Missions shall be selected, in part, on the basis of their engagement with local entities, which can provide long-term support to NGOs and other civil society organizations. Mission requests for SGP are not required to fit within USAID's country development plan, which has often acted as a barrier to meritorious unsolicited proposals. For the same reason, SGP funding may not be allocated or attributed toward certain funding directives prior to making awards. The agreement provides for a five-year period of availability of funds made available for the SGP. The agreement also provides that, upon selection, a mission may be allocated the full, estimated amount of SGP

funding to carry out a multi-year SGP rather than having funds incrementally allocated on a yearly basis. These authorities should allow selected missions to plan and implement a multi-year SGP, and ensure the availability of necessary funding not otherwise attributed to meet additional funding directives. The agreement requires consultation with the appropriate congressional committees and expects such consultations to occur prior to the issuance of guidance for the SGP.

Sec. 7082. Reporting Requirements Concerning Individuals Detained at Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba (New)

Sec. 7083. Authority for Replenishments (New)

Sec. 7084. Rescission of Funds (New)

Sec. 7085. Modifications to the Vietnam Education Foundation Act of 2000 (New)

Sec. 7086. Impact on Jobs in the United States (Modified)

The agreement includes a provision to allow support by the Export-Import Bank of the United States and OPIC for coal-fired and other power generation projects in International Development Association (IDA) and IDA-blend eligible countries. This provision is expected to increase affordable electricity, especially to those without current access to electricity, as well as to support increased exports from the United States and prevent the loss of United States jobs.

The agreement does not continue the following general provisions included in division K of Public Law 113-76: sections 7073, 7082, and 7083.

#### TITLE VIII—OVERSEAS CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS

Funds designated as OCO/GWOT under this title address the extraordinary costs of contingency operations in Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Iraq; stabilization, security, and response efforts, including in the Middle East and North Africa; and other programs that address counterterrorism, counterinsurgency, and humanitarian crises.

The Secretary of State and USAID Administrator are directed to consult with the Committees on Appropriations on a regular and ongoing basis on operations and assistance for Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Iraq.

#### DEPARTMENT OF STATE

##### ADMINISTRATION OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

##### DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR PROGRAMS

##### (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides an additional \$1,350,803,000 for Diplomatic and Consular Programs, of which \$989,706,000 is for Worldwide Security Protection, for the extraordinary costs of operations in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Iraq, and other areas of unrest, which is designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

Within the total, up to \$361,097,000 is for ongoing operations (excluding Worldwide Security Protection) in Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Iraq.

Section 7044(a) of this Act includes additional directives and limitations related to operations in Afghanistan.

##### CONFLICT STABILIZATION OPERATIONS

The agreement provides an additional \$15,000,000 for Conflict Stabilization Operations for deployment costs, including to Afghanistan, Pakistan, Iraq, and other areas of unrest, which is designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

##### OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

The agreement provides an additional \$56,900,000 for Office of Inspector General at

the Department of State for the Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction and is designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

##### EMBASSY SECURITY, CONSTRUCTION, AND MAINTENANCE

The agreement provides an additional \$260,800,000 for Embassy Security, Construction, and Maintenance, of which \$250,000,000 is for Worldwide Security Upgrades, which is designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

##### INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

##### CONTRIBUTIONS TO INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

The agreement provides an additional \$74,400,000 for Contributions to International Organizations for the extraordinary costs of UN missions in Afghanistan and Iraq, which is designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

##### RELATED AGENCY

##### BROADCASTING BOARD OF GOVERNORS

##### INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING OPERATIONS

The agreement provides an additional \$10,700,000 for International Broadcasting Operations for the extraordinary costs of United States international broadcasting to Afghanistan, Syria, and Iraq, which is designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

##### UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

##### FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT

##### OPERATING EXPENSES

The agreement provides an additional \$125,464,000 for Operating Expenses for the extraordinary costs of operations in Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Iraq, which is designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

##### BILATERAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE

##### FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT

##### INTERNATIONAL DISASTER ASSISTANCE

The agreement provides an additional \$1,335,000,000 for International Disaster Assistance for the extraordinary costs of the United States response to international disasters and crises, including those resulting from conflict, which is designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

##### TRANSITION INITIATIVES

The agreement provides an additional \$20,000,000 for Transition Initiatives for the extraordinary costs of contingency operations in conflict countries and countries emerging from conflict, which is designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

##### COMPLEX CRISES FUND

The agreement provides an additional \$30,000,000 for Complex Crises Fund for the extraordinary costs of addressing security and stabilization requirements in conflict countries, which is designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

For purposes of implementing this agreement, the USAID Administrator shall have responsibility for the uses of funds appropriated under this heading in title III of this Act, in consultation with the Secretary of

State, and the Secretary of State shall have responsibility for the uses of funds appropriated under this heading in this title.

Funds under this heading should be made available for the prevention of complex crises and to respond to unanticipated contingencies, and the Department of State and USAID, as appropriate, shall ensure proper oversight of the uses of such funds.

#### ECONOMIC SUPPORT FUND

The agreement provides an additional \$2,114,266,000 for Economic Support Fund for the extraordinary costs of contingency operations in Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Iraq and other assistance. The full amount provided is designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

#### DEPARTMENT OF STATE

##### MIGRATION AND REFUGEE ASSISTANCE

The agreement provides an additional \$2,127,114,000 for Migration and Refugee Assistance for the extraordinary costs of the United States response to humanitarian crises resulting from conflict, including in Africa, the Near East, and South Asia, which is designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

#### INTERNATIONAL SECURITY ASSISTANCE

##### DEPARTMENT OF STATE

##### INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL AND LAW ENFORCEMENT

The agreement provides an additional \$443,195,000 for International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement for the extraordinary costs of contingency operations, including in Afghanistan and Pakistan, and for other assistance. The amount provided is designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

##### NONPROLIFERATION, ANTI-TERRORISM, DEMINING AND RELATED PROGRAMS

The agreement provides an additional \$99,240,000 for Nonproliferation, Anti-terrorism, Demining and Related Programs for the extraordinary costs of anti-terrorism and other assistance, including in Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Iraq, which is designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

##### PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS

The agreement provides an additional \$328,698,000 for Peacekeeping Operations, including funding for the extraordinary cost of the United States share of UN Operations in Somalia and other peacekeeping needs, which is designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

#### FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT

##### FOREIGN MILITARY FINANCING PROGRAM

The agreement provides an additional \$866,420,000 for Foreign Military Financing Program, including funding for the extraordinary costs of assistance for countries in the Near East, Pakistan, and for countries in Europe and Eurasia to counter Russian Federation aggression and influence, which is designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

#### GENERAL PROVISIONS

##### Sec. 8001. Additional Appropriations

Section 8001 clarifies that amounts appropriated by this title are in addition to amounts appropriated or otherwise made available in this Act for fiscal year 2015.

Sec. 8002. Extension of Authorities and Conditions

Section 8002 requires that the authorities and conditions applicable to funding elsewhere in this Act are applicable to funds in this title.

Sec. 8003. Transfer and Additional Authority

Section 8003(a) provides authority for the Secretary of State to transfer funds appropriated by this title under Transition Initiatives, Complex Crises Fund, Economic Support Fund, International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement, Nonproliferation, Anti-terrorism, Demining and Related Programs, Peacekeeping Operations, and Foreign Military Financing Program between such headings and to International Disaster Assistance and Migration and Refugee Assistance. However, no authority is provided to transfer funds from International Disaster Assistance and Migration and Refugee Assistance.

Section 8003(b) provides authority for the Secretary of State to transfer funds appropriated by this title under International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement, Peacekeeping Operations, and Foreign Military Financing Program in an amount that shall not exceed \$25,000,000 to the Global Security Contingency Fund and requires the Secretary of State to notify the Committees on Appropriations on the implementation plans and timeline.

Section 8003(c) requires that any transfers pursuant to sections 8003(a) and (b) of this section may only be exercised to address unanticipated contingencies.

Section 8003(d) includes authority for the Secretary of State to provide up to \$380,000,000 appropriated by this title under Bilateral Economic Assistance to support international peacekeeping requirements if the Secretary of State submits a determination to the Committees on Appropriations that additional funds are necessary to support such requirements above the amounts provided under Contributions for International Peacekeeping Activities in title I of this Act and under Peacekeeping Operations in this title, and that it is in the national security interest of the United States to do so. Such funds may only be made available for the purposes described in the determination, are subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations, and must be used in accordance with the terms and conditions of funds appropriated under Peacekeeping Operations.

Section 8003(e) requires that the transfer authority provided by subsections (a) and (b) is subject to prior consultation with, and the regular notification procedures of, the Committees on Appropriations and that such transfer authority is in addition to any transfer authority otherwise available under any other provision of law.

#### TITLE IX—EBOLA RESPONSE AND PREPAREDNESS

Funds designated under this title address requirements related to the Ebola virus disease outbreak. The Secretary of State and USAID Administrator are directed to consult with the Committees on Appropriations on a regular and ongoing basis on assistance for these efforts.

#### DEPARTMENT OF STATE

##### ADMINISTRATION OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

##### DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR PROGRAMS

The agreement provides an additional \$36,420,000 for Diplomatic and Consular Programs, which is designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

#### UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT OPERATING EXPENSES

The agreement provides an additional \$19,037,000 for Operating Expenses, which is designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

#### OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

The agreement provides an additional \$5,626,000 for Office of Inspector General, which is designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

#### BILATERAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT

##### GLOBAL HEALTH PROGRAMS

The agreement provides an additional \$312,000,000 for Global Health Programs, which is designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

##### INTERNATIONAL DISASTER ASSISTANCE

The agreement provides an additional \$1,436,273,000 for International Disaster Assistance, which is designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

##### ECONOMIC SUPPORT FUND

The agreement provides an additional \$711,725,000 for Economic Support Fund, which is designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

#### INTERNATIONAL SECURITY ASSISTANCE

##### DEPARTMENT OF STATE

##### NONPROLIFERATION, ANTI-TERRORISM, DEMINING AND RELATED PROGRAMS

The agreement provides an additional \$5,300,000 for Nonproliferation, Anti-terrorism, Demining and Related Programs, which is designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

#### GENERAL PROVISIONS

##### Sec. 9001. Transfer Authority

Section 9001(a) provides the authority to transfer funds appropriated by this title under Global Health Programs, International Disaster Assistance, and Economic Support Fund between such headings, and from such headings to funds appropriated under International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement, Nonproliferation, Anti-terrorism, Demining and Related Programs, and Peacekeeping Operations in this Act.

Section 9001(b) provides the authority to transfer up to \$1,000,000 in funds appropriated under Diplomatic and Consular Programs to Repatriation Loans Program Account.

Section 9001(c) provides the authority to transfer up to \$50,000,000 in funds appropriated under Global Health Programs to International Organizations and Programs.

Section 9001(d) provides the authority to transfer up to \$35,300,000 in funds appropriated under International Disaster Assistance to International Organizations and Programs and Contributions to International Organizations.

Section 9001(e) provides that the transfer authorities of this section are in addition to any other transfer authority provided by law.

Section 9001(f) includes a notification requirement regarding funds transferred pursuant to this section.

Section 9001(g) provides that, upon a determination that all or part of the funds transferred pursuant to this section are not necessary for such purposes, such amounts may be transferred back to such headings, subject to the notification requirement in section 9001(f).

**Sec. 9002. Reimbursement Authority**

Section 9002 provides the authorities to use funds appropriated by this title under Global

Health Programs, International Disaster Assistance, and Economic Support Fund to reimburse obligations incurred prior to the enactment of this Act for the purposes of this title.

**Sec. 9003. Notification Requirement**

Section 9003 contains a notification requirement for the accounts in this title except for International Disaster Assistance.

**Sec. 9004. Reporting Requirement**

Section 9004 requires a report, not later than 30 days after enactment of this Act, on the proposed uses of all funds in this title on

a country and project basis for which the obligation of funds is anticipated. Such report should be updated every 30 days until September 30, 2016, and every 180 days until all funds are expended.

**Sec. 9005. Comptroller General Oversight**

Section 9005 makes available up to \$500,000 of funds appropriated by this title under Economic Support Fund for the Comptroller General of the United States for oversight of activities supported with funds appropriated by this title.

DIVISION J, DEPARTMENT OF STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, AND RELATED  
PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
-----					
TITLE I - DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND RELATED AGENCY					
-----					
Department of State					
Administration of Foreign Affairs					
Diplomatic and consular programs.....	4,738,450	4,654,395	4,332,524	-405,926	-321,871
Worldwide security protection.....	1,867,251	2,128,115	2,128,115	+260,864	---
International Center.....	---	533	533	+533	---
-----					
Total, Diplomatic and consular programs.....	6,605,701	6,783,043	6,461,172	-144,529	-321,871
Capital investment fund.....	76,900	56,400	56,400	-20,500	---
Office of Inspector General.....	69,406	73,400	73,400	+3,994	---
Educational and cultural exchange programs.....	560,000	577,900	589,900	+29,900	+12,000
Representation allowances.....	7,300	7,679	8,030	+730	+351
Protection of foreign missions and officials.....	28,200	30,036	30,036	+1,836	---
Embassy security, construction, and maintenance.....	785,351	799,400	822,755	+37,404	+23,355
Worldwide security upgrades.....	1,614,000	1,217,500	1,240,500	-373,500	+23,000
-----					
Total, Embassy security.....	2,399,351	2,016,900	2,063,255	-336,096	+46,355
-----					
Emergencies in the diplomatic and consular service....	9,242	7,900	7,900	-1,342	---
-----					
Repatriation Loans Program Account:					
Direct loans subsidy.....	1,537	1,300	1,300	-237	---
Payment to the American Institute in Taiwan.....	31,221	30,000	30,000	-1,221	---
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DIVISION J, DEPARTMENT OF STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, AND RELATED  
PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Payment to the Foreign Service Retirement and Disability Fund.....	158,900	158,900	158,900	---	---
Total, Administration of Foreign Affairs.....	9,947,758	9,743,458	9,480,293	-467,465	-263,165
International Organizations					
Contributions to international organizations, current year assessment.....	1,265,762	1,517,349	1,399,151	+133,389	-118,198
Contributions for international peacekeeping activities, current year assessment.....	1,765,519	2,518,565	2,118,891	+353,372	-399,674
Total, International Organizations.....	3,031,281	4,035,914	3,518,042	+486,761	-517,872
International Commissions					
International Boundary and Water Commission, United States and Mexico:					
Salaries and expenses.....	44,000	45,415	44,707	+707	-708
Construction.....	33,438	26,461	29,000	-4,438	+2,539
Total, Boundary and Water Commission.....	77,438	71,876	73,707	-3,731	+1,831
American sections, international commissions.....	12,499	12,311	12,561	+62	+250
International fisheries commissions.....	35,980	31,446	36,681	+701	+5,235
Total, International commissions.....	125,917	115,633	122,949	-2,968	+7,316

DIVISION J, DEPARTMENT OF STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, AND RELATED  
PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
<b>Related Agency</b>					
<b>Broadcasting Board of Governors</b>					
International broadcasting operations.....	721,080	716,460	726,567	+5,487	+10,107
Broadcasting capital improvements.....	8,000	4,800	4,800	-3,200	---
<b>Total, Broadcasting Board of Governors.....</b>	<b>729,080</b>	<b>721,260</b>	<b>731,367</b>	<b>+2,287</b>	<b>+10,107</b>
<b>Related Programs</b>					
The Asia Foundation.....	17,000	12,000	17,000	---	+5,000
United States Institute of Peace, Operating expenses.....	30,984	35,300	35,300	+4,316	---
Center for Middle Eastern-Western dialogue.....	90	83	83	-7	---
Eisenhower Exchange Fellowship program.....	400	400	400	---	---
Israeli Arab scholarship program.....	13	26	26	+13	---
East-West Center.....	16,700	10,800	16,700	---	+5,900
National Endowment for Democracy.....	135,000	103,450	135,000	---	+31,550
<b>Total, Related programs.....</b>	<b>200,187</b>	<b>162,059</b>	<b>204,509</b>	<b>+4,322</b>	<b>+42,450</b>
<b>Other Commissions</b>					
Commission for the Preservation of America's Heritage Abroad					
Salaries and expenses.....	690	644	644	-46	---



DIVISION J, DEPARTMENT OF STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, AND RELATED  
PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Commission on International Religious Freedom					
Salaries and expenses.....	3,500	3,500	3,500	---	---
Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe					
Salaries and expenses.....	2,579	2,579	2,579	---	---
Congressional-Executive Commission on the People's Republic of China					
Salaries and expenses.....	2,000	2,000	2,000	---	---
United States - China Economic and Security Review Commission					
Salaries and expenses.....	3,500	3,500	3,500	---	---
Total, title I, Department of State and Related Agency.....	14,046,492	14,790,547	14,069,383	+22,891	-721,164

DIVISION J, DEPARTMENT OF STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, AND RELATED  
PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
-----					
TITLE II - ADMINISTRATION OF FOREIGN ASSISTANCE					
-----					
Funds Appropriated to the President					
US Agency for International Development (USAID)					
Operating expenses, USAID.....	1,059,229	1,318,816	1,090,836	+31,607	-227,980
Capital Investment Fund.....	117,940	130,815	130,815	+12,875	---
Office of Inspector General, USAID.....	45,000	54,285	54,285	+9,285	---
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Total, title II, Administration of Foreign Assistance.....	1,222,169	1,503,916	1,275,936	+53,767	-227,980
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====

TITLE III - BILATERAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE

Funds Appropriated to the President					
Global Health Programs:					
U.S. Agency for International Development.....	2,769,450	2,680,000	2,783,950	+14,500	+103,950
Department of State.....	5,670,000	5,370,000	5,670,000	---	+300,000
(Global fund contribution).....	(1,650,000)	(1,350,000)	(1,350,000)	(-300,000)	---
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total, Global Health Programs.....	8,439,450	8,050,000	8,453,950	+14,500	+403,950

DIVISION J, DEPARTMENT OF STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, AND RELATED  
PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Development assistance.....	2,507,001	2,619,984	2,507,001	---	-112,983
Transfer out.....	(-40,000)	---	(-40,000)	---	(-40,000)
Total, Development Assistance.....	2,507,001	2,619,984	2,507,001	---	-112,983
International disaster assistance.....	876,828	665,000	560,000	-316,828	-105,000
Transition initiatives.....	48,177	67,600	47,000	-1,177	-20,600
Complex Crises fund.....	20,000	30,000	20,000	---	-10,000
Development Credit Authority: (By transfer).....	(40,000)	(40,000)	(40,000)	---	---
Administrative expenses.....	8,041	8,200	8,120	+79	-80
Economic Support Fund.....	2,982,967	3,398,694	2,632,529	-350,438	-766,165
Democracy Fund.....	130,500	---	130,500	---	+130,500
Department of State					
Migration and refugee assistance.....	1,774,645	1,582,374	931,886	-842,759	-650,488
United States Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance Fund.....	50,000	50,000	50,000	---	---
Total, Department of State.....	1,824,645	1,632,374	981,886	-842,759	-650,488
Independent Agencies					
Peace Corps.....	379,000	380,000	379,500	+500	-500
Millennium Challenge Corporation.....	898,200	1,000,000	899,500	+1,300	-100,500
Inter-American Foundation.....	22,500	18,100	22,500	---	+4,400

DIVISION J, DEPARTMENT OF STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, AND RELATED  
PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
United States African Development Foundation.....	30,000	24,000	30,000	---	+6,000
Total, Independent Agencies.....	1,329,700	1,422,100	1,331,500	+1,800	-90,600
Department of the Treasury					
International Affairs Technical Assistance.....	23,500	23,500	23,500	---	---
Total, title III, Bilateral economic assistance. Appropriations.....	18,190,809	17,917,452	16,695,986	-1,494,823	-1,221,466
(By transfer).....	(18,190,809)	(17,917,452)	(16,695,986)	(-1,494,823)	(-1,221,466)
	(40,000)	(40,000)	(40,000)	---	---

TITLE IV - INTERNATIONAL SECURITY ASSISTANCE

Department of State

International narcotics control and law enforcement...	1,005,610	721,911	853,055	-152,555	+131,144
Nonproliferation, anti-terrorism, demining and related programs.....	630,000	605,400	586,260	-43,740	-19,140
Peacekeeping operations.....	235,600	221,150	144,993	-90,607	-76,157
Funds Appropriated to the President					
International Military Education and Training.....	105,573	107,474	106,074	+501	-1,400

DIVISION J, DEPARTMENT OF STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, AND RELATED  
PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Foreign Military Financing Program:					
Grants:					
Israel.....	3,100,000	3,100,000	3,100,000	---	---
Egypt.....	1,300,000	1,300,000	1,300,000	---	---
Other.....	989,280	710,645	614,109	-375,171	-96,536
Limitation on Administrative Expenses.....	(60,000)	(63,945)	(63,945)	(+3,945)	---
Total, Foreign Military Financing Program.....	5,389,280	5,110,645	5,014,109	-375,171	-96,536
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Total, title IV, Security assistance.....	7,366,063	6,766,580	6,704,491	-661,572	-62,089
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
 TITLE V - MULTILATERAL ASSISTANCE					
Funds Appropriated to the President					
International Organizations and Programs.....	344,020	303,439	344,170	+150	+40,731
International Financial Institutions					
World Bank Group					
Clean Technology Fund.....	184,630	201,253	184,630	---	-16,623
Strategic Climate Fund.....	49,900	63,184	49,900	---	-13,284

DIVISION J, DEPARTMENT OF STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, AND RELATED  
PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
<b>The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD):</b>					
Contribution to the IBRD paid in capital.....	186,957	192,921	186,957	---	-5,964
(Limitation on callable capital).....	(2,928,991)	(2,928,991)	(2,928,991)	---	---
Global Environment Facility.....	143,750	136,563	136,563	-7,187	---
Middle East and North Africa Transition Fund.....	---	5,000	---	---	-5,000
Subtotal, IBRD.....	330,707	334,484	323,520	-7,187	-10,964
<b>Contribution to the International Development Association:</b>					
Association.....	1,355,000	1,290,600	1,287,800	-67,200	-2,800
Multilateral debt relief initiative.....	---	78,900	---	---	-78,900
Total, World Bank Group.....	1,920,237	1,968,421	1,845,850	-74,387	-122,571
<b>Contribution to the Enterprise for the Americas Multilateral Investment Fund:</b>					
Investment Fund.....	6,298	---	3,378	-2,920	+3,378
<b>Contribution to the Inter-American Development Bank:</b>					
Bank paid in capital.....	102,000	102,020	102,020	+20	---
(Limitation on callable capital).....	(4,098,795)	(4,098,795)	(4,098,795)	---	---
Total, Inter-American Development Bank.....	102,000	102,020	102,020	+20	---
<b>Contribution to the Asian Development Fund:</b>					
Investment Fund.....	109,854	115,250	104,977	-4,877	-10,273
<b>Asian development bank paid in capital:</b>					
Investment Fund.....	106,586	112,194	106,586	---	-5,608
(Limitation on callable capital).....	(2,558,049)	(2,558,049)	(2,558,049)	---	---

DIVISION J, DEPARTMENT OF STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, AND RELATED  
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(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
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Contribution to the African Development Bank:					
Paid in capital.....	32,418	34,119	32,418	---	-1,701
(Limitation on callable capital).....	(507,861)	(507,861)	(507,861)	---	---
Contribution to the African Development Fund.....	176,336	195,000	175,668	-668	-19,332
Multilateral debt relief initiative.....	---	13,500	---	---	-13,500
Total, African Development Bank.....	208,754	242,619	208,086	-668	-34,533
Contribution to the International Fund for					
Agricultural Development.....	30,000	30,000	30,000	---	---
Global agriculture and food security program.....	133,000	---	---	-133,000	---
International Monetary fund quota increase.....	---	315,000	---	---	-315,000
Total, International Financial Institutions...	2,616,729	2,885,504	2,400,897	-215,832	-484,607
=====					
Total, title V, Multilateral assistance.....	2,960,749	3,188,943	2,745,067	-215,682	-443,876
(Limitation on callable capital).....	(10,093,696)	(10,093,696)	(10,093,696)	---	---
=====					
TITLE VI - EXPORT AND INVESTMENT ASSISTANCE					
Export-Import Bank of the United States					
Administrative expenses.....	105,000	117,650	106,250	+1,250	-11,400

DIVISION J, DEPARTMENT OF STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, AND RELATED  
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	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Administrative expenses- Headquarters renovation.....	10,500	---	---	-10,500	---
Inspector General.....	5,100	5,750	5,750	+650	---
Offsetting collections.....	-1,090,000	-1,290,000	-1,208,750	-118,750	+81,250
Total, Export-Import Bank of the United States..	-969,400	-1,166,600	-1,096,750	-127,350	+69,850
Overseas Private Investment Corporation					
Noncredit account:					
Administrative expenses.....	62,574	71,800	62,787	+213	-9,013
Insurance fees and other offsetting collections...	-323,000	-350,000	-350,000	-27,000	---
Subtotal.....	-260,426	-278,200	-287,213	-26,787	-9,013
Program account.....	27,371	25,000	25,000	-2,371	---
Total, Overseas Private Investment Corporation....	-233,055	-253,200	-262,213	-29,158	-9,013
Funds Appropriated to the President					
Trade and Development Agency.....	55,073	67,700	60,000	+4,927	-7,700
Total, title VI, Export and investment assistance	-1,147,382	-1,352,100	-1,298,963	-151,581	+53,137



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	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
TITLE VII - GENERAL PROVISIONS					
Export Import Bank - Unexpended (Rescission) (Sec. 7082).....	---	---	-30,000	-30,000	-30,000
Special immigrant visa proposal sec. 7034(o).....	1,000	1,000	---	-1,000	-1,000
IMF Quota rescission from PL111-32 (emergency).....	---	-1,261,000	---	---	+1,261,000
Death gratuity and other benefits (Sec. 7082)(d)(3)....	23,000	---	---	-23,000	---
Export-Import Bank (Sec. 7082(d)(3)) (rescission).....	-23,000	---	---	+23,000	---
Amendment to Vietnam Education Foundation Act (Sec. 7086).....	---	---	4,000	+4,000	+4,000
Total, title VII, General Provisions.....	1,000	-1,260,000	-26,000	-27,000	+1,234,000
TITLE VIII - OVERSEAS CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS (OCO)					
Diplomatic and consular programs (OCO).....	1,391,109	1,562,025	1,350,803	-40,306	-211,222
(Worldwide security protection) (OCO).....	(900,274)	(989,706)	(989,706)	(+89,432)	---
(Transfer to other agencies).....	(-100,000)	(-100,000)	(-35,000)	(+65,000)	(+65,000)
Rescission (OCO).....	-427,296	---	---	+427,296	---
Conflict stabilization operations (OCO).....	8,500	---	15,000	+6,500	+15,000
Office of Inspector General (OCO).....	49,650	56,900	56,900	+7,250	---
Education and cultural exchange programs (OCO).....	8,628	---	---	-8,628	---
Embassy security, construction, and maintenance (OCO).	275,000	260,800	260,800	-14,200	---
Contributions to int'l organizations (OCO).....	74,400	---	74,400	---	+74,400
Broadcasters board of governors (OCO).....	4,400	6,300	10,700	+6,300	+4,400

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(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
United States Institute of Peace (USIP) (OCO).....	6,016	---	---	-6,016	---
Operating expenses of USAID (OCO).....	81,000	65,000	125,464	+44,464	+60,464
Operating expenses of USAID OIG (OCO).....	10,038	---	---	-10,038	---
International Disaster Assistance (OCO).....	924,172	725,000	1,335,000	+410,828	+610,000
Transition Initiatives (OCO).....	9,423	---	20,000	+10,577	+20,000
Complex Crises fund (OCO).....	20,000	---	30,000	+10,000	+30,000
Economic Support Fund (OCO).....	1,656,215	1,778,400	2,114,266	+458,051	+335,866
Migration and Refugee assistance (MRA) (OCO).....	1,284,355	465,000	2,127,114	+842,759	+1,662,114
International narcotics control and law enforcement (OCO).....	344,390	396,000	443,195	+98,805	+47,195
Nonproliferation, Anti-terrorism, Demining and Related programs (NADR) (OCO).....	70,000	---	99,240	+29,240	+99,240
Peacekeeping Operations (PKO) (OCO).....	200,000	180,000	328,698	+128,698	+148,698
Foreign Military Financing program (OCO).....	530,000	862,000	866,420	+336,420	+4,420
Peacekeeping Response Mechanism (OCO).....	---	428,000	---	---	-428,000
Counterterrorism Partnerships Fund (OCO).....	---	1,000,000	---	---	-1,000,000
Total, Title VIII, Overseas Contingency Operations...	6,520,000	7,785,425	9,258,000	+2,738,000	+1,472,575

TITLE IX - EBOLA RESPONSE AND PREPAREDNESS

Department of State

Administration of Foreign Affairs

Diplomatic and Consular Programs (emergency).....	---	35,420	36,420	+36,420	+1,000
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DIVISION J, DEPARTMENT OF STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, AND RELATED  
PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Repatriation Loans Program Account (emergency).....	---	1,000	---	---	-1,000
International Organizations					
Contributions to International Organizations (emergency).....	---	35,000	---	---	-35,000
United States Agency for International Development					
Operating Expenses, USAID (emergency).....	---	19,037	19,037	+19,037	---
Office of Inspector General, USAID (emergency).....	---	5,626	5,626	+5,626	---
Bilateral Economic Assistance					
Global Health Programs (emergency).....	---	340,000	312,000	+312,000	-28,000
International Disaster Assistance (emergency).....	---	1,400,973	1,436,273	+1,436,273	+35,300
Economic Support Fund (emergency).....	---	211,725	711,725	+711,725	+500,000
Economic Support Fund (contingent emergency).....	---	792,000	---	---	-792,000
International Security Assistance					
Nonproliferation, Anti-terrorism, Demining, and Related Programs (emergency).....	---	5,300	5,300	+5,300	---

DIVISION J, DEPARTMENT OF STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, AND RELATED  
PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
<b>Multilateral Assistance</b>					
International Organizations and Programs (emergency)...	---	50,300	---	---	-50,300
<b>Total, Title IX, Ebola Response and Preparedness....</b>	---	2,896,381	2,526,381	+2,526,381	-370,000
Emergency appropriations.....	---	(2,104,381)	(2,526,381)	(+2,526,381)	(+422,000)
Contingent Emergency appropriations.....	---	(792,000)	---	---	(-792,000)
<b>Grand Total.....</b>	49,159,900	52,237,144	51,950,281	+2,790,381	-286,863
Appropriations.....	(42,662,900)	(42,816,338)	(40,195,900)	(-2,467,000)	(-2,620,438)
Emergency appropriations.....	---	(843,381)	(2,526,381)	(+2,526,381)	(+1,683,000)
Overseas contingency operations.....	(6,520,000)	(7,785,425)	(9,258,000)	(+2,738,000)	(+1,472,575)
Contingent emergency appropriations.....	---	(792,000)	---	---	(-792,000)
Rescissions.....	(-23,000)	---	(-30,000)	(-7,000)	(-30,000)
Rescission of emergency funding.....	---	(-1,261,000)	---	---	(+1,261,000)
(By transfer).....	(40,000)	(40,000)	(40,000)	---	---
(Transfer out).....	(-40,000)	---	(-40,000)	---	(-40,000)
(Limitation on administrative expenses).....	(60,000)	(63,945)	(63,945)	(+3,945)	---
(Limitation on callable capital).....	(10,093,696)	(10,093,696)	(10,093,696)	---	---

# DIVISION K—TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015

## CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTIVES

The language and allocations set forth in the House report (House Report 113-464) and the Senate report (Senate Report 113-182) should be complied with unless specifically addressed to the contrary in this division or explanatory statement. Report language included by the House, which is not changed by the report of the Senate or this explanatory statement, and the Senate report language, which is not changed by this explanatory statement, is a result of the 2015 appropriations agreement. The explanatory statement, while repeating some report language for emphasis, does not intend to negate the language referred to above unless expressly provided herein. In cases where the House or the Senate has directed the submission of a report, such report is to be submitted to both the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations. The Department of Transportation and the Department of Housing and Urban Development are directed to notify the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations seven days prior to the announcement of a new program or authority. Any reprogramming requests must be submitted to the Committees on Appropriations no later than June 30, 2015.

## TITLE I—DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement provides \$105,000,000 for the salaries and expenses of the Office of the Secretary. The agreement includes funding by office as specified below, and offices are to manage staffing levels within the amounts provided. Funds are available for transfer between all offices under certain conditions.

Immediate Office of the Secretary ..	\$2,696,000
Immediate Office of the Deputy Secretary .....	1,011,000
Office of the General Counsel .....	19,900,000
Office of the Under Secretary for Transportation Policy .....	9,800,000
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Budget and Programs .....	12,500,000
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Government Affairs .....	2,500,000
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration .....	25,365,000

Office of the Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs .....	2,000,000
Office of the Executive Secretariat .....	1,714,000
Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization .....	1,414,000
Office of Intelligence, Security, and Emergency Response .....	10,600,000
Office of the Chief Information Officer .....	15,500,000

## RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY

The agreement provides \$13,000,000 for the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Research and Technology.

## NATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENTS

The agreement provides \$500,000,000 for capital investments in surface transportation infrastructure, commonly known as the "TIGER" program. Funds are available for highway and bridge projects, transit projects, passenger and freight rail projects, and port and inland port projects, but not planning activities.

## FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT CAPITAL

The agreement provides \$5,000,000 for the financial management capital program.

## CYBER SECURITY INITIATIVES

The agreement provides \$5,000,000 for departmental cyber security initiatives.

## OFFICE OF CIVIL RIGHTS

The agreement provides \$9,600,000 for the office of civil rights.

## TRANSPORTATION PLANNING, RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

The agreement provides \$6,000,000 for planning, research and development activities. The Department is urged to use funds made available under this heading for increasing the number of projects published in the Federal Infrastructure Projects Permitting Dashboard.

## WORKING CAPITAL FUND

The agreement limits expenditures for working capital fund activities to \$181,500,000.

## MINORITY BUSINESS RESOURCE CENTER PROGRAM

The agreement provides a total appropriation of \$925,000 for the minority business center program: \$333,000 for the cost of guaranteed loans and \$592,000 for the administrative expenses of the program. The bill limits loans to \$18,367,000.

## MINORITY BUSINESS OUTREACH

The agreement provides \$3,099,000 for minority business outreach.

## PAYMENTS TO AIR CARRIERS

### (AIRPORT AND AIRWAY TRUST FUND)

The agreement provides \$155,000,000 for payments to air carriers. In addition to these funds, the program will receive approximately \$100,000,000 in overflight fees pursuant to the FAA Modernization and Reform Act of 2012.

The agreement includes a provision that allows amounts authorized for the essential air service program to be immediately available from resources of the Federal Aviation Administration and that such resources shall be reimbursed from collected overflight fees.

## ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION

Section 101 prohibits funds available to the Department of Transportation from being obligated for the Office of the Secretary of Transportation to approve assessments or reimbursable agreements pertaining to funds appropriated to the modal administrations, except for activities underway on the date of enactment of this Act, unless such assessments or agreements have completed the normal reprogramming process for Congressional notification.

Section 102 allows the Secretary of Transportation or his designee to engage with states to consider proposals related to the reduction of motorcycle fatalities.

Section 103 allows the Department of Transportation Working Capital Fund to provide payments in advance to vendors for the Federal transit pass fringe benefit program.

Section 104 requires the Secretary of Transportation to post on the web a schedule of all Credit Council meetings, agendas, and meeting minutes.

## FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

### OPERATIONS

### (AIRPORT AND AIRWAY TRUST FUND)

The agreement includes \$9,740,700,000 for the operations of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). Of the total amount provided, \$8,595,000,000 is to be derived from the airport and airway trust fund. Funds are distributed in the bill by budget activity.

The following table compares the agreement to the levels proposed in the budget request by activity:

	Budget Request	Agreement
Air Traffic Organization .....	\$7,396,654,000	\$7,396,654,000
Aviation Safety .....	1,215,458,000	1,218,458,000
Commercial Space Transportation .....	16,605,000	16,605,000
Finance and management .....	765,047,000	756,047,000
NextGen and operations planning .....	60,089,000	60,089,000
Staff offices .....	296,147,000	292,847,000
Total .....	\$9,750,000,000	\$9,740,700,000

**Operations funding.**—The agreement includes the full budget request for the air traffic organization, commercial space transportation, and NextGen operations and planning. An increase of \$3,000,000 above the budget request is provided for aviation safety activities to facilitate the safe integration of unmanned aircraft into the national airspace. The agreement includes reductions of \$9,300,000 below the budget request from non-operational, administrative activities.

**Facility security.**—In the aftermath of the fire at the Chicago Air Route Traffic Control Center, FAA completed a 30-day review of agency contingency plans and security pro-

cedures. The FAA identified near and long term measures that will improve security and minimize service disruptions. The agency, however, has not yet been able to indicate how measures that can be taken in fiscal year 2015 impact the priorities it had identified in the budget request. FAA is therefore directed to identify resources to advance these measures through the prioritization of its programs and, if necessary, submit a reprogramming request to complete the most urgent security initiatives.

**Contract towers.**—The agreement provides \$144,500,000 for the contract tower program,

including \$9,500,000 for the contract tower cost-sharing program.

**Controller hiring eligibility.**—The agreement includes language prohibiting the use of funds to issue a job announcement for air traffic control specialists that renders ineligible by reason of age an applicant in the specialist inventory as of January 15, 2014 who was born between February 9, 1983 and October 1, 1984.

**Controller hiring.**—The FAA is directed to provide an update on its fiscal year 2014 controller hiring progress, including hiring totals, academy completion totals, and an

analysis of hiring and screening procedures, within 60 days of enactment.

*Air traffic control optimum training solution (ATCOTS).*—The FAA is directed to provide a training plan for meeting hiring goals in fiscal year 2015 within 60 days after enactment. Further, the Office of Inspector General (OIG) is directed to submit an update to the December 2013 report on the ATCOTS program no later than six months after enactment.

*Aircraft certification review process and reform.*—The FAA is directed to submit to the Committees on Appropriations a report within 60 days of enactment on measures of effectiveness that the FAA is applying to its implementation of the aviation rulemaking committee's recommendations to expanding the use of delegated authority and a risk-based, systems safety approach to its oversight. The report should include all of the requirements outlined in House report 113-464 and Senate report 113-182.

*Aircraft certification workforce staffing.*—The FAA is directed to include in its annual aviation workforce safety workforce plan a section devoted to the actions undertaken and planned by the FAA to further enhance aircraft certification workforce skills and training.

*International coordination of certification activities.*—The FAA is expected to use such funds as may be necessary to coordinate

with and educate other international aviation authorities about FAA's certification processes.

*Small Airplane Revitalization Act.*—The FAA is expected to use the resources as requested in the budget request to support the completion of a final rule that advances the safety and continued development of small airplanes, as required by the Small Airplane Revitalization Act of 2013.

*Pilots records database.*—The FAA is directed to provide a letter report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations on its progress in meeting the requirements of section 203 of the Airline Safety Act of 2010 no later than 60 days after enactment of this Act.

*Public comment periods.*—Public comment periods play a critical role in the FAA's rulemaking proceedings and the agency's non-rulemaking activities related to special use airspace. To ensure the public's ability to submit comments on actions being considered by the FAA, it is important to make electronic submissions available, especially as many individuals have shifted toward providing comments to the Federal government through the internet. The FAA is urged to update its procedures to ensure an online venue is available for comment submissions for proceedings initiated after the date of enactment of this Act. These updates should not undermine progress or in any way impede current airspace proceedings.

*Phoenix departure procedures.*—The FAA has been helpful in evaluating measures to address local concerns that have been raised as a result of new departure routes out of Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport. The FAA is directed to continue to work expeditiously to identify appropriate mitigation measures and to enforce adherence to flight procedures, unless specific flight modifications are necessary for safety purposes, in order to avoid impacts on nearby residential neighborhoods. The FAA is expected to provide a progress report on these measures to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations within 90 days of enactment of this Act.

#### FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT

##### (AIRPORT AND AIRWAY TRUST FUND)

The agreement includes \$2,600,000,000 for FAA facilities and equipment. Of the total amount available, \$460,000,000 is available until September 30, 2015 and \$2,140,000,000 is available until September 30, 2017. The agreement includes language directing FAA to transmit a detailed five-year capital investment plan to Congress with its fiscal year 2016 budget submission, and reducing funding by \$100,000 for each day the capital investment plan is late.

The following table provides a breakdown of the agreement by program:

Program	Request	Agreement
<b>Activity 1—Engineering, Development, Test and Evaluation:</b>		
Advanced Technology Development and Prototyping .....	29,900,000	29,900,000
NAS Improvement of System Support Laboratory .....	1,000,000	1,000,000
William J. Hughes Technical Center Facilities .....	12,049,000	12,049,000
William J. Hughes Technical Center Infrastructure Sustainment .....	12,200,000	12,200,000
Separation Management Portfolio .....	13,000,000	13,000,000
Improved Surface/TFDM Portfolio .....	38,808,000	38,808,000
On Demand NAS Portfolio .....	6,000,000	6,000,000
Environment Portfolio .....	2,500,000	5,500,000
Improved Multiple Runway Operations Portfolio .....	3,500,000	5,500,000
NAS Infrastructure Portfolio .....	13,480,000	14,480,000
NextGen Support Portfolio .....	13,000,000	13,000,000
Performance Based Navigation & Metroplex Portfolio .....	25,500,000	26,500,000
Total Activity 1 .....	170,937,000	177,937,000
<b>Activity 2—Air Traffic Control Facilities and Equipment:</b>		
<b>a. En Route Programs:</b>		
En Route Automation Modernization (ERAM) .....	10,500,000	10,500,000
En Route Automation Modernization (ERAM)—System Enhancements and Tech Refresh .....	45,200,000	45,200,000
En Route Communications Gateway (ECG) .....	6,600,000	6,600,000
Next Generation Weather Radar (NEXRAD)—Provide .....	7,100,000	7,100,000
ARTCC and CERAP Building Improvements/Plant Improvements .....	63,700,000	59,000,000
Air Traffic Management (ATM) .....	5,729,000	5,729,000
Air/Ground Communications Infrastructure .....	3,900,000	3,900,000
Air Traffic Control En Route Radar Facilities Improvements .....	5,100,000	5,100,000
Voice Switching and Control System (VSCS) .....	13,800,000	13,800,000
Oceanic Automation System .....	3,508,000	3,508,000
Next Generation Very High Frequency Air/Ground Communications (NEXCOM) .....	40,000,000	40,000,000
System-Wide Information Management .....	60,261,000	60,261,000
ADS-B NAS Wide Implementation .....	247,200,000	254,700,000
Windshear Detection Service .....	4,300,000	4,300,000
Collaborative Air Traffic Management Technologies WP2 & WP3 .....	13,491,000	13,491,000
Time Based Flow Management Portfolio .....	21,000,000	21,000,000
NextGen Weather Processors .....	23,320,000	23,320,000
Airborne Collision Avoidance System X (ACASX) .....	12,000,000	12,000,000
Data Communications in Support of NG Air Transportation System .....	147,340,000	150,340,000
Subtotal En Route Programs .....	734,049,000	739,849,000
<b>b. Terminal Programs:</b>		
Airport Surface Detection Equipment—Model X (ASDE-X) .....	5,436,000	5,436,000
Terminal Doppler Weather Radar (TDWR)—Provide .....	1,900,000	1,900,000
Standard Terminal Automation Replacement System (STARS) (TAMR Phase 1) .....	50,700,000	50,700,000
Terminal Automation Modernization/Replacement Program (TAMR Phase 3) .....	136,150,000	146,150,000
Terminal Automation Program .....	1,600,000	1,600,000
Terminal Air Traffic Control Facilities—Replace .....	29,800,000	52,600,000
ATCT/Terminal Radar Approach Control (TRACON) Facilities—Improve .....	45,040,000	45,040,000
Terminal Voice Switch Replacement (TVSR) .....	2,000,000	2,000,000
NAS Facilities OSHA and Environmental Standards Compliance .....	43,501,000	40,000,000
Airport Surveillance Radar (ASR-9) .....	13,600,000	13,600,000
Terminal Digital Radar (ASR-11) Technology Refresh and Mobile Airport Surveillance Radar (MASR) .....	21,100,000	21,100,000
Runway Status Lights .....	41,710,000	41,710,000
National Airspace System Voice System (NVS) .....	20,550,000	20,550,000
Integrated Display System (IDS) .....	16,917,000	16,917,000
Remote Monitoring and Logging System (RMLS) .....	3,930,000	3,930,000
Mode S Service Life Extension Program (SLEP) .....	8,100,000	8,100,000
Surveillance Interface Modernization .....	4,000,000	4,000,000
Voice Recorder Replacement Program (VRRP) .....	1,000,000	1,000,000
Precision Runway Monitor (PRM) .....	1,000,000	1,000,000
Integrated Terminal Weather System (ITWS) .....	4,400,000	4,400,000
Subtotal Terminal Programs .....	452,434,000	481,733,000
<b>c. Flight Service Programs:</b>		
Aviation Surface Observation System (ASOS) .....	8,000,000	8,000,000
Future Flight Services Program .....	1,000,000	1,000,000
Alaska Flight Service Facility Modernization (AFSFM) .....	2,800,000	2,800,000
Weather Camera Program .....	200,000	200,000
Subtotal Flight Service Programs .....	12,000,000	12,000,000
<b>d. Landing and Navigational Aids Program:</b>		
VHF Omnidirectional Radio Range (VOR) with Distance Measuring Equipment (DME) .....	8,300,000	8,300,000

Program	Request	Agreement
Instrument Landing System (ILS)—Establish .....	7,000,000	7,000,000
Wide Area Augmentation System (WAAS) for GPS .....	103,600,000	98,600,000
Runway Visual Range (RVR) and Enhanced Low Visibility Operations (ELVO) .....	6,000,000	7,500,000
Approach Lighting System Improvement Program (ALSIP) .....	3,000,000	3,000,000
Distance Measuring Equipment (DME) .....	3,000,000	3,000,000
Visual NAVAIDS—Establish/Expand .....	2,000,000	2,000,000
Instrument Flight Procedures Automation (IFPA) .....	2,400,000	2,400,000
Navigation and Landing Aids—Service Life Extension Program (SLEP) .....	3,000,000	3,000,000
VASI Replacement—Replace with Precision Approach Path Indicator .....	5,000,000	5,000,000
GPS Civil Requirements .....	27,000,000	10,000,000
Runway Safety Areas—Navigational Mitigation .....	35,000,000	35,000,000
Subtotal Landing and Navigational Aids Programs .....	205,300,000	184,800,000
e. Other ATC Facilities Programs:		
Fuel Storage Tank Replacement and Management .....	15,500,000	14,500,000
Unstaffed Infrastructure Sustainment .....	32,300,000	30,300,000
Aircraft Related Equipment Program .....	9,000,000	9,000,000
Airport Cable Loop Systems—Sustained Support .....	5,000,000	5,000,000
Alaskan Satellite Telecommunications Infrastructure (ASTI) .....	11,400,000	11,400,000
Facilities Decommissioning .....	5,700,000	5,700,000
Electrical Power Systems—Sustain/Support .....	102,000,000	82,701,000
Energy Management and Compliance (EMC) .....	1,000,000	1,000,000
Subtotal Other ATC Facilities Programs .....	181,900,000	159,601,000
Total Activity 2 .....	1,585,683,000	1,577,983,000
Activity 3—Non-Air Traffic Control Facilities and Equipment:		
a. Support Equipment:		
Hazardous Materials Management .....	22,000,000	22,000,000
Aviation Safety Analysis System (ASAS) .....	11,900,000	11,900,000
Logistics Support Systems and Facilities (LSSF) .....	8,000,000	8,000,000
National Air Space (NAS) Recovery Communications (RCOM) .....	12,000,000	12,000,000
Facility Security Risk Management .....	14,300,000	14,300,000
Information Security .....	12,000,000	12,000,000
System Approach for Safety Oversight (SASO) .....	22,500,000	22,500,000
Aviation Safety Knowledge Management Environment (ASKME) .....	10,200,000	10,200,000
System Safety Management Portfolio .....	18,700,000	18,700,000
National Test Equipment Program .....	2,000,000	2,000,000
Mobile Assets Management Program .....	4,000,000	4,000,000
Aerospace Medicine Safety Information Systems (AMSIS) .....	3,000,000	3,000,000
Tower Simulation System (TSS) Technology Refresh .....	3,000,000	3,000,000
Subtotal Support Equipment .....	143,600,000	143,600,000
b. Training, Equipment and Facilities:		
Aeronautical Center Infrastructure Modernization .....	13,180,000	13,180,000
Distance Learning .....	1,500,000	1,500,000
Subtotal Training, Equipment and Facilities .....	14,680,000	14,680,000
Total Activity 3 .....	158,280,000	158,280,000
Activity 4—Facilities and Equipment Mission Support:		
a. System Support and Services:		
System Engineering and Development Support .....	34,504,000	34,504,000
Program Support Leases .....	43,200,000	43,200,000
Logistics and Acquisition Support Services .....	11,500,000	11,500,000
Mike Monroney Aeronautical Center Leases .....	18,350,000	18,350,000
Transition Engineering Support .....	16,596,000	16,596,000
Technical Support Services Contract (TSSC) .....	23,000,000	23,000,000
Resource Tracking Program (RTP) .....	4,000,000	4,000,000
Center for Advanced Aviation System Development (CAASD) .....	60,000,000	60,000,000
Aeronautical Information Management Program .....	12,650,000	12,650,000
Cross Agency NextGen Management .....	2,000,000	2,000,000
Total Activity 4 .....	225,800,000	225,800,000
Activity 5—Personnel and Related Expenses:		
Personnel and Related Expenses .....	463,000,000	460,000,000
TOTAL .....	2,603,700,000	2,600,000,000

*NextGen-environment.*—The agreement includes \$3,000,000 above the budget request for the NextGen-environment portfolio to support the Continuous Low Energy, Emissions and Noise (CLEEN) program to develop and test aircraft technologies that reduce noise, emissions and fuel burn.

*NextGen-improve multiple runway operations.*—The agreement includes \$5,500,000 for FAA's program to improve multiple runway operations. Of this amount, \$2,000,000 is to enhance procedures to allow operations on closely spaced parallel runways, \$1,500,000 is to mitigate wake turbulence on arrivals, and \$2,000,000 is to support Category III development and certification efforts needed for FAA's ground-based augmentation system.

*Automatic dependent surveillance-broadcast (ADS-B) implementation.*—The agreement includes an increase of \$7,500,000 above the budget request to advance the use of space-based ADS-B for air traffic control separation services and support the collection and validation of surveillance data and help assess the impact on FAA's oceanic automation system. The FAA is directed to make an investment decision regarding satellite-based ADS-B no later than 30 days after enactment of this Act to address the concern that the agency's absence from the program is undermining its status as a global safety and technology leader.

*Enhanced low visibility operations.*—The agreement includes \$1,500,000 above the budget request to support enhanced low visibility

operations and directs FAA to use the funding for advanced aircraft and airport navigation safety equipment for airports serving remote communities that rely on aviation for basic transportation needs.

RESEARCH, ENGINEERING AND DEVELOPMENT  
(AIRPORT AND AIRWAY TRUST FUND)

The agreement provides \$156,750,000 for the FAA's research, engineering, and development activities.

The agreement provides the following levels for specific programs:

Program	Request	Agreement
Fire Research and Safety .....	6,929,000	6,000,000
Propulsion and Fuel Systems .....	2,413,000	2,000,000
Advanced Materials/Structural Safety .....	2,909,000	2,909,000
Aircraft Icing/Digital System Safety .....	5,889,000	5,500,000
Continued Airworthiness .....	9,619,000	9,619,000
Aircraft Catastrophic Failure Prevention Research .....	1,567,000	1,500,000
Flightdeck/Maintenance/System Integration Human Factors .....	8,997,000	6,000,000
System Safety Management .....	7,970,000	7,970,000
Air Traffic Control/Technical Operations Human Factors .....	5,898,000	5,400,000
Aeromedical Research .....	8,919,000	8,300,000
Weather Program .....	17,800,000	14,847,000
Unmanned Aircraft Systems Research .....	8,974,000	14,974,000
NextGen—Alternative Fuels for General Aviation .....	5,700,000	6,000,000
A11—Safety .....	94,484,000	91,019,000
NextGen—Wake Turbulence .....	8,541,000	8,541,000
NextGen—Air Ground Integration Human Factors .....	9,697,000	9,697,000
NextGen—Weather Technology in the Cockpit .....	4,048,000	4,048,000

Program	Request	Agreement
A12—Economic Competitiveness Environment and Energy .....	22,286,000	22,286,000
NextGen—Environmental Research—Aircraft Technologies, Fuels, and Metrics .....	19,514,000	23,014,000
A13—Environmental Sustainability .....	34,435,000	37,935,000
System Planning and Resource Management .....	2,135,000	2,100,000
William J. Hughes Technical Center Laboratory Facility .....	3,410,000	3,410,000
A14—Mission Support .....	5,545,000	5,510,000
TOTAL .....	156,750,000	156,750,000

*Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS).*—The agreement includes \$14,974,000 for unmanned aircraft systems research, an increase of \$6,000,000 above the budget request. Within this increase, \$4,000,000 is provided for a new center of excellence on unmanned aircraft systems, for a total of \$5,000,000 for the center; and \$2,000,000 is provided to help meet FAA's UAS research goals of system safety and data gathering, aircraft certification, command and control link challenges, control station layouts and certification, sense and avoid, and environmental impacts.

*NextGen environmental research-aircraft technologies, fuels, and metrics.*—The agreement provides \$23,014,000 for environmental research-aircraft technologies, fuels, and metrics, an increase of \$3,500,000 above the budget request to continue the research, development and testing of alternative fuels, including efforts to produce fit for purpose

chemical-analytical, fuel-property and material compatibility testing, and to continue the Continuous, Lower Energy Emission, and Noise (CLEEN) program.

GRANTS-IN-AID FOR AIRPORTS  
(LIQUIDATION OF CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION)  
(LIMITATION ON OBLIGATIONS)  
(AIRPORT AND AIRWAY TRUST FUND)  
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)  
(INCLUDING RESCISSION)

The agreement includes an obligation limitation of \$3,350,000,000; a liquidating cash appropriation of \$3,200,000,000; a limitation on administrative expenses of not more than \$107,100,000; not less than \$15,000,000 for the airport cooperative research program; and not less than \$29,750,000 for airport technology research.

*Small community air service development program.*—The agreement includes \$5,500,000 under the obligation limitation to continue the small community air service development program (SCASDP) and directs the FAA to transfer funds to the Office of the Secretary salaries and expenses appropriation.

*Cost share.*—The agreement includes a provision that allows small airports to continue contributing five percent of the total cost for unfinished phased projects that were underway prior to the passage of the FAA Modernization and Reform Act of 2012.

*Rescission.*—The agreement includes a rescission of amounts authorized for fiscal year 2015 and prior years under section 48112 of title 49, U.S.C.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—FEDERAL  
AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

Section 110 allows no more than 600 technical staff-years at the Center for Advanced Aviation Systems Development.

Section 111 prohibits funds for adopting guidelines or regulations requiring airport sponsors to provide FAA “without cost” building construction or space.

Section 112 allows reimbursement for fees collected and credited under 49 U.S.C. 45303.

Section 113 allows reimbursement of funds for providing technical assistance to foreign aviation authorities to be credited to the operations account.

Section 114 prohibits funds for Sunday premium pay unless work was actually performed on a Sunday.

Section 115 prohibits funds in the Act from being used to buy store gift cards with Government issued credit cards.

Section 116 allows all airports experiencing the required level of boardings through charter and scheduled air service to be eligible for funds under 49 U.S.C. 47114(c).

Section 117 prohibits funds from being obligated or expended for retention bonuses for FAA employees without prior written approval of the DOT Assistant Secretary for Administration.

Section 118 limits to 20 percent the cost share required under the contract tower cost-share program.

Section 119 requires the Secretary to block the display of an owner or operator’s aircraft registration number in the Aircraft Situational Display to Industry program upon the request of an owner or operator.

Section 119A prohibits funds for salaries and expenses of more than nine political and Presidential appointees in the FAA.

Section 119B prohibits funds to increase fees under 49 U.S.C. 44721 until the FAA provides a report to the Committees on Appropriations that justifies all fees related to aeronautical navigation products and ex-

plains how such fees are consistent with Executive Order 13642.

Section 119C prohibits funds from being used to change weight restrictions or prior permission rules at Teterboro Airport in New Jersey.

Section 119D requires FAA to notify the Committees on Appropriations at least 90 days before closing a regional operations center or reducing the services provided.

Section 119E clarifies the name of the FAA center of excellence on advanced materials.

Section 119F provides an average Federal share for a primary non-hub airport located in a public lands state within 15 miles from the border of another public lands state with a higher Federal share.

FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION  
LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES  
(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)  
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The agreement limits obligations for the administrative expenses of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to \$426,100,000. In addition, the agreement provides \$3,248,000 above this limitation for the administrative expenses of the Appalachian Regional Commission in accordance with 23 U.S.C. 104.

FEDERAL-AID HIGHWAYS  
(LIMITATION ON OBLIGATIONS)  
(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

The agreement limits obligations for the federal-aid highways program to \$40,256,000,000 in fiscal year 2015.

*Safety performance measures and reporting requirements.*—FHWA is directed to establish separate, non-motorized safety performance measures for the highway safety improvement program, define performance measures for fatalities and serious injuries from pedestrian and bicycle crashes, and publish its final rule on safety performance measures no later than September 30, 2015.

(LIQUIDATION OF CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION)  
(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

The agreement provides a liquidating cash appropriation of \$40,995,000,000, which is available until expended, to pay the outstanding obligations of the various highway programs at the levels provided in this Act and prior appropriations acts.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—FEDERAL  
HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

Section 120 distributes the federal-aid highways program obligation limitation.

Section 121 allows funds received by the Bureau of Transportation Statistics from the sale of data products to be credited to the federal-aid highways account.

Section 122 provides requirements for any waiver of Buy America requirements.

Section 123 prohibits tolling in Texas, with exceptions.

Section 124 prohibits funds from being used to provide credit assistance under sections 603 and 604 of title 23, United States Code, unless the Secretary of Transportation notifies the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations, the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works, the Senate Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs, and the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure at least three days prior to credit application approval.

Section 125 changes title 23, United States Code, to add additional exemptions to federal truck weight limitations.

FEDERAL MOTOR CARRIER SAFETY  
ADMINISTRATION  
MOTOR CARRIER SAFETY OPERATIONS AND  
PROGRAMS  
(LIQUIDATION OF CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION)  
(LIMITATION ON OBLIGATIONS)  
(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

The agreement includes a liquidation of contract authorization and a limitation on obligations of \$271,000,000 for the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), of which \$12,000,000 is made available from prior year unobligated balances of contract authority. Of this limitation, \$9,000,000 is for research and technology programs and will remain available for obligation until September 30, 2017; \$34,545,000 is for information management and shall be available until September 30, 2017; \$2,300,000 is for commercial motor vehicle operator grants; \$4,000,000 is available for the study required under section 133 of this Act; and, \$6,700,000 is available for inspection and enforcement activities related to the transportation of energy products, information management and technology needs, and the implementation of the Capital Improvement Plan for border facilities and field offices. The agreement includes a provision which requires the Secretary to complete final regulatory action on the implementation of 49 U.S.C. 31137 no later than June 1, 2015.

*Compliance reviews of mandatory carriers.*—The Secretary shall transmit to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations a report on FMCSA’s ability to meet its requirement to conduct compliance reviews on mandatory carriers for the preceding fiscal year no later than March 27, 2015.

*Safety fitness determination.*—The Secretary shall initiate action on a safety fitness determination rule no later than June 1, 2015.

*Small passenger van compliance.*—The Secretary is directed to engage with stakeholders through a notice and comment period prior to issuing any guidance that would enforce commercial regulations against an entity providing transportation for no more than fifteen passengers by passenger van as an incidental business activity for which it does not receive direct compensation.

*Hours of service.*—The agreement does not require the report on the FMCSA’s hours of service rule referenced in House Report 113-464. However, under section 133, the agreement includes a temporary suspension of certain hours of service regulations and requires a comprehensive field study of the impact of those regulations.

MOTOR CARRIER SAFETY GRANTS  
(LIQUIDATION OF CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION)  
(LIMITATION ON OBLIGATIONS)  
(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

The agreement provides a liquidating cash appropriation and a limitation on obligations of \$313,000,000 for motor carrier safety grants. The agreement allocates the total grant funding as follows:

Program	Funding
Motor carrier safety assistance program .....	\$218,000,000
Commercial driver’s license program improvement grants .....	30,000,000
Border enforcement grants .....	32,000,000
Performance and registration information system management grants .....	5,000,000
Commercial vehicle information systems and networks deployment program .....	25,000,000
Safety data improvement grants .....	3,000,000

Of the \$218,000,000 provided for the motor carrier safety assistance program, the agreement provides \$32,000,000 for audits of new entrant motor carriers.



## ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—FEDERAL MOTOR CARRIER SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

Section 130 subjects funds appropriated in this Act to the terms and conditions of section 350 of Public Law 107–87 and section 6901 of Public Law 110–28.

Section 131 requires FMCSA to send notice of 49 CFR section 385.308 violations by certified mail, registered mail, or some other manner of delivery which records receipt of the notice by the persons responsible for the violations.

Section 132 prohibits funding provided under the Act from being used to enforce any regulation prohibiting a state from issuing a commercial learner's permit to individuals under the age of eighteen if state law authorizes such issuance as of May 9, 2011.

Section 133 temporarily suspends enforcement of the hours of service regulation related to the restart provisions that went into effect on July 1, 2013 and directs the Secretary to conduct a study of the operational, safety, health and fatigue aspects of the restart provisions in effect before and after July 1, 2013. The Inspector General is directed to review the study plan and report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations whether it meets the requirements under this provision.

Section 134 prohibits funds from being used to deny an application to renew a hazardous materials safety permit unless a carrier has the opportunity to present its own corrective actions and the Secretary determines such actions are insufficient.

## NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

## OPERATIONS AND RESEARCH

The agreement provides \$130,000,000 from the general fund for operations and research activities. Of this amount, \$20,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2016.

The agreement provides funding as requested in the budget for vehicle electronics and emerging technology research and for advanced testing of emerging technologies at the Vehicle Research and Test Center in East Liberty, Ohio. Additional resources are provided to improve the Office of Defect Investigation's ability to identify vehicle safety defects, expand crash worthiness testing, conclude equipment compliance testing, conduct research and testing for motorcoach safety regulatory activities, and to continue testing of emerging alternative fuel systems. Specifically, \$9,300,000 is provided to support the implementation and maintenance of the electronic document and records management system corporate information factory and \$10,000,000 is provided for the new car assessment program. In addition, as requested, \$9,140,000 is provided for federal motor vehicle safety standards and \$7,900,000 is provided for the corporate average fuel economy program.

## OPERATIONS AND RESEARCH

## (LIQUIDATION OF CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION)

## (LIMITATION ON OBLIGATIONS)

## (HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

The agreement provides a liquidating cash appropriation and an obligation limitation of \$138,500,000, to remain available until expended, which reflects the authorized level of contract authority plus \$20,000,000 from prior-year unobligated contract authority balances. Of the total, \$133,500,000 is provided for the programs authorized under 23 U.S.C. 403, and \$5,000,000 is for the National Driver Register. Of the total amount provided under this heading, \$20,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2016 and shall be in

addition to any limitation imposed on obligations in future fiscal years.

*National roadside survey.*—The agreement directs the Secretary and GAO to report on the national roadside survey as directed by Senate Report 113–182.

## HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY GRANTS

## (LIQUIDATION OF CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION)

## (LIMITATION ON OBLIGATIONS)

## (HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

The agreement provides a liquidating cash appropriation and an obligation limitation of \$561,500,000 for highway traffic safety grants, to remain available until expended. The agreement allocates funding as follows:

Highway safety programs (section 402) .....	\$235,000,000
National priority safety programs (section 405) .....	272,000,000
High visibility enforcement program .....	29,000,000
Administrative expenses .....	25,500,000
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>561,500,000</b>

The agreement continues a provision which prohibits certain construction and furnishing activities and limits technical assistance to States to \$500,000 of the funds made available for impaired driving countermeasures under 23 U.S.C. 405(d), as amended by MAP–21.

The agreement allows for the transfer of funds within the grant programs consistent with 23 U.S.C. 405(a)(1)(G) and requires NHTSA to notify the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations of the exercise of this authority within 60 days of enactment of this Act.

The agreement includes \$5,574,000 for in-vehicle alcohol detection device research.

## ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

Section 140 provides funding for travel and related expenses for state management reviews and highway safety core competency development training.

Section 141 exempts obligation authority made available in previous public laws from the obligation limitations set for the current year.

Section 142 prohibits the use of funds to implement 23 U.S.C. 404.

## FEDERAL RAILROAD ADMINISTRATION

## SAFETY AND OPERATIONS

The agreement provides \$186,870,000 for safety and operations of the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA). Of the funds provided, \$15,400,000 is available until expended. The agreement provides \$370,000 for five new safety inspectors and \$3,000,000 for the automated track inspection program, including amounts to fund an automated car for inspection of crude oil routes.

## RAILROAD RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

The agreement provides \$39,100,000 for railroad research and development. The agreement is consistent with the budget request and provides an additional \$2,000,000 to improve safety practices and safety training for Class II and Class III freight railroads. This additional funding supports FRA's initiative to partner with short line and regional railroads to build a stronger, sustainable safety culture in this segment of the rail industry. The initiative will support safety compliance assessments and training on short lines that transport crude oil. In addition, the agreement provides \$2,000,000 for the design, testing and evaluation of liquefied natural gas (LNG) bulk tank cars, LNG locomotive tenders, and technologies suitable to retrofit tank cars that transport certain high-risk flammable liquids.

## RAILROAD REHABILITATION AND IMPROVEMENT FINANCING PROGRAM

The agreement authorizes the Secretary to issue notes or other obligations pursuant to section 501 through 504 of P.L. 94–210. The agreement prohibits new direct loans or loan guarantee commitments using Federal funds for the credit risk premium during fiscal year 2015. The agreement also prohibits new direct loans or loan guarantee commitments in fiscal year 2015 that cause the total principal amount committed to projects in a single state to exceed \$5,600,000,000.

## OPERATING GRANTS TO THE NATIONAL RAILROAD PASSENGER CORPORATION

The agreement provides \$250,000,000 in quarterly operating grants to Amtrak, based on the Secretary's assessment of Amtrak's seasonal cash flow requirements, and provides that funds remain available until expended. Before approving funding to cover operating losses, the agreement requires the Secretary to review a grant request for each specific train route. The agreement prohibits Amtrak from discounting tickets at more than 50 percent off the normal peak fare, unless the operating loss due to the discounted fare is covered by a state and the state participates in setting the fares.

The agreement requires Amtrak to take actions to reduce food and beverage losses identified in the October 31, 2013 OIG report, and as summarized in House Report 113–464. Within 60 days of enactment of this Act, Amtrak is directed to provide a report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations detailing reforms Amtrak has implemented to reduce food and beverage losses, the savings each reform generated since Amtrak's October 3, 2013 announcement, and its plan to eliminate food and beverage losses by October 2018.

## CAPITAL AND DEBT SERVICE GRANTS TO THE NATIONAL RAILROAD PASSENGER CORPORATION

The agreement provides \$1,140,000,000 for capital and debt service grants to Amtrak to remain available until expended. Within the funds provided, the agreement includes up to \$175,000,000 for Amtrak's debt service payments, and not less than \$50,000,000 for investments to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act. In addition, the agreement provides for an initial distribution of \$200,000,000 for a working capital account, allows the Secretary to use up to \$50,000,000 for operating grants to Amtrak should its operating losses in fiscal year 2015 exceed amounts provided under the previous heading, and conditions the Secretary's approval of grants for capital expenditures upon the receipt and review of a grant request for each specific capital project justifying the Federal support to the Secretary's satisfaction. The agreement allows the Secretary to retain up to one-half of one percent of the funds provided under this heading for oversight of both operating activities and capital expenditures. The agreement also allows the Secretary to retain up to \$5,000,000 to fund the costs associated with implementing section 212 of division B of Public Law 110–432.

The agreement retains the requirement that the Northeast Corridor Infrastructure and Operations Advisory Commission submit a fiscal year 2016 budget request. The agreement directs Amtrak to provide transparent, accurate cost information to States on the section 209 cost methodology consistent with Senate Report 113–182, requires Amtrak to conduct a business case analysis on all major capital acquisitions that exceed \$10,000,000 in life cycle costs, and directs Amtrak to increase transparency regarding capital

projects in its budget submissions. The agreement retains a reporting requirement included in House Report 113-464 relating to Amtrak's contract to purchase 70 electric locomotives, and directs Amtrak to submit within 90 days of enactment of this Act, a determination of how many locomotives it needs and a business case analysis on continuing the contract or reducing its scope if Amtrak needs fewer than 70.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—FEDERAL RAILROAD ADMINISTRATION

Section 150 allows the FRA safety and operations account to receive and use cash or spare parts to repair and replace damaged track inspection cars.

Section 151 authorizes the Secretary to allow the issuer of preferred stock sold to the Department to redeem or repurchase such stock upon payment to the Department as determined by the Secretary.

Section 152 limits overtime to \$35,000 per employee. The agreement allows Amtrak's president to waive this restriction for specific employees for safety or operational efficiency reasons. Amtrak's president is required to delineate the reasons for granting such waivers, provide quarterly reports on waivers granted, amounts paid above the cap, and the department that incurred the overtime for each employee by month for the quarter. The agreement also requires Amtrak's president to provide an annual report by March 1, 2015 that summarizes Amtrak's total overtime expenses by month and by department, the number of employees receiving overtime cap waivers by department and the total overtime payments resulting from waivers for each employee by month of the 2014 calendar year and the three prior calendar years.

Section 153 appropriates \$10,000,000 to the Secretary to make grants for grade crossing and track improvements on rail routes that transport energy products.

#### FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

The agreement provides \$105,933,000 for the administrative expenses of the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), of which not less than \$4,500,000 is for the safety office and \$1,000,000 is for asset management activities. Staffing levels are to be determined by funding levels under this heading. FTA is directed to follow the process for informing the Committees on Appropriations on full funding grant agreement notifications consistent with prior years and include appropriations information through fiscal year 2019.

#### TRANSIT FORMULA GRANTS (LIQUIDATION OF CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION) (LIMITATION ON OBLIGATIONS) (HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

The agreement limits obligations from the Mass Transit Account for transit formula grants to \$8,595,000,000, as authorized by MAP-21. Funds are to be distributed as authorized. Further, the agreement provides \$9,500,000,000 for the liquidation of contract authority.

#### TRANSIT RESEARCH

The agreement provides \$33,000,000 for FTA's research program, of which \$30,000,000 is for the national research program (§5312) and \$3,000,000 is for the cooperative research program (§5313).

#### TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING

The agreement provides \$4,500,000 for transit technical assistance and training, of which \$4,000,000 is for technical assistance

and standards development (§5314) and \$500,000 is for training (§5322). FTA should recognize the continuing need for a strong technical assistance, education and research program for every component of public transit systems.

#### CAPITAL INVESTMENT GRANTS (INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

The bill appropriates \$2,120,000,000 for new fixed-guideway projects. Combined with available prior year transit funds, a total of \$2,147,989,839 is available for new start activities.

Of the funds available, \$1,510,137,944 is for projects with signed full funding grant agreements (FFGAs), \$120,000,000 is available for core capacity projects, and \$21,149,233 is available for oversight activities. For new small start projects, \$143,712,823 of the funds provided under this heading, plus \$27,989,839 in prior year funds (as provided in Sec. 168), are available. The agreement rescinds a total of \$121,546,138 in prior year funds.

For projects anticipated to be under a signed FFGA in fiscal year 2015, \$325,000,000 is available. FTA is directed to give funding priority to projects requiring a 40 percent or less Federal share.

#### GRANTS TO THE WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT AUTHORITY

The agreement provides \$150,000,000 to carry out section 601 of division B of Public Law 110-432 to remain available until expended. The bill includes language temporarily waiving the wireless access requirements in the Passenger Rail Investment and Improvement Act for fiscal year 2015 and requiring the Secretary to certify that WMATA is making significant progress addressing audit recommendations.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION

Section 160 exempts previously made transit obligations from limitations on obligations.

Section 161 allows funds provided in this Act for fixed guideway capital investment projects that remain unobligated by September 30, 2019 be available for projects eligible to use the funds for the purposes for which they were originally provided.

Section 162 allows for the transfer of appropriations made prior to October 1, 2014 from older accounts to be merged into new accounts with similar current activities.

Section 163 exempts an area in Washington State from enforcement of the charter bus rule.

Section 164 allows the Secretary to consider significant private contributions when calculating the non-Federal share of capital costs for new starts projects.

Section 165 limits FTA to signing full funding grant agreements with a new starts share of 60 percent or less.

Section 166 prohibits funds in this Act from being used to advance a specific transit line in Harris County, Texas.

Section 167 directs that in developing guidance implementing 49 U.S.C. 5309(i) regarding interrelated projects, the Secretary shall consider projects eligible under 5309(h), including streetcars.

Section 168 allows bus rapid transit projects recommended for funding in fiscal year 2015 under "capital investment grants" to be funded by \$27,989,839 in unobligated and unexpended discretionary formula funds.

#### SAINT LAWRENCE SEAWAY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

#### OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE (HARBOR MAINTENANCE TRUST FUND)

The agreement provides \$32,042,000 for the operations, maintenance and capital asset

renewal program of the Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation (SLSDC), of which \$542,000 is to support the economic and trade development mission of the SLSDC. The agreement requires the SLSDC to report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations by April 30, 2015 on the asset renewal program, consistent with the requirements of the Explanatory Statement of the Department of Transportation Appropriations Act of 2009.

#### MARITIME ADMINISTRATION MARITIME SECURITY PROGRAM

The agreement provides the full authorized level of \$186,000,000 for the maritime security program.

#### OPERATIONS AND TRAINING

The agreement provides a total of \$148,050,000 for the Maritime Administration's (MARAD) operations and training account.

For the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy (USMMA), the bill provides a total of \$79,150,000. Of the funds provided, \$64,150,000 is for Academy operations and \$15,000,000 is for capital asset management activities, of which \$12,000,000 is for capital improvements and \$3,000,000 is for maintenance, repairs and equipment.

The agreement provides a total of \$18,500,000 for the state maritime academies, of which \$3,600,000 is for direct payments, \$2,400,000 is for student incentive payments, \$11,300,000 is for scholarship maintenance and repair, and \$1,200,000 is for fuel assistance.

Finally, the agreement provides a total of \$50,400,000 for MARAD headquarters, regional offices, and maritime program expenses. Of the amount, \$3,000,000 is for the maritime environmental and technical assistance program as authorized by 46 U.S.C. 50307.

#### SHIP DISPOSAL

The agreement provides \$4,000,000 for the disposal of obsolete vessels of the National Defense Reserve Fleet.

#### MARITIME GUARANTEED LOAN (TITLE XI) PROGRAM ACCOUNT

#### (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides \$3,100,000 for the administrative expenses of the Title XI program. Funds are to be transferred to MARAD's operations and training account.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—MARITIME ADMINISTRATION

Section 170 authorizes MARAD to furnish utilities and services and make necessary repairs in connection with any lease, contract, or occupancy involving Government property under control of MARAD, and allow payments received to be credited to the Treasury and remain available until expended.

Section 171 prohibits a fee-for-service contract for vessel disposal, scrapping or recycling unless a qualified domestic ship recycler will pay for the vessel.

#### PIPELINE AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

#### OPERATIONAL EXPENSES

#### (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides \$22,225,000 for the necessary operational expenses of the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA). Of the amount provided, \$1,500,000 is to be transferred to the pipeline safety account to fund pipeline safety information grants to communities.

#### HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SAFETY

The agreement provides \$52,000,000 for the agency's hazardous materials safety functions. Of this amount, \$7,000,000 shall be

available until September 30, 2017, and \$800,000 in fees collected under 49 U.S.C. 5108(g) shall be deposited in the general fund as offsetting receipts. Funds made available until September 30, 2017 are for long-term research and development contracts.

*Tank car design.*—The Secretary is directed to finalize DOT-111 tank car design regulations no later than January 15, 2015.

*Small-scale natural gas liquefaction facilities.*—The agreement directs PHMSA to evaluate and develop new approaches for the siting, design and construction of small-scale liquefaction facilities that generate and package liquefied natural gas as a transportation fuel for domestic delivery via non-pipeline means. The agency shall consider ways to facilitate the growing demand for this alternative fuel while also ensuring appropriate public safety protections consistent with updated National Fire Protection Standards and industry best practices, in cooperation with state authorities where applicable.

#### PIPELINE SAFETY

##### (PIPELINE SAFETY FUND)

##### (OIL SPILL LIABILITY TRUST FUND)

##### (PIPELINE SAFETY DESIGN REVIEW FUND)

The agreement provides \$146,000,000 for pipeline safety activities. Of this amount, \$19,500,000 is derived from the oil spill liability trust fund, to remain available until September 30, 2017, \$124,500,000 is derived from the pipeline safety fund, of which \$66,309,000 is available until September 30, 2017, and \$2,000,000 is derived from the pipeline safety design review fund, to remain available until expended. The agreement provides not less than \$1,058,000 for the one-call state grant program.

The agreement does not include funding requested for a national pipeline information exchange.

#### EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS GRANTS

##### (EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS FUND)

The agreement provides \$188,000, derived from the emergency preparedness fund and available until September 30, 2016, and an obligation limitation of \$28,318,000 for emergency preparedness grants. The agreement provides PHMSA the authority to use prior year carryover and recaptures to develop a web-based hazardous materials response training curriculum for emergency responders, including response activities for crude oil, ethanol, and other flammable liquids by rail. The training curriculum shall be developed in coordination with the FRA and be consistent with National Fire Protection Association standards. Prior year carryover balances shall also be used to train public sector emergency response personnel in communities on or near rail lines that transport a significant volume of high-risk energy commodities or toxic inhalation hazards. Further, the amount of funding provided under this account that is available for administrative costs is increased from two percent to four percent.

#### OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

##### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement includes \$86,223,000 for the Office of Inspector General. The agreement includes language that provides the Inspector General with authority to participate in asset forfeiture programs.

#### SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

##### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement provides \$31,375,000 for salaries and expenses of the Surface Transportation Board. The agreement permits the

collection of up to \$1,250,000 in user fees to be credited to this appropriation. The agreement provides that the general fund appropriation be reduced on a dollar-for-dollar basis by the actual amount collected in user fees to result in a final appropriation from the general fund estimated at no more than \$30,125,000.

#### GENERAL PROVISIONS—DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Section 180 allows the Department of Transportation to use funds for aircraft, motor vehicles, liability insurance, uniforms, or allowances, as authorized by law.

Section 181 limits appropriations for services authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109 to the rate for an Executive Level IV.

Section 182 prohibits funds from being used for salaries and expenses of more than 110 political and Presidential appointees in DOT. The provision also requires that none of the personnel covered by this provision may be assigned on temporary detail outside DOT.

Section 183 prohibits recipients of funds made available in this Act from releasing certain personal information and photographs from a driver's license or motor vehicle record without express consent of the person to whom such information pertains, and prohibits the withholding of funds provided in this Act for any grantee if a state is in noncompliance with this provision.

Section 184 permits funds received by specified DOT agencies from states or other private or public sources for expenses incurred for training to be credited to certain specified agency accounts.

Section 185 prohibits funds for loans, loan guarantees, lines of credit, or grants unless the Secretary of Transportation notifies the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations no less than three days in advance, and directs the Secretary to give concurrent notification for any "quick release" of funds from the Federal Highway Administration's emergency release program.

Section 186 allows funds received from rebates, refunds, and similar sources to be credited to appropriations of the DOT.

Section 187 allows amounts from improper payments to a third party contractor that are lawfully recovered by the DOT to be available to cover expenses incurred in the recovery of such payments, and allows the Secretary to credit an account that is associated with such improper payments.

Section 188 mandates that reprogramming action notifications shall be transmitted solely to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations, and are to be approved or denied solely by the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations.

Section 189 caps the amount of fees the Surface Transportation Board can charge and collect for rate or practice complaints filed at the amount authorized for court civil suit filing fees.

Section 190 allows funds appropriated to modal administrations to be obligated for the Office of the Secretary for costs related to assessments only when such funds provide a direct benefit to that modal administration.

Section 191 authorizes DOT to set uniform standards for transit benefits for agency transit passes and transit benefits.

#### TITLE II—DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

##### MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

##### EXECUTIVE OFFICES

The agreement includes \$14,500,000 for the salaries and expenses for Executive Offices which shall be comprised of seven offices in-

cluding Offices of the Secretary, Deputy Secretary, Adjudicatory Services, Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations, Public Affairs, Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization, and the Center for Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships. The agreement includes a provision limiting official reception and representation expenses to no more than \$25,000.

The Department is not directed to find efficiencies adequate to reduce travel and contracting expenses within the account by at least ten percent. The Department is directed to submit a spending plan to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations within ninety days of the date of enactment which outlines how budgetary resources are to be distributed among the seven offices.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT OFFICES

The agreement provides \$518,100,000 for Administrative Support Offices. Funds are provided as follows:

Office of the Chief Financial Officer .....	\$47,000,000
Office of the General Counsel ...	94,000,000
Office of Administration .....	200,000,000
Office of the Chief Human Capital Officer .....	57,000,000
Office of Field Policy and Management .....	50,000,000
Office of the Chief Procurement Officer .....	16,500,000
Office of Departmental Equal Employment Opportunity .....	3,200,000
Office of Strategic Planning and Management .....	4,400,000
Office of the Chief Information Officer .....	46,000,000
Total .....	518,100,000

The increase for the Office of the Chief Information Officer includes amounts transferred from the information technology fund account for contractor support.

#### PROGRAM OFFICE SALARIES AND EXPENSES

##### PUBLIC AND INDIAN HOUSING

The agreement provides \$203,000,000 for the salaries and expenses for the Office of Public and Indian Housing. The amount provided supports critical new hires in key areas including additional staff in oversight and moving-to-work, one FTE dedicated to the Office of Native American Programs, and at least one FTE dedicated to work on the family self-sufficiency and the resident opportunity and self-sufficiency programs. In fiscal year 2014, HUD was directed to increase the budgetary resources dedicated to unit inspections by \$5,000,000 above fiscal year 2013, and the agreement includes \$5,000,000 to sustain the increased level of investment in fiscal year 2015. These investments include the establishment of a consistent inspection standard across housing assistance programs and oversight of Section 8 units.

##### COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

The agreement provides \$102,000,000 for the salaries and expenses for the Office of Community Planning and Development.

##### HOUSING

The agreement provides \$379,000,000 for the salaries and expenses for the Office of Housing, of which at least \$9,000,000 is for the Office of Risk and Regulatory Affairs.

*Office of Multi-Family Housing Reorganization.*—The Department is directed to report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations within 180 days of enactment of this Act on the progress of the reorganization of the Office of Multifamily Housing, including any issues identified in the initial waves of the plan and any adjustments HUD is making to its implementation based on lessons learned.

## POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND RESEARCH

The agreement provides \$22,700,000 for the salaries and expenses for the Office of Policy Development and Research.

## FAIR HOUSING AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

The agreement provides \$68,000,000 for the salaries and expenses for the Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity.

## OFFICE OF LEAD HAZARD CONTROL AND HEALTHY HOMES

The agreement provides \$6,700,000 for the salaries and expenses for the Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes.

## PUBLIC AND INDIAN HOUSING

## TENANT-BASED RENTAL ASSISTANCE

The agreement provides \$19,304,160,000 for all tenant-based section 8 activities under the Tenant-Based Rental Assistance Account. Language is included designating funds provided as follows:

Activity	Agreement
Voucher Renewals .....	\$17,486,000,000
Tenant Protection Vouchers .....	130,000,000
Administrative Fees .....	1,530,000,000
HUD-VASH Incremental Vouchers .....	75,000,000
Section 811 Vouchers .....	83,160,000

The amount in the agreement included for voucher renewals is based on revised estimates from the Department using more recent data. This estimate also includes amounts to cover leasing that is anticipated to occur before the end of the year.

The agreement includes language allowing the Secretary to take into account anticipated impact of changes in income targeting and utility allowances in determining funding allocations. The agreement includes a provision requiring the notification of obligations to public housing authorities (PHAs) 60 days after enactment or by March 1, 2015.

The agreement includes language that allows the Secretary to consider PHAs' net restricted assets balances when determining allocations.

The agreement provides \$120,000,000 for PHAs that need additional funds to administer their Section 8 programs related to specified circumstances, including PHAs that experienced significant end of year leasing in calendar year 2014.

The agreement includes provisions requiring HUD to set aside a portion of HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing Program (HUD-VASH) funds for a pilot designed to provide housing and supportive services to veterans who are homeless or at risk of homelessness living on tribal reservations or in Indian areas. Funds are to be provided to entities eligible to receive block grants under the Native American Housing Assistance and Self Determination Act (NAHASDA).

HOUSING CERTIFICATE FUND  
(INCLUDING RESCISSIONS)

The agreement includes language allowing unobligated balances in the housing certificate fund to be used for renewal of or amendments to section 8 project-based contracts and for performance-based contract administrators.

## PUBLIC HOUSING CAPITAL FUND

The agreement provides \$1,875,000,000 for the public housing capital fund. The agreement provides up to \$5,000,000 for public housing financial and physical assessment activities, not to exceed \$23,000,000 for emergency capital needs, \$45,000,000 for supportive services, service coordinators and congregate services, and up to \$15,000,000 for the jobs-plus pilot initiative.

The agreement includes language allowing PHAs to transfer additional amounts from their capital funds into their operating fund for activities related to safety and security.

The agreement prohibits HUD from requiring or enforcing the physical needs assessment (PNA) in fiscal year 2015. HUD is not, however, prohibited from continuing to work on a PNA tool that will help PHAs assess the physical quality of their public housing stock in a way that is not overly burdensome. HUD is expected to continue to evaluate the PNA tool and update its 2014 report to the Committees on Appropriations, as specified in the Senate report accompanying this Act, no later than March 2, 2015.

The agreement encourages housing authorities that participate in the rental assistance demonstration program to grant current workers whose employment positions are eliminated during conversion the right of first refusal for new employment openings for which they are qualified.

## PUBLIC HOUSING OPERATING FUND

The agreement provides \$4,440,000,000 for the public housing operating fund.

## CHOICE NEIGHBORHOODS INITIATIVE

The agreement provides \$80,000,000 for the choice neighborhoods initiative (Choice). The agreement includes language requiring that at least \$50,000,000 be made available to Public Housing Authorities, and provides up to \$5,000,000 to assist communities in developing strategies for implementing the program with community notice and input. HUD is expected to take into account regional diversity when awarding Choice planning and implementation grants.

## FAMILY SELF-SUFFICIENCY

The agreement provides \$75,000,000 for the family self-sufficiency (FSS) program to support service coordinators serving residents in both the public housing and voucher programs. The agreement also allows project-based owners to participate in the program, using their own funds. The agreement includes a new pilot program to test the effectiveness of pairing the FSS program with the family unification program (FUP) vouchers for homeless youth to increase their opportunities for self-sufficiency through housing stability, education and job training.

## NATIVE AMERICAN HOUSING BLOCK GRANTS

The agreement provides \$650,000,000 for Native American Housing Block Grants, to remain available until September 30, 2019. The agreement provides \$3,500,000 for training and technical assistance, with no less than \$2,000,000 for a national organization as designated under NAHASDA. The agreement provides \$2,000,000 for inspections, contracting expertise, training, and technical assistance by HUD or its designee, including up to \$300,000 for related travel; and \$2,000,000 to subsidize a loan level of \$16,530,000 under title VI of NAHASDA.

HUD is directed to collaborate with the Council on Environmental Quality and affected Federal agencies specified in the Senate Report 113-182 to develop a coordinated environmental review process to simplify tribal housing development and related infrastructure needs. The agencies are directed to consult with tribes and tribally designated housing entities and report their conclusions, recommendations and any statutory changes that may be necessary to facilitate this progress to the Committees on Appropriations by May 1, 2015.

HUD is expected to use technical assistance funding to regional and national tribal organizations to aid tribes with capacity

challenges, especially tribes receiving small grant awards. It is expected that any assistance provided will reflect the unique needs and cultures of Native Americans.

## NATIVE HAWAIIAN HOUSING BLOCK GRANT

The agreement provides \$9,000,000 for the Native Hawaiian Housing Block Grant, to remain available until September 30, 2019.

INDIAN HOUSING LOAN GUARANTEE FUND  
PROGRAM ACCOUNT

The agreement provides \$7,000,000, to remain available until expended, to subsidize a loan level of \$744,047,000.

NATIVE HAWAIIAN HOUSING LOAN GUARANTEE  
FUND PROGRAM ACCOUNT

The agreement provides \$100,000, to remain available until expended, to subsidize a loan level of \$16,130,000.

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT  
HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PERSONS WITH  
AIDS

The agreement provides \$330,000,000 for the housing opportunities for persons with AIDS program, to remain available until September 30, 2017. The agreement includes a provision that requires HUD to adequately fund supportive housing contract commitments made in fiscal year 2010 and prior years that meet all program requirements before awarding funds for any new contract commitments.

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUND

The agreement provides \$3,066,000,000 for the community development fund, to remain available until September 30, 2017. Of the total, the agreement provides \$3,000,000,000 in formula funding and \$66,000,000 for Indian tribes, of which \$6,000,000 shall be for grants for mold remediation and prevention.

The agreement includes a new provision prohibiting funds from being provided to a for-profit entity for an economic development project under section 105(a)(17) unless such project has been evaluated and selected in accordance with guidelines under subparagraph (e)(2) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT LOAN GUARANTEES  
PROGRAM ACCOUNT

The agreement does not provide a credit subsidy for this program, but instead provides the authority to collect fees from borrowers adequate to result in a subsidy cost of zero. The agreement also provides an aggregate limitation of no more than \$500,000,000 in section 108 loan guarantees.

The agreement does not rescind unobligated balances of funds previously appropriated under this heading.

## HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIPS PROGRAM

The agreement provides \$900,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018, for the home investment partnerships (HOME) program. The agreement does not set-aside \$10,000,000 of the amounts provided under this heading for the self-help and assisted homeownership opportunity program. Instead, this program continues to be funded under a separate heading.

SELF-HELP AND ASSISTED HOMEOWNERSHIP  
OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM

The agreement provides \$50,000,000 for this account, to remain available until September 30, 2017. Of the total, \$10,000,000 is provided for the self-help and assisted homeownership opportunity program; \$35,000,000 is provided for the second, third and fourth capacity building activities authorized under section 4(a) of the HUD Demonstration Act of 1993, of which not less than \$5,000,000 shall

be for rural capacity building activities; and \$5,000,000 is provided for capacity building activities by national organizations with expertise in rural housing development.

#### HOMELESS ASSISTANCE GRANTS

The agreement provides \$2,135,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2017, for homeless assistance grants. Of the amount provided, not less than \$250,000,000 is for the emergency solutions grants program; not less than \$1,862,000,000 is for the continuum of care and rural housing stability assistance programs; and up to \$7,000,000 is for the national homeless data analysis project.

HUD is required to submit the annual homeless assessment report by August 28, 2015.

#### HOUSING PROGRAMS

##### PROJECT-BASED RENTAL ASSISTANCE

The agreement provides \$9,330,000,000 for project-based rental assistance activities, of which not to exceed \$210,000,000 is for performance-based contract administrators. The agreement also provides an advance appropriation of \$400,000,000 to be made available on October 1, 2015. The agreement allows the Secretary to use project funds held in residual receipt accounts, unobligated balances, including recaptures, and carryover balances for program activities. The agreement does not make renewal of senior preservation rental assistance contracts as authorized by section 811(e) of the American Housing and Economic Opportunity Act of 2000 an eligible expense.

##### HOUSING FOR THE ELDERLY

The agreement provides a total of \$436,000,000 for the section 202 program to be available until September 30, 2018, of which up to \$70,000,000 shall be for service coordinators and existing congregate service grants. The agreement fully funds all renewal and amendments of project-based rental assistance contracts, senior preservation rental assistance contracts, service coordinators, and existing congregate service grants. The agreement does not provide funding for an elderly project rental assistance demonstration program.

##### HOUSING FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

The agreement provides \$135,000,000 for the section 811 program to be available until September 30, 2018. The agreement allows the Secretary to use project funds held in residual receipt accounts, or unobligated balances including recaptures and carryover balances, to supplement the recent demonstration competition for project rental assistance to State housing finance agencies.

##### HOUSING COUNSELING ASSISTANCE

The agreement provides \$47,000,000 for housing counseling assistance, including up to \$4,500,000 for administrative contract services. The agreement allows the Secretary to enter into multiyear grant agreements, subject to the availability of annual appropriations.

##### RENTAL HOUSING ASSISTANCE

The agreement provides \$18,000,000 for the rental housing assistance program and allows HUD to use funds, including unobligated balances and recaptured amounts, for one year contract extensions.

##### PAYMENT TO MANUFACTURED HOUSING FEES TRUST FUND

The agreement provides \$10,000,000 for authorized activities, of which \$10,000,000 is to be derived from the Manufactured Housing Fees Trust Fund.

#### FEDERAL HOUSING ADMINISTRATION MUTUAL MORTGAGE INSURANCE PROGRAM ACCOUNT

The agreement establishes a limitation of \$400,000,000,000 on commitments to guarantee single-family loans during fiscal year 2015, and provides that such commitment authority shall be available until September 30, 2016. For administrative contract expenses, the bill provides \$130,000,000, plus \$1,400 (up to \$30,000,000) for each \$1,000,000 in additional guaranteed loan commitments if guaranteed loan commitment levels exceed \$200,000,000,000 by April 1, 2015. The agreement prohibits implementation of the homeowners armed with knowledge pilot program.

#### GENERAL AND SPECIAL RISK PROGRAM ACCOUNT (INCLUDING RESCISSION)

The agreement establishes a \$30,000,000,000 limitation on multifamily and specialized loan guarantees during fiscal year 2015, and provides that such commitment authority shall be available until September 30, 2016. The agreement includes a rescission of \$10,000,000 previously provided to support programs with positive credit subsidies that are no longer issuing new commitments.

#### GOVERNMENT NATIONAL MORTGAGE ASSOCIATION

##### GUARANTEES OF MORTGAGE-BACKED SECURITIES

##### LOAN GUARANTEE PROGRAM ACCOUNT

The agreement establishes a limitation of up to \$500,000,000,000 for new commitments during fiscal year 2015, which shall be available until September 30, 2016. The agreement also provides \$23,000,000 for salaries and expenses for the Government National Mortgage Association during fiscal year 2015. The agreement increases salaries and expenses by \$100 for each \$1,000,000 in additional guaranteed loan commitments, up to \$3,000,000, if guaranteed loan commitments exceed \$155,000,000,000 by April 1, 2015.

#### POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND RESEARCH

##### RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY

The agreement provides \$72,000,000 for research and technology activities, including activities formerly funded under the transformation initiative.

The agreement provides \$12,300,000 for research support, dissemination, studies, data, and partnerships; demonstrations; and ongoing evaluations, plus new evaluations of the Native American VASH demonstration and the family self-sufficiency homeless youth demonstration. HUD is encouraged to work with the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Small Business Administration to identify ways to improve post-disaster recovery coordination and data sharing, and implement best practices moving forward.

The agreement provides a total of \$22,000,000 under this heading for technical assistance including OneCPD and OneHUD; assistance to, and finance and governance training for, public housing authorities; assistance for various programs under the Office of Housing; and coordinating new requirements under the Violence Against Women Act. Further, \$37,700,000 is provided for various housing market surveys.

#### FAIR HOUSING AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

##### FAIR HOUSING ACTIVITIES

The agreement provides \$65,300,000 for fair housing activities, of which \$40,100,000 is for the fair housing initiatives program (FHIP), \$23,300,000 is for the fair housing assistance program, \$1,600,000 is for the National Fair Housing Training Academy, and \$300,000 is

for translated materials. Of the funds available for FHIP, \$29,275,000 is available for private enforcement grants.

HUD is directed to work with the United States Access Board, interested disability advocates, and other stakeholders to consider mechanisms to increase the availability of accessible housing, including but not limited to voluntary accessibility standards, innovative model designs, and demonstration programs that will improve the ability of individuals with disabilities to have a fair opportunity to rent or own accessible housing in their communities. HUD, in consultation with the Access Board, shall report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations on recommended options or areas for further study within one year of enactment of this Act.

#### OFFICE OF LEAD HAZARD CONTROL AND

##### HEALTHY HOMES

##### LEAD HAZARD REDUCTION

The agreement provides \$110,000,000 for the lead hazard control and healthy homes programs. Of the total, \$15,000,000 is provided for the healthy homes program, and \$45,000,000 is to be made available on a competitive basis for areas with the highest lead abatement needs.

#### INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY FUND

The agreement provides \$250,000,000 for the information technology fund, which is available until September 30, 2016. The agreement does not include separate funding for development, modernization and enhancement (DM&E) activities and does not include statutory language for GAO to review the Department's spend plan for DM&E. HUD has effectively crafted expenditure plans and the Committees are putting greater focus on HUD's ability to implement those plans. Integrating and implementing information technology (IT) best practices are still weaknesses at the Department. In light of this, the agreement directs HUD to provide a report within 120 days of enactment of this Act that details the status of how the Department is implementing GAO's IT-related recommendations. Further, the agreement directs GAO to evaluate how the New CORE system project integrates into the Department's strategic plan and report on project milestones as well as how HUD is integrating IT best practices into this critical project for the next two years.

#### OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

The agreement provides \$126,000,000 for the necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General (OIG). Concurrent with the next budget submission, the OIG is directed to provide information on new acquisition plans and account for funding in all Schedule O activities, information technology investments, and other capacity enhancing investments.

#### TRANSFORMATION INITIATIVE

The agreement provides funds for program technical assistance, program demonstrations and evaluations, and other similar activities under the Policy Development and Research account. No funds or transfer authorities are provided under this heading for fiscal year 2015.

#### GENERAL PROVISIONS—DEPARTMENT OF

##### HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

##### (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

##### (INCLUDING RESCISSIONS)

Section 201 splits overpayments evenly between Treasury and State HFAs.

Section 202 prohibits the use of funds to investigate or prosecute legal activities under the Fair Housing Act.

Section 203 extends HOPWA formula modifications affecting certain jurisdictions in New York, New Jersey, and North Carolina.

Section 204 requires that funds be distributed on a competitive basis unless specified otherwise in statute.

Section 205 allows HUD to use funds to reimburse the Government National Mortgage Association (GNMA), Fannie Mae and other Federal entities for services and facilities.

Section 206 requires HUD to comport with the budget estimates except as otherwise provided in this Act or through an approved reprogramming.

Section 207 provides authorization for HUD corporations to utilize funds under certain conditions and restrictions.

Section 208 requires a report on available balances each quarter.

Section 209 requires that the Administration's budget and the Department's budget justifications for fiscal year 2016 be submitted in the identical account and sub-account structure provided in this Act.

Section 210 exempts PHA Boards in Alaska, Iowa, and Mississippi and the County of Los Angeles from the public housing resident representation requirement, and provides alternative requirements.

Section 211 exempts GNMA from certain requirements of the Federal Credit Reform Act of 1990.

Section 212 authorizes HUD to transfer debt and use agreements from an obsolete project to a viable project, provided certain conditions are met.

Section 213 sets forth the requirements for eligibility for section 8 voucher assistance.

Section 214 distributes Native American Housing Block Grant funds to the same Native Alaskan recipients as in Fiscal Year 2005.

Section 215 authorizes the Secretary to insure mortgages under section 255 of the National Housing Act.

Section 216 instructs HUD on managing and disposing of any multifamily property that is owned or held by HUD.

Section 217 allows amounts provided under the Section 108 loan guarantee program to be used to guarantee notes or other obligations issued by any State on behalf of non-entitled communities in the State.

Section 218 allows PHAs that own and operate 400 or fewer units of public housing to be exempt from asset management requirements.

Section 219 restricts the Secretary from imposing any requirement or guideline relating to asset management that restricts or limits the use of capital funds for central office costs, up to the limit established in the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998.

Section 220 directs that no HUD employee, including those working in the offices of the IG and GNMA, shall be designated as an allotment holder unless the Chief Financial Officer determines that they have received training.

Section 221 requires HUD to provide an annual report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations on the status of all section 8 project-based housing.

Section 222 requires that the Secretary publish all notice of funding availability on the internet for fiscal year 2015.

Section 223 requires that attorney fees for programmatic litigation must be paid from the personnel and benefits accounts of affected offices and the Office of General Counsel, and be restricted to payment of attorney fees only.

Section 224 sets reprogramming guidelines for Administrative Support Offices and Pro-

gram Office Salaries and Expenses, and transfers between the two.

Section 225 allows the Disaster Housing Assistance Programs to be considered a program of HUD for the purpose of income verifications and matching.

Section 226 requires HUD to take certain actions against owners receiving rental subsidies that do not maintain safe properties (do not meet minimum REAC standards).

Section 227 places a salary and bonus limit on public housing agency officials and employees.

Section 228 prohibits funds from being used for the doctoral dissertation research grant program at HUD.

Section 229 extends the HOPE VI program until September 30, 2015.

Section 230 requires the Secretary to provide the Committees on Appropriations advance notice of discretionary awards.

Section 231 allows the Secretary to transfer up to \$2,500,000 from salaries and expenses accounts to the "Information Technology Fund".

Section 232 extends section 579 of MAHRAA through October 1, 2017.

Section 233 prohibits funds from being used to require or enforce the physical needs assessment (PNA).

Section 234 modifies the rental assistance demonstration included in the fiscal year 2012 bill.

Section 235 prohibits funds from being used for the homeowners armed with knowledge (HAWK) program.

Section 236 prohibits funds for HUD financing of mortgages for properties that have been subject to eminent domain.

Section 237 rescinds balances from various HUD programs that are no longer funded.

Section 238 makes adjustments to flat-rents to accommodate local markets.

Section 239 prohibits funds from being used for the relocation of any asset management positions within the Office of Multifamily Housing currently in existence on the date of enactment of this Act.

Section 240 prohibits funds from being used to terminate the status of a unit of local government as a metropolitan city, as defined under section 102 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, with respect to grants under section 106 of such Act.

Section 241 requires lenders that provide loans under the Native American loan program to consider loan modifications and meet standards for servicing loans in default before the payment of a claim by HUD.

#### TITLE III—RELATED AGENCIES

##### ACCESS BOARD

##### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement provides \$7,548,000 for the salaries and expenses of the Access Board.

##### FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION

##### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement provides \$25,660,000 for the salaries and expenses of the Federal Maritime Commission, of which not more than \$2,000 may be available for official reception and representation expenses.

##### NATIONAL RAILROAD PASSENGER CORPORATION

##### OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

##### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement provides \$23,999,000 for the Office of the Inspector General for Amtrak.

##### NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

##### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement provides \$103,981,000 for the salaries and expenses of the National Trans-

portation Safety Board (NTSB). Some offices of the NTSB are currently experiencing vacancies in some of its investigative offices, and it is expected that the agency will use travel and investigative staff in other offices to ensure transportation incidents are fully covered.

##### NEIGHBORHOOD REINVESTMENT CORPORATION

##### PAYMENT TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD REINVESTMENT CORPORATION

The agreement provides \$185,000,000 for the Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation (NRC), of which \$135,000,000 is for the core program, including \$5,000,000 for the multifamily rental housing program. Of the total provided, \$50,000,000 is for the national foreclosure mitigation counseling (NPMC) program. The agreement provides \$4,000,000 to wind down and close out this program, which could be a multiyear effort. It also allows NRC to use up to 5 percent of NPMC funds on administrative expenses to carry out foreclosure mitigation activities.

##### UNITED STATES INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS

##### OPERATING EXPENSES

The agreement provides \$3,530,000 for operating expenses of the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) and includes a provision which amends Title II of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act to extend the sunset date of USICH to October 1, 2017.

USICH is encouraged to work with agencies to establish long-term working interagency relationships among permanent federal agencies, and to leverage the resources of those agencies to continue interagency coordination on "Opening Doors: the Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness".

#### TITLE IV—GENERAL PROVISIONS, THIS ACT

Section 401 prohibits pay and other expenses for non-Federal parties in regulatory or adjudicatory proceedings funded in this Act.

Section 402 prohibits obligations beyond the current fiscal year and prohibits transfers of funds unless expressly so provided herein.

Section 403 limits consulting service expenditures through a procurement contract to contracts where such expenditures are a matter of public record, with exceptions.

Section 404 prohibits employee training not specifically related to the performance of official duties.

Section 405 specifies reprogramming procedures and requires tables to include prior year enacted levels.

Section 406 allows up to fifty percent of unobligated balances appropriated for salaries and expenses to remain available for certain purposes, contingent upon approval by the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations.

Section 407 prohibits funds from being used for any project that seeks to use the power of eminent domain unless eminent domain is employed only for a public use.

Section 408 requires agencies and departments funded herein to report on all sole-source contracts by July 30, 2015.

Section 409 denies the transfer of funds made available in this Act, except pursuant to a transfer made by this Act or by authority granted in this Act.

Section 410 prohibits funds in this Act from being used to permanently replace an employee intent on returning to his or her past occupation after completion of military service.

Section 411 prohibits funds in this Act from being used unless the expenditure is in compliance with the Buy American Act.

Section 412 prohibits funds from being made available to any person or entity that has been found to have violated the Buy American Act.

Section 413 prohibits funds for first-class airline accommodations in contravention of section 301–10.122 and 301–10.123 of title 41, C.F.R.

Section 414 prohibits funds from being used in contravention of the 5th or 14th Amendments to the Constitution or title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

Section 415 prohibits funds from being used for the approval of a new foreign air carrier permit or exemption application if that approval would contravene United States law or Article 17 bis of the U.S.-E.U.-Iceland-Norway Air Transport Agreement and specifies that nothing in this section shall prohibit, restrict, or preclude the Secretary of DOT from granting a permit or exemption where such authorization is consistent with the

U.S.-E.U.-Iceland-Norway Air Transport Treaty and U.S. law.

Section 416 prohibits funds from being used to obligate or award funds for NHTSA's National Roadside Survey.

Section 417 prohibits funds for global positioning systems without providing full and appropriate consideration of privacy concerns under 5 U.S.C. Chapter 5, subchapter II.

Section 418 prohibits funds from being used by the Federal Transit Administration to implement, administer, or enforce section 18.36(c)(2) of title 49, U.S.C. for construction hiring purposes.

Section 419 prohibits funds from being used to lease or purchase new light duty vehicles for any executive fleet or an agency's fleet inventory, except in accordance with Presidential Memorandum-Federal Fleet Performance, dated May 24, 2011.

Section 420 states that Congress should not pass any legislation authorizing spending cuts that would increase poverty in the United States.

Section 421 requires agencies and departments funded by this Act to report to Congress, at the end of fiscal year 2015, a complete inventory of the number of vehicles owned, retired, and purchased in fiscal year 2015, as well as the total cost of the vehicle fleet, including maintenance, fuel, storage, purchasing, and leasing.

Section 422 limits the number of employees a single agency or department may send to an international conference to 50, unless the relevant Secretary reports to the Committees on Appropriations at least five days in advance that such attendance is important to the national interest.

Section 423 requires any reports sent to the Committees on Appropriations to be posted on the public Web site of that agency 45 days following its receipt by the Committees, unless such reports would compromise national security or contain proprietary information.

Section 424 requires any Federal agency or department funded in this Act to respond to GAO recommendations in a timely manner.

DIVISION K -- TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
<b>TITLE I - DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION</b>					
<b>Office of the Secretary</b>					
Salaries and expenses.....	107,000	109,916	105,000	-2,000	-4,916
Immediate Office of the Secretary.....	(2,652)	(2,696)	(2,696)	(+44)	---
Immediate Office of the Deputy Secretary.....	(1,000)	(1,011)	(1,011)	(+11)	---
Office of the General Counsel.....	(19,900)	(20,312)	(19,900)	---	(-412)
Office of the Under Secretary of Transportation for Policy.....	(10,271)	(10,417)	(9,800)	(-471)	(-617)
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Budget and Programs.....	(12,676)	(13,111)	(12,500)	(-176)	(-611)
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Governmental Affairs.....	(2,530)	(2,567)	(2,500)	(-30)	(-67)
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration.....	(26,378)	(27,420)	(25,365)	(-1,013)	(-2,055)
Office of Public Affairs.....	(2,020)	(2,061)	(2,000)	(-20)	(-61)
Office of the Executive Secretariat.....	(1,714)	(1,746)	(1,714)	---	(-32)
Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization.....	(1,386)	(1,414)	(1,414)	(+28)	---
Office of Intelligence, Security, and Emergency Response.....	(10,778)	(11,055)	(10,600)	(-178)	(-455)
Office of the Chief Information Officer.....	(15,695)	(16,106)	(15,600)	(-195)	(-606)



DIVISION K -- TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Research and Technology.....	14,765	14,625	13,000	-1,765	-1,625
National Infrastructure Investments.....	600,000	1,250,000	500,000	-100,000	-750,000
Infrastructure Permitting Center.....	---	8,000	---	---	-8,000
Financial Management Capital.....	7,000	5,000	5,000	-2,000	---
Cyber Security Initiatives.....	4,455	5,000	5,000	+545	---
Office of Civil Rights.....	9,551	9,600	9,600	+49	---
Transportation Planning, Research, and Development.....	7,000	8,000	6,000	-1,000	-2,000
Rescission of unobligated balances.....	-2,750	---	---	+2,750	---
Subtotal.....	4,250	8,000	6,000	+1,750	-2,000
Working Capital Fund.....	(178,000)	---	(181,500)	(+3,500)	(+181,500)
Minority Business Resource Center Program.....	925	1,013	925	---	-88
(Limitation on guaranteed loans).....	(18,367)	(18,367)	(18,367)	---	---
Minority Business Outreach.....	3,088	3,099	3,099	+11	---
Safe Transport of Oil.....	---	40,000	---	---	-40,000
Payments to Air Carriers (Airport & Airway Trust Fund)	149,000	155,000	155,000	+6,000	---
Total, Office of the Secretary.....	900,034	1,609,263	802,624	-97,410	-806,629

DIVISION K -- TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
<b>Federal Aviation Administration</b>					
Operations.....	9,651,422	9,750,000	9,740,700	+89,278	-9,300
Air traffic organization.....	(7,311,790)	(7,396,654)	(7,396,654)	(-84,864)	---
Aviation safety.....	(1,204,777)	(1,215,458)	(1,218,458)	(-13,681)	(+3,000)
Commercial space transportation.....	(16,011)	(16,605)	(16,605)	(-594)	---
Finance and management.....	(762,462)	(765,047)	(766,047)	(-6,415)	(-9,000)
Staff offices.....	(296,600)	(296,147)	(292,847)	(-3,753)	(-3,300)
NextGen.....	(59,782)	(60,089)	(60,089)	(+307)	---
Facilities and Equipment (Airport & Airway Trust Fund)	2,600,000	2,603,700	2,600,000	---	-3,700
Research, Engineering, and Development (Airport & Airway Trust Fund).....	158,792	156,750	156,750	-2,042	---
Rescission of unobligated balances.....	-26,184	---	---	+26,184	---
Grants-in-Aid for Airports (Airport and Airway Trust Fund)(Liquidation of contract authorization).....	(3,200,000)	(3,200,000)	(3,200,000)	---	---
(Limitation on obligations).....	(3,350,000)	(2,900,000)	(3,350,000)	---	(+450,000)
Administration.....	(106,600)	(107,100)	(107,100)	(+500)	---
Airport cooperative research program.....	(15,000)	(15,000)	(15,000)	---	---
Airport technology research.....	(29,500)	(29,750)	(29,750)	(+250)	---
Small community air service development program.....	(5,000)	---	(5,500)	(+500)	(+5,500)
Rescission of contract authority.....	---	-256,000	-260,000	-260,000	-4,000

DIVISION K -- TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Pop-up contract authority.....	---	126,000	130,000	+130,000	+4,000
Total, Federal Aviation Administration.....	12,384,030	12,380,450	12,367,450	-16,580	-13,000
Limitations on obligations.....	(3,350,000)	(2,900,000)	(3,350,000)	---	(+450,000)
Total budgetary resources.....	(15,734,030)	(15,280,450)	(15,717,450)	(-16,580)	(+437,000)
Federal Highway Administration					
Limitation on Administrative Expenses.....	(416,100)	(439,000)	(426,100)	(+10,000)	(-12,900)
Federal-Aid Highways (Highway Trust Fund):					
(Liquidation of contract authorization).....	(40,995,000)	(48,062,248)	(40,995,000)	---	(-7,067,248)
(Limitation on obligations).....	(40,256,000)	(47,323,248)	(40,256,000)	---	(-7,067,248)
Fixing and Accelerating Surface Transportation					
(Liquidation of contract authorization).....	---	(500,000)	---	---	(-500,000)
(Limitation on obligations).....	---	(500,000)	---	---	(-500,000)
(Exempt contract authority).....	(739,000)	(739,000)	(739,000)	---	---
Total, Federal Highway Administration.....	---	---	---	---	---
Limitations on obligations.....	(40,256,000)	(47,823,248)	(40,256,000)	---	(-7,567,248)
Exempt contract authority.....	(739,000)	(739,000)	(739,000)	---	---
Total budgetary resources.....	(40,995,000)	(48,562,248)	(40,995,000)	---	(-7,567,248)

DIVISION K -- TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015 (Amounts in thousands)					
	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
<b>Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration</b>					
Motor Carrier Safety Operations and Programs (Highway Trust Fund)(Liquidation of contract authorization)...	(259,000)	(315,770)	(271,000)	(+12,000)	(-44,770)
(Limitation on obligations).....	(259,000)	(315,770)	(271,000)	(+12,000)	(-44,770)
National Motor Carrier Safety Program (Highway Trust Fund) (Liquidation of contract authorization).....	(13,000)	---	---	(-13,000)	---
(Limitation on obligations).....	(13,000)	---	---	(-13,000)	---
Motor Carrier Safety Grants (Highway Trust Fund) (Liquidation of contract authorization).....	(313,000)	(352,753)	(313,000)	---	(-39,753)
(Limitation on obligations).....	(313,000)	(352,753)	(313,000)	---	(-39,753)
Total, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration.....	---	---	---	---	---
Limitations on obligations.....	(585,000)	(668,523)	(584,000)	(-1,000)	(-84,523)
Total budgetary resources.....	(585,000)	(668,523)	(584,000)	(-1,000)	(-84,523)
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration					
Operations and Research (general fund).....	134,000	152,000	130,000	-4,000	-22,000

DIVISION K -- TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Operations and Research (Highway Trust Fund)					
(Liquidation of contract authorization).....	(123,500)	(122,000)	(138,500)	(+15,000)	(+16,500)
(Limitation on obligations).....	(123,500)	(122,000)	(138,500)	(+15,000)	(+16,500)
Subtotal, Operations and Research.....	257,500	274,000	268,500	+11,000	-5,500
Highway Traffic Safety Grants (Highway Trust Fund)					
(Liquidation of contract authorization).....	(561,500)	(577,000)	(561,500)	---	(-15,500)
(Limitation on obligations).....	(561,500)	(577,000)	(561,500)	---	(-15,500)
Highway safety programs (23 USC 402).....	(235,000)	(241,146)	(235,000)	---	(-6,146)
National priority safety programs (23 USC 405).....	(272,000)	(278,705)	(272,000)	---	(-6,705)
High visibility enforcement.....	(29,000)	(29,000)	(29,000)	---	---
Administrative expenses.....	(25,500)	(28,149)	(25,500)	---	(-2,649)
Total, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.....	134,000	152,000	130,000	-4,000	-22,000
Limitations on obligations.....	(685,000)	(699,000)	(700,000)	(+15,000)	(+1,000)
Total budgetary resources.....	(819,000)	(851,000)	(830,000)	(+11,000)	(-21,000)
Federal Railroad Administration					
Safety and Operations.....	184,500	185,250	186,870	+2,370	+1,620

DIVISION K -- TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015 (Amounts in thousands)					
	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Railroad Research and Development.....	35,250	35,100	39,100	+3,850	+4,000
Rail Service Improvement Program.....	---	2,325,000	---	---	-2,325,000
Northeast Corridor Improvement Program (rescission)...	-4,419	---	---	+4,419	---
Next Generation High-Speed Rail (rescission).....	-1,973	---	---	+1,973	---
National Railroad Passenger Corporation:					
Operating Grants to the National Railroad					
Passenger Corporation.....	340,000	---	250,000	-90,000	+250,000
Capital and Debt Service Grants to the National					
Railroad Passenger Corporation.....	1,050,000	---	1,140,000	+90,000	+1,140,000
Current Rail Passenger Service.....	---	2,450,000	---	---	-2,450,000
Subtotal.....	1,390,000	2,450,000	1,390,000	---	-1,060,000
Administrative Provisions					
Rail Safety Grants (Sec. 153).....	---	---	10,000	+10,000	+10,000
Total, Federal Railroad Administration.....	1,603,358	4,995,350	1,625,970	+22,612	-3,369,380
Federal Transit Administration					
Administrative Expenses.....	105,933	114,400	105,933	---	-8,467
Public Transportation Emergency Relief Program.....	---	25,000	---	---	-25,000
Transit Formula Grants (Hwy Trust Fund, Mass Transit					
Account (Liquidation of contract authorization).....	(9,500,000)	(13,800,000)	(9,500,000)	---	(-4,300,000)
(Limitation on obligations).....	(8,595,000)	(13,800,000)	(8,595,000)	---	(-5,205,000)

DIVISION K -- TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Fixing and Acceleration Surface Transportation (Liquidation of contract authorization).....	---	(500,000)	---	---	(-500,000)
(Limitation on obligations).....	---	(500,000)	---	---	(-500,000)
Transit Research.....	43,000	---	33,000	-10,000	+33,000
Technical Assistance and Training.....	5,000	---	4,500	-500	+4,500
Transit Research and Training.....	---	60,000	---	---	-60,000
Rapid-Growth Area Bus Rapid Transit Corridor Program (Liquidation of contract authorization).....	---	(500,000)	---	---	(-500,000)
(Limitation on obligations).....	---	(500,000)	---	---	(-500,000)
Capital Investment Grants.....	1,942,938	2,500,000	2,120,000	+177,062	-380,000
Rescission.....	---	---	-121,546	-121,546	-121,546
Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority Capital and Preventive Maintenance.....	150,000	150,000	150,000	---	---
Administrative Provisions					
Rescission (Sec. 168).....	-96,228	---	---	+96,228	---
Total, Federal Transit Administration.....	2,150,643	2,849,400	2,291,887	+141,244	-557,513
Limitations on obligations.....	(8,595,000)	(14,800,000)	(8,595,000)	---	(-6,205,000)
Total budgetary resources.....	(10,745,643)	(17,649,400)	(10,886,887)	(+141,244)	(-6,762,513)

DIVISION K -- TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
<b>Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation</b>					
Operations and Maintenance (Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund).....	31,000	31,500	32,042	+1,042	+542
<b>Maritime Administration</b>					
Maritime Security Program.....	186,000	211,000	186,000	---	-25,000
Operations and Training.....	148,003	148,400	148,050	+47	-350
Ready Reserve Force (by transfer).....	---	(291,000)	---	---	(-291,000)
Ship Disposal.....	4,800	4,800	4,000	-800	-800
Maritime Guaranteed Loan (Title XI) Program Account:					
Administrative expenses.....	3,500	3,100	3,100	-400	---
Guaranteed loans subsidy.....	35,000	---	---	-35,000	---
Subtotal.....	38,500	3,100	3,100	-35,400	---
Total, Maritime Administration.....	377,303	367,300	341,150	-36,153	-26,150
<b>Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration</b>					
<b>Operational Expenses:</b>					
General Fund.....	21,015	22,225	22,225	+1,210	---
Pipeline Safety Fund.....	639	---	---	-639	---
Pipeline Safety information grants.....	(1,500)	(1,500)	(1,500)	---	---
Subtotal.....	21,654	22,225	22,225	+571	---



DIVISION K -- TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
<b>Hazardous Materials Safety:</b>					
General Fund.....	45,000	52,000	52,000	+7,000	---
Special Permit and Approval Fees.....	---	-6,000	---	---	+6,000
<b>Pipeline Safety:</b>					
Pipeline Safety Fund.....	98,514	136,500	124,500	+25,986	-12,000
Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund.....	18,573	19,500	19,500	+927	---
Pipeline Safety Design Review Fund.....	2,000	2,000	2,000	---	---
Subtotal.....	119,087	158,000	146,000	+26,913	-12,000
<b>Subtotal, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration.....</b>					
	185,741	226,225	220,225	+34,484	-6,000
Pipeline safety user fees.....	-99,153	-136,500	-124,500	-25,347	+12,000
Pipeline Safety Design Review fee.....	-2,000	-2,000	-2,000	---	---
<b>Emergency Preparedness Grants:</b>					
Limitation on emergency preparedness fund.....	(28,318)	(28,318)	(28,318)	---	---
(Emergency preparedness fund).....	(188)	(188)	(188)	---	---
Total, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration.....	84,588	87,725	93,725	+9,137	+6,000

DIVISION K -- TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
<b>Office of Inspector General</b>					
Salaries and Expenses.....	85,605	86,223	86,223	+618	---
<b>Surface Transportation Board</b>					
Salaries and Expenses.....	31,000	31,500	31,375	+375	-125
Offsetting collections.....	-1,250	-1,250	-1,250	---	---
Total, Surface Transportation Board.....	29,750	30,250	30,125	+375	-125
=====					
Total, title I, Department of Transportation....	17,780,311	22,589,451	17,801,196	+20,885	-4,788,255
Appropriations.....	(17,913,115)	(22,852,701)	(18,183,992)	(+270,877)	(-4,668,709)
Rescissions.....	(-131,554)	---	(-121,546)	(+10,008)	(-121,546)
Rescissions of contract authority.....	---	(-256,000)	(-260,000)	(-260,000)	(-4,000)
Offsetting collections.....	(-1,250)	(-7,250)	(-1,250)	---	(+6,000)
Limitations on obligations.....	(53,471,000)	(66,890,771)	(53,485,000)	(+14,000)	(-13,405,771)
(By transfer).....	---	(291,000)	---	---	(-291,000)
Total budgetary resources.....	(71,251,311)	(89,480,222)	(71,286,196)	(+34,885)	(-18,194,026)
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DIVISION K -- TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
<b>TITLE II - DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT</b>					
<b>Management and Administration</b>					
Executive Offices.....	14,500	15,234	14,500	---	-734
Administration Support Offices.....	506,000	530,783	518,100	+12,100	-12,683
<b>Program Office Salaries and Expenses:</b>					
Public and Indian Housing.....	205,000	213,664	203,000	-2,000	-10,664
Community Planning and Development.....	102,000	110,535	102,000	---	-8,535
Housing.....	381,500	386,677	379,000	-2,500	-7,677
Policy Development and Research.....	22,000	23,248	22,700	+700	-548
Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity.....	69,000	77,629	68,000	-1,000	-9,629
Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes...	7,000	7,879	6,700	-300	-1,179
<b>Subtotal.....</b>	<b>786,500</b>	<b>819,632</b>	<b>781,400</b>	<b>-5,100</b>	<b>-38,232</b>
<b>Total, Management and Administration.....</b>	<b>1,307,000</b>	<b>1,365,649</b>	<b>1,314,000</b>	<b>+7,000</b>	<b>-51,649</b>
<b>Public and Indian Housing</b>					
<b>Tenant-based Rental Assistance:</b>					
Renewals.....	17,365,527	18,006,550	17,486,000	+120,473	-520,550
Tenant protection vouchers.....	130,000	150,000	130,000	---	-20,000
Administrative fees.....	1,500,000	1,705,000	1,530,000	+30,000	-175,000

DIVISION K -- TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Veterans affairs supportive housing.....	75,000	75,000	75,000	---	---
Sec. 811 mainstream voucher renewals.....	106,691	108,450	83,160	-23,531	-25,290
Transformation initiative (transfer out).....	---	(-15,000)	---	---	(+15,000)
Subtotal (available this fiscal year).....	19,177,218	20,045,000	19,304,160	+126,942	-740,840
Advance appropriations.....	4,000,000	4,000,000	4,000,000	---	---
Less appropriations from prior year advances.....	-4,000,000	-4,000,000	-4,000,000	---	---
Total, Tenant-based Rental Assistance appropriated in this bill.....	19,177,218	20,045,000	19,304,160	+126,942	-740,840
Rental Assistance Demonstration.....	---	10,000	---	---	-10,000
Transformation initiative (transfer out).....	---	(-50)	---	---	(+50)
Public Housing Capital Fund.....	1,875,000	1,925,000	1,875,000	---	-50,000
Transformation initiative (transfer out).....	---	(-9,625)	---	---	(+9,625)
Drug elimination (rescission).....	---	---	-1,101	-1,101	-1,101
Public Housing Operating Fund.....	4,400,000	4,600,000	4,440,000	+40,000	-160,000
Transformation initiative (transfer out).....	---	(-10,070)	---	---	(+10,070)
Choice neighborhoods.....	90,000	120,000	80,000	-10,000	-40,000
Transformation initiative (transfer out).....	---	(-600)	---	---	(+600)
Family Self-Sufficiency.....	75,000	75,000	75,000	---	---
Transformation initiative (transfer out).....	---	(-375)	---	---	(+375)
Native American Housing Block Grants.....	650,000	650,000	650,000	---	---
Transformation initiative (transfer out).....	---	(-3,250)	---	---	(+3,250)
Native Hawaiian Housing Block Grant.....	10,000	13,000	9,000	-1,000	-4,000
Transformation initiative (transfer out).....	---	(-65)	---	---	(+65)

DIVISION K -- TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Indian Housing Loan Guarantee Fund Program Account.....	6,000	8,000	7,000	+1,000	-1,000
(Limitation on guaranteed loans).....	(1,818,000)	(1,200,000)	(744,047)	(-1,073,953)	(-455,953)
Native Hawaiian Loan Guarantee Fund Program Account....	100	---	100	---	+100
(Limitation on guaranteed loans).....	(18,868)	---	(16,130)	(-2,738)	(+16,130)
Total, Public and Indian Housing.....	26,283,318	27,446,000	26,439,159	+155,841	-1,006,841
Community Planning and Development					
Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS.....	330,000	332,000	330,000	---	-2,000
Transformation initiative (transfer out).....	---	(-1,660)	---	---	(+1,660)
Community Development Fund:					
CDBG formula.....	3,030,000	2,800,000	3,000,000	-30,000	+200,000
Indian CDBG.....	70,000	70,000	66,000	-4,000	-4,000
Subtotal.....	3,100,000	2,870,000	3,066,000	-34,000	+196,000
Transformation initiative (transfer out).....	---	(-14,350)	---	---	(+14,350)
Youth Build (rescission).....	---	---	-460	-460	-460
Community Development Loan Guarantees (Section 108):					
(Limitation on guaranteed loans).....	(150,000)	(500,000)	(500,000)	(+350,000)	---
Credit subsidy.....	3,000	---	---	-3,000	---

DIVISION K -- TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
HOME Investment Partnerships Program.....	1,000,000	950,000	900,000	-100,000	-50,000
Transformation initiative (transfer out).....	---	(-4,750)	---	---	(+4,750)
Self-help and Assisted Homeownership Opportunity Program.....	50,000	---	50,000	---	+50,000
Capacity Building.....	---	20,000	---	---	-20,000
Transformation initiative (transfer out).....	---	(-100)	---	---	(+100)
Homeless Assistance Grants.....	2,105,000	2,406,400	2,135,000	+30,000	-271,400
Brownfields (rescission).....	---	---	-2,913	-2,913	-2,913
Total, Community Planning and Development.....	6,588,000	6,578,400	6,477,627	-110,373	-100,773
Housing Programs					
Project-based Rental Assistance:					
Renewals.....	9,651,628	9,536,000	9,520,000	-131,628	-16,000
Contract administrators.....	265,000	210,000	210,000	-55,000	---
Subtotal (available this fiscal year).....	9,916,628	9,746,000	9,730,000	-186,628	-16,000
Transformation initiative (transfer out).....	---	(-15,000)	---	---	(+15,000)
Advance appropriations.....	400,000	400,000	400,000	---	---
Less appropriations from prior year advances.....	-400,000	-400,000	-400,000	---	---
Total, Project-based Rental Assistance appropriated in this bill.....	9,916,628	9,746,000	9,730,000	-186,628	-16,000

DIVISION K -- TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
Housing for the Elderly.....	383,500	440,000	420,000	+36,500	-20,000
Transformation initiative (transfer out).....	---	(-2,200)	---	---	(+2,200)
Housing for Persons with Disabilities.....	126,000	160,000	135,000	+9,000	-25,000
Transformation initiative (transfer out).....	---	(-800)	---	---	(+800)
Housing Counseling Assistance.....	45,000	60,000	47,000	+2,000	-13,000
Transformation initiative (transfer out).....	---	(-300)	---	---	(+300)
Rental Housing Assistance.....	21,000	28,000	18,000	-3,000	-10,000
Rent Supplement (rescission).....	-3,500	---	---	+3,500	---
Manufactured Housing Fees Trust Fund.....	7,530	10,000	10,000	+2,470	---
Offsetting collections.....	-6,530	-10,000	-10,000	-3,470	---
Total, Housing Programs.....	10,489,628	10,434,000	10,350,000	-139,628	-84,000
Federal Housing Administration					
Mutual Mortgage Insurance Program Account:					
(Limitation on guaranteed loans).....	(400,000,000)	(400,000,000)	(400,000,000)	---	---
(Limitation on direct loans).....	(20,000)	(20,000)	(20,000)	---	---
Offsetting receipts.....	-10,841,000	-7,951,000	-7,951,000	+2,890,000	---
Proposed offsetting receipts (HECM).....	-57,000	-36,000	-36,000	+21,000	---
Additional offsetting receipts (Sec. 244).....	---	-32,000	---	---	+32,000
Administrative contract expenses.....	127,000	170,000	130,000	+3,000	-40,000
Homeowners Armed with Knowledge Pilot.....	---	10,000	---	---	-10,000
Transformation initiative (transfer out).....	---	(-850)	---	---	(+850)

DIVISION K -- TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
<b>General and Special Risk Program Account:</b>					
(Limitation on guaranteed loans).....	(30,000,000)	(30,000,000)	(30,000,000)	---	---
(Limitation on direct loans).....	(20,000)	(20,000)	(20,000)	---	---
Offsetting receipts.....	-926,000	-876,000	-876,000	+50,000	---
Rescission.....	---	---	-10,000	-10,000	-10,000
<b>Total, Federal Housing Administration.....</b>	<b>-11,697,000</b>	<b>-8,715,000</b>	<b>-8,743,000</b>	<b>+2,954,000</b>	<b>-28,000</b>
<b>Government National Mortgage Association</b>					
<b>Guarantees of Mortgage-backed Securities Loan</b>					
<b>Guarantee Program Account:</b>					
(Limitation on guaranteed loans).....	(500,000,000)	(500,000,000)	(500,000,000)	---	---
Administrative expenses.....	19,500	28,000	23,000	+3,500	-5,000
Offsetting receipts.....	-100,000	-94,000	-94,000	+6,000	---
Offsetting receipts.....	-707,000	-742,000	-742,000	-35,000	---
Proposed offsetting receipts (HECM) (Sec. 210)....	-12,000	-28,000	-28,000	-16,000	---
Additional contract expenses.....	1,000	1,000	1,000	---	---
<b>Total, Gov't National Mortgage Association....</b>	<b>-798,500</b>	<b>-835,000</b>	<b>-840,000</b>	<b>-41,500</b>	<b>-5,000</b>
<b>Policy Development and Research</b>					
<b>Research and Technology.....</b>	<b>46,000</b>	<b>50,000</b>	<b>72,000</b>	<b>+26,000</b>	<b>+22,000</b>



DIVISION K -- TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2014	Final Bill vs Request
<b>Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity</b>					
Fair Housing Activities.....	66,000	71,000	65,300	-700	-5,700
Transformation initiative (transfer out).....	---	(-355)	---	---	(+355)
<b>Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes</b>					
Lead Hazard Reduction.....	110,000	120,000	110,000	---	-10,000
Transformation initiative (transfer out).....	---	(-600)	---	---	(+600)
<b>Information Technology Fund</b>					
Office of Inspector General.....	250,000	272,000	250,000	---	-22,000
Transformation Initiative.....	125,000	129,000	126,000	+1,000	-3,000
(by transfer).....	40,000	---	---	-40,000	---
	---	(80,000)	---	---	(-80,000)
<b>Total, title II, Department of Housing and Urban Development.....</b>					
Appropriations.....	32,809,446	36,916,049	35,621,086	+2,811,640	-1,294,963
Rescissions.....	(41,062,476)	(42,285,049)	(40,972,560)	(-88,916)	(-1,312,489)
Advance appropriations.....	(-3,500)	---	(-14,474)	(-10,974)	(-14,474)
Offsetting receipts.....	(4,400,000)	(4,400,000)	(4,400,000)	---	---
Offsetting collections.....	(-12,643,000)	(-9,759,000)	(-9,727,000)	(+2,916,000)	(+32,000)
	(-6,530)	(-10,000)	(-10,000)	(-3,470)	---
(by transfer).....	---	80,000	---	---	-80,000
(transfer out).....	---	-80,000	---	---	+80,000
(Limitation on direct loans).....	(40,000)	(40,000)	(40,000)	---	---
(Limitation on guaranteed loans).....	(931,986,868)	(931,700,000)	(931,260,177)	(-726,691)	(-439,823)

DIVISION K -- TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
(Amounts in thousands)

TITLE III -- OTHER INDEPENDENT AGENCIES

Access Board.....	7,448	7,548	+100	---
Federal Housing Finance Agency, Office of Inspector General (legislative proposal).....	---	---	---	-48,000
Offsetting collections (legislative proposal).....	---	---	---	+48,000
Federal Maritime Commission.....	24,669	25,660	+991	---
National Railroad Passenger Corporation Office of Inspector General.....	23,499	24,499	+500	-500
National Transportation Safety Board.....	103,027	103,981	+954	+981
Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation.....	204,100	182,000	-19,100	+3,000
United States Interagency Council on Homelessness.....	3,500	3,530	+30	---
	=====	=====	=====	=====
Total, title III, Other Independent Agencies.....	366,243	346,237	-16,525	+3,481
	=====	=====	=====	=====
Grand total.....	50,956,000	59,851,737	+2,816,000	-6,079,737
Appropriations.....	(59,341,834)	(65,531,987)	(+164,436)	(-6,025,717)
Rescissions.....	(-135,054)	---	(-966)	(-136,020)
Rescissions of contract authority.....	---	(-256,000)	(-260,000)	(-4,000)
Advance appropriations.....	(4,400,000)	(4,400,000)	---	---
Offsetting receipts.....	(-12,643,000)	(-9,759,000)	(+2,916,000)	(+32,000)
Offsetting collections.....	(-7,780)	(-65,250)	(-3,470)	(+54,000)
(by transfer).....	---	371,000	---	-371,000
(transfer out).....	---	-80,000	---	+80,000
(Limitation on obligations).....	(53,471,000)	(66,890,771)	(+14,000)	(-13,405,771)

# INSULAR AREAS AND FREELY ASSOCIATED STATES ENERGY DEVELOPMENT

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 776, I call up the bill (H.R. 83) to require the Secretary of the Interior to assemble a team of technical, policy, and financial experts to address the energy needs of the insular areas of the United States and the Freely Associated States through the development of energy action plans aimed at promoting access to affordable, reliable energy, including increasing use of indigenous clean-energy resources, and for other purposes, with the Senate amendment thereto, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HASTINGS of Washington). The Clerk will designate the Senate amendment.

Senate amendment:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

## SECTION 1. STUDY OF ELECTRIC RATES IN THE INSULAR AREAS.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) COMPREHENSIVE ENERGY PLAN.—The term “comprehensive energy plan” means a comprehensive energy plan prepared and updated under subsections (c) and (e) of section 604 of the Act entitled “An Act to authorize appropriations for certain insular areas of the United States, and for other purposes”, approved December 24, 1980 (48 U.S.C. 1492).

(2) ENERGY ACTION PLAN.—The term “energy action plan” means the plan required by subsection (d).

(3) FREELY ASSOCIATED STATES.—The term “Freely Associated States” means the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau.

(4) INSULAR AREAS.—The term “insular areas” means American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Virgin Islands.

(5) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior.

(6) TEAM.—The term “team” means the team established by the Secretary under subsection (b).

(b) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall, within the Empowering Insular Communities activity, establish a team of technical, policy, and financial experts—

(1) to develop an energy action plan addressing the energy needs of each of the insular areas and Freely Associated States; and

(2) to assist each of the insular areas and Freely Associated States in implementing such plan.

(c) PARTICIPATION OF REGIONAL UTILITY ORGANIZATIONS.—In establishing the team, the Secretary shall consider including regional utility organizations.

(d) ENERGY ACTION PLAN.—In accordance with subsection (b), the energy action plan shall include—

(1) recommendations, based on the comprehensive energy plan where applicable, to—

(A) reduce reliance and expenditures on fuel shipped to the insular areas and Freely Associated States from ports outside the United States;

(B) develop and utilize domestic fuel energy sources; and

(C) improve performance of energy infrastructure and overall energy efficiency;

(2) a schedule for implementation of such recommendations and identification and prioritization of specific projects;

(3) a financial and engineering plan for implementing and sustaining projects; and

(4) benchmarks for measuring progress toward implementation.

(e) REPORTS TO SECRETARY.—Not later than 1 year after the date on which the Secretary establishes the team and annually thereafter, the team shall submit to the Secretary a report detailing progress made in fulfilling its charge and in implementing the energy action plan.

(f) ANNUAL REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 30 days after the date on which the Secretary receives a report submitted by the team under subsection (e), the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a summary of the report of the team.

(g) APPROVAL OF SECRETARY REQUIRED.—The energy action plan shall not be implemented until the Secretary approves the energy action plan.

## SEC. 2. AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSOLIDATED NATURAL RESOURCES ACT.

Section 6 of Public Law 94–241 (90 Stat. 263; 122 Stat. 854) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(2), by striking “December 31, 2014, except as provided in subsections (b) and (d)” and inserting “December 31, 2019”; and

(2) in subsection (d)—

(A) in the third sentence of paragraph (2), by striking “not to extend beyond December 31, 2014, unless extended pursuant to paragraph 5 of this subsection” and inserting “ending on December 31, 2019”;;

(B) by striking paragraph (5); and

(C) by redesignating paragraph (6) as paragraph (5).

MOTION OFFERED BY MR. ROGERS OF KENTUCKY

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I have a motion at the desk. The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will designate the motion.

The text of the motion is as follows:

Mr. Rogers of Kentucky moves that the House concur in the Senate amendment to H.R. 83 with an amendment.

The text of the House amendment to the Senate amendment to the text is as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted by the Senate, insert the following:

## SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2015”.

## SEC. 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS.

The table of contents of this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title.

Sec. 2. Table of contents.

Sec. 3. References.

Sec. 4. Explanatory statement.

Sec. 5. Statement of appropriations.

Sec. 6. Availability of funds.

Sec. 7. Technical allowance for estimating differences.

Sec. 8. Adjustments to compensation.

Sec. 9. Study of electric rates in the insular areas.

Sec. 10. Amendments to the Consolidated Natural Resources Act.

Sec. 11. Payments in lieu of taxes.

## DIVISION A—AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015

Title I—Agricultural Programs

Title II—Conservation Programs

Title III—Rural Development Programs

Title IV—Domestic Food Programs

Title V—Foreign Assistance and Related Programs

Title VI—Related Agency and Food and Drug Administration

Title VII—General Provisions

Title VIII—Ebola Response and Preparedness  
DIVISION B—COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015

Title I—Department of Commerce

Title II—Department of Justice

Title III—Science

Title IV—Related Agencies

Title V—General Provisions

Title VI—Travel Promotion, Enhancement, and Modernization Act of 2014

Title VII—Revitalize American Manufacturing and Innovation Act of 2014

## DIVISION C—DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015

Title I—Military Personnel

Title II—Operation and Maintenance

Title III—Procurement

Title IV—Research, Development, Test and Evaluation

Title V—Revolving and Management Funds

Title VI—Other Department of Defense Programs

Title VII—Related Agencies

Title VIII—General Provisions

Title IX—Overseas Contingency Operations

Title X—Ebola Response and Preparedness

## DIVISION D—ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015

Title I—Corps of Engineers—Civil

Title II—Department of the Interior

Title III—Department of Energy

Title IV—Independent Agencies

Title V—General Provisions

## DIVISION E—FINANCIAL SERVICES AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015

Title I—Department of the Treasury

Title II—Executive Office of the President and Funds Appropriated to the President

Title III—The Judiciary

Title IV—District of Columbia

Title V—Independent Agencies

Title VI—General Provisions—This Act

Title VII—General Provisions—Government-wide

Title VIII—General Provisions—District of Columbia

## DIVISION F—DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015

Title I—Department of the Interior

Title II—Environmental Protection Agency

Title III—Related Agencies

Title IV—General Provisions

## DIVISION G—DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015

Title I—Department of Labor

Title II—Department of Health and Human Services

Title III—Department of Education

Title IV—Related Agencies

Title V—General Provisions

Title VI—Ebola Response and Preparedness

## DIVISION H—LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015

Title I—Legislative Branch

Title II—General Provisions

## DIVISION I—MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015

Title I—Department of Defense

Title II—Department of Veterans Affairs  
 Title III—Related Agencies  
 Title IV—Overseas Contingency Operations  
 Title V—General Provisions  
 DIVISION J—DEPARTMENT OF STATE,  
 FOREIGN OPERATIONS, AND RELATED  
 PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015  
 Title I—Department of State and Related  
 Agency  
 Title II—United States Agency for Inter-  
 national Development  
 Title III—Bilateral Economic Assistance  
 Title IV—International Security Assistance  
 Title V—Multilateral Assistance  
 Title VI—Export and Investment Assistance  
 Title VII—General Provisions  
 Title VIII—Overseas Contingency Operations  
 Title IX—Ebola Response and Preparedness  
 DIVISION K—TRANSPORTATION, HOUS-  
 ING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND  
 RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS  
 ACT, 2015  
 Title I—Department of Transportation  
 Title II—Department of Housing and Urban  
 Development  
 Title III—Related Agencies  
 Title IV—General Provisions—This Act  
 DIVISION L—FURTHER CONTINUING  
 APPROPRIATIONS, 2015  
 DIVISION M—EXPATRIATE HEALTH  
 COVERAGE CLARIFICATION ACT OF 2014  
 DIVISION N—OTHER MATTERS  
 DIVISION O—MULTIEMPLOYER PENSION  
 REFORM  
 Title I—Modifications to Multiemployer  
 Plan Rules  
 Title II—Remediation Measures for Deeply  
 Troubled Plans

### SEC. 3. REFERENCES.

Except as expressly provided otherwise, any reference to “this Act” contained in any division of this Act shall be treated as referring only to the provisions of that division.

### SEC. 4. EXPLANATORY STATEMENT.

The explanatory statement regarding this Act, printed in the House of Representatives section of the Congressional Record on or about December 11, 2014 by the Chairman of the Committee on Appropriations of the House, shall have the same effect with respect to the allocation of funds and implementation of divisions A through K of this Act as if it were a joint explanatory statement of a committee of conference.

### SEC. 5. STATEMENT OF APPROPRIATIONS.

The following sums in this Act are appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015.

### SEC. 6. AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.

(a) Each amount designated in this Act by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 shall be available only if the President subsequently so designates all such amounts and transmits such designations to the Congress.

(b) Each amount designated in this Act by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 shall be available (or rescinded, if applicable) only if the President subsequently so designates all such amounts and transmits such designations to the Congress.

### SEC. 7. TECHNICAL ALLOWANCE FOR ESTIMATING DIFFERENCES.

If, for fiscal year 2015, new budget authority provided in appropriations Acts exceeds

the discretionary spending limit for any category set forth in section 251(c) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 due to estimating differences with the Congressional Budget Office, an adjustment to the discretionary spending limit in such category for fiscal year 2015 shall be made by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget in the amount of the excess but the total of all such adjustments shall not exceed 0.2 percent of the sum of the adjusted discretionary spending limits for all categories for that fiscal year.

### SEC. 8. ADJUSTMENTS TO COMPENSATION.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no adjustment shall be made under section 610(a) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 31) (relating to cost of living adjustments for Members of Congress) during fiscal year 2015.

### SEC. 9. STUDY OF ELECTRIC RATES IN THE INSULAR AREAS.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) COMPREHENSIVE ENERGY PLAN.—The term “comprehensive energy plan” means a comprehensive energy plan prepared and updated under subsections (c) and (e) of section 604 of the Act entitled “An Act to authorize appropriations for certain insular areas of the United States, and for other purposes”, approved December 24, 1980 (48 U.S.C. 1492).

(2) ENERGY ACTION PLAN.—The term “energy action plan” means the plan required by subsection (d).

(3) FREELY ASSOCIATED STATES.—The term “Freely Associated States” means the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau.

(4) INSULAR AREAS.—The term “insular areas” means American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Virgin Islands.

(5) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior.

(6) TEAM.—The term “team” means the team established by the Secretary under subsection (b).

(b) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall, within the Empowering Insular Communities activity, establish a team of technical, policy, and financial experts—

(1) to develop an energy action plan addressing the energy needs of each of the insular areas and Freely Associated States; and

(2) to assist each of the insular areas and Freely Associated States in implementing such plan.

(c) PARTICIPATION OF REGIONAL UTILITY ORGANIZATIONS.—In establishing the team, the Secretary shall consider including regional utility organizations.

(d) ENERGY ACTION PLAN.—In accordance with subsection (b), the energy action plan shall include—

(1) recommendations, based on the comprehensive energy plan where applicable, to—

(A) reduce reliance and expenditures on fuel shipped to the insular areas and Freely Associated States from ports outside the United States;

(B) develop and utilize domestic fuel energy sources; and

(C) improve performance of energy infrastructure and overall energy efficiency;

(2) a schedule for implementation of such recommendations and identification and prioritization of specific projects;

(3) a financial and engineering plan for implementing and sustaining projects; and

(4) benchmarks for measuring progress toward implementation.

(e) REPORTS TO SECRETARY.—Not later than 1 year after the date on which the Secretary establishes the team and annually thereafter, the team shall submit to the Secretary a report detailing progress made in fulfilling its charge and in implementing the energy action plan.

(f) ANNUAL REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 30 days after the date on which the Secretary receives a report submitted by the team under subsection (e), the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a summary of the report of the team.

(g) APPROVAL OF SECRETARY REQUIRED.—The energy action plan shall not be implemented until the Secretary approves the energy action plan.

### SEC. 10. AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSOLIDATED NATURAL RESOURCES ACT.

Section 6 of Public Law 94-241 (90 Stat. 263; 122 Stat. 854) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(2), by striking “December 31, 2014, except as provided in subsections (b) and (d)” and inserting “December 31, 2019”; and

(2) in subsection (d)—

(A) in the third sentence of paragraph (2), by striking “not to extend beyond December 31, 2014, unless extended pursuant to paragraph 5 of this subsection” and inserting “ending on December 31, 2019”; and

(B) by striking paragraph (5); and

(C) by redesignating paragraph (6) as paragraph (5).

### SEC. 11. PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAXES.

(a) For payments in lieu of taxes under chapter 69 of title 31, United States Code, for fiscal year 2015, \$372,000,000 shall be available to the Secretary of the Interior.

(b) The amount made available in subsection (a) shall be in addition to amounts made available for payments in lieu of taxes by the Carl Levin and Howard P. “Buck” McKeon National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015.

### DIVISION A—AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015

#### TITLE I

#### AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS

#### PRODUCTION, PROCESSING AND MARKETING

#### OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

#### (INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Secretary, \$45,805,000, of which not to exceed \$5,051,000 shall be available for the immediate Office of the Secretary; not to exceed \$502,000 shall be available for the Office of Tribal Relations; not to exceed \$1,496,000 shall be available for the Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Coordination; not to exceed \$1,209,000 shall be available for the Office of Advocacy and Outreach; not to exceed \$25,928,000 shall be available for the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration, of which \$25,124,000 shall be available for Departmental Administration to provide for necessary expenses for management support services to offices of the Department and for general administration, security, repairs and alterations, and other miscellaneous supplies and expenses not otherwise provided for and necessary for the practical and efficient work of the Department; not to exceed \$3,869,000 shall be available for the Office of Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations to carry out the programs funded by this Act, including programs involving intergovernmental affairs and liaison within

the executive branch; and not to exceed \$7,750,000 shall be available for the Office of Communications: *Provided*, That the Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to transfer funds appropriated for any office of the Office of the Secretary to any other office of the Office of the Secretary: *Provided further*, That no appropriation for any office shall be increased or decreased by more than 5 percent: *Provided further*, That not to exceed \$11,000 of the amount made available under this paragraph for the immediate Office of the Secretary shall be available for official reception and representation expenses, not otherwise provided for, as determined by the Secretary: *Provided further*, That the amount made available under this heading for Departmental Administration shall be reimbursed from applicable appropriations in this Act for travel expenses incident to the holding of hearings as required by 5 U.S.C. 551-558: *Provided further*, That funds made available under this heading for the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations may be transferred to agencies of the Department of Agriculture funded by this Act to maintain personnel at the agency level: *Provided further*, That no funds made available under this heading for the Office of Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations may be obligated after 30 days from the date of enactment of this Act, unless the Secretary has notified the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress on the allocation of these funds by USDA agency.

#### EXECUTIVE OPERATIONS

##### OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ECONOMIST

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Chief Economist, \$17,377,000, of which \$4,000,000 shall be for grants or cooperative agreements for policy research under 7 U.S.C. 3155.

##### NATIONAL APPEALS DIVISION

For necessary expenses of the National Appeals Division, \$13,317,000.

##### OFFICE OF BUDGET AND PROGRAM ANALYSIS

For necessary expenses of the Office of Budget and Program Analysis, \$9,392,000.

##### OFFICE OF THE CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Chief Information Officer, \$45,045,000, of which not less than \$28,000,000 is for cybersecurity requirements of the Department.

##### OFFICE OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Chief Financial Officer, \$6,028,000.

##### OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR CIVIL RIGHTS

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, \$898,000.

##### OFFICE OF CIVIL RIGHTS

For necessary expenses of the Office of Civil Rights, \$24,070,000.

##### AGRICULTURE BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

###### (INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For payment of space rental and related costs pursuant to Public Law 92-313, including authorities pursuant to the 1984 delegation of authority from the Administrator of General Services to the Department of Agriculture under 40 U.S.C. 121, for programs and activities of the Department which are included in this Act, and for alterations and other actions needed for the Department and its agencies to consolidate unneeded space into configurations suitable for release to the Administrator of General Services, and for the operation, maintenance, improvement, and repair of Agriculture buildings

and facilities, and for related costs, \$55,866,000, to remain available until expended, for buildings operations and maintenance expenses: *Provided*, That the Secretary may use unobligated prior year balances of an agency or office that are no longer available for new obligation to cover shortfalls incurred in prior or current year rental payments for such agency or office.

##### HAZARDOUS MATERIALS MANAGEMENT

###### (INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Department of Agriculture, to comply with the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (42 U.S.C. 9601 et seq.) and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (42 U.S.C. 6901 et seq.), \$3,600,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That appropriations and funds available herein to the Department for Hazardous Materials Management may be transferred to any agency of the Department for its use in meeting all requirements pursuant to the above Acts on Federal and non-Federal lands.

##### OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General, including employment pursuant to the Inspector General Act of 1978, \$95,026,000, including such sums as may be necessary for contracting and other arrangements with public agencies and private persons pursuant to section 6(a)(9) of the Inspector General Act of 1978, and including not to exceed \$125,000 for certain confidential operational expenses, including the payment of informants, to be expended under the direction of the Inspector General pursuant to Public Law 95-452 and section 1337 of Public Law 97-98.

##### OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL

For necessary expenses of the Office of the General Counsel, \$44,383,000.

##### OFFICE OF ETHICS

For necessary expenses of the Office of Ethics, \$3,654,000.

##### OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR RESEARCH, EDUCATION, AND ECONOMICS

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics, \$898,000.

##### ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE

For necessary expenses of the Economic Research Service, \$85,373,000.

##### NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

For necessary expenses of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, \$172,408,000, of which up to \$47,842,000 shall be available until expended for the Census of Agriculture: *Provided*, That amounts made available for the Census of Agriculture may be used to conduct Current Industrial Report surveys subject to 7 U.S.C. 2204g(d) and (f).

##### AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE

###### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Agricultural Research Service and for acquisition of lands by donation, exchange, or purchase at a nominal cost not to exceed \$100, and for land exchanges where the lands exchanged shall be of equal value or shall be equalized by a payment of money to the grantor which shall not exceed 25 percent of the total value of the land or interests transferred out of Federal ownership, \$1,132,625,000: *Provided*, That appropriations hereunder shall be available for the operation and maintenance of aircraft and the purchase of not to exceed one for replacement only: *Provided further*, That appropriations hereunder shall be

available pursuant to 7 U.S.C. 2250 for the construction, alteration, and repair of buildings and improvements, but unless otherwise provided, the cost of constructing any one building shall not exceed \$375,000, except for greenhouses or greenhouses which shall each be limited to \$1,200,000, and except for 10 buildings to be constructed or improved at a cost not to exceed \$750,000 each, and the cost of altering any one building during the fiscal year shall not exceed 10 percent of the current replacement value of the building or \$375,000, whichever is greater: *Provided further*, That the limitations on alterations contained in this Act shall not apply to modernization or replacement of existing facilities at Beltsville, Maryland: *Provided further*, That appropriations hereunder shall be available for granting easements at the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center: *Provided further*, That the foregoing limitations shall not apply to replacement of buildings needed to carry out the Act of April 24, 1948 (21 U.S.C. 113a): *Provided further*, That appropriations hereunder shall be available for granting easements at any Agricultural Research Service location for the construction of a research facility by a non-Federal entity for use by, and acceptable to, the Agricultural Research Service and a condition of the easements shall be that upon completion the facility shall be accepted by the Secretary, subject to the availability of funds herein, if the Secretary finds that acceptance of the facility is in the interest of the United States: *Provided further*, That funds may be received from any State, other political subdivision, organization, or individual for the purpose of establishing or operating any research facility or research project of the Agricultural Research Service, as authorized by law: *Provided further*, That subject to such terms and conditions as the Secretary of Agriculture considers appropriate to protect the interest of the United States, the Secretary may enter into a lease of Agricultural Research Service land in order to allow for the drilling of not more than three irrigation wells; the term of the lease may not exceed 20 years, but the Secretary may renew the lease for one or more additional 20-year periods.

##### BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

For the acquisition of land, construction, repair, improvement, extension, alteration, and purchase of fixed equipment or facilities as necessary to carry out the agricultural research programs of the Department of Agriculture, where not otherwise provided, \$45,000,000 to remain available until expended.

##### NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

###### RESEARCH AND EDUCATION ACTIVITIES

For payments to agricultural experiment stations, for cooperative forestry and other research, for facilities, and for other expenses, \$786,874,000, which shall be for the purposes, and in the amounts, specified in the table titled "National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Research and Education Activities" in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act): *Provided*, That funds for research grants for 1994 institutions, education grants for 1890 institutions, capacity building for non-land-grant colleges of agriculture, the agriculture and food research initiative, veterinary medicine loan repayment, multicultural scholars, graduate fellowship and institution challenge grants, and grants management systems shall remain available until expended:

*Provided further*, That each institution eligible to receive funds under the Evans-Allen program receives no less than \$1,000,000: *Provided further*, That funds for education grants for Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian-serving institutions be made available to individual eligible institutions or consortia of eligible institutions with funds awarded equally to each of the States of Alaska and Hawaii: *Provided further*, That funds for education grants for 1890 institutions shall be made available to institutions eligible to receive funds under 7 U.S.C. 3221 and 3222: *Provided further*, That not more than 5 percent of the amounts made available by this or any other Act to carry out the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative under 7 U.S.C. 450i(b) may be retained by the Secretary of Agriculture to pay administrative costs incurred by the Secretary in carrying out that authority.

#### NATIVE AMERICAN INSTITUTIONS ENDOWMENT FUND

For the Native American Institutions Endowment Fund authorized by Public Law 103-382 (7 U.S.C. 301 note), \$11,880,000, to remain available until expended.

#### EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

For payments to States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, the Virgin Islands, Micronesia, the Northern Marianas, and American Samoa, \$471,691,000, which shall be for the purposes, and in the amounts, specified in the table titled "National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Extension Activities" in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act): *Provided*, That funds for facility improvements at 1890 institutions shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That institutions eligible to receive funds under 7 U.S.C. 3221 for cooperative extension receive no less than \$1,000,000: *Provided further*, That funds for cooperative extension under sections 3(b) and (c) of the Smith-Lever Act (7 U.S.C. 343(b) and (c)) and section 208(c) of Public Law 93-471 shall be available for retirement and employees' compensation costs for extension agents.

#### INTEGRATED ACTIVITIES

For the integrated research, education, and extension grants programs, including necessary administrative expenses, \$30,900,000, which shall be for the purposes, and in the amounts, specified in the table titled "National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Integrated Activities" in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act): *Provided*, That funds for the Food and Agriculture Defense Initiative shall remain available until September 30, 2016.

#### OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR MARKETING AND REGULATORY PROGRAMS

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Under Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs, \$898,000.

#### ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE

##### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

##### (INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, including up to \$30,000 for representation allowances and for expenses pursuant to the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 4085), \$871,315,000, of which \$470,000, to remain available until expended, shall be available for the control of outbreaks of insects, plant

diseases, animal diseases and for control of pest animals and birds ("contingency fund") to the extent necessary to meet emergency conditions; of which \$11,520,000, to remain available until expended, shall be used for the cotton pests program for cost share purposes or for debt retirement for active eradication zones; of which \$35,339,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for Animal Health Technical Services; of which \$697,000 shall be for activities under the authority of the Horse Protection Act of 1970, as amended (15 U.S.C. 1831); of which \$52,340,000, to remain available until expended, shall be used to support avian health; of which \$4,251,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for information technology infrastructure; of which \$156,000,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for specialty crop pests; of which, \$8,826,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for field crop and rangeland ecosystem pests; of which \$54,000,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for tree and wood pests; of which \$3,973,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for the National Veterinary Stockpile; of which up to \$1,500,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for the scrapie program for indemnities; of which \$1,500,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for the wildlife damage management program for aviation safety: *Provided*, That of amounts available under this heading for wildlife services methods development, \$1,000,000 shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That of amounts available under this heading for the screwworm program, \$4,990,000 shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That no funds shall be used to formulate or administer a brucellosis eradication program for the current fiscal year that does not require minimum matching by the States of at least 40 percent: *Provided further*, That this appropriation shall be available for the operation and maintenance of aircraft and the purchase of not to exceed four, of which two shall be for replacement only: *Provided further*, That in addition, in emergencies which threaten any segment of the agricultural production industry of this country, the Secretary may transfer from other appropriations or funds available to the agencies or corporations of the Department such sums as may be deemed necessary, to be available only in such emergencies for the arrest and eradication of contagious or infectious disease or pests of animals, poultry, or plants, and for expenses in accordance with sections 10411 and 10417 of the Animal Health Protection Act (7 U.S.C. 8310 and 8316) and sections 431 and 442 of the Plant Protection Act (7 U.S.C. 7751 and 7772), and any unexpended balances of funds transferred for such emergency purposes in the preceding fiscal year shall be merged with such transferred amounts: *Provided further*, That appropriations hereunder shall be available pursuant to law (7 U.S.C. 2250) for the repair and alteration of leased buildings and improvements, but unless otherwise provided the cost of altering any one building during the fiscal year shall not exceed 10 percent of the current replacement value of the building.

In fiscal year 2015, the agency is authorized to collect fees to cover the total costs of providing technical assistance, goods, or services requested by States, other political subdivisions, domestic and international organizations, foreign governments, or individuals, provided that such fees are structured such that any entity's liability for such fees is reasonably based on the technical assistance, goods, or services provided to the entity by

the agency, and such fees shall be reimbursed to this account, to remain available until expended, without further appropriation, for providing such assistance, goods, or services.

#### BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

For plans, construction, repair, preventive maintenance, environmental support, improvement, extension, alteration, and purchase of fixed equipment or facilities, as authorized by 7 U.S.C. 2250, and acquisition of land as authorized by 7 U.S.C. 428a, \$3,175,000, to remain available until expended.

#### AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

##### MARKETING SERVICES

For necessary expenses of the Agricultural Marketing Service, \$81,192,000: *Provided*, That this appropriation shall be available pursuant to law (7 U.S.C. 2250) for the alteration and repair of buildings and improvements, but the cost of altering any one building during the fiscal year shall not exceed 10 percent of the current replacement value of the building.

Fees may be collected for the cost of standardization activities, as established by regulation pursuant to law (31 U.S.C. 9701).

##### LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

Not to exceed \$60,709,000 (from fees collected) shall be obligated during the current fiscal year for administrative expenses: *Provided*, That if crop size is understated and/or other uncontrollable events occur, the agency may exceed this limitation by up to 10 percent with notification to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

#### FUNDS FOR STRENGTHENING MARKETS, INCOME, AND SUPPLY (SECTION 32)

##### (INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

Funds available under section 32 of the Act of August 24, 1935 (7 U.S.C. 612c), shall be used only for commodity program expenses as authorized therein, and other related operating expenses, except for: (1) transfers to the Department of Commerce as authorized by the Fish and Wildlife Act of August 8, 1956; (2) transfers otherwise provided in this Act; and (3) not more than \$20,186,000 for formulation and administration of marketing agreements and orders pursuant to the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937 and the Agricultural Act of 1961.

##### PAYMENTS TO STATES AND POSSESSIONS

For payments to departments of agriculture, bureaus and departments of markets, and similar agencies for marketing activities under section 204(b) of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1623(b)), \$1,235,000.

#### GRAIN INSPECTION, PACKERS AND STOCKYARDS ADMINISTRATION

##### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration, \$43,048,000: *Provided*, That this appropriation shall be available pursuant to law (7 U.S.C. 2250) for the alteration and repair of buildings and improvements, but the cost of altering any one building during the fiscal year shall not exceed 10 percent of the current replacement value of the building.

##### LIMITATION ON INSPECTION AND WEIGHING SERVICES EXPENSES

Not to exceed \$50,000,000 (from fees collected) shall be obligated during the current fiscal year for inspection and weighing services: *Provided*, That if grain export activities require additional supervision and oversight, or other uncontrollable factors occur, this

limitation may be exceeded by up to 10 percent with notification to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR FOOD SAFETY

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Under Secretary for Food Safety, \$816,000.

FOOD SAFETY AND INSPECTION SERVICE

For necessary expenses to carry out services authorized by the Federal Meat Inspection Act, the Poultry Products Inspection Act, and the Egg Products Inspection Act, including not to exceed \$50,000 for representation allowances and for expenses pursuant to section 8 of the Act approved August 3, 1956 (7 U.S.C. 1766), \$1,016,474,000; and in addition, \$1,000,000 may be credited to this account from fees collected for the cost of laboratory accreditation as authorized by section 1327 of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 138f): *Provided*, That funds provided for the Public Health Data Communication Infrastructure system shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That no fewer than 148 full-time equivalent positions shall be employed during fiscal year 2015 for purposes dedicated solely to inspections and enforcement related to the Humane Methods of Slaughter Act: *Provided further*, That the Food Safety and Inspection Service shall continue implementation of section 11016 of Public Law 110-246 as further clarified by the amendments made in section 12106 of Public Law 113-79: *Provided further*, That this appropriation shall be available pursuant to law (7 U.S.C. 2250) for the alteration and repair of buildings and improvements, but the cost of altering any one building during the fiscal year shall not exceed 10 percent of the current replacement value of the building.

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR FARM AND FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICES

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Under Secretary for Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services, \$898,000.

FARM SERVICE AGENCY

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Farm Service Agency, \$1,200,180,000: *Provided*, That not more than 50 percent of the \$132,364,000 made available under this heading for information technology related to farm program delivery, including the Modernize and Innovate the Delivery of Agricultural Systems (MIDAS) and other farm program delivery systems, may be obligated until the Secretary submits to the Committees on Appropriations a plan for expenditure that (1) identifies for each project/investment over \$25,000 (a) the functional and performance capabilities to be delivered and the mission benefits to be realized, (b) the estimated lifecycle cost, including estimates for development as well as maintenance and operations, and (c) key milestones to be met; (2) demonstrates that each project/investment is, (a) consistent with the Farm Service Agency Information Technology Roadmap, (b) being managed in accordance with applicable lifecycle management policies and guidance, and (c) subject to the applicable Department's capital planning and investment control requirements; and (3) has been submitted to the Government Accountability Office: *Provided further*, That the agency shall submit a report by the end of the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2015 to the Committees on Appropriations and the Government Accountability Office, that identifies for each project/investment that is operational (a)

current performance against key indicators of customer satisfaction, (b) current performance of service level agreements or other technical metrics, (c) current performance against a pre-established cost baseline, (d) a detailed breakdown of current and planned spending on operational enhancements or upgrades, and (e) an assessment of whether the investment continues to meet business needs as intended as well as alternatives to the investment: *Provided further*, That the Secretary is authorized to use the services, facilities, and authorities (but not the funds) of the Commodity Credit Corporation to make program payments for all programs administered by the Agency: *Provided further*, That other funds made available to the Agency for authorized activities may be advanced to and merged with this account: *Provided further*, That funds made available to county committees shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That none of the funds available to the Farm Service Agency shall be used to close Farm Service Agency county offices: *Provided further*, That none of the funds available to the Farm Service Agency shall be used to permanently relocate county based employees that would result in an office with two or fewer employees without prior notification and approval of the Committees on Appropriations.

STATE MEDIATION GRANTS

For grants pursuant to section 502(b) of the Agricultural Credit Act of 1987, as amended (7 U.S.C. 5101-5106), \$3,404,000.

GRASSROOTS SOURCE WATER PROTECTION PROGRAM

For necessary expenses to carry out well-head or groundwater protection activities under section 12400 of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839bb-2), \$5,526,000, to remain available until expended.

DAIRY INDEMNITY PROGRAM

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses involved in making indemnity payments to dairy farmers and manufacturers of dairy products under a dairy indemnity program, such sums as may be necessary, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That such program is carried out by the Secretary in the same manner as the dairy indemnity program described in the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2001 (Public Law 106-387, 114 Stat. 1549A-12).

AGRICULTURAL CREDIT INSURANCE FUND PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For gross obligations for the principal amount of direct and guaranteed farm ownership (7 U.S.C. 1922 et seq.) and operating (7 U.S.C. 1941 et seq.) loans, emergency loans (7 U.S.C. 1961 et seq.), Indian tribe land acquisition loans (25 U.S.C. 488), boll weevil loans (7 U.S.C. 1989), guaranteed conservation loans (7 U.S.C. 1924 et seq.), and Indian highly fractionated land loans (25 U.S.C. 488) to be available from funds in the Agricultural Credit Insurance Fund, as follows: \$2,000,000,000 for guaranteed farm ownership loans and \$1,500,000,000 for farm ownership direct loans; \$1,393,443,000 for unsubsidized guaranteed operating loans and \$1,252,004,000 for direct operating loans; emergency loans, \$34,667,000; Indian tribe land acquisition loans, \$2,000,000; guaranteed conservation loans, \$150,000,000; Indian highly fractionated land loans, \$10,000,000; and for boll weevil eradication program loans, \$60,000,000: *Provided*, That the Secretary shall deem the pink bollworm to be a boll weevil for the

purpose of boll weevil eradication program loans.

For the cost of direct and guaranteed loans and grants, including the cost of modifying loans as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, as follows: farm operating loans, \$63,101,000 for direct operating loans, \$14,770,000 for unsubsidized guaranteed operating loans, and emergency loans, \$856,000, to remain available until expended.

In addition, for administrative expenses necessary to carry out the direct and guaranteed loan programs, \$314,918,000, of which \$306,998,000 shall be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for "Farm Service Agency, Salaries and Expenses".

Funds appropriated by this Act to the Agricultural Credit Insurance Program Account for farm ownership, operating and conservation direct loans and guaranteed loans may be transferred among these programs: *Provided*, That the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress are notified at least 15 days in advance of any transfer.

RISK MANAGEMENT AGENCY

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Risk Management Agency, \$74,829,000: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$1,000 shall be available for official reception and representation expenses, as authorized by 7 U.S.C. 1506(i).

CORPORATIONS

The following corporations and agencies are hereby authorized to make expenditures, within the limits of funds and borrowing authority available to each such corporation or agency and in accord with law, and to make contracts and commitments without regard to fiscal year limitations as provided by section 104 of the Government Corporation Control Act as may be necessary in carrying out the programs set forth in the budget for the current fiscal year for such corporation or agency, except as hereinafter provided.

FEDERAL CROP INSURANCE CORPORATION FUND

For payments as authorized by section 516 of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1516), such sums as may be necessary, to remain available until expended.

COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION FUND

REIMBURSEMENT FOR NET REALIZED LOSSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For the current fiscal year, such sums as may be necessary to reimburse the Commodity Credit Corporation for net realized losses sustained, but not previously reimbursed, pursuant to section 2 of the Act of August 17, 1961 (15 U.S.C. 713a-11): *Provided*, That of the funds available to the Commodity Credit Corporation under section 11 of the Commodity Credit Corporation Charter Act (15 U.S.C. 714i) for the conduct of its business with the Foreign Agricultural Service, up to \$5,000,000 may be transferred to and used by the Foreign Agricultural Service for information resource management activities of the Foreign Agricultural Service that are not related to Commodity Credit Corporation business.

HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT

(LIMITATION ON EXPENSES)

For the current fiscal year, the Commodity Credit Corporation shall not expend more than \$5,000,000 for site investigation and cleanup expenses, and operations and maintenance expenses to comply with the requirement of section 107(g) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (42 U.S.C. 9607(g)), and section 6001 of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (42 U.S.C. 6961).

## TITLE II

## CONSERVATION PROGRAMS

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR  
NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment, \$898,000.

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE  
CONSERVATION OPERATIONS

For necessary expenses for carrying out the provisions of the Act of April 27, 1935 (16 U.S.C. 590a-f), including preparation of conservation plans and establishment of measures to conserve soil and water (including farm irrigation and land drainage and such special measures for soil and water management as may be necessary to prevent floods and the siltation of reservoirs and to control agricultural related pollutants); operation of conservation plant materials centers; classification and mapping of soil; dissemination of information; acquisition of lands, water, and interests therein for use in the plant materials program by donation, exchange, or purchase at a nominal cost not to exceed \$100 pursuant to the Act of August 3, 1956 (7 U.S.C. 428a); purchase and erection or alteration or improvement of permanent and temporary buildings; and operation and maintenance of aircraft, \$846,428,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That appropriations hereunder shall be available pursuant to 7 U.S.C. 2250 for construction and improvement of buildings and public improvements at plant materials centers, except that the cost of alterations and improvements to other buildings and other public improvements shall not exceed \$250,000: *Provided further*, That when buildings or other structures are erected on non-Federal land, that the right to use such land is obtained as provided in 7 U.S.C. 2250a: *Provided further*, That of the amounts made available under this heading, \$5,600,000, shall remain available until expended for the authorities under 16 U.S.C. 1001-1005 and 1007-1009 for authorized ongoing watershed projects with a primary purpose of providing water to rural communities.

## WATERSHED REHABILITATION PROGRAM

Under the authorities of section 14 of the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act, \$12,000,000 is provided.

## TITLE III

## RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR RURAL  
DEVELOPMENT

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Under Secretary for Rural Development, \$898,000.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT SALARIES AND  
EXPENSES

## (INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses for carrying out the administration and implementation of programs in the Rural Development mission area, including activities with institutions concerning the development and operation of agricultural cooperatives; and for cooperative agreements; \$224,201,000: *Provided*, That no less than \$15,000,000 shall be for the Comprehensive Loan Accounting System: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, funds appropriated under this heading may be used for advertising and promotional activities that support the Rural Development mission area: *Provided further*, That any balances available from prior years for the Rural Utilities Service, Rural Housing Service, and the Rural Business-Cooperative Service salaries and

expenses accounts shall be transferred to and merged with this appropriation.

## RURAL HOUSING SERVICE

RURAL HOUSING INSURANCE FUND PROGRAM  
ACCOUNT

## (INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For gross obligations for the principal amount of direct and guaranteed loans as authorized by title V of the Housing Act of 1949, to be available from funds in the rural housing insurance fund, as follows: \$900,000,000 shall be for direct loans and \$24,000,000,000 shall be for unsubsidized guaranteed loans; \$26,279,000 for section 504 housing repair loans; \$28,398,000 for section 515 rental housing; \$150,000,000 for section 538 guaranteed multi-family housing loans; \$10,000,000 for credit sales of single family housing acquired property; \$5,000,000 for section 523 self-help housing land development loans; and \$5,000,000 for section 524 site development loans.

For the cost of direct and guaranteed loans, including the cost of modifying loans, as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, as follows: section 502 loans, \$66,420,000 shall be for direct loans; section 504 housing repair loans, \$3,687,000; and repair, rehabilitation, and new construction of section 515 rental housing, \$9,800,000: *Provided*, That to support the loan program level for section 538 guaranteed loans made available under this heading the Secretary may charge or adjust any fees to cover the projected cost of such loan guarantees pursuant to the provisions of the Credit Reform Act of 1990 (2 U.S.C. 661 et seq.), and the interest on such loans may not be subsidized: *Provided further*, That applicants in communities that have a current rural area waiver under section 541 of the Housing Act of 1949 (42 U.S.C. 1490g) shall be treated as living in a rural area for purposes of section 502 guaranteed loans provided under this heading: *Provided further*, That of the amounts available under this paragraph for section 502 direct loans, no less than \$5,000,000 shall be available for direct loans for individuals whose homes will be built pursuant to a program funded with a mutual and self-help housing grant authorized by section 523 of the Housing Act of 1949 until June 1, 2015.

In addition, for the cost of direct loans, grants, and contracts, as authorized by 42 U.S.C. 1484 and 1486, \$15,936,000, to remain available until expended, for direct farm labor housing loans and domestic farm labor housing grants and contracts: *Provided*, That any balances available for the Farm Labor Program Account shall be transferred to and merged with this account.

In addition, for administrative expenses necessary to carry out the direct and guaranteed loan programs, \$415,100,000 shall be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for "Rural Development, Salaries and Expenses".

## RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

For rental assistance agreements entered into or renewed pursuant to the authority under section 521(a)(2) or agreements entered into in lieu of debt forgiveness or payments for eligible households as authorized by section 502(c)(5)(D) of the Housing Act of 1949, \$1,088,500,000; and, in addition, such sums as may be necessary, as authorized by section 521(c) of the Act, to liquidate debt incurred prior to fiscal year 1992 to carry out the rental assistance program under section 521(a)(2) of the Act: *Provided*, That rental assistance agreements entered into or renewed during the current fiscal year shall be funded for a 1-year period: *Provided further*, That rental

assistance contracts will not be renewed within the 12-month contract period: *Provided further*, That any unexpended balances remaining at the end of such 1-year agreements may be transferred and used for the purposes of any debt reduction; maintenance, repair, or rehabilitation of any existing projects; preservation; and rental assistance activities authorized under title V of the Act: *Provided further*, That rental assistance provided under agreements entered into prior to fiscal year 2015 for a farm labor multi-family housing project financed under section 514 or 516 of the Act may not be recaptured for use in another project until such assistance has remained unused for a period of 12 consecutive months, if such project has a waiting list of tenants seeking such assistance or the project has rental assistance eligible tenants who are not receiving such assistance: *Provided further*, That such recaptured rental assistance shall, to the extent practicable, be applied to another farm labor multi-family housing project financed under section 514 or 516 of the Act.

MULTI-FAMILY HOUSING REVITALIZATION  
PROGRAM ACCOUNT

For the rural housing voucher program as authorized under section 542 of the Housing Act of 1949, but notwithstanding subsection (b) of such section, and for additional costs to conduct a demonstration program for the preservation and revitalization of multi-family rental housing properties described in this paragraph, \$24,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of the funds made available under this heading, \$7,000,000, shall be available for rural housing vouchers to any low-income household (including those not receiving rental assistance) residing in a property financed with a section 515 loan which has been prepaid after September 30, 2005: *Provided further*, That the amount of such voucher shall be the difference between comparable market rent for the section 515 unit and the tenant paid rent for such unit: *Provided further*, That funds made available for such vouchers shall be subject to the availability of annual appropriations: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall, to the maximum extent practicable, administer such vouchers with current regulations and administrative guidance applicable to section 8 housing vouchers administered by the Secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development: *Provided further*, That if the Secretary determines that the amount made available for vouchers in this or any other Act is not needed for vouchers, the Secretary may use such funds for the demonstration program for the preservation and revitalization of multi-family rental housing properties described in this paragraph: *Provided further*, That of the funds made available under this heading, \$17,000,000 shall be available for a demonstration program for the preservation and revitalization of the sections 514, 515, and 516 multi-family rental housing properties to restructure existing USDA multi-family housing loans, as the Secretary deems appropriate, expressly for the purposes of ensuring the project has sufficient resources to preserve the project for the purpose of providing safe and affordable housing for low-income residents and farm laborers including reducing or eliminating interest; deferring loan payments, subordinating, reducing or reamortizing loan debt; and other financial assistance including advances, payments and incentives (including the ability of owners to obtain reasonable returns on investment) required by the Secretary: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall as part of the preservation and revitalization agreement obtain



a restrictive use agreement consistent with the terms of the restructuring: *Provided further*, That if the Secretary determines that additional funds for vouchers described in this paragraph are needed, funds for the preservation and revitalization demonstration program may be used for such vouchers: *Provided further*, That if Congress enacts legislation to permanently authorize a multi-family rental housing loan restructuring program similar to the demonstration program described herein, the Secretary may use funds made available for the demonstration program under this heading to carry out such legislation with the prior approval of the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress: *Provided further*, That in addition to any other available funds, the Secretary may expend not more than \$1,000,000 total, from the program funds made available under this heading, for administrative expenses for activities funded under this heading.

#### MUTUAL AND SELF-HELP HOUSING GRANTS

For grants and contracts pursuant to section 523(b)(1)(A) of the Housing Act of 1949 (42 U.S.C. 1490c), \$27,500,000, to remain available until expended.

#### RURAL HOUSING ASSISTANCE GRANTS

For grants for very low-income housing repair and rural housing preservation made by the Rural Housing Service, as authorized by 42 U.S.C. 1474, and 1490m, \$32,239,000, to remain available until expended.

#### RURAL COMMUNITY FACILITIES PROGRAM ACCOUNT

##### (INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For gross obligations for the principal amount of direct and guaranteed loans as authorized by section 306 and described in section 381E(d)(1) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, \$2,200,000,000 for direct loans and \$73,222,000 for guaranteed loans.

For the cost of guaranteed loans, including the cost of modifying loans, as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, \$3,500,000, to remain available until expended.

For the cost of grants for rural community facilities programs as authorized by section 306 and described in section 381E(d)(1) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, \$26,778,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That \$4,000,000 of the amount appropriated under this heading shall be available for a Rural Community Development Initiative: *Provided further*, That such funds shall be used solely to develop the capacity and ability of private, nonprofit community-based housing and community development organizations, low-income rural communities, and Federally Recognized Native American Tribes to undertake projects to improve housing, community facilities, community and economic development projects in rural areas: *Provided further*, That such funds shall be made available to qualified private, nonprofit and public intermediary organizations proposing to carry out a program of financial and technical assistance: *Provided further*, That such intermediary organizations shall provide matching funds from other sources, including Federal funds for related activities, in an amount not less than funds provided: *Provided further*, That \$5,778,000 of the amount appropriated under this heading shall be to provide grants for facilities in rural communities with extreme unemployment and severe economic depression (Public Law 106-387), with up to 5 percent for administration and capacity building in the State rural de-

velopment offices: *Provided further*, That \$4,000,000 of the amount appropriated under this heading shall be available for community facilities grants to tribal colleges, as authorized by section 306(a)(19) of such Act: *Provided further*, That sections 381E-H and 381N of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act are not applicable to the funds made available under this heading.

#### RURAL BUSINESS—COOPERATIVE SERVICE

##### RURAL BUSINESS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

##### (INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For the cost of loan guarantees and grants, for the rural business development programs authorized by section 310B and described in subsections (a), (c), (f) and (g) of section 310B of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, \$74,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of the amount appropriated under this heading, not to exceed \$500,000 shall be made available for one grant to a qualified national organization to provide technical assistance for rural transportation in order to promote economic development and \$3,000,000 shall be for grants to the Delta Regional Authority (7 U.S.C. 2009aa et seq.) for any Rural Community Advancement Program purpose as described in section 381E(d) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, of which not more than 5 percent may be used for administrative expenses: *Provided further*, That \$4,000,000 of the amount appropriated under this heading shall be for business grants to benefit Federally Recognized Native American Tribes, including \$250,000 for a grant to a qualified national organization to provide technical assistance for rural transportation in order to promote economic development: *Provided further*, That for purposes of determining eligibility or level of program assistance the Secretary shall not include incarcerated prison populations: *Provided further*, That sections 381E-H and 381N of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act are not applicable to funds made available under this heading.

#### INTERMEDIARY RELENDING PROGRAM FUND ACCOUNT

##### (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the principal amount of direct loans, as authorized by the Intermediary Relending Program Fund Account (7 U.S.C. 1936b), \$18,889,000.

For the cost of direct loans, \$5,818,000, as authorized by the Intermediary Relending Program Fund Account (7 U.S.C. 1936b), of which \$531,000 shall be available through June 30, 2015, for Federally Recognized Native American Tribes; and of which \$1,021,000 shall be available through June 30, 2015, for Mississippi Delta Region counties (as determined in accordance with Public Law 100-460): *Provided*, That such costs, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

In addition, for administrative expenses to carry out the direct loan programs, \$4,439,000 shall be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for "Rural Development, Salaries and Expenses".

#### RURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT LOANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

##### (INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

For the principal amount of direct loans, as authorized under section 313 of the Rural Electrification Act, for the purpose of promoting rural economic development and job creation projects, \$33,077,000.

Of the funds derived from interest on the cushion of credit payments, as authorized by

section 313 of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936, \$179,000,000 shall not be obligated and \$179,000,000 are rescinded.

#### RURAL COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT GRANTS

For rural cooperative development grants authorized under section 310B(e) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1932), \$22,050,000, of which \$2,500,000 shall be for cooperative agreements for the appropriate technology transfer for rural areas program: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$3,000,000 shall be for grants for cooperative development centers, individual cooperatives, or groups of cooperatives that serve socially disadvantaged groups and a majority of the boards of directors or governing boards of which are comprised of individuals who are members of socially disadvantaged groups; and of which \$10,750,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for value-added agricultural product market development grants, as authorized by section 231 of the Agricultural Risk Protection Act of 2000 (7 U.S.C. 1632a).

#### RURAL ENERGY FOR AMERICA PROGRAM

For the cost of a program of loan guarantees, under the same terms and conditions as authorized by section 9007 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 8107), \$1,350,000: *Provided*, That the cost of loan guarantees, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

#### RURAL UTILITIES SERVICE

##### RURAL WATER AND WASTE DISPOSAL PROGRAM ACCOUNT

##### (INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For the cost of direct loans, loan guarantees, and grants for the rural water, waste water, waste disposal, and solid waste management programs authorized by sections 306, 306A, 306C, 306D, 306E, and 310B and described in sections 306C(a)(2), 306D, 306E, and 381E(d)(2) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, \$464,857,000, to remain available until expended, of which not to exceed \$1,000,000 shall be available for the rural utilities program described in section 306(a)(2)(B) of such Act, and of which not to exceed \$993,000 shall be available for the rural utilities program described in section 306E of such Act: *Provided*, That \$66,500,000 of the amount appropriated under this heading shall be for loans and grants including water and waste disposal systems grants authorized by 306C(a)(2)(B) and 306D of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, Federally Recognized Native American Tribes authorized by 306C(a)(1), and the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (of the State of Hawaii): *Provided further*, That funding provided for section 306D of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act may be provided to a consortium formed pursuant to section 325 of Public Law 105-83: *Provided further*, That not more than 2 percent of the funding provided for section 306D of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act may be used by the State of Alaska for training and technical assistance programs and not more than 2 percent of the funding provided for section 306D of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act may be used by a consortium formed pursuant to section 325 of Public Law 105-83 for training and technical assistance programs: *Provided further*, That not to exceed \$19,000,000 of the amount appropriated under this heading shall be for technical assistance grants for rural water and waste systems pursuant to section 306(a)(14) of such Act, unless the Secretary makes a determination of extreme

need, of which \$6,000,000 shall be made available for a grant to a qualified nonprofit multi-State regional technical assistance organization, with experience in working with small communities on water and waste water problems, the principal purpose of such grant shall be to assist rural communities with populations of 3,300 or less, in improving the planning, financing, development, operation, and management of water and waste water systems, and of which not less than \$800,000 shall be for a qualified national Native American organization to provide technical assistance for rural water systems for tribal communities: *Provided further*, That not to exceed \$15,919,000 of the amount appropriated under this heading shall be for contracting with qualified national organizations for a circuit rider program to provide technical assistance for rural water systems: *Provided further*, That not to exceed \$4,000,000 shall be for solid waste management grants: *Provided further*, That \$10,000,000 of the amount appropriated under this heading shall be transferred to, and merged with, the Rural Utilities Service, High Energy Cost Grants Account to provide grants authorized under section 19 of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 918a): *Provided further*, That any prior year balances for high-energy cost grants authorized by section 19 of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 918a) shall be transferred to and merged with the Rural Utilities Service, High Energy Cost Grants Account: *Provided further*, That sections 381E–H and 381N of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act are not applicable to the funds made available under this heading.

RURAL ELECTRIFICATION AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS LOANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT  
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The principal amount of direct and guaranteed loans as authorized by sections 305 and 306 of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 935 and 936) shall be made as follows: loans made pursuant to section 306 of that Act, rural electric, \$5,000,000,000; guaranteed underwriting loans pursuant to section 313A, \$500,000,000; 5 percent rural telecommunications loans, cost of money rural telecommunications loans, and for loans made pursuant to section 306 of that Act, rural telecommunications loans, \$690,000,000: *Provided*, That up to \$2,000,000,000 shall be used for the construction, acquisition, or improvement of fossil-fueled electric generating plants (whether new or existing) that utilize carbon sequestration systems.

In addition, for administrative expenses necessary to carry out the direct and guaranteed loan programs, \$34,478,000, which shall be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for “Rural Development, Salaries and Expenses”.

DISTANCE LEARNING, TELEMEDICINE, AND BROADBAND PROGRAM

For the principal amount of broadband telecommunication loans, \$24,077,000.

For grants for telemedicine and distance learning services in rural areas, as authorized by 7 U.S.C. 950aaa et seq., \$22,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That \$3,000,000 shall be made available for grants authorized by 379G of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act: *Provided further*, That funding provided under this heading for grants under 379G of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act may only be provided to entities that meet all of the eligibility criteria for a consortium as established by this section.

For the cost of broadband loans, as authorized by section 601 of the Rural Electrifica-

tion Act, \$4,500,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the cost of direct loans shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

In addition, \$10,372,000, to remain available until expended, for a grant program to finance broadband transmission in rural areas eligible for Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program benefits authorized by 7 U.S.C. 950aaa.

TITLE IV  
DOMESTIC FOOD PROGRAMS

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR FOOD, NUTRITION, AND CONSUMER SERVICES

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Under Secretary for Food, Nutrition, and Consumer Services, \$816,000.

FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICE

CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAMS

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses to carry out the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.), except section 21, and the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1771 et seq.), except sections 17 and 21; \$21,300,170,000 to remain available through September 30, 2016, of which such sums as are made available under section 14222(b)(1) of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (Public Law 110–246), as amended by this Act, shall be merged with and available for the same time period and purposes as provided herein: *Provided*, That of the total amount available, \$17,004,000 shall be available to carry out section 19 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1771 et seq.): *Provided further*, That of the total amount available, \$25,000,000 shall be available to provide competitive grants to State agencies for subgrants to local educational agencies and schools to purchase the equipment needed to serve healthier meals, improve food safety, and to help support the establishment, maintenance, or expansion of the school breakfast program: *Provided further*, That of the total amount available, \$16,000,000 shall remain available until expended to carry out section 749(g) of the Agriculture Appropriations Act of 2010 (Public Law 111–80).

SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC)

For necessary expenses to carry out the special supplemental nutrition program as authorized by section 17 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786), \$6,623,000,000, to remain available through September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That notwithstanding section 17(h)(10) of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786(h)(10)), not less than \$60,000,000 shall be used for breastfeeding peer counselors and other related activities, \$14,000,000 shall be used for infrastructure, \$30,000,000 shall be used for management information systems, and \$25,000,000 shall be used for WIC electronic benefit transfer systems and activities: *Provided further*, That none of the funds provided in this account shall be available for the purchase of infant formula except in accordance with the cost containment and competitive bidding requirements specified in section 17 of such Act: *Provided further*, That none of the funds provided shall be available for activities that are not fully reimbursed by other Federal Government departments or agencies unless authorized by section 17 of such Act: *Provided further*, That upon termination of a federally mandated vendor moratorium and subject to terms and conditions established by the Secretary, the Secretary may waive the requirement at 7 CFR 246.12(g)(6) at the request of a State agency.

SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

For necessary expenses to carry out the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.), \$81,837,570,000, of which \$3,000,000,000, to remain available through September 30, 2016, shall be placed in reserve for use only in such amounts and at such times as may become necessary to carry out program operations: *Provided*, That funds provided herein shall be expended in accordance with section 16 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008: *Provided further*, That of the funds made available under this heading, \$998,000 may be used to provide nutrition education services to State agencies and Federally Recognized Tribes participating in the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations: *Provided further*, That this appropriation shall be subject to any work registration or workfare requirements as may be required by law: *Provided further*, That funds made available for Employment and Training under this heading shall remain available through September 30, 2016: *Provided further*, That funds made available under this heading for a study on Indian tribal administration of nutrition programs, as provided in title IV of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (Public Law 113–79), and a study of the removal of cash benefits in Puerto Rico, as provided in title IV of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (Public Law 113–79) shall be available until expended: *Provided further*, That funds made available under this heading for section 28(d)(1) and section 27(a) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 shall remain available through September 30, 2016: *Provided further*, That funds made available under this heading for employment and training pilot projects, as provided in title IV of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (Public Law 113–79), shall remain available through September 30, 2018: *Provided further*, That funds made available under this heading may be used to enter into contracts and employ staff to conduct studies, evaluations, or to conduct activities related to program integrity provided that such activities are authorized by the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008.

COMMODITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

For necessary expenses to carry out disaster assistance and the Commodity Supplemental Food Program as authorized by section 4(a) of the Agriculture and Consumer Protection Act of 1973 (7 U.S.C. 612c note); the Emergency Food Assistance Act of 1983; special assistance for the nuclear affected islands, as authorized by section 103(f)(2) of the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003 (Public Law 108–188); and the Farmers’ Market Nutrition Program, as authorized by section 17(m) of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966, \$278,501,000, to remain available through September 30, 2016, of which \$2,800,000 shall be to begin service in seven additional States that have plans approved by the Department for the commodity supplemental food program but are not currently participating: *Provided*, That none of these funds shall be available to reimburse the Commodity Credit Corporation for commodities donated to the program: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, effective with funds made available in fiscal year 2015 to support the Seniors Farmers’ Market Nutrition Program, as authorized by section 4402 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002, such funds shall remain available through September 30, 2016: *Provided further*, That of the funds made available under section 27(a) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2036(a)), the Secretary may use

up to 10 percent for costs associated with the distribution of commodities.

#### NUTRITION PROGRAMS ADMINISTRATION

For necessary administrative expenses of the Food and Nutrition Service for carrying out any domestic nutrition assistance program, \$150,824,000: *Provided*, That of the funds provided herein, \$2,000,000 shall be used for the purposes of section 4404 of Public Law 107-171, as amended by section 4401 of Public Law 110-246.

#### TITLE V

#### FOREIGN ASSISTANCE AND RELATED PROGRAMS

##### FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE

##### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

##### (INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Foreign Agricultural Service, including not to exceed \$250,000 for representation allowances and for expenses pursuant to section 8 of the Act approved August 3, 1956 (7 U.S.C. 1766), \$181,423,000: *Provided*, That the Service may utilize advances of funds, or reimburse this appropriation for expenditures made on behalf of Federal agencies, public and private organizations and institutions under agreements executed pursuant to the agricultural food production assistance programs (7 U.S.C. 1737) and the foreign assistance programs of the United States Agency for International Development: *Provided further*, That funds made available for middle-income country training programs, funds made available for the Borlaug International Agricultural Science and Technology Fellowship program, and up to \$2,000,000 of the Foreign Agricultural Service appropriation solely for the purpose of offsetting fluctuations in international currency exchange rates, subject to documentation by the Foreign Agricultural Service, shall remain available until expended.

##### FOOD FOR PEACE TITLE I DIRECT CREDIT AND FOOD FOR PROGRESS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

##### (INCLUDING RESCISSION AND TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For administrative expenses to carry out the credit program of title I, Food for Peace Act (Public Law 83-480) and the Food for Progress Act of 1985, \$2,528,000, shall be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for "Farm Service Agency, Salaries and Expenses": *Provided*, That of the unobligated balances provided pursuant to title I of the Food for Peace Act, \$13,000,000 are rescinded: *Provided further*, That no amounts may be rescinded from amounts that were designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended.

##### FOOD FOR PEACE TITLE II GRANTS

For expenses during the current fiscal year, not otherwise recoverable, and unrecovered prior years' costs, including interest thereon, under the Food for Peace Act (Public Law 83-480), for commodities supplied in connection with dispositions abroad under title II of said Act, \$1,466,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, amounts made available under this heading shall be used to provide not less than the minimum level of funding required by section 412(e)(2) of the Food for Peace Act (7 U.S.C. 1736f(e)(2)) to carry out nonemergency food assistance programs under title II of such Act.

##### MCGOVERN-DOLE INTERNATIONAL FOOD FOR EDUCATION AND CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAM GRANTS

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of section 3107 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 1736o-1), \$191,626,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the Commodity Credit Corporation is authorized to provide the services, facilities, and authorities for the purpose of implementing such section, subject to reimbursement from amounts provided herein.

##### COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION EXPORT (LOANS) CREDIT GUARANTEE PROGRAM ACCOUNT (INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For administrative expenses to carry out the Commodity Credit Corporation's Export Guarantee Program, GSM 102 and GSM 103, \$6,748,000; to cover common overhead expenses as permitted by section 11 of the Commodity Credit Corporation Charter Act and in conformity with the Federal Credit Reform Act of 1990, of which \$6,394,000 shall be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for "Foreign Agricultural Service, Salaries and Expenses", and of which \$354,000 shall be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for "Farm Service Agency, Salaries and Expenses".

#### TITLE VI

#### RELATED AGENCY AND FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION

##### DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

##### FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION

##### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Food and Drug Administration, including hire and purchase of passenger motor vehicles; for payment of space rental and related costs pursuant to Public Law 92-313 for programs and activities of the Food and Drug Administration which are included in this Act; for rental of special purpose space in the District of Columbia or elsewhere; for miscellaneous and emergency expenses of enforcement activities, authorized and approved by the Secretary and to be accounted for solely on the Secretary's certificate, not to exceed \$25,000; and notwithstanding section 521 of Public Law 107-188; \$4,443,356,000: *Provided*, That of the amount provided under this heading, \$798,000,000 shall be derived from prescription drug user fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 379h, and shall be credited to this account and remain available until expended; \$128,282,000 shall be derived from medical device user fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 379j, and shall be credited to this account and remain available until expended; \$312,116,000 shall be derived from human generic drug user fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 379j-42, and shall be credited to this account and remain available until expended; \$21,014,000 shall be derived from biosimilar biological product user fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 379j-52, and shall be credited to this account and remain available until expended; \$22,464,000 shall be derived from animal drug user fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 379j-12, and shall be credited to this account and remain available until expended; \$6,944,000 shall be derived from animal generic drug user fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 379j-21, and shall be credited to this account and remain available until expended; \$566,000,000 shall be derived from tobacco product user fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 387s, and shall be credited to this account and remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That in addition and notwithstanding any other provision under this

heading, amounts collected for prescription drug user fees, medical device user fees, human generic drug user fees, biosimilar biological product user fees, animal drug user fees, and animal generic drug user fees that exceed the respective fiscal year 2015 limitations are appropriated and shall be credited to this account and remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That fees derived from prescription drug, medical device, human generic drug, biosimilar biological product, animal drug, and animal generic drug assessments for fiscal year 2015, including any such fees collected prior to fiscal year 2015 but credited for fiscal year 2015, shall be subject to the fiscal year 2015 limitations: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may accept payment during fiscal year 2015 of user fees specified under this heading and authorized for fiscal year 2016, prior to the due date for such fees, and that amounts of such fees assessed for fiscal year 2016 for which the Secretary accepts payment in fiscal year 2015 shall not be included in amounts under this heading: *Provided further*, That none of these funds shall be used to develop, establish, or operate any program of user fees authorized by 31 U.S.C. 9701: *Provided further*, That of the total amount appropriated: (1) \$903,403,000 shall be for the Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition and related field activities in the Office of Regulatory Affairs; (2) \$1,337,948,000 shall be for the Center for Drug Evaluation and Research and related field activities in the Office of Regulatory Affairs; (3) \$344,267,000 shall be for the Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research and for related field activities in the Office of Regulatory Affairs; (4) \$173,976,000 shall be for the Center for Veterinary Medicine and for related field activities in the Office of Regulatory Affairs; (5) \$420,548,000 shall be for the Center for Devices and Radiological Health and for related field activities in the Office of Regulatory Affairs; (6) \$63,331,000 shall be for the National Center for Toxicological Research; (7) \$531,527,000 shall be for the Center for Tobacco Products and for related field activities in the Office of Regulatory Affairs; (8) not to exceed \$163,079,000 shall be for Rent and Related activities, of which \$47,116,000 is for White Oak Consolidation, other than the amounts paid to the General Services Administration for rent; (9) not to exceed \$227,674,000 shall be for payments to the General Services Administration for rent; and (10) \$277,603,000 shall be for other activities, including the Office of the Commissioner of Food and Drugs, the Office of Foods and Veterinary Medicine, the Office of Medical and Tobacco Products, the Office of Global and Regulatory Policy, the Office of Operations, the Office of the Chief Scientist, and central services for these offices: *Provided further*, That not to exceed \$25,000 of this amount shall be for official reception and representation expenses, not otherwise provided for, as determined by the Commissioner: *Provided further*, That any transfer of funds pursuant to section 770(n) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 379dd(n)) shall only be from amounts made available under this heading for other activities: *Provided further*, That of the amounts that are made available under this heading for "other activities", and that are not derived from user fees, \$1,500,000 shall be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for "Department of Health and Human Services—Office of Inspector General" for oversight of the programs and operations of the Food and Drug Administration and shall be in addition to funds otherwise made available for oversight of the Food and Drug Administration:

*Provided further*, That funds may be transferred from one specified activity to another with the prior approval of the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

In addition, mammography user fees authorized by 42 U.S.C. 263b, export certification user fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 381, priority review user fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 360n and 360ff, food and feed recall fees, food reinspection fees, and voluntary qualified importer program fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 379j-31, outsourcing facility fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 379j-62, prescription drug wholesale distributor licensing and inspection fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 353(e)(3), and third-party logistics provider licensing and inspection fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 360eee-3(c)(1), shall be credited to this account, to remain available until expended.

#### BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

For plans, construction, repair, improvement, extension, alteration, and purchase of fixed equipment or facilities of or used by the Food and Drug Administration, where not otherwise provided, \$8,788,000, to remain available until expended.

#### INDEPENDENT AGENCY

##### FARM CREDIT ADMINISTRATION

##### LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

Not to exceed \$60,500,000 (from assessments collected from farm credit institutions, including the Federal Agricultural Mortgage Corporation) shall be obligated during the current fiscal year for administrative expenses as authorized under 12 U.S.C. 2249: *Provided*, That this limitation shall not apply to expenses associated with receiverships: *Provided further*, That the agency may exceed this limitation by up to 10 percent with notification to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

#### TITLE VII

#### GENERAL PROVISIONS

##### (INCLUDING RESCISSIONS AND TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

SEC. 701. Within the unit limit of cost fixed by law, appropriations and authorizations made for the Department of Agriculture for the current fiscal year under this Act shall be available for the purchase, in addition to those specifically provided for, of not to exceed 71 passenger motor vehicles of which 68 shall be for replacement only, and for the hire of such vehicles: *Provided*, That notwithstanding this section, the only purchase of new passenger vehicles shall be for those determined by the Secretary to be necessary for transportation safety, to reduce operational costs, and for the protection of life, property, and public safety.

SEC. 702. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture may transfer unobligated balances of discretionary funds appropriated by this Act or any other available unobligated discretionary balances that are remaining available of the Department of Agriculture to the Working Capital Fund for the acquisition of plant and capital equipment necessary for the delivery of financial, administrative, and information technology services of primary benefit to the agencies of the Department of Agriculture, such transferred funds to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That none of the funds made available by this Act or any other Act shall be transferred to the Working Capital Fund without the prior approval of the agency administrator: *Provided further*, That none of the funds transferred to the Working Capital

Fund pursuant to this section shall be available for obligation without written notification to and the prior approval of the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress: *Provided further*, That none of the funds appropriated by this Act or made available to the Department's Working Capital Fund shall be available for obligation or expenditure to make any changes to the Department's National Finance Center without written notification to and prior approval of the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress as required by section 719 of this Act: *Provided further*, That of annual income amounts in the Working Capital Fund of the Department of Agriculture allocated for the National Finance Center, the Secretary may reserve not more than 4 percent for the replacement or acquisition of capital equipment, including equipment for the improvement and implementation of a financial management plan, information technology, and other systems of the National Finance Center or to pay any unforeseen, extraordinary cost of the National Finance Center: *Provided further*, That none of the amounts reserved shall be available for obligation unless the Secretary submits written notification of the obligation to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate: *Provided further*, That the limitation on the obligation of funds pending notification to Congressional Committees shall not apply to any obligation that, as determined by the Secretary, is necessary to respond to a declared state of emergency that significantly impacts the operations of the National Finance Center; or to evacuate employees of the National Finance Center to a safe haven to continue operations of the National Finance Center.

SEC. 703. No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall remain available for obligation beyond the current fiscal year unless expressly so provided herein.

SEC. 704. No funds appropriated by this Act may be used to pay negotiated indirect cost rates on cooperative agreements or similar arrangements between the United States Department of Agriculture and nonprofit institutions in excess of 10 percent of the total direct cost of the agreement when the purpose of such cooperative arrangements is to carry out programs of mutual interest between the two parties. This does not preclude appropriate payment of indirect costs on grants and contracts with such institutions when such indirect costs are computed on a similar basis for all agencies for which appropriations are provided in this Act.

SEC. 705. Appropriations to the Department of Agriculture for the cost of direct and guaranteed loans made available in the current fiscal year shall remain available until expended to disburse obligations made in the current fiscal year for the following accounts: the Rural Development Loan Fund program account, the Rural Electrification and Telecommunication Loans program account, and the Rural Housing Insurance Fund program account.

SEC. 706. None of the funds made available to the Department of Agriculture by this Act may be used to acquire new information technology systems or significant upgrades, as determined by the Office of the Chief Information Officer, without the approval of the Chief Information Officer and the concurrence of the Executive Information Technology Investment Review Board: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be transferred to the Office of the Chief Infor-

mation Officer without written notification to and the prior approval of the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress: *Provided further*, That none of the funds available to the Department of Agriculture for information technology shall be obligated for projects over \$25,000 prior to receipt of written approval by the Chief Information Officer: *Provided further*, That the Chief Information Officer may authorize an agency to obligate funds without written approval from the Chief Information Officer for projects up to \$250,000 based upon the performance of an agency measured against the performance plan requirements described in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act).

SEC. 707. Funds made available under section 12401 and section 1241(a) of the Food Security Act of 1985 and section 524(b) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1524(b)) in the current fiscal year shall remain available until expended to disburse obligations made in the current fiscal year.

SEC. 708. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any former RUS borrower that has repaid or prepaid an insured, direct or guaranteed loan under the Rural Electrification Act of 1936, or any not-for-profit utility that is eligible to receive an insured or direct loan under such Act, shall be eligible for assistance under section 313(b)(2)(B) of such Act in the same manner as a borrower under such Act.

SEC. 709. Of the unobligated balances provided pursuant to section 12033 and section 15101 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008, \$125,000,000 are rescinded.

SEC. 710. Except as otherwise specifically provided by law, not more than \$20,000,000 in unobligated balances from appropriations made available for salaries and expenses in this Act for the Farm Service Agency shall remain available through September 30, 2016, for information technology expenses: *Provided*, That except as otherwise specifically provided by law, unobligated balances from appropriations made available for salaries and expenses in this Act for the Rural Development mission area shall remain available through September 30, 2016, for information technology expenses.

SEC. 711. The Secretary of Agriculture may authorize a State agency to use funds provided in this Act to exceed the maximum amount of liquid infant formula specified in 7 CFR 246.10 when issuing liquid infant formula to participants.

SEC. 712. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used for first-class travel by the employees of agencies funded by this Act in contravention of sections 301-10.122 through 301-10.124 of title 41, Code of Federal Regulations.

SEC. 713. In the case of each program established or amended by the Agricultural Act of 2014 (Public Law 113-79), other than by title I or subtitle A of title III of such Act, or programs for which indefinite amounts were provided in that Act, that is authorized or required to be carried out using funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation—

(1) such funds shall be available for salaries and related administrative expenses, including technical assistance, associated with the implementation of the program, without regard to the limitation on the total amount of allotments and fund transfers contained in section 11 of the Commodity Credit Corporation Charter Act (15 U.S.C. 714i); and

(2) the use of such funds for such purpose shall not be considered to be a fund transfer or allotment for purposes of applying the

limitation on the total amount of allotments and fund transfers contained in such section.

SEC. 714. Of the funds made available by this Act, not more than \$2,000,000 shall be used to cover necessary expenses of activities related to all advisory committees, panels, commissions, and task forces of the Department of Agriculture, except for panels used to comply with negotiated rule makings and panels used to evaluate competitively awarded grants.

SEC. 715. None of the funds in this Act shall be available to pay indirect costs charged against any agricultural research, education, or extension grant awards issued by the National Institute of Food and Agriculture that exceed 30 percent of total Federal funds provided under each award: *Provided*, That notwithstanding section 1462 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3310), funds provided by this Act for grants awarded competitively by the National Institute of Food and Agriculture shall be available to pay full allowable indirect costs for each grant awarded under section 9 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638).

SEC. 716. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or any other Act shall be used to pay the salaries and expenses of personnel to carry out the following:

(1) The Watershed Rehabilitation program authorized by section 14(h)(1) of the Watershed and Flood Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 1012(h)(1)) in excess of \$73,000,000.

(2) The Environmental Quality Incentives Program as authorized by sections 1240–1240H of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839aa–3839aa–8) in excess of \$1,347,000,000: *Provided*, That this limitation shall apply only to funds provided by section 1241(a)(5)(B) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3841(a)(5)(B)).

(3) The Conservation Stewardship Program as authorized by sections 1238D–1238G of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3838d–3838g) in excess of 7,741,000 acres.

(4) The Biomass Crop Assistance Program authorized by section 9011 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 8111) in excess of \$23,000,000 in new obligational authority.

(5) The Biorefinery, Renewable Chemical and Biobased Product Manufacturing Assistance program as authorized by section 9003 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 8103) in excess of \$30,000,000.

SEC. 717. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or any other Act shall be used to pay the salaries and expenses of personnel to carry out a program under subsection (b)(2)(A)(vii) of section 14222 of Public Law 110–246 in excess of \$959,000,000, as follows: Child Nutrition Programs Entitlement Commodities—\$465,000,000; State Option Contracts—\$5,000,000; Removal of Defective Commodities—\$2,500,000: *Provided*, That none of the funds made available in this Act or any other Act shall be used for salaries and expenses to carry out in this fiscal year section 19(i)(1)(E) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act, as amended, except in an amount that excludes the transfer of \$122,000,000 of the funds to be transferred under subsection (c) of section 14222 of Public Law 110–246, until October 1, 2015: *Provided further*, That \$122,000,000 made available on October 1, 2015, to carry out section 19(i)(1)(E) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act, as amended, shall be excluded from the limitation described in sub-

section (b)(2)(A)(viii) of section 14222 of Public Law 110–246: *Provided further*, That none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or any other Act shall be used to pay the salaries or expenses of any employee of the Department of Agriculture or officer of the Commodity Credit Corporation to carry out clause 3 of section 32 of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1935 (Public Law 74–320, 7 U.S.C. 612c, as amended), or for any surplus removal activities or price support activities under section 5 of the Commodity Credit Corporation Charter Act: *Provided further*, That of the available unobligated balances under (b)(2)(A)(vii) of section 14222 of Public Law 110–246, \$203,000,000 are rescinded.

SEC. 718. None of the funds appropriated by this or any other Act shall be used to pay the salaries and expenses of personnel who prepare or submit appropriations language as part of the President's budget submission to the Congress for programs under the jurisdiction of the Appropriations Subcommittees on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies that assumes revenues or reflects a reduction from the previous year due to user fees proposals that have not been enacted into law prior to the submission of the budget unless such budget submission identifies which additional spending reductions should occur in the event the user fees proposals are not enacted prior to the date of the convening of a committee of conference for the fiscal year 2016 appropriations Act.

SEC. 719. (a) None of the funds provided by this Act, or provided by previous Appropriations Acts to the agencies funded by this Act that remain available for obligation or expenditure in the current fiscal year, or provided from any accounts in the Treasury derived by the collection of fees available to the agencies funded by this Act, shall be available for obligation or expenditure through a reprogramming, transfer of funds, or reimbursements as authorized by the Economy Act, or in the case of the Department of Agriculture, through use of the authority provided by section 702(b) of the Department of Agriculture Organic Act of 1944 (7 U.S.C. 2257) or section 8 of Public Law 89–106 (7 U.S.C. 2263), that—

- (1) creates new programs;
  - (2) eliminates a program, project, or activity;
  - (3) increases funds or personnel by any means for any project or activity for which funds have been denied or restricted;
  - (4) relocates an office or employees;
  - (5) reorganizes offices, programs, or activities; or
  - (6) contracts out or privatizes any functions or activities presently performed by Federal employees;
- unless the Secretary of Agriculture or the Secretary of Health and Human Services (as the case may be) notifies in writing and receives approval from the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress at least 30 days in advance of the reprogramming of such funds or the use of such authority.

(b) None of the funds provided by this Act, or provided by previous Appropriations Acts to the agencies funded by this Act that remain available for obligation or expenditure in the current fiscal year, or provided from any accounts in the Treasury derived by the collection of fees available to the agencies funded by this Act, shall be available for obligation or expenditure for activities, programs, or projects through a reprogramming or use of the authorities referred to in sub-

section (a) involving funds in excess of \$500,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less, that—

(1) augments existing programs, projects, or activities;

(2) reduces by 10 percent funding for any existing program, project, or activity, or numbers of personnel by 10 percent as approved by Congress; or

(3) results from any general savings from a reduction in personnel which would result in a change in existing programs, activities, or projects as approved by Congress;

unless the Secretary of Agriculture or the Secretary of Health and Human Services (as the case may be) notifies in writing and receives approval from the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress at least 30 days in advance of the reprogramming or transfer of such funds or the use of such authority.

(c) The Secretary of Agriculture or the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall notify in writing and receive approval from the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress before implementing any program or activity not carried out during the previous fiscal year unless the program or activity is funded by this Act or specifically funded by any other Act.

(d) None of the funds provided by this Act, or provided by previous Appropriations Acts to the agencies funded by this Act that remain available for obligation or expenditure in the current fiscal year, or provided from any accounts in the Treasury derived by the collection of fees available to the agencies funded by this Act, shall be available for—

(1) modifying major capital investments funding levels, including information technology systems, that involves increasing or decreasing funds in the current fiscal year for the individual investment in excess of \$500,000 or 10 percent of the total cost, whichever is less;

(2) realigning or reorganizing new, current, or vacant positions or agency activities or functions to establish a center, office, branch, or similar entity with five or more personnel; or

(3) carrying out activities or functions that were not described in the budget request; unless the agencies funded by this Act notify, in writing, the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress at least 30 days in advance of using the funds for these purposes.

(e) As described in this section, no funds may be used for any activities unless the Secretary of Agriculture or the Secretary of Health and Human Services receives from the Committee on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress written or electronic mail confirmation of receipt of the notification as required in this section.

SEC. 720. Notwithstanding section 310B(g)(5) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1932(g)(5)), the Secretary may assess a one-time fee for any guaranteed business and industry loan in an amount that does not exceed 3 percent of the guaranteed principal portion of the loan.

SEC. 721. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available to the Department of Agriculture, the Food and Drug Administration, or the Farm Credit Administration shall be used to transmit or otherwise make available to any non-Department of Agriculture, non-Department of Health and Human Services, or non-Farm Credit Administration employee questions or responses to questions that are a result of information requested for the appropriations hearing process.

SEC. 722. Unless otherwise authorized by existing law, none of the funds provided in this Act, may be used by an executive branch agency to produce any prepackaged news story intended for broadcast or distribution in the United States unless the story includes a clear notification within the text or audio of the prepackaged news story that the prepackaged news story was prepared or funded by that executive branch agency.

SEC. 723. No employee of the Department of Agriculture may be detailed or assigned from an agency or office funded by this Act or any other Act to any other agency or office of the Department for more than 60 days in a fiscal year unless the individual's employing agency or office is fully reimbursed by the receiving agency or office for the salary and expenses of the employee for the period of assignment.

SEC. 724. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to pay the salaries and expenses of personnel who provide non-recourse marketing assistance loans for mohair under section 1201 of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (Public Law 113-79).

SEC. 725. There is hereby appropriated \$1,996,000 to carry out section 1621 of Public Law 110-246.

SEC. 726. There is hereby appropriated \$600,000 for the purposes of section 727 of division A of Public Law 112-55.

SEC. 727. Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture, the Commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration, and the Chairman of the Farm Credit Administration shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a detailed spending plan by program, project, and activity for all the funds made available under this Act including appropriated user fees, as defined in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act).

SEC. 728. Funds made available under title II of the Food for Peace Act (7 U.S.C. 1721 et seq.) may only be used to provide assistance to recipient nations if adequate monitoring and controls, as determined by the Administrator of the U.S. Agency for International Development, are in place to ensure that emergency food aid is received by the intended beneficiaries in areas affected by food shortages and not diverted for unauthorized or inappropriate purposes.

SEC. 729. The Secretary shall continue the pilot program in effect for fiscal year 2013 for packaging and reviewing section 502 single family direct loans. The Secretary shall continue agreements with current intermediary organizations and not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act enter into additional agreements that increase the number of participating intermediary organizations to not less than 10. The Secretary shall work with these organizations to increase the effectiveness of the section 502 single family direct loan program in rural communities and shall set aside and make available from the national reserve section 502 loans an amount necessary to support the work of such intermediaries and provide a priority for review of such loans.

SEC. 730. For loans and loan guarantees that do not require budget authority and the program level has been established in this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture may increase the program level for such loans and loan guarantees by not more than 25 percent: *Provided*, That prior to the Secretary implementing such an increase, the Secretary notifies, in writing, the Committees on Appropria-

tions of both Houses of Congress at least 15 days in advance.

SEC. 731. None of the funds made available by this or any other Act may be used to write, prepare, or publish a final rule or an interim final rule in furtherance of, or otherwise to implement or enforce the proposed rule entitled "Implementation of Regulations Required Under Title XI, of the Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008; Conduct in Violation of the Act" published by the Department of Agriculture in the Federal Register on June 22, 2010 (75 Fed. Reg. 35338 et seq.) unless the combined annual cost to the economy of such rules does not exceed \$100,000,000: *Provided*, That none of the funds made available by this or any other Act may be used to publish a final or interim final rule in furtherance of, or otherwise to implement, sections 201.2(l), 201.2(t), 201.2(u), 201.3(c), 201.210, 201.211, 201.213, or 201.214, as proposed to be added to title 9 of the Code of Federal Regulations, by such proposed rule: *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available by this or any other Act may be used to implement, enforce, or to take regulatory action other than rescission or repeal based on, or in furtherance of, 201.2(o), 201.3(a), or 201.215(a), of title 9 of the Code of Federal Regulations (as in effect on the date of the enactment of this Act), or to write, prepare, or publish a final or interim final rule in furtherance of, or otherwise to implement, the definitions or criteria specified in such sections: *Provided further*, That sections 201.2(o), 201.3(a), and 201.215(a), of title 9 of the Code of Federal Regulations (as in effect on the date of enactment of this Act) are hereby indefinitely declared null and void and shall have no force under the laws, and the Secretary of Agriculture shall, within 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, rescind sections 201.2(o), 201.3(a), and 201.215(a), of title 9 of the Code of Federal Regulations (as in effect on such date).

SEC. 732. None of the credit card refunds or rebates transferred to the Working Capital Fund pursuant to section 729 of the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2002 (7 U.S.C. 2235a; Public Law 107-76) shall be available for obligation without written notification to, and the prior approval of, the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress: *Provided*, That the refunds or rebates so transferred shall be available for obligation only for the acquisition of plant and capital equipment necessary for the delivery of financial, administrative, and information technology services of primary benefit to the agencies of the Department of Agriculture.

SEC. 733. For the 2014 fiscal year and each fiscal year thereafter, losses under section 1501 of Public Law 113-79 shall not be considered the same loss for the purposes of 7 U.S.C. 7333(i)(3) and 7 U.S.C. 1508(n).

SEC. 734. Of the funds made available to the Food and Drug Administration, Salaries and Expenses, Office of the Commissioner, \$20,000,000 shall not be available for obligation until the Food and Drug Administration finalizes the draft guidance of January 2013 entitled "Guidance for Industry: Abuse-Deterrent Opioids- Evaluation and Labeling": *Provided*, That if the Food and Drug Administration fails to finalize such guidance by June 30, 2015, such funds shall be made available for obligation to the Food and Drug Administration's Office of Criminal Investigation for the purpose of assisting Federal, state, and local agencies to combat the diversion and illegal sales of controlled substances.

SEC. 735. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or any other Act shall be used to pay the salaries and expenses of personnel to carry out section 307(b) of division C of the Omnibus Consolidated and Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act, 1999 (Public Law 105-277; 112 Stat. 2681-640) in excess of \$4,000,000.

SEC. 736. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to procure processed poultry products imported into the United States from the People's Republic of China for use in the school lunch program under the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.), the Child and Adult Food Care Program under section 17 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1766), the Summer Food Service Program for Children under section 13 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1761), or the school breakfast program under the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1771 et seq.).

SEC. 737. In addition to amounts otherwise made available by this Act and notwithstanding the last sentence of 16 U.S.C. 1310, there is appropriated \$4,000,000, to remain available until expended, to implement non-renewable agreements on eligible lands, including flooded agricultural lands, as determined by the Secretary, under the Water Bank Act (16 U.S.C. 1301-1311).

SEC. 738. (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services, on behalf of the United States may hereafter, whenever the Secretary deems desirable, relinquish to the State of Arkansas all or part of the jurisdiction of the United States over the lands and properties encompassing the Jefferson Labs campus in the State of Arkansas that are under the supervision or control of the Secretary.

(b) TERMS.—Relinquishment of jurisdiction under this section may be accomplished, under terms and conditions that the Secretary deems advisable—

(1) by filing with the Governor of the State of Arkansas a notice of relinquishment to take effect upon acceptance thereof; or

(2) as the laws of such State may otherwise provide.

(c) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term "Jefferson Labs campus" means the lands and properties of the National Center for Toxicological Research and the Arkansas Regional Laboratory.

(d) AGREEMENT REGARDING JEFFERSON COUNTY TECHNOLOGY RESEARCH AND COMMERCIALIZATION CENTER.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may hereafter enter into an agreement with the State of Arkansas or an agency of such State or a public or private entity with respect to the establishment or operation of a technology research and commercialization center in Jefferson County, Arkansas, proximate to the Jefferson Labs campus.

(2) RECEIPT AND EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS.—Pursuant to such agreement, the Secretary may hereafter receive and retain funds from such entity and use such funds, in addition to such other funds as are made available by this act or future acts for the operation of the National Center for Toxicological Research, for the purposes listed in paragraph (3). Funds received from such entity shall be deemed to be appropriated for such purposes and shall remain available until expended.

(3) PURPOSES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Funds described by paragraph (2) shall be available to defray—

(i) the costs of creating, upgrading, and maintaining connections between such center and roads, communications facilities, and utilities that are on the Jefferson Labs campus; and



(ii) the costs of upgrades, relocation, repair, and new constructions of roads, communications facilities, and utilities on such campus as may be necessary for such agreement.

(B) OTHER ACTS.—For purposes of this and any subsequent Act, the operation of the National Center for Toxicological Research shall be deemed to include the purposes listed in subparagraph (A).

SEC. 739. The Secretary shall set aside for Rural Economic Area Partnership (REAP) Zones, until August 15, 2015, an amount of funds made available in title III as follows: (a) with respect to funds under the headings of Rural Housing Insurance Fund Program Account, Mutual and Self-Help Housing Grants, Rural Community Facilities Program Account, Rural Development Loan Fund Program Account, and Rural Water and Waste Disposal Program Account the set aside shall equal the amount obligated in REAP Zones with respect to funds provided under such headings during the 2008 fiscal year; and (b) with respect to funds under the headings of Rural Business Program Account, and Rural Housing Assistance Grants the set aside shall equal the amount obligated in REAP Zones with respect to funds provided under such headings in the most recent fiscal year funds were obligated under the heading.

SEC. 740. In response to an eligible community where the drinking water supplies are inadequate due to a natural disaster, as determined by the Secretary, including drought or severe weather, the Secretary may provide potable water through the Emergency Community Water Assistance Grant Program for an additional period of time not to exceed 120 days beyond the established period provided under the Program in order to protect public health.

SEC. 741. Hereafter, none of the funds appropriated by this or any other Act may be used to carry out section 410 of the Federal Meat Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 679a) or section 30 of the Poultry Products Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 471).

SEC. 742. There is hereby established in the Treasury of the United States a fund to be known as the “Nonrecurring expenses fund” (the Fund); *Provided*, That unobligated balances of expired discretionary funds appropriated in this or any succeeding fiscal year from the General Fund of the Treasury to the Department of Agriculture (except the Forest Service) by this or any other Act may be transferred (not later than the end of the fifth fiscal year after the last fiscal year for which such funds are available for the purposes for which appropriated) into the Fund; *Provided further*, That amounts deposited in the Fund shall be available until expended, and in addition to such other funds as may be available for such purposes, for facilities infrastructure capital acquisition necessary for the operation of the Department of Agriculture, subject to approval by the Office of Management and Budget; *Provided further*, That amounts in the Fund may be obligated only after the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate are notified at least 15 days in advance of the planned use of funds.

SEC. 743. There is hereby appropriated for the “Emergency Watershed Protection Program”, \$78,581,000, to remain available until expended; for the “Emergency Forestry Restoration Program”, \$3,203,000, to remain available until expended; and for the “Emergency Conservation Program”, \$9,216,000, to remain available until expended; *Provided*, That funds under this section are for nec-

essary expenses resulting from a major disaster declared pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.), and are designated by the Congress as being for disaster relief pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(D) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

SEC. 744. Of the funding provided in section 743 of division A of Public Law 113–76, not more than \$75,000 may be used for administrative purposes, including a modification to an existing contract to allow reimbursement for travel and other administrative purposes.

SEC. 745. Of the unobligated balances identified by Treasury Appropriation Fund Symbol 12X1401, \$1,530,000 are rescinded.

SEC. 746. The unobligated balances identified by Treasury Appropriation Fund Symbol 12X2271 are rescinded.

SEC. 747. Section 501(f)(1)(C)(ii)(II) of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 7401(f)(1)(C)(ii)(II)) is amended by striking “section 514” and inserting “a commodity promotion law”.

SEC. 748. Of the unobligated balances provided pursuant to section 9004(d)(1) of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002, as amended, (7 U.S.C. 8104(d)(1)), \$8,000,000 are hereby rescinded.

SEC. 749. Funds provided by this or any prior Appropriations Act for the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative under 7 U.S.C. 450i(b) shall be made available without regard to section 7128 of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (7 U.S.C. 3371 note), under the matching requirements in laws in effect on the date before the date of enactment of such section: *Provided*, That the requirements of 7 U.S.C. 450i(b)(9) shall continue to apply.

SEC. 750. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to pay the salaries or expenses of personnel—

(1) to inspect horses under section 3 of the Federal Meat Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 603);

(2) to inspect horses under section 903 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 1901 note; Public Law 104–127); or

(3) to implement or enforce section 352.19 of title 9, Code of Federal Regulations (or a successor regulation).

SEC. 751. For the period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act through school year 2015–2016, with respect to the school lunch program established under the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.) or the school breakfast program established under the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1771 et seq.) and final regulations published by the Department of Agriculture in the Federal Register on January 26, 2012 (77 Fed. Reg. 4088 et seq.), the Secretary shall allow States to grant an exemption from the whole grain requirements that took effect on or after July 1, 2014, and the States shall establish a process for evaluating and responding, in a reasonable amount of time, to requests for an exemption: *Provided*, That school food authorities demonstrate hardship, including financial hardship, in procuring specific whole grain products which are acceptable to the students and compliant with the whole grain-rich requirements; *Provided further*, That school food authorities shall comply with the applicable grain component or standard with respect to the school lunch or school breakfast program that was in effect prior to July 1, 2014.

SEC. 752. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or any other Act shall be used to pay the salaries and expenses of personnel to implement any

regulations under the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.), the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1771 et seq.), the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 (Public Law 111–296), or any other law that would require a reduction in the quantity of sodium contained in federally reimbursed meals, foods, and snacks sold in schools below Target 1 (as described in section 220.8(f)(3) of title 7, Code of Federal Regulations (or successor regulations)) until the latest scientific research establishes the reduction is beneficial for children.

SEC. 753. (a) None of the funds made available by this Act or any other Act may be used to exclude or restrict, or to pay the salaries and expenses of personnel to exclude or restrict, the eligibility of any variety of fresh, whole, or cut vegetables (except for vegetables with added sugars, fats, or oils) from being provided under the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children under section 17 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786) (in this section referred to as the “program”).

(b) Not later than 15 days after the date of enactment of this Act, each State agency shall carry out the program in a manner consistent with subsection (a).

(c) Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture shall commence under section 17(f)(11)(C) of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786(f)(11)(C)) the next regular review of the supplemental foods available under this program, including a review of the nutrient value of all vegetables.

(d) If, upon completing the review under subsection (c), the Secretary of Agriculture recommends that a vegetable be eligible for purchase under the program, none of the funds made available under this Act or any other Act may be used to exclude or restrict the eligibility of that variety of vegetable (except if that vegetable has added sugars, fats, or oils) from being purchased under the program, and subsection (a) shall continue to be effective.

(e) If the review in subsection (c) recommends that any vegetable shall not be available for purchase under the program, based upon the nutritional content of the vegetable and the nutrition needs of WIC participants, subsection (a) shall expire upon the publication of the regularly scheduled review.

(f) Not later than 90 days after completing the review under subsection (c), the Secretary of Agriculture shall make publicly available all scientific research and data used to make the final recommendations and explain the results of the review by submitting a report containing such information to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate, the Committee on Education and Workforce of the House of Representatives, and the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives.

(g) Upon completion of the review under subsection (c) by the Secretary of Agriculture, the Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct an audit of the review which shall include an audit of the scientific research and data used to conduct the review.

#### TITLE VIII

#### EBOLA RESPONSE AND PREPAREDNESS

##### DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

##### FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For an additional amount for “Salaries and Expenses”, to prevent, prepare for, and

respond to the Ebola virus domestically and internationally, and to develop necessary medical countermeasures and vaccines, including the review, regulations, post market surveillance of vaccines and therapies, and administrative activities, \$25,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: *Provided further*, That of the amounts provided, \$4,800,000 is for the Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research; \$2,400,000 is for the Center for Devices and Radiological Health; \$400,000 is for the Office of the Commissioner; \$1,900,000 is for the Center for Drug Evaluation and Research; \$500,000 is for the Office of Regulatory Affairs; and \$15,000,000 is for the Medical Countermeasures Initiative.

This division may be cited as the “Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2015”.

## **DIVISION B—COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015**

### **TITLE I**

#### **DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

##### **INTERNATIONAL TRADE ADMINISTRATION**

##### **OPERATIONS AND ADMINISTRATION**

For necessary expenses for international trade activities of the Department of Commerce provided for by law, and for engaging in trade promotional activities abroad, including expenses of grants and cooperative agreements for the purpose of promoting exports of United States firms, without regard to sections 3702 and 3703 of title 44, United States Code; full medical coverage for dependent members of immediate families of employees stationed overseas and employees temporarily posted overseas; travel and transportation of employees of the International Trade Administration between two points abroad, without regard to section 40118 of title 49, United States Code; employment of citizens of the United States and aliens by contract for services; rental of space abroad for periods not exceeding 10 years, and expenses of alteration, repair, or improvement; purchase or construction of temporary demountable exhibition structures for use abroad; payment of tort claims, in the manner authorized in the first paragraph of section 2672 of title 28, United States Code, when such claims arise in foreign countries; not to exceed \$294,300 for official representation expenses abroad; purchase of passenger motor vehicles for official use abroad, not to exceed \$45,000 per vehicle; obtaining insurance on official motor vehicles; and rental of tie lines, \$472,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016, of which \$10,000,000 is to be derived from fees to be retained and used by the International Trade Administration, notwithstanding section 3302 of title 31, United States Code: *Provided*, That, of amounts provided under this heading, not less than \$16,400,000 shall be for China antidumping and countervailing duty enforcement and compliance activities: *Provided further*, That the provisions of the first sentence of section 105(f) and all of section 108(c) of the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2455(f) and 2458(c)) shall apply in carrying out these activities; and that for the purpose of this Act, contributions under the provisions of the Mutual Educational and Cultural Ex-

change Act of 1961 shall include payment for assessments for services provided as part of these activities.

##### **BUREAU OF INDUSTRY AND SECURITY OPERATIONS AND ADMINISTRATION**

For necessary expenses for export administration and national security activities of the Department of Commerce, including costs associated with the performance of export administration field activities both domestically and abroad; full medical coverage for dependent members of immediate families of employees stationed overseas; employment of citizens of the United States and aliens by contract for services abroad; payment of tort claims, in the manner authorized in the first paragraph of section 2672 of title 28, United States Code, when such claims arise in foreign countries; not to exceed \$13,500 for official representation expenses abroad; awards of compensation to informers under the Export Administration Act of 1979, and as authorized by section 1(b) of the Act of June 15, 1917 (40 Stat. 223; 22 U.S.C. 401(b)); and purchase of passenger motor vehicles for official use and motor vehicles for law enforcement use with special requirement vehicles eligible for purchase without regard to any price limitation otherwise established by law, \$102,500,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the provisions of the first sentence of section 105(f) and all of section 108(c) of the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2455(f) and 2458(c)) shall apply in carrying out these activities: *Provided further*, That payments and contributions collected and accepted for materials or services provided as part of such activities may be retained for use in covering the cost of such activities, and for providing information to the public with respect to the export administration and national security activities of the Department of Commerce and other export control programs of the United States and other governments.

##### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS**

For grants for economic development assistance as provided by the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965, for trade adjustment assistance, for the cost of loan guarantees authorized by section 26 of the Stevenson-Wylder Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3721), for grants authorized by section 27 (15 U.S.C. 3722) of such Act, and for grants, \$213,000,000, to remain available until expended; of which \$5,000,000 shall be for projects to facilitate the relocation, to the United States, of a source of employment located outside the United States; of which \$4,000,000 shall be for loan guarantees under such section 26; and of which \$10,000,000 shall be for grants under such section 27: *Provided*, That the costs for loan guarantees, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974: *Provided further*, That these funds for loan guarantees under such section 26 are available to subsidize total loan principal, any part of which is to be guaranteed, not to exceed \$70,000,000.

##### **SALARIES AND EXPENSES**

For necessary expenses of administering the economic development assistance programs as provided for by law, \$37,000,000: *Provided*, That these funds may be used to monitor projects approved pursuant to title I of the Public Works Employment Act of 1976, title II of the Trade Act of 1974, and the Community Emergency Drought Relief Act of 1977.

##### **MINORITY BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AGENCY**

##### **MINORITY BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT**

For necessary expenses of the Department of Commerce in fostering, promoting, and developing minority business enterprise, including expenses of grants, contracts, and other agreements with public or private organizations, \$30,000,000.

##### **ECONOMIC AND STATISTICAL ANALYSIS**

##### **SALARIES AND EXPENSES**

For necessary expenses, as authorized by law, of economic and statistical analysis programs of the Department of Commerce, \$100,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016.

##### **BUREAU OF THE CENSUS**

##### **SALARIES AND EXPENSES**

For necessary expenses for collecting, compiling, analyzing, preparing and publishing statistics, provided for by law, \$248,000,000: *Provided*, That, from amounts provided herein, funds may be used for promotion, outreach, and marketing activities: *Provided further*, That the Bureau of the Census shall collect data for the Annual Social and Economic Supplement to the Current Population Survey using the same health insurance questions included in previous years, in addition to the revised questions implemented in the Current Population Survey beginning in February 2014.

##### **PERIODIC CENSUSES AND PROGRAMS**

For necessary expenses for collecting, compiling, analyzing, preparing and publishing statistics for periodic censuses and programs provided for by law, \$840,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That, from amounts provided herein, funds may be used for promotion, outreach, and marketing activities: *Provided further*, That within the amounts appropriated, \$1,551,000 shall be transferred to the “Office of Inspector General” account for activities associated with carrying out investigations and audits related to the Bureau of the Census.

##### **NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION ADMINISTRATION**

##### **SALARIES AND EXPENSES**

For necessary expenses, as provided for by law, of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), \$38,200,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That, notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 1535(d), the Secretary of Commerce shall charge Federal agencies for costs incurred in spectrum management, analysis, operations, and related services, and such fees shall be retained and used as offsetting collections for costs of such spectrum services, to remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Commerce is authorized to retain and use as offsetting collections all funds transferred, or previously transferred, from other Government agencies for all costs incurred in telecommunications research, engineering, and related activities by the Institute for Telecommunication Sciences of NTIA, in furtherance of its assigned functions under this paragraph, and such funds received from other Government agencies shall remain available until expended.

##### **PUBLIC TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES, PLANNING AND CONSTRUCTION**

For the administration of prior-year grants, recoveries and unobligated balances of funds previously appropriated are available for the administration of all open grants until their expiration.



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK  
OFFICESALARIES AND EXPENSES  
(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) provided for by law, including defense of suits instituted against the Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the USPTO, \$3,458,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the sum herein appropriated from the general fund shall be reduced as offsetting collections of fees and surcharges assessed and collected by the USPTO under any law are received during fiscal year 2015, so as to result in a fiscal year 2015 appropriation from the general fund estimated at \$0: *Provided further*, That during fiscal year 2015, should the total amount of such offsetting collections be less than \$3,458,000,000 this amount shall be reduced accordingly: *Provided further*, That any amount received in excess of \$3,458,000,000 in fiscal year 2015 and deposited in the Patent and Trademark Fee Reserve Fund shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That the Director of USPTO shall submit a spending plan to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate for any amounts made available by the preceding proviso and such spending plan shall be treated as a reprogramming under section 505 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation or expenditure except in compliance with the procedures set forth in that section: *Provided further*, That any amounts reprogrammed in accordance with the preceding proviso shall be transferred to the United States Patent and Trademark Office Salaries and Expenses account: *Provided further*, That from amounts provided herein, not to exceed \$900 shall be made available in fiscal year 2015 for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided further*, That in fiscal year 2015 from the amounts made available for "Salaries and Expenses" for the USPTO, the amounts necessary to pay (1) the difference between the percentage of basic pay contributed by the USPTO and employees under section 8334(a) of title 5, United States Code, and the normal cost percentage (as defined by section 8331(17) of that title) as provided by the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) for USPTO's specific use, of basic pay, of employees subject to subchapter III of chapter 83 of that title, and (2) the present value of the otherwise unfunded accruing costs, as determined by OPM for USPTO's specific use of post-retirement life insurance and post-retirement health benefits coverage for all USPTO employees who are enrolled in Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) and Federal Employees Group Life Insurance (FEGLI), shall be transferred to the Civil Service Retirement and Disability Fund, the FEGLI Fund, and the FEHB Fund, as appropriate, and shall be available for the authorized purposes of those accounts: *Provided further*, That any differences between the present value factors published in OPM's yearly 300 series benefit letters and the factors that OPM provides for USPTO's specific use shall be recognized as an imputed cost on USPTO's financial statements, where applicable: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, all fees and surcharges assessed and collected by USPTO are available for USPTO only pursuant to section 42(c) of title 35, United States Code, as amended by section 22 of the Leahy-Smith America Invents Act (Public Law 112-29): *Provided further*, That within the

amounts appropriated, \$2,000,000 shall be transferred to the "Office of Inspector General" account for activities associated with carrying out investigations and audits related to the USPTO.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND  
TECHNOLOGY  
SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL RESEARCH AND  
SERVICES

For necessary expenses of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), \$675,500,000, to remain available until expended, of which not to exceed \$9,000,000 may be transferred to the "Working Capital Fund": *Provided*, That not to exceed \$5,000 shall be for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided further*, That NIST may provide local transportation for summer undergraduate research fellowship program participants.

## INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

For necessary expenses for industrial technology services, \$138,100,000, to remain available until expended, of which \$130,000,000 shall be for the Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership, and of which \$8,100,000 shall be for the Advanced Manufacturing Technology Consortia.

## CONSTRUCTION OF RESEARCH FACILITIES

For construction of new research facilities, including architectural and engineering design, and for renovation and maintenance of existing facilities, not otherwise provided for the National Institute of Standards and Technology, as authorized by sections 13 through 15 of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act (15 U.S.C. 278c-278e), \$50,300,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the Secretary of Commerce shall include in the budget justification materials that the Secretary submits to Congress in support of the Department of Commerce budget (as submitted with the budget of the President under section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code) an estimate for each National Institute of Standards and Technology construction project having a total multi-year program cost of more than \$5,000,000, and simultaneously the budget justification materials shall include an estimate of the budgetary requirements for each such project for each of the 5 subsequent fiscal years.

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC  
ADMINISTRATIONOPERATIONS, RESEARCH, AND FACILITIES  
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of activities authorized by law for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, including maintenance, operation, and hire of aircraft and vessels; grants, contracts, or other payments to nonprofit organizations for the purposes of conducting activities pursuant to cooperative agreements; and relocation of facilities, \$3,202,398,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016, except that funds provided for cooperative enforcement shall remain available until September 30, 2017: *Provided*, That fees and donations received by the National Ocean Service for the management of national marine sanctuaries may be retained and used for the salaries and expenses associated with those activities, notwithstanding section 3302 of title 31, United States Code: *Provided further*, That in addition, \$116,000,000 shall be derived by transfer from the fund entitled "Promote and Develop Fishery Products and Research Pertaining to American Fisheries", which shall only be used for fishery activities related to the Saltonstall-Kennedy Grant Program, Co-

operative Research, Annual Stock Assessments, Survey and Monitoring Projects, Interjurisdictional Fisheries Grants, and Fish Information Networks: *Provided further*, That of the \$3,333,398,000 provided for in direct obligations under this heading \$3,202,398,000 is appropriated from the general fund, \$116,000,000 is provided by transfer, and \$15,000,000 is derived from recoveries of prior year obligations: *Provided further*, That the total amount available for National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration corporate services administrative support costs shall not exceed \$220,300,000: *Provided further*, That any deviation from the amounts designated for specific activities in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act), or any use of deobligated balances of funds provided under this heading in previous years, shall be subject to the procedures set forth in section 505 of this Act: *Provided further*, That in addition, for necessary retired pay expenses under the Retired Serviceman's Family Protection and Survivor Benefits Plan, and for payments for the medical care of retired personnel and their dependents under the Dependents Medical Care Act (10 U.S.C. 55), such sums as may be necessary.

## PROCUREMENT, ACQUISITION AND CONSTRUCTION

For procurement, acquisition and construction of capital assets, including alteration and modification costs, of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, \$2,179,225,000, to remain available until September 30, 2017, except that funds provided for construction of facilities shall remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of the \$2,192,225,000 provided for in direct obligations under this heading, \$2,179,225,000 is appropriated from the general fund and \$13,000,000 is provided from recoveries of prior year obligations: *Provided further*, That any deviation from the amounts designated for specific activities in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act), or any use of deobligated balances of funds provided under this heading in previous years, shall be subject to the procedures set forth in section 505 of this Act: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Commerce shall include in budget justification materials that the Secretary submits to Congress in support of the Department of Commerce budget (as submitted with the budget of the President under section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code) an estimate for each National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration procurement, acquisition or construction project having a total of more than \$5,000,000 and simultaneously the budget justification shall include an estimate of the budgetary requirements for each such project for each of the 5 subsequent fiscal years: *Provided further*, That, within the amounts appropriated, \$1,302,000 shall be transferred to the "Office of Inspector General" account for activities associated with carrying out investigations and audits related to satellite procurement, acquisition and construction.

## PACIFIC COASTAL SALMON RECOVERY

For necessary expenses associated with the restoration of Pacific salmon populations, \$65,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That, of the funds provided herein, the Secretary of Commerce may issue grants to the States of Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Nevada, California, and Alaska, and to the Federally recognized tribes of the Columbia River and Pacific

Coast (including Alaska), for projects necessary for conservation of salmon and steelhead populations that are listed as threatened or endangered, or that are identified by a State as at-risk to be so listed, for maintaining populations necessary for exercise of tribal treaty fishing rights or native subsistence fishing, or for conservation of Pacific coastal salmon and steelhead habitat, based on guidelines to be developed by the Secretary of Commerce: *Provided further*, That all funds shall be allocated based on scientific and other merit principles and shall not be available for marketing activities: *Provided further*, That funds disbursed to States shall be subject to a matching requirement of funds or documented in-kind contributions of at least 33 percent of the Federal funds.

#### FISHERMEN'S CONTINGENCY FUND

For carrying out the provisions of title IV of Public Law 95-372, not to exceed \$350,000, to be derived from receipts collected pursuant to that Act, to remain available until expended.

#### FISHERIES FINANCE PROGRAM ACCOUNT

Subject to section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, during fiscal year 2015, obligations of direct loans may not exceed \$24,000,000 for Individual Fishing Quota loans and not to exceed \$100,000,000 for traditional direct loans as authorized by the Merchant Marine Act of 1936.

#### DEPARTMENTAL MANAGEMENT

##### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses for the management of the Department of Commerce provided for by law, including not to exceed \$4,500 for official reception and representation, \$56,000,000: *Provided*, That the Secretary of Commerce shall maintain a task force on job repatriation and manufacturing growth and shall produce an annual report on related incentive strategies, implementation plans and program results: *Provided further*, That within amounts provided, the Secretary of Commerce may use up to \$2,500,000 to engage in activities to provide businesses and communities with information about and referrals to relevant Federal, State, and local government programs.

##### RENOVATION AND MODERNIZATION

For necessary expenses for the renovation and modernization of Department of Commerce facilities, \$4,500,000, to remain available until expended.

##### OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General in carrying out the provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.), \$30,596,000.

#### GENERAL PROVISIONS—DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

SEC. 101. During the current fiscal year, applicable appropriations and funds made available to the Department of Commerce by this Act shall be available for the activities specified in the Act of October 26, 1949 (15 U.S.C. 1514), to the extent and in the manner prescribed by the Act, and, notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3324, may be used for advanced payments not otherwise authorized only upon the certification of officials designated by the Secretary of Commerce that such payments are in the public interest.

SEC. 102. During the current fiscal year, appropriations made available to the Department of Commerce by this Act for salaries and expenses shall be available for hire of passenger motor vehicles as authorized by 31 U.S.C. 1343 and 1344; services as authorized

by 5 U.S.C. 3109; and uniforms or allowances therefor, as authorized by law (5 U.S.C. 5901-5902).

SEC. 103. Not to exceed 5 percent of any appropriation made available for the current fiscal year for the Department of Commerce in this Act may be transferred between such appropriations, but no such appropriation shall be increased by more than 10 percent by any such transfers: *Provided*, That any transfer pursuant to this section shall be treated as a reprogramming of funds under section 505 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation or expenditure except in compliance with the procedures set forth in that section: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Commerce shall notify the Committees on Appropriations at least 15 days in advance of the acquisition or disposal of any capital asset (including land, structures, and equipment) not specifically provided for in this Act or any other law appropriating funds for the Department of Commerce.

SEC. 104. The requirements set forth by section 105 of the Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2012 (Public Law 112-55), as amended by section 105 of title I of division B of Public Law 113-6, are hereby adopted by reference and made applicable with respect to fiscal year 2015: *Provided*, That the life cycle cost for the Joint Polar Satellite System is \$11,323,400,000 and the life cycle cost for the Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite R-Series Program is \$10,829,500,000.

SEC. 105. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary may furnish services (including but not limited to utilities, telecommunications, and security services) necessary to support the operation, maintenance, and improvement of space that persons, firms, or organizations are authorized, pursuant to the Public Buildings Cooperative Use Act of 1976 or other authority, to use or occupy in the Herbert C. Hoover Building, Washington, DC, or other buildings, the maintenance, operation, and protection of which has been delegated to the Secretary from the Administrator of General Services pursuant to the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 on a reimbursable or non-reimbursable basis. Amounts received as reimbursement for services provided under this section or the authority under which the use or occupancy of the space is authorized, up to \$200,000, shall be credited to the appropriation or fund which initially bears the costs of such services.

SEC. 106. Nothing in this title shall be construed to prevent a grant recipient from deterring child pornography, copyright infringement, or any other unlawful activity over its networks.

SEC. 107. The Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration is authorized to use, with their consent, with reimbursement and subject to the limits of available appropriations, the land, services, equipment, personnel, and facilities of any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States, or of any State, local government, Indian tribal government, Territory, or possession, or of any political subdivision thereof, or of any foreign government or international organization, for purposes related to carrying out the responsibilities of any statute administered by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

SEC. 108. The Department of Commerce shall provide a monthly report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate on any official travel to China by any employee of the

U.S. Department of Commerce, including the purpose of such travel.

SEC. 109. The National Technical Information Service shall not charge any customer for a copy of any report or document generated by the Legislative Branch unless the Service has provided information to the customer on how an electronic copy of such report or document may be accessed and downloaded for free online. Should a customer still require the Service to provide a printed or digital copy of the report or document, the charge shall be limited to recovering the Service's cost of processing, reproducing, and delivering such report or document.

SEC. 110. To carry out the responsibilities of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the Administrator of NOAA is authorized to: (1) enter into grants and cooperative agreements with; (2) use on a non-reimbursable basis land, services, equipment, personnel, and facilities provided by; and (3) receive and expend funds made available on a consensual basis from: a Federal agency, State or subdivision thereof, local government, tribal government, territory, or possession or any subdivisions thereof: *Provided*, That funds received for permitting and related regulatory activities pursuant to this section shall be deposited under the heading "National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration—Operations, Research, and Facilities" and shall remain available until September 30, 2016 for such purposes: *Provided further*, That all funds within this section and their corresponding uses are subject to section 505 of this Act.

SEC. 111. The Secretary of Commerce may waive the requirement for bonds under 40 U.S.C. 3131 with respect to contracts for the construction, alteration, or repair of vessels, regardless of the terms of the contracts as to payment or title, when the contract is made under the Coast and Geodetic Survey Act of 1947 (33 U.S.C. 883a et seq.).

This title may be cited as the "Department of Commerce Appropriations Act, 2015".

#### TITLE II

#### DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

##### GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

##### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary for the administration of the Department of Justice, \$111,500,000, of which not to exceed \$4,000,000 for security and construction of Department of Justice facilities shall remain available until expended.

##### JUSTICE INFORMATION SHARING TECHNOLOGY

For necessary expenses for information sharing technology, including planning, development, deployment and departmental direction, \$25,842,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the Attorney General may transfer up to \$35,400,000 to this account, from funds available to the Department of Justice for information technology, for enterprise-wide information technology initiatives: *Provided further*, That the transfer authority in the preceding proviso is in addition to any other transfer authority contained in this Act.

##### ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW AND APPEALS

##### (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For expenses necessary for the administration of pardon and clemency petitions and immigration-related activities, \$351,072,000, of which \$4,000,000 shall be derived by transfer from the Executive Office for Immigration Review fees deposited in the "Immigration Examinations Fee" account.

##### OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General, \$88,577,000, including not to

exceed \$10,000 to meet unforeseen emergencies of a confidential character.

UNITED STATES PAROLE COMMISSION  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the United States Parole Commission as authorized, \$13,308,000.

LEGAL ACTIVITIES

SALARIES AND EXPENSES, GENERAL LEGAL  
ACTIVITIES

For expenses necessary for the legal activities of the Department of Justice, not otherwise provided for, including not to exceed \$20,000 for expenses of collecting evidence, to be expended under the direction of, and to be accounted for solely under the certificate of, the Attorney General; and rent of private or Government-owned space in the District of Columbia, \$885,000,000, of which not to exceed \$15,000,000 for litigation support contracts shall remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of the amount provided for INTERPOL Washington dues payments, not to exceed \$685,000 shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That of the total amount appropriated, not to exceed \$9,000 shall be available to INTERPOL Washington for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding section 205 of this Act, upon a determination by the Attorney General that emergent circumstances require additional funding for litigation activities of the Civil Division, the Attorney General may transfer such amounts to "Salaries and Expenses, General Legal Activities" from available appropriations for the current fiscal year for the Department of Justice, as may be necessary to respond to such circumstances: *Provided further*, That any transfer pursuant to the preceding proviso shall be treated as a reprogramming under section 505 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation or expenditure except in compliance with the procedures set forth in that section: *Provided further*, That of the amount appropriated, such sums as may be necessary shall be available to the Civil Rights Division for salaries and expenses associated with the election monitoring program under section 8 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. 10305) and to reimburse the Office of Personnel Management for such salaries and expenses: *Provided further*, That of the amounts provided under this heading for the election monitoring program, \$3,390,000 shall remain available until expended.

In addition, for reimbursement of expenses of the Department of Justice associated with processing cases under the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986, not to exceed \$7,833,000, to be appropriated from the Vaccine Injury Compensation Trust Fund.

SALARIES AND EXPENSES, ANTITRUST DIVISION

For expenses necessary for the enforcement of antitrust and kindred laws, \$162,246,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, fees collected for premerger notification filings under the Hart-Scott-Rodino Antitrust Improvements Act of 1976 (15 U.S.C. 18a), regardless of the year of collection (and estimated to be \$100,000,000 in fiscal year 2015), shall be retained and used for necessary expenses in this appropriation, and shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That the sum herein appropriated from the general fund shall be reduced as such offsetting collections are received during fiscal year 2015, so as to result in a final fiscal year 2015 appropriation from the general fund estimated at \$62,246,000.

SALARIES AND EXPENSES, UNITED STATES  
ATTORNEYS

For necessary expenses of the Offices of the United States Attorneys, including intergovernmental and cooperative agreements, \$1,960,000,000: *Provided*, That of the total amount appropriated, not to exceed \$7,200 shall be available for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided further*, That not to exceed \$25,000,000 shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That each United States Attorney shall establish or participate in a United States Attorney-led task force on human trafficking.

UNITED STATES TRUSTEE SYSTEM FUND

For necessary expenses of the United States Trustee Program, as authorized, \$225,908,000, to remain available until expended and to be derived from the United States Trustee System Fund: *Provided*, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, deposits to the Fund shall be available in such amounts as may be necessary to pay refunds due depositors: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, \$225,908,000 of offsetting collections pursuant to section 589a(b) of title 28, United States Code, shall be retained and used for necessary expenses in this appropriation and shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That the sum herein appropriated from the Fund shall be reduced as such offsetting collections are received during fiscal year 2015, so as to result in a final fiscal year 2015 appropriation from the Fund estimated at \$0.

SALARIES AND EXPENSES, FOREIGN CLAIMS  
SETTLEMENT COMMISSION

For expenses necessary to carry out the activities of the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission, including services as authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, \$2,326,000.

FEES AND EXPENSES OF WITNESSES

For fees and expenses of witnesses, for expenses of contracts for the procurement and supervision of expert witnesses, for private counsel expenses, including advances, and for expenses of foreign counsel, \$270,000,000, to remain available until expended, of which not to exceed \$16,000,000 is for construction of buildings for protected witness safesites; not to exceed \$3,000,000 is for the purchase and maintenance of armored and other vehicles for witness security caravans; and not to exceed \$11,000,000 is for the purchase, installation, maintenance, and upgrade of secure telecommunications equipment and a secure automated information network to store and retrieve the identities and locations of protected witnesses.

SALARIES AND EXPENSES, COMMUNITY  
RELATIONS SERVICE

For necessary expenses of the Community Relations Service, \$12,250,000: *Provided*, That notwithstanding section 205 of this Act, upon a determination by the Attorney General that emergent circumstances require additional funding for conflict resolution and violence prevention activities of the Community Relations Service, the Attorney General may transfer such amounts to the Community Relations Service, from available appropriations for the current fiscal year for the Department of Justice, as may be necessary to respond to such circumstances: *Provided further*, That any transfer pursuant to the preceding proviso shall be treated as a reprogramming under section 505 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation or expenditure except in compliance with the procedures set forth in that section.

ASSETS FORFEITURE FUND

For expenses authorized by subparagraphs (B), (F), and (G) of section 524(c)(1) of title 28, United States Code, \$20,514,000, to be derived from the Department of Justice Assets Forfeiture Fund.

UNITED STATES MARSHALS SERVICE  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the United States Marshals Service, \$1,195,000,000, of which not to exceed \$6,000 shall be available for official reception and representation expenses, and not to exceed \$15,000,000 shall remain available until expended.

CONSTRUCTION

For construction in space controlled, occupied or utilized by the United States Marshals Service for prisoner holding and related support, \$9,800,000, to remain available until expended.

FEDERAL PRISONER DETENTION  
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses related to United States prisoners in the custody of the United States Marshals Service as authorized by section 4013 of title 18, United States Code, \$495,307,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That section 524(c)(8)(E) of title 28, United States Code, shall be applied for fiscal year 2015 as if the following were inserted after the final period: "The Attorney General shall use \$1,100,000,000 of the excess unobligated balances available in fiscal year 2015 for necessary expenses related to United States prisoners in the custody of the United States Marshals Service as authorized by section 4013 of title 18, United States Code." *Provided further*, That any use of such unobligated balances shall be treated as a reprogramming of funds under section 505 of this Act: *Provided further*, That not to exceed \$20,000,000 shall be considered "funds appropriated for State and local law enforcement assistance" pursuant to section 4013(b) of title 18, United States Code: *Provided further*, That the United States Marshals Service shall be responsible for managing the Justice Prisoner and Alien Transportation System: *Provided further*, That any unobligated balances available from funds appropriated under the heading "General Administration, Detention Trustee" shall be transferred to and merged with the appropriation under this heading.

NATIONAL SECURITY DIVISION  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary to carry out the activities of the National Security Division, \$93,000,000, of which not to exceed \$5,000,000 for information technology systems shall remain available until expended: *Provided*, That notwithstanding section 205 of this Act, upon a determination by the Attorney General that emergent circumstances require additional funding for the activities of the National Security Division, the Attorney General may transfer such amounts to this heading from available appropriations for the current fiscal year for the Department of Justice, as may be necessary to respond to such circumstances: *Provided further*, That any transfer pursuant to the preceding proviso shall be treated as a reprogramming under section 505 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation or expenditure except in compliance with the procedures set forth in that section.

INTERAGENCY LAW ENFORCEMENT

INTERAGENCY CRIME AND DRUG ENFORCEMENT

For necessary expenses for the identification, investigation, and prosecution of individuals associated with the most significant

drug trafficking and affiliated money laundering organizations not otherwise provided for, to include inter-governmental agreements with State and local law enforcement agencies engaged in the investigation and prosecution of individuals involved in organized crime drug trafficking, \$507,194,000, of which \$50,000,000 shall remain available until expended: *Provided*, That any amounts obligated from appropriations under this heading may be used under authorities available to the organizations reimbursed from this appropriation.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Federal Bureau of Investigation for detection, investigation, and prosecution of crimes against the United States, \$8,326,569,000, of which not less than \$8,500,000 shall be for the National Gang Intelligence Center, and of which not to exceed \$216,900,000 shall remain available until expended: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$184,500 shall be available for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided further*, That up to \$1,000,000 shall be for a comprehensive review of the implementation of the recommendations related to the Federal Bureau of Investigation that were proposed in the report issued by the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States.

CONSTRUCTION

For necessary expenses, to include the cost of equipment, furniture, and information technology requirements, related to construction or acquisition of buildings, facilities and sites by purchase, or as otherwise authorized by law; conversion, modification and extension of Federally-owned buildings; preliminary planning and design of projects; and operation and maintenance of secure work environment facilities and secure networking capabilities; \$110,000,000, to remain available until expended.

DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Drug Enforcement Administration, including not to exceed \$70,000 to meet unforeseen emergencies of a confidential character pursuant to section 530C of title 28, United States Code; and expenses for conducting drug education and training programs, including travel and related expenses for participants in such programs and the distribution of items of token value that promote the goals of such programs, \$2,033,320,000; of which not to exceed \$75,000,000 shall remain available until expended and not to exceed \$90,000 shall be available for official reception and representation expenses.

BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, FIREARMS AND  
EXPLOSIVES

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, for training of State and local law enforcement agencies with or without reimbursement, including training in connection with the training and acquisition of canines for explosives and fire accelerants detection; and for provision of laboratory assistance to State and local law enforcement agencies, with or without reimbursement, \$1,201,000,000, of which not to exceed \$36,000 shall be for official reception and representation expenses, not to exceed \$1,000,000 shall be available for the payment of attorneys' fees as provided by section 924(d)(2) of title 18, United States Code, and not to exceed \$20,000,000 shall remain available until ex-

pendent: *Provided*, That none of the funds appropriated herein shall be available to investigate or act upon applications for relief from Federal firearms disabilities under section 925(c) of title 18, United States Code: *Provided further*, That such funds shall be available to investigate and act upon applications filed by corporations for relief from Federal firearms disabilities under section 925(c) of title 18, United States Code: *Provided further*, That no funds made available by this or any other Act may be used to transfer the functions, missions, or activities of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives to other agencies or Departments.

FEDERAL PRISON SYSTEM  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Federal Prison System for the administration, operation, and maintenance of Federal penal and correctional institutions, and for the provision of technical assistance and advice on corrections related issues to foreign governments, \$6,815,000,000: *Provided*, That the Attorney General may transfer to the Health Resources and Services Administration such amounts as may be necessary for direct expenditures by that Administration for medical relief for inmates of Federal penal and correctional institutions: *Provided further*, That the Director of the Federal Prison System, where necessary, may enter into contracts with a fiscal agent or fiscal intermediary claims processor to determine the amounts payable to persons who, on behalf of the Federal Prison System, furnish health services to individuals committed to the custody of the Federal Prison System: *Provided further*, That not to exceed \$5,400 shall be available for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided further*, That not to exceed \$50,000,000 shall remain available for necessary operations until September 30, 2016: *Provided further*, That, of the amounts provided for contract confinement, not to exceed \$20,000,000 shall remain available until expended to make payments in advance for grants, contracts and reimbursable agreements, and other expenses: *Provided further*, That the Director of the Federal Prison System may accept donated property and services relating to the operation of the prison card program from a not-for-profit entity which has operated such program in the past, notwithstanding the fact that such not-for-profit entity furnishes services under contracts to the Federal Prison System relating to the operation of pre-release services, halfway houses, or other custodial facilities.

BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

For planning, acquisition of sites and construction of new facilities; purchase and acquisition of facilities and remodeling, and equipping of such facilities for penal and correctional use, including all necessary expenses incident thereto, by contract or force account; and constructing, remodeling, and equipping necessary buildings and facilities at existing penal and correctional institutions, including all necessary expenses incident thereto, by contract or force account, \$106,000,000, to remain available until expended, of which \$25,000,000 shall be available only for costs related to construction of new facilities, and of which not less than \$81,000,000 shall be available only for modernization, maintenance and repair: *Provided*, That labor of United States prisoners may be used for work performed under this appropriation.

FEDERAL PRISON INDUSTRIES, INCORPORATED

The Federal Prison Industries, Incorporated, is hereby authorized to make such expenditures within the limits of funds and borrowing authority available, and in accord with the law, and to make such contracts and commitments without regard to fiscal year limitations as provided by section 9104 of title 31, United States Code, as may be necessary in carrying out the program set forth in the budget for the current fiscal year for such corporation.

LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES,  
FEDERAL PRISON INDUSTRIES, INCORPORATED

Not to exceed \$2,700,000 of the funds of the Federal Prison Industries, Incorporated, shall be available for its administrative expenses, and for services as authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, to be computed on an accrual basis to be determined in accordance with the corporation's current prescribed accounting system, and such amounts shall be exclusive of depreciation, payment of claims, and expenditures which such accounting system requires to be capitalized or charged to cost of commodities acquired or produced, including selling and shipping expenses, and expenses in connection with acquisition, construction, operation, maintenance, improvement, protection, or disposition of facilities and other property belonging to the corporation or in which it has an interest.

STATE AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT  
ACTIVITIES

OFFICE ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN  
VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN PREVENTION AND  
PROSECUTION PROGRAMS

For grants, contracts, cooperative agreements, and other assistance for the prevention and prosecution of violence against women, as authorized by the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3711 et seq.) ("the 1968 Act"); the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 (Public Law 103-322) ("the 1994 Act"); the Victims of Child Abuse Act of 1990 (Public Law 101-647) ("the 1990 Act"); the Prosecutorial Remedies and Other Tools to End the Exploitation of Children Today Act of 2003 (Public Law 108-21); the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5601 et seq.) ("the 1974 Act"); the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-386) ("the 2000 Act"); the Violence Against Women and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005 (Public Law 109-162) ("the 2005 Act"); and the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 (Public Law 113-4) ("the 2013 Act"); and for related victims services, \$430,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That except as otherwise provided by law, not to exceed 5 percent of funds made available under this heading may be used for expenses related to evaluation, training, and technical assistance: *Provided further*, That of the amount provided—

(1) \$195,000,000 is for grants to combat violence against women, as authorized by part T of the 1968 Act;

(2) \$26,000,000 is for transitional housing assistance grants for victims of domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, or sexual assault as authorized by section 40299 of the 1994 Act;

(3) \$3,000,000 is for the National Institute of Justice for research and evaluation of violence against women and related issues addressed by grant programs of the Office on Violence Against Women, which shall be transferred to "Research, Evaluation and Statistics" for administration by the Office of Justice Programs;

(4) \$10,000,000 is for a grant program to provide services to advocate for and respond to youth victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking; assistance to children and youth exposed to such violence; programs to engage men and youth in preventing such violence; and assistance to middle and high school students through education and other services related to such violence: *Provided*, That unobligated balances available for the programs authorized by sections 41201, 41204, 41303 and 41305 of the 1994 Act, prior to its amendment by the 2013 Act, shall be available for this program: *Provided further*, That 10 percent of the total amount available for this grant program shall be available for grants under the program authorized by section 2015 of the 1968 Act: *Provided further*, That the definitions and grant conditions in section 40002 of the 1994 Act shall apply to this program;

(5) \$50,000,000 is for grants to encourage arrest policies as authorized by part U of the 1968 Act, of which \$4,000,000 is for a homicide reduction initiative;

(6) \$30,000,000 is for sexual assault victims assistance, as authorized by section 41601 of the 1994 Act;

(7) \$33,000,000 is for rural domestic violence and child abuse enforcement assistance grants, as authorized by section 40295 of the 1994 Act;

(8) \$12,000,000 is for grants to reduce violent crimes against women on campus, as authorized by section 304 of the 2005 Act;

(9) \$42,500,000 is for legal assistance for victims, as authorized by section 1201 of the 2000 Act;

(10) \$4,500,000 is for enhanced training and services to end violence against and abuse of women in later life, as authorized by section 40802 of the 1994 Act;

(11) \$16,000,000 is for grants to support families in the justice system, as authorized by section 1301 of the 2000 Act: *Provided*, That unobligated balances available for the programs authorized by section 1301 of the 2000 Act and section 41002 of the 1994 Act, prior to their amendment by the 2013 Act, shall be available for this program;

(12) \$6,000,000 is for education and training to end violence against and abuse of women with disabilities, as authorized by section 1402 of the 2000 Act;

(13) \$500,000 is for the National Resource Center on Workplace Responses to assist victims of domestic violence, as authorized by section 41501 of the 1994 Act;

(14) \$1,000,000 is for analysis and research on violence against Indian women, including as authorized by section 904 of the 2005 Act: *Provided*, That such funds may be transferred to “Research, Evaluation and Statistics” for administration by the Office of Justice Programs; and

(15) \$500,000 is for a national clearinghouse that provides training and technical assistance on issues relating to sexual assault of American Indian and Alaska Native women.

#### OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS

##### RESEARCH, EVALUATION AND STATISTICS

For grants, contracts, cooperative agreements, and other assistance authorized by title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (“the 1968 Act”); the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 (“the 1974 Act”); the Missing Children’s Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5771 et seq.); the Prosecutorial Remedies and Other Tools to end the Exploitation of Children Today Act of 2003 (Public Law 108–21); the Justice for All Act of 2004 (Public Law 108–405); the Violence Against Women and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of

2005 (Public Law 109–162) (“the 2005 Act”); the Victims of Child Abuse Act of 1990 (Public Law 101–647); the Second Chance Act of 2007 (Public Law 110–199); the Victims of Crime Act of 1984 (Public Law 98–473); the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006 (Public Law 109–248) (“the Adam Walsh Act”); the PROTECT Our Children Act of 2008 (Public Law 110–401); subtitle D of title II of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (Public Law 107–296) (“the 2002 Act”); the NICS Improvement Amendments Act of 2007 (Public Law 110–180); the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 (Public Law 113–4) (“the 2013 Act”); and other programs, \$11,000,000, to remain available until expended, of which—

(1) \$41,000,000 is for criminal justice statistics programs, and other activities, as authorized by part C of title I of the 1968 Act: *Provided*, That beginning not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, as part of each National Crime Victimization Survey, the Attorney General shall include statistics relating to honor violence;

(2) \$36,000,000 is for research, development, and evaluation programs, and other activities as authorized by part B of title I of the 1968 Act and subtitle D of title II of the 2002 Act;

(3) \$30,000,000 is for regional information sharing activities, as authorized by part M of title I of the 1968 Act; and

(4) \$4,000,000 is for activities to strengthen and enhance the practice of forensic sciences, of which \$3,000,000 is for transfer to the National Institute of Standards and Technology to support Scientific Area Committees.

#### STATE AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE

For grants, contracts, cooperative agreements, and other assistance authorized by the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 (Public Law 103–322) (“the 1994 Act”); the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (“the 1968 Act”); the Justice for All Act of 2004 (Public Law 108–405); the Victims of Child Abuse Act of 1990 (Public Law 101–647) (“the 1990 Act”); the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2005 (Public Law 109–164); the Violence Against Women and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005 (Public Law 109–162) (“the 2005 Act”); the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006 (Public Law 109–248) (“the Adam Walsh Act”); the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000 (Public Law 106–386); the NICS Improvement Amendments Act of 2007 (Public Law 110–180); subtitle D of title II of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (Public Law 107–296) (“the 2002 Act”); the Second Chance Act of 2007 (Public Law 110–199); the Prioritizing Resources and Organization for Intellectual Property Act of 2008 (Public Law 110–403); the Victims of Crime Act of 1984 (Public Law 98–473); the Mentally Ill Offender Treatment and Crime Reduction Reauthorization and Improvement Act of 2008 (Public Law 110–416); the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 (Public Law 113–4) (“the 2013 Act”); and other programs, \$1,241,000,000, to remain available until expended as follows—

(1) \$376,000,000 for the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant program as authorized by subpart 1 of part E of title I of the 1968 Act (except that section 1001(c), and the special rules for Puerto Rico under section 505(g) of title I of the 1968 Act shall not apply for purposes of this Act), of which, notwithstanding such subpart 1, \$15,000,000 is for a Preventing Violence Against Law Enforcement

Officer Resilience and Survivability Initiative (VALOR), \$4,000,000 is for use by the National Institute of Justice for research targeted toward developing a better understanding of the domestic radicalization phenomenon, and advancing evidence-based strategies for effective intervention and prevention, \$5,000,000 is for an initiative to support evidence-based policing, \$2,500,000 is for an initiative to enhance prosecutorial decision-making, \$3,000,000 is for competitive grants to distribute firearm safety materials and gun locks, \$750,000 is for the purposes described in the Missing Alzheimer’s Disease Patient Alert Program (section 240001 of the 1994 Act), \$10,500,000 is for an Edward Byrne Memorial criminal justice innovation program, and \$2,500,000 is for a program to improve juvenile indigent defense;

(2) \$185,000,000 for the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program, as authorized by section 241(i)(5) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1231(i)(5)): *Provided*, That no jurisdiction shall request compensation for any cost greater than the actual cost for Federal immigration and other detainees housed in State and local detention facilities;

(3) \$42,250,000 for victim services programs for victims of trafficking, as authorized by section 107(b)(2) of Public Law 106–386, for programs authorized under Public Law 109–164, or programs authorized under Public Law 113–4;

(4) \$41,000,000 for Drug Courts, as authorized by section 1001(a)(25)(A) of title I of the 1968 Act;

(5) \$8,500,000 for mental health courts and adult and juvenile collaboration program grants, as authorized by parts V and HH of title I of the 1968 Act, and the Mentally Ill Offender Treatment and Crime Reduction Reauthorization and Improvement Act of 2008 (Public Law 110–416);

(6) \$10,000,000 for grants for Residential Substance Abuse Treatment for State Prisoners, as authorized by part S of title I of the 1968 Act;

(7) \$2,000,000 for the Capital Litigation Improvement Grant Program, as authorized by section 426 of Public Law 108–405, and for grants for wrongful conviction review;

(8) \$13,000,000 for economic, high technology and Internet crime prevention grants, including as authorized by section 401 of Public Law 110–403;

(9) \$2,000,000 for a student loan repayment assistance program pursuant to section 952 of Public Law 110–315;

(10) \$20,000,000 for sex offender management assistance, as authorized by the Adam Walsh Act, and related activities;

(11) \$8,000,000 for an initiative relating to children exposed to violence;

(12) \$22,250,000 for the matching grant program for law enforcement armor vests, as authorized by section 2501 of title I of the 1968 Act: *Provided*, That \$1,500,000 is transferred directly to the National Institute of Standards and Technology’s Office of Law Enforcement Standards for research, testing and evaluation programs;

(13) \$1,000,000 for the National Sex Offender Public Website;

(14) \$5,000,000 for competitive and evidence-based programs to reduce gun crime and gang violence;

(15) \$73,000,000 for grants to States to upgrade criminal and mental health records for the National Instant Criminal Background Check System, of which no less than \$25,000,000 shall be for grants made under the authorities of the NICS Improvement Amendments Act of 2007 (Public Law 110–180);

(16) \$12,000,000 for Paul Coverdell Forensic Sciences Improvement Grants under part BB of title I of the 1968 Act;

(17) \$125,000,000 for DNA-related and forensic programs and activities, of which—

(A) \$117,000,000 is for a DNA analysis and capacity enhancement program and for other local, State, and Federal forensic activities, including the purposes authorized under section 2 of the DNA Analysis Backlog Elimination Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-546) (the Debbie Smith DNA Backlog Grant Program); *Provided*, That up to 4 percent of funds made available under this paragraph may be used for the purposes described in the DNA Training and Education for Law Enforcement, Correctional Personnel, and Court Officers program (Public Law 108-405, section 303);

(B) \$4,000,000 is for the purposes described in the Kirk Bloodsworth Post-Conviction DNA Testing Program (Public Law 108-405, section 412); and

(C) \$4,000,000 is for Sexual Assault Forensic Exam Program grants, including as authorized by section 304 of Public Law 108-405;

(18) \$41,000,000 for a grant program for community-based sexual assault response reform;

(19) \$6,000,000 for the court-appointed special advocate program, as authorized by section 217 of the 1990 Act;

(20) \$30,000,000 for assistance to Indian tribes;

(21) \$68,000,000 for offender reentry programs and research, as authorized by the Second Chance Act of 2007 (Public Law 110-199), without regard to the time limitations specified at section 6(1) of such Act, of which not to exceed \$6,000,000 is for a program to improve State, local, and tribal probation or parole supervision efforts and strategies, and \$5,000,000 is for Children of Incarcerated Parents Demonstrations to enhance and maintain parental and family relationships for incarcerated parents as a reentry or recidivism reduction strategy; *Provided*, That up to \$7,500,000 of funds made available in this paragraph may be used for performance-based awards for Pay for Success projects, of which up to \$5,000,000 shall be for Pay for Success programs implementing the Permanent Supportive Housing Model;

(22) \$5,000,000 for a veterans treatment courts program;

(23) \$11,000,000 for a program to monitor prescription drugs and scheduled listed chemical products;

(24) \$13,000,000 for prison rape prevention and prosecution grants to States and units of local government, and other programs, as authorized by the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 (Public Law 108-79);

(25) \$2,000,000 to operate a National Center for Campus Public Safety;

(26) \$27,500,000 for a justice reinvestment initiative, for activities related to criminal justice reform and recidivism reduction, of which not less than \$750,000 is for a task force on Federal corrections;

(27) \$4,000,000 for additional replication sites employing the Project HOPE Opportunity Probation with Enforcement model implementing swift and certain sanctions in probation, and for a research project on the effectiveness of the model;

(28) \$12,500,000 for the Office of Victims of Crime for supplemental victims' services and other victim-related programs and initiatives, including research and statistics, and for tribal assistance for victims of violence; and

(29) \$75,000,000 for the Comprehensive School Safety Initiative, described in the explanatory statement described in section 4

(in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act): *Provided*, That section 213 of this Act shall not apply with respect to the amount made available in this paragraph;

*Provided*, That, if a unit of local government uses any of the funds made available under this heading to increase the number of law enforcement officers, the unit of local government will achieve a net gain in the number of law enforcement officers who perform non-administrative public sector safety service.

#### JUVENILE JUSTICE PROGRAMS

For grants, contracts, cooperative agreements, and other assistance authorized by the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 ("the 1974 Act"); the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 ("the 1968 Act"); the Violence Against Women and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005 (Public Law 109-162) ("the 2005 Act"); the Missing Children's Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5771 et seq.); the Prosecutorial Remedies and Other Tools to end the Exploitation of Children Today Act of 2003 (Public Law 108-21); the Victims of Child Abuse Act of 1990 (Public Law 101-647) ("the 1990 Act"); the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006 (Public Law 109-248) ("the Adam Walsh Act"); the PROTECT Our Children Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-401); the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 (Public Law 113-4) ("the 2013 Act"); and other juvenile justice programs, \$251,500,000, to remain available until expended as follows—

(1) \$55,500,000 for programs authorized by section 221 of the 1974 Act, and for training and technical assistance to assist small, non-profit organizations with the Federal grants process; *Provided*, That of the amounts provided under this paragraph, \$500,000 shall be for a competitive demonstration grant program to support emergency planning among State, local and tribal juvenile justice residential facilities;

(2) \$90,000,000 for youth mentoring grants;

(3) \$15,000,000 for delinquency prevention, as authorized by section 505 of the 1974 Act, of which, pursuant to sections 261 and 262 thereof—

(A) \$5,000,000 shall be for the Tribal Youth Program;

(B) \$3,000,000 shall be for gang and youth violence education, prevention and intervention, and related activities;

(C) \$6,000,000 shall be for community-based violence prevention initiatives, including for public health approaches to reducing shootings and violence; and

(D) \$1,000,000 shall be for grants and technical assistance in support of the National Forum on Youth Violence Prevention;

(4) \$19,000,000 for programs authorized by the Victims of Child Abuse Act of 1990;

(5) \$68,000,000 for missing and exploited children programs, including as authorized by sections 404(b) and 405(a) of the 1974 Act (except that section 102(b)(4)(B) of the PROTECT Our Children Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-401) shall not apply for purposes of this Act);

(6) \$1,500,000 for child abuse training programs for judicial personnel and practitioners, as authorized by section 222 of the 1990 Act;

(7) \$500,000 for an Internet site providing information and resources on children of incarcerated parents; and

(8) \$2,000,000 for competitive grants focusing on girls in the juvenile justice system;

*Provided*, That not more than 10 percent of each amount may be used for research, eval-

uation, and statistics activities designed to benefit the programs or activities authorized: *Provided further*, That not more than 2 percent of the amounts designated under paragraphs (1) through (4) and (6) may be used for training and technical assistance: *Provided further*, That the two preceding provisos shall not apply to grants and projects authorized by sections 261 and 262 of the 1974 Act and to missing and exploited children programs.

#### PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICER BENEFITS

For payments and expenses authorized under section 1001(a)(4) of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968, such sums as are necessary (including amounts for administrative costs), to remain available until expended; and \$16,300,000 for payments authorized by section 1201(b) of such Act and for educational assistance authorized by section 1218 of such Act, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That notwithstanding section 205 of this Act, upon a determination by the Attorney General that emergent circumstances require additional funding for such disability and education payments, the Attorney General may transfer such amounts to "Public Safety Officer Benefits" from available appropriations for the Department of Justice as may be necessary to respond to such circumstances: *Provided further*, That any transfer pursuant to the preceding proviso shall be treated as a reprogramming under section 505 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation or expenditure except in compliance with the procedures set forth in that section.

#### COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING SERVICES

##### COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING SERVICES PROGRAMS

For activities authorized by the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 (Public Law 103-322); the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 ("the 1968 Act"); and the Violence Against Women and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005 (Public Law 109-162) ("the 2005 Act"), \$208,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That any balances made available through prior year deobligations shall only be available in accordance with section 505 of this Act: *Provided further*, That of the amount provided under this heading—

(1) \$7,000,000 is for anti-methamphetamine-related activities, which shall be transferred to the Drug Enforcement Administration upon enactment of this Act;

(2) \$180,000,000 is for grants under section 1701 of title I of the 1968 Act (42 U.S.C. 3796dd) for the hiring and rehiring of additional career law enforcement officers under part Q of such title notwithstanding subsection (i) of such section: *Provided*, That, notwithstanding section 1704(c) of such title (42 U.S.C. 3796dd-3(c)), funding for hiring or rehiring a career law enforcement officer may not exceed \$125,000 unless the Director of the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services grants a waiver from this limitation: *Provided further*, That within the amounts appropriated under this paragraph, \$33,000,000 is for improving tribal law enforcement, including hiring, equipment, training, and anti-methamphetamine activities: *Provided further*, That of the amounts appropriated under this paragraph, \$7,500,000 is for community policing development activities in furtherance of the purposes in section 1701: *Provided further*, That within the amounts appropriated under this paragraph, \$5,000,000 is for the collaborative reform model of technical assistance in furtherance of the purposes in section 1701;



(3) \$7,000,000 is for competitive grants to State law enforcement agencies in States with high seizures of precursor chemicals, finished methamphetamine, laboratories, and laboratory dump seizures: *Provided*, That funds appropriated under this paragraph shall be utilized for investigative purposes to locate or investigate illicit activities, including precursor diversion, laboratories, or methamphetamine traffickers;

(4) \$7,000,000 is for competitive grants to statewide law enforcement agencies in States with high rates of primary treatment admissions for heroin and other opioids: *Provided*, That these funds shall be utilized for investigative purposes to locate or investigate illicit activities, including activities related to the distribution of heroin or unlawful distribution of prescription opioids, or unlawful heroin and prescription opioid traffickers through statewide collaboration; and

(5) \$7,000,000 is for competitive grants to support regional anti-gang task forces.

#### GENERAL PROVISIONS—DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

SEC. 201. In addition to amounts otherwise made available in this title for official reception and representation expenses, a total of not to exceed \$50,000 from funds appropriated to the Department of Justice in this title shall be available to the Attorney General for official reception and representation expenses.

SEC. 202. None of the funds appropriated by this title shall be available to pay for an abortion, except where the life of the mother would be endangered if the fetus were carried to term, or in the case of rape: *Provided*, That should this prohibition be declared unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, this section shall be null and void.

SEC. 203. None of the funds appropriated under this title shall be used to require any person to perform, or facilitate in any way the performance of, any abortion.

SEC. 204. Nothing in the preceding section shall remove the obligation of the Director of the Bureau of Prisons to provide escort services necessary for a female inmate to receive such service outside the Federal facility: *Provided*, That nothing in this section in any way diminishes the effect of section 203 intended to address the philosophical beliefs of individual employees of the Bureau of Prisons.

SEC. 205. Not to exceed 5 percent of any appropriation made available for the current fiscal year for the Department of Justice in this Act may be transferred between such appropriations, but no such appropriation, except as otherwise specifically provided, shall be increased by more than 10 percent by any such transfers: *Provided*, That any transfer pursuant to this section shall be treated as a reprogramming of funds under section 505 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation except in compliance with the procedures set forth in that section.

SEC. 206. The Attorney General is authorized to extend through September 30, 2015, the Personnel Management Demonstration Project transferred to the Attorney General pursuant to section 1115 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (Public Law 107-296; 28 U.S.C. 599B) without limitation on the number of employees or the positions covered.

SEC. 207. None of the funds made available under this title may be used by the Federal Bureau of Prisons or the United States Marshals Service for the purpose of transporting an individual who is a prisoner pursuant to conviction for crime under State or Federal law and is classified as a maximum or high security prisoner, other than to a prison or

other facility certified by the Federal Bureau of Prisons as appropriately secure for housing such a prisoner.

SEC. 208. (a) None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be used by Federal prisons to purchase cable television services, or to rent or purchase audiovisual or electronic media or equipment used primarily for recreational purposes.

(b) Subsection (a) does not preclude the rental, maintenance, or purchase of audiovisual or electronic media or equipment for inmate training, religious, or educational programs.

SEC. 209. None of the funds made available under this title shall be obligated or expended for any new or enhanced information technology program having total estimated development costs in excess of \$100,000,000, unless the Deputy Attorney General and the investment review board certify to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate that the information technology program has appropriate program management controls and contractor oversight mechanisms in place, and that the program is compatible with the enterprise architecture of the Department of Justice.

SEC. 210. The notification thresholds and procedures set forth in section 505 of this Act shall apply to deviations from the amounts designated for specific activities in this Act and in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act), and to any use of deobligated balances of funds provided under this title in previous years.

SEC. 211. None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be used to plan for, begin, continue, finish, process, or approve a public-private competition under the Office of Management and Budget Circular A-76 or any successor administrative regulation, directive, or policy for work performed by employees of the Bureau of Prisons or of Federal Prison Industries, Incorporated.

SEC. 212. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no funds shall be available for the salary, benefits, or expenses of any United States Attorney assigned dual or additional responsibilities by the Attorney General or his designee that exempt that United States Attorney from the residency requirements of section 545 of title 28, United States Code.

SEC. 213. At the discretion of the Attorney General, and in addition to any amounts that otherwise may be available (or authorized to be made available) by law, with respect to funds appropriated by this title under the headings "Research, Evaluation and Statistics", "State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance", and "Juvenile Justice Programs"—

(1) up to 3 percent of funds made available to the Office of Justice Programs for grant or reimbursement programs may be used by such Office to provide training and technical assistance; and

(2) up to 2 percent of funds made available for grant or reimbursement programs under such headings, except for amounts appropriated specifically for research, evaluation, or statistical programs administered by the National Institute of Justice and the Bureau of Justice Statistics, shall be transferred to and merged with funds provided to the National Institute of Justice and the Bureau of Justice Statistics, to be used by them for research, evaluation, or statistical purposes, without regard to the authorizations for such grant or reimbursement programs.

SEC. 214. Upon request by a grantee for whom the Attorney General has determined

there is a fiscal hardship, the Attorney General may, with respect to funds appropriated in this or any other Act making appropriations for fiscal years 2012 through 2015 for the following programs, waive the following requirements:

(1) For the adult and juvenile offender State and local reentry demonstration projects under part FF of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3797w(g)(1)), the requirements under section 2976(g)(1) of such part.

(2) For State, Tribal, and local reentry courts under part FF of title I of such Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3797w-2(e)(1) and (2)), the requirements under section 2978(e)(1) and (2) of such part.

(3) For the prosecution drug treatment alternatives to prison program under part CC of title I of such Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3797q-3), the requirements under section 2904 of such part.

(4) For grants to protect inmates and safeguard communities as authorized by section 6 of the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 (42 U.S.C. 15605(c)(3)), the requirements of section 6(c)(3) of such Act.

SEC. 215. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, section 20109(a) of subtitle A of title II of the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 13709(a)) shall not apply to amounts made available by this or any other Act.

SEC. 216. None of the funds made available under this Act, other than for the national instant criminal background check system established under section 103 of the Brady Handgun Violence Prevention Act (18 U.S.C. 922 note), may be used by a Federal law enforcement officer to facilitate the transfer of an operable firearm to an individual if the Federal law enforcement officer knows or suspects that the individual is an agent of a drug cartel, unless law enforcement personnel of the United States continuously monitor or control the firearm at all times.

SEC. 217. (a) None of the income retained in the Department of Justice Working Capital Fund pursuant to title I of Public Law 102-140 (105 Stat. 784; 28 U.S.C. 527 note) shall be available for obligation during fiscal year 2015, except up to \$40,000,000 may be obligated for implementation of a unified Department of Justice financial management system.

(b) Not to exceed \$30,000,000 of the unobligated balances transferred to the capital account of the Department of Justice Working Capital Fund pursuant to title I of Public Law 102-140 (105 Stat. 784; 28 U.S.C. 527 note) shall be available for obligation in fiscal year 2015, and any use, obligation, transfer or allocation of such funds shall be treated as a reprogramming of funds under section 505 of this Act.

(c) In addition to the amount otherwise provided by this Act in the first proviso under the heading "United States Marshals Service—Federal Prisoner Detention", not to exceed \$10,000,000 of the excess unobligated balances available under section 524(c)(8)(E) of title 28, United States Code, shall be available for obligation during fiscal year 2015, and any use, obligation, transfer or allocation of such funds shall be treated as a reprogramming of funds under section 505 of this Act.

(d) Of amounts available in the Assets Forfeiture Fund in fiscal year 2015, \$154,700,000 shall be for payments associated with joint law enforcement operations as authorized by section 524(c)(1)(I) of title 28, United States Code.

(e) The Attorney General shall submit a spending plan to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives

and the Senate not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act detailing the planned distribution of Assets Forfeiture Fund joint law enforcement operations funding during fiscal year 2015.

(f) Subsections (a) through (d) of this section shall sunset on September 30, 2015.

SEC. 218. No funds provided in this Act shall be used to deny the Inspector General of the Department of Justice timely access to all records, documents, and other materials in the custody or possession of the Department or to prevent or impede the Inspector General's access to such records, documents and other materials, unless in accordance with an express limitation of section 6(a) of the Inspector General Act, as amended, consistent with the plain language of the Inspector General Act, as amended. The Inspector General of the Department of Justice shall report to the Committees on Appropriations within five calendar days any failures to comply with this requirement.

SEC. 219. Discretionary funds that are made available in this Act for the Office of Justice Programs may be used to participate in Performance Partnership Pilots authorized under section 526 of division H of Public Law 113-76.

This title may be cited as the "Department of Justice Appropriations Act, 2015".

### TITLE III SCIENCE

#### OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY

For necessary expenses of the Office of Science and Technology Policy, in carrying out the purposes of the National Science and Technology Policy, Organization, and Priorities Act of 1976 (42 U.S.C. 6601 et seq.), hire of passenger motor vehicles, and services as authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, not to exceed \$2,250 for official reception and representation expenses, and rental of conference rooms in the District of Columbia, \$5,555,000.

#### NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION SCIENCE

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, in the conduct and support of science research and development activities, including research, development, operations, support, and services; maintenance and repair, facility planning and design; space flight, spacecraft control, and communications activities; program management; personnel and related costs, including uniforms or allowances therefor, as authorized by sections 5901 and 5902 of title 5, United States Code; travel expenses; purchase and hire of passenger motor vehicles; and purchase, lease, charter, maintenance, and operation of mission and administrative aircraft, \$5,244,700,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That the formulation and development costs (with development cost as defined under section 30104 of title 51, United States Code) for the James Webb Space Telescope shall not exceed \$8,000,000,000: *Provided further*, That should the individual identified under subsection (c)(2)(E) of section 30104 of title 51, United States Code, as responsible for the James Webb Space Telescope determine that the development cost of the program is likely to exceed that limitation, the individual shall immediately notify the Administrator and the increase shall be treated as if it meets the 30 percent threshold described in subsection (f) of section 30104: *Provided further*, That \$100,000,000 shall be for pre-formulation and/or formulation activities for a mission that meets the science goals outlined for the

Jupiter Europa mission in the most recent planetary science decadal survey.

#### AERONAUTICS

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, in the conduct and support of aeronautics research and development activities, including research, development, operations, support, and services; maintenance and repair, facility planning and design; space flight, spacecraft control, and communications activities; program management; personnel and related costs, including uniforms or allowances therefor, as authorized by sections 5901 and 5902 of title 5, United States Code; travel expenses; purchase and hire of passenger motor vehicles; and purchase, lease, charter, maintenance, and operation of mission and administrative aircraft, \$651,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016.

#### SPACE TECHNOLOGY

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, in the conduct and support of space research and technology development activities, including research, development, operations, support, and services; maintenance and repair, facility planning and design; space flight, spacecraft control, and communications activities; program management; personnel and related costs, including uniforms or allowances therefor, as authorized by sections 5901 and 5902 of title 5, United States Code; travel expenses; purchase and hire of passenger motor vehicles; and purchase, lease, charter, maintenance, and operation of mission and administrative aircraft, \$596,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016.

#### EXPLORATION

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, in the conduct and support of exploration research and development activities, including research, development, operations, support, and services; maintenance and repair, facility planning and design; space flight, spacecraft control, and communications activities; program management; personnel and related costs, including uniforms or allowances therefor, as authorized by sections 5901 and 5902 of title 5, United States Code; travel expenses; purchase and hire of passenger motor vehicles; and purchase, lease, charter, maintenance, and operation of mission and administrative aircraft, \$4,356,700,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That not less than \$1,194,000,000 shall be for the Orion Multi-Purpose Crew Vehicle: *Provided further*, That not less than \$2,051,300,000 shall be for the Space Launch System, which shall have a lift capability not less than 130 metric tons and which shall have an upper stage and other core elements developed simultaneously: *Provided further*, That of the funds made available for the Space Launch System, \$1,700,000,000 shall be for launch vehicle development and \$351,300,000 shall be for exploration ground systems: *Provided further*, That the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) shall provide to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, concurrent with the annual budget submission, a 5 year budget profile and funding projection that adheres to a 70 percent Joint Confidence Level (JCL) and is consistent with the Key Decision Point C (KDP-C) for the Space Launch System and with the future KDP-C for the Orion Multi-Purpose Crew Vehicle: *Provided further*, That in complying with the preceding proviso NASA shall include budget profiles and funding projections that conform to the KDP-C management agreement

for development completion of the Space Launch System by December 2017, and the management agreement for the Orion Multi-Purpose Crew Vehicle upon completing KDP-C: *Provided further*, That in no case shall the JCL of the Space Launch System or the Orion Multi-Purpose Crew Vehicle be less than the guidance outlined in NASA Procedural Requirements 7120.5E: *Provided further*, That funds made available for the Orion Multi-Purpose Crew Vehicle and Space Launch System are in addition to funds provided for these programs under the "Construction and Environmental Compliance and Restoration" heading: *Provided further*, That \$805,000,000 shall be for commercial spaceflight activities: *Provided further*, That \$306,400,000 shall be for exploration research and development.

#### SPACE OPERATIONS

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, in the conduct and support of space operations research and development activities, including research, development, operations, support and services; space flight, spacecraft control and communications activities, including operations, production, and services; maintenance and repair, facility planning and design; program management; personnel and related costs, including uniforms or allowances therefor, as authorized by sections 5901 and 5902 of title 5, United States Code; travel expenses; purchase and hire of passenger motor vehicles; and purchase, lease, charter, maintenance and operation of mission and administrative aircraft, \$3,827,800,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016.

#### EDUCATION

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, in the conduct and support of aerospace and aeronautical education research and development activities, including research, development, operations, support, and services; program management; personnel and related costs, including uniforms or allowances therefor, as authorized by sections 5901 and 5902 of title 5, United States Code; travel expenses; purchase and hire of passenger motor vehicles; and purchase, lease, charter, maintenance, and operation of mission and administrative aircraft, \$119,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016, of which \$18,000,000 shall be for the Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research and \$40,000,000 shall be for the National Space Grant College program.

#### SAFETY, SECURITY AND MISSION SERVICES

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, in the conduct and support of science, aeronautics, space technology, exploration, space operations and education research and development activities, including research, development, operations, support, and services; maintenance and repair, facility planning and design; space flight, spacecraft control, and communications activities; program management; personnel and related costs, including uniforms or allowances therefor, as authorized by sections 5901 and 5902 of title 5, United States Code; travel expenses; purchase and hire of passenger motor vehicles; not to exceed \$63,000 for official reception and representation expenses; and purchase, lease, charter, maintenance, and operation of mission and administrative aircraft, \$2,758,900,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016.

#### CONSTRUCTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE AND RESTORATION

For necessary expenses for construction of facilities including repair, rehabilitation, revitalization, and modification of facilities,



construction of new facilities and additions to existing facilities, facility planning and design, and restoration, and acquisition or condemnation of real property, as authorized by law, and environmental compliance and restoration, \$419,100,000, to remain available until September 30, 2020: *Provided*, That of the \$429,100,000 provided for in direct obligations under this heading, \$419,100,000 is appropriated from the general fund and \$10,000,000 is provided from recoveries of prior year obligations: *Provided further*, That proceeds from leases deposited into this account shall be available for a period of 5 years to the extent and in amounts as provided in annual appropriations Acts: *Provided further*, That such proceeds referred to in the preceding proviso shall be available for obligation for fiscal year 2015 in an amount not to exceed \$9,584,100: *Provided further*, That each annual budget request shall include an annual estimate of gross receipts and collections and proposed use of all funds collected pursuant to section 20145 of title 51, United States Code.

#### OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General in carrying out the Inspector General Act of 1978, \$37,000,000, of which \$500,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2016.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Funds for any announced prize otherwise authorized shall remain available, without fiscal year limitation, until the prize is claimed or the offer is withdrawn.

Not to exceed 5 percent of any appropriation made available for the current fiscal year for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration in this Act may be transferred between such appropriations, but no such appropriation, except as otherwise specifically provided, shall be increased by more than 10 percent by any such transfers. Balances so transferred shall be merged with and available for the same purposes and the same time period as the appropriations to which transferred. Any transfer pursuant to this provision shall be treated as a reprogramming of funds under section 505 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation except in compliance with the procedures set forth in that section.

The spending plan required by this Act shall be provided by NASA at the theme, program, project and activity level. The spending plan, as well as any subsequent change of an amount established in that spending plan that meets the notification requirements of section 505 of this Act, shall be treated as a reprogramming under section 505 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation or expenditure except in compliance with the procedures set forth in that section.

#### (TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The unexpired balances of a previous account, for activities for which funds are provided in this Act, may be transferred to the new account established in this Act that provides such activities. Balances so transferred shall be merged with the funds in the newly established account, but shall be available under the same terms, conditions and period of time as previously appropriated.

#### NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION RESEARCH AND RELATED ACTIVITIES

For necessary expenses in carrying out the National Science Foundation Act of 1950 (42 U.S.C. 1861 et seq.), and Public Law 86-209 (42 U.S.C. 1880 et seq.); services as authorized by

section 3109 of title 5, United States Code; maintenance and operation of aircraft and purchase of flight services for research support; acquisition of aircraft; and authorized travel; \$5,933,645,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016, of which not to exceed \$520,000,000 shall remain available until expended for polar research and operations support, and for reimbursement to other Federal agencies for operational and science support and logistical and other related activities for the United States Antarctic program: *Provided*, That receipts for scientific support services and materials furnished by the National Research Centers and other National Science Foundation supported research facilities may be credited to this appropriation: *Provided further*, That not less than \$159,690,000 shall be available for activities authorized by section 7002(c)(2)(A)(iv) of Public Law 110-69.

#### MAJOR RESEARCH EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES CONSTRUCTION

For necessary expenses for the acquisition, construction, commissioning, and upgrading of major research equipment, facilities, and other such capital assets pursuant to the National Science Foundation Act of 1950 (42 U.S.C. 1861 et seq.), including authorized travel, \$200,760,000, to remain available until expended.

#### EDUCATION AND HUMAN RESOURCES

For necessary expenses in carrying out science, mathematics and engineering education and human resources programs and activities pursuant to the National Science Foundation Act of 1950 (42 U.S.C. 1861 et seq.), including services as authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, authorized travel, and rental of conference rooms in the District of Columbia, \$866,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That not less than \$60,890,000 shall be available for activities authorized by section 7030 of Public Law 110-69.

#### AGENCY OPERATIONS AND AWARD MANAGEMENT

For agency operations and award management necessary in carrying out the National Science Foundation Act of 1950 (42 U.S.C. 1861 et seq.); services authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code; hire of passenger motor vehicles; uniforms or allowances therefor, as authorized by sections 5901 and 5902 of title 5, United States Code; rental of conference rooms in the District of Columbia; and reimbursement of the Department of Homeland Security for security guard services; \$325,000,000: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$8,280 is for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided further*, That contracts may be entered into under this heading in fiscal year 2015 for maintenance and operation of facilities and for other services to be provided during the next fiscal year: *Provided further*, That of the amount provided for costs associated with the acquisition, occupancy, and related costs of new headquarters space, not more than \$27,370,000 shall remain available until expended.

#### OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL SCIENCE BOARD

For necessary expenses (including payment of salaries, authorized travel, hire of passenger motor vehicles, the rental of conference rooms in the District of Columbia, and the employment of experts and consultants under section 3109 of title 5, United States Code) involved in carrying out section 4 of the National Science Foundation Act of 1950 (42 U.S.C. 1863) and Public Law 86-209 (42 U.S.C. 1880 et seq.), \$4,370,000: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$2,500 shall be available for official reception and representation expenses.

#### OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General as authorized by the Inspector General Act of 1978, \$14,430,000, of which \$400,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2016.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION

Not to exceed 5 percent of any appropriation made available for the current fiscal year for the National Science Foundation in this Act may be transferred between such appropriations, but no such appropriation shall be increased by more than 10 percent by any such transfers. Any transfer pursuant to this section shall be treated as a reprogramming of funds under section 505 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation except in compliance with the procedures set forth in that section.

This title may be cited as the "Science Appropriations Act, 2015".

#### TITLE IV

#### RELATED AGENCIES

#### COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

#### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Commission on Civil Rights, including hire of passenger motor vehicles, \$9,200,000: *Provided*, That none of the funds appropriated in this paragraph shall be used to employ in excess of four full-time individuals under Schedule C of the Excepted Service exclusive of one special assistant for each Commissioner: *Provided further*, That none of the funds appropriated in this paragraph shall be used to reimburse Commissioners for more than 75 billable days, with the exception of the chairperson, who is permitted 125 billable days: *Provided further*, That none of the funds appropriated in this paragraph shall be used for any activity or expense that is not explicitly authorized by section 3 of the Civil Rights Commission Act of 1983 (42 U.S.C. 1975a).

#### EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION

#### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission as authorized by title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967, the Equal Pay Act of 1963, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, section 501 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Civil Rights Act of 1991, the Genetic Information Non-Discrimination Act (GINA) of 2008 (Public Law 110-233), the ADA Amendments Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-325), and the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act of 2009 (Public Law 111-2), including services as authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code; hire of passenger motor vehicles as authorized by section 1343(b) of title 31, United States Code; nonmonetary awards to private citizens; and up to \$30,000,000 for payments to State and local enforcement agencies for authorized services to the Commission, \$364,500,000: *Provided*, That the Commission is authorized to make available for official reception and representation expenses not to exceed \$2,250 from available funds: *Provided further*, That the Commission may take no action to implement any workforce repositioning, restructuring, or reorganization until such time as the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate have been notified of such proposals, in accordance with the reprogramming requirements of section 505 of this Act: *Provided further*, That the Chair is authorized to accept and use any gift or donation to carry out the work of the Commission.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the International Trade Commission, including hire of passenger motor vehicles and services as authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, and not to exceed \$2,250 for official reception and representation expenses, \$84,500,000, to remain available until expended.

LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION  
PAYMENT TO THE LEGAL SERVICES  
CORPORATION

For payment to the Legal Services Corporation to carry out the purposes of the Legal Services Corporation Act of 1974, \$375,000,000, of which \$343,150,000 is for basic field programs and required independent audits; \$4,350,000 is for the Office of Inspector General, of which such amounts as may be necessary may be used to conduct additional audits of recipients; \$18,500,000 is for management and grants oversight; \$4,000,000 is for client self-help and information technology; \$4,000,000 is for a Pro Bono Innovation Fund; and \$1,000,000 is for loan repayment assistance: *Provided*, That the Legal Services Corporation may continue to provide locality pay to officers and employees at a rate no greater than that provided by the Federal Government to Washington, DC-based employees as authorized by section 5304 of title 5, United States Code, notwithstanding section 1005(d) of the Legal Services Corporation Act (42 U.S.C. 2996(d)): *Provided further*, That the authorities provided in section 205 of this Act shall be applicable to the Legal Services Corporation: *Provided further*, That, for the purposes of section 505 of this Act, the Legal Services Corporation shall be considered an agency of the United States Government.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION—LEGAL SERVICES  
CORPORATION

None of the funds appropriated in this Act to the Legal Services Corporation shall be expended for any purpose prohibited or limited by, or contrary to any of the provisions of, sections 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, and 506 of Public Law 105-119, and all funds appropriated in this Act to the Legal Services Corporation shall be subject to the same terms and conditions set forth in such sections, except that all references in sections 502 and 503 to 1997 and 1998 shall be deemed to refer instead to 2014 and 2015, respectively.

MARINE MAMMAL COMMISSION  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Marine Mammal Commission as authorized by title II of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1361 et seq.), \$3,340,000.

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE  
REPRESENTATIVE  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Office of the United States Trade Representative, including the hire of passenger motor vehicles and the employment of experts and consultants as authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, \$54,250,000, of which \$1,000,000 shall remain available until expended: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$124,000 shall be available for official reception and representation expenses.

STATE JUSTICE INSTITUTE  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the State Justice Institute, as authorized by the State Justice Institute Authorization Act of 1984

(42 U.S.C. 10701 et seq.) \$5,121,000, of which \$500,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$2,250 shall be available for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided further*, That, for the purposes of section 505 of this Act, the State Justice Institute shall be considered an agency of the United States Government.

TITLE V  
GENERAL PROVISIONS  
(INCLUDING RESCISSIONS)

SEC. 501. No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall be used for publicity or propaganda purposes not authorized by the Congress.

SEC. 502. No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall remain available for obligation beyond the current fiscal year unless expressly so provided herein.

SEC. 503. The expenditure of any appropriation under this Act for any consulting service through procurement contract, pursuant to section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, shall be limited to those contracts where such expenditures are a matter of public record and available for public inspection, except where otherwise provided under existing law, or under existing Executive order issued pursuant to existing law.

SEC. 504. If any provision of this Act or the application of such provision to any person or circumstances shall be held invalid, the remainder of the Act and the application of each provision to persons or circumstances other than those as to which it is held invalid shall not be affected thereby.

SEC. 505. None of the funds provided under this Act, or provided under previous appropriations Acts to the agencies funded by this Act that remain available for obligation or expenditure in fiscal year 2015, or provided from any accounts in the Treasury of the United States derived by the collection of fees available to the agencies funded by this Act, shall be available for obligation or expenditure through a reprogramming of funds that: (1) creates or initiates a new program, project or activity; (2) eliminates a program, project or activity; (3) increases funds or personnel by any means for any project or activity for which funds have been denied or restricted; (4) relocates an office or employees; (5) reorganizes or renames offices, programs or activities; (6) contracts out or privatizes any functions or activities presently performed by Federal employees; (7) augments existing programs, projects or activities in excess of \$500,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less, or reduces by 10 percent funding for any program, project or activity, or numbers of personnel by 10 percent; or (8) results from any general savings, including savings from a reduction in personnel, which would result in a change in existing programs, projects or activities as approved by Congress; unless the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations are notified 15 days in advance of such reprogramming of funds by agencies (excluding agencies of the Department of Justice) funded by this Act and 45 days in advance of such reprogramming of funds by agencies of the Department of Justice funded by this Act.

SEC. 506. (a) If it has been finally determined by a court or Federal agency that any person intentionally affixed a label bearing a "Made in America" inscription, or any inscription with the same meaning, to any product sold in or shipped to the United States that is not made in the United States, the person shall be ineligible to receive any contract or subcontract made with funds

made available in this Act, pursuant to the debarment, suspension, and ineligibility procedures described in sections 9.400 through 9.409 of title 48, Code of Federal Regulations.

(b)(1) To the extent practicable, with respect to authorized purchases of promotional items, funds made available by this Act shall be used to purchase items that are manufactured, produced, or assembled in the United States, its territories or possessions.

(2) The term "promotional items" has the meaning given the term in OMB Circular A-87, Attachment B, Item (1)(f)(3).

SEC. 507. (a) The Departments of Commerce and Justice, the National Science Foundation, and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration shall provide to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a quarterly report on the status of balances of appropriations at the account level. For unobligated, uncommitted balances and unobligated, committed balances the quarterly reports shall separately identify the amounts attributable to each source year of appropriation from which the balances were derived. For balances that are obligated, but unexpended, the quarterly reports shall separately identify amounts by the year of obligation.

(b) The report described in subsection (a) shall be submitted within 30 days of the end of each quarter.

(c) If a department or agency is unable to fulfill any aspect of a reporting requirement described in subsection (a) due to a limitation of a current accounting system, the department or agency shall fulfill such aspect to the maximum extent practicable under such accounting system and shall identify and describe in each quarterly report the extent to which such aspect is not fulfilled.

SEC. 508. Any costs incurred by a department or agency funded under this Act resulting from, or to prevent, personnel actions taken in response to funding reductions included in this Act shall be absorbed within the total budgetary resources available to such department or agency: *Provided*, That the authority to transfer funds between appropriations accounts as may be necessary to carry out this section is provided in addition to authorities included elsewhere in this Act: *Provided further*, That use of funds to carry out this section shall be treated as a reprogramming of funds under section 505 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation or expenditure except in compliance with the procedures set forth in that section: *Provided further*, That for the Department of Commerce, this section shall also apply to actions taken for the care and protection of loan collateral or grant property.

SEC. 509. None of the funds provided by this Act shall be available to promote the sale or export of tobacco or tobacco products, or to seek the reduction or removal by any foreign country of restrictions on the marketing of tobacco or tobacco products, except for restrictions which are not applied equally to all tobacco or tobacco products of the same type.

SEC. 510. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, amounts deposited or available in the Fund established by section 1402 of chapter XIV of title II of Public Law 98-473 (42 U.S.C. 10601) in any fiscal year in excess of \$2,361,000,000 shall not be available for obligation until the following fiscal year: *Provided*, That notwithstanding section 1402(d) of such Act, of the amounts available from the Fund for obligation \$10,000,000 shall remain available until expended to the Department of Justice Office of Inspector General for oversight and auditing purposes.

SEC. 511. None of the funds made available to the Department of Justice in this Act may be used to discriminate against or denigrate the religious or moral beliefs of students who participate in programs for which financial assistance is provided from those funds, or of the parents or legal guardians of such students.

SEC. 512. None of the funds made available in this Act may be transferred to any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States Government, except pursuant to a transfer made by, or transfer authority provided in, this Act or any other appropriations Act.

SEC. 513. Any funds provided in this Act used to implement E-Government Initiatives shall be subject to the procedures set forth in section 505 of this Act.

SEC. 514. (a) The Inspectors General of the Department of Commerce, the Department of Justice, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the National Science Foundation, and the Legal Services Corporation shall conduct audits, pursuant to the Inspector General Act (5 U.S.C. App.), of grants or contracts for which funds are appropriated by this Act, and shall submit reports to Congress on the progress of such audits, which may include preliminary findings and a description of areas of particular interest, within 180 days after initiating such an audit and every 180 days thereafter until any such audit is completed.

(b) Within 60 days after the date on which an audit described in subsection (a) by an Inspector General is completed, the Secretary, Attorney General, Administrator, Director, or President, as appropriate, shall make the results of the audit available to the public on the Internet website maintained by the Department, Administration, Foundation, or Corporation, respectively. The results shall be made available in redacted form to exclude—

(1) any matter described in section 552(b) of title 5, United States Code; and

(2) sensitive personal information for any individual, the public access to which could be used to commit identity theft or for other inappropriate or unlawful purposes.

(c) Any person awarded a grant or contract funded by amounts appropriated by this Act shall submit a statement to the Secretary of Commerce, the Attorney General, the Administrator, Director, or President, as appropriate, certifying that no funds derived from the grant or contract will be made available through a subcontract or in any other manner to another person who has a financial interest in the person awarded the grant or contract.

(d) The provisions of the preceding subsections of this section shall take effect 30 days after the date on which the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, in consultation with the Director of the Office of Government Ethics, determines that a uniform set of rules and requirements, substantially similar to the requirements in such subsections, consistently apply under the executive branch ethics program to all Federal departments, agencies, and entities.

SEC. 515. (a) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available under this Act may be used by the Departments of Commerce and Justice, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, or the National Science Foundation to acquire a high-impact or moderate-impact information system, as defined for security categorization in the National Institute of Standards and Technology's (NIST) Federal Information Processing Standard Publication 199, "Standards

for Security Categorization of Federal Information and Information Systems" unless the agency has—

(1) reviewed the supply chain risk for the information systems against criteria developed by NIST to inform acquisition decisions for high-impact and moderate-impact information systems within the Federal Government;

(2) reviewed the supply chain risk from the presumptive awardee against available and relevant threat information provided by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and other appropriate agencies; and

(3) in consultation with the Federal Bureau of Investigation or other appropriate Federal entity, conducted an assessment of any risk of cyber-espionage or sabotage associated with the acquisition of such system, including any risk associated with such system being produced, manufactured, or assembled by one or more entities identified by the United States Government as posing a cyber threat, including but not limited to, those that may be owned, directed, or subsidized by the People's Republic of China.

(b) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available under this Act may be used to acquire a high-impact or moderate-impact information system reviewed and assessed under subsection (a) unless the head of the assessing entity described in subsection (a) has—

(1) developed, in consultation with NIST and supply chain risk management experts, a mitigation strategy for any identified risks;

(2) determined that the acquisition of such system is in the national interest of the United States; and

(3) reported that determination to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

SEC. 516. None of the funds made available in this Act shall be used in any way whatsoever to support or justify the use of torture by any official or contract employee of the United States Government.

SEC. 517. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law or treaty, none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available under this Act or any other Act may be expended or obligated by a department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States to pay administrative expenses or to compensate an officer or employee of the United States in connection with requiring an export license for the export to Canada of components, parts, accessories or attachments for firearms listed in Category I, section 121.1 of title 22, Code of Federal Regulations (International Trafficking in Arms Regulations (ITAR), part 121, as it existed on April 1, 2005) with a total value not exceeding \$500 wholesale in any transaction, provided that the conditions of subsection (b) of this section are met by the exporting party for such articles.

(b) The foregoing exemption from obtaining an export license—

(1) does not exempt an exporter from filing any Shipper's Export Declaration or notification letter required by law, or from being otherwise eligible under the laws of the United States to possess, ship, transport, or export the articles enumerated in subsection (a); and

(2) does not permit the export without a license of—

(A) fully automatic firearms and components and parts for such firearms, other than for end use by the Federal Government, or a Provincial or Municipal Government of Canada;

(B) barrels, cylinders, receivers (frames) or complete breech mechanisms for any firearm

listed in Category I, other than for end use by the Federal Government, or a Provincial or Municipal Government of Canada; or

(C) articles for export from Canada to another foreign destination.

(c) In accordance with this section, the District Directors of Customs and postmasters shall permit the permanent or temporary export without a license of any unclassified articles specified in subsection (a) to Canada for end use in Canada or return to the United States, or temporary import of Canadian-origin items from Canada for end use in the United States or return to Canada for a Canadian citizen.

(d) The President may require export licenses under this section on a temporary basis if the President determines, upon publication first in the Federal Register, that the Government of Canada has implemented or maintained inadequate import controls for the articles specified in subsection (a), such that a significant diversion of such articles has and continues to take place for use in international terrorism or in the escalation of a conflict in another nation. The President shall terminate the requirements of a license when reasons for the temporary requirements have ceased.

SEC. 518. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States receiving appropriated funds under this Act or any other Act shall obligate or expend in any way such funds to pay administrative expenses or the compensation of any officer or employee of the United States to deny any application submitted pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2778(b)(1)(B) and qualified pursuant to 27 CFR section 478.112 or .113, for a permit to import United States origin "curios or relics" firearms, parts, or ammunition.

SEC. 519. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to include in any new bilateral or multilateral trade agreement the text of—

(1) paragraph 2 of article 16.7 of the United States-Singapore Free Trade Agreement;

(2) paragraph 4 of article 17.9 of the United States-Australia Free Trade Agreement; or

(3) paragraph 4 of article 15.9 of the United States-Morocco Free Trade Agreement.

SEC. 520. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to authorize or issue a national security letter in contravention of any of the following laws authorizing the Federal Bureau of Investigation to issue national security letters: The Right to Financial Privacy Act; The Electronic Communications Privacy Act; The Fair Credit Reporting Act; The National Security Act of 1947; USA PATRIOT Act; and the laws amended by these Acts.

SEC. 521. If at any time during any quarter, the program manager of a project within the jurisdiction of the Departments of Commerce or Justice, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, or the National Science Foundation totaling more than \$75,000,000 has reasonable cause to believe that the total program cost has increased by 10 percent or more, the program manager shall immediately inform the respective Secretary, Administrator, or Director. The Secretary, Administrator, or Director shall notify the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations within 30 days in writing of such increase, and shall include in such notice: the date on which such determination was made; a statement of the reasons for such increases; the action taken and proposed to be taken to control future cost growth of the project; changes made in the performance or schedule milestones and the

degree to which such changes have contributed to the increase in total program costs or procurement costs; new estimates of the total project or procurement costs; and a statement validating that the project's management structure is adequate to control total project or procurement costs.

SEC. 522. Funds appropriated by this Act, or made available by the transfer of funds in this Act, for intelligence or intelligence related activities are deemed to be specifically authorized by the Congress for purposes of section 504 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 414) during fiscal year 2015 until the enactment of the Intelligence Authorization Act for fiscal year 2015.

SEC. 523. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used to enter into a contract in an amount greater than \$5,000,000 or to award a grant in excess of such amount unless the prospective contractor or grantee certifies in writing to the agency awarding the contract or grant that, to the best of its knowledge and belief, the contractor or grantee has filed all Federal tax returns required during the three years preceding the certification, has not been convicted of a criminal offense under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, and has not, more than 90 days prior to certification, been notified of any unpaid Federal tax assessment for which the liability remains unsatisfied, unless the assessment is the subject of an installment agreement or offer in compromise that has been approved by the Internal Revenue Service and is not in default, or the assessment is the subject of a non-frivolous administrative or judicial proceeding.

#### (RESCISSIONS)

SEC. 524. (a) Of the unobligated balances available to the Department of Commerce, the following funds are hereby rescinded, not later than September 30, 2015, from the following accounts in the specified amounts—

(1) "Departmental Management, Franchise Fund", \$2,906,000; and

(2) "Economic Development Administration, Economic Development Assistance Programs", \$5,000,000.

(b) Of the unobligated balances available to the Department of Justice, the following funds are hereby rescinded, not later than September 30, 2015, from the following accounts in the specified amounts—

(1) "Working Capital Fund", \$99,000,000;

(2) "Tactical Law Enforcement Wireless Communications", \$2,000,000;

(3) "Detention Trustee", \$23,000,000;

(4) "Legal Activities, Assets Forfeiture Fund", \$193,000,000;

(5) "Legal Activities, Salaries and Expenses, General Legal Activities", \$10,000,000;

(6) "Legal Activities, Salaries and Expenses, Antitrust Division", \$6,000,000;

(7) "Salaries and Expenses, United States Attorneys", \$9,000,000;

(8) "United States Marshals Service, Federal Prisoner Detention", \$188,000,000;

(9) "Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, Salaries and Expenses", \$3,200,000;

(10) "State and Local Law Enforcement Activities, Office on Violence Against Women, Violence Against Women Prevention and Prosecution Programs", \$16,000,000;

(11) "State and Local Law Enforcement Activities, Office of Justice Programs", \$82,500,000; and

(12) "State and Local Law Enforcement Activities, Community Oriented Policing Services", \$40,000,000.

(c) The Departments of Commerce and Justice shall submit to the Committees on Ap-

propriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a report no later than September 1, 2015, specifying the amount of each rescission made pursuant to subsections (a) and (b).

SEC. 525. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to purchase first class or premium airline travel in contravention of sections 301–10.122 through 301–10.124 of title 41 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

SEC. 526. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to send or otherwise pay for the attendance of more than 50 employees from a Federal department or agency at any single conference occurring outside the United States unless such conference is a law enforcement training or operational conference for law enforcement personnel and the majority of Federal employees in attendance are law enforcement personnel stationed outside the United States.

SEC. 527. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available in this Act may be used in a manner that is inconsistent with the principal negotiating objective of the United States with respect to trade remedy laws to preserve the ability of the United States—

(1) to enforce vigorously its trade laws, including antidumping, countervailing duty, and safeguard laws;

(2) to avoid agreements that—

(A) lessen the effectiveness of domestic and international disciplines on unfair trade, especially dumping and subsidies; or

(B) lessen the effectiveness of domestic and international safeguard provisions, in order to ensure that United States workers, agricultural producers, and firms can compete fully on fair terms and enjoy the benefits of reciprocal trade concessions; and

(3) to address and remedy market distortions that lead to dumping and subsidization, including overcapacity, cartelization, and market-access barriers.

SEC. 528. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available in this or any other Act may be used to transfer, release, or assist in the transfer or release to or within the United States, its territories, or possessions Khalid Sheikh Mohammed or any other detainee who—

(1) is not a United States citizen or a member of the Armed Forces of the United States; and

(2) is or was held on or after June 24, 2009, at the United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, by the Department of Defense.

SEC. 529. (a) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available in this or any other Act may be used to construct, acquire, or modify any facility in the United States, its territories, or possessions to house any individual described in subsection (c) for the purposes of detention or imprisonment in the custody or under the effective control of the Department of Defense.

(b) The prohibition in subsection (a) shall not apply to any modification of facilities at United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

(c) An individual described in this subsection is any individual who, as of June 24, 2009, is located at United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and who—

(1) is not a citizen of the United States or a member of the Armed Forces of the United States; and

(2) is—

(A) in the custody or under the effective control of the Department of Defense; or

(B) otherwise under detention at United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

SEC. 530. To the extent practicable, funds made available in this Act should be used to purchase light bulbs that are "Energy Star" qualified or have the "Federal Energy Management Program" designation.

SEC. 531. The Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall instruct any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States receiving funds appropriated under this Act to track undisbursed balances in expired grant accounts and include in its annual performance plan and performance and accountability reports the following:

(1) Details on future action the department, agency, or instrumentality will take to resolve undisbursed balances in expired grant accounts.

(2) The method that the department, agency, or instrumentality uses to track undisbursed balances in expired grant accounts.

(3) Identification of undisbursed balances in expired grant accounts that may be returned to the Treasury of the United States.

(4) In the preceding 3 fiscal years, details on the total number of expired grant accounts with undisbursed balances (on the first day of each fiscal year) for the department, agency, or instrumentality and the total finances that have not been obligated to a specific project remaining in the accounts.

SEC. 532. (a) None of the funds made available by this Act may be used for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) or the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) to develop, design, plan, promulgate, implement, or execute a bilateral policy, program, order, or contract of any kind to participate, collaborate, or coordinate bilaterally in any way with China or any Chinese-owned company unless such activities are specifically authorized by a law enacted after the date of enactment of this Act.

(b) None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to effectuate the hosting of official Chinese visitors at facilities belonging to or utilized by NASA.

(c) The limitations described in subsections (a) and (b) shall not apply to activities which NASA or OSTP has certified—

(1) pose no risk of resulting in the transfer of technology, data, or other information with national security or economic security implications to China or a Chinese-owned company; and

(2) will not involve knowing interactions with officials who have been determined by the United States to have direct involvement with violations of human rights.

(d) Any certification made under subsection (c) shall be submitted to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate no later than 30 days prior to the activity in question and shall include a description of the purpose of the activity, its agenda, its major participants, and its location and timing.

SEC. 533. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to pay the salaries or expenses of personnel to deny, or fail to act on, an application for the importation of any model of shotgun if—

(1) all other requirements of law with respect to the proposed importation are met; and

(2) no application for the importation of such model of shotgun, in the same configuration, had been denied by the Attorney General prior to January 1, 2011, on the basis that the shotgun was not particularly suitable for or readily adaptable to sporting purposes.

SEC. 534. (a) None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to maintain or establish a computer network unless such network blocks the viewing, downloading, and exchanging of pornography.

(b) Nothing in subsection (a) shall limit the use of funds necessary for any Federal, State, tribal, or local law enforcement agency or any other entity carrying out criminal investigations, prosecution, or adjudication activities.

SEC. 535. The Departments of Commerce and Justice, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and the National Science Foundation shall submit spending plans, signed by the respective department or agency head, to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate within 45 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 536. None of the funds made available by this Act may be obligated or expended to implement the Arms Trade Treaty until the Senate approves a resolution of ratification for the Treaty.

SEC. 537. None of the funds made available by this Act under the heading “Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery” may be used for grant guidelines or requirements to establish minimum riparian buffers.

SEC. 538. None of the funds made available in this Act to the Department of Justice may be used, with respect to the States of Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Hawaii, Illinois, Iowa, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Utah, Vermont, Washington, and Wisconsin, to prevent such States from implementing their own State laws that authorize the use, distribution, possession, or cultivation of medical marijuana.

SEC. 539. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used in contravention of section 7606 (“Legitimacy of Industrial Hemp Research”) of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (Public Law 113-79) by the Department of Justice or the Drug Enforcement Administration.

SEC. 540. (a) None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to relinquish the responsibility of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration during fiscal year 2015 with respect to Internet domain name system functions, including responsibility with respect to the authoritative root zone file and the Internet Assigned Numbers Authority functions.

(b) Subsection (a) of this section shall expire on September 30, 2015.

SEC. 541. (a) IN GENERAL.—During the period beginning on January 1, 2015, and ending on December 31, 2015, the provisions of chapter 3 of title II of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2341 et seq.), as in effect on December 31, 2014, shall apply, except that in applying and administering such provisions, section 256(b) of that Act shall be applied and administered by substituting “\$16,000,000 for the period beginning on January 1, 2015, and ending December 31, 2015” for “\$16,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2003 through 2007, and \$4,000,000 for the 3-month period beginning on October 1, 2007”.

(b) TERMINATION.—During the period beginning on January 1, 2015, and ending on December 31, 2015, section 285 of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2271 note), as in effect on December 31, 2014, shall apply, except that in applying and administering that section,

subsection (b) of that section shall be applied and administered as if paragraph (1) read as follows:

“(1) ASSISTANCE FOR FIRMS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), assistance may not be provided under chapter 3 after December 31, 2015.

“(B) EXCEPTION.—Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), any assistance approved under chapter 3 on or before December 31, 2015, may be provided—

“(i) to the extent funds are available pursuant to such chapter for such purpose; and

“(ii) to the extent the recipient of the assistance is otherwise eligible to receive such assistance.”.

## **TITLE VI—TRAVEL PROMOTION, ENHANCEMENT, AND MODERNIZATION ACT OF 2014**

### **SEC. 601. SHORT TITLE.**

This title may be cited as the “Travel Promotion, Enhancement, and Modernization Act of 2014”.

### **SEC. 602. BOARD OF DIRECTORS.**

Subsection (b)(2)(A) of the Travel Promotion Act of 2009 (22 U.S.C. 2131(b)(2)(A)) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding clause (i)—

(A) in the first sentence, by striking “promotion and marketing” and inserting “promotion or marketing”; and

(B) by inserting after the first sentence the following: “At least 5 members of the board shall have experience working in United States multinational entities with marketing budgets. At least 2 members of the board shall be audit committee financial experts (as defined by the Securities and Exchange Commission in accordance with section 407 of Public Law 107-204 (15 U.S.C. 7265)). All members of the board shall be a current or former chief executive officer, chief financial officer, or chief marketing officer, or have held an equivalent management position.”; and

(2) in clause (x), by striking “intercity passenger railroad business” and inserting “land or sea passenger transportation sector”.

### **SEC. 603. ANNUAL REPORT TO CONGRESS.**

Subsection (c)(3) of the Travel Promotion Act of 2009 (22 U.S.C. 2131(c)(3)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (F), by striking “and” at the end;

(2) by redesignating subparagraph (G) as subparagraph (I); and

(3) by inserting after subparagraph (F) the following:

“(G) a description of, and rationales for, the Corporation’s efforts to focus on specific countries and populations;

“(H)(i) a description of, and rationales for, the Corporation’s combination of media channels employed in meeting the promotional objectives of its marketing campaign;

“(ii) the ratio in which such channels are used; and

“(iii) a justification for the use and ratio of such channels; and”.

### **SEC. 604. BIENNIAL REVIEW OF PROCEDURES TO DETERMINE FAIR MARKET VALUE OF GOODS AND SERVICES.**

Subsection (d)(3) of the Travel Promotion Act of 2009 (22 U.S.C. 2131(d)(3)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (B)(ii), by striking “80 percent” and inserting “70 percent”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(E) MAINTENANCE OF AN IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS POLICY.—The Corporation shall maintain an in-kind contributions policy.

“(F) FORMALIZED PROCEDURES FOR IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS POLICY.—Not later than 90

days after the date of enactment of the Travel Promotion, Enhancement, and Modernization Act of 2014, the Secretary of Commerce, in coordination with the Corporation, shall establish formal, publicly available procedures specifying time frames and conditions for—

“(i) making and agreeing to revisions of the Corporation’s in-kind contributions policy; and

“(ii) addressing and resolving disagreements between the Corporation and its partners, including the Secretary of Commerce, regarding the in-kind contributions policy.

“(G) BIENNIAL REVIEW OF PROCEDURES TO DETERMINE FAIR MARKET VALUE OF GOODS AND SERVICES.—The Corporation and the Secretary of Commerce (or their designees) shall meet on a biannual basis to review the procedures to determine the fair market value of goods and services received from non-Federal sources by the Corporation under subparagraph (B).”.

### **SEC. 605. EXTENSION OF TRAVEL PROMOTION ACT OF 2009.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Travel Promotion Act of 2009 (22 U.S.C. 2131) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)(5)(A)(iv), by striking “all States and the District of Columbia” and inserting “all States and territories of the United States and the District of Columbia,”; and

(2) in subsection (d)—

(A) in paragraph (2)(B), by striking “2015” and inserting “2020”; and

(B) in paragraph (4)(B), by striking “fiscal year 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, or 2015” and inserting “each of the fiscal years 2011 through 2020”.

(b) SUNSET OF TRAVEL PROMOTION FUND FEE.—Section 217(h)(3)(B)(iii) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1187(h)(3)(B)(iii)) is amended by striking “September 30, 2015” and inserting “September 30, 2020”.

### **SEC. 606. ACCOUNTABILITY; PROCUREMENT REQUIREMENTS.**

The Travel Promotion Act of 2009 (22 U.S.C. 2131), as amended by this Act, is further amended—

(1) by redesignating subsections (e), (f), (g), and (h) as subsections (h), (e), (i), and (j), respectively;

(2) by moving subsection (e) (as so redesignated) so that it follows subsection (d);

(3) in paragraph (2) of subsection (c), by striking “\$5,000,000” and inserting “\$500,000”; and

(4) by inserting after subsection (e), as redesignated, the following:

“(f) ACCOUNTABILITY.—

“(1) PERFORMANCE PLANS AND MEASURES.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of the Travel Promotion, Enhancement, and Modernization Act of 2014, the Corporation shall—

“(A) establish performance metrics including, time frames, evaluation methodologies, and data sources for measuring—

“(i) the effectiveness of marketing efforts by the Corporation, including its progress in achieving the long-term goals of increased traveler visits to and spending in the United States;

“(ii) whether increases in visitation and spending have occurred in response to external influences, such as economic conditions or exchange rates, rather than in response to the efforts of the Corporation; and

“(iii) any cost or benefit to the economy of the United States; and

“(B) conduct periodic program evaluations in response to the data resulting from measurements under subparagraph (A).

“(2) GAO ACCOUNTABILITY.—Not later than 60 days after the date on which the Corporation receives a report from the Government Accountability Office with recommendations for the Corporation, the Corporation shall submit a report to Congress that describes the actions taken by the Corporation in response to the recommendations in such report.

“(g) PROCUREMENT REQUIREMENTS.—The Corporation shall—

“(1) establish a competitive procurement process; and

“(2) certify in its annual report to Congress under subsection (c)(3) that any contracts entered into were in compliance with the established competitive procurement process.”.

#### SEC. 607. REPEAL OF ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY.

The Travel Promotion Act of 2009 (22 U.S.C. 2131), as amended by this Act, is further amended by striking subsection (e) (as redesignated by section 606(1) of this Act).

### TITLE VII—REVITALIZE AMERICAN MANUFACTURING AND INNOVATION ACT OF 2014

#### SEC. 701. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the “Revitalize American Manufacturing and Innovation Act of 2014”.

#### SEC. 702. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) In 2012, manufacturers contributed \$2.03 trillion to the economy, or  $\frac{1}{5}$  of United States Gross Domestic Product.

(2) For every \$1.00 spent in manufacturing, another \$1.32 is added to the economy, the highest multiplier effect of any economic sector.

(3) Manufacturing supports an estimated 17,400,000 jobs in the United States—about 1 in 6 private-sector jobs. More than 12,000,000 Americans (or 9 percent of the workforce) are employed directly in manufacturing.

(4) In 2012, the average manufacturing worker in the United States earned \$77,505 annually, including pay and benefits. The average worker in all industries earned \$62,063.

(5) Taken alone, manufacturing in the United States would be the 8th largest economy in the world.

(6) Manufacturers in the United States perform two-thirds of all private-sector research and development in the United States, driving more innovation than any other sector.

#### SEC. 703. ESTABLISHMENT OF NETWORK FOR MANUFACTURING INNOVATION.

The National Institute of Standards and Technology Act (15 U.S.C. 271 et seq.) is amended—

(1) by redesignating section 34 as section 35; and

(2) by inserting after section 33 (15 U.S.C. 278r) the following:

#### “SEC. 34. NETWORK FOR MANUFACTURING INNOVATION.

“(a) ESTABLISHMENT OF NETWORK FOR MANUFACTURING INNOVATION PROGRAM.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish within the Institute a program to be known as the ‘Network for Manufacturing Innovation Program’ (referred to in this section as the ‘Program’).

“(2) PURPOSES OF PROGRAM.—The purposes of the Program are—

“(A) to improve the competitiveness of United States manufacturing and to increase the production of goods manufactured predominantly within the United States;

“(B) to stimulate United States leadership in advanced manufacturing research, innovation, and technology;

“(C) to facilitate the transition of innovative technologies into scalable, cost-effective, and high-performing manufacturing capabilities;

“(D) to facilitate access by manufacturing enterprises to capital-intensive infrastructure, including high-performance electronics and computing, and the supply chains that enable these technologies;

“(E) to accelerate the development of an advanced manufacturing workforce;

“(F) to facilitate peer exchange of and the documentation of best practices in addressing advanced manufacturing challenges;

“(G) to leverage non-Federal sources of support to promote a stable and sustainable business model without the need for long-term Federal funding; and

“(H) to create and preserve jobs.

“(3) SUPPORT.—The Secretary, acting through the Director, shall carry out the purposes set forth in paragraph (2) by supporting—

“(A) the Network for Manufacturing Innovation established under subsection (b); and

“(B) the establishment of centers for manufacturing innovation.

“(4) DIRECTOR.—The Secretary shall carry out the Program through the Director.

“(b) ESTABLISHMENT OF NETWORK FOR MANUFACTURING INNOVATION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—As part of the Program, the Secretary shall establish a network of centers for manufacturing innovation.

“(2) DESIGNATION.—The network established under paragraph (1) shall be known as the ‘Network for Manufacturing Innovation’ (referred to in this section as the ‘Network’).

“(c) CENTERS FOR MANUFACTURING INNOVATION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this section, a ‘center for manufacturing innovation’ is a center that—

“(A) has been established by a person or group of persons to address challenges in advanced manufacturing and to assist manufacturers in retaining or expanding industrial production and jobs in the United States;

“(B) has a predominant focus on a manufacturing process, novel material, enabling technology, supply chain integration methodology, or another relevant aspect of advanced manufacturing, such as nanotechnology applications, advanced ceramics, photonics and optics, composites, biobased and advanced materials, flexible hybrid technologies, and tool development for microelectronics;

“(C) as determined by the Secretary, has the potential—

“(i) to improve the competitiveness of United States manufacturing, including key advanced manufacturing technologies such as nanotechnology, advanced ceramics, photonics and optics, composites, biobased and advanced materials, flexible hybrid technologies, and tool development for microelectronics;

“(ii) to accelerate non-Federal investment in advanced manufacturing production capacity in the United States; or

“(iii) to enable the commercial application of new technologies or industry-wide manufacturing processes; and

“(D) includes active participation among representatives from multiple industrial entities, research universities, community colleges, and such other entities as the Secretary considers appropriate, which may include industry-led consortia, career and technical education schools, Federal laboratories, State, local, and tribal governments, businesses, educational institutions, and nonprofit organizations.

“(2) ACTIVITIES.—Activities of a center for manufacturing innovation may include the following:

“(A) Research, development, and demonstration projects, including proof-of-concept development and prototyping, to reduce the cost, time, and risk of commercializing new technologies and improvements in existing technologies, processes, products, and research and development of materials to solve precompetitive industrial problems with economic or national security implications.

“(B) Development and implementation of education, training, and workforce recruitment courses, materials, and programs.

“(C) Development of innovative methodologies and practices for supply chain integration and introduction of new technologies into supply chains.

“(D) Outreach and engagement with small and medium-sized manufacturing enterprises, including women and minority owned manufacturing enterprises, in addition to large manufacturing enterprises.

“(E) Such other activities as the Secretary, in consultation with Federal departments and agencies whose missions contribute to or are affected by advanced manufacturing, considers consistent with the purposes described in subsection (a)(2).

“(3) ADDITIONAL CENTERS FOR MANUFACTURING INNOVATION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The National Additive Manufacturing Innovation Institute and other manufacturing centers formally recognized as manufacturing innovation centers pursuant to Federal law or executive actions, or under pending interagency review for such recognition as of the date of enactment of the Revitalize American Manufacturing and Innovation Act of 2014, shall be considered centers for manufacturing innovation, but such centers shall not receive any financial assistance under subsection (d).

“(B) NETWORK PARTICIPATION.—A manufacturing center that is substantially similar to those established under this subsection but that does not receive financial assistance under subsection (d) may, upon request of the center, be recognized as a center for manufacturing innovation by the Secretary for purposes of participation in the Network.

“(d) FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO ESTABLISH AND SUPPORT CENTERS FOR MANUFACTURING INNOVATION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out the Program, the Secretary shall award financial assistance to a person or group of persons to assist the organization in planning, establishing, or supporting a center for manufacturing innovation.

“(2) APPLICATION.—A person or group of persons seeking financial assistance under paragraph (1) shall submit to the Secretary an application therefor at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may require. The application shall, at a minimum, describe the specific sources and amounts of non-Federal financial support for the center on the date financial assistance is sought, as well as the anticipated sources and amounts of non-Federal financial support during the period for which the center could be eligible for continued Federal financial assistance under this section.

“(3) OPEN PROCESS.—In soliciting applications for financial assistance under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall ensure an open process that will allow for the consideration of all applications relevant to advanced manufacturing regardless of technology area.

“(4) SELECTION.—



“(A) COMPETITIVE, MERIT REVIEW.—In awarding financial assistance under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall use a competitive, merit review process that includes peer review by a diverse group of individuals with relevant expertise from both the private and public sectors.

“(B) PARTICIPATION IN PROCESS.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—No political appointee may participate on a peer review panel. The Secretary shall implement a conflict of interest policy that ensures public transparency and accountability, and requires full disclosure of any real or potential conflicts of interest on the parts of individuals that participate in the merit selection process.

“(ii) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this subparagraph, the term ‘political appointee’ means any individual who—

“(I) is employed in a position described under sections 5312 through 5316 of title 5, United States Code, (relating to the Executive Schedule);

“(II) is a limited term appointee, limited emergency appointee, or noncareer appointee in the Senior Executive Service, as defined under paragraphs (5), (6), and (7), respectively, of section 3132(a) of title 5, United States Code; or

“(III) is employed in a position in the executive branch of the Government of a confidential or policy-determining character under schedule C of subpart C of part 213 of title 5 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

“(C) PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT, TRANSPARENCY, AND ACCOUNTABILITY.—For each award of financial assistance under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall—

“(i) make publicly available at the time of the award a description of the bases for the award, including an explanation of the relative merits of the winning applicant as compared to other applications received, if applicable; and

“(ii) develop and implement metrics-based performance measures to assess the effectiveness of the activities funded.

“(D) COLLABORATION.—In awarding financial assistance under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall, acting through the National Program Office established under subsection (f)(1), collaborate with Federal departments and agencies whose missions contribute to or are affected by advanced manufacturing.

“(E) CONSIDERATIONS.—In selecting a person who submitted an application under paragraph (2) for an award of financial assistance under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall consider, at a minimum, the following:

“(i) The potential of the center for manufacturing innovation to advance domestic manufacturing and the likelihood of economic impact, including the creation or preservation of jobs, in the predominant focus areas of the center for manufacturing innovation.

“(ii) The commitment of continued financial support, advice, participation, and other contributions from non-Federal sources, to provide leverage and resources to promote a stable and sustainable business model without the need for long-term Federal funding.

“(iii) Whether the financial support provided to the center for manufacturing innovation from non-Federal sources significantly exceeds the requested Federal financial assistance.

“(iv) How the center for manufacturing innovation will increase the non-Federal investment in advanced manufacturing research in the United States.

“(v) How the center for manufacturing innovation will engage with small and medium-sized manufacturing enterprises, to im-

prove the capacity of such enterprises to commercialize new processes and technologies.

“(vi) How the center for manufacturing innovation will carry out educational and workforce activities that meet industrial needs related to the predominant focus areas of the center.

“(vii) How the center for manufacturing innovation will advance economic competitiveness and generate substantial benefits to the Nation that extend beyond the direct return to participants in the Program.

“(viii) Whether the predominant focus of the center for manufacturing innovation is a manufacturing process, novel material, enabling technology, supply chain integration methodology, or other relevant aspect of advanced manufacturing that has not already been commercialized, marketed, distributed, or sold by another entity.

“(ix) How the center for manufacturing innovation will strengthen and leverage the assets of a region.

“(x) How the center for manufacturing will encourage the education and training of veterans and individuals with disabilities.

“(5) LIMITATIONS ON AWARDS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—No award of financial assistance may be made under paragraph (1) to a center of manufacturing innovation after the 7-year period beginning on the date on which the Secretary first awards financial assistance to that center under that paragraph.

“(B) MATCHING FUNDS AND PREFERENCES.—The total Federal financial assistance awarded to a center of manufacturing innovation, including the financial assistance under paragraph (1), in a given year shall not exceed 50 percent of the total funding of the center in that year, except that the Secretary may make an exception in the case of large capital facilities or equipment purchases. The Secretary shall give weighted preference to applicants seeking less than the maximum Federal share of funds allowed under this paragraph.

“(C) FUNDING DECREASE.—The amount of financial assistance provided to a center of manufacturing innovation under paragraph (1) shall decrease after the second year of funding for the center, and shall continue to decrease thereafter in each year in which financial assistance is provided, unless the Secretary determines that—

“(i) the center is otherwise meeting its stated goals and metrics under this section;

“(ii) unforeseen circumstances have altered the center's anticipated funding; and

“(iii) the center can identify future non-Federal funding sources that would warrant a temporary exemption from the limitations established in this subparagraph.

“(e) FUNDING.—

“(1) GENERAL RULE.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), no funds are authorized to be appropriated by the Revitalize American Manufacturing and Innovation Act of 2014 for carrying out this section.

“(2) AUTHORITY.—

“(A) NIST INDUSTRIAL TECHNICAL SERVICES ACCOUNT.—To the extent provided for in advance by appropriations Acts, the Secretary may use not to exceed \$5,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2015 through 2024 to carry out this section from amounts appropriated to the Institute for Industrial Technical Services.

“(B) ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND RENEWABLE ENERGY ACCOUNT.—To the extent provided for in advance by appropriations Acts, the Secretary of Energy may transfer to the Institute not to exceed \$250,000,000 for the period

encompassing fiscal years 2015 through 2024 for the Secretary to carry out this section from amounts appropriated for advanced manufacturing research and development within the Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy account for the Department of Energy.

“(f) NATIONAL PROGRAM OFFICE.—

“(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish, within the Institute, the National Office of the Network for Manufacturing Innovation Program (referred to in this section as the ‘National Program Office’), which shall oversee and carry out the Program.

“(2) FUNCTIONS.—The functions of the National Program Office are—

“(A) to oversee the planning, management, and coordination of the Program;

“(B) to enter into memorandums of understanding with Federal departments and agencies whose missions contribute to or are affected by advanced manufacturing, to carry out the purposes described in subsection (a)(2);

“(C) to develop, not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the Revitalize American Manufacturing and Innovation Act of 2014, and update not less frequently than once every 3 years thereafter, a strategic plan to guide the Program;

“(D) to establish such procedures, processes, and criteria as may be necessary and appropriate to maximize cooperation and coordinate the activities of the Program with programs and activities of other Federal departments and agencies whose missions contribute to or are affected by advanced manufacturing;

“(E) to establish a clearinghouse of public information related to the activities of the Program; and

“(F) to act as a convener of the Network.

“(3) RECOMMENDATIONS.—In developing and updating the strategic plan under paragraph (2)(C), the Secretary shall solicit recommendations and advice from a wide range of stakeholders, including industry, small and medium-sized manufacturing enterprises, research universities, community colleges, and other relevant organizations and institutions on an ongoing basis.

“(4) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Upon completion, the Secretary shall transmit the strategic plan required under paragraph (2)(C) to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives.

“(5) HOLLINGS MANUFACTURING EXTENSION PARTNERSHIP.—The Secretary shall ensure that the National Program Office incorporates the Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership into Program planning to ensure that the results of the Program reach small and medium-sized entities.

“(6) DETAILEES.—Any Federal Government employee may be detailed to the National Program Office without reimbursement. Such detail shall be without interruption or loss of civil service status or privilege.

“(g) REPORTING AND AUDITING.—

“(1) ANNUAL REPORTS TO THE SECRETARY.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall require each recipient of financial assistance under subsection (d)(1) to annually submit a report to the Secretary that describes the finances and performance of the center for manufacturing innovation for which such assistance was awarded.

“(B) ELEMENTS.—Each report submitted under subparagraph (A) shall include—

“(i) an accounting of expenditures of amounts awarded to the recipient under subsection (d)(1); and

“(ii) consistent with the metrics-based performance measures developed and implemented by the Secretary under this section, a description of the performance of the center for manufacturing innovation with respect to—

“(I) its goals, plans, financial support, and accomplishments; and

“(II) how the center for manufacturing innovation has furthered the purposes described in subsection (a)(2).

“(2) ANNUAL REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Not less frequently than once each year until December 31, 2024, the Secretary shall submit a report to Congress that describes the performance of the Program during the most recent 1-year period.

“(B) ELEMENTS.—Each report submitted under subparagraph (A) shall include, for the period covered by the report—

“(i) a summary and assessment of the reports received by the Secretary under paragraph (1);

“(ii) an accounting of the funds expended by the Secretary under the Program, including any temporary exemptions provided from the requirements of subsection (d)(5)(C);

“(iii) an assessment of the participation in, and contributions to, the Network by any centers for manufacturing innovation not receiving financial assistance under subsection (d)(1); and

“(iv) an assessment of the Program with respect to meeting the purposes described in subsection (a)(2).

“(3) ASSESSMENTS BY GAO.—

“(A) ASSESSMENTS.—Not less frequently than once every 2 years, the Comptroller General shall submit to Congress an assessment of the operation of the Program during the most recent 2-year period.

“(B) FINAL ASSESSMENT.—Not later than December 31, 2024, the Comptroller General shall submit to Congress a final report regarding the overall success of the Program.

“(C) ELEMENTS.—Each assessment submitted under subparagraph (A) or (B) shall include, for the period covered by the report—

“(i) a review of the management, coordination, and industry utility of the Program;

“(ii) an assessment of the extent to which the Program has furthered the purposes described in subsection (a)(2);

“(iii) such recommendations for legislative and administrative action as the Comptroller General considers appropriate to improve the Program; and

“(iv) an assessment as to whether any prior recommendations for improvement made by the Comptroller General have been implemented or adopted.

“(h) ADDITIONAL AUTHORITIES.—

“(1) APPOINTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND CONTRACTS.—The Secretary may appoint such personnel and enter into such contracts, financial assistance agreements, and other agreements as the Secretary considers necessary or appropriate to carry out the Program, including support for research and development activities involving a center for manufacturing innovation.

“(2) TRANSFER OF FUNDS.—Of amounts available under the authority provided by subsection (e), the Secretary may transfer to other Federal agencies such sums as the Secretary considers necessary or appropriate to carry out the Program. No funds so transferred may be used to reimburse or otherwise pay for the costs of financial assistance incurred or commitments of financial assistance made prior to the date of enactment of the Revitalize American Manufacturing and Innovation Act of 2014.

“(3) AUTHORITY OF OTHER AGENCIES.—In the event that the Secretary exercises the authority to transfer funds to another agency under paragraph (2), such agency may accept such funds to award and administer, under the same conditions and constraints applicable to the Secretary, all aspects of financial assistance awards under this section.

“(4) USE OF RESOURCES.—In furtherance of the purposes of the Program, the Secretary may use, with the consent of a covered entity and with or without reimbursement, the land, services, equipment, personnel, and facilities of such covered entity.

“(5) ACCEPTANCE OF RESOURCES.—In addition to amounts appropriated to carry out the Program, the Secretary may accept funds, services, equipment, personnel, and facilities from any covered entity to carry out the Program, subject to the same conditions and constraints otherwise applicable to the Secretary under this section and such funds may only be obligated to the extent provided for in advance by appropriations Acts.

“(6) COVERED ENTITY.—For purposes of this subsection, a covered entity is any Federal department, Federal agency, instrumentality of the United States, State, local government, tribal government, territory, or possession of the United States, or of any political subdivision thereof, or international organization, or any public or private entity or individual.

“(i) PATENTS.—Chapter 18 of title 35, United States Code, shall apply to any funding agreement (as defined in section 201 of that title) awarded to new or existing centers for manufacturing innovation.”

#### SEC. 704. NATIONAL STRATEGIC PLAN FOR ADVANCED MANUFACTURING.

Section 102 of the America COMPETES Reauthorization Act of 2010 (42 U.S.C. 6622) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by adding at the end the following: “In furtherance of the Committee’s work, the Committee shall consult with the National Economic Council.”;

(2) in subsection (b), by striking paragraph (7) and inserting the following:

“(7) develop and update a national strategic plan for advanced manufacturing in accordance with subsection (c).”; and

(3) by striking subsection (c) and inserting the following:

“(c) NATIONAL STRATEGIC PLAN FOR ADVANCED MANUFACTURING.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The President shall submit to Congress, and publish on an Internet website that is accessible to the public, the strategic plan developed under paragraph (2).

“(2) DEVELOPMENT.—The Committee shall develop, and update as required under paragraph (4), in coordination with the National Economic Council, a strategic plan to improve Government coordination and provide long-term guidance for Federal programs and activities in support of United States manufacturing competitiveness, including advanced manufacturing research and development.

“(3) CONTENTS.—The strategic plan described in paragraph (2) shall—

“(A) specify and prioritize near-term and long-term objectives, including research and development objectives, the anticipated time frame for achieving the objectives, and the metrics for use in assessing progress toward the objectives;

“(B) describe the progress made in achieving the objectives from prior strategic plans, including a discussion of why specific objectives were not met;

“(C) specify the role, including the programs and activities, of each relevant Fed-

eral agency in meeting the objectives of the strategic plan;

“(D) describe how the Federal agencies and Federally funded research and development centers supporting advanced manufacturing research and development will foster the transfer of research and development results into new manufacturing technologies and United States-based manufacturing of new products and processes for the benefit of society to ensure national, energy, and economic security;

“(E) describe how such Federal agencies and centers will strengthen all levels of manufacturing education and training programs to ensure an adequate, well-trained workforce;

“(F) describe how such Federal agencies and centers will assist small and medium-sized manufacturers in developing and implementing new products and processes;

“(G) analyze factors that impact innovation and competitiveness for United States advanced manufacturing, including—

“(i) technology transfer and commercialization activities;

“(ii) the adequacy of the national security industrial base;

“(iii) the capabilities of the domestic manufacturing workforce;

“(iv) export opportunities and trade policies;

“(v) financing, investment, and taxation policies and practices;

“(vi) emerging technologies and markets;

“(vii) advanced manufacturing research and development undertaken by competing nations; and

“(viii) the capabilities of the manufacturing workforce of competing nations; and

“(H) elicit and consider the recommendations of a wide range of stakeholders, including representatives from diverse manufacturing companies, academia, and other relevant organizations and institutions.

“(4) UPDATES.—Not later than May 1, 2018, and not less frequently than once every 4 years thereafter, the President shall submit to Congress, and publish on an Internet website that is accessible to the public, an update of the strategic plan submitted under paragraph (1). Such updates shall be developed in accordance with the procedures set forth under this subsection.

“(5) REQUIREMENT TO CONSIDER STRATEGY IN THE BUDGET.—In preparing the budget for a fiscal year under section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code, the President shall include information regarding the consistency of the budget with the goals and recommendations included in the strategic plan developed under this subsection applying to that fiscal year.

“(6) AMP STEERING COMMITTEE INPUT.—The Advanced Manufacturing Partnership Steering Committee of the President’s Council of Advisors on Science and Technology shall provide input, perspective, and recommendations to assist in the development and updates of the strategic plan under this subsection.”

#### SEC. 705. REGIONAL INNOVATION PROGRAM.

Section 27 of the Stevenson-Wyder Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3722) is amended to read as follows:

##### “SEC. 27. REGIONAL INNOVATION PROGRAM.

“(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish a regional innovation program to encourage and support the development of regional innovation strategies, including regional innovation clusters.

“(b) CLUSTER GRANTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—As part of the program established under subsection (a), the Secretary may award grants on a competitive



basis to eligible recipients for activities relating to the formation and development of regional innovation clusters.

“(2) PERMISSIBLE ACTIVITIES.—Grants awarded under this subsection may be used for activities determined appropriate by the Secretary, including the following:

“(A) Feasibility studies.

“(B) Planning activities.

“(C) Technical assistance.

“(D) Developing or strengthening communication and collaboration between and among participants of a regional innovation cluster.

“(E) Attracting additional participants to a regional innovation cluster.

“(F) Facilitating market development of products and services developed by a regional innovation cluster, including through demonstration, deployment, technology transfer, and commercialization activities.

“(G) Developing relationships between a regional innovation cluster and entities or clusters in other regions.

“(H) Interacting with the public and State and local governments to meet the goals of the cluster.

“(3) ELIGIBLE RECIPIENT DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term ‘eligible recipient’ means—

“(A) a State;

“(B) an Indian tribe;

“(C) a city or other political subdivision of a State;

“(D) an entity that—

“(i) is a nonprofit organization, an institution of higher education, a public-private partnership, a science or research park, a Federal laboratory, or an economic development organization or similar entity; and

“(ii) has an application that is supported by a State or a political subdivision of a State; or

“(E) a consortium of any of the entities described in subparagraphs (A) through (D).

“(4) APPLICATION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—An eligible recipient shall submit an application to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and containing such information and assurances as the Secretary may require.

“(B) COMPONENTS.—The application shall include, at a minimum, a description of the regional innovation cluster supported by the proposed activity, including a description of—

“(i) whether the regional innovation cluster is supported by the private sector, State and local governments, and other relevant stakeholders;

“(ii) how the existing participants in the regional innovation cluster will encourage and solicit participation by all types of entities that might benefit from participation, including newly formed entities and those rival existing participants;

“(iii) the extent to which the regional innovation cluster is likely to stimulate innovation and have a positive impact on regional economic growth and development;

“(iv) whether the participants in the regional innovation cluster have access to, or contribute to, a well-trained workforce;

“(v) whether the participants in the regional innovation cluster are capable of attracting additional funds from non-Federal sources; and

“(vi) the likelihood that the participants in the regional innovation cluster will be able to sustain activities once grant funds under this subsection have been expended.

“(C) SPECIAL CONSIDERATION.—The Secretary shall give special consideration to applications from regions that contain communities negatively impacted by trade.

“(5) SPECIAL CONSIDERATION.—The Secretary shall give special consideration to an eligible recipient who agrees to collaborate with local workforce investment area boards.

“(6) COST SHARE.—The Secretary may not provide more than 50 percent of the total cost of any activity funded under this subsection.

“(7) OUTREACH TO RURAL COMMUNITIES.—The Secretary shall conduct outreach to public and private sector entities in rural communities to encourage those entities to participate in regional innovation cluster activities under this subsection.

“(8) FUNDING.—The Secretary may accept funds from other Federal agencies to support grants and activities under this subsection.

“(C) REGIONAL INNOVATION RESEARCH AND INFORMATION PROGRAM.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—As part of the program established under subsection (a), the Secretary shall establish a regional innovation research and information program—

“(A) to gather, analyze, and disseminate information on best practices for regional innovation strategies (including regional innovation clusters), including information relating to how innovation, productivity, and economic development can be maximized through such strategies;

“(B) to provide technical assistance, including through the development of technical assistance guides, for the development and implementation of regional innovation strategies (including regional innovation clusters);

“(C) to support the development of relevant metrics and measurement standards to evaluate regional innovation strategies (including regional innovation clusters), including the extent to which such strategies stimulate innovation, productivity, and economic development; and

“(D) to collect and make available data on regional innovation cluster activity in the United States, including data on—

“(i) the size, specialization, and competitiveness of regional innovation clusters;

“(ii) the regional domestic product contribution, total jobs and earnings by key occupations, establishment size, nature of specialization, patents, Federal research and development spending, and other relevant information for regional innovation clusters; and

“(iii) supply chain product and service flows within and between regional innovation clusters.

“(2) RESEARCH GRANTS.—The Secretary may award research grants on a competitive basis to support and further the goals of the program established under this subsection.

“(3) DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION.—Data and analysis compiled by the Secretary under the program established in this subsection shall be made available to other Federal agencies, State and local governments, and nonprofit and for-profit entities.

“(4) REGIONAL INNOVATION GRANT PROGRAM.—The Secretary shall incorporate data and analysis relating to any grant under subsection (b) into the program established under this subsection.

“(d) INTERAGENCY COORDINATION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—To the maximum extent practicable, the Secretary shall ensure that the activities carried out under this section are coordinated with, and do not duplicate the efforts of, other programs at the Department of Commerce or other Federal agencies.

“(2) COLLABORATION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall explore and pursue collaboration with other

Federal agencies, including through multi-agency funding opportunities, on regional innovation strategies.

“(B) SMALL BUSINESSES.—The Secretary shall ensure that such collaboration with Federal agencies prioritizes the needs and challenges of small businesses.

“(e) EVALUATION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of the Revitalize American Manufacturing and Innovation Act of 2014, the Secretary shall enter into a contract with an independent entity, such as the National Academy of Sciences, to conduct an evaluation of the program established under subsection (a).

“(2) REQUIREMENTS.—The evaluation shall include—

“(A) whether the program is achieving its goals;

“(B) any recommendations for how the program may be improved; and

“(C) a recommendation as to whether the program should be continued or terminated.

“(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

“(1) REGIONAL INNOVATION CLUSTER.—The term ‘regional innovation cluster’ means a geographically bounded network of similar, synergistic, or complementary entities that—

“(A) are engaged in or with a particular industry sector and its related sectors;

“(B) have active channels for business transactions and communication;

“(C) share specialized infrastructure, labor markets, and services; and

“(D) leverage the region’s unique competitive strengths to stimulate innovation and create jobs.

“(2) STATE.—The term ‘State’ means one of the several States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, or any other territory or possession of the United States.

“(g) FUNDING.—

“(1) GENERAL RULE.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), no funds are authorized to be appropriated by the Revitalize American Manufacturing and Innovation Act of 2014 for carrying out this section.

“(2) AUTHORITY.—To the extent provided for in advance by appropriations Acts, the Secretary may use not to exceed \$10,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2015 through 2019 to carry out this section from amounts appropriated for economic development assistance programs.”.

This division may be cited as the “Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2015”.

## DIVISION C—DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015

### TITLE I

#### MILITARY PERSONNEL

##### MILITARY PERSONNEL, ARMY

For pay, allowances, individual clothing, subsistence, interest on deposits, gratuities, permanent change of station travel (including all expenses thereof for organizational movements), and expenses of temporary duty travel between permanent duty stations, for members of the Army on active duty (except members of reserve components provided for elsewhere), cadets, and aviation cadets; for members of the Reserve Officers’ Training Corps; and for payments pursuant to section 156 of Public Law 97-377, as amended (42 U.S.C. 402 note), and to the Department of Defense Military Retirement Fund, \$41,116,129,000.

## MILITARY PERSONNEL, NAVY

For pay, allowances, individual clothing, subsistence, interest on deposits, gratuities, permanent change of station travel (including all expenses thereof for organizational movements), and expenses of temporary duty travel between permanent duty stations, for members of the Navy on active duty (except members of the Reserve provided for elsewhere), midshipmen, and aviation cadets; for members of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps; and for payments pursuant to section 156 of Public Law 97-377, as amended (42 U.S.C. 402 note), and to the Department of Defense Military Retirement Fund, \$27,453,200,000.

## MILITARY PERSONNEL, MARINE CORPS

For pay, allowances, individual clothing, subsistence, interest on deposits, gratuities, permanent change of station travel (including all expenses thereof for organizational movements), and expenses of temporary duty travel between permanent duty stations, for members of the Marine Corps on active duty (except members of the Reserve provided for elsewhere); and for payments pursuant to section 156 of Public Law 97-377, as amended (42 U.S.C. 402 note), and to the Department of Defense Military Retirement Fund, \$12,828,931,000.

## MILITARY PERSONNEL, AIR FORCE

For pay, allowances, individual clothing, subsistence, interest on deposits, gratuities, permanent change of station travel (including all expenses thereof for organizational movements), and expenses of temporary duty travel between permanent duty stations, for members of the Air Force on active duty (except members of reserve components provided for elsewhere), cadets, and aviation cadets; for members of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps; and for payments pursuant to section 156 of Public Law 97-377, as amended (42 U.S.C. 402 note), and to the Department of Defense Military Retirement Fund, \$27,376,462,000.

## RESERVE PERSONNEL, ARMY

For pay, allowances, clothing, subsistence, gratuities, travel, and related expenses for personnel of the Army Reserve on active duty under sections 10211, 10302, and 3038 of title 10, United States Code, or while serving on active duty under section 12301(d) of title 10, United States Code, in connection with performing duty specified in section 12310(a) of title 10, United States Code, or while undergoing reserve training, or while performing drills or equivalent duty or other duty, and expenses authorized by section 16131 of title 10, United States Code; and for payments to the Department of Defense Military Retirement Fund, \$4,317,859,000.

## RESERVE PERSONNEL, NAVY

For pay, allowances, clothing, subsistence, gratuities, travel, and related expenses for personnel of the Navy Reserve on active duty under section 10211 of title 10, United States Code, or while serving on active duty under section 12301(d) of title 10, United States Code, in connection with performing duty specified in section 12310(a) of title 10, United States Code, or while undergoing reserve training, or while performing drills or equivalent duty, and expenses authorized by section 16131 of title 10, United States Code; and for payments to the Department of Defense Military Retirement Fund, \$1,835,924,000.

## RESERVE PERSONNEL, MARINE CORPS

For pay, allowances, clothing, subsistence, gratuities, travel, and related expenses for personnel of the Marine Corps Reserve on active duty under section 10211 of title 10,

United States Code, or while serving on active duty under section 12301(d) of title 10, United States Code, in connection with performing duty specified in section 12310(a) of title 10, United States Code, or while undergoing reserve training, or while performing drills or equivalent duty, and for members of the Marine Corps platoon leaders class, and expenses authorized by section 16131 of title 10, United States Code; and for payments to the Department of Defense Military Retirement Fund, \$660,424,000.

## RESERVE PERSONNEL, AIR FORCE

For pay, allowances, clothing, subsistence, gratuities, travel, and related expenses for personnel of the Air Force Reserve on active duty under sections 10211, 10305, and 8038 of title 10, United States Code, or while serving on active duty under section 12301(d) of title 10, United States Code, in connection with performing duty specified in section 12310(a) of title 10, United States Code, or while undergoing reserve training, or while performing drills or equivalent duty or other duty, and expenses authorized by section 16131 of title 10, United States Code; and for payments to the Department of Defense Military Retirement Fund, \$1,653,148,000.

## NATIONAL GUARD PERSONNEL, ARMY

For pay, allowances, clothing, subsistence, gratuities, travel, and related expenses for personnel of the Army National Guard while on duty under sections 10211, 10302, or 12402 of title 10 or section 708 of title 32, United States Code, or while serving on duty under section 12301(d) of title 10 or section 502(f) of title 32, United States Code, in connection with performing duty specified in section 12310(a) of title 10, United States Code, or while undergoing training, or while performing drills or equivalent duty or other duty, and expenses authorized by section 16131 of title 10, United States Code; and for payments to the Department of Defense Military Retirement Fund, \$7,643,832,000.

## NATIONAL GUARD PERSONNEL, AIR FORCE

For pay, allowances, clothing, subsistence, gratuities, travel, and related expenses for personnel of the Air National Guard on duty under sections 10211, 10305, or 12402 of title 10 or section 708 of title 32, United States Code, or while serving on duty under section 12301(d) of title 10 or section 502(f) of title 32, United States Code, in connection with performing duty specified in section 12310(a) of title 10, United States Code, or while undergoing training, or while performing drills or equivalent duty or other duty, and expenses authorized by section 16131 of title 10, United States Code; and for payments to the Department of Defense Military Retirement Fund, \$3,118,709,000.

## TITLE II

## OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

## OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY

For expenses, not otherwise provided for, necessary for the operation and maintenance of the Army, as authorized by law, \$31,961,920,000: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$12,478,000 can be used for emergencies and extraordinary expenses, to be expended on the approval or authority of the Secretary of the Army, and payments may be made on his certificate of necessity for confidential military purposes.

## OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, NAVY

For expenses, not otherwise provided for, necessary for the operation and maintenance of the Navy and the Marine Corps, as authorized by law, \$37,590,854,000: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$15,055,000 can be used for emer-

gencies and extraordinary expenses, to be expended on the approval or authority of the Secretary of the Navy, and payments may be made on his certificate of necessity for confidential military purposes.

## OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, MARINE CORPS

For expenses, not otherwise provided for, necessary for the operation and maintenance of the Marine Corps, as authorized by law, \$5,610,063,000.

## OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR FORCE

For expenses, not otherwise provided for, necessary for the operation and maintenance of the Air Force, as authorized by law, \$34,539,965,000: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$7,699,000 can be used for emergencies and extraordinary expenses, to be expended on the approval or authority of the Secretary of the Air Force, and payments may be made on his certificate of necessity for confidential military purposes.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, DEFENSE-WIDE  
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For expenses, not otherwise provided for, necessary for the operation and maintenance of activities and agencies of the Department of Defense (other than the military departments), as authorized by law, \$30,824,752,000: *Provided*, That not more than \$15,000,000 may be used for the Combatant Commander Initiative Fund authorized under section 166a of title 10, United States Code: *Provided further*, That not to exceed \$36,000,000 can be used for emergencies and extraordinary expenses, to be expended on the approval or authority of the Secretary of Defense, and payments may be made on his certificate of necessity for confidential military purposes: *Provided further*, That of the funds provided under this heading, not less than \$35,045,000 shall be made available for the Procurement Technical Assistance Cooperative Agreement Program, of which not less than \$3,600,000 shall be available for centers defined in 10 U.S.C. 2411(1)(D): *Provided further*, That none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used to plan or implement the consolidation of a budget or appropriations liaison office of the Office of the Secretary of Defense, the office of the Secretary of a military department, or the service headquarters of one of the Armed Forces into a legislative affairs or legislative liaison office: *Provided further*, That \$8,881,000, to remain available until expended, is available only for expenses relating to certain classified activities, and may be transferred as necessary by the Secretary of Defense to operation and maintenance appropriations or research, development, test and evaluation appropriations, to be merged with and to be available for the same time period as the appropriations to which transferred: *Provided further*, That any ceiling on the investment item unit cost of items that may be purchased with operation and maintenance funds shall not apply to the funds described in the preceding proviso: *Provided further*, That the transfer authority provided under this heading is in addition to any other transfer authority provided elsewhere in this Act.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY  
RESERVE

For expenses, not otherwise provided for, necessary for the operation and maintenance, including training, organization, and administration, of the Army Reserve; repair of facilities and equipment; hire of passenger motor vehicles; travel and transportation; care of the dead; recruiting; procurement of services, supplies, and equipment; and communications, \$2,513,393,000.

## OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, NAVY RESERVE

For expenses, not otherwise provided for, necessary for the operation and maintenance, including training, organization, and administration, of the Navy Reserve; repair of facilities and equipment; hire of passenger motor vehicles; travel and transportation; care of the dead; recruiting; procurement of services, supplies, and equipment; and communications, \$1,021,200,000.

## OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, MARINE CORPS RESERVE

For expenses, not otherwise provided for, necessary for the operation and maintenance, including training, organization, and administration, of the Marine Corps Reserve; repair of facilities and equipment; hire of passenger motor vehicles; travel and transportation; care of the dead; recruiting; procurement of services, supplies, and equipment; and communications, \$270,846,000.

## OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR FORCE RESERVE

For expenses, not otherwise provided for, necessary for the operation and maintenance, including training, organization, and administration, of the Air Force Reserve; repair of facilities and equipment; hire of passenger motor vehicles; travel and transportation; care of the dead; recruiting; procurement of services, supplies, and equipment; and communications, \$3,026,342,000.

## OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

For expenses of training, organizing, and administering the Army National Guard, including medical and hospital treatment and related expenses in non-Federal hospitals; maintenance, operation, and repairs to structures and facilities; hire of passenger motor vehicles; personnel services in the National Guard Bureau; travel expenses (other than mileage), as authorized by law for Army personnel on active duty, for Army National Guard division, regimental, and battalion commanders while inspecting units in compliance with National Guard Bureau regulations when specifically authorized by the Chief, National Guard Bureau; supplying and equipping the Army National Guard as authorized by law; and expenses of repair, modification, maintenance, and issue of supplies and equipment (including aircraft), \$6,175,951,000.

## OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR NATIONAL GUARD

For expenses of training, organizing, and administering the Air National Guard, including medical and hospital treatment and related expenses in non-Federal hospitals; maintenance, operation, and repairs to structures and facilities; transportation of things, hire of passenger motor vehicles; supplying and equipping the Air National Guard, as authorized by law; expenses for repair, modification, maintenance, and issue of supplies and equipment, including those furnished from stocks under the control of agencies of the Department of Defense; travel expenses (other than mileage) on the same basis as authorized by law for Air National Guard personnel on active Federal duty, for Air National Guard commanders while inspecting units in compliance with National Guard Bureau regulations when specifically authorized by the Chief, National Guard Bureau, \$6,408,558,000.

## UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE ARMED FORCES

For salaries and expenses necessary for the United States Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces, \$13,723,000, of which not to ex-

ceed \$5,000 may be used for official representation purposes.

ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION, ARMY  
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the Department of the Army, \$201,560,000, to remain available until transferred: *Provided*, That the Secretary of the Army shall, upon determining that such funds are required for environmental restoration, reduction and recycling of hazardous waste, removal of unsafe buildings and debris of the Department of the Army, or for similar purposes, transfer the funds made available by this appropriation to other appropriations made available to the Department of the Army, to be merged with and to be available for the same purposes and for the same time period as the appropriations to which transferred: *Provided further*, That upon a determination that all or part of the funds transferred from this appropriation are not necessary for the purposes provided herein, such amounts may be transferred back to this appropriation: *Provided further*, That the transfer authority provided under this heading is in addition to any other transfer authority provided elsewhere in this Act.

ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION, NAVY  
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the Department of the Navy, \$277,294,000, to remain available until transferred: *Provided*, That the Secretary of the Navy shall, upon determining that such funds are required for environmental restoration, reduction and recycling of hazardous waste, removal of unsafe buildings and debris of the Department of the Navy, or for similar purposes, transfer the funds made available by this appropriation to other appropriations made available to the Department of the Navy, to be merged with and to be available for the same purposes and for the same time period as the appropriations to which transferred: *Provided further*, That upon a determination that all or part of the funds transferred from this appropriation are not necessary for the purposes provided herein, such amounts may be transferred back to this appropriation: *Provided further*, That the transfer authority provided under this heading is in addition to any other transfer authority provided elsewhere in this Act.

ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION, AIR FORCE  
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the Department of the Air Force, \$408,716,000, to remain available until transferred: *Provided*, That the Secretary of the Air Force shall, upon determining that such funds are required for environmental restoration, reduction and recycling of hazardous waste, removal of unsafe buildings and debris of the Department of the Air Force, or for similar purposes, transfer the funds made available by this appropriation to other appropriations made available to the Department of the Air Force, to be merged with and to be available for the same purposes and for the same time period as the appropriations to which transferred: *Provided further*, That upon a determination that all or part of the funds transferred from this appropriation are not necessary for the purposes provided herein, such amounts may be transferred back to this appropriation: *Provided further*, That the transfer authority provided under this heading is in addition to any other transfer authority provided elsewhere in this Act.

ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION, DEFENSE-WIDE  
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the Department of Defense, \$8,547,000, to remain available until transferred: *Pro-*

*vided*, That the Secretary of Defense shall, upon determining that such funds are required for environmental restoration, reduction and recycling of hazardous waste, removal of unsafe buildings and debris of the Department of Defense, or for similar purposes, transfer the funds made available by this appropriation to other appropriations made available to the Department of Defense, to be merged with and to be available for the same purposes and for the same time period as the appropriations to which transferred: *Provided further*, That upon a determination that all or part of the funds transferred from this appropriation are not necessary for the purposes provided herein, such amounts may be transferred back to this appropriation: *Provided further*, That the transfer authority provided under this heading is in addition to any other transfer authority provided elsewhere in this Act.

## ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION, FORMERLY USED DEFENSE SITES

## (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the Department of the Army, \$250,853,000, to remain available until transferred: *Provided*, That the Secretary of the Army shall, upon determining that such funds are required for environmental restoration, reduction and recycling of hazardous waste, removal of unsafe buildings and debris at sites formerly used by the Department of Defense, transfer the funds made available by this appropriation to other appropriations made available to the Department of the Army, to be merged with and to be available for the same purposes and for the same time period as the appropriations to which transferred: *Provided further*, That upon a determination that all or part of the funds transferred from this appropriation are not necessary for the purposes provided herein, such amounts may be transferred back to this appropriation: *Provided further*, That the transfer authority provided under this heading is in addition to any other transfer authority provided elsewhere in this Act.

## OVERSEAS HUMANITARIAN, DISASTER, AND CIVIC AID

For expenses relating to the Overseas Humanitarian, Disaster, and Civic Aid programs of the Department of Defense (consisting of the programs provided under sections 401, 402, 404, 407, 2557, and 2561 of title 10, United States Code), \$103,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016.

## COOPERATIVE THREAT REDUCTION ACCOUNT

For assistance to the republics of the former Soviet Union and, with appropriate authorization by the Department of Defense and Department of State, to countries outside of the former Soviet Union, including assistance provided by contract or by grants, for facilitating the elimination and the safe and secure transportation and storage of nuclear, chemical and other weapons; for establishing programs to prevent the proliferation of weapons, weapons components, and weapon-related technology and expertise; for programs relating to the training and support of defense and military personnel for demilitarization and protection of weapons, weapons components, and weapons technology and expertise, and for defense and military contacts, \$365,108,000, to remain available until September 30, 2017.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE ACQUISITION  
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT FUND

For the Department of Defense Acquisition Workforce Development Fund, \$83,034,000.

### TITLE III PROCUREMENT

#### AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT, ARMY

For construction, procurement, production, modification, and modernization of aircraft, equipment, including ordnance, ground handling equipment, spare parts, and accessories therefor; specialized equipment and training devices; expansion of public and private plants, including the land necessary therefor, for the foregoing purposes, and such lands and interests therein, may be acquired, and construction prosecuted thereon prior to approval of title; and procurement and installation of equipment, appliances, and machine tools in public and private plants; reserve plant and Government and contractor-owned equipment layaway; and other expenses necessary for the foregoing purposes, \$5,216,225,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2017.

#### MISSILE PROCUREMENT, ARMY

For construction, procurement, production, modification, and modernization of missiles, equipment, including ordnance, ground handling equipment, spare parts, and accessories therefor; specialized equipment and training devices; expansion of public and private plants, including the land necessary therefor, for the foregoing purposes, and such lands and interests therein, may be acquired, and construction prosecuted thereon prior to approval of title; and procurement and installation of equipment, appliances, and machine tools in public and private plants; reserve plant and Government and contractor-owned equipment layaway; and other expenses necessary for the foregoing purposes, \$1,208,692,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2017.

#### PROCUREMENT OF WEAPONS AND TRACKED COMBAT VEHICLES, ARMY

For construction, procurement, production, and modification of weapons and tracked combat vehicles, equipment, including ordnance, spare parts, and accessories therefor; specialized equipment and training devices; expansion of public and private plants, including the land necessary therefor, for the foregoing purposes, and such lands and interests therein, may be acquired, and construction prosecuted thereon prior to approval of title; and procurement and installation of equipment, appliances, and machine tools in public and private plants; reserve plant and Government and contractor-owned equipment layaway; and other expenses necessary for the foregoing purposes, \$1,722,136,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2017.

#### PROCUREMENT OF AMMUNITION, ARMY

For construction, procurement, production, and modification of ammunition, and accessories therefor; specialized equipment and training devices; expansion of public and private plants, including ammunition facilities, authorized by section 2854 of title 10, United States Code, and the land necessary therefor, for the foregoing purposes, and such lands and interests therein, may be acquired, and construction prosecuted thereon prior to approval of title; and procurement and installation of equipment, appliances, and machine tools in public and private plants; reserve plant and Government and contractor-owned equipment layaway; and other expenses necessary for the foregoing purposes, \$1,015,477,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2017.

#### OTHER PROCUREMENT, ARMY

For construction, procurement, production, and modification of vehicles, including

tactical, support, and non-tracked combat vehicles; the purchase of passenger motor vehicles for replacement only; communications and electronic equipment; other support equipment; spare parts, ordnance, and accessories therefor; specialized equipment and training devices; expansion of public and private plants, including the land necessary therefor, for the foregoing purposes, and such lands and interests therein, may be acquired, and construction prosecuted thereon prior to approval of title; and procurement and installation of equipment, appliances, and machine tools in public and private plants; reserve plant and Government and contractor-owned equipment layaway; and other expenses necessary for the foregoing purposes, \$4,747,523,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2017.

#### AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT, NAVY

For construction, procurement, production, modification, and modernization of aircraft, equipment, including ordnance, spare parts, and accessories therefor; specialized equipment; expansion of public and private plants, including the land necessary therefor, and such lands and interests therein, may be acquired, and construction prosecuted thereon prior to approval of title; and procurement and installation of equipment, appliances, and machine tools in public and private plants; reserve plant and Government and contractor-owned equipment layaway, \$14,758,035,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2017.

#### WEAPONS PROCUREMENT, NAVY

For construction, procurement, production, modification, and modernization of missiles, torpedoes, other weapons, and related support equipment including spare parts, and accessories therefor; expansion of public and private plants, including the land necessary therefor, and such lands and interests therein, may be acquired, and construction prosecuted thereon prior to approval of title; and procurement and installation of equipment, appliances, and machine tools in public and private plants; reserve plant and Government and contractor-owned equipment layaway, \$3,137,257,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2017.

#### PROCUREMENT OF AMMUNITION, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS

For construction, procurement, production, and modification of ammunition, and accessories therefor; specialized equipment and training devices; expansion of public and private plants, including ammunition facilities, authorized by section 2854 of title 10, United States Code, and the land necessary therefor, for the foregoing purposes, and such lands and interests therein, may be acquired, and construction prosecuted thereon prior to approval of title; and procurement and installation of equipment, appliances, and machine tools in public and private plants; reserve plant and Government and contractor-owned equipment layaway; and other expenses necessary for the foregoing purposes, \$674,100,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2017.

#### SHIPBUILDING AND CONVERSION, NAVY

For expenses necessary for the construction, acquisition, or conversion of vessels as authorized by law, including armor and armament thereof, plant equipment, appliances, and machine tools and installation thereof in public and private plants; reserve plant and Government and contractor-owned equipment layaway; procurement of critical, long lead time components and designs for vessels to be constructed or converted in the

future; and expansion of public and private plants, including land necessary therefor, and such lands and interests therein, may be acquired, and construction prosecuted thereon prior to approval of title, as follows:

Carrier	Replacement	Program,
\$1,219,425,000;		
Virginia Class Submarine,	\$3,530,254,000;	
Virginia Class Submarine (AP),		
\$2,301,825,000;		
CVN Refueling Overhauls (AP),	\$483,600,000;	
DDG-1000 Program,	\$419,532,000;	
DDG-51 Destroyer,	\$2,661,907,000;	
DDG-51 Destroyer (AP),	\$134,039,000;	
Littoral Combat Ship,	\$1,507,049,000;	
LPD-17,	\$1,000,000,000;	
LHA Replacement,	\$29,093,000;	
Joint High Speed Vessel,	\$200,000,000;	
Moored Training Ship,	\$737,268,000;	
Moored Training Ship (AP),	\$64,388,000;	
Ship to Shore Connector,	\$159,600,000;	
LCAC Service Life Extension Program,		
\$40,485,000; and		

For outfitting, post delivery, conversions, and first destination transportation, \$474,629,000.

Completion of Prior Year Shipbuilding Programs, \$991,285,000.

In all: \$15,954,379,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That additional obligations may be incurred after September 30, 2019, for engineering services, tests, evaluations, and other such budgeted work that must be performed in the final stage of ship construction: *Provided further*, That none of the funds provided under this heading for the construction or conversion of any naval vessel to be constructed in shipyards in the United States shall be expended in foreign facilities for the construction of major components of such vessel: *Provided further*, That none of the funds provided under this heading shall be used for the construction of any naval vessel in foreign shipyards.

#### OTHER PROCUREMENT, NAVY

For procurement, production, and modernization of support equipment and materials not otherwise provided for, Navy ordnance (except ordnance for new aircraft, new ships, and ships authorized for conversion); the purchase of passenger motor vehicles for replacement only; expansion of public and private plants, including the land necessary therefor, and such lands and interests therein, may be acquired, and construction prosecuted thereon prior to approval of title; and procurement and installation of equipment, appliances, and machine tools in public and private plants; reserve plant and Government and contractor-owned equipment layaway, \$5,846,558,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2017.

#### PROCUREMENT, MARINE CORPS

For expenses necessary for the procurement, manufacture, and modification of missiles, armament, military equipment, spare parts, and accessories therefor; plant equipment, appliances, and machine tools, and installation thereof in public and private plants; reserve plant and Government and contractor-owned equipment layaway; vehicles for the Marine Corps, including the purchase of passenger motor vehicles for replacement only; and expansion of public and private plants, including land necessary therefor, and such lands and interests therein, may be acquired, and construction prosecuted thereon prior to approval of title, \$935,209,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2017.

#### AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE

For construction, procurement, and modification of aircraft and equipment, including

armor and armament, specialized ground handling equipment, and training devices, spare parts, and accessories therefor; specialized equipment; expansion of public and private plants, Government-owned equipment and installation thereof in such plants, erection of structures, and acquisition of land, for the foregoing purposes, and such lands and interests therein, may be acquired, and construction prosecuted thereon prior to approval of title; reserve plant and Government and contractor-owned equipment layaway; and other expenses necessary for the foregoing purposes including rents and transportation of things, \$12,067,703,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2017.

#### MISSILE PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE

For construction, procurement, and modification of missiles, spacecraft, rockets, and related equipment, including spare parts and accessories therefor; ground handling equipment, and training devices; expansion of public and private plants, Government-owned equipment and installation thereof in such plants, erection of structures, and acquisition of land, for the foregoing purposes, and such lands and interests therein, may be acquired, and construction prosecuted thereon prior to approval of title; reserve plant and Government and contractor-owned equipment layaway; and other expenses necessary for the foregoing purposes including rents and transportation of things, \$4,629,662,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2017.

#### PROCUREMENT OF AMMUNITION, AIR FORCE

For construction, procurement, production, and modification of ammunition, and accessories therefor; specialized equipment and training devices; expansion of public and private plants, including ammunition facilities, authorized by section 2854 of title 10, United States Code, and the land necessary therefor, for the foregoing purposes, and such lands and interests therein, may be acquired, and construction prosecuted thereon prior to approval of title; and procurement and installation of equipment, appliances, and machine tools in public and private plants; reserve plant and Government and contractor-owned equipment layaway; and other expenses necessary for the foregoing purposes, \$659,909,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2017.

#### OTHER PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE

For procurement and modification of equipment (including ground guidance and electronic control equipment, and ground electronic and communication equipment), and supplies, materials, and spare parts therefor, not otherwise provided for; the purchase of passenger motor vehicles for replacement only; lease of passenger motor vehicles; and expansion of public and private plants, Government-owned equipment and installation thereof in such plants, erection of structures, and acquisition of land, for the foregoing purposes, and such lands and interests therein, may be acquired, and construction prosecuted thereon, prior to approval of title; reserve plant and Government and contractor-owned equipment layaway, \$16,781,266,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2017.

#### PROCUREMENT, DEFENSE-WIDE

For expenses of activities and agencies of the Department of Defense (other than the military departments) necessary for procurement, production, and modification of equipment, supplies, materials, and spare parts therefor, not otherwise provided for; the pur-

chase of passenger motor vehicles for replacement only; expansion of public and private plants, equipment, and installation thereof in such plants, erection of structures, and acquisition of land for the foregoing purposes, and such lands and interests therein, may be acquired, and construction prosecuted thereon prior to approval of title; reserve plant and Government and contractor-owned equipment layaway, \$4,429,303,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2017.

#### DEFENSE PRODUCTION ACT PURCHASES

For activities by the Department of Defense pursuant to sections 108, 301, 302, and 303 of the Defense Production Act of 1950 (50 U.S.C. App. 2078, 2091, 2092, and 2093), \$51,638,000, to remain available until expended.

#### TITLE IV

##### RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION

###### RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION, ARMY

For expenses necessary for basic and applied scientific research, development, test and evaluation, including maintenance, rehabilitation, lease, and operation of facilities and equipment, \$6,675,565,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2016.

###### RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION, NAVY

For expenses necessary for basic and applied scientific research, development, test and evaluation, including maintenance, rehabilitation, lease, and operation of facilities and equipment, \$15,958,460,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That funds appropriated in this paragraph which are available for the V-22 may be used to meet unique operational requirements of the Special Operations Forces.

###### RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION, AIR FORCE

For expenses necessary for basic and applied scientific research, development, test and evaluation, including maintenance, rehabilitation, lease, and operation of facilities and equipment, \$23,643,983,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2016.

###### RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION, DEFENSE-WIDE

###### (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For expenses of activities and agencies of the Department of Defense (other than the military departments), necessary for basic and applied scientific research, development, test and evaluation; advanced research projects as may be designated and determined by the Secretary of Defense, pursuant to law; maintenance, rehabilitation, lease, and operation of facilities and equipment, \$17,225,889,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That of the funds made available in this paragraph, \$225,000,000 for the Defense Rapid Innovation Program shall only be available for expenses, not otherwise provided for, to include program management and oversight, to conduct research, development, test and evaluation to include proof of concept demonstration; engineering, testing, and validation; and transition to full-scale production: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense may transfer funds provided herein for the Defense Rapid Innovation Program to appropriations for research, development, test and evaluation to accomplish the pur-

pose provided herein: *Provided further*, That this transfer authority is in addition to any other transfer authority available to the Department of Defense: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense shall, not fewer than 30 days prior to making transfers from this appropriation, notify the congressional defense committees in writing of the details of any such transfer.

#### OPERATIONAL TEST AND EVALUATION, DEFENSE

For expenses, not otherwise provided for, necessary for the independent activities of the Director, Operational Test and Evaluation, in the direction and supervision of operational test and evaluation, including initial operational test and evaluation which is conducted prior to, and in support of, production decisions; joint operational testing and evaluation; and administrative expenses in connection therewith, \$209,378,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2016.

#### TITLE V

##### REVOLVING AND MANAGEMENT FUNDS DEFENSE WORKING CAPITAL FUNDS

For the Defense Working Capital Funds, \$1,649,468,000.

##### NATIONAL DEFENSE SEALIFT FUND

For National Defense Sealift Fund programs, projects, and activities, and for expenses of the National Defense Reserve Fleet, as established by section 11 of the Merchant Ship Sales Act of 1946 (50 U.S.C. App. 1744), and for the necessary expenses to maintain and preserve a U.S.-flag merchant fleet to serve the national security needs of the United States, \$485,012,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That none of the funds provided in this paragraph shall be used to award a new contract that provides for the acquisition of any of the following major components unless such components are manufactured in the United States: auxiliary equipment, including pumps, for all shipboard services; propulsion system components (engines, reduction gears, and propellers); shipboard cranes; and spreaders for shipboard cranes: *Provided further*, That the exercise of an option in a contract awarded through the obligation of previously appropriated funds shall not be considered to be the award of a new contract: *Provided further*, That none of the funds provided in this paragraph shall be used to award a new contract for the construction, acquisition, or conversion of vessels, including procurement of critical, long lead time components and designs for vessels to be constructed or converted in the future: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of the military department responsible for such procurement may waive the restrictions in the first proviso on a case-by-case basis by certifying in writing to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate that adequate domestic supplies are not available to meet Department of Defense requirements on a timely basis and that such an acquisition must be made in order to acquire capability for national security purposes.

#### TITLE VI

##### OTHER DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE PROGRAMS

###### DEFENSE HEALTH PROGRAM

For expenses, not otherwise provided for, for medical and health care programs of the Department of Defense as authorized by law, \$32,069,772,000; of which \$30,030,650,000 shall be for operation and maintenance, of which not

to exceed one percent shall remain available for obligation until September 30, 2016, and of which up to \$14,718,018,000 may be available for contracts entered into under the TRICARE program; of which \$308,413,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2017, shall be for procurement; and of which \$1,730,709,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2016, shall be for research, development, test and evaluation: *Provided*, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, of the amount made available under this heading for research, development, test and evaluation, not less than \$8,000,000 shall be available for HIV prevention educational activities undertaken in connection with United States military training, exercises, and humanitarian assistance activities conducted primarily in African nations: *Provided further*, That of the funds provided under this heading for operation and maintenance, procurement, and research, development, test and evaluation for the Interagency Program Office, the Defense Healthcare Management Systems Modernization (DHMSM) program, and the Defense Medical Information Exchange, not more than 25 percent may be obligated until the Secretary of Defense submits to the Government Accountability Office and the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, and such Committees approve, a plan for expenditure that describes: (1) the status of the final request for proposal for DHMSM and how the program office used comments received from industry from draft requests for proposal to refine the final request for proposal; (2) any changes to the deployment timeline, including benchmarks, for full operating capability; (3) any refinements to the cost estimate for full operating capability and the total life cycle cost of the project; (4) an assurance that the acquisition strategy will comply with the acquisition rules, requirements, guidelines, and systems acquisition management practices of the Federal Government; (5) the status of the effort to achieve interoperability between the electronic health record systems of the Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Affairs, including the scope, cost, schedule, mapping to health data standards, and performance benchmarks of the interoperable record; and (6) the progress toward developing, implementing, and fielding the interoperable electronic health record throughout the two Departments' medical facilities.

#### CHEMICAL AGENTS AND MUNITIONS DESTRUCTION, DEFENSE

For expenses, not otherwise provided for, necessary for the destruction of the United States stockpile of lethal chemical agents and munitions in accordance with the provisions of section 1412 of the Department of Defense Authorization Act, 1986 (50 U.S.C. 1521), and for the destruction of other chemical warfare materials that are not in the chemical weapon stockpile, \$802,268,000, of which \$196,128,000 shall be for operation and maintenance, of which no less than \$52,102,000 shall be for the Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program, consisting of \$21,016,000 for activities on military installations and \$31,086,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016, to assist State and local governments; \$10,227,000 shall be for procurement, to remain available until September 30, 2017, of which \$3,225,000 shall be for the Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program to assist State and local governments; and \$595,913,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016,

shall be for research, development, test and evaluation, of which \$575,808,000 shall only be for the Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives program.

#### DRUG INTERDICTION AND COUNTER-DRUG ACTIVITIES, DEFENSE (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For drug interdiction and counter-drug activities of the Department of Defense, for transfer to appropriations available to the Department of Defense for military personnel of the reserve components serving under the provisions of title 10 and title 32, United States Code; for operation and maintenance; for procurement; and for research, development, test and evaluation, \$950,687,000, of which \$669,631,000 shall be for counter-narcotics support; \$105,591,000 shall be for the drug demand reduction program; and \$175,465,000 shall be for the National Guard counter-drug program: *Provided*, That the funds appropriated under this heading shall be available for obligation for the same time period and for the same purpose as the appropriation to which transferred: *Provided further*, That upon a determination that all or part of the funds transferred from this appropriation are not necessary for the purposes provided herein, such amounts may be transferred back to this appropriation: *Provided further*, That the transfer authority provided under this heading is in addition to any other transfer authority contained elsewhere in this Act.

#### OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

For expenses and activities of the Office of the Inspector General in carrying out the provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, \$311,830,000, of which \$309,430,000 shall be for operation and maintenance, of which not to exceed \$700,000 is available for emergencies and extraordinary expenses to be expended on the approval or authority of the Inspector General, and payments may be made on the Inspector General's certificate of necessity for confidential military purposes; of which \$1,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2017, shall be for procurement; and of which \$1,400,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016, shall be for research, development, test and evaluation.

#### SUPPORT FOR INTERNATIONAL SPORTING COMPETITIONS

For logistical and security support for international sporting competitions (including pay and non-travel related allowances only for members of the Reserve Components of the Armed Forces of the United States called or ordered to active duty in connection with providing such support), \$10,000,000, to remain available until expended.

#### TITLE VII RELATED AGENCIES

##### CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY RETIREMENT AND DISABILITY SYSTEM FUND

For payment to the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System Fund, to maintain the proper funding level for continuing the operation of the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, \$514,000,000.

##### INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT ACCOUNT

For necessary expenses of the Intelligence Community Management Account, \$507,600,000.

#### TITLE VIII GENERAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 8001. No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall be used for pub-

licity or propaganda purposes not authorized by the Congress.

SEC. 8002. During the current fiscal year, provisions of law prohibiting the payment of compensation to, or employment of, any person not a citizen of the United States shall not apply to personnel of the Department of Defense: *Provided*, That salary increases granted to direct and indirect hire foreign national employees of the Department of Defense funded by this Act shall not be at a rate in excess of the percentage increase authorized by law for civilian employees of the Department of Defense whose pay is computed under the provisions of section 5332 of title 5, United States Code, or at a rate in excess of the percentage increase provided by the appropriate host nation to its own employees, whichever is higher: *Provided further*, That this section shall not apply to Department of Defense foreign service national employees serving at United States diplomatic missions whose pay is set by the Department of State under the Foreign Service Act of 1980: *Provided further*, That the limitations of this provision shall not apply to foreign national employees of the Department of Defense in the Republic of Turkey.

SEC. 8003. No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall remain available for obligation beyond the current fiscal year, unless expressly so provided herein.

SEC. 8004. No more than 20 percent of the appropriations in this Act which are limited for obligation during the current fiscal year shall be obligated during the last 2 months of the fiscal year: *Provided*, That this section shall not apply to obligations for support of active duty training of reserve components or summer camp training of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps.

#### (TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 8005. Upon determination by the Secretary of Defense that such action is necessary in the national interest, he may, with the approval of the Office of Management and Budget, transfer not to exceed \$4,500,000,000 of working capital funds of the Department of Defense or funds made available in this Act to the Department of Defense for military functions (except military construction) between such appropriations or funds or any subdivision thereof, to be merged with and to be available for the same purposes, and for the same time period, as the appropriation or fund to which transferred: *Provided*, That such authority to transfer may not be used unless for higher priority items, based on unforeseen military requirements, than those for which originally appropriated and in no case where the item for which funds are requested has been denied by the Congress: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense shall notify the Congress promptly of all transfers made pursuant to this authority or any other authority in this Act: *Provided further*, That no part of the funds in this Act shall be available to prepare or present a request to the Committees on Appropriations for reprogramming of funds, unless for higher priority items, based on unforeseen military requirements, than those for which originally appropriated and in no case where the item for which reprogramming is requested has been denied by the Congress: *Provided further*, That a request for multiple reprogrammings of funds using authority provided in this section shall be made prior to June 30, 2015: *Provided further*, That transfers among military personnel appropriations shall not be taken into account for purposes of the limitation on the amount of funds that may be transferred under this section.



SEC. 8006. (a) With regard to the list of specific programs, projects, and activities (and the dollar amounts and adjustments to budget activities corresponding to such programs, projects, and activities) contained in the tables titled "Explanation of Project Level Adjustments" in the explanatory statement regarding this Act, the obligation and expenditure of amounts appropriated or otherwise made available in this Act for those programs, projects, and activities for which the amounts appropriated exceed the amounts requested are hereby required by law to be carried out in the manner provided by such tables to the same extent as if the tables were included in the text of this Act.

(b) Amounts specified in the referenced tables described in subsection (a) shall not be treated as subdivisions of appropriations for purposes of section 8005 of this Act: *Provided*, That section 8005 shall apply when transfers of the amounts described in subsection (a) occur between appropriation accounts.

SEC. 8007. (a) Not later than 60 days after enactment of this Act, the Department of Defense shall submit a report to the congressional defense committees to establish the baseline for application of reprogramming and transfer authorities for fiscal year 2015: *Provided*, That the report shall include—

(1) a table for each appropriation with a separate column to display the President's budget request, adjustments made by Congress, adjustments due to enacted rescissions, if appropriate, and the fiscal year enacted level;

(2) a delineation in the table for each appropriation both by budget activity and program, project, and activity as detailed in the Budget Appendix; and

(3) an identification of items of special congressional interest.

(b) Notwithstanding section 8005 of this Act, none of the funds provided in this Act shall be available for reprogramming or transfer until the report identified in subsection (a) is submitted to the congressional defense committees, unless the Secretary of Defense certifies in writing to the congressional defense committees that such reprogramming or transfer is necessary as an emergency requirement.

#### (TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 8008. During the current fiscal year, cash balances in working capital funds of the Department of Defense established pursuant to section 2208 of title 10, United States Code, may be maintained in only such amounts as are necessary at any time for cash disbursements to be made from such funds: *Provided*, That transfers may be made between such funds: *Provided further*, That transfers may be made between working capital funds and the "Foreign Currency Fluctuations, Defense" appropriation and the "Operation and Maintenance" appropriation accounts in such amounts as may be determined by the Secretary of Defense, with the approval of the Office of Management and Budget, except that such transfers may not be made unless the Secretary of Defense has notified the Congress of the proposed transfer. Except in amounts equal to the amounts appropriated to working capital funds in this Act, no obligations may be made against a working capital fund to procure or increase the value of war reserve material inventory, unless the Secretary of Defense has notified the Congress prior to any such obligation.

SEC. 8009. Funds appropriated by this Act may not be used to initiate a special access program without prior notification 30 calendar days in advance to the congressional defense committees.

SEC. 8010. None of the funds provided in this Act shall be available to initiate: (1) a multiyear contract that employs economic order quantity procurement in excess of \$20,000,000 in any one year of the contract or that includes an unfunded contingent liability in excess of \$20,000,000; or (2) a contract for advance procurement leading to a multiyear contract that employs economic order quantity procurement in excess of \$20,000,000 in any one year, unless the congressional defense committees have been notified at least 30 days in advance of the proposed contract award: *Provided*, That no part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall be available to initiate a multiyear contract for which the economic order quantity advance procurement is not funded at least to the limits of the Government's liability: *Provided further*, That no part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall be available to initiate multiyear procurement contracts for any systems or component thereof if the value of the multiyear contract would exceed \$500,000,000 unless specifically provided in this Act: *Provided further*, That no multiyear procurement contract can be terminated without 30-day prior notification to the congressional defense committees: *Provided further*, That the execution of multiyear authority shall require the use of a present value analysis to determine lowest cost compared to an annual procurement: *Provided further*, That none of the funds provided in this Act may be used for a multiyear contract executed after the date of the enactment of this Act unless in the case of any such contract—

(1) the Secretary of Defense has submitted to Congress a budget request for full funding of units to be procured through the contract and, in the case of a contract for procurement of aircraft, that includes, for any aircraft unit to be procured through the contract for which procurement funds are requested in that budget request for production beyond advance procurement activities in the fiscal year covered by the budget, full funding of procurement of such unit in that fiscal year;

(2) cancellation provisions in the contract do not include consideration of recurring manufacturing costs of the contractor associated with the production of unfunded units to be delivered under the contract;

(3) the contract provides that payments to the contractor under the contract shall not be made in advance of incurred costs on funded units; and

(4) the contract does not provide for a price adjustment based on a failure to award a follow-on contract.

SEC. 8011. Within the funds appropriated for the operation and maintenance of the Armed Forces, funds are hereby appropriated pursuant to section 401 of title 10, United States Code, for humanitarian and civic assistance costs under chapter 20 of title 10, United States Code. Such funds may also be obligated for humanitarian and civic assistance costs incidental to authorized operations and pursuant to authority granted in section 401 of chapter 20 of title 10, United States Code, and these obligations shall be reported as required by section 401(d) of title 10, United States Code: *Provided*, That funds available for operation and maintenance shall be available for providing humanitarian and similar assistance by using Civic Action Teams in the Trust Territories of the Pacific Islands and freely associated states of Micronesia, pursuant to the Compact of Free Association as authorized by Public Law 99-239: *Provided further*, That upon a de-

termination by the Secretary of the Army that such action is beneficial for graduate medical education programs conducted at Army medical facilities located in Hawaii, the Secretary of the Army may authorize the provision of medical services at such facilities and transportation to such facilities, on a nonreimbursable basis, for civilian patients from American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, Palau, and Guam.

SEC. 8012. (a) During fiscal year 2015, the civilian personnel of the Department of Defense may not be managed on the basis of any end-strength, and the management of such personnel during that fiscal year shall not be subject to any constraint or limitation (known as an end-strength) on the number of such personnel who may be employed on the last day of such fiscal year.

(b) The fiscal year 2016 budget request for the Department of Defense as well as all justification material and other documentation supporting the fiscal year 2016 Department of Defense budget request shall be prepared and submitted to the Congress as if subsections (a) and (b) of this provision were effective with regard to fiscal year 2016.

(c) As required by section 1107 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2014 (Public Law 113-66; 10 U.S.C. 2358 note) civilian personnel at the Department of Army Science and Technology Reinvention Laboratories may not be managed on the basis of the Table of Distribution and Allowances, and the management of the workforce strength shall be done in a manner consistent with the budget available with respect to such Laboratories.

(d) Nothing in this section shall be construed to apply to military (civilian) technicians.

SEC. 8013. None of the funds made available by this Act shall be used in any way, directly or indirectly, to influence congressional action on any legislation or appropriation matters pending before the Congress.

SEC. 8014. None of the funds appropriated by this Act shall be available for the basic pay and allowances of any member of the Army participating as a full-time student and receiving benefits paid by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs from the Department of Defense Education Benefits Fund when time spent as a full-time student is credited toward completion of a service commitment: *Provided*, That this section shall not apply to those members who have reenlisted with this option prior to October 1, 1987: *Provided further*, That this section applies only to active components of the Army.

#### (TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 8015. Funds appropriated in title III of this Act for the Department of Defense Pilot Mentor-Protégé Program may be transferred to any other appropriation contained in this Act solely for the purpose of implementing a Mentor-Protégé Program developmental assistance agreement pursuant to section 831 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1991 (Public Law 101-510; 10 U.S.C. 2302 note), as amended, under the authority of this provision or any other transfer authority contained in this Act.

SEC. 8016. None of the funds in this Act may be available for the purchase by the Department of Defense (and its departments and agencies) of welded shipboard anchor and mooring chain 4 inches in diameter and under unless the anchor and mooring chain are manufactured in the United States from components which are substantially manufactured in the United States: *Provided*, That

for the purpose of this section, the term “manufactured” shall include cutting, heat treating, quality control, testing of chain and welding (including the forging and shot blasting process): *Provided further*, That for the purpose of this section substantially all of the components of anchor and mooring chain shall be considered to be produced or manufactured in the United States if the aggregate cost of the components produced or manufactured outside the United States: *Provided further*, That when adequate domestic supplies are not available to meet Department of Defense requirements on a timely basis, the Secretary of the service responsible for the procurement may waive this restriction on a case-by-case basis by certifying in writing to the Committees on Appropriations that such an acquisition must be made in order to acquire capability for national security purposes.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 8017. In addition to amounts provided elsewhere in this Act, there is appropriated \$175,000,000, for an additional amount for “Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide”, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That such funds shall only be available to the Secretary of Defense, acting through the Office of Economic Adjustment of the Department of Defense, or for transfer to the Secretary of Education, notwithstanding any other provision of law, to make grants, conclude cooperative agreements, or supplement other Federal funds to construct, renovate, repair, or expand elementary and secondary public schools on military installations in order to address capacity or facility condition deficiencies at such schools: *Provided further*, That in making such funds available, the Office of Economic Adjustment or the Secretary of Education shall give priority consideration to those military installations with schools having the most serious capacity or facility condition deficiencies as determined by the Secretary of Defense: *Provided further*, That a matching share, as outlined by the Department of Defense in the guidelines published in the September 9, 2011, Federal Register (76 Fed. Reg. 55883), is required to be provided by the local education authority or the State in which the school is located: *Provided further*, That these provisions apply to funds provided under this section, and to funds previously provided by Congress to construct, renovate, repair, or expand elementary and secondary public schools on military installations in order to address capacity or facility condition deficiencies at such schools to the extent such funds remain unobligated on the date of enactment of this section.

SEC. 8018. None of the funds available to the Department of Defense may be used to demilitarize or dispose of M-1 Carbines, M-1 Garand rifles, M-14 rifles, .22 caliber rifles, .30 caliber rifles, or M-1911 pistols, or to demilitarize or destroy small arms ammunition or ammunition components that are not otherwise prohibited from commercial sale under Federal law, unless the small arms ammunition or ammunition components are certified by the Secretary of the Army or designee as unserviceable, unsuitable, or unsafe for further use.

SEC. 8019. No more than \$500,000 of the funds appropriated or made available in this Act shall be used during a single fiscal year for any single relocation of an organization, unit, activity or function of the Department of Defense into or within the National Capital Region: *Provided*, That the Secretary of

Defense may waive this restriction on a case-by-case basis by certifying in writing to the congressional defense committees that such a relocation is required in the best interest of the Government.

SEC. 8020. Of the funds made available in this Act, \$15,000,000 shall be available for incentive payments authorized by section 504 of the Indian Financing Act of 1974 (25 U.S.C. 1544): *Provided*, That a prime contractor or a subcontractor at any tier that makes a subcontract award to any subcontractor or supplier as defined in section 1544 of title 25, United States Code, or a small business owned and controlled by an individual or individuals defined under section 4221(9) of title 25, United States Code, shall be considered a contractor for the purposes of being allowed additional compensation under section 504 of the Indian Financing Act of 1974 (25 U.S.C. 1544) whenever the prime contract or subcontract amount is over \$500,000 and involves the expenditure of funds appropriated by an Act making appropriations for the Department of Defense with respect to any fiscal year: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding section 1906 of title 41, United States Code, this section shall be applicable to any Department of Defense acquisition of supplies or services, including any contract and any subcontract at any tier for acquisition of commercial items produced or manufactured, in whole or in part, by any subcontractor or supplier defined in section 1544 of title 25, United States Code, or a small business owned and controlled by an individual or individuals defined under section 4221(9) of title 25, United States Code.

SEC. 8021. Funds appropriated by this Act for the Defense Media Activity shall not be used for any national or international political or psychological activities.

SEC. 8022. During the current fiscal year, the Department of Defense is authorized to incur obligations of not to exceed \$350,000,000 for purposes specified in section 2350j(c) of title 10, United States Code, in anticipation of receipt of contributions, only from the Government of Kuwait, under that section: *Provided*, That upon receipt, such contributions from the Government of Kuwait shall be credited to the appropriations or fund which incurred such obligations.

SEC. 8023. (a) Of the funds made available in this Act, not less than \$39,500,000 shall be available for the Civil Air Patrol Corporation, of which—

(1) \$27,400,000 shall be available from “Operation and Maintenance, Air Force” to support Civil Air Patrol Corporation operation and maintenance, readiness, counter-drug activities, and drug demand reduction activities involving youth programs;

(2) \$10,400,000 shall be available from “Air-craft Procurement, Air Force”; and

(3) \$1,700,000 shall be available from “Other Procurement, Air Force” for vehicle procurement.

(b) The Secretary of the Air Force should waive reimbursement for any funds used by the Civil Air Patrol for counter-drug activities in support of Federal, State, and local government agencies.

SEC. 8024. (a) None of the funds appropriated in this Act are available to establish a new Department of Defense (department) federally funded research and development center (FFRDC), either as a new entity, or as a separate entity administrated by an organization managing another FFRDC, or as a nonprofit membership corporation consisting of a consortium of other FFRDCs and other nonprofit entities.

(b) No member of a Board of Directors, Trustees, Overseers, Advisory Group, Special

Issues Panel, Visiting Committee, or any similar entity of a defense FFRDC, and no paid consultant to any defense FFRDC, except when acting in a technical advisory capacity, may be compensated for his or her services as a member of such entity, or as a paid consultant by more than one FFRDC in a fiscal year: *Provided*, That a member of any such entity referred to previously in this subsection shall be allowed travel expenses and per diem as authorized under the Federal Joint Travel Regulations, when engaged in the performance of membership duties.

(c) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, none of the funds available to the department from any source during fiscal year 2015 may be used by a defense FFRDC, through a fee or other payment mechanism, for construction of new buildings, for payment of cost sharing for projects funded by Government grants, for absorption of contract overruns, or for certain charitable contributions, not to include employee participation in community service and/or development.

(d) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, of the funds available to the department during fiscal year 2015, not more than 5,750 staff years of technical effort (staff years) may be funded for defense FFRDCs: *Provided*, That of the specific amount referred to previously in this subsection, not more than 1,125 staff years may be funded for the defense studies and analysis FFRDCs: *Provided further*, That this subsection shall not apply to staff years funded in the National Intelligence Program (NIP) and the Military Intelligence Program (MIP).

(e) The Secretary of Defense shall, with the submission of the department’s fiscal year 2016 budget request, submit a report presenting the specific amounts of staff years of technical effort to be allocated for each defense FFRDC during that fiscal year and the associated budget estimates.

(f) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the total amount appropriated in this Act for FFRDCs is hereby reduced by \$40,000,000.

SEC. 8025. None of the funds appropriated or made available in this Act shall be used to procure carbon, alloy, or armor steel plate for use in any Government-owned facility or property under the control of the Department of Defense which were not melted and rolled in the United States or Canada: *Provided*, That these procurement restrictions shall apply to any and all Federal Supply Class 9515, American Society of Testing and Materials (ASTM) or American Iron and Steel Institute (AISI) specifications of carbon, alloy or armor steel plate: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of the military department responsible for the procurement may waive this restriction on a case-by-case basis by certifying in writing to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate that adequate domestic supplies are not available to meet Department of Defense requirements on a timely basis and that such an acquisition must be made in order to acquire capability for national security purposes: *Provided further*, That these restrictions shall not apply to contracts which are in being as of the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 8026. For the purposes of this Act, the term “congressional defense committees” means the Armed Services Committee of the House of Representatives, the Armed Services Committee of the Senate, the Subcommittee on Defense of the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate, and the Subcommittee on Defense of the Committee on



Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

SEC. 8027. During the current fiscal year, the Department of Defense may acquire the modification, depot maintenance and repair of aircraft, vehicles and vessels as well as the production of components and other Defense-related articles, through competition between Department of Defense depot maintenance activities and private firms: *Provided*, That the Senior Acquisition Executive of the military department or Defense Agency concerned, with power of delegation, shall certify that successful bids include comparable estimates of all direct and indirect costs for both public and private bids: *Provided further*, That Office of Management and Budget Circular A-76 shall not apply to competitions conducted under this section.

SEC. 8028. (a)(1) If the Secretary of Defense, after consultation with the United States Trade Representative, determines that a foreign country which is party to an agreement described in paragraph (2) has violated the terms of the agreement by discriminating against certain types of products produced in the United States that are covered by the agreement, the Secretary of Defense shall rescind the Secretary's blanket waiver of the Buy American Act with respect to such types of products produced in that foreign country.

(2) An agreement referred to in paragraph (1) is any reciprocal defense procurement memorandum of understanding, between the United States and a foreign country pursuant to which the Secretary of Defense has prospectively waived the Buy American Act for certain products in that country.

(b) The Secretary of Defense shall submit to the Congress a report on the amount of Department of Defense purchases from foreign entities in fiscal year 2015. Such report shall separately indicate the dollar value of items for which the Buy American Act was waived pursuant to any agreement described in subsection (a)(2), the Trade Agreement Act of 1979 (19 U.S.C. 2501 et seq.), or any international agreement to which the United States is a party.

(c) For purposes of this section, the term "Buy American Act" means chapter 83 of title 41, United States Code.

SEC. 8029. During the current fiscal year, amounts contained in the Department of Defense Overseas Military Facility Investment Recovery Account established by section 2921(c)(1) of the National Defense Authorization Act of 1991 (Public Law 101-510; 10 U.S.C. 2687 note) shall be available until expended for the payments specified by section 2921(c)(2) of that Act.

SEC. 8030. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of the Air Force may convey at no cost to the Air Force, without consideration, to Indian tribes located in the States of Nevada, Idaho, North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana, Oregon, Minnesota, and Washington relocatable military housing units located at Grand Forks Air Force Base, Malmstrom Air Force Base, Mountain Home Air Force Base, Ellsworth Air Force Base, and Minot Air Force Base that are excess to the needs of the Air Force.

(b) The Secretary of the Air Force shall convey, at no cost to the Air Force, military housing units under subsection (a) in accordance with the request for such units that are submitted to the Secretary by the Operation Walking Shield Program on behalf of Indian tribes located in the States of Nevada, Idaho, North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana, Oregon, Minnesota, and Washington. Any such

conveyance shall be subject to the condition that the housing units shall be removed within a reasonable period of time, as determined by the Secretary.

(c) The Operation Walking Shield Program shall resolve any conflicts among requests of Indian tribes for housing units under subsection (a) before submitting requests to the Secretary of the Air Force under subsection (b).

(d) In this section, the term "Indian tribe" means any recognized Indian tribe included on the current list published by the Secretary of the Interior under section 104 of the Federally Recognized Indian Tribe Act of 1994 (Public Law 103-454; 108 Stat. 4792; 25 U.S.C. 479a-1).

SEC. 8031. During the current fiscal year, appropriations which are available to the Department of Defense for operation and maintenance may be used to purchase items having an investment item unit cost of not more than \$250,000.

SEC. 8032. (a) During the current fiscal year, none of the appropriations or funds available to the Department of Defense Working Capital Funds shall be used for the purchase of an investment item for the purpose of acquiring a new inventory item for sale or anticipated sale during the current fiscal year or a subsequent fiscal year to customers of the Department of Defense Working Capital Funds if such an item would not have been chargeable to the Department of Defense Business Operations Fund during fiscal year 1994 and if the purchase of such an investment item would be chargeable during the current fiscal year to appropriations made to the Department of Defense for procurement.

(b) The fiscal year 2016 budget request for the Department of Defense as well as all justification material and other documentation supporting the fiscal year 2016 Department of Defense budget shall be prepared and submitted to the Congress on the basis that any equipment which was classified as an end item and funded in a procurement appropriation contained in this Act shall be budgeted for in a proposed fiscal year 2016 procurement appropriation and not in the supply management business area or any other area or category of the Department of Defense Working Capital Funds.

SEC. 8033. None of the funds appropriated by this Act for programs of the Central Intelligence Agency shall remain available for obligation beyond the current fiscal year, except for funds appropriated for the Reserve for Contingencies, which shall remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That funds appropriated, transferred, or otherwise credited to the Central Intelligence Agency Central Services Working Capital Fund during this or any prior or subsequent fiscal year shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That any funds appropriated or transferred to the Central Intelligence Agency for advanced research and development acquisition, for agent operations, and for covert action programs authorized by the President under section 503 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3093) shall remain available until September 30, 2016.

SEC. 8034. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, funds made available in this Act for the Defense Intelligence Agency may be used for the design, development, and deployment of General Defense Intelligence Program intelligence communications and intelligence information systems for the Services, the Unified and Specified Commands, and the component commands.

SEC. 8035. Of the funds appropriated to the Department of Defense under the heading

"Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide", not less than \$12,000,000 shall be made available only for the mitigation of environmental impacts, including training and technical assistance to tribes, related administrative support, the gathering of information, documenting of environmental damage, and developing a system for prioritization of mitigation and cost to complete estimates for mitigation, on Indian lands resulting from Department of Defense activities.

SEC. 8036. (a) None of the funds appropriated in this Act may be expended by an entity of the Department of Defense unless the entity, in expending the funds, complies with the Buy American Act. For purposes of this subsection, the term "Buy American Act" means chapter 83 of title 41, United States Code.

(b) If the Secretary of Defense determines that a person has been convicted of intentionally affixing a label bearing a "Made in America" inscription to any product sold in or shipped to the United States that is not made in America, the Secretary shall determine, in accordance with section 2410f of title 10, United States Code, whether the person should be debarred from contracting with the Department of Defense.

(c) In the case of any equipment or products purchased with appropriations provided under this Act, it is the sense of the Congress that any entity of the Department of Defense, in expending the appropriation, purchase only American-made equipment and products, provided that American-made equipment and products are cost-competitive, quality competitive, and available in a timely fashion.

SEC. 8037. None of the funds appropriated by this Act shall be available for a contract for studies, analysis, or consulting services entered into without competition on the basis of an unsolicited proposal unless the head of the activity responsible for the procurement determines—

(1) as a result of thorough technical evaluation, only one source is found fully qualified to perform the proposed work;

(2) the purpose of the contract is to explore an unsolicited proposal which offers significant scientific or technological promise, represents the product of original thinking, and was submitted in confidence by one source; or

(3) the purpose of the contract is to take advantage of unique and significant industrial accomplishment by a specific concern, or to insure that a new product or idea of a specific concern is given financial support: *Provided*, That this limitation shall not apply to contracts in an amount of less than \$25,000, contracts related to improvements of equipment that is in development or production, or contracts as to which a civilian official of the Department of Defense, who has been confirmed by the Senate, determines that the award of such contract is in the interest of the national defense.

SEC. 8038. (a) Except as provided in subsections (b) and (c), none of the funds made available by this Act may be used—

(1) to establish a field operating agency; or

(2) to pay the basic pay of a member of the Armed Forces or civilian employee of the department who is transferred or reassigned from a headquarters activity if the member or employee's place of duty remains at the location of that headquarters.

(b) The Secretary of Defense or Secretary of a military department may waive the limitations in subsection (a), on a case-by-case basis, if the Secretary determines, and certifies to the Committees on Appropriations

of the House of Representatives and the Senate that the granting of the waiver will reduce the personnel requirements or the financial requirements of the department.

(c) This section does not apply to—

(1) field operating agencies funded within the National Intelligence Program;

(2) an Army field operating agency established to eliminate, mitigate, or counter the effects of improvised explosive devices, and, as determined by the Secretary of the Army, other similar threats;

(3) an Army field operating agency established to improve the effectiveness and efficiencies of biometric activities and to integrate common biometric technologies throughout the Department of Defense; or

(4) an Air Force field operating agency established to administer the Air Force Mortuary Affairs Program and Mortuary Operations for the Department of Defense and authorized Federal entities.

SEC. 8039. (a) None of the funds appropriated by this Act shall be available to convert to contractor performance an activity or function of the Department of Defense that, on or after the date of the enactment of this Act, is performed by Department of Defense civilian employees unless—

(1) the conversion is based on the result of a public-private competition that includes a most efficient and cost effective organization plan developed by such activity or function;

(2) the Competitive Sourcing Official determines that, over all performance periods stated in the solicitation of offers for performance of the activity or function, the cost of performance of the activity or function by a contractor would be less costly to the Department of Defense by an amount that equals or exceeds the lesser of—

(A) 10 percent of the most efficient organization's personnel-related costs for performance of that activity or function by Federal employees; or

(B) \$10,000,000; and

(3) the contractor does not receive an advantage for a proposal that would reduce costs for the Department of Defense by—

(A) not making an employer-sponsored health insurance plan available to the workers who are to be employed in the performance of that activity or function under the contract; or

(B) offering to such workers an employer-sponsored health benefits plan that requires the employer to contribute less towards the premium or subscription share than the amount that is paid by the Department of Defense for health benefits for civilian employees under chapter 89 of title 5, United States Code.

(b)(1) The Department of Defense, without regard to subsection (a) of this section or subsection (a), (b), or (c) of section 2461 of title 10, United States Code, and notwithstanding any administrative regulation, requirement, or policy to the contrary shall have full authority to enter into a contract for the performance of any commercial or industrial type function of the Department of Defense that—

(A) is included on the procurement list established pursuant to section 2 of the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Act (section 8503 of title 41, United States Code);

(B) is planned to be converted to performance by a qualified nonprofit agency for the blind or by a qualified nonprofit agency for other severely handicapped individuals in accordance with that Act; or

(C) is planned to be converted to performance by a qualified firm under at least 51 per-

cent ownership by an Indian tribe, as defined in section 4(e) of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450b(e)), or a Native Hawaiian Organization, as defined in section 8(a)(15) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 637(a)(15)).

(2) This section shall not apply to depot contracts or contracts for depot maintenance as provided in sections 2469 and 2474 of title 10, United States Code.

(c) The conversion of any activity or function of the Department of Defense under the authority provided by this section shall be credited toward any competitive or outsourcing goal, target, or measurement that may be established by statute, regulation, or policy and is deemed to be awarded under the authority of, and in compliance with, subsection (h) of section 2304 of title 10, United States Code, for the competition or outsourcing of commercial activities.

#### (RESCISSIONS)

SEC. 8040. Of the funds appropriated in Department of Defense Appropriations Acts, the following funds are hereby rescinded from the following accounts and programs in the specified amounts: *Provided*, That no amounts may be rescinded from amounts that were designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism or as an emergency requirement pursuant to the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended:

“Aircraft Procurement, Army”, 2013/2015, \$18,242,000;

“Weapons and Tracked Combat Vehicles, Army”, 2013/2015, \$5,000,000;

“Other Procurement, Army”, 2013/2015, \$97,000,000;

“Aircraft Procurement, Navy”, 2013/2015, \$47,200,000;

“Procurement, Marine Corps”, 2013/2015, \$40,217,000;

“Aircraft Procurement, Air Force”, 2013/2015, \$64,600,000;

“Missile Procurement, Air Force”, 2013/2015, \$13,800,000;

“Aircraft Procurement, Army”, 2014/2016, \$30,000,000;

“Other Procurement, Army”, 2014/2016, \$213,998,000;

“Aircraft Procurement, Navy”, 2014/2016, \$196,622,000;

“Weapons Procurement, Navy”, 2014/2016, \$63,400,000;

“Other Procurement, Navy”, 2014/2016, \$1,505,000;

“Aircraft Procurement, Air Force”, 2014/2016, \$83,400,000;

“Missile Procurement, Air Force”, 2014/2016, \$157,209,000;

“Procurement, Defense-Wide”, 2014/2016, \$12,100,000;

“Research, Development, Test and Evaluation Army”, 2014/2015, \$5,000,000;

“Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Air Force”, 2014/2015, \$37,000,000; and

“Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Navy”, 2014/2015, \$141,727,000.

SEC. 8041. None of the funds available in this Act may be used to reduce the authorized positions for military technicians (dual status) of the Army National Guard, Air National Guard, Army Reserve and Air Force Reserve for the purpose of applying any administratively imposed civilian personnel ceiling, freeze, or reduction on military technicians (dual status), unless such reductions are a direct result of a reduction in military force structure.

SEC. 8042. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available in this Act may

be obligated or expended for assistance to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea unless specifically appropriated for that purpose.

SEC. 8043. Funds appropriated in this Act for operation and maintenance of the Military Departments, Combatant Commands and Defense Agencies shall be available for reimbursement of pay, allowances and other expenses which would otherwise be incurred against appropriations for the National Guard and Reserve when members of the National Guard and Reserve provide intelligence or counterintelligence support to Combatant Commands, Defense Agencies and Joint Intelligence Activities, including the activities and programs included within the National Intelligence Program and the Military Intelligence Program: *Provided*, That nothing in this section authorizes deviation from established Reserve and National Guard personnel and training procedures.

SEC. 8044. Of the amounts appropriated for “Working Capital Fund, Army”, \$225,000,000 shall be available to maintain competitive rates at the arsenals.

SEC. 8045. (a) None of the funds available to the Department of Defense for any fiscal year for drug interdiction or counter-drug activities may be transferred to any other department or agency of the United States except as specifically provided in an appropriations law.

(b) None of the funds available to the Central Intelligence Agency for any fiscal year for drug interdiction or counter-drug activities may be transferred to any other department or agency of the United States except as specifically provided in an appropriations law.

SEC. 8046. None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be used for the procurement of ball and roller bearings other than those produced by a domestic source and of domestic origin: *Provided*, That the Secretary of the military department responsible for such procurement may waive this restriction on a case-by-case basis by certifying in writing to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, that adequate domestic supplies are not available to meet Department of Defense requirements on a timely basis and that such an acquisition must be made in order to acquire capability for national security purposes: *Provided further*, That this restriction shall not apply to the purchase of “commercial items”, as defined by section 4(12) of the Office of Federal Procurement Policy Act, except that the restriction shall apply to ball or roller bearings purchased as end items.

SEC. 8047. In addition to the amounts appropriated or otherwise made available elsewhere in this Act, \$44,000,000 is hereby appropriated to the Department of Defense: *Provided*, That upon the determination of the Secretary of Defense that it shall serve the national interest, the Secretary shall make grants in the amounts specified as follows: \$20,000,000 to the United Service Organizations and \$24,000,000 to the Red Cross.

SEC. 8048. None of the funds in this Act may be used to purchase any supercomputer which is not manufactured in the United States, unless the Secretary of Defense certifies to the congressional defense committees that such an acquisition must be made in order to acquire capability for national security purposes that is not available from United States manufacturers.

SEC. 8049. Notwithstanding any other provision in this Act, the Small Business Innovation Research program and the Small

Business Technology Transfer program set-asides shall be taken proportionally from all programs, projects, or activities to the extent they contribute to the extramural budget.

SEC. 8050. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, none of the funds available to the Department of Defense for the current fiscal year and hereafter may be obligated or expended to transfer to another nation or an international organization any defense articles or services (other than intelligence services) for use in the activities described in subsection (b) unless the congressional defense committees, the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate are notified 15 days in advance of such transfer.

(b) This section applies to—

(1) any international peacekeeping or peace-enforcement operation under the authority of chapter VI or chapter VII of the United Nations Charter under the authority of a United Nations Security Council resolution; and

(2) any other international peacekeeping, peace-enforcement, or humanitarian assistance operation.

(c) A notice under subsection (a) shall include the following:

(1) A description of the equipment, supplies, or services to be transferred.

(2) A statement of the value of the equipment, supplies, or services to be transferred.

(3) In the case of a proposed transfer of equipment or supplies—

(A) a statement of whether the inventory requirements of all elements of the Armed Forces (including the reserve components) for the type of equipment or supplies to be transferred have been met; and

(B) a statement of whether the items proposed to be transferred will have to be replaced and, if so, how the President proposes to provide funds for such replacement.

SEC. 8051. None of the funds available to the Department of Defense under this Act shall be obligated or expended to pay a contractor under a contract with the Department of Defense for costs of any amount paid by the contractor to an employee when—

(1) such costs are for a bonus or otherwise in excess of the normal salary paid by the contractor to the employee; and

(2) such bonus is part of restructuring costs associated with a business combination.

#### (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 8052. During the current fiscal year, no more than \$30,000,000 of appropriations made in this Act under the heading "Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide" may be transferred to appropriations available for the pay of military personnel, to be merged with, and to be available for the same time period as the appropriations to which transferred, to be used in support of such personnel in connection with support and services for eligible organizations and activities outside the Department of Defense pursuant to section 2012 of title 10, United States Code.

SEC. 8053. During the current fiscal year, in the case of an appropriation account of the Department of Defense for which the period of availability for obligation has expired or which has closed under the provisions of section 1552 of title 31, United States Code, and which has a negative unliquidated or unexpended balance, an obligation or an adjustment of an obligation may be charged to any current appropriation account for the same purpose as the expired or closed account if—

(1) the obligation would have been properly chargeable (except as to amount) to the ex-

pired or closed account before the end of the period of availability or closing of that account;

(2) the obligation is not otherwise properly chargeable to any current appropriation account of the Department of Defense; and

(3) in the case of an expired account, the obligation is not chargeable to a current appropriation of the Department of Defense under the provisions of section 1405(b)(8) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1991, Public Law 101-510, as amended (31 U.S.C. 1551 note): *Provided*, That in the case of an expired account, if subsequent review or investigation discloses that there was not in fact a negative unliquidated or unexpended balance in the account, any charge to a current account under the authority of this section shall be reversed and recorded against the expired account: *Provided further*, That the total amount charged to a current appropriation under this section may not exceed an amount equal to 1 percent of the total appropriation for that account.

SEC. 8054. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Chief of the National Guard Bureau may permit the use of equipment of the National Guard Distance Learning Project by any person or entity on a space-available, reimbursable basis. The Chief of the National Guard Bureau shall establish the amount of reimbursement for such use on a case-by-case basis.

(b) Amounts collected under subsection (a) shall be credited to funds available for the National Guard Distance Learning Project and be available to defray the costs associated with the use of equipment of the project under that subsection. Such funds shall be available for such purposes without fiscal year limitation.

SEC. 8055. Using funds made available by this Act or any other Act, the Secretary of the Air Force, pursuant to a determination under section 2690 of title 10, United States Code, may implement cost-effective agreements for required heating facility modernization in the Kaiserslautern Military Community in the Federal Republic of Germany: *Provided*, That in the City of Kaiserslautern and at the Rhine Ordnance Barracks area, such agreements will include the use of United States anthracite as the base load energy for municipal district heat to the United States Defense installations: *Provided further*, That at Landstuhl Army Regional Medical Center and Ramstein Air Base, furnished heat may be obtained from private, regional or municipal services, if provisions are included for the consideration of United States coal as an energy source.

#### (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 8056. Of the funds appropriated in this Act under the heading "Operation and Maintenance, Defense-wide", \$25,000,000 shall be for continued implementation and expansion of the Sexual Assault Special Victims' Counsel Program, and \$5,709,000 shall be for support of high priority Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program requirements and activities, including the training and funding of personnel: *Provided*, That the funds are made available for transfer to the Department of the Army, the Department of the Navy, and the Department of the Air Force: *Provided further*, That funds transferred shall be merged with and available for the same purposes and for the same time period as the appropriations to which the funds are transferred: *Provided further*, That this transfer authority is in addition to any other transfer authority provided in this Act.

SEC. 8057. None of the funds appropriated in title IV of this Act may be used to procure

end-items for delivery to military forces for operational training, operational use or inventory requirements: *Provided*, That this restriction does not apply to end-items used in development, prototyping, and test activities preceding and leading to acceptance for operational use: *Provided further*, That this restriction does not apply to programs funded within the National Intelligence Program: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense may waive this restriction on a case-by-case basis by certifying in writing to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate that it is in the national security interest to do so.

SEC. 8058. (a) The Secretary of Defense may, on a case-by-case basis, waive with respect to a foreign country each limitation on the procurement of defense items from foreign sources provided in law if the Secretary determines that the application of the limitation with respect to that country would invalidate cooperative programs entered into between the Department of Defense and the foreign country, or would invalidate reciprocal trade agreements for the procurement of defense items entered into under section 2531 of title 10, United States Code, and the country does not discriminate against the same or similar defense items produced in the United States for that country.

(b) Subsection (a) applies with respect to—

(1) contracts and subcontracts entered into on or after the date of the enactment of this Act; and

(2) options for the procurement of items that are exercised after such date under contracts that are entered into before such date if the option prices are adjusted for any reason other than the application of a waiver granted under subsection (a).

(c) Subsection (a) does not apply to a limitation regarding construction of public vessels, ball and roller bearings, food, and clothing or textile materials as defined by section 11 (chapters 50-65) of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule and products classified under headings 4010, 4202, 4203, 6401 through 6406, 6505, 7019, 7218 through 7229, 7304.41 through 7304.49, 7306.40, 7502 through 7508, 8105, 8108, 8109, 8211, 8215, and 9404.

SEC. 8059. (a) IN GENERAL.—(1) None of the funds made available by this Act may be used for any training, equipment, or other assistance for a unit of a foreign security force if the Secretary of Defense has credible information that the unit has committed a gross violation of human rights.

(2) The Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Secretary of State, shall ensure that prior to a decision to provide any training, equipment, or other assistance to a unit of a foreign security force full consideration is given to any credible information available to the Department of State relating to human rights violations by such unit.

(b) EXCEPTION.—The prohibition in subsection (a)(1) shall not apply if the Secretary of Defense, after consultation with the Secretary of State, determines that the government of such country has taken all necessary corrective steps, or if the equipment or other assistance is necessary to assist in disaster relief operations or other humanitarian or national security emergencies.

(c) WAIVER.—The Secretary of Defense, after consultation with the Secretary of State, may waive the prohibition in subsection (a)(1) if the Secretary of Defense determines that such waiver is required by extraordinary circumstances.

(d) PROCEDURES.—The Secretary of Defense shall establish, and periodically update, procedures to ensure that any information in

the possession of the Department of Defense about gross violations of human rights by units of foreign security forces is shared on a timely basis with the Department of State.

(e) REPORT.—Not more than 15 days after the application of any exception under subsection (b) or the exercise of any waiver under subsection (c), the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report—

(1) in the case of an exception under subsection (b), providing notice of the use of the exception and stating the grounds for the exception; and

(2) in the case of a waiver under subsection (c), describing the information relating to the gross violation of human rights; the extraordinary circumstances that necessitate the waiver; the purpose and duration of the training, equipment, or other assistance; and the United States forces and the foreign security force unit involved.

(f) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this section the term “appropriate congressional committees” means the congressional defense committees and the Committees on Appropriations.

SEC. 8060. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or other Department of Defense Appropriations Acts may be obligated or expended for the purpose of performing repairs or maintenance to military family housing units of the Department of Defense, including areas in such military family housing units that may be used for the purpose of conducting official Department of Defense business.

SEC. 8061. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, funds appropriated in this Act under the heading “Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Defense-Wide” for any new start advanced concept technology demonstration project or joint capability demonstration project may only be obligated 45 days after a report, including a description of the project, the planned acquisition and transition strategy and its estimated annual and total cost, has been provided in writing to the congressional defense committees: *Provided*, That the Secretary of Defense may waive this restriction on a case-by-case basis by certifying to the congressional defense committees that it is in the national interest to do so.

SEC. 8062. The Secretary of Defense shall provide a classified quarterly report beginning 30 days after enactment of this Act, to the House and Senate Appropriations Committees, Subcommittees on Defense on certain matters as directed in the classified annex accompanying this Act.

SEC. 8063. During the current fiscal year and hereafter, none of the funds available to the Department of Defense may be used to provide support to another department or agency of the United States if such department or agency is more than 90 days in arrears in making payment to the Department of Defense for goods or services previously provided to such department or agency on a reimbursable basis: *Provided*, That this restriction shall not apply if the department is authorized by law to provide support to such department or agency on a nonreimbursable basis, and is providing the requested support pursuant to such authority: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense may waive this restriction on a case-by-case basis by certifying in writing to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate that it is in the national security interest to do so.

SEC. 8064. Notwithstanding section 12310(b) of title 10, United States Code, a member of

the National Guard serving on full-time National Guard duty under section 502(f) of title 32, United States Code, may perform duties in support of the ground-based elements of the National Ballistic Missile Defense System.

SEC. 8065. None of the funds provided in this Act may be used to transfer to any non-governmental entity ammunition held by the Department of Defense that has a center-fire cartridge and a United States military nomenclature designation of “armor penetrator”, “armor piercing (AP)”, “armor piercing incendiary (API)”, or “armor-piercing incendiary tracer (API-T)”, except to an entity performing demilitarization services for the Department of Defense under a contract that requires the entity to demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Department of Defense that armor piercing projectiles are either: (1) rendered incapable of reuse by the demilitarization process; or (2) used to manufacture ammunition pursuant to a contract with the Department of Defense or the manufacture of ammunition for export pursuant to a License for Permanent Export of Unclassified Military Articles issued by the Department of State.

SEC. 8066. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Chief of the National Guard Bureau, or his designee, may waive payment of all or part of the consideration that otherwise would be required under section 2667 of title 10, United States Code, in the case of a lease of personal property for a period not in excess of 1 year to any organization specified in section 508(d) of title 32, United States Code, or any other youth, social, or fraternal nonprofit organization as may be approved by the Chief of the National Guard Bureau, or his designee, on a case-by-case basis.

SEC. 8067. In specifying the amounts requested for the Department of the Army for Arlington National Cemetery, Virginia, the budget of the President submitted to Congress shall request such amounts in the Cemetery Expenses, Army appropriation, and shall not request such amounts in the Operation and Maintenance, Army appropriation.

SEC. 8068. None of the funds appropriated by this Act shall be used for the support of any nonappropriated funds activity of the Department of Defense that procures malt beverages and wine with nonappropriated funds for resale (including such alcoholic beverages sold by the drink) on a military installation located in the United States unless such malt beverages and wine are procured within that State, or in the case of the District of Columbia, within the District of Columbia, in which the military installation is located: *Provided*, That in a case in which the military installation is located in more than one State, purchases may be made in any State in which the installation is located: *Provided further*, That such local procurement requirements for malt beverages and wine shall apply to all alcoholic beverages only for military installations in States which are not contiguous with another State: *Provided further*, That alcoholic beverages other than wine and malt beverages, in contiguous States and the District of Columbia shall be procured from the most competitive source, price and other factors considered.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 8069. Of the amounts appropriated in this Act under the heading “Operation and Maintenance, Army”, \$106,189,900 shall remain available until expended: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of

law, the Secretary of Defense is authorized to transfer such funds to other activities of the Federal Government: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense is authorized to enter into and carry out contracts for the acquisition of real property, construction, personal services, and operations related to projects carrying out the purposes of this section: *Provided further*, That contracts entered into under the authority of this section may provide for such indemnification as the Secretary determines to be necessary: *Provided further*, That projects authorized by this section shall comply with applicable Federal, State, and local law to the maximum extent consistent with the national security, as determined by the Secretary of Defense.

SEC. 8070. (a) None of the funds appropriated in this or any other Act may be used to take any action to modify—

(1) the appropriations account structure for the National Intelligence Program budget, including through the creation of a new appropriation or new appropriation account;

(2) how the National Intelligence Program budget request is presented in the unclassified P-1, R-1, and O-1 documents supporting the Department of Defense budget request;

(3) the process by which the National Intelligence Program appropriations are apportioned to the executing agencies; or

(4) the process by which the National Intelligence Program appropriations are allotted, obligated and disbursed.

(b) Nothing in section (a) shall be construed to prohibit the merger of programs or changes to the National Intelligence Program budget at or below the Expenditure Center level, provided such change is otherwise in accordance with paragraphs (a)(1)–(3).

(c) The Director of National Intelligence and the Secretary of Defense may jointly, only for the purposes of achieving auditable financial statements and improving fiscal reporting, study and develop detailed proposals for alternative financial management processes. Such study shall include a comprehensive counterintelligence risk assessment to ensure that none of the alternative processes will adversely affect counterintelligence.

(d) Upon development of the detailed proposals defined under subsection (c), the Director of National Intelligence and the Secretary of Defense shall—

(1) provide the proposed alternatives to all affected agencies;

(2) receive certification from all affected agencies attesting that the proposed alternatives will help achieve auditability, improve fiscal reporting, and will not adversely affect counterintelligence; and

(3) not later than 30 days after receiving all necessary certifications under paragraph (2), present the proposed alternatives and certifications to the congressional defense and intelligence committees.

(e) This section shall not be construed to alter or affect the application of section 1627 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015 to the amounts made available by this Act.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 8071. During the current fiscal year, not to exceed \$200,000,000 from funds available under “Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide” may be transferred to the Department of State “Global Security Contingency Fund”: *Provided*, That this transfer authority is in addition to any other transfer authority available to the Department of Defense: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense shall, not fewer than 30 days prior to making transfers to the Department of State

"Global Security Contingency Fund", notify the congressional defense committees in writing with the source of funds and a detailed justification, execution plan, and timeline for each proposed project.

SEC. 8072. In addition to amounts provided elsewhere in this Act, \$4,000,000 is hereby appropriated to the Department of Defense, to remain available for obligation until expended: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, that upon the determination of the Secretary of Defense that it shall serve the national interest, these funds shall be available only for a grant to the Fisher House Foundation, Inc., only for the construction and furnishing of additional Fisher Houses to meet the needs of military family members when confronted with the illness or hospitalization of an eligible military beneficiary.

SEC. 8073. The Secretary of Defense shall issue regulations to prohibit the sale of any tobacco or tobacco-related products in military resale outlets in the United States, its territories and possessions at a price below the most competitive price in the local community: *Provided*, That such regulations shall direct that the prices of tobacco or tobacco-related products in overseas military retail outlets shall be within the range of prices established for military retail system stores located in the United States.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 8074. Of the amounts appropriated in this Act under the headings "Procurement, Defense-Wide" and "Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Defense-Wide", \$619,814,000 shall be for the Israeli Cooperative Programs: *Provided*, That of this amount, \$350,972,000 shall be for the Secretary of Defense to provide to the Government of Israel for the procurement of the Iron Dome defense system to counter short-range rocket threats, subject to the U.S.-Israel Iron Dome Procurement Agreement, as amended; \$137,934,000 shall be for the Short Range Ballistic Missile Defense (SRBMD) program, including cruise missile defense research and development under the SRBMD program, of which \$15,000,000 shall be for production activities of SRBMD missiles in the United States and in Israel to meet Israel's defense requirements consistent with each nation's laws, regulations, and procedures; \$74,707,000 shall be for an upper-tier component to the Israeli Missile Defense Architecture; and \$56,201,000 shall be for the Arrow System Improvement Program including development of a long range, ground and airborne, detection suite: *Provided further*, That funds made available under this provision for production of missiles and missile components may be transferred to appropriations available for the procurement of weapons and equipment, to be merged with and to be available for the same time period and the same purposes as the appropriation to which transferred: *Provided further*, That the transfer authority provided under this provision is in addition to any other transfer authority contained in this Act.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 8075. Of the amounts appropriated in this Act under the heading "Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy", \$991,285,000 shall be available until September 30, 2015, to fund prior year shipbuilding cost increases: *Provided*, That upon enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Navy shall transfer funds to the following appropriations in the amounts specified: *Provided further*, That the amounts transferred shall be merged with and be

available for the same purposes as the appropriations to which transferred to:

(1) Under the heading "Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy", 2008/2015: Carrier Replacement Program \$663,000,000;

(2) Under the heading "Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy", 2009/2015: LPD-17 Amphibious Transport Dock Program \$54,096,000;

(3) Under the heading "Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy", 2010/2015: DDG-51 Destroyer \$65,771,000;

(4) Under the heading "Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy", 2010/2015: Littoral Combat Ship \$35,345,000;

(5) Under the heading "Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy", 2011/2015: DDG-51 Destroyer \$63,373,000;

(6) Under the heading "Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy", 2011/2015: Littoral Combat Ship \$41,700,000;

(7) Under the heading "Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy", 2011/2015: Joint High Speed Vessel \$9,340,000;

(8) Under the heading "Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy", 2012/2015: CVN Refueling Overhauls Program \$54,000,000;

(9) Under the heading "Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy", 2012/2015: Joint High Speed Vessel \$2,620,000; and

(10) Under the heading "Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy", 2013/2015: Joint High Speed Vessel \$2,040,000.

SEC. 8076. Funds appropriated by this Act, or made available by the transfer of funds in this Act, for intelligence activities are deemed to be specifically authorized by the Congress for purposes of section 504 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3094) during fiscal year 2015 until the enactment of the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015.

SEC. 8077. None of the funds provided in this Act shall be available for obligation or expenditure through a reprogramming of funds that creates or initiates a new program, project, or activity unless such program, project, or activity must be undertaken immediately in the interest of national security and only after written prior notification to the congressional defense committees.

SEC. 8078. The budget of the President for fiscal year 2016 submitted to the Congress pursuant to section 1105 of title 31, United States Code, shall include separate budget justification documents for costs of United States Armed Forces' participation in contingency operations for the Military Personnel accounts, the Operation and Maintenance accounts, the Procurement accounts, and the Research, Development, Test and Evaluation accounts: *Provided*, That these documents shall include a description of the funding requested for each contingency operation, for each military service, to include all Active and Reserve components, and for each appropriations account: *Provided further*, That these documents shall include estimated costs for each element of expense or object class, a reconciliation of increases and decreases for each contingency operation, and programmatic data including, but not limited to, troop strength for each Active and Reserve component, and estimates of the major weapons systems deployed in support of each contingency: *Provided further*, That these documents shall include budget exhibits OP-5 and OP-32 (as defined in the Department of Defense Financial Management Regulation) for all contingency operations for the budget year and the two preceding fiscal years.

SEC. 8079. None of the funds in this Act may be used for research, development, test,

evaluation, procurement or deployment of nuclear armed interceptors of a missile defense system.

SEC. 8080. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, to reflect savings due to favorable foreign exchange rates, the total amount appropriated in this Act is hereby reduced by \$386,268,000.

SEC. 8081. None of the funds appropriated or made available in this Act shall be used to reduce or disestablish the operation of the 53rd Weather Reconnaissance Squadron of the Air Force Reserve, if such action would reduce the WC-130 Weather Reconnaissance mission below the levels funded in this Act: *Provided*, That the Air Force shall allow the 53rd Weather Reconnaissance Squadron to perform other missions in support of national defense requirements during the non-hurricane season.

SEC. 8082. None of the funds provided in this Act shall be available for integration of foreign intelligence information unless the information has been lawfully collected and processed during the conduct of authorized foreign intelligence activities: *Provided*, That information pertaining to United States persons shall only be handled in accordance with protections provided in the Fourth Amendment of the United States Constitution as implemented through Executive Order No. 12333.

SEC. 8083. (a) At the time members of reserve components of the Armed Forces are called or ordered to active duty under section 12302(a) of title 10, United States Code, each member shall be notified in writing of the expected period during which the member will be mobilized.

(b) The Secretary of Defense may waive the requirements of subsection (a) in any case in which the Secretary determines that it is necessary to do so to respond to a national security emergency or to meet dire operational requirements of the Armed Forces.

SEC. 8084. Of the amounts appropriated for "Missile Procurement, Air Force", \$125,000,000 shall be available for the acceleration of a competitively awarded Evolved Expendable Launch Vehicle mission: *Provided*, That competitions shall be open to all certified providers of Evolved Expendable Launch Vehicle-class systems: *Provided further*, That competitions shall consider bids from two or more certified providers: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, such providers may compete any certified launch vehicle in their inventory.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 8085. The Secretary of Defense may transfer funds from any available Department of the Navy appropriation to any available Navy ship construction appropriation for the purpose of liquidating necessary changes resulting from inflation, market fluctuations, or rate adjustments for any ship construction program appropriated in law: *Provided*, That the Secretary may transfer not to exceed \$16,000,000 under the authority provided by this section: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may not transfer any funds until 30 days after the proposed transfer has been reported to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, unless a response from the Committees is received sooner: *Provided further*, That any funds transferred pursuant to this section shall retain the same period of availability as when originally appropriated: *Provided further*, That the transfer authority provided by this section is in addition to any other transfer authority contained elsewhere in this Act.

SEC. 8086. (a) None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be used to transfer research and development, acquisition, or other program authority relating to current tactical unmanned aerial vehicles (TUAVs) from the Army.

(b) The Army shall retain responsibility for and operational control of the MQ-1C Gray Eagle Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) in order to support the Secretary of Defense in matters relating to the employment of unmanned aerial vehicles.

SEC. 8087. Up to \$15,000,000 of the funds appropriated under the heading "Operation and Maintenance, Navy" may be made available for the Asia Pacific Regional Initiative Program for the purpose of enabling the Pacific Command to execute Theater Security Cooperation activities such as humanitarian assistance, and payment of incremental and personnel costs of training and exercising with foreign security forces: *Provided*, That funds made available for this purpose may be used, notwithstanding any other funding authorities for humanitarian assistance, security assistance or combined exercise expenses: *Provided further*, That funds may not be obligated to provide assistance to any foreign country that is otherwise prohibited from receiving such type of assistance under any other provision of law.

SEC. 8088. None of the funds appropriated by this Act for programs of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence shall remain available for obligation beyond the current fiscal year, except for funds appropriated for research and technology, which shall remain available until September 30, 2016.

SEC. 8089. For purposes of section 1553(b) of title 31, United States Code, any subdivision of appropriations made in this Act under the heading "Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy" shall be considered to be for the same purpose as any subdivision under the heading "Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy" appropriations in any prior fiscal year, and the 1 percent limitation shall apply to the total amount of the appropriation.

SEC. 8090. (a) Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence shall submit a report to the congressional intelligence committees to establish the baseline for application of reprogramming and transfer authorities for fiscal year 2015: *Provided*, That the report shall include—

(1) a table for each appropriation with a separate column to display the President's budget request, adjustments made by Congress, adjustments due to enacted rescissions, if appropriate, and the fiscal year enacted level;

(2) a delineation in the table for each appropriation by Expenditure Center and project; and

(3) an identification of items of special congressional interest.

(b) None of the funds provided for the National Intelligence Program in this Act shall be available for reprogramming or transfer until the report identified in subsection (a) is submitted to the congressional intelligence committees, unless the Director of National Intelligence certifies in writing to the congressional intelligence committees that such reprogramming or transfer is necessary as an emergency requirement.

SEC. 8091. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to eliminate, restructure or realign Army Contracting Command-New Jersey or make disproportionate personnel reductions at any Army Contracting Command-New Jersey sites without

30-day prior notification to the congressional defense committees.

SEC. 8092. None of the funds made available by this Act for excess defense articles, assistance under section 1206 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2006 (Public Law 109-163; 119 Stat. 3456), or peacekeeping operations for the countries designated annually to be in violation of the standards of the Child Soldiers Prevention Act of 2008 may be used to support any military training or operation that includes child soldiers, as defined by the Child Soldiers Prevention Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-457; 22 U.S.C. 2370c-1), unless such assistance is otherwise permitted under section 404 of the Child Soldiers Prevention Act of 2008.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 8093. Of the funds appropriated in the Intelligence Community Management Account for the Program Manager for the Information Sharing Environment, \$20,000,000 is available for transfer by the Director of National Intelligence to other departments and agencies for purposes of Government-wide information sharing activities: *Provided*, That funds transferred under this provision are to be merged with and available for the same purposes and time period as the appropriation to which transferred: *Provided further*, That the Office of Management and Budget must approve any transfers made under this provision.

SEC. 8094. (a) None of the funds provided for the National Intelligence Program in this or any prior appropriations Act shall be available for obligation or expenditure through a reprogramming or transfer of funds in accordance with section 102A(d) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3024(d)) that—

(1) creates a new start effort;

(2) terminates a program with appropriated funding of \$10,000,000 or more;

(3) transfers funding into or out of the National Intelligence Program; or

(4) transfers funding between appropriations,

unless the congressional intelligence committees are notified 30 days in advance of such reprogramming of funds; this notification period may be reduced for urgent national security requirements.

(b) None of the funds provided for the National Intelligence Program in this or any prior appropriations Act shall be available for obligation or expenditure through a reprogramming or transfer of funds in accordance with section 102A(d) or the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3024(d)) that results in a cumulative increase or decrease of the levels specified in the classified annex accompanying the Act unless the congressional intelligence committees are notified 30 days in advance of such reprogramming of funds; this notification period may be reduced for urgent national security requirements.

SEC. 8095. The Director of National Intelligence shall submit to Congress each year, at or about the time that the President's budget is submitted to Congress that year under section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code, a future-years intelligence program (including associated annexes) reflecting the estimated expenditures and proposed appropriations included in that budget. Any such future-years intelligence program shall cover the fiscal year with respect to which the budget is submitted and at least the four succeeding fiscal years.

SEC. 8096. For the purposes of this Act, the term "congressional intelligence committees" means the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Rep-

resentatives, the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate, the Subcommittee on Defense of the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives, and the Subcommittee on Defense of the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate.

SEC. 8097. The Department of Defense shall continue to report incremental contingency operations costs for Operation Inherent Resolve, Operation Enduring Freedom, and any named successor operations, on a monthly basis and any other operation designated and identified by the Secretary of Defense for the purposes of section 127a of title 10, United States Code, on a semi-annual basis in the Cost of War Execution Report as prescribed in the Department of Defense Financial Management Regulation Department of Defense Instruction 7000.14, Volume 12, Chapter 23 "Contingency Operations", Annex 1, dated September 2005.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 8098. During the current fiscal year, not to exceed \$11,000,000 from each of the appropriations made in title II of this Act for "Operation and Maintenance, Army", "Operation and Maintenance, Navy", and "Operation and Maintenance, Air Force" may be transferred by the military department concerned to its central fund established for Fisher Houses and Suites pursuant to section 2493(d) of title 10, United States Code.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 8099. Funds appropriated by this Act for operation and maintenance may be available for the purpose of making remittances and transfer to the Defense Acquisition Workforce Development Fund in accordance with section 1705 of title 10, United States Code.

SEC. 8100. (a) Any agency receiving funds made available in this Act, shall, subject to subsections (b) and (c), post on the public Web site of that agency any report required to be submitted by the Congress in this or any other Act, upon the determination by the head of the agency that it shall serve the national interest.

(b) Subsection (a) shall not apply to a report if—

(1) the public posting of the report compromises national security; or

(2) the report contains proprietary information.

(c) The head of the agency posting such report shall do so only after such report has been made available to the requesting Committee or Committees of Congress for no less than 45 days.

SEC. 8101. (a) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be expended for any Federal contract for an amount in excess of \$1,000,000, unless the contractor agrees not to—

(1) enter into any agreement with any of its employees or independent contractors that requires, as a condition of employment, that the employee or independent contractor agree to resolve through arbitration any claim under title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 or any tort related to or arising out of sexual assault or harassment, including assault and battery, intentional infliction of emotional distress, false imprisonment, or negligent hiring, supervision, or retention; or

(2) take any action to enforce any provision of an existing agreement with an employee or independent contractor that mandates that the employee or independent contractor resolve through arbitration any claim under title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 or any tort related to or arising out



of sexual assault or harassment, including assault and battery, intentional infliction of emotional distress, false imprisonment, or negligent hiring, supervision, or retention.

(b) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be expended for any Federal contract unless the contractor certifies that it requires each covered subcontractor to agree not to enter into, and not to take any action to enforce any provision of, any agreement as described in paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (a), with respect to any employee or independent contractor performing work related to such subcontract. For purposes of this subsection, a "covered subcontractor" is an entity that has a subcontract in excess of \$1,000,000 on a contract subject to subsection (a).

(c) The prohibitions in this section do not apply with respect to a contractor's or subcontractor's agreements with employees or independent contractors that may not be enforced in a court of the United States.

(d) The Secretary of Defense may waive the application of subsection (a) or (b) to a particular contractor or subcontractor for the purposes of a particular contract or subcontract if the Secretary or the Deputy Secretary personally determines that the waiver is necessary to avoid harm to national security interests of the United States, and that the term of the contract or subcontract is not longer than necessary to avoid such harm. The determination shall set forth with specificity the grounds for the waiver and for the contract or subcontract term selected, and shall state any alternatives considered in lieu of a waiver and the reasons each such alternative would not avoid harm to national security interests of the United States. The Secretary of Defense shall transmit to Congress, and simultaneously make public, any determination under this subsection not less than 15 business days before the contract or subcontract addressed in the determination may be awarded.

#### (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 8102. From within the funds appropriated for operation and maintenance for the Defense Health Program in this Act, up to \$146,857,000, shall be available for transfer to the Joint Department of Defense-Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Facility Demonstration Fund in accordance with the provisions of section 1704 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010, Public Law 111-84: *Provided*, That for purposes of section 1704(b), the facility operations funded are operations of the integrated Captain James A. Lovell Federal Health Care Center, consisting of the North Chicago Veterans Affairs Medical Center, the Navy Ambulatory Care Center, and supporting facilities designated as a combined Federal medical facility as described by section 706 of Public Law 110-417: *Provided further*, That additional funds may be transferred from funds appropriated for operation and maintenance for the Defense Health Program to the Joint Department of Defense-Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Facility Demonstration Fund upon written notification by the Secretary of Defense to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

SEC. 8103. The Office of the Director of National Intelligence shall not employ more Senior Executive employees than are specified in the classified annex.

SEC. 8104. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act and hereafter may be obligated or expended to pay a retired general or flag officer to serve as a senior mentor advising the Department

of Defense unless such retired officer files a Standard Form 278 (or successor form concerning public financial disclosure under part 2634 of title 5, Code of Federal Regulations) to the Office of Government Ethics.

SEC. 8105. Appropriations available to the Department of Defense may be used for the purchase of heavy and light armored vehicles for the physical security of personnel or for force protection purposes up to a limit of \$250,000 per vehicle, notwithstanding price or other limitations applicable to the purchase of passenger carrying vehicles.

SEC. 8106. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act or any other Act may be used by the Department of Defense or a component thereof in contravention of section 1243 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015, relating to limitations on providing certain missile defense information to the Russian Federation.

SEC. 8107. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used by the Secretary of Defense to take beneficial occupancy of more than 3,000 parking spaces (other than handicap-reserved spaces) to be provided by the BRAC 133 project: *Provided*, That this limitation may be waived in part if: (1) the Secretary of Defense certifies to Congress that levels of service at existing intersections in the vicinity of the project have not experienced failing levels of service as defined by the Transportation Research Board Highway Capacity Manual over a consecutive 90-day period; (2) the Department of Defense and the Virginia Department of Transportation agree on the number of additional parking spaces that may be made available to employees of the facility subject to continued 90-day traffic monitoring; and (3) the Secretary of Defense notifies the congressional defense committees in writing at least 14 days prior to exercising this waiver of the number of additional parking spaces to be made available.

SEC. 8108. The Secretary of Defense shall report quarterly the numbers of civilian personnel end strength by appropriation account for each and every appropriation account used to finance Federal civilian personnel salaries to the congressional defense committees within 15 days after the end of each fiscal quarter.

#### (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 8109. Upon a determination by the Director of National Intelligence that such action is necessary and in the national interest, the Director may, with the approval of the Office of Management and Budget, transfer not to exceed \$2,000,000,000 of the funds made available in this Act for the National Intelligence Program: *Provided*, That such authority to transfer may not be used unless for higher priority items, based on unforeseen intelligence requirements, than those for which originally appropriated and in no case where the item for which funds are requested has been denied by the Congress: *Provided further*, That a request for multiple reprogrammings of funds using authority provided in this section shall be made prior to June 30, 2015.

#### (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 8110. There is appropriated \$540,000,000 for the "Ship Modernization, Operations and Sustainment Fund", to remain available until September 30, 2021: *Provided*, That the Secretary of the Navy shall transfer funds from the "Ship Modernization, Operations and Sustainment Fund" to appropriations for operation and maintenance; research, development, test and evaluation; and procure-

ment, only for the purposes of operating, sustaining, equipping and modernizing the Ticonderoga-class guided missile cruisers CG-63, CG-64, CG-65, CG-66, CG-67, CG-68, CG-69, CG-70, CG-71, CG-72, CG-73, and the Whidbey Island-class dock landing ships LSD-41, LSD-42, and LSD-46: *Provided further*, That funds transferred shall be merged with and be available for the same purposes and for the same time period as the appropriation to which they are transferred: *Provided further*, That the transfer authority provided herein shall be in addition to any other transfer authority available to the Department of Defense: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of the Navy shall, not less than 30 days prior to making any transfer from the "Ship Modernization, Operations and Sustainment Fund", notify the congressional defense committees in writing of the details of such transfer: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of the Navy shall transfer and obligate funds from the "Ship Modernization, Operations and Sustainment Fund" for modernization of not more than two Ticonderoga-class guided missile cruisers as detailed above in fiscal year 2015: *Provided further*, That no more than six Ticonderoga-class guided missile cruisers shall be in a phased modernization at any time: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of the Navy shall contract for the required modernization equipment in the year prior to inducing a Ticonderoga-class cruiser for modernization: *Provided further*, That the prohibition in section 2244a(a) of title 10, United States Code, shall not apply to the use of any funds transferred pursuant to this section.

SEC. 8111. None of the funds appropriated in this Act may be obligated or expended by the Secretary of a military department in contravention of the provisions of section 352 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2014 to adopt any new camouflage pattern design or uniform fabric for any combat or camouflage utility uniform or family of uniforms for use by an Armed Force.

SEC. 8112. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available in this or any other Act may be used to transfer, release, or assist in the transfer or release to or within the United States, its territories, or possessions Khalid Sheikh Mohammed or any other detainee who—

(1) is not a United States citizen or a member of the Armed Forces of the United States; and

(2) is or was held on or after June 24, 2009, at the United States Naval Station, Guantánamo Bay, Cuba, by the Department of Defense.

SEC. 8113. (a) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available in this or any other Act may be used to construct, acquire, or modify any facility in the United States, its territories, or possessions to house any individual described in subsection (c) for the purposes of detention or imprisonment in the custody or under the effective control of the Department of Defense.

(b) The prohibition in subsection (a) shall not apply to any modification of facilities at United States Naval Station, Guantánamo Bay, Cuba.

(c) An individual described in this subsection is any individual who, as of June 24, 2009, is located at United States Naval Station, Guantánamo Bay, Cuba, and who—

(1) is not a citizen of the United States or a member of the Armed Forces of the United States; and

(2) is—

(A) in the custody or under the effective control of the Department of Defense; or

(B) otherwise under detention at United States Naval Station, Guantánamo Bay, Cuba.

SEC. 8114. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available in this Act may be used to transfer any individual detained at United States Naval Station Guantánamo Bay, Cuba, to the custody or control of the individual's country of origin, any other foreign country, or any other foreign entity except in accordance with section 1035 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2014.

SEC. 8115. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used in contravention of section 1590 or 1591 of title 18, United States Code, or in contravention of the requirements of section 106(g) or (h) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7104(g) or (h)).

SEC. 8116. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used in contravention of the War Powers Resolution (50 U.S.C. 1541 et seq.).

SEC. 8117. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used by the Department of Defense or any other Federal agency to lease or purchase new light duty vehicles, for any executive fleet, or for an agency's fleet inventory, except in accordance with Presidential Memorandum-Federal Fleet Performance, dated May 24, 2011.

SEC. 8118. (a) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or any other Act may be used by the Secretary of Defense, or any other official or officer of the Department of Defense, to enter into a contract, memorandum of understanding, or cooperative agreement with, or make a grant to, or provide a loan or loan guarantee to Rosoboronexport or any subsidiary of Rosoboronexport.

(b) The Secretary of Defense may waive the limitation in subsection (a) if the Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of State and the Director of National Intelligence, determines that it is in the vital national security interest of the United States to do so, and certifies in writing to the congressional defense committees that, to the best of the Secretary's knowledge:

(1) Rosoboronexport has ceased the transfer of lethal military equipment to, and the maintenance of existing lethal military equipment for, the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic;

(2) The armed forces of the Russian Federation have withdrawn from Crimea, other than armed forces present on military bases subject to agreements in force between the Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of Ukraine; and

(3) Agents of the Russian Federation have ceased taking active measures to destabilize the control of the Government of Ukraine over eastern Ukraine.

(c) The Inspector General of the Department of Defense shall conduct a review of any action involving Rosoboronexport with respect to a waiver issued by the Secretary of Defense pursuant to subsection (b), and not later than 90 days after the date on which such a waiver is issued by the Secretary of Defense, the Inspector General shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report containing the results of the review conducted with respect to such waiver.

SEC. 8119. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used for the purchase or manufacture of a flag of the United States unless such flags are treated as covered

items under section 2533a(b) of title 10, United States Code.

SEC. 8120. None of the funds appropriated in this or any other Act may be obligated or expended by the United States Government for the direct personal benefit of the President of Afghanistan.

SEC. 8121. (a) Of the funds appropriated in this Act for the Department of Defense, amounts may be made available, under such regulations as the Secretary may prescribe, to local military commanders appointed by the Secretary of Defense, or by an officer or employee designated by the Secretary, to provide at their discretion *ex gratia* payments in amounts consistent with subsection (d) of this section for damage, personal injury, or death that is incident to combat operations of the Armed Forces in a foreign country.

(b) An *ex gratia* payment under this section may be provided only if—

(1) the prospective foreign civilian recipient is determined by the local military commander to be friendly to the United States;

(2) a claim for damages would not be compensable under chapter 163 of title 10, United States Code (commonly known as the "Foreign Claims Act"); and

(3) the property damage, personal injury, or death was not caused by action by an enemy.

(c) NATURE OF PAYMENTS.—Any payments provided under a program under subsection (a) shall not be considered an admission or acknowledgement of any legal obligation to compensate for any damage, personal injury, or death.

(d) AMOUNT OF PAYMENTS.—If the Secretary of Defense determines a program under subsection (a) to be appropriate in a particular setting, the amounts of payments, if any, to be provided to civilians determined to have suffered harm incident to combat operations of the Armed Forces under the program should be determined pursuant to regulations prescribed by the Secretary and based on an assessment, which should include such factors as cultural appropriateness and prevailing economic conditions.

(e) LEGAL ADVICE.—Local military commanders shall receive legal advice before making *ex gratia* payments under this subsection. The legal advisor, under regulations of the Department of Defense, shall advise on whether an *ex gratia* payment is proper under this section and applicable Department of Defense regulations.

(f) WRITTEN RECORD.—A written record of any *ex gratia* payment offered or denied shall be kept by the local commander and on a timely basis submitted to the appropriate office in the Department of Defense as determined by the Secretary of Defense.

(g) REPORT.—The Secretary of Defense shall report to the congressional defense committees on an annual basis the efficacy of the *ex gratia* payment program including the number of types of cases considered, amounts offered, the response from *ex gratia* payment recipients, and any recommended modifications to the program.

(h) LIMITATION.—Nothing in this section shall be deemed to provide any new authority to the Secretary of Defense.

SEC. 8122. None of the funds available in this Act to the Department of Defense, other than appropriations made for necessary or routine refurbishments, upgrades or maintenance activities, shall be used to reduce or to prepare to reduce the number of deployed and non-deployed strategic delivery vehicles and launchers below the levels set forth in the report submitted to Congress in accord-

ance with section 1042 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2012.

SEC. 8123. The Secretary of Defense shall post grant awards on a public Web site in a searchable format.

SEC. 8124. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to cancel the avionics modernization program of record for C-130 aircraft: *Provided*, That the Secretary of the Air Force may proceed with a reduced scope program to address safety and airspace compliance requirements, using funds provided in this bill and previous funds appropriated for the avionics modernization program of record, consistent with the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015.

SEC. 8125. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used by the Secretary of the Air Force to reduce the force structure at Lajes Field, Azores, Portugal, below the force structure at such Air Force Base as of October 1, 2013, except in accordance with section 1063 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015.

SEC. 8126. None of the Operation and Maintenance funds made available in this Act may be used in contravention of section 41106 of title 49, United States Code.

SEC. 8127. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to fund the performance of a flight demonstration team at a location outside of the United States: *Provided*, That this prohibition applies only if a performance of a flight demonstration team at a location within the United States was canceled during the current fiscal year due to insufficient funding.

SEC. 8128. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used by the National Security Agency to—

(1) conduct an acquisition pursuant to section 702 of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978 for the purpose of targeting a United States person; or

(2) acquire, monitor, or store the contents (as such term is defined in section 2510(8) of title 18, United States Code) of any electronic communication of a United States person from a provider of electronic communication services to the public pursuant to section 501 of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978.

#### (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 8129. Of the amounts appropriated for "Operation and Maintenance, Navy", up to \$1,000,000 shall be available for transfer to the John C. Stennis Center for Public Service Development Trust Fund established under section 116 of the John C. Stennis Center for Public Service Training and Development Act (2 U.S.C. 1105).

#### (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 8130. In addition to amounts provided elsewhere in this Act for basic allowance for housing for military personnel, including active duty, reserve and National Guard personnel, \$88,000,000 is hereby appropriated to the Department of Defense and made available for transfer only to military personnel accounts: *Provided*, That the transfer authority provided under this heading is in addition to any other transfer authority provided elsewhere in this Act.

SEC. 8131. None of the funds made available by this Act may be obligated or expended to divest E-3 airborne warning and control system aircraft, or disestablish any units of the active or reserve component associated with such aircraft: *Provided*, That not later than 90 days following the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Air Force shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report providing a detailed explanation of how the Secretary will meet the



priority requirements of the commanders of the combatant commands related to airborne warning and control with a fleet of fewer than 31 E-3 aircraft.

SEC. 8132. None of the funds made available by this Act may be obligated or expended to implement the Arms Trade Treaty until the Senate approves a resolution of ratification for the Treaty.

SEC. 8133. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to transfer or divest AH-64 Apache helicopters from the Army National Guard to the active Army in fiscal year 2015: *Provided*, That the Secretary of the Army shall ensure the continuing readiness of the AH-64 Apache aircraft and ensure the training of the crews of such aircraft during fiscal year 2015, including the allocation of funds for operation and maintenance and personnel connected with such aircraft: *Provided further*, That this section shall continue in effect through the date of enactment of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015.

SEC. 8134. None of the funds made available in this Act may be obligated for activities authorized under section 1208 of the Ronald W. Reagan National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2005 (Public Law 112-81; 125 Stat. 1621) to initiate support for, or expand support to, foreign forces, irregular forces, groups, or individuals unless the congressional defense committees are notified in accordance with the direction contained in the classified annex accompanying this Act, not less than 15 days before initiating such support: *Provided*, That none of the funds made available in this Act may be used under such section 1208 for any activity that is not in support of an ongoing military operation being conducted by United States Special Operations Forces to combat terrorism: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense may waive the prohibitions in this section if the Secretary determines that such waiver is required by extraordinary circumstances and, by not later than 72 hours after making such waiver, notifies the congressional defense committees of such waiver.

SEC. 8135. (a) Within 90 days of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall submit a report to the congressional defense committees to assess whether the justification and approval requirements under section 811 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010 (Public Law 111-84; 123 Stat. 2405) have, inconsistent with the intent of Congress—

(1) negatively impacted the ability of covered entities to be awarded sole-source contracts with the Department of Defense greater than \$20,000,000;

(2) discouraged agencies from awarding contracts greater than \$20,000,000 to covered entities; and

(3) been misconstrued and/or inconsistently implemented.

(b) The Comptroller General shall analyze and report to the congressional defense committees on the sufficiency of the Department's report in addressing the requirements; review the extent to which section 811 has negatively impacted the ability of covered entities to be awarded sole-source contracts with the Department, discouraged agencies from awarding contracts, or been misconstrued and/or inconsistently implemented.

SEC. 8136. The Secretary of the Air Force shall designate a facility located on Scott Air Force Base, Illinois, to be named after Senator Alan J. Dixon in recognition of his significant public service achievements.

SEC. 8137. None of the funds in this Act may be used to require that seafood procured for the Department of Defense from sustainably managed fisheries in the United States, as determined by the National Marine Fisheries Service, be required to additionally meet sustainability certification criteria prescribed by third-party nongovernmental organizations.

SEC. 8138. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to—

(1) disestablish, or prepare to disestablish, a Senior Reserve Officers' Training Corps program in accordance with Department of Defense Instruction Number 1215.08, dated June 26, 2006; or

(2) close, downgrade from host to extension center, or place on probation a Senior Reserve Officers' Training Corps program in accordance with the information paper of the Department of the Army titled "Army Senior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (SROTC) Program Review and Criteria", dated January 27, 2014.

SEC. 8139. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used to retire, divest, or transfer, or to prepare or plan for the retirement, divestment, or transfer of, the entire KC-10 fleet during fiscal year 2015.

SEC. 8140. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used with respect to Iraq in contravention of the War Powers Resolution (50 U.S.C. 1541 et seq.), including for the introduction of United States armed forces into hostilities in Iraq, into situations in Iraq where imminent involvement in hostilities is clearly indicated by the circumstances, or into Iraqi territory, airspace, or waters while equipped for combat, in contravention of the congressional consultation and reporting requirements of sections 3 and 4 of such Resolution (50 U.S.C. 1542 and 1543).

SEC. 8141. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to divest, retire, transfer, or place in storage, or prepare to divest, retire, transfer, or place in storage, any A-10 aircraft, or to disestablish any units of the active or reserve component associated with such aircraft.

## TITLE IX

### OVERSEAS CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS MILITARY PERSONNEL

#### MILITARY PERSONNEL, ARMY

For an additional amount for "Military Personnel, Army", \$3,259,970,000: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

#### MILITARY PERSONNEL, NAVY

For an additional amount for "Military Personnel, Navy", \$332,166,000: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

#### MILITARY PERSONNEL, MARINE CORPS

For an additional amount for "Military Personnel, Marine Corps", \$403,311,000: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

#### MILITARY PERSONNEL, AIR FORCE

For an additional amount for "Military Personnel, Air Force", \$728,334,000: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Con-

gress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

#### RESERVE PERSONNEL, ARMY

For an additional amount for "Reserve Personnel, Army", \$24,990,000: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

#### RESERVE PERSONNEL, NAVY

For an additional amount for "Reserve Personnel, Navy", \$13,953,000: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

#### RESERVE PERSONNEL, MARINE CORPS

For an additional amount for "Reserve Personnel, Marine Corps", \$5,069,000: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

#### RESERVE PERSONNEL, AIR FORCE

For an additional amount for "Reserve Personnel, Air Force", \$19,175,000: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

#### NATIONAL GUARD PERSONNEL, ARMY

For an additional amount for "National Guard Personnel, Army", \$174,778,000: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

#### NATIONAL GUARD PERSONNEL, AIR FORCE

For an additional amount for "National Guard Personnel, Air Force", \$4,894,000: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

#### OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

##### OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY

For an additional amount for "Operation and Maintenance, Army", \$18,108,656,000: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

##### OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, NAVY

For an additional amount for "Operation and Maintenance, Navy", \$6,253,819,000: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

##### OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, MARINE CORPS

For an additional amount for "Operation and Maintenance, Marine Corps", \$1,850,984,000: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of

the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

#### OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR FORCE

For an additional amount for “Operation and Maintenance, Air Force”, \$10,076,383,000: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

#### OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, DEFENSE-WIDE

For an additional amount for “Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide”, \$6,211,025,000: *Provided*, That of the funds provided under this heading, not to exceed \$1,260,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016, shall be for payments to reimburse key cooperating nations for logistical, military, and other support, including access, provided to United States military and stability operations in Afghanistan and Iraq: *Provided further*, That such reimbursement payments may be made in such amounts as the Secretary of Defense, with the concurrence of the Secretary of State, and in consultation with the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, may determine, based on documentation determined by the Secretary of Defense to adequately account for the support provided, and such determination is final and conclusive upon the accounting officers of the United States, and 15 days following notification to the appropriate congressional committees: *Provided further*, That these funds may be used for the purpose of providing specialized training and procuring supplies and specialized equipment and providing such supplies and loaning such equipment on a non-reimbursable basis to coalition forces supporting United States military and stability operations in Afghanistan and Iraq, and 15 days following notification to the appropriate congressional committees: *Provided further*, That these funds may be used to reimburse the government of Jordan, in such amounts as the Secretary of Defense may determine, to maintain the ability of the Jordanian armed forces to maintain security along the border between Jordan and Syria, upon 15 days prior written notification to the congressional defense committees outlining the amounts reimbursed and the nature of the expenses to be reimbursed: *Provided further*, That not to exceed \$15,000,000 can be used for emergencies and extraordinary expenses, to be expended on the approval or authority of the Secretary of Defense, and payments may be made on his certificate of necessity for confidential military purposes: *Provided further*, That the authority in the preceding proviso may only be used for emergency and extraordinary expenses associated with activities to counter the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense shall provide quarterly reports to the congressional defense committees on the use of funds provided in this paragraph: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

#### OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY RESERVE

For an additional amount for “Operation and Maintenance, Army Reserve”, \$41,532,000: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Ter-

rorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

#### OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, NAVY RESERVE

For an additional amount for “Operation and Maintenance, Navy Reserve”, \$45,876,000: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

#### OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, MARINE CORPS RESERVE

For an additional amount for “Operation and Maintenance, Marine Corps Reserve”, \$10,540,000: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

#### OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR FORCE RESERVE

For an additional amount for “Operation and Maintenance, Air Force Reserve”, \$77,794,000: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

#### OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

For an additional amount for “Operation and Maintenance, Army National Guard”, \$77,661,000: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

#### OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR NATIONAL GUARD

For an additional amount for “Operation and Maintenance, Air National Guard”, \$22,600,000: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

#### AFGHANISTAN SECURITY FORCES FUND

For the “Afghanistan Security Forces Fund”, \$4,109,333,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That such funds shall be available to the Secretary of Defense, notwithstanding any other provision of law, for the purpose of allowing the Commander, Combined Security Transition Command—Afghanistan, or the Secretary’s designee, to provide assistance, with the concurrence of the Secretary of State, to the security forces of Afghanistan, including the provision of equipment, supplies, services, training, facility and infrastructure repair, renovation, construction, and funding: *Provided further*, That the authority to provide assistance under this heading is in addition to any other authority to provide assistance to foreign nations: *Provided further*, That contributions of funds for the purposes provided herein from any person, foreign government, or international organization may be credited to this Fund, to remain available until expended, and used for such purposes: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense shall notify the congressional defense committees in writing upon the receipt and upon the obligation of any contribution, delineating the sources and amounts of the

funds received and the specific use of such contributions: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense shall, not fewer than 15 days prior to obligating from this appropriation account, notify the congressional defense committees in writing of the details of any such obligation: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense shall notify the congressional defense committees of any proposed new projects or transfer of funds between budget sub-activity groups in excess of \$20,000,000: *Provided further*, That the United States may accept equipment procured using funds provided under this heading in this or prior Acts that was transferred to the security forces of Afghanistan and returned by such forces to the United States: *Provided further*, That equipment procured using funds provided under this heading in this or prior Acts, and not yet transferred to the security forces of Afghanistan or transferred to the security forces of Afghanistan and returned by such forces to the United States, may be treated as stocks of the Department of Defense upon written notification to the congressional defense committees: *Provided further*, That of the funds provided under this heading, not less than \$25,000,000 shall be for recruitment and retention of women in the Afghanistan National Security Forces, and the recruitment and training of female security personnel for the 2015 parliamentary elections: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

#### IRAQ TRAIN AND EQUIP FUND

For the “Iraq Train and Equip Fund”, \$1,618,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That such funds shall be available to the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Secretary of State, pursuant to section 1236 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015, to provide assistance, including training; equipment; logistics support, supplies, and services; stipends; infrastructure repair, renovation, and sustainment to military and other security forces of or associated with the Government of Iraq, including Kurdish and tribal security forces or other local security forces, with a national security mission, to counter the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense shall ensure that prior to providing assistance to elements of any forces such elements are appropriately vetted, including at a minimum, assessing such elements for associations with terrorist groups or groups associated with the Government of Iran; and receiving commitments from such elements to promote respect for human rights and the rule of law: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense may accept and retain contributions, including assistance in-kind, from foreign governments, including the Government of Iraq, and other entities, to carry out assistance authorized under this heading: *Provided further*, That contributions of funds for the purposes provided herein from any foreign government or other entities, may be credited to this Fund, to remain available until expended, and used for such purposes: *Provided further*, That not more than 25 percent of the funds appropriated under this heading may be obligated or expended until not fewer than 15 days after (1) the Secretary of Defense submits a report to the appropriate congressional committees, describing the plan for the provision of such training and

assistance and the forces designated to receive such assistance, and (2) the President submits a report to the appropriate congressional committees on how assistance provided under this heading supports a larger regional strategy: *Provided further*, That of the amount provided under this heading, not more than 60 percent may be obligated or expended until not fewer than 15 days after the date on which the Secretary of Defense certifies to the appropriate congressional committees that an amount equal to not less than 40 percent of the amount provided under this heading has been contributed by other countries and entities for the purposes for which funds are provided under this heading, of which at least 50 percent shall have been contributed or provided by the Government of Iraq: *Provided further*, That the limitation in the preceding proviso shall not apply if the Secretary of Defense determines, in writing, that the national security objectives of the United States will be compromised by the application of the limitation to such assistance, and notifies the appropriate congressional committees not less than 15 days in advance of the exemption taking effect, including a justification for the Secretary's determination and a description of the assistance to be exempted from the application of such limitation: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense may waive a provision of law relating to the acquisition of items and support services or sections 40 and 40A of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2780 and 2785) if the Secretary determines such provisions of law would prohibit, restrict, delay or otherwise limit the provision of such assistance and a notice of and justification for such waiver is submitted to the appropriate congressional committees: *Provided further*, That the term "appropriate congressional committees" under this heading means the "congressional defense committees", the Committees on Appropriations and Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committees on Appropriations and Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives: *Provided further*, That amounts made available under this heading are designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

**COUNTERTERRORISM PARTNERSHIPS FUND**  
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the "Counterterrorism Partnerships Fund", \$1,300,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That such funds shall be available to provide support and assistance to foreign security forces or other groups or individuals to conduct, support, or facilitate counterterrorism and crisis response activities pursuant to section 1534 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense shall transfer the funds provided herein to other appropriations provided for in this Act to be merged with and to be available for the same purposes and subject to the same authorities and for the same time period as the appropriation to which transferred: *Provided further*, That the transfer authority under this heading is in addition to any other transfer authority provided elsewhere in this Act: *Provided further*, That the funds available under this heading are available for transfer only to the extent that the Secretary of Defense submits a prior approval reprogramming request to the congressional defense committees: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense shall comply with the ap-

propriate vetting standards and procedures established elsewhere in this Act for any recipient of training, equipment, or other assistance: *Provided further*, That the amount provided under this heading is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

**EUROPEAN REASSURANCE INITIATIVE**  
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the "European Reassurance Initiative", \$175,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2015: *Provided*, That such funds shall be available under the authority provided to the Department of Defense by any other provision of law, for programs, activities, and assistance to provide support to the Governments of Ukraine, Estonia, Lithuania and Latvia, including the provision of training, equipment, and logistical supplies, support, and services, and the payment of incremental expenses of the Armed Forces associated with prepositioning additional equipment and undertaking additional or extended deployments in such countries and adjacent waters: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense shall transfer the funds provided herein to other appropriations provided for in this Act to be merged with and to be available for the same purposes and for the same time period as the appropriation to which transferred: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense shall, not fewer than 15 days prior to transferring amounts from this appropriation, notify the congressional defense committees in writing of the details of any such transfer: *Provided further*, That upon a determination by the Secretary of Defense that all or part of the funds transferred from this appropriation are not necessary for the purposes herein, such amounts may be transferred back to the appropriation and shall be available for the same purposes and for the same time period as originally appropriated: *Provided further*, That the transfer authority provided under this heading is in addition to any other transfer authority provided elsewhere in this Act: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

**PROCUREMENT**

**AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT, ARMY**

For an additional amount for "Aircraft Procurement, Army", \$196,200,000, to remain available until September 30, 2017: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

**MISSILE PROCUREMENT, ARMY**

For an additional amount for "Missile Procurement, Army", \$32,136,000, to remain available until September 30, 2017: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

**PROCUREMENT OF WEAPONS AND TRACKED COMBAT VEHICLES, ARMY**

For an additional amount for "Procurement of Weapons and Tracked Combat Vehicles, Army", \$5,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2017: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for

Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

**PROCUREMENT OF AMMUNITION, ARMY**

For an additional amount for "Procurement of Ammunition, Army", \$140,905,000, to remain available until September 30, 2017: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

**OTHER PROCUREMENT, ARMY**

For an additional amount for "Other Procurement, Army", \$773,583,000, to remain available until September 30, 2017: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

**AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT, NAVY**

For an additional amount for "Aircraft Procurement, Navy", \$243,359,000, to remain available until September 30, 2017: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

**WEAPONS PROCUREMENT, NAVY**

For an additional amount for "Weapons Procurement, Navy", \$66,785,000, to remain available until September 30, 2017: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

**PROCUREMENT OF AMMUNITION, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS**

For an additional amount for "Procurement of Ammunition, Navy and Marine Corps", \$154,519,000, to remain available until September 30, 2017: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

**OTHER PROCUREMENT, NAVY**

For an additional amount for "Other Procurement, Navy", \$123,710,000, to remain available until September 30, 2017: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

**PROCUREMENT, MARINE CORPS**

For an additional amount for "Procurement, Marine Corps", \$65,589,000, to remain available until September 30, 2017: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

**AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE**

For an additional amount for "Aircraft Procurement, Air Force", \$481,019,000, to remain available until September 30, 2017: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

## MISSILE PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE

For an additional amount for “Missile Procurement, Air Force”, \$136,189,000, to remain available until September 30, 2017: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

## PROCUREMENT OF AMMUNITION, AIR FORCE

For an additional amount for “Procurement of Ammunition, Air Force”, \$219,785,000, to remain available until September 30, 2017: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

## OTHER PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE

For an additional amount for “Other Procurement, Air Force”, \$3,607,526,000, to remain available until September 30, 2017: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

## PROCUREMENT, DEFENSE-WIDE

For an additional amount for “Procurement, Defense-Wide”, \$250,386,000, to remain available until September 30, 2017: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

## NATIONAL GUARD AND RESERVE EQUIPMENT ACCOUNT

For procurement of aircraft, missiles, tracked combat vehicles, ammunition, other weapons and other procurement for the reserve components of the Armed Forces, \$1,200,000,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2017: *Provided*, That the Chiefs of National Guard and Reserve components shall, not later than 30 days after enactment of this Act, individually submit to the congressional defense committees the modernization priority assessment for their respective National Guard or Reserve component: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

## RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION

## RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION, ARMY

For an additional amount for “Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Army”, \$2,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

## RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION, NAVY

For an additional amount for “Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Navy”, \$36,020,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

## RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION, AIR FORCE

For an additional amount for “Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Air Force”, \$14,706,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

## RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION, DEFENSE-WIDE

For an additional amount for “Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Defense-Wide”, \$174,647,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

## REVOLVING AND MANAGEMENT FUNDS

## DEFENSE WORKING CAPITAL FUNDS

For an additional amount for “Defense Working Capital Funds”, \$91,350,000: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

## OTHER DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE PROGRAMS

## DEFENSE HEALTH PROGRAM

For an additional amount for “Defense Health Program”, \$300,531,000, which shall be for operation and maintenance: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

## DRUG INTERDICTION AND COUNTER-DRUG ACTIVITIES, DEFENSE

For an additional amount for “Drug Interdiction and Counter-Drug Activities, Defense”, \$205,000,000: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

## JOINT IMPROVED EXPLOSIVE DEVICE DEFEAT FUND

## (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the “Joint Improved Explosive Device Defeat Fund”, \$444,464,000, to remain available until September 30, 2017: *Provided*, That such funds shall be available to the Secretary of Defense, notwithstanding any other provision of law, for the purpose of allowing the Director of the Joint Improved Explosive Device Defeat Organization to investigate, develop and provide equipment, supplies, services, training, facilities, personnel and funds to assist United States forces in the defeat of improvised explosive devices: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense may transfer funds provided herein to appropriations for military personnel; operation and maintenance; procurement; research, development, test and evaluation; and defense working capital funds to accomplish the purpose provided herein: *Provided further*, That this transfer authority is in addition to any other transfer authority available to the Department of Defense: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense shall, not fewer than 15 days prior to making transfers from this appropriation, notify the

congressional defense committees in writing of the details of any such transfer: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

## OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

For an additional amount for the “Office of the Inspector General”, \$10,623,000: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

## GENERAL PROVISIONS—THIS TITLE

SEC. 9001. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, funds made available in this title are in addition to amounts appropriated or otherwise made available for the Department of Defense for fiscal year 2015.

## (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 9002. Upon the determination of the Secretary of Defense that such action is necessary in the national interest, the Secretary may, with the approval of the Office of Management and Budget, transfer up to \$3,500,000,000 between the appropriations or funds made available to the Department of Defense in this title: *Provided*, That the Secretary shall notify the Congress promptly of each transfer made pursuant to the authority in this section: *Provided further*, That the authority provided in this section is in addition to any other transfer authority available to the Department of Defense and is subject to the same terms and conditions as the authority provided in the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2015.

SEC. 9003. Supervision and administration costs and costs for design during construction associated with a construction project funded with appropriations available for operation and maintenance or the “Afghanistan Security Forces Fund” provided in this Act and executed in direct support of overseas contingency operations in Afghanistan, may be obligated at the time a construction contract is awarded: *Provided*, That for the purpose of this section, supervision and administration costs and costs for design during construction include all in-house Government costs.

SEC. 9004. From funds made available in this title, the Secretary of Defense may purchase for use by military and civilian employees of the Department of Defense in the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility: (a) passenger motor vehicles up to a limit of \$75,000 per vehicle; and (b) heavy and light armored vehicles for the physical security of personnel or for force protection purposes up to a limit of \$250,000 per vehicle, notwithstanding price or other limitations applicable to the purchase of passenger carrying vehicles.

SEC. 9005. Not to exceed \$10,000,000 of the amounts appropriated in this title under the heading “Operation and Maintenance, Army” may be used, notwithstanding any other provision of law, to fund the Commander's Emergency Response Program (CERP), for the purpose of enabling military commanders in Afghanistan to respond to urgent, small-scale, humanitarian relief and reconstruction requirements within their areas of responsibility: *Provided*, That each project (including any ancillary or related elements in connection with such project) executed under this authority shall not exceed \$2,000,000: *Provided further*, That not later than 45 days after the end of each fiscal

year quarter, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report regarding the source of funds and the allocation and use of funds during that quarter that were made available pursuant to the authority provided in this section or under any other provision of law for the purposes described herein: *Provided further*, That, not later than 30 days after the end of each month, the Army shall submit to the congressional defense committees monthly commitment, obligation, and expenditure data for the Commander's Emergency Response Program in Afghanistan: *Provided further*, That not less than 15 days before making funds available pursuant to the authority provided in this section or under any other provision of law for the purposes described herein for a project with a total anticipated cost for completion of \$500,000 or more, the Secretary shall submit to the congressional defense committees a written notice containing each of the following:

(1) The location, nature and purpose of the proposed project, including how the project is intended to advance the military campaign plan for the country in which it is to be carried out.

(2) The budget, implementation timeline with milestones, and completion date for the proposed project, including any other CERP funding that has been or is anticipated to be contributed to the completion of the project.

(3) A plan for the sustainment of the proposed project, including the agreement with either the host nation, a non-Department of Defense agency of the United States Government or a third-party contributor to finance the sustainment of the activities and maintenance of any equipment or facilities to be provided through the proposed project.

SEC. 9006. Funds available to the Department of Defense for operation and maintenance may be used, notwithstanding any other provision of law, to provide supplies, services, transportation, including airlift and sealift, and other logistical support to coalition forces supporting military and stability operations in Afghanistan: *Provided*, That the Secretary of Defense shall provide quarterly reports to the congressional defense committees regarding support provided under this section.

SEC. 9007. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or any other Act shall be obligated or expended by the United States Government for a purpose as follows:

(1) To establish any military installation or base for the purpose of providing for the permanent stationing of United States Armed Forces in Iraq.

(2) To exercise United States control over any oil resource of Iraq.

(3) To establish any military installation or base for the purpose of providing for the permanent stationing of United States Armed Forces in Afghanistan.

SEC. 9008. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used in contravention of the following laws enacted or regulations promulgated to implement the United Nations Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (done at New York on December 10, 1984):

(1) Section 2340A of title 18, United States Code.

(2) Section 2242 of the Foreign Affairs Reform and Restructuring Act of 1998 (division G of Public Law 105-277; 112 Stat. 2681-822; 8 U.S.C. 1231 note) and regulations prescribed thereto, including regulations under part 208 of title 8, Code of Federal Regulations, and

part 95 of title 22, Code of Federal Regulations.

(3) Sections 1002 and 1003 of the Department of Defense, Emergency Supplemental Appropriations to Address Hurricanes in the Gulf of Mexico, and Pandemic Influenza Act, 2006 (Public Law 109-148).

SEC. 9009. None of the funds provided for the "Afghanistan Security Forces Fund" (ASFF) may be obligated prior to the approval of a financial and activity plan by the Afghanistan Resources Oversight Council (AROC) of the Department of Defense: *Provided*, That the AROC must approve the requirement and acquisition plan for any service requirements in excess of \$50,000,000 annually and any non-standard equipment requirements in excess of \$100,000,000 using ASFF: *Provided further*, That the Department of Defense must certify to the congressional defense committees that the AROC has convened and approved a process for ensuring compliance with the requirements in the preceding proviso and accompanying report language for the ASFF.

SEC. 9010. Funds made available in this title to the Department of Defense for operation and maintenance may be used to purchase items having an investment unit cost of not more than \$250,000: *Provided*, That, upon determination by the Secretary of Defense that such action is necessary to meet the operational requirements of a Commander of a Combatant Command engaged in contingency operations overseas, such funds may be used to purchase items having an investment item unit cost of not more than \$500,000.

SEC. 9011. From funds made available to the Department of Defense in this title under the heading "Operation and Maintenance, Air Force", up to \$140,000,000 may be used by the Secretary of Defense, notwithstanding any other provision of law, to support United States Government transition activities in Iraq by funding the operations and activities of the Office of Security Cooperation in Iraq and security assistance teams, including life support, transportation and personal security, and facilities renovation and construction, and site closeout activities prior to returning sites to the Government of Iraq: *Provided*, That to the extent authorized under the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015, the operations and activities that may be carried out by the Office of Security Cooperation in Iraq may, with the concurrence of the Secretary of State, include non-operational training activities in support of Iraqi Minister of Defense and Counter Terrorism Service personnel in an institutional environment to address capability gaps, integrate processes relating to intelligence, air sovereignty, combined arms, logistics and maintenance, and to manage and integrate defense-related institutions: *Provided further*, That not later than 30 days following the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of State shall submit to the congressional defense committees a plan for transitioning any such training activities that they determine are needed after the end of fiscal year 2015, to existing or new contracts for the sale of defense articles or defense services consistent with the provisions of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2751 et seq.): *Provided further*, That not less than 15 days before making funds available pursuant to the authority provided in this section, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the congressional defense committees a written notice containing a detailed justification and timeline for the operations and activities of the Office

of Security Cooperation in Iraq at each site where such operations and activities will be conducted during fiscal year 2015.

SEC. 9012. (a) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act under the heading "Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide" for payments under section 1233 of Public Law 110-181 for reimbursement to the Government of Pakistan may be made available unless the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Secretary of State, certifies to the congressional defense committees that the Government of Pakistan is—

(1) cooperating with the United States in counterterrorism efforts against the Haqqani Network, the Quetta Shura Taliban, Lashkar e-Tayyiba, Jaish-e-Mohammed, Al Qaeda, and other domestic and foreign terrorist organizations, including taking steps to end support for such groups and prevent them from basing and operating in Pakistan and carrying out cross border attacks into neighboring countries;

(2) not supporting terrorist activities against United States or coalition forces in Afghanistan, and Pakistan's military and intelligence agencies are not intervening extra-judicially into political and judicial processes in Pakistan;

(3) dismantling improvised explosive device (IED) networks and interdicting precursor chemicals used in the manufacture of IEDs;

(4) preventing the proliferation of nuclear-related material and expertise;

(5) implementing policies to protect judicial independence and due process of law;

(6) issuing visas in a timely manner for United States visitors engaged in counterterrorism efforts and assistance programs in Pakistan; and

(7) providing humanitarian organizations access to detainees, internally displaced persons, and other Pakistani civilians affected by the conflict.

(b) The Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Secretary of State, may waive the restriction in paragraph (a) on a case-by-case basis by certifying in writing to the congressional defense committees that it is in the national security interest to do so: *Provided*, That if the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Secretary of State, exercises such waiver authority, the Secretaries shall report to the congressional defense committees on both the justification for the waiver and on the requirements of this section that the Government of Pakistan was not able to meet: *Provided further*, That such report may be submitted in classified form if necessary.

#### (RESCISSIONS)

SEC. 9013. Of the funds appropriated in Department of Defense Appropriations Acts, the following funds are hereby rescinded from the following accounts and programs in the specified amounts: *Provided*, That such amounts are designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended:

"Other Procurement, Army", 2013/2015, \$8,200,000;

"Aircraft Procurement, Army", 2014/2016, \$464,000,000; and

"Afghanistan Security Forces Fund", 2014/2015, \$764,380,000.

SEC. 9014. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used with respect to Syria in contravention of the War Powers Resolution (50 U.S.C. 1541 et seq.), including for the introduction of United States armed

or military forces into hostilities in Syria, into situations in Syria where imminent involvement in hostilities is clearly indicated by the circumstances, or into Syrian territory, airspace, or waters while equipped for combat, in contravention of the congressional consultation and reporting requirements of sections 3 and 4 of that law (50 U.S.C. 1542 and 1543).

SEC. 9015. In addition to the amounts appropriated in this Act, \$250,000,000 is hereby appropriated, notwithstanding any other provision of law, to conduct surface and sub-surface clearance of unexploded ordnance at closed training ranges used by the Armed Forces of the United States in Afghanistan: *Provided*, That such funds shall be available until September 30, 2016: *Provided further*, That such ranges shall not have been transferred to the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan for use by its armed forces: *Provided further*, That within 90 days of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall provide to the congressional defense committees a written plan to mitigate the threat of unexploded ordnance at such ranges, including a detailed spend plan: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense shall provide the congressional defense committees written progress reports every 180 days after the submission of the initial plan, until such funds are fully expended: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

SEC. 9016. The Secretary of Defense is authorized, in coordination with the Secretary of State, to provide assistance, including training, equipment, supplies, sustainment and stipends, to appropriately vetted elements of the Syrian opposition and other appropriately vetted Syrian groups or individuals for the following purposes: defending the Syrian people from attacks by the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), and securing territory controlled by the Syrian opposition; protecting the United States, its friends and allies, and the Syrian people from the threats posed by terrorists in Syria; and promoting the conditions for a negotiated settlement to end the conflict in Syria: *Provided*, That up to \$500,000,000 of funds appropriated for the Counterterrorism Partnerships Fund may be used for activities authorized by this section: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may accept and retain contributions, including assistance in-kind, from foreign governments to carry out activities as authorized by this section and shall be credited to the appropriate appropriations accounts, except that any funds so accepted by the Secretary shall not be available for obligation until a reprogramming action is submitted to the congressional defense committees: *Provided further*, That the President and the Secretary of Defense shall comply with the reporting requirements in section 149(b)(1), (b)(2), (c), and (d) of the Continuing Appropriations Resolution, 2015 (Public Law 113-164): *Provided further*, That the term “appropriately vetted” as used in this section shall be construed to mean, at a minimum, assessments of possible recipients for associations with terrorist groups including the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), Jabhat al Nusra, Ahrar al Sham, other al-Qaeda related groups, Hezbollah, or Shia militias supporting the Governments of Syria or Iran; and for commitment to the rule of law and a peaceful and democratic Syria: *Provided further*, That none of the funds used pursuant to this authority shall

be used for the procurement or transfer of man portable air defense systems: *Provided further*, That nothing in this section shall be construed to constitute a specific statutory authorization for the introduction of the United States Armed Forces into hostilities or into situations wherein hostilities are clearly indicated by the circumstances, in accordance with section 8(a)(1) of the War Powers Resolution: *Provided further*, That amounts made available by this section are designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: *Provided further*, That the authority to provide assistance under this section shall terminate on September 30, 2015.

SEC. 9017. None of the funds in this Act may be made available for the transfer of additional C-130 cargo aircraft to the Afghanistan National Security Forces or the Afghanistan Air Force until the Department of Defense provides a report to the congressional defense committees of the Afghanistan Air Force's medium airlift requirements. The report should identify Afghanistan's ability to utilize and maintain existing medium lift aircraft in the inventory and the best alternative platform, if necessary, to provide additional support to the Afghanistan Air Force's current medium airlift capacity.

#### (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 9018. In addition to amounts appropriated in title II or otherwise made available elsewhere in this Act, \$1,000,000,000 is hereby appropriated to the Department of Defense and made available for transfer to the operation and maintenance accounts of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Air Force (including National Guard and reserve) for purposes of improving military readiness: *Provided*, That the transfer authority provided under this provision is in addition to any other transfer authority provided elsewhere in this Act: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

#### TITLE X

#### EBOLA RESPONSE AND PREPAREDNESS PROCUREMENT

##### PROCUREMENT, DEFENSE-WIDE

For an additional amount for “Procurement, Defense-Wide”, \$17,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2017, for expenses related to the Ebola outbreak: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

#### RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION

##### RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION, DEFENSE-WIDE

For an additional amount for “Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Defense-Wide”, \$95,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016, for expenses related to developing technologies that are relevant to the Ebola outbreak: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

This division may be cited as the “Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2015”.

#### DIVISION D—ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015

##### TITLE I

#### CORPS OF ENGINEERS—CIVIL DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

##### CORPS OF ENGINEERS—CIVIL

The following appropriations shall be expended under the direction of the Secretary of the Army and the supervision of the Chief of Engineers for authorized civil functions of the Department of the Army pertaining to river and harbor, flood and storm damage reduction, shore protection, aquatic ecosystem restoration, and related efforts.

##### INVESTIGATIONS

For expenses necessary where authorized by law for the collection and study of basic information pertaining to river and harbor, flood and storm damage reduction, shore protection, aquatic ecosystem restoration, and related needs; for surveys and detailed studies, and plans and specifications of proposed river and harbor, flood and storm damage reduction, shore protection, and aquatic ecosystem restoration projects, and related efforts prior to construction; for restudy of authorized projects; and for miscellaneous investigations, and, when authorized by law, surveys and detailed studies, and plans and specifications of projects prior to construction, \$122,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the Secretary may initiate up to, but not more than, 10 new study starts during fiscal year 2015: *Provided further*, That the new study starts will consist of seven studies where the majority of the benefits are derived from navigation transportation savings or from flood and storm damage reduction and three studies where the majority of the benefits are derived from environmental restoration: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall not deviate from the new starts proposed in the work plan, once the plan has been submitted to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

##### CONSTRUCTION

For expenses necessary for the construction of river and harbor, flood and storm damage reduction, shore protection, aquatic ecosystem restoration, and related projects authorized by law; for conducting detailed studies, and plans and specifications, of such projects (including those involving participation by States, local governments, or private groups) authorized or made eligible for selection by law (but such detailed studies, and plans and specifications, shall not constitute a commitment of the Government to construction); \$1,639,489,000, to remain available until expended; of which such sums as are necessary to cover the Federal share of construction costs for facilities under the Dredged Material Disposal Facilities program shall be derived from the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund as authorized by Public Law 104-303; and of which such sums as are necessary to cover one-half of the costs of construction, replacement, rehabilitation, and expansion of inland waterways projects shall be derived from the Inland Waterways Trust Fund, except as otherwise specifically provided for in law: *Provided*, That the Secretary may initiate up to, but not more than, four new construction starts during fiscal year 2015: *Provided further*, That the new construction starts will consist of three projects where the majority of the benefits are derived from navigation transportation savings or from flood and storm damage reduction and one project where the majority



of the benefits are derived from environmental restoration: *Provided further*, That for new construction projects, project cost sharing agreements shall be executed as soon as practicable but no later than August 31, 2015: *Provided further*, That no allocation for a new start shall be considered final and no work allowance shall be made until the Secretary provides to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate an out-year funding scenario demonstrating the affordability of the selected new start and the impacts on other projects: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may not deviate from the new starts proposed in the work plan, once the plan has been submitted to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

#### MISSISSIPPI RIVER AND TRIBUTARIES

For expenses necessary for flood damage reduction projects and related efforts in the Mississippi River alluvial valley below Cape Girardeau, Missouri, as authorized by law, \$302,000,000, to remain available until expended, of which such sums as are necessary to cover the Federal share of eligible operation and maintenance costs for inland harbors shall be derived from the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund.

#### OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

For expenses necessary for the operation, maintenance, and care of existing river and harbor, flood and storm damage reduction, aquatic ecosystem restoration, and related projects authorized by law; providing security for infrastructure owned or operated by the Corps, including administrative buildings and laboratories; maintaining harbor channels provided by a State, municipality, or other public agency that serve essential navigation needs of general commerce, where authorized by law; surveying and charting northern and northwestern lakes and connecting waters; clearing and straightening channels; and removing obstructions to navigation, \$2,908,511,000, to remain available until expended, of which such sums as are necessary to cover the Federal share of eligible operation and maintenance costs for coastal harbors and channels, and for inland harbors shall be derived from the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund; of which such sums as become available from the special account for the Corps of Engineers established by the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965 shall be derived from that account for resource protection, research, interpretation, and maintenance activities related to resource protection in the areas at which outdoor recreation is available; and of which such sums as become available from fees collected under section 217 of Public Law 104-303 shall be used to cover the cost of operation and maintenance of the dredged material disposal facilities for which such fees have been collected: *Provided*, That 1 percent of the total amount of funds provided for each of the programs, projects, or activities funded under this heading shall not be allocated to a field operating activity prior to the beginning of the fourth quarter of the fiscal year and shall be available for use by the Chief of Engineers to fund such emergency activities as the Chief of Engineers determines to be necessary and appropriate, and that the Chief of Engineers shall allocate during the fourth quarter any remaining funds which have not been used for emergency activities proportionally in accordance with the amounts provided for the programs, projects, or activities.

#### REGULATORY PROGRAM

For expenses necessary for administration of laws pertaining to regulation of navigable

waters and wetlands, \$200,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016.

#### FORMERLY UTILIZED SITES REMEDIAL ACTION PROGRAM

For expenses necessary to clean up contamination from sites in the United States resulting from work performed as part of the Nation's early atomic energy program, \$101,500,000, to remain available until expended.

#### FLOOD CONTROL AND COASTAL EMERGENCIES

For expenses necessary to prepare for flood, hurricane, and other natural disasters and support emergency operations, repairs, and other activities in response to such disasters as authorized by law, \$28,000,000, to remain available until expended.

#### EXPENSES

For expenses necessary for the supervision and general administration of the civil works program in the headquarters of the Corps of Engineers and the offices of the Division Engineers; and for costs of management and operation of the Humphreys Engineer Center Support Activity, the Institute for Water Resources, the United States Army Engineer Research and Development Center, and the United States Army Corps of Engineers Finance Center allocable to the civil works program, \$178,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016, of which not to exceed \$5,000 may be used for official reception and representation purposes and only during the current fiscal year: *Provided*, That no part of any other appropriation provided in title I of this Act shall be available to fund the civil works activities of the Office of the Chief of Engineers or the civil works executive direction and management activities of the division offices: *Provided further*, That any Flood Control and Coastal Emergencies appropriation may be used to fund the supervision and general administration of emergency operations, repairs, and other activities in response to any flood, hurricane, or other natural disaster.

#### OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE ARMY FOR CIVIL WORKS

For the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works as authorized by 10 U.S.C. 3016(b)(3), \$3,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016.

#### GENERAL PROVISIONS—CORPS OF ENGINEERS—CIVIL

##### (INCLUDING TRANSFER AND RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

SEC. 101. (a) None of the funds provided in title I of this Act, or provided by previous appropriations Acts to the agencies or entities funded in title I of this Act that remain available for obligation or expenditure in fiscal year 2015, shall be available for obligation or expenditure through a reprogramming of funds that:

- (1) creates or initiates a new program, project, or activity;
- (2) eliminates a program, project, or activity;
- (3) increases funds or personnel for any program, project, or activity for which funds have been denied or restricted by this Act, unless prior approval is received from the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations;
- (4) proposes to use funds directed for a specific activity for a different purpose, unless prior approval is received from the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations;
- (5) augments or reduces existing programs, projects, or activities in excess of the amounts contained in paragraphs 6 through 10, unless prior approval is received from the

House and Senate Committees on Appropriations;

(6) INVESTIGATIONS.—For a base level over \$100,000, reprogramming of 25 percent of the base amount up to a limit of \$150,000 per project, study or activity is allowed: *Provided*, That for a base level less than \$100,000, the reprogramming limit is \$25,000: *Provided further*, That up to \$25,000 may be reprogrammed into any continuing study or activity that did not receive an appropriation for existing obligations and concomitant administrative expenses;

(7) CONSTRUCTION.—For a base level over \$2,000,000, reprogramming of 15 percent of the base amount up to a limit of \$3,000,000 per project, study or activity is allowed: *Provided*, That for a base level less than \$2,000,000, the reprogramming limit is \$300,000: *Provided further*, That up to \$3,000,000 may be reprogrammed for settled contractor claims, changed conditions, or real estate deficiency judgments: *Provided further*, That up to \$300,000 may be reprogrammed into any continuing study or activity that did not receive an appropriation for existing obligations and concomitant administrative expenses;

(8) OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE.—Unlimited reprogramming authority is granted for the Corps to be able to respond to emergencies: *Provided*, That the Chief of Engineers shall notify the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations of these emergency actions as soon thereafter as practicable: *Provided further*, That for a base level over \$1,000,000, reprogramming of 15 percent of the base amount up to a limit of \$5,000,000 per project, study or activity is allowed: *Provided further*, That for a base level less than \$1,000,000, the reprogramming limit is \$150,000: *Provided further*, That \$150,000 may be reprogrammed into any continuing study or activity that did not receive an appropriation;

(9) MISSISSIPPI RIVER AND TRIBUTARIES.—The reprogramming guidelines in paragraphs (6), (7), and (8) shall apply to the Investigations, Construction, and Operation and Maintenance portions of the Mississippi River and Tributaries Account respectively; and

(10) FORMERLY UTILIZED SITES REMEDIAL ACTION PROGRAM.—Reprogramming of up to 15 percent of the base of the receiving project is permitted.

(b) DE MINIMIS REPROGRAMMINGS.—In no case should a reprogramming for less than \$50,000 be submitted to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations.

(c) CONTINUING AUTHORITIES PROGRAM.—Subsection (a)(1) shall not apply to any project or activity funded under the continuing authorities program.

(d) Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit a report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations to establish the baseline for application of reprogramming and transfer authorities for the current fiscal year which shall include:

- (1) A table for each appropriation with a separate column to display the President's budget request, adjustments made by Congress, adjustments due to enacted rescissions, if applicable, and the fiscal year enacted level; and
- (2) A delineation in the table for each appropriation both by object class and program, project and activity as detailed in the budget appendix for the respective appropriations; and
- (3) An identification of items of special congressional interest.

SEC. 102. None of the funds made available in this title may be used to award or modify any contract that commits funds beyond the amounts appropriated for that program, project, or activity that remain unobligated, except that such amounts may include any funds that have been made available through reprogramming pursuant to section 101.

SEC. 103. The Secretary of the Army may transfer to the Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Fish and Wildlife Service may accept and expend, up to \$4,700,000 of funds provided in this title under the heading "Operation and Maintenance" to mitigate for fisheries lost due to Corps of Engineers projects.

SEC. 104. Subsection (a)(6) of section 511 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1996 (16 U.S.C. 3301 note; 110 Stat. 3761–3762; 113 Stat. 375–376; 121 Stat. 1203) is amended by striking "\$25,000,000" and inserting "\$43,400,000".

SEC. 105. The Secretary shall allocate funds made available in this Act solely in accordance with the provisions of this Act and the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act), including the determination and designation of new starts.

SEC. 106. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to continue the study conducted by the Army Corps of Engineers pursuant to section 5018(a)(1) of the Water Resources Development Act of 2007 (Public Law 110–114).

SEC. 107. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used within the borders of the State of Louisiana by the Mississippi Valley Division or the Southwestern Division of the Army Corps of Engineers or any district of the Corps within such divisions to implement or enforce the mitigation methodology, referred to as the "Modified Charleston Method".

SEC. 108. (a) Of the funds made available in prior appropriations Acts for water resources efforts under the headings "Corps of Engineers—Civil, Department of the Army" that remain unobligated as of the date of enactment of this Act, including amounts specified in law for particular projects, programs, or activities, \$28,000,000 is rescinded.

(b) None of the funds under subsection (a) may be rescinded from amounts that the Congress designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended.

SEC. 109. None of the funds made available in this or any other Act making appropriations for Energy and Water Development for any fiscal year may be used by the Corps of Engineers during the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, to develop, adopt, implement, administer, or enforce any change to the regulations in effect on October 1, 2012, pertaining to the definitions of the terms "fill material" or "discharge of fill material" for the purposes of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.).

SEC. 110. The limited reevaluation report initiated in fiscal year 2012 for the Mobile Harbor, Alabama navigation project shall include evaluation of the full depth of the project as authorized under section 201 of Public Law 99–662 (110 Stat. 4090) at the same non-Federal share of the cost as in the design agreement executed on August 14, 2012.

SEC. 111. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to require a permit for the discharge of dredged or fill material under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1251, et seq.) for the activities identified in subparagraphs (A) and (C) of

section 404(f)(1) of the Act (33 U.S.C. 1344(f)(1)(A),(C)).

SEC. 112. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of the Army shall withdraw the interpretive rule, "U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of the Army Interpretive Rule Regarding the Applicability of the Clean Water Act Section 404(f)(1)(A)," signed on March 25, 2014.

## TITLE II

### DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

#### CENTRAL UTAH PROJECT

##### CENTRAL UTAH PROJECT COMPLETION ACCOUNT

For carrying out activities authorized by the Central Utah Project Completion Act, \$9,874,000, to remain available until expended, of which \$1,000,000 shall be deposited into the Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Account for use by the Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Commission: *Provided*, That of the amount provided under this heading, \$1,300,000 shall be available until September 30, 2016, for necessary expenses incurred in carrying out related responsibilities of the Secretary of the Interior: *Provided further*, That for fiscal year 2015, of the amount made available to the Commission under this Act or any other Act, the Commission may use an amount not to exceed \$1,500,000 for administrative expenses.

##### BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

The following appropriations shall be expended to execute authorized functions of the Bureau of Reclamation:

##### WATER AND RELATED RESOURCES

###### (INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For management, development, and restoration of water and related natural resources and for related activities, including the operation, maintenance, and rehabilitation of reclamation and other facilities, participation in fulfilling related Federal responsibilities to Native Americans, and related grants to, and cooperative and other agreements with, State and local governments, federally recognized Indian tribes, and others, \$978,131,000, to remain available until expended, of which \$25,000 shall be available for transfer to the Upper Colorado River Basin Fund and \$6,840,000 shall be available for transfer to the Lower Colorado River Basin Development Fund; of which such amounts as may be necessary may be advanced to the Colorado River Dam Fund: *Provided*, That such transfers may be increased or decreased within the overall appropriation under this heading: *Provided further*, That of the total appropriated, the amount for program activities that can be financed by the Reclamation Fund or the Bureau of Reclamation special fee account established by 16 U.S.C. 6806 shall be derived from that Fund or account: *Provided further*, That funds contributed under 43 U.S.C. 395 are available until expended for the purposes for which the funds were contributed: *Provided further*, That funds advanced under 43 U.S.C. 397a shall be credited to this account and are available until expended for the same purposes as the sums appropriated under this heading: *Provided further*, That of the amounts provided herein, funds may be used for high-priority projects which shall be carried out by the Youth Conservation Corps, as authorized by 16 U.S.C. 1706.

##### CENTRAL VALLEY PROJECT RESTORATION FUND

For carrying out the programs, projects, plans, habitat restoration, improvement, and acquisition provisions of the Central Valley Project Improvement Act, \$56,995,000, to be

derived from such sums as may be collected in the Central Valley Project Restoration Fund pursuant to sections 3407(d), 3404(c)(3), and 3405(f) of Public Law 102–575, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the Bureau of Reclamation is directed to assess and collect the full amount of the additional mitigation and restoration payments authorized by section 3407(d) of Public Law 102–575: *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available under this heading may be used for the acquisition or leasing of water for in-stream purposes if the water is already committed to in-stream purposes by a court adopted decree or order.

##### CALIFORNIA BAY-DELTA RESTORATION

###### (INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For carrying out activities authorized by the Water Supply, Reliability, and Environmental Improvement Act, consistent with plans to be approved by the Secretary of the Interior, \$37,000,000, to remain available until expended, of which such amounts as may be necessary to carry out such activities may be transferred to appropriate accounts of other participating Federal agencies to carry out authorized purposes: *Provided*, That funds appropriated herein may be used for the Federal share of the costs of CALFED Program management: *Provided further*, That CALFED implementation shall be carried out in a balanced manner with clear performance measures demonstrating concurrent progress in achieving the goals and objectives of the Program.

##### POLICY AND ADMINISTRATION

For necessary expenses of policy, administration, and related functions in the Office of the Commissioner, the Denver office, and offices in the five regions of the Bureau of Reclamation, to remain available until September 30, 2016, \$58,500,000, to be derived from the Reclamation Fund and be nonreimbursable as provided in 43 U.S.C. 377: *Provided*, That no part of any other appropriation in this Act shall be available for activities or functions budgeted as policy and administration expenses.

##### BUREAU OF RECLAMATION LOAN PROGRAM ACCOUNT

###### (INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

Of the unobligated balances available under this heading, \$500,000 is hereby rescinded.

##### ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION

Appropriations for the Bureau of Reclamation shall be available for purchase of not to exceed five passenger motor vehicles, which are for replacement only.

##### GENERAL PROVISIONS—DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

SEC. 201. (a) None of the funds provided in title II of this Act for Water and Related Resources, or provided by previous appropriations Acts to the agencies or entities funded in title II of this Act for Water and Related Resources that remain available for obligation or expenditure in fiscal year 2015, shall be available for obligation or expenditure through a reprogramming of funds that—

(1) initiates or creates a new program, project, or activity;

(2) eliminates a program, project, or activity;

(3) increases funds for any program, project, or activity for which funds have been denied or restricted by this Act, unless prior approval is received from the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate;

(4) restarts or resumes any program, project or activity for which funds are not



provided in this Act, unless prior approval is received from the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate;

(5) transfers funds in excess of the following limits, unless prior approval is received from the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate:

(A) 15 percent for any program, project or activity for which \$2,000,000 or more is available at the beginning of the fiscal year; or

(B) \$300,000 for any program, project or activity for which less than \$2,000,000 is available at the beginning of the fiscal year;

(6) transfers more than \$500,000 from either the Facilities Operation, Maintenance, and Rehabilitation category or the Resources Management and Development category to any program, project, or activity in the other category, unless prior approval is received from the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate; or

(7) transfers, where necessary to discharge legal obligations of the Bureau of Reclamation, more than \$5,000,000 to provide adequate funds for settled contractor claims, increased contractor earnings due to accelerated rates of operations, and real estate deficiency judgments, unless prior approval is received from the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

(b) Subsection (a)(5) shall not apply to any transfer of funds within the Facilities Operation, Maintenance, and Rehabilitation category.

(c) For purposes of this section, the term transfer means any movement of funds into or out of a program, project, or activity.

(d) The Bureau of Reclamation shall submit reports on a quarterly basis to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate detailing all the funds reprogrammed between programs, projects, activities, or categories of funding. The first quarterly report shall be submitted not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 202. (a) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used to determine the final point of discharge for the interceptor drain for the San Luis Unit until development by the Secretary of the Interior and the State of California of a plan, which shall conform to the water quality standards of the State of California as approved by the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, to minimize any detrimental effect of the San Luis drainage waters.

(b) The costs of the Kesterson Reservoir Cleanup Program and the costs of the San Joaquin Valley Drainage Program shall be classified by the Secretary of the Interior as reimbursable or nonreimbursable and collected until fully repaid pursuant to the "Cleanup Program—Alternative Repayment Plan" and the "SJVDP—Alternative Repayment Plan" described in the report entitled "Repayment Report, Kesterson Reservoir Cleanup Program and San Joaquin Valley Drainage Program, February 1995", prepared by the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation. Any future obligations of funds by the United States relating to, or providing for, drainage service or drainage studies for the San Luis Unit shall be fully reimbursable by San Luis Unit beneficiaries of such service or studies pursuant to Federal reclamation law.

SEC. 203. Section 9504(e) of the Secure Water Act of 2009 (42 U.S.C. 10364(e)) is

amended by striking "\$200,000,000" and inserting "\$300,000,000".

SEC. 204. Section 301 of the Reclamation States Emergency Drought Relief Act of 1991 (43 U.S.C. 2241) is amended by striking "2012" and inserting "2017".

SEC. 205. Title I of Public Law 108-361 (the Calfed Bay-Delta Authorization Act) (118 Stat. 1681), as amended by section 210 of Public Law 111-85, is amended by striking "2015" each place it appears and inserting "2016".

SEC. 206. (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Interior may fund or participate in pilot projects to increase Colorado River System water in Lake Mead and the initial units of Colorado River Storage Project reservoirs, as authorized by the first section of the Act of April 11, 1956 (43 U.S.C. 620), to address the effects of historic drought conditions.

(b) ADMINISTRATION.—Pilot projects under this section are authorized to be funded through—

(1) grants by the Secretary to public entities that use water from the Colorado River Basin for municipal purposes for projects that are implemented by 1 or more non-Federal entities; or

(2) grants or other appropriate financial agreements to provide additional funds for renewing or implementing water conservation agreements that are in existence on the date of enactment of this Act.

(c) LIMITATIONS.—

(1) Funds in the Upper Colorado River Basin Fund established by section 5 of the Colorado River Storage Project Act (43 U.S.C. 620d) and the Lower Colorado River Basin Development Fund established by section 403 of the Colorado River Basin Project Act (43 U.S.C. 1543) shall not be used to carry out this section; and

(2) the authority to fund these pilot projects through grants shall terminate on September 30, 2018.

(d) REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION.—Not later than September 30, 2018, the Secretary shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations and Natural Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committees on Appropriations and Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate a report evaluating the effectiveness of the pilot projects described in subsection (a) and a recommendation to Congress whether the activities undertaken by the pilot projects should be continued.

### TITLE III

#### DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY ENERGY PROGRAMS

##### ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (INCLUDING TRANSFER AND RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

For Department of Energy expenses including the purchase, construction, and acquisition of plant and capital equipment, and other expenses necessary for energy efficiency and renewable energy activities in carrying out the purposes of the Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.), including the acquisition or condemnation of any real property or any facility or for plant or facility acquisition, construction, or expansion, \$1,936,999,858, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That \$160,000,000 shall be available until September 30, 2016, for program direction: *Provided further*, That, of the amount provided under this heading, the Secretary may transfer up to \$45,000,000 to the Defense Production Act Fund for activities of the Department of Energy pursuant to the Defense Production Act of 1950 (50 U.S.C. App. 2061, et seq.): *Provided further*, That \$13,064,858 from

unobligated balances available from prior year appropriations provided under this heading is hereby rescinded, of which \$145,204 is from Public Law 111-8 and \$696,654 is from Public Law 111-85: *Provided further*, That no amounts may be rescinded from amounts that were designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

##### ELECTRICITY DELIVERY AND ENERGY RELIABILITY

For Department of Energy expenses including the purchase, construction, and acquisition of plant and capital equipment, and other expenses necessary for electricity delivery and energy reliability activities in carrying out the purposes of the Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.), including the acquisition or condemnation of any real property or any facility or for plant or facility acquisition, construction, or expansion, \$147,306,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That \$27,606,000 shall be available until September 30, 2016, for program direction.

##### NUCLEAR ENERGY

##### (INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

For Department of Energy expenses including the purchase, construction, and acquisition of plant and capital equipment, and other expenses necessary for nuclear energy activities in carrying out the purposes of the Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.), including the acquisition or condemnation of any real property or any facility or for plant or facility acquisition, construction, or expansion, \$913,500,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That, of the amount made available under this heading, \$80,000,000 shall be available until September 30, 2016, for program direction including official reception and representation expenses not to exceed \$10,000: *Provided further*, That, of the funds made available under this heading in prior years, \$80,000,000 of unobligated balances is hereby rescinded, including up to \$18,000,000 from funds provided for program direction activities: *Provided further*, That no amounts may be rescinded from amounts that were designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

##### FOSSIL ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

For Department of Energy expenses necessary in carrying out fossil energy research and development activities, under the authority of the Department of Energy Organization Act (Public Law 95-91), including the acquisition of interest, including defeasible and equitable interests in any real property or any facility or for plant or facility acquisition or expansion, and for conducting inquiries, technological investigations and research concerning the extraction, processing, use, and disposal of mineral substances without objectionable social and environmental costs (30 U.S.C. 3, 1602, and 1603), \$571,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That \$119,000,000 shall be available until September 30, 2016, for program direction.

##### NAVAL PETROLEUM AND OIL SHALE RESERVES

For Department of Energy expenses necessary to carry out naval petroleum and oil shale reserve activities, \$19,950,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, unobligated funds remaining from prior years shall be available for all naval petroleum and oil shale reserve activities.

## ELK HILLS SCHOOL LANDS FUND

For necessary expenses in fulfilling the final payment under the Settlement Agreement entered into by the United States and the State of California on October 11, 1996, as authorized by section 3415 of Public Law 104-106, \$15,579,815, for payment to the State of California for the State Teachers' Retirement Fund, of which \$15,579,815 shall be derived from the Elk Hills School Lands Fund.

## STRATEGIC PETROLEUM RESERVE

For Department of Energy expenses necessary for Strategic Petroleum Reserve facility development and operations and program management activities pursuant to the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6201 et seq.), \$200,000,000, to remain available until expended.

NORTHEAST HOME HEATING OIL RESERVE  
(INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

For Department of Energy expenses necessary for Northeast Home Heating Oil Reserve storage, operation, and management activities pursuant to the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6201 et seq.), \$7,600,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of the unobligated balances from prior year appropriations available under this heading, \$6,000,000 is hereby rescinded: *Provided further*, That no amounts may be rescinded from amounts that were designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

## ENERGY INFORMATION ADMINISTRATION

For Department of Energy expenses necessary in carrying out the activities of the Energy Information Administration, \$117,000,000, to remain available until expended.

## NON-DEFENSE ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANUP

For Department of Energy expenses, including the purchase, construction, and acquisition of plant and capital equipment and other expenses necessary for non-defense environmental cleanup activities in carrying out the purposes of the Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.), including the acquisition or condemnation of any real property or any facility or for plant or facility acquisition, construction, or expansion, \$246,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That funding made available under this heading may be made available for 15-D-410 Fort St. Vrain Facility Improvements Project.

URANIUM ENRICHMENT DECONTAMINATION AND  
DECOMMISSIONING FUND

For Department of Energy expenses necessary in carrying out uranium enrichment facility decontamination and decommissioning, remedial actions, and other activities of title II of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, and title X, subtitle A, of the Energy Policy Act of 1992, \$625,000,000, to be derived from the Uranium Enrichment Decontamination and Decommissioning Fund, to remain available until expended, of which \$10,000,000 shall be available in accordance with title X, subtitle A, of the Energy Policy Act of 1992.

## SCIENCE

For Department of Energy expenses including the purchase, construction, and acquisition of plant and capital equipment, and other expenses necessary for science activities in carrying out the purposes of the Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.), including the acquisition or condemnation of any real property or fa-

cility or for plant or facility acquisition, construction, or expansion, and purchase of not more than 17 passenger motor vehicles for replacement only, including two buses, \$5,071,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That \$183,700,000 shall be available until September 30, 2016, for program direction: *Provided further*, That no funding may be made available for United States cash contributions to the International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor project until its governing Council implements the recommendations of the Third Biennial International Organization Management Assessment Report: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Energy may waive this requirement upon submission to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a determination that the Council is making satisfactory progress towards implementation of such recommendations.

ADVANCED RESEARCH PROJECTS AGENCY—  
ENERGY

For Department of Energy expenses necessary in carrying out the activities authorized by section 5012 of the America COMPETES Act (Public Law 110-69), as amended, \$280,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That \$28,000,000 shall be available until September 30, 2016, for program direction.

TITLE 17 INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY LOAN  
GUARANTEE PROGRAM

Such sums as are derived from amounts received from borrowers pursuant to section 1702(b) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 under this heading in prior Acts, shall be collected in accordance with section 502(7) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974: *Provided*, That, for necessary administrative expenses to carry out this Loan Guarantee program, \$42,000,000 is appropriated, to remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided further*, That \$25,000,000 of the fees collected pursuant to section 1702(h) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 shall be credited as offsetting collections to this account to cover administrative expenses and shall remain available until expended, so as to result in a final fiscal year 2015 appropriation from the general fund estimated at not more than \$17,000,000: *Provided further*, That fees collected under section 1702(h) in excess of the amount appropriated for administrative expenses shall not be available until appropriated: *Provided further*, That the Department of Energy shall not subordinate any loan obligation to other financing in violation of section 1702 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 or subordinate any Guaranteed Obligation to any loan or other debt obligations in violation of section 609.10 of title 10, Code of Federal Regulations.

ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY VEHICLES  
MANUFACTURING LOAN PROGRAM

For Department of Energy administrative expenses necessary in carrying out the Advanced Technology Vehicles Manufacturing Loan Program, \$4,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016.

CLEAN COAL TECHNOLOGY  
(INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

Of the unobligated balances from prior year appropriations under this heading, \$6,600,000 is hereby permanently rescinded: *Provided*, That no amounts may be rescinded from amounts that were designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended.

## DEPARTMENTAL ADMINISTRATION

For salaries and expenses of the Department of Energy necessary for departmental administration in carrying out the purposes of the Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.), \$245,142,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016, including the hire of passenger motor vehicles and official reception and representation expenses not to exceed \$30,000, plus such additional amounts as necessary to cover increases in the estimated amount of cost of work for others notwithstanding the provisions of the Anti-Deficiency Act (31 U.S.C. 1511 et seq.): *Provided*, That such increases in cost of work are offset by revenue increases of the same or greater amount: *Provided further*, That moneys received by the Department for miscellaneous revenues estimated to total \$119,171,000 in fiscal year 2015 may be retained and used for operating expenses within this account, as authorized by section 201 of Public Law 95-238, notwithstanding the provisions of 31 U.S.C. 3302: *Provided further*, That the sum herein appropriated shall be reduced as collections are received during the fiscal year so as to result in a final fiscal year 2015 appropriation from the general fund estimated at not more than \$125,971,000: *Provided further*, That \$31,181,000 is for Energy Policy and Systems Analysis: *Provided further*, That of the funds made available for Energy Policy and Systems Analysis, the Secretary may obligate only \$26,000,000 until the report required under section 315(f) of this Act has been submitted to Congress.

## OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Inspector General in carrying out the provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978, \$40,500,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016.

ATOMIC ENERGY DEFENSE ACTIVITIES  
NATIONAL NUCLEAR SECURITY  
ADMINISTRATION  
WEAPONS ACTIVITIES

## (INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

For Department of Energy expenses, including the purchase, construction, and acquisition of plant and capital equipment and other incidental expenses necessary for atomic energy defense weapons activities in carrying out the purposes of the Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.), including the acquisition or condemnation of any real property or any facility or for plant or facility acquisition, construction, or expansion, and the purchase of not to exceed 4 passenger vehicles, \$8,231,770,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That \$97,118,000 shall be available until September 30, 2016, for program direction: *Provided further*, That of the unobligated balances from prior year appropriations available under this heading, \$45,113,000 is hereby rescinded: *Provided further*, That no amounts may be rescinded from amounts that were designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

DEFENSE NUCLEAR NONPROLIFERATION  
(INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

For Department of Energy expenses, including the purchase, construction, and acquisition of plant and capital equipment and other incidental expenses necessary for defense nuclear nonproliferation activities, in carrying out the purposes of the Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.), including the acquisition or condemnation of any real property or any facility or

for plant or facility acquisition, construction, or expansion, \$1,641,369,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That funds provided by this Act for Project 99-D-143, Mixed Oxide Fuel Fabrication Facility, and by prior Acts that remain unobligated for such Project, may be made available only for construction and program support activities for such Project: *Provided further*, That of the unobligated balances from prior year appropriations available under this heading, \$24,731,000 is hereby rescinded: *Provided further*, That no amounts may be rescinded from amounts that were designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

#### NAVAL REACTORS

##### (INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

For Department of Energy expenses necessary for naval reactors activities to carry out the Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.), including the acquisition (by purchase, condemnation, construction, or otherwise) of real property, plant, and capital equipment, facilities, and facility expansion, \$1,238,500,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That \$41,500,000 shall be available until September 30, 2016, for program direction: *Provided further*, That \$4,500,000 from unobligated balances available from prior year appropriations provided under this heading is hereby rescinded: *Provided further*, That no amounts may be rescinded from amounts that were designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

#### FEDERAL SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses for Federal Salaries and Expenses (previously the Office of the Administrator) in the National Nuclear Security Administration, \$370,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016, including official reception and representation expenses not to exceed \$12,000.

#### ENVIRONMENTAL AND OTHER DEFENSE ACTIVITIES

##### DEFENSE ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANUP

##### (INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

For Department of Energy expenses, including the purchase, construction, and acquisition of plant and capital equipment and other expenses necessary for atomic energy defense environmental cleanup activities in carrying out the purposes of the Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.), including the acquisition or condemnation of any real property or any facility or for plant or facility acquisition, construction, or expansion, and the purchase of not to exceed one sport utility vehicle, one heavy duty truck, two ambulances, and one ladder fire truck for replacement only, \$5,010,830,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That \$280,784,000 shall be available until September 30, 2016, for program direction: *Provided further*, That \$10,830,000 from unobligated balances available from prior year appropriations provided under this heading is hereby rescinded: *Provided further*, That no amounts may be rescinded from amounts that were designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

#### DEFENSE URANIUM ENRICHMENT

##### DECONTAMINATION AND DECOMMISSIONING

For an additional amount for atomic energy of defense environmental cleanup ac-

tivities for Department of Energy contributions for uranium enrichment decontamination and decommissioning activities, \$463,000,000, to be deposited into the Defense Environmental Cleanup account which shall be transferred to the "Uranium Enrichment Decontamination and Decommissioning Fund".

#### OTHER DEFENSE ACTIVITIES

For Department of Energy expenses, including the purchase, construction, and acquisition of plant and capital equipment and other expenses, necessary for atomic energy defense, other defense activities, and classified activities, in carrying out the purposes of the Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.), including the acquisition or condemnation of any real property or any facility or for plant or facility acquisition, construction, or expansion, \$754,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That \$249,378,000 shall be available until September 30, 2016, for program direction.

#### POWER MARKETING ADMINISTRATION

##### BONNEVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION FUND

Expenditures from the Bonneville Power Administration Fund, established pursuant to Public Law 93-454, are approved for the Black Canyon Trout Hatchery and, in addition, for official reception and representation expenses in an amount not to exceed \$5,000: *Provided*, That during fiscal year 2015, no new direct loan obligations may be made.

##### OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, SOUTHEASTERN POWER ADMINISTRATION

For necessary expenses of operation and maintenance of power transmission facilities and of marketing electric power and energy, including transmission wheeling and ancillary services, pursuant to section 5 of the Flood Control Act of 1944 (16 U.S.C. 825s), as applied to the southeastern power area, \$7,220,000, including official reception and representation expenses in an amount not to exceed \$1,500, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3302 and section 5 of the Flood Control Act of 1944, up to \$7,220,000 collected by the Southeastern Power Administration from the sale of power and related services shall be credited to this account as discretionary offsetting collections, to remain available until expended for the sole purpose of funding the annual expenses of the Southeastern Power Administration: *Provided further*, That the sum herein appropriated for annual expenses shall be reduced as collections are received during the fiscal year so as to result in a final fiscal year 2015 appropriation estimated at not more than \$0: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3302, up to \$73,579,000 collected by the Southeastern Power Administration pursuant to the Flood Control Act of 1944 to recover purchase power and wheeling expenses shall be credited to this account as offsetting collections, to remain available until expended for the sole purpose of making purchase power and wheeling expenditures: *Provided further*, That for purposes of this appropriation, annual expenses means expenditures that are generally recovered in the same year that they are incurred (excluding purchase power and wheeling expenses).

##### OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, SOUTHWESTERN POWER ADMINISTRATION

For necessary expenses of operation and maintenance of power transmission facilities and of marketing electric power and energy, for construction and acquisition of transmission lines, substations and appurtenant

facilities, and for administrative expenses, including official reception and representation expenses in an amount not to exceed \$1,500 in carrying out section 5 of the Flood Control Act of 1944 (16 U.S.C. 825s), as applied to the Southwestern Power Administration, \$46,240,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3302 and section 5 of the Flood Control Act of 1944 (16 U.S.C. 825s), up to \$34,840,000 collected by the Southwestern Power Administration from the sale of power and related services shall be credited to this account as discretionary offsetting collections, to remain available until expended, for the sole purpose of funding the annual expenses of the Southwestern Power Administration: *Provided further*, That the sum herein appropriated for annual expenses shall be reduced as collections are received during the fiscal year so as to result in a final fiscal year 2015 appropriation estimated at not more than \$11,400,000: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3302, up to \$53,000,000 collected by the Southwestern Power Administration pursuant to the Flood Control Act of 1944 to recover purchase power and wheeling expenses shall be credited to this account as offsetting collections, to remain available until expended for the sole purpose of making purchase power and wheeling expenditures: *Provided further*, That, for purposes of this appropriation, annual expenses means expenditures that are generally recovered in the same year that they are incurred (excluding purchase power and wheeling expenses).

##### CONSTRUCTION, REHABILITATION, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, WESTERN AREA POWER ADMINISTRATION

For carrying out the functions authorized by title III, section 302(a)(1)(B) of the Act of August 4, 1977 (42 U.S.C. 7152), and other related activities including conservation and renewable resources programs as authorized, \$304,402,000, including official reception and representation expenses in an amount not to exceed \$1,500, to remain available until expended, of which \$296,321,000 shall be derived from the Department of the Interior Reclamation Fund: *Provided*, That notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3302, section 5 of the Flood Control Act of 1944 (16 U.S.C. 825s), and section 1 of the Interior Department Appropriation Act, 1939 (43 U.S.C. 392a), up to \$211,030,000 collected by the Western Area Power Administration from the sale of power and related services shall be credited to this account as discretionary offsetting collections, to remain available until expended, for the sole purpose of funding the annual expenses of the Western Area Power Administration: *Provided further*, That the sum herein appropriated for annual expenses shall be reduced as collections are received during the fiscal year so as to result in a final fiscal year 2015 appropriation estimated at not more than \$93,372,000, of which \$85,291,000 is derived from the Reclamation Fund: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3302, up to \$260,510,000 collected by the Western Area Power Administration pursuant to the Flood Control Act of 1944 and the Reclamation Project Act of 1939 to recover purchase power and wheeling expenses shall be credited to this account as offsetting collections, to remain available until expended for the sole purpose of making purchase power and wheeling expenditures: *Provided further*, That, for purposes of this appropriation, annual expenses means expenditures that are generally recovered in the same year that they are incurred (excluding purchase power and wheeling expenses).

FALCON AND AMISTAD OPERATING AND  
MAINTENANCE FUND

For operation, maintenance, and emergency costs for the hydroelectric facilities at the Falcon and Amistad Dams, \$4,727,000, to remain available until expended, and to be derived from the Falcon and Amistad Operating and Maintenance Fund of the Western Area Power Administration, as provided in section 2 of the Act of June 18, 1954 (68 Stat. 255): *Provided*, That notwithstanding the provisions of that Act and of 31 U.S.C. 3302, up to \$4,499,000 collected by the Western Area Power Administration from the sale of power and related services from the Falcon and Amistad Dams shall be credited to this account as discretionary offsetting collections, to remain available until expended for the sole purpose of funding the annual expenses of the hydroelectric facilities of these Dams and associated Western Area Power Administration activities: *Provided further*, That the sum herein appropriated for annual expenses shall be reduced as collections are received during the fiscal year so as to result in a final fiscal year 2015 appropriation estimated at not more than \$228,000: *Provided further*, That for purposes of this appropriation, annual expenses means expenditures that are generally recovered in the same year that they are incurred: *Provided further*, That for fiscal year 2015, the Administrator of the Western Area Power Administration may accept up to \$802,000 in funds contributed by United States power customers of the Falcon and Amistad Dams for deposit into the Falcon and Amistad Operating and Maintenance Fund, and such funds shall be available for the purpose for which contributed in like manner as if said sums had been specifically appropriated for such purpose: *Provided further*, That any such funds shall be available without further appropriation and without fiscal year limitation for use by the Commissioner of the United States Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission for the sole purpose of operating, maintaining, repairing, rehabilitating, replacing, or upgrading the hydroelectric facilities at these Dams in accordance with agreements reached between the Administrator, Commissioner, and the power customers.

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to carry out the provisions of the Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.), including services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, the hire of passenger motor vehicles, and official reception and representation expenses not to exceed \$3,000, \$304,389,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of the amount appropriated herein, not more than \$5,400,000 may be made available for salaries, travel, and other support costs for the offices of the Commissioners: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, not to exceed \$304,389,000 of revenues from fees and annual charges, and other services and collections in fiscal year 2015 shall be retained and used for necessary expenses in this account, and shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That the sum herein appropriated from the general fund shall be reduced as revenues are received during fiscal year 2015 so as to result in a final fiscal year 2015 appropriation from the general fund estimated at not more than \$0.

GENERAL PROVISIONS—DEPARTMENT  
OF ENERGY  
(INCLUDING TRANSFER AND RESCISSIONS OF  
FUNDS)

SEC. 301. (a) No appropriation, funds, or authority made available by this title for the Department of Energy shall be used to initiate or resume any program, project, or activity or to prepare or initiate Requests For Proposals or similar arrangements (including Requests for Quotations, Requests for Information, and Funding Opportunity Announcements) for a program, project, or activity if the program, project, or activity has not been funded by Congress.

(b)(1) Unless the Secretary of Energy notifies the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate at least 3 full business days in advance, none of the funds made available in this title may be used to—

(A) make a grant allocation or discretionary grant award totaling \$1,000,000 or more;

(B) make a discretionary contract award or Other Transaction Agreement totaling \$1,000,000 or more, including a contract covered by the Federal Acquisition Regulation;

(C) issue a letter of intent to make an allocation, award, or Agreement in excess of the limits in subparagraph (A) or (B); or

(D) announce publicly the intention to make an allocation, award, or Agreement in excess of the limits in subparagraph (A) or (B).

(2) The Secretary of Energy shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate within 15 days of the conclusion of each quarter a report detailing each grant allocation or discretionary grant award totaling less than \$1,000,000 provided during the previous quarter.

(3) The notification required by paragraph (1) and the report required by paragraph (2) shall include the recipient of the award, the amount of the award, the fiscal year for which the funds for the award were appropriated, the account and program, project, or activity from which the funds are being drawn, the title of the award, and a brief description of the activity for which the award is made.

(c) The Department of Energy may not, with respect to any program, project, or activity that uses budget authority made available in this title under the heading “Department of Energy—Energy Programs”, enter into a multiyear contract, award a multiyear grant, or enter into a multiyear cooperative agreement unless—

(1) the contract, grant, or cooperative agreement is funded for the full period of performance as anticipated at the time of award; or

(2) the contract, grant, or cooperative agreement includes a clause conditioning the Federal Government's obligation on the availability of future year budget authority and the Secretary notifies the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate at least 3 days in advance.

(d) Except as provided in subsections (e), (f), and (g), the amounts made available by this title shall be expended as authorized by law for the programs, projects, and activities specified in the “Final Bill” column in the “Department of Energy” table included under the heading “Title III—Department of Energy” in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act).

(e) The amounts made available by this title may be reprogrammed for any program,

project, or activity, and the Department shall notify the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate at least 30 days prior to the use of any proposed reprogramming which would cause any program, project, or activity funding level to increase or decrease by more than \$5,000,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less, during the time period covered by this Act.

(f) None of the funds provided in this title shall be available for obligation or expenditure through a reprogramming of funds that—

(1) creates, initiates, or eliminates a program, project, or activity;

(2) increases funds or personnel for any program, project, or activity for which funds are denied or restricted by this Act; or

(3) reduces funds that are directed to be used for a specific program, project, or activity by this Act.

(g)(1) The Secretary of Energy may waive any requirement or restriction in this section that applies to the use of funds made available for the Department of Energy if compliance with such requirement or restriction would pose a substantial risk to human health, the environment, welfare, or national security.

(2) The Secretary of Energy shall notify the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate of any waiver under paragraph (1) as soon as practicable, but not later than 3 days after the date of the activity to which a requirement or restriction would otherwise have applied. Such notice shall include an explanation of the substantial risk under paragraph (1) that permitted such waiver.

SEC. 302. The unexpended balances of prior appropriations provided for activities in this Act may be available to the same appropriation accounts for such activities established pursuant to this title. Available balances may be merged with funds in the applicable established accounts and thereafter may be accounted for as one fund for the same time period as originally enacted.

SEC. 303. Funds appropriated by this or any other Act, or made available by the transfer of funds in this Act, for intelligence activities are deemed to be specifically authorized by the Congress for purposes of section 504 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 414) during fiscal year 2015 until the enactment of the Intelligence Authorization Act for fiscal year 2015.

SEC. 304. None of the funds made available in this title shall be used for the construction of facilities classified as high-hazard nuclear facilities under 10 CFR Part 830 unless independent oversight is conducted by the Office of Independent Enterprise Assessments to ensure the project is in compliance with nuclear safety requirements.

SEC. 305. None of the funds made available in this title may be used to approve critical decision-2 or critical decision-3 under Department of Energy Order 413.3B, or any successive departmental guidance, for construction projects where the total project cost exceeds \$100,000,000, until a separate independent cost estimate has been developed for the project for that critical decision.

SEC. 306. (a) SECRETARIAL DETERMINATIONS.—In this fiscal year, and in each subsequent fiscal year, any determination (including a determination made prior to the date of enactment of this Act) by the Secretary of Energy under section 3112(d)(2)(B) of the USEC Privatization Act (110 Stat. 1321–335), as amended, shall be valid for not more than 2 calendar years subsequent to such determination.

(b) CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION.—In this fiscal year, and in each subsequent fiscal year, not less than 30 days prior to the provision of uranium in any form the Secretary of Energy shall notify the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate of the following—

- (1) the provisions of law (including regulations) authorizing the provision of uranium;
- (2) the amount of uranium to be provided;
- (3) an estimate by the Secretary of Energy of the gross fair market value of the uranium on the expected date of the provision of the uranium;
- (4) the expected date of the provision of the uranium;
- (5) the recipient of the uranium;
- (6) the value the Secretary of Energy expects to receive in exchange for the uranium, including any adjustments to the gross fair market value of the uranium; and
- (7) whether the uranium to be provided is encumbered by any restriction on use under an international agreement or otherwise.

SEC. 307. Notwithstanding section 301(c) of this Act, none of the funds made available under the heading “Department of Energy—Energy Programs—Science” may be used for a multiyear contract, grant, cooperative agreement, or Other Transaction Agreement of \$1,000,000 or less unless the contract, grant, cooperative agreement, or Other Transaction Agreement is funded for the full period of performance as anticipated at the time of award.

SEC. 308. In fiscal year 2015 and subsequent fiscal years, the Secretary of Energy shall submit to the congressional defense committees (as defined in U.S.C. 101(a)(16)) a report, on each major warhead refurbishment program that reaches the Phase 6.3 milestone, that provides an analysis of alternatives. Such report shall include—

- (1) a full description of alternatives considered prior to the award of Phase 6.3;
- (2) a comparison of the costs and benefits of each of those alternatives, to include an analysis of trade-offs among cost, schedule, and performance objectives against each alternative considered;
- (3) identification of the cost and risk of critical technology elements associated with each alternative, including technology maturity, integration risk, manufacturing feasibility, and demonstration needs;
- (4) identification of the cost and risk of additional capital asset and infrastructure capabilities required to support production and certification of each alternative;
- (5) a comparative analysis of the risks, costs, and scheduling needs for any military requirement intended to enhance warhead safety, security, or maintainability, including any requirement to consolidate and/or integrate warhead systems or mods as compared to at least one other feasible refurbishment alternative the Nuclear Weapons Council considers appropriate; and
- (6) a life-cycle cost estimate for the alternative selected that details the overall cost, scope, and schedule planning assumptions.

SEC. 309. (a) Unobligated balances available from prior year appropriations are hereby rescinded from the following accounts of the Department of Energy in the specified amounts:

- (1) “Energy Programs—Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy”, \$9,740,000.
- (2) “Energy Programs—Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability”, \$331,000.
- (3) “Energy Programs—Nuclear Energy”, \$121,000.
- (4) “Energy Programs—Fossil Energy Research and Development”, \$10,413,000.

(5) “Energy Programs—Science”, \$3,262,000.

(6) “Energy Programs—Advanced Research Projects Agency—Energy”, \$18,000.

(7) “Energy Programs—Departmental Administration”, \$928,000.

(8) “Atomic Energy Defense Activities—National Nuclear Security Administration—Weapons Activities”, \$6,298,000.

(9) “Atomic Energy Defense Activities—National Nuclear Security Administration—Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation”, \$1,390,000.

(10) “Atomic Energy Defense Activities—National Nuclear Security Administration—Naval Reactors”, \$160,000.

(11) “Atomic Energy Defense Activities—National Nuclear Security Administration—Office of the Administrator”, \$413,000.

(12) “Environmental and Other Defense Activities—Defense Environmental Cleanup”, \$9,983,000.

(13) “Environmental and Other Defense Activities—Other Defense Activities”, \$551,000.

(14) “Power Marketing Administrations—Construction, Rehabilitation, Operation and Maintenance, Western Area Power Administration”, \$1,632,000.

(b) No amounts may be rescinded by this section from amounts that were designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

SEC. 310. (a) None of the funds made available in this or any prior Act under the heading “Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation” may be made available to enter into new contracts with, or new agreements for Federal assistance to, the Russian Federation.

(b) The Secretary of Energy may waive the prohibition in subsection (a) if the Secretary determines that such activity is in the national security interests of the United States. This waiver authority may not be delegated.

(c) A waiver under subsection (b) shall not be effective until 15 days after the date on which the Secretary submits to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, in classified form if necessary, a report on the justification for the waiver.

SEC. 311. Of the funds authorized by the Secretary of Energy for laboratory directed research and development, no individual program, project, or activity funded by this or any subsequent Act making appropriations for Energy and Water Development for any fiscal year may be charged more than the statutory maximum authorized for such activities: *Provided*, That this section shall take effect not earlier than October 1, 2015.

SEC. 312. (a) DOMESTIC URANIUM ENRICHMENT.—None of the funds appropriated by this or any other Act or that may be available to the Department of Energy may be used for the construction of centrifuges for the production of enriched uranium for national security needs in fiscal year 2015.

(b) The Department shall provide a report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate not later than April 30, 2015 that includes:

- (1) an accounting of the current and future availability of low-enriched uranium, highly-enriched uranium, and tritium to meet defense needs; and
- (2) a cost-benefit analysis of each of the options available to supply enriched uranium for defense purposes, including a preliminary cost and schedule estimate to build a national security train.

SEC. 313. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used—

(1) to implement or enforce section 430.32(x) of title 10, Code of Federal Regulations; or

(2) to implement or enforce the standards established by the tables contained in section 325(i)(1)(B) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6295(i)(1)(B)) with respect to BPAR incandescent reflector lamps, BR incandescent reflector lamps, and ER incandescent reflector lamps.

SEC. 314. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used in contravention of section 3112(d)(2)(B) of the USEC Privatization Act (42 U.S.C. 2297h-10(d)(2)(B)) and all public notice and comment requirements under chapter 6 of title 5, United States Code, that are applicable to carrying out such section.

SEC. 315. (a) NOTIFICATION OF STRATEGIC PETROLEUM RESERVE DRAWDOWN.—None of the funds made available by this Act or any prior Act, or funds made available in the SPR Petroleum Account, may be used to conduct a drawdown (including a test drawdown) and sale or exchange of petroleum products from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve unless the Secretary of Energy provides notice, in accordance with subsection (b), of such exchange, or drawdown (including a test drawdown) to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

(b)(1) CONTENT OF NOTIFICATION.—The notification required under subsection (a) shall include at a minimum—

(A) The justification for the drawdown or exchange, including—

- (i) a specific description of any obligation under international energy agreements; and
- (ii) in the case of a test drawdown, the specific aspects of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve to be tested;

(B) the provisions of law (including regulations) authorizing the drawdown or exchange;

(C) the number of barrels of petroleum products proposed to be withdrawn or exchanged;

(D) the location of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve site or sites from which the petroleum products are proposed to be withdrawn;

(E) a good faith estimate of the expected proceeds from the sale of the petroleum products;

(F) an estimate of the total inventories of petroleum products in the Strategic Petroleum Reserve after the anticipated drawdown;

(G) a detailed plan for disposition of the proceeds after deposit into the SPR Petroleum Account; and

(H) a plan for refilling the Strategic Petroleum Reserve, including whether the acquisition will be of the same or a different petroleum product.

(2) TIMING OF NOTIFICATION.—The Secretary shall provide the notification required under subsection (a)—

(A) in the case of an exchange or a drawdown, as soon as practicable after the exchange or drawdown has occurred; and

(B) in the case of a test drawdown, not later than 30 days prior to a test drawdown.

(c) POST-SALE NOTIFICATION.—In addition to reporting requirements under other provisions of law, the Secretary shall, upon the execution of all contract awards associated with a competitive sale of petroleum products, notify the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate of the actual value of the proceeds from the sale.

(d)(1) NEW REGIONAL RESERVES.—The Secretary may not establish any new regional petroleum product reserve—

(A) unless funding for the proposed regional petroleum product reserve is explicitly requested in advance in an annual budget submission and approved by the Congress in an appropriations Act; or

(B) until 90 days after notification of, and approval by, the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

(2) The budget request or notification shall include—

(A) the justification for the new reserve;

(B) a cost estimate for the establishment, operation, and maintenance of the reserve, including funding sources;

(C) a detailed plan for operation of the reserve, including the conditions upon which the products may be released;

(D) the location of the reserve; and

(E) the estimate of the total inventory of the reserve.

(e) REPORT ON REFINED PETROLEUM PRODUCTS.—Not later than 180 days after the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a detailed plan for operation of the refined petroleum products reserve, including funding sources and the conditions upon which refined petroleum products may be released.

(f) REPORT ON STRATEGIC PETROLEUM RESERVE EXPANSION.—(1) The Secretary, through the Office of Energy Policy and Systems Analysis, shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate not later than 180 days after enactment of this Act the report required in Public Law 111-8 (123 Stat. 617) regarding the expansion of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve.

(2) The report required in paragraph (1) shall include an analysis of the impacts of Northeast Regional Refined Petroleum Product Reserve on the domestic petroleum market.

#### TITLE IV

##### INDEPENDENT AGENCIES

###### APPALACHIAN REGIONAL COMMISSION

For expenses necessary to carry out the programs authorized by the Appalachian Regional Development Act of 1965, notwithstanding 40 U.S.C. 14704, and for necessary expenses for the Federal Co-Chairman and the Alternate on the Appalachian Regional Commission, for payment of the Federal share of the administrative expenses of the Commission, including services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, and hire of passenger motor vehicles, \$90,000,000, to remain available until expended.

###### DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

###### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary for the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board in carrying out activities authorized by the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended by Public Law 100-456, section 1441, \$28,500,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016.

###### DELTA REGIONAL AUTHORITY

###### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary of the Delta Regional Authority and to carry out its activities, as authorized by the Delta Regional Authority Act of 2000, notwithstanding sections 382C(b)(2), 382F(d), 382M, and 382N of said Act, \$12,000,000, to remain available until expended.

###### DENALI COMMISSION

For expenses of the Denali Commission including the purchase, construction, and acquisition of plant and capital equipment as

necessary and other expenses, \$10,000,000, to remain available until expended, notwithstanding the limitations contained in section 306(g) of the Denali Commission Act of 1998: *Provided*, That funds shall be available for construction projects in an amount not to exceed 80 percent of total project cost for distressed communities, as defined by section 307 of the Denali Commission Act of 1998 (division C, title III, Public Law 105-277), as amended by section 701 of appendix D, title VII, Public Law 106-113 (113 Stat. 1501A-280), and an amount not to exceed 50 percent for non-distressed communities.

###### NORTHERN BORDER REGIONAL COMMISSION

For expenses necessary of the Northern Border Regional Commission in carrying out activities authorized by subtitle V of title 40, United States Code, \$5,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That such amounts shall be available for administrative expenses, notwithstanding section 15751(b) of title 40, United States Code.

###### SOUTHEAST CRESCENT REGIONAL COMMISSION

For necessary expenses of the Southeast Crescent Regional Commission in carrying out activities authorized by subtitle V of title 40, United States Code, \$250,000, to remain available until expended.

###### NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

###### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Commission in carrying out the purposes of the Energy Reorganization Act of 1974 and the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, \$1,003,233,000, including official representation expenses not to exceed \$25,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of the amount appropriated herein, not more than \$7,500,000 may be made available for salaries, travel, and other support costs for the Office of the Commission, to remain available until September 30, 2016, of which, notwithstanding section 201(a)(2)(c) of the Energy Reorganization Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5841(a)(2)(c)), the use and expenditure shall only be approved by a majority vote of the Commission: *Provided further*, That the Commission may reprogram, not earlier than 30 days after notification of and approval by the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, up to an additional \$2,000,000 for salaries, travel, and other support costs of the Office of the Commission: *Provided further*, That revenues from licensing fees, inspection services, and other services and collections estimated at \$885,375,000 in fiscal year 2015 shall be retained and used for necessary salaries and expenses in this account, notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3302, and shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That the sum herein appropriated shall be reduced by the amount of revenues received during fiscal year 2015 so as to result in a final fiscal year 2015 appropriation estimated at not more than \$117,858,000: *Provided further*, That of the amounts appropriated under this heading, \$10,000,000 shall be for university research and development in areas relevant to their respective organization's mission, and \$5,000,000 shall be for a Nuclear Science and Engineering Grant Program that will support multiyear projects that do not align with programmatic missions but are critical to maintaining the discipline of nuclear science and engineering.

###### OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For expenses necessary of the Office of Inspector General in carrying out the provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978, \$12,071,000, to remain available until Sep-

tember 30, 2016: *Provided*, That revenues from licensing fees, inspection services, and other services and collections estimated at \$10,099,000 in fiscal year 2015 shall be retained and be available until September 30, 2016, for necessary salaries and expenses in this account, notwithstanding section 3302 of title 31, United States Code: *Provided further*, That the sum herein appropriated shall be reduced by the amount of revenues received during fiscal year 2015 so as to result in a final fiscal year 2015 appropriation estimated at not more than \$1,972,000: *Provided further*, That, of the amounts appropriated under this heading, \$850,000 shall be for Inspector General services for the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board, which shall not be available from fee revenues: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, in this fiscal year and each fiscal year thereafter, the Inspector General of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission is authorized to exercise the same authorities with respect to the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board, as determined by the Inspector General of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, as the Inspector General exercises under the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) with respect to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

###### NUCLEAR WASTE TECHNICAL REVIEW BOARD

###### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary of the Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board, as authorized by Public Law 100-203, section 5051, \$3,400,000, to be derived from the Nuclear Waste Fund, to remain available until September 30, 2016.

###### GENERAL PROVISIONS—INDEPENDENT AGENCIES

SEC. 401. The Chairman of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission shall notify the other members of the Commission, the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate, not later than 1 day after the Chairman begins performing functions under the authority of section 3 of Reorganization Plan No. 1 of 1980, or after a member of the Commission who is delegated emergency functions under subsection (b) of that section begins performing those functions. Such notification shall include an explanation of the circumstances warranting the exercise of such authority. The Chairman shall report to the Committees, not less frequently than once each week, on the actions taken by the Chairman, or a delegated member of the Commission, under such authority, until the authority is relinquished. The Chairman shall notify the Committees not later than 1 day after such authority is relinquished. The Chairman shall submit the report required by section 3(d) of the Reorganization Plan No. 1 of 1980 to the Committees not later than 1 day after it was submitted to the Commission. This section shall be in effect in fiscal year 2015 and each subsequent fiscal year.

SEC. 402. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission shall comply with the July 5, 2011, version of Chapter VI of its Internal Commission Procedures when responding to Congressional requests for information.

SEC. 403. (a) SECURING RADIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.—No later than 2 years from enactment of this Act, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) shall provide a report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate that evaluates the effectiveness of the requirements of



10 CFR Part 37 and determines whether such requirements are adequate to protect high-risk radiological material. Such evaluation shall consider inspection results and event reports from the first two years of implementation of the requirements in 10 CFR Part 37 for NRC licensees.

(b) No later than 2 years after the completion of the NRC evaluation required in subsection (a), the Government Accountability Office, with assistance from an independent group of security experts, shall provide a report to Congress on the effectiveness of the requirements of 10 CFR Part 37 for NRC and Agreement State licensees and recommendations to further strengthen radiological security.

SEC. 404. For this fiscal year, and each fiscal year hereafter, each independent agency receiving funding under this title shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a Congressional Budget Justification and a detailed annual report.

#### TITLE V

##### GENERAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 501. None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be used in any way, directly or indirectly, to influence congressional action on any legislation or appropriation matters pending before Congress, other than to communicate to Members of Congress as described in 18 U.S.C. 1913.

SEC. 502. (a) None of the funds made available in title III of this Act may be transferred to any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States Government, except pursuant to a transfer made by or transfer authority provided in this Act or any other appropriations Act for any fiscal year, transfer authority referenced in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act), or any authority whereby a department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States Government may provide goods or services to another department, agency, or instrumentality.

(b) None of the funds made available for any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States Government may be transferred to accounts funded in title III of this Act, except pursuant to a transfer made by or transfer authority provided in this Act or any other appropriations Act for any fiscal year, transfer authority referenced in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act), or any authority whereby a department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States Government may provide goods or services to another department, agency, or instrumentality.

(c) The head of any relevant department or agency funded in this Act utilizing any transfer authority shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a semi-annual report detailing the transfer authorities, except for any authority whereby a department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States Government may provide goods or services to another department, agency, or instrumentality, used in the previous 6 months and in the year-to-date. This report shall include the amounts transferred and the purposes for which they were transferred, and shall not replace or modify existing notification requirements for each authority.

SEC. 503. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used in contravention of Executive Order No. 12898 of February 11, 1994 (Federal Actions to Address Environ-

mental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations).

This division may be cited as the "Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2015".

#### DIVISION E—FINANCIAL SERVICES AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015

##### TITLE I

##### DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

###### DEPARTMENTAL OFFICES

###### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Departmental Offices including operation and maintenance of the Treasury Building and Annex; hire of passenger motor vehicles; maintenance, repairs, and improvements of, and purchase of commercial insurance policies for, real properties leased or owned overseas, when necessary for the performance of official business; executive direction program activities; international affairs and economic policy activities; domestic finance and tax policy activities; and Treasury-wide management policies and programs activities, \$210,000,000: *Provided*, That of the amount appropriated under this heading—

(1) not to exceed \$350,000 is for official reception and representation expenses;

(2) not to exceed \$258,000 is for unforeseen emergencies of a confidential nature to be allocated and expended under the direction of the Secretary of the Treasury and to be accounted for solely on the Secretary's certificate; and

(3) not to exceed \$24,200,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2016, for—

(A) the Treasury-wide Financial Statement Audit and Internal Control Program;

(B) information technology modernization requirements;

(C) in an amount not less than \$9,500,000, the audit, oversight, and administration of the Gulf Coast Restoration Trust Fund; and

(D) in an amount not to exceed \$3,400,000, the development and implementation of programs within the Office of Critical Infrastructure Protection and Compliance Policy, including entering into cooperative agreements.

###### OFFICE OF TERRORISM AND FINANCIAL

###### INTELLIGENCE

###### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

###### (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the necessary expenses of the Office of Terrorism and Financial Intelligence to safeguard the financial system against illicit use and to combat rogue nations, terrorist facilitators, weapons of mass destruction proliferators, money launderers, drug kingpins, and other national security threats, \$112,500,000: *Provided*, That of the amount appropriated under this heading: (1) not to exceed \$27,000,000 is available for administrative expenses; and (2) \$1,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016, is available for secure space requirements: *Provided further*, That the unobligated balances of prior year appropriations made available for terrorism and financial intelligence activities under the heading "Department of the Treasury—Departmental Offices—Salaries and Expenses" shall be transferred to, and merged with, this account.

###### DEPARTMENT-WIDE SYSTEMS AND CAPITAL

###### INVESTMENTS PROGRAMS

###### (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For development and acquisition of automatic data processing equipment, software, and services and for repairs and renovations

to buildings owned by the Department of the Treasury, \$2,725,000, to remain available until September 30, 2017: *Provided*, That these funds shall be transferred to accounts and in amounts as necessary to satisfy the requirements of the Department's offices, bureaus, and other organizations: *Provided further*, That this transfer authority shall be in addition to any other transfer authority provided in this Act: *Provided further*, That none of the funds appropriated under this heading shall be used to support or supplement "Internal Revenue Service, Operations Support" or "Internal Revenue Service, Business Systems Modernization".

###### OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

###### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General in carrying out the provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978, \$35,351,000, including hire of passenger motor vehicles; of which not to exceed \$100,000 shall be available for unforeseen emergencies of a confidential nature, to be allocated and expended under the direction of the Inspector General of the Treasury; of which up to \$2,800,000 shall be for audits and investigations conducted pursuant to section 1608 of the Resources and Ecosystems Sustainability, Tourist Opportunities, and Revived Economies of the Gulf Coast States Act of 2012 (33 U.S.C. 1321 note); and of which not to exceed \$1,000 shall be available for official reception and representation expenses.

###### TREASURY INSPECTOR GENERAL FOR TAX

###### ADMINISTRATION

###### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration in carrying out the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, including purchase and hire of passenger motor vehicles (31 U.S.C. 1343(b)); and services authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, at such rates as may be determined by the Inspector General for Tax Administration; \$158,210,000, of which \$5,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2016; of which not to exceed \$6,000,000 shall be available for official travel expenses; of which not to exceed \$500,000 shall be available for unforeseen emergencies of a confidential nature, to be allocated and expended under the direction of the Inspector General for Tax Administration; and of which not to exceed \$1,500 shall be available for official reception and representation expenses.

###### SPECIAL INSPECTOR GENERAL FOR THE

###### TROUBLED ASSET RELIEF PROGRAM

###### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Special Inspector General in carrying out the provisions of the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-343), \$34,234,000.

###### FINANCIAL CRIMES ENFORCEMENT NETWORK

###### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, including hire of passenger motor vehicles; travel and training expenses of non-Federal and foreign government personnel to attend meetings and training concerned with domestic and foreign financial intelligence activities, law enforcement, and financial regulation; services authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109; not to exceed \$10,000 for official reception and representation expenses; and for assistance to Federal law enforcement agencies, with or without reimbursement, \$112,000,000, of which not to exceed \$34,335,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2017.

TREASURY FORFEITURE FUND  
(RESCISSION)

Of the unobligated balances available under this heading, \$769,000,000 are rescinded.

BUREAU OF THE FISCAL SERVICE  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of operations of the Bureau of the Fiscal Service, \$348,184,000; of which not to exceed \$4,210,000, to remain available until September 30, 2017, is for information systems modernization initiatives; and of which \$5,000 shall be available for official reception and representation expenses.

In addition, \$165,000, to be derived from the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund to reimburse administrative and personnel expenses for financial management of the Fund, as authorized by section 1012 of Public Law 101-380.

ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO TAX AND TRADE  
BUREAU

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of carrying out section 1111 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, including hire of passenger motor vehicles, \$100,000,000; of which not to exceed \$6,000 for official reception and representation expenses; not to exceed \$50,000 for cooperative research and development programs for laboratory services; and provision of laboratory assistance to State and local agencies with or without reimbursement: *Provided*, That of the amount appropriated under this heading, \$3,000,000 shall be for the costs of criminal enforcement activities and special law enforcement agents for targeting tobacco smuggling and other criminal diversion activities.

UNITED STATES MINT

UNITED STATES MINT PUBLIC ENTERPRISE FUND

Pursuant to section 5136 of title 31, United States Code, the United States Mint is provided funding through the United States Mint Public Enterprise Fund for costs associated with the production of circulating coins, numismatic coins, and protective services, including both operating expenses and capital investments: *Provided*, That the aggregate amount of new liabilities and obligations incurred during fiscal year 2015 under such section 5136 for circulating coinage and protective service capital investments of the United States Mint shall not exceed \$20,000,000.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FINANCIAL  
INSTITUTIONS FUND PROGRAM ACCOUNT

To carry out the Riegle Community Development and Regulatory Improvements Act of 1994 (subtitle A of title I of Public Law 103-325), including services authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, but at rates for individuals not to exceed the per diem rate equivalent to the rate for EX-3, \$230,500,000. Of the amount appropriated under this heading—

(1) not less than \$152,400,000, notwithstanding section 108(e) of Public Law 103-325 (12 U.S.C. 4707(e)) with regard to Small and/or Emerging Community Development Financial Institutions Assistance awards, is available until September 30, 2016, for financial assistance and technical assistance under subparagraphs (A) and (B) of section 108(a)(1), respectively, of Public Law 103-325 (12 U.S.C. 4707(a)(1)(A) and (B)), of which up to \$3,102,500 may be used for the cost of direct loans: *Provided*, That the cost of direct and guaranteed loans, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974: *Provided further*, That these funds are

available to subsidize gross obligations for the principal amount of direct loans not to exceed \$25,000,000;

(2) not less than \$15,000,000, notwithstanding section 108(e) of Public Law 103-325 (12 U.S.C. 4707(e)), is available until September 30, 2016, for financial assistance, technical assistance, training and outreach programs designed to benefit Native American, Native Hawaiian, and Alaskan Native communities and provided primarily through qualified community development lender organizations with experience and expertise in community development banking and lending in Indian country, Native American organizations, tribes and tribal organizations, and other suitable providers;

(3) not less than \$18,000,000 is available until September 30, 2016, for the Bank Enterprise Award program;

(4) not less than \$22,000,000, notwithstanding subsections (d) and (e) of section 108 of Public Law 103-325 (12 U.S.C. 4707(d) and (e)), is available until September 30, 2016, for a Healthy Food Financing Initiative to provide financial assistance, technical assistance, training, and outreach to community development financial institutions for the purpose of offering affordable financing and technical assistance to expand the availability of healthy food options in distressed communities;

(5) up to \$23,100,000 is available until September 30, 2015, for administrative expenses, including administration of CDFI fund programs and the New Markets Tax Credit Program, of which up to \$1,000,000 is for capacity building to expand CDFI investments in underserved areas, and up to \$300,000 is for administrative expenses to carry out the direct loan program; and

(6) during fiscal year 2015, none of the funds available under this heading are available for the cost, as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, of commitments to guarantee bonds and notes under section 114A of the Riegle Community Development and Regulatory Improvement Act of 1994 (12 U.S.C. 4713a): *Provided*, That commitments to guarantee bonds and notes under such section 114A shall not exceed \$750,000,000: *Provided further*, That such section 114A shall remain in effect until September 30, 2015.

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE  
TAXPAYER SERVICES

For necessary expenses of the Internal Revenue Service to provide taxpayer services, including pre-filing assistance and education, filing and account services, taxpayer advocacy services, and other services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, at such rates as may be determined by the Commissioner, \$2,156,554,000, of which not less than \$7,000,000 shall be for the Tax Counseling for the Elderly Program, of which not less than \$10,000,000 shall be available for low-income taxpayer clinic grants, and of which not less than \$12,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016, shall be available for a Community Volunteer Income Tax Assistance matching grants program for tax return preparation assistance, of which not less than \$206,000,000 shall be available for operating expenses of the Taxpayer Advocate Service: *Provided*, That of the amounts made available for the Taxpayer Advocate Service, not less than \$5,000,000 shall be for identity theft casework.

ENFORCEMENT

For necessary expenses for tax enforcement activities of the Internal Revenue Service to determine and collect owed taxes,

to provide legal and litigation support, to conduct criminal investigations, to enforce criminal statutes related to violations of internal revenue laws and other financial crimes, to purchase and hire passenger motor vehicles (31 U.S.C. 1343(b)), and to provide other services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, at such rates as may be determined by the Commissioner, \$4,860,000,000, of which not less than \$60,257,000 shall be for the Inter-agency Crime and Drug Enforcement program.

OPERATIONS SUPPORT

For necessary expenses of the Internal Revenue Service to support taxpayer services and enforcement programs, including rent payments; facilities services; printing; postage; physical security; headquarters and other IRS-wide administration activities; research and statistics of income; telecommunications; information technology development, enhancement, operations, maintenance, and security; the hire of passenger motor vehicles (31 U.S.C. 1343(b)); and other services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, at such rates as may be determined by the Commissioner, \$3,638,446,000, of which not to exceed \$315,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2016; of which not to exceed \$1,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2017, for research; of which not less than \$1,850,000 shall be for the Internal Revenue Service Oversight Board; of which not to exceed \$25,000 shall be for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided*, That not later than 30 days after the end of each quarter, the Internal Revenue Service shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate and the Comptroller General of the United States detailing the cost and schedule performance for its major information technology investments, including the purpose and life-cycle stages of the investments; the reasons for any cost and schedule variances; the risks of such investments and strategies the Internal Revenue Service is using to mitigate such risks; and the expected developmental milestones to be achieved and costs to be incurred in the next quarter: *Provided further*, That the Internal Revenue Service shall include, in its budget justification for fiscal year 2016, a summary of cost and schedule performance information for its major information technology systems.

BUSINESS SYSTEMS MODERNIZATION

For necessary expenses of the Internal Revenue Service's business systems modernization program, \$290,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2017, for the capital asset acquisition of information technology systems, including management and related contractual costs of said acquisitions, including related Internal Revenue Service labor costs, and contractual costs associated with operations authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109: *Provided*, That not later than 30 days after the end of each quarter, the Internal Revenue Service shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate and the Comptroller General of the United States detailing the cost and schedule performance for CADE 2 and Modernized e-File information technology investments, including the purposes and life-cycle stages of the investments; the reasons for any cost and schedule variances; the risks of such investments and the strategies the Internal Revenue Service is using to mitigate such risks; and the expected developmental milestones to be achieved and costs to be incurred in the next quarter.



ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—INTERNAL  
REVENUE SERVICE  
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 101. Not to exceed 5 percent of any appropriation made available in this Act to the Internal Revenue Service may be transferred to any other Internal Revenue Service appropriation upon the advance approval of the Committees on Appropriations.

SEC. 102. The Internal Revenue Service shall maintain an employee training program, which shall include the following topics: taxpayers' rights, dealing courteously with taxpayers, cross-cultural relations, ethics, and the impartial application of tax law.

SEC. 103. The Internal Revenue Service shall institute and enforce policies and procedures that will safeguard the confidentiality of taxpayer information and protect taxpayers against identity theft.

SEC. 104. Funds made available by this or any other Act to the Internal Revenue Service shall be available for improved facilities and increased staffing to provide sufficient and effective 1-800 help line service for taxpayers. The Commissioner shall continue to make improvements to the Internal Revenue Service 1-800 help line service a priority and allocate resources necessary to enhance the response time to taxpayer communications, particularly with regard to victims of tax-related crimes.

SEC. 105. None of the funds made available to the Internal Revenue Service by this Act may be used to make a video unless the Service-Wide Video Editorial Board determines in advance that making the video is appropriate, taking into account the cost, topic, tone, and purpose of the video.

SEC. 106. The Internal Revenue Service shall issue a notice of confirmation of any address change relating to an employer making employment tax payments, and such notice shall be sent to both the employer's former and new address and an officer or employee of the Internal Revenue Service shall give special consideration to an offer-in-compromise from a taxpayer who has been the victim of fraud by a third party payroll tax preparer.

SEC. 107. None of the funds made available under this Act may be used by the Internal Revenue Service to target citizens of the United States for exercising any right guaranteed under the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

SEC. 108. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used by the Internal Revenue Service to target groups for regulatory scrutiny based on their ideological beliefs.

SEC. 109. None of funds made available by this Act to the Internal Revenue Service shall be obligated or expended on conferences that do not adhere to the procedures, verification processes, documentation requirements, and policies issued by the Chief Financial Officer, Human Capital Office, and Agency-Wide Shared Services as a result of the recommendations in the report published on May 31, 2013, by the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration entitled "Review of the August 2010 Small Business/Self-Employed Division's Conference in Anaheim, California" (Reference Number 2013-10-037).

SEC. 110. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used in contravention of section 6103 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to confidentiality and disclosure of returns and return information).

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—DEPARTMENT  
OF THE TREASURY  
(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

SEC. 111. Appropriations to the Department of the Treasury in this Act shall be available

for uniforms or allowances therefor, as authorized by law (5 U.S.C. 5901), including maintenance, repairs, and cleaning; purchase of insurance for official motor vehicles operated in foreign countries; purchase of motor vehicles without regard to the general purchase price limitations for vehicles purchased and used overseas for the current fiscal year; entering into contracts with the Department of State for the furnishing of health and medical services to employees and their dependents serving in foreign countries; and services authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109.

SEC. 112. Not to exceed 2 percent of any appropriations in this title made available under the headings "Departmental Offices—Salaries and Expenses", "Office of Inspector General", "Special Inspector General for the Troubled Asset Relief Program", "Financial Crimes Enforcement Network", "Bureau of the Fiscal Service", and "Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau" may be transferred between such appropriations upon the advance approval of the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate: *Provided*, That no transfer under this section may increase or decrease any such appropriation by more than 2 percent.

SEC. 113. Not to exceed 2 percent of any appropriation made available in this Act to the Internal Revenue Service may be transferred to the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration's appropriation upon the advance approval of the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate: *Provided*, That no transfer may increase or decrease any such appropriation by more than 2 percent.

SEC. 114. None of the funds appropriated in this Act or otherwise available to the Department of the Treasury or the Bureau of Engraving and Printing may be used to redesign the \$1 Federal Reserve note.

SEC. 115. The Secretary of the Treasury may transfer funds from the "Bureau of the Fiscal Service—Salaries and Expenses" to the Debt Collection Fund as necessary to cover the costs of debt collection: *Provided*, That such amounts shall be reimbursed to such salaries and expenses account from debt collections received in the Debt Collection Fund.

SEC. 116. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or any other Act may be used by the United States Mint to construct or operate any museum without the explicit approval of the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, the House Committee on Financial Services, and the Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

SEC. 117. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or any other Act or source to the Department of the Treasury, the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, and the United States Mint, individually or collectively, may be used to consolidate any or all functions of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing and the United States Mint without the explicit approval of the House Committee on Financial Services; the Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs; and the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

SEC. 118. Funds appropriated by this Act, or made available by the transfer of funds in this Act, for the Department of the Treasury's intelligence or intelligence related activities are deemed to be specifically authorized by the Congress for purposes of section

504 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 414) during fiscal year 2015 until the enactment of the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015.

SEC. 119. Not to exceed \$5,000 shall be made available from the Bureau of Engraving and Printing's Industrial Revolving Fund for necessary official reception and representation expenses.

SEC. 120. The Secretary of the Treasury shall submit a Capital Investment Plan to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives not later than 30 days following the submission of the annual budget submitted by the President: *Provided*, That such Capital Investment Plan shall include capital investment spending from all accounts within the Department of the Treasury, including but not limited to the Department-wide Systems and Capital Investment Programs account, Treasury Franchise Fund account, and the Treasury Forfeiture Fund account: *Provided further*, That such Capital Investment Plan shall include expenditures occurring in previous fiscal years for each capital investment project that has not been fully completed.

SEC. 121. (a) Not later than 60 days after the end of each quarter, the Office of Financial Stability and the Office of Financial Research shall submit reports on their activities to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives and the Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

(b) The reports required under subsection (a) shall include—

(1) the obligations made during the previous quarter by object class, office, and activity;

(2) the estimated obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year by object class, office, and activity;

(3) the number of full-time equivalents within each office during the previous quarter;

(4) the estimated number of full-time equivalents within each office for the remainder of the fiscal year; and

(5) actions taken to achieve the goals, objectives, and performance measures of each office.

(c) At the request of any such Committees specified in subsection (a), the Office of Financial Stability and the Office of Financial Research shall make officials available to testify on the contents of the reports required under subsection (a).

SEC. 122. Within 45 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Treasury shall submit an itemized report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate on the amount of total funds charged to each office by the Franchise Fund including the amount charged for each service provided by the Franchise Fund to each office, a detailed description of the services, a detailed explanation of how each charge for each service is calculated, and a description of the role customers have in governing in the Franchise Fund.

SEC. 123. The Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the appropriate agencies, departments, bureaus, and commissions that have expertise in terrorism and complex financial instruments, shall provide a report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate, the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate not later than 90 days

after the date of enactment of this Act on economic warfare and financial terrorism.

This title may be cited as the “Department of the Treasury Appropriations Act, 2015”.

#### TITLE II

### EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT AND FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT

#### THE WHITE HOUSE

##### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses for the White House as authorized by law, including not to exceed \$3,850,000 for services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109 and 3 U.S.C. 105; subsistence expenses as authorized by 3 U.S.C. 105, which shall be expended and accounted for as provided in that section; hire of passenger motor vehicles, and travel (not to exceed \$100,000 to be expended and accounted for as provided by 3 U.S.C. 103); and not to exceed \$19,000 for official reception and representation expenses, to be available for allocation within the Executive Office of the President; and for necessary expenses of the Office of Policy Development, including services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109 and 3 U.S.C. 107, \$55,000,000.

#### EXECUTIVE RESIDENCE AT THE WHITE HOUSE OPERATING EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Executive Residence at the White House, \$12,700,000, to be expended and accounted for as provided by 3 U.S.C. 105, 109, 110, and 112–114.

##### REIMBURSABLE EXPENSES

For the reimbursable expenses of the Executive Residence at the White House, such sums as may be necessary: *Provided*, That all reimbursable operating expenses of the Executive Residence shall be made in accordance with the provisions of this paragraph: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, such amount for reimbursable operating expenses shall be the exclusive authority of the Executive Residence to incur obligations and to receive offsetting collections, for such expenses: *Provided further*, That the Executive Residence shall require each person sponsoring a reimbursable political event to pay in advance an amount equal to the estimated cost of the event, and all such advance payments shall be credited to this account and remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That the Executive Residence shall require the national committee of the political party of the President to maintain on deposit \$25,000, to be separately accounted for and available for expenses relating to reimbursable political events sponsored by such committee during such fiscal year: *Provided further*, That the Executive Residence shall ensure that a written notice of any amount owed for a reimbursable operating expense under this paragraph is submitted to the person owing such amount within 60 days after such expense is incurred, and that such amount is collected within 30 days after the submission of such notice: *Provided further*, That the Executive Residence shall charge interest and assess penalties and other charges on any such amount that is not reimbursed within such 30 days, in accordance with the interest and penalty provisions applicable to an outstanding debt on a United States Government claim under 31 U.S.C. 3717: *Provided further*, That each such amount that is reimbursed, and any accompanying interest and charges, shall be deposited in the Treasury as miscellaneous receipts: *Provided further*, That the Executive Residence shall prepare and submit to the Committees on Appropriations, by not later than 90 days after the end

of the fiscal year covered by this Act, a report setting forth the reimbursable operating expenses of the Executive Residence during the preceding fiscal year, including the total amount of such expenses, the amount of such total that consists of reimbursable official and ceremonial events, the amount of such total that consists of reimbursable political events, and the portion of each such amount that has been reimbursed as of the date of the report: *Provided further*, That the Executive Residence shall maintain a system for the tracking of expenses related to reimbursable events within the Executive Residence that includes a standard for the classification of any such expense as political or nonpolitical: *Provided further*, That no provision of this paragraph may be construed to exempt the Executive Residence from any other applicable requirement of subchapter I or II of chapter 37 of title 31, United States Code.

#### WHITE HOUSE REPAIR AND RESTORATION

For the repair, alteration, and improvement of the Executive Residence at the White House pursuant to 3 U.S.C. 105(d), \$625,000, to remain available until expended, for required maintenance, resolution of safety and health issues, and continued preventive maintenance.

#### COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISERS

##### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Council of Economic Advisers in carrying out its functions under the Employment Act of 1946 (15 U.S.C. 1021 et seq.), \$4,184,000.

#### NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL AND HOMELAND SECURITY COUNCIL

##### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the National Security Council and the Homeland Security Council, including services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, \$12,600,000.

#### OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATION

##### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Office of Administration, including services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109 and 3 U.S.C. 107, and hire of passenger motor vehicles, \$111,300,000, of which not to exceed \$12,006,000 shall remain available until expended for continued modernization of the information technology infrastructure within the Executive Office of the President.

#### OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

##### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Office of Management and Budget, including hire of passenger motor vehicles and services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, to carry out the provisions of chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code, and to prepare and submit the budget of the United States Government, in accordance with section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code, \$91,750,000, of which not to exceed \$3,000 shall be available for official representation expenses: *Provided*, That none of the funds appropriated in this Act for the Office of Management and Budget may be used for the purpose of reviewing any agricultural marketing orders or any activities or regulations under the provisions of the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937 (7 U.S.C. 601 et seq.): *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available for the Office of Management and Budget by this Act may be expended for the altering of the transcript of actual testimony of witnesses, except for testimony of officials of the Office of Management and Budget, before the Committees on Appropriations or their sub-

committees: *Provided further*, That none of the funds provided in this or prior Acts shall be used, directly or indirectly, by the Office of Management and Budget, for evaluating or determining if water resource project or study reports submitted by the Chief of Engineers acting through the Secretary of the Army are in compliance with all applicable laws, regulations, and requirements relevant to the Civil Works water resource planning process: *Provided further*, That the Office of Management and Budget shall have not more than 60 days in which to perform budgetary policy reviews of water resource matters on which the Chief of Engineers has reported: *Provided further*, That the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall notify the appropriate authorizing and appropriating committees when the 60-day review is initiated: *Provided further*, That if water resource reports have not been transmitted to the appropriate authorizing and appropriating committees within 15 days after the end of the Office of Management and Budget review period based on the notification from the Director, Congress shall assume Office of Management and Budget concurrence with the report and act accordingly.

#### OFFICE OF NATIONAL DRUG CONTROL POLICY

##### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Office of National Drug Control Policy; for research activities pursuant to the Office of National Drug Control Policy Reauthorization Act of 2006 (Public Law 109–469); not to exceed \$10,000 for official reception and representation expenses; and for participation in joint projects or in the provision of services on matters of mutual interest with nonprofit, research, or public organizations or agencies, with or without reimbursement, \$22,647,000: *Provided*, That the Office is authorized to accept, hold, administer, and utilize gifts, both real and personal, public and private, without fiscal year limitation, for the purpose of aiding or facilitating the work of the Office.

#### FEDERAL DRUG CONTROL PROGRAMS

#### HIGH INTENSITY DRUG TRAFFICKING AREAS PROGRAM

##### (INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Office of National Drug Control Policy's High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas Program, \$245,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016, for drug control activities consistent with the approved strategy for each of the designated High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (“HIDTAs”), of which not less than 51 percent shall be transferred to State and local entities for drug control activities and shall be obligated not later than 120 days after enactment of this Act: *Provided*, That up to 49 percent may be transferred to Federal agencies and departments in amounts determined by the Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy, of which up to \$2,700,000 may be used for auditing services and associated activities: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding the requirements of Public Law 106–58, any unexpended funds obligated prior to fiscal year 2013 may be used for any other approved activities of that HIDTA, subject to reprogramming requirements: *Provided further*, That each HIDTA designated as of September 30, 2014, shall be funded at not less than the fiscal year 2014 base level, unless the Director submits to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate justification for changes to those levels based on clearly articulated priorities and published Office of National Drug Control Policy performance measures of effectiveness: *Provided*

further, That the Director shall notify the Committees on Appropriations of the initial allocation of fiscal year 2015 funding among HIDTAs not later than 45 days after enactment of this Act, and shall notify the Committees of planned uses of discretionary HIDTA funding, as determined in consultation with the HIDTA Directors, not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act: *Provided further*, That upon a determination that all or part of the funds so transferred from this appropriation are not necessary for the purposes provided herein and upon notification to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, such amounts may be transferred back to this appropriation.

OTHER FEDERAL DRUG CONTROL PROGRAMS  
(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For other drug control activities authorized by the Office of National Drug Control Policy Reauthorization Act of 2006 (Public Law 109-469), \$107,150,000, to remain available until expended, which shall be available as follows: \$93,500,000 for the Drug-Free Communities Program, of which \$2,000,000 shall be made available as directed by section 4 of Public Law 107-82, as amended by Public Law 109-469 (21 U.S.C. 1521 note); \$1,400,000 for drug court training and technical assistance; \$9,000,000 for anti-doping activities; \$2,000,000 for the United States membership dues to the World Anti-Doping Agency; and \$1,250,000 shall be made available as directed by section 1105 of Public Law 109-469: *Provided*, That amounts made available under this heading may be transferred to other Federal departments and agencies to carry out such activities.

UNANTICIPATED NEEDS

For expenses necessary to enable the President to meet unanticipated needs, in furtherance of the national interest, security, or defense which may arise at home or abroad during the current fiscal year, as authorized by 3 U.S.C. 108, \$800,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY OVERSIGHT AND REFORM  
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses for the furtherance of integrated, efficient, secure, and effective uses of information technology in the Federal Government, \$20,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the Director of the Office of Management and Budget may transfer these funds to one or more other agencies to carry out projects to meet these purposes: *Provided further*, That the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall submit quarterly reports not later than 45 days after the end of each quarter to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate and the Government Accountability Office identifying the savings achieved by the Office of Management and Budget's government-wide information technology reform efforts: *Provided further*, That such reports shall include savings identified by fiscal year, agency, and appropriation.

SPECIAL ASSISTANCE TO THE PRESIDENT  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses to enable the Vice President to provide assistance to the President in connection with specially assigned functions; services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109 and 3 U.S.C. 106, including subsistence expenses as authorized by 3 U.S.C. 106, which shall be expended and accounted for as provided in that section; and hire of passenger motor vehicles, \$4,211,000.

OFFICIAL RESIDENCE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT  
OPERATING EXPENSES  
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the care, operation, refurbishing, improvement, and to the extent not otherwise provided for, heating and lighting, including electric power and fixtures, of the official residence of the Vice President; the hire of passenger motor vehicles; and not to exceed \$90,000 pursuant to 3 U.S.C. 106(b)(2), \$299,000: *Provided*, That advances, repayments, or transfers from this appropriation may be made to any department or agency for expenses of carrying out such activities.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT AND FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT  
(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

SEC. 201. From funds made available in this Act under the headings "The White House", "Executive Residence at the White House", "White House Repair and Restoration", "Council of Economic Advisers", "National Security Council and Homeland Security Council", "Office of Administration", "Special Assistance to the President", and "Official Residence of the Vice President", the Director of the Office of Management and Budget (or such other officer as the President may designate in writing), may, with advance approval of the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, transfer not to exceed 10 percent of any such appropriation to any other such appropriation, to be merged with and available for the same time and for the same purposes as the appropriation to which transferred: *Provided*, That the amount of an appropriation shall not be increased by more than 50 percent by such transfers: *Provided further*, That no amount shall be transferred from "Special Assistance to the President" or "Official Residence of the Vice President" without the approval of the Vice President.

SEC. 202. Within 90 days after the date of enactment of this section, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate on the costs of implementing the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (Public Law 111-203). Such report shall include—

(1) the estimated mandatory and discretionary obligations of funds through fiscal year 2017, by Federal agency and by fiscal year, including—

(A) the estimated obligations by cost inputs such as rent, information technology, contracts, and personnel;

(B) the methodology and data sources used to calculate such estimated obligations; and

(C) the specific section of such Act that requires the obligation of funds; and

(2) the estimated receipts through fiscal year 2017 from assessments, user fees, and other fees by the Federal agency making the collections, by fiscal year, including—

(A) the methodology and data sources used to calculate such estimated collections; and

(B) the specific section of such Act that authorizes the collection of funds.

SEC. 203. (a) During fiscal year 2015, any Executive order issued by the President shall be accompanied by a statement from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget on the budgetary impact, including costs, benefits, and revenues, of the Executive order.

(b) Any such statement shall include—

(1) a narrative summary of the budgetary impact of such order on the Federal Government;

(2) the impact on mandatory and discretionary obligations and outlays, listed by Federal agency, for each year in the 5-fiscal year period beginning in fiscal year 2015; and

(3) the impact on revenues of the Federal Government over the 5-fiscal year period beginning in fiscal year 2015.

(c) If an Executive order is issued during fiscal year 2015 due to a national emergency, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget may issue the statement required by subsection (a) not later than 15 days after the date that the Executive order is issued.

SEC. 204. The Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, and prior to the initial obligation of more than 20 percent of the funds appropriated in any account under the heading "Office of National Drug Control Policy", a detailed narrative and financial plan on the proposed uses of all funds under the account by program, project, and activity: *Provided*, That the reports required by this section shall be updated and submitted to the Committees on Appropriations every 6 months and shall include information detailing how the estimates and assumptions contained in previous reports have changed: *Provided further*, That any new projects and changes in funding of ongoing projects shall be subject to the prior approval of the Committees on Appropriations.

SEC. 205. Not to exceed 2 percent of any appropriations in this Act made available to the Office of National Drug Control Policy may be transferred between appropriated programs upon the advance approval of the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided*, That no transfer may increase or decrease any such appropriation by more than 3 percent.

SEC. 206. Not to exceed \$1,000,000 of any appropriations in this Act made available to the Office of National Drug Control Policy may be reprogrammed within a program, project, or activity upon the advance approval of the Committees on Appropriations.

SEC. 207. The first proviso under the heading "Data-Driven Innovation" in division E of Public Law 113-76 is amended by striking "shall" and inserting "may".

This title may be cited as the "Executive Office of the President Appropriations Act, 2015".

TITLE III  
THE JUDICIARY

SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary for the operation of the Supreme Court, as required by law, excluding care of the building and grounds, including hire of passenger motor vehicles as authorized by 31 U.S.C. 1343 and 1344; not to exceed \$10,000 for official reception and representation expenses; and for miscellaneous expenses, to be expended as the Chief Justice may approve, \$74,967,000, of which \$2,000,000 shall remain available until expended.

In addition, there are appropriated such sums as may be necessary under current law for the salaries of the chief justice and associate justices of the court.

CARE OF THE BUILDING AND GROUNDS

For such expenditures as may be necessary to enable the Architect of the Capitol to carry out the duties imposed upon the Architect by 40 U.S.C. 6111 and 6112, \$11,640,000, to remain available until expended.

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE  
FEDERAL CIRCUIT

## SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For salaries of officers and employees, and for necessary expenses of the court, as authorized by law, \$30,212,000.

In addition, there are appropriated such sums as may be necessary under current law for the salaries of the chief judge and judges of the court.

UNITED STATES COURT OF INTERNATIONAL  
TRADE

## SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For salaries of officers and employees of the court, services, and necessary expenses of the court, as authorized by law, \$17,807,000.

In addition, there are appropriated such sums as may be necessary under current law for the salaries of the chief judge and judges of the court.

COURTS OF APPEALS, DISTRICT COURTS, AND  
OTHER JUDICIAL SERVICES

## SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For the salaries of judges of the United States Court of Federal Claims, magistrate judges, and all other officers and employees of the Federal Judiciary not otherwise specifically provided for, necessary expenses of the courts, and the purchase, rental, repair, and cleaning of uniforms for Probation and Pretrial Services Office staff, as authorized by law, \$4,846,818,000 (including the purchase of firearms and ammunition); of which not to exceed \$27,817,000 shall remain available until expended for space alteration projects and for furniture and furnishings related to new space alteration and construction projects; and of which not to exceed \$10,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2016, for the Integrated Workplace Initiative: *Provided*, That the amount provided for the Integrated Workplace Initiative shall not be available for obligation until the Director of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts submits a report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate showing that the estimated cost savings resulting from the Initiative will exceed the estimated amounts obligated for the Initiative.

In addition, there are appropriated such sums as may be necessary under current law for the salaries of circuit and district judges (including judges of the territorial courts of the United States), bankruptcy judges, and justices and judges retired from office or from regular active service.

In addition, for expenses of the United States Court of Federal Claims associated with processing cases under the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986 (Public Law 99-660), not to exceed \$5,423,000, to be appropriated from the Vaccine Injury Compensation Trust Fund.

## DEFENDER SERVICES

For the operation of Federal Defender organizations; the compensation and reimbursement of expenses of attorneys appointed to represent persons under 18 U.S.C. 3006A and 3599, and for the compensation and reimbursement of expenses of persons furnishing investigative, expert, and other services for such representations as authorized by law; the compensation (in accordance with the maximums under 18 U.S.C. 3006A) and reimbursement of expenses of attorneys appointed to assist the court in criminal cases where the defendant has waived representation by counsel; the compensation and reimbursement of expenses of attorneys appointed to represent jurors in civil actions for the protection of their employment, as

authorized by 28 U.S.C. 1875(d)(1); the compensation and reimbursement of expenses of attorneys appointed under 18 U.S.C. 983(b)(1) in connection with certain judicial civil forfeiture proceedings; the compensation and reimbursement of travel expenses of guardians ad litem appointed under 18 U.S.C. 4100(b); and for necessary training and general administrative expenses, \$1,016,499,000, to remain available until expended.

## FEES OF JURORS AND COMMISSIONERS

For fees and expenses of jurors as authorized by 28 U.S.C. 1871 and 1876; compensation of jury commissioners as authorized by 28 U.S.C. 1863; and compensation of commissioners appointed in condemnation cases pursuant to rule 71.1(h) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure (28 U.S.C. Appendix Rule 71.1(h)), \$52,191,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the compensation of land commissioners shall not exceed the daily equivalent of the highest rate payable under 5 U.S.C. 5332.

## COURT SECURITY

## (INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, incident to the provision of protective guard services for United States courthouses and other facilities housing Federal court operations, and the procurement, installation, and maintenance of security systems and equipment for United States courthouses and other facilities housing Federal court operations, including building ingress-egress control, inspection of mail and packages, directed security patrols, perimeter security, basic security services provided by the Federal Protective Service, and other similar activities as authorized by section 1010 of the Judicial Improvement and Access to Justice Act (Public Law 100-702), \$513,975,000, of which not to exceed \$15,000,000 shall remain available until expended, to be expended directly or transferred to the United States Marshals Service, which shall be responsible for administering the Judicial Facility Security Program consistent with standards or guidelines agreed to by the Director of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts and the Attorney General.

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE UNITED  
STATES COURTS

## SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts as authorized by law, including travel as authorized by 31 U.S.C. 1345, hire of a passenger motor vehicle as authorized by 31 U.S.C. 1343(b), advertising and rent in the District of Columbia and elsewhere, \$84,399,000, of which not to exceed \$8,500 is authorized for official reception and representation expenses.

## FEDERAL JUDICIAL CENTER

## SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Federal Judicial Center, as authorized by Public Law 90-219, \$26,959,000; of which \$1,800,000 shall remain available through September 30, 2016, to provide education and training to Federal court personnel; and of which not to exceed \$1,500 is authorized for official reception and representation expenses.

## UNITED STATES SENTENCING COMMISSION

## SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For the salaries and expenses necessary to carry out the provisions of chapter 58 of title 28, United States Code, \$16,894,000, of which not to exceed \$1,000 is authorized for official reception and representation expenses.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—THE JUDICIARY  
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 301. Appropriations and authorizations made in this title which are available for salaries and expenses shall be available for services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109.

SEC. 302. Not to exceed 5 percent of any appropriation made available for the current fiscal year for the Judiciary in this Act may be transferred between such appropriations, but no such appropriation, except “Courts of Appeals, District Courts, and Other Judicial Services, Defender Services” and “Courts of Appeals, District Courts, and Other Judicial Services, Fees of Jurors and Commissioners”, shall be increased by more than 10 percent by any such transfers: *Provided*, That any transfer pursuant to this section shall be treated as a reprogramming of funds under sections 604 and 608 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation or expenditure except in compliance with the procedures set forth in section 608.

SEC. 303. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the salaries and expenses appropriation for “Courts of Appeals, District Courts, and Other Judicial Services” shall be available for official reception and representation expenses of the Judicial Conference of the United States: *Provided*, That such available funds shall not exceed \$11,000 and shall be administered by the Director of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts in the capacity as Secretary of the Judicial Conference.

SEC. 304. Section 3314(a) of title 40, United States Code, shall be applied by substituting “Federal” for “executive” each place it appears.

SEC. 305. In accordance with 28 U.S.C. 561-569, and notwithstanding any other provision of law, the United States Marshals Service shall provide, for such courthouses as its Director may designate in consultation with the Director of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts, for purposes of a pilot program, the security services that 40 U.S.C. 1315 authorizes the Department of Homeland Security to provide, except for the services specified in 40 U.S.C. 1315(b)(2)(E). For building-specific security services at these courthouses, the Director of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts shall reimburse the United States Marshals Service rather than the Department of Homeland Security.

SEC. 306. (a) Section 203(c) of the Judicial Improvements Act of 1990 (Public Law 101-650; 28 U.S.C. 133 note), is amended in the matter following paragraph (12)—

(1) in the second sentence (relating to the District of Kansas), by striking “23 years and 6 months” and inserting “24 years and 6 months”; and

(2) in the sixth sentence (relating to the District of Hawaii), by striking “20 years and 6 months” and inserting “21 years and 6 months”.

(b) Section 406 of the Transportation, Treasury, Housing and Urban Development, the Judiciary, the District of Columbia, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 2006 (Public Law 109-115; 119 Stat. 2470; 28 U.S.C. 133 note) is amended in the second sentence (relating to the eastern District of Missouri) by striking “21 years and 6 months” and inserting “22 years and 6 months”.

(c) Section 312(c)(2) of the 21st Century Department of Justice Appropriations Authorization Act (Public Law 107-273; 28 U.S.C. 133 note), is amended—

(1) in the first sentence by striking “12 years” and inserting “13 years”;

(2) in the second sentence (relating to the central District of California), by striking “11 years and 6 months” and inserting “12 years and 6 months”; and

(3) in the third sentence (relating to the western district of North Carolina), by striking “10 years” and inserting “11 years”.

SEC. 307. Section 84(b) of title 28, United States Code, is amended in the second sentence by inserting “Bakersfield,” after “shall be held at”.

SEC. 308. Section 3155 of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in the first sentence, by deleting the words “and the Director”; and

(2) in the first sentence, by inserting at the end “and shall ensure that case file, statistical, and other information concerning the work of pretrial services is provided to the Director”.

This title may be cited as the “Judiciary Appropriations Act, 2015”.

#### TITLE IV

#### DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

##### FEDERAL FUNDS

##### FEDERAL PAYMENT FOR RESIDENT TUITION SUPPORT

For a Federal payment to the District of Columbia, to be deposited into a dedicated account, for a nationwide program to be administered by the Mayor, for District of Columbia resident tuition support, \$30,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That such funds, including any interest accrued thereon, may be used on behalf of eligible District of Columbia residents to pay an amount based upon the difference between in-State and out-of-State tuition at public institutions of higher education, or to pay up to \$2,500 each year at eligible private institutions of higher education: *Provided further*, That the awarding of such funds may be prioritized on the basis of a resident's academic merit, the income and need of eligible students and such other factors as may be authorized: *Provided further*, That the District of Columbia government shall maintain a dedicated account for the Resident Tuition Support Program that shall consist of the Federal funds appropriated to the Program in this Act and any subsequent appropriations, any unobligated balances from prior fiscal years, and any interest earned in this or any fiscal year: *Provided further*, That the account shall be under the control of the District of Columbia Chief Financial Officer, who shall use those funds solely for the purposes of carrying out the Resident Tuition Support Program: *Provided further*, That the Office of the Chief Financial Officer shall provide a quarterly financial report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate for these funds showing, by object class, the expenditures made and the purpose therefor.

##### FEDERAL PAYMENT FOR EMERGENCY PLANNING AND SECURITY COSTS IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

For a Federal payment of necessary expenses, as determined by the Mayor of the District of Columbia in written consultation with the elected county or city officials of surrounding jurisdictions, \$12,500,000, to remain available until expended, for the costs of providing public safety at events related to the presence of the National Capital in the District of Columbia, including support requested by the Director of the United States Secret Service in carrying out protective duties under the direction of the Secretary of Homeland Security, and for the costs of providing support to respond to immediate and specific terrorist threats or at-

tacks in the District of Columbia or surrounding jurisdictions.

##### FEDERAL PAYMENT TO THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURTS

For salaries and expenses for the District of Columbia Courts, \$245,110,000 to be allocated as follows: for the District of Columbia Court of Appeals, \$13,622,000, of which not to exceed \$2,500 is for official reception and representation expenses; for the Superior Court of the District of Columbia, \$116,443,000, of which not to exceed \$2,500 is for official reception and representation expenses; for the District of Columbia Court System, \$71,155,000, of which not to exceed \$2,500 is for official reception and representation expenses; and \$43,890,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016, for capital improvements for District of Columbia courthouse facilities: *Provided*, That funds made available for capital improvements shall be expended consistent with the District of Columbia Courts master plan study and facilities condition assessment: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, all amounts under this heading shall be apportioned quarterly by the Office of Management and Budget and obligated and expended in the same manner as funds appropriated for salaries and expenses of other Federal agencies: *Provided further*, That 30 days after providing written notice to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, the District of Columbia Courts may reallocate not more than \$6,000,000 of the funds provided under this heading among the items and entities funded under this heading: *Provided further*, That the Joint Committee on Judicial Administration in the District of Columbia may, by regulation, establish a program substantially similar to the program set forth in subchapter II of chapter 35 of title 5, United States Code, for employees of the District of Columbia Courts.

##### FEDERAL PAYMENT FOR DEFENDER SERVICES IN DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURTS

For payments authorized under section 11-2604 and section 11-2605, D.C. Official Code (relating to representation provided under the District of Columbia Criminal Justice Act), payments for counsel appointed in proceedings in the Family Court of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia under chapter 23 of title 16, D.C. Official Code, or pursuant to contractual agreements to provide guardian ad litem representation, training, technical assistance, and such other services as are necessary to improve the quality of guardian ad litem representation, payments for counsel appointed in adoption proceedings under chapter 3 of title 16, D.C. Official Code, and payments authorized under section 21-2060, D.C. Official Code (relating to services provided under the District of Columbia Guardianship, Protective Proceedings, and Durable Power of Attorney Act of 1986), \$49,890,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That funds provided under this heading shall be administered by the Joint Committee on Judicial Administration in the District of Columbia: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, this appropriation shall be apportioned quarterly by the Office of Management and Budget and obligated and expended in the same manner as funds appropriated for expenses of other Federal agencies.

##### FEDERAL PAYMENT TO THE COURT SERVICES AND OFFENDER SUPERVISION AGENCY FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

For salaries and expenses, including the transfer and hire of motor vehicles, of the

Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency for the District of Columbia, as authorized by the National Capital Revitalization and Self-Government Improvement Act of 1997, \$234,000,000, of which not to exceed \$2,000 is for official reception and representation expenses related to Community Supervision and Pretrial Services Agency programs, of which not to exceed \$25,000 is for dues and assessments relating to the implementation of the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency Interstate Supervision Act of 2002; of which \$173,155,000 shall be for necessary expenses of Community Supervision and Sex Offender Registration, to include expenses relating to the supervision of adults subject to protection orders or the provision of services for or related to such persons, of which up to \$9,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2017, for the relocation of offender supervision field offices; and of which \$60,845,000 shall be available to the Pretrial Services Agency: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, all amounts under this heading shall be apportioned quarterly by the Office of Management and Budget and obligated and expended in the same manner as funds appropriated for salaries and expenses of other Federal agencies: *Provided further*, That amounts under this heading may be used for programmatic incentives for offenders and defendants successfully meeting terms of supervision: *Provided further*, That the Director is authorized to accept and use gifts in the form of in-kind contributions of the following: space and hospitality to support offender and defendant programs; equipment, supplies, and vocational training services necessary to sustain, educate, and train offenders and defendants, including their dependent children; and programmatic incentives for offenders and defendants meeting terms of supervision: *Provided further*, That the Director shall keep accurate and detailed records of the acceptance and use of any gift under the previous proviso, and shall make such records available for audit and public inspection: *Provided further*, That the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency Director is authorized to accept and use reimbursement from the District of Columbia Government for space and services provided on a cost reimbursable basis.

##### FEDERAL PAYMENT TO THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICE

For salaries and expenses, including the transfer and hire of motor vehicles, of the District of Columbia Public Defender Service, as authorized by the National Capital Revitalization and Self-Government Improvement Act of 1997, \$41,231,000, of which \$1,150,000, to remain available until September 30, 2017, is for relocation of satellite offices: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, all amounts under this heading shall be apportioned quarterly by the Office of Management and Budget and obligated and expended in the same manner as funds appropriated for salaries and expenses of Federal agencies: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding section 1342 of title 31, United States Code, and in addition to the authority provided by the District of Columbia Code Section 2-1607(b), upon approval of the Board of Trustees, the District of Columbia Public Defender Service may accept and use voluntary and uncompensated services for the purpose of aiding or facilitating the work of the District of Columbia Public Defender Service: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding District of Columbia Code section 2-1603(d), for the purpose of any action

brought against the Board of the Trustees of the District of Columbia Public Defender Service, the trustees shall be deemed to be employees of the Public Defender Service.

**FEDERAL PAYMENT TO THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY**

For a Federal payment to the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority, \$14,000,000, to remain available until expended, to continue implementation of the Combined Sewer Overflow Long-Term Plan: *Provided*, That the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority provides a 100 percent match for this payment.

**FEDERAL PAYMENT TO THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL**

For a Federal payment to the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council, \$1,900,000, to remain available until expended, to support initiatives related to the coordination of Federal and local criminal justice resources in the District of Columbia.

**FEDERAL PAYMENT FOR JUDICIAL COMMISSIONS**

For a Federal payment, to remain available until September 30, 2016, to the Commission on Judicial Disabilities and Tenure, \$295,000, and for the Judicial Nomination Commission, \$270,000.

**FEDERAL PAYMENT FOR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT**

For a Federal payment for a school improvement program in the District of Columbia, \$45,000,000, to remain available until expended, for payments authorized under the Scholarship for Opportunity and Results Act (division C of Public Law 112-10): *Provided*, That within funds provided for opportunity scholarships \$3,000,000 shall be for the activities specified in sections 3007(b) through 3007(d) and 3009 of the Act.

**FEDERAL PAYMENT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA NATIONAL GUARD**

For a Federal payment to the District of Columbia National Guard, \$435,000, to remain available until expended for the Major General David F. Wherley, Jr. District of Columbia National Guard Retention and College Access Program.

**FEDERAL PAYMENT FOR TESTING AND TREATMENT OF HIV/AIDS**

For a Federal payment to the District of Columbia for the testing of individuals for, and the treatment of individuals with, human immunodeficiency virus and acquired immunodeficiency syndrome in the District of Columbia, \$5,000,000.

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA FUNDS**

Local funds are appropriated for the District of Columbia for the current fiscal year out of the General Fund of the District of Columbia ("General Fund") for programs and activities set forth under the heading "District of Columbia Funds Summary of Expenses" and at the rate set forth under such heading, as included in the Fiscal Year 2015 Budget Request Act of 2014 submitted to the Congress by the District of Columbia as amended as of the date of enactment of this Act: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, except as provided in section 450A of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act (section 1-204.50a, D.C. Official Code), sections 816 and 817 of the Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2009 (secs. 47-369.01 and 47-369.02, D.C. Official Code), and provisions of this Act, the total amount appropriated in this Act for operating expenses for the District of Columbia for fiscal year 2015 under this heading shall not exceed the estimates included in the Fiscal Year 2015 Budget Request Act of 2014 submitted to Congress by

the District of Columbia as amended as of the date of enactment of this Act or the sum of the total revenues of the District of Columbia for such fiscal year: *Provided further*, That the amount appropriated may be increased by proceeds of one-time transactions, which are expended for emergency or unanticipated operating or capital needs: *Provided further*, That such increases shall be approved by enactment of local District law and shall comply with all reserve requirements contained in the District of Columbia Home Rule Act: *Provided further*, That the Chief Financial Officer of the District of Columbia shall take such steps as are necessary to assure that the District of Columbia meets these requirements, including the apportioning by the Chief Financial Officer of the appropriations and funds made available to the District during fiscal year 2015, except that the Chief Financial Officer may not reprogram for operating expenses any funds derived from bonds, notes, or other obligations issued for capital projects.

This title may be cited as the "District of Columbia Appropriations Act, 2015".

**TITLE V**

**INDEPENDENT AGENCIES**

**ADMINISTRATIVE CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED STATES**

**SALARIES AND EXPENSES**

For necessary expenses of the Administrative Conference of the United States, authorized by 5 U.S.C. 591 et seq., \$3,100,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016, of which not to exceed \$1,000 is for official reception and representation expenses.

**COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION  
(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)**

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of the Commodity Exchange Act (7 U.S.C. 1 et seq.), including the purchase and hire of passenger motor vehicles, and the rental of space (to include multiple year leases) in the District of Columbia and elsewhere, \$250,000,000, including not to exceed \$3,000 for official reception and representation expenses, and not to exceed \$25,000 for the expenses for consultations and meetings hosted by the Commission with foreign governmental and other regulatory officials, of which not less than \$50,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016, shall be for the purchase of information technology and of which not less than \$2,620,000 shall be for the Office of the Inspector General: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$10,000,000 of the amounts provided herein may be moved between the amount for salaries and expenses and the amount for the purchase of information technology subject to reprogramming procedures under section 608 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation or expenditure except in compliance with the procedures set forth in that section.

**CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES**

For necessary expenses of the Consumer Product Safety Commission, including hire of passenger motor vehicles, services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, but at rates for individuals not to exceed the per diem rate equivalent to the maximum rate payable under 5 U.S.C. 5376, purchase of nominal awards to recognize non-Federal officials' contributions to Commission activities, and not to exceed \$4,000 for official reception and representation expenses, \$123,000,000.

**ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES  
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)**

For necessary expenses to carry out the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (Public Law

107-252), \$10,000,000, of which \$1,900,000 shall be transferred to the National Institute of Standards and Technology for election reform activities authorized under the Help America Vote Act of 2002.

**FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES**

For necessary expenses of the Federal Communications Commission, as authorized by law, including uniforms and allowances therefor, as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 5901-5902; not to exceed \$4,000 for official reception and representation expenses; purchase and hire of motor vehicles; special counsel fees; and services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, \$339,844,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of which not less than \$300,000 shall be available for consultation with federally recognized Indian tribes, Alaska Native villages, and entities related to Hawaiian Home Lands: *Provided further*, That \$339,844,000 of offsetting collections shall be assessed and collected pursuant to section 9 of title I of the Communications Act of 1934, shall be retained and used for necessary expenses and shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That the sum herein appropriated shall be reduced as such offsetting collections are received during fiscal year 2015 so as to result in a final fiscal year 2015 appropriation estimated at \$0: *Provided further*, That any offsetting collections received in excess of \$339,844,000 in fiscal year 2015 shall not be available for obligation: *Provided further*, That remaining offsetting collections from prior years collected in excess of the amount specified for collection in each such year and otherwise becoming available on October 1, 2014, shall not be available for obligation: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding 47 U.S.C. 309(j)(8)(B), proceeds from the use of a competitive bidding system that may be retained and made available for obligation shall not exceed \$106,000,000 for fiscal year 2015: *Provided further*, That of the amount appropriated under this heading, not less than \$11,090,000 shall be for the salaries and expenses of the Office of Inspector General.

**ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION**

SEC. 501. Section 302 of the Universal Service Antideficiency Temporary Suspension Act is amended by striking "December 31, 2015", each place it appears and inserting "December 31, 2016".

SEC. 502. None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be used by the Federal Communications Commission to modify, amend, or change its rules or regulations for universal service support payments to implement the February 27, 2004 recommendations of the Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service regarding single connection or primary line restrictions on universal service support payments.

**FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION  
OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL**

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General in carrying out the provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978, \$34,568,000, to be derived from the Deposit Insurance Fund or, only when appropriate, the FSLIC Resolution Fund.

**FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES**

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, \$67,500,000, of which not to exceed \$5,000 shall be available for reception and representation expenses.



FEDERAL LABOR RELATIONS AUTHORITY  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses to carry out functions of the Federal Labor Relations Authority, pursuant to Reorganization Plan Numbered 2 of 1978, and the Civil Service Reform Act of 1978, including services authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, and including hire of experts and consultants, hire of passenger motor vehicles, and including official reception and representation expenses (not to exceed \$1,500) and rental of conference rooms in the District of Columbia and elsewhere, \$25,548,000: *Provided*, That public members of the Federal Service Impasses Panel may be paid travel expenses and per diem in lieu of subsistence as authorized by law (5 U.S.C. 5703) for persons employed intermittently in the Government service, and compensation as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3302, funds received from fees charged to non-Federal participants at labor-management relations conferences shall be credited to and merged with this account, to be available without further appropriation for the costs of carrying out these conferences.

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Federal Trade Commission, including uniforms or allowances therefor, as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 5901-5902; services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109; hire of passenger motor vehicles; and not to exceed \$2,000 for official reception and representation expenses, \$293,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$300,000 shall be available for use to contract with a person or persons for collection services in accordance with the terms of 31 U.S.C. 3718: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, not to exceed \$100,000,000 of offsetting collections derived from fees collected for premerger notification filings under the Hart-Scott-Rodino Antitrust Improvements Act of 1976 (15 U.S.C. 18a), regardless of the year of collection, shall be retained and used for necessary expenses in this appropriation: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, not to exceed \$14,000,000 in offsetting collections derived from fees sufficient to implement and enforce the Telemarketing Sales Rule, promulgated under the Telemarketing and Consumer Fraud and Abuse Prevention Act (15 U.S.C. 6101 et seq.), shall be credited to this account, and be retained and used for necessary expenses in this appropriation: *Provided further*, That the sum herein appropriated from the general fund shall be reduced as such offsetting collections are received during fiscal year 2015, so as to result in a final fiscal year 2015 appropriation from the general fund estimated at not more than \$179,000,000: *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available to the Federal Trade Commission may be used to implement subsection (e)(2)(B) of section 43 of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. 1831t).

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

REAL PROPERTY ACTIVITIES

FEDERAL BUILDINGS FUND

LIMITATIONS ON AVAILABILITY OF REVENUE

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

Amounts in the Fund, including revenues and collections deposited into the Fund shall be available for necessary expenses of real property management and related activities not otherwise provided for, including operation, maintenance, and protection of federally owned and leased buildings; rental of

buildings in the District of Columbia; restoration of leased premises; moving governmental agencies (including space adjustments and telecommunications relocation expenses) in connection with the assignment, allocation and transfer of space; contractual services incident to cleaning or servicing buildings, and moving; repair and alteration of federally owned buildings including grounds, approaches and appurtenances; care and safeguarding of sites; maintenance, preservation, demolition, and equipment; acquisition of buildings and sites by purchase, condemnation, or as otherwise authorized by law; acquisition of options to purchase buildings and sites; conversion and extension of federally owned buildings; preliminary planning and design of projects by contract or otherwise; construction of new buildings (including equipment for such buildings); and payment of principal, interest, and any other obligations for public buildings acquired by installment purchase and purchase contract; in the aggregate amount of \$9,238,310,000, of which—

(1) \$509,670,000 shall remain available until expended for construction and acquisition (including funds for sites and expenses, and associated design and construction services) of additional projects at—

(A) California, Calexico, Calexico West Land Port of Entry, \$98,062,000;

(B) California, San Diego, San Ysidro Land Port of Entry, \$216,828,000;

(C) District of Columbia, Washington, DHS Consolidation at St. Elizabeths, \$144,000,000;

(D) National Capital Region, Civilian Cyber Campus, \$35,000,000; and

(E) New York, Glenville, Scotia Depot, \$15,780,000:

*Provided*, That each of the foregoing limits of costs on new construction and acquisition projects may be exceeded to the extent that savings are effected in other such projects, but not to exceed 10 percent of the amounts included in a transmitted prospectus, if required, unless advance approval is obtained from the Committees on Appropriations of a greater amount;

(2) \$818,160,000 shall remain available until expended for repairs and alterations, including associated design and construction services, of which—

(A) \$306,894,000 is for Major Repairs and Alterations;

(B) \$390,266,000 is for Basic Repairs and Alterations; and

(C) \$121,000,000 is for Special Emphasis Programs, of which—

(i) \$5,000,000 is for Energy and Water Retrofit and Conservation Measures;

(ii) \$26,000,000 is for Fire and Life Safety;

(iii) \$20,000,000 is for Judiciary Capital Security; and

(iv) \$70,000,000 is for Consolidation Activities: *Provided*, That consolidation projects result in reduced annual rent paid by the tenant agency: *Provided further*, That no consolidation project exceed \$20,000,000 in costs: *Provided further*, That consolidation projects are approved by each of the committees specified in section 3307(a) of title 40, United States Code: *Provided further*, That preference is given to consolidation projects that achieve a utilization rate of 130 usable square feet or less per person for office space: *Provided further*, That the obligation of funds under this paragraph for consolidation activities may not be made until 10 days after a proposed spending plan and explanation for each project to be undertaken, including estimated savings, has been submitted to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate:

*Provided*, That funds made available in this or any previous Act in the Federal Buildings Fund for Repairs and Alterations shall, for prospectus projects, be limited to the amount identified for each project, except each project in this or any previous Act may be increased by an amount not to exceed 10 percent unless advance approval is obtained from the Committees on Appropriations of a greater amount: *Provided further*, That additional projects for which prospectuses have been fully approved may be funded under this category only if advance approval is obtained from the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That the amounts provided in this or any prior Act for “Repairs and Alterations” may be used to fund costs associated with implementing security improvements to buildings necessary to meet the minimum standards for security in accordance with current law and in compliance with the reprogramming guidelines of the appropriate Committees of the House and Senate: *Provided further*, That the difference between the funds appropriated and expended on any projects in this or any prior Act, under the heading “Repairs and Alterations”, may be transferred to Basic Repairs and Alterations or used to fund authorized increases in prospectus projects: *Provided further*, That the amount provided in this or any prior Act for Basic Repairs and Alterations may be used to pay claims against the Government arising from any projects under the heading “Repairs and Alterations” or used to fund authorized increases in prospectus projects;

(3) \$5,666,348,000 for rental of space to remain available until expended; and

(4) \$2,244,132,000 for building operations to remain available until expended, of which \$1,122,727,000 is for building services, and \$1,121,405,000 is for salaries and expenses: *Provided further*, That not to exceed 5 percent of any appropriation made available under this paragraph for building operations may be transferred between and merged with such appropriations upon notification to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, but no such appropriation shall be increased by more than 5 percent by any such transfers: *Provided further*, That section 508 of this title shall not apply with respect to funds made available under this heading for building operations:

*Provided further*, That the total amount of funds made available from this Fund to the General Services Administration shall not be available for expenses of any construction, repair, alteration and acquisition project for which a prospectus, if required by 40 U.S.C. 3307(a), has not been approved, except that necessary funds may be expended for each project for required expenses for the development of a proposed prospectus: *Provided further*, That funds available in the Federal Buildings Fund may be expended for emergency repairs when advance approval is obtained from the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That amounts necessary to provide reimbursable special services to other agencies under 40 U.S.C. 592(b)(2) and amounts to provide such reimbursable fencing, lighting, guard booths, and other facilities on private or other property not in Government ownership or control as may be appropriate to enable the United States Secret Service to perform its protective functions pursuant to 18 U.S.C. 3056, shall be available from such revenues and collections: *Provided further*, That revenues and collections and any other sums accruing to this Fund during fiscal year 2015, excluding reimbursements under 40 U.S.C. 592(b)(2),

in excess of the aggregate new obligational authority authorized for Real Property Activities of the Federal Buildings Fund in this Act shall remain in the Fund and shall not be available for expenditure except as authorized in appropriations Acts.

GENERAL ACTIVITIES  
GOVERNMENT-WIDE POLICY

For expenses authorized by law, not otherwise provided for, for Government-wide policy and evaluation activities associated with the management of real and personal property assets and certain administrative services; Government-wide policy support responsibilities relating to acquisition, travel, motor vehicles, information technology management, and related technology activities; and services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109; \$58,000,000.

OPERATING EXPENSES  
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For expenses authorized by law, not otherwise provided for, for Government-wide activities associated with utilization and donation of surplus personal property; disposal of real property; agency-wide policy direction, management, and communications; the Civilian Board of Contract Appeals; services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109; \$61,049,000, of which \$26,328,000 is for Real and Personal Property Management and Disposal; \$25,729,000 is for the Office of the Administrator, of which not to exceed \$7,500 is for official reception and representation expenses; and \$8,992,000 is for the Civilian Board of Contract Appeals: *Provided further*, That not to exceed 5 percent of the appropriation made available under this heading for Office of the Administrator may be transferred to the appropriation for the Real and Personal Property Management and Disposal upon notification to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, but the appropriation for the Real and Personal Property Management and Disposal may not be increased by more than 5 percent by any such transfer.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General and service authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, \$65,000,000, of which \$2,000,000 is available until expended: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$50,000 shall be available for payment for information and detection of fraud against the Government, including payment for recovery of stolen Government property: *Provided further*, That not to exceed \$2,500 shall be available for awards to employees of other Federal agencies and private citizens in recognition of efforts and initiatives resulting in enhanced Office of Inspector General effectiveness.

ALLOWANCES AND OFFICE STAFF FOR FORMER PRESIDENTS

For carrying out the provisions of the Act of August 25, 1958 (3 U.S.C. 102 note), and Public Law 95-138, \$3,250,000.

FEDERAL CITIZEN SERVICES FUND  
(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Office of Citizen Services and Innovative Technologies, including services authorized by 40 U.S.C. 323 and 44 U.S.C. 3604; and for necessary expenses in support of interagency projects that enable the Federal Government to enhance its ability to conduct activities electronically, through the development and implementation of innovative uses of information technology; \$53,294,000, of which \$14,135,000 shall be available for electronic government projects, to be deposited into the Federal

Citizen Services Fund: *Provided*, That the previous amount may be transferred to Federal agencies to carry out the purpose of the Federal Citizen Services Fund: *Provided further*, That the appropriations, revenues, reimbursements, and collections deposited into the Fund shall be available until expended for necessary expenses of Federal Citizen Services and other activities that enable the Federal Government to enhance its ability to conduct activities electronically in the aggregate amount not to exceed \$90,000,000: *Provided further*, That appropriations, revenues, reimbursements, and collections accruing to this Fund during fiscal year 2015 in excess of such amount shall remain in the Fund and shall not be available for expenditure except as authorized in appropriations Acts: *Provided further*, That any appropriations provided to the Electronic Government Fund that remain unobligated as of September 30, 2014, may be transferred to the Federal Citizen Services Fund: *Provided further*, That the transfer authorities provided herein shall be in addition to any other transfer authority provided in this Act.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—GENERAL  
SERVICES ADMINISTRATION  
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 510. Funds available to the General Services Administration shall be available for the hire of passenger motor vehicles.

SEC. 511. Funds in the Federal Buildings Fund made available for fiscal year 2015 for Federal Buildings Fund activities may be transferred between such activities only to the extent necessary to meet program requirements: *Provided*, That any proposed transfers shall be approved in advance by the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

SEC. 512. Except as otherwise provided in this title, funds made available by this Act shall be used to transmit a fiscal year 2016 request for United States Courthouse construction only if the request: (1) meets the design guide standards for construction as established and approved by the General Services Administration, the Judicial Conference of the United States, and the Office of Management and Budget; (2) reflects the priorities of the Judicial Conference of the United States as set out in its approved 5-year construction plan; and (3) includes a standardized courtroom utilization study of each facility to be constructed, replaced, or expanded.

SEC. 513. None of the funds provided in this Act may be used to increase the amount of occupiable square feet, provide cleaning services, security enhancements, or any other service usually provided through the Federal Buildings Fund, to any agency that does not pay the rate per square foot assessment for space and services as determined by the General Services Administration in consideration of the Public Buildings Amendments Act of 1972 (Public Law 92-313).

SEC. 514. From funds made available under the heading "Federal Buildings Fund, Limitations on Availability of Revenue", claims against the Government of less than \$250,000 arising from direct construction projects and acquisition of buildings may be liquidated from savings effected in other construction projects with prior notification to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

SEC. 515. In any case in which the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate adopt a resolution granting lease authority pursuant to a pro-

spectus transmitted to Congress by the Administrator of the General Services Administration under 40 U.S.C. 3307, the Administrator shall ensure that the delineated area of procurement is identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus for all lease agreements, except that, if the Administrator determines that the delineated area of the procurement should not be identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, the Administrator shall provide an explanatory statement to each of such committees and the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate prior to exercising any lease authority provided in the resolution.

SEC. 516. With respect to each project funded under the heading "Major Repairs and Alterations" or "Judiciary Capital Security Program", and with respect to E-Government projects funded under the heading "Federal Citizen Services Fund", the Administrator of General Services shall submit a spending plan and explanation for each project to be undertaken to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 517. Any consolidation of the headquarters of the Federal Bureau of Investigation must result in a full consolidation.

HARRY S TRUMAN SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For payment to the Harry S Truman Scholarship Foundation Trust Fund, established by section 10 of Public Law 93-642, \$750,000, to remain available until expended.

MERIT SYSTEMS PROTECTION BOARD  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses to carry out functions of the Merit Systems Protection Board pursuant to Reorganization Plan Numbered 2 of 1978, the Civil Service Reform Act of 1978, and the Whistleblower Protection Act of 1989 (5 U.S.C. 5509 note), including services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, rental of conference rooms in the District of Columbia and elsewhere, hire of passenger motor vehicles, direct procurement of survey printing, and not to exceed \$2,000 for official reception and representation expenses, \$42,740,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016, together with not to exceed \$2,345,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016, for administrative expenses to adjudicate retirement appeals to be transferred from the Civil Service Retirement and Disability Fund in amounts determined by the Merit Systems Protection Board.

MORRIS K. UDALL AND STEWART L. UDALL  
FOUNDATION

MORRIS K. UDALL AND STEWART L. UDALL  
TRUST FUND

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For payment to the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Trust Fund, pursuant to the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Foundation Act (20 U.S.C. 5601 et seq.), \$1,995,000, to remain available until expended, of which, notwithstanding sections 8 and 9 of such Act: (1) up to \$50,000 shall be used to conduct financial audits pursuant to the Accountability of Tax Dollars Act of 2002 (Public Law 107-289); and (2) up to \$1,000,000 shall be available to carry out the activities authorized by section 6(7) of Public Law 102-259 and section 817(a) of Public Law 106-568 (20 U.S.C. 5604(7)): *Provided*, That of the total amount made available under this heading \$200,000 shall be transferred to the Office of Inspector General of the Department of the



Interior, to remain available until expended, for audits and investigations of the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Foundation, consistent with the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.).

#### ENVIRONMENTAL DISPUTE RESOLUTION FUND

For payment to the Environmental Dispute Resolution Fund to carry out activities authorized in the Environmental Policy and Conflict Resolution Act of 1998, \$3,400,000, to remain available until expended.

#### NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION

##### OPERATING EXPENSES

For necessary expenses in connection with the administration of the National Archives and Records Administration and archived Federal records and related activities, as provided by law, and for expenses necessary for the review and declassification of documents, the activities of the Public Interest Declassification Board, the operations and maintenance of the electronic records archives, the hire of passenger motor vehicles, and for uniforms or allowances therefor, as authorized by law (5 U.S.C. 5901), including maintenance, repairs, and cleaning, \$365,000,000.

#### OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General in carrying out the provisions of the Inspector General Reform Act of 2008, Public Law 110-409, 122 Stat. 4302-16 (2008), and the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.), and for the hire of passenger motor vehicles, \$4,130,000.

##### REPAIRS AND RESTORATION

For the repair, alteration, and improvement of archives facilities, and to provide adequate storage for holdings, \$7,600,000, to remain available until expended.

#### NATIONAL HISTORICAL PUBLICATIONS AND RECORDS COMMISSION GRANTS PROGRAM

For necessary expenses for allocations and grants for historical publications and records as authorized by 44 U.S.C. 2504, \$5,000,000, to remain available until expended.

#### NATIONAL CREDIT UNION ADMINISTRATION COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REVOLVING LOAN FUND

For the Community Development Revolving Loan Fund program as authorized by 42 U.S.C. 9812, 9822 and 9910, \$2,000,000 shall be available until September 30, 2016, for technical assistance to low-income designated credit unions.

#### OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT ETHICS SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses to carry out functions of the Office of Government Ethics pursuant to the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, the Ethics Reform Act of 1989, and the Stop Trading on Congressional Knowledge Act of 2012, including services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, rental of conference rooms in the District of Columbia and elsewhere, hire of passenger motor vehicles, and not to exceed \$1,500 for official reception and representation expenses, \$15,420,000.

#### OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT SALARIES AND EXPENSES

##### (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF TRUST FUNDS)

For necessary expenses to carry out functions of the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) pursuant to Reorganization Plan Numbered 2 of 1978 and the Civil Service Reform Act of 1978, including services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109; medical examina-

tions performed for veterans by private physicians on a fee basis; rental of conference rooms in the District of Columbia and elsewhere; hire of passenger motor vehicles; not to exceed \$2,500 for official reception and representation expenses; advances for reimbursements to applicable funds of OPM and the Federal Bureau of Investigation for expenses incurred under Executive Order No. 10422 of January 9, 1953, as amended; and payment of per diem and/or subsistence allowances to employees where Voting Rights Act activities require an employee to remain overnight at his or her post of duty, \$96,039,000, of which \$642,000 may be for strengthening the capacity and capabilities of the acquisition workforce (as defined by the Office of Federal Procurement Policy Act, as amended (41 U.S.C. 4001 et seq.)), including the recruitment, hiring, training, and retention of such workforce and information technology in support of acquisition workforce effectiveness or for management solutions to improve acquisition management; and in addition \$118,425,000 for administrative expenses, to be transferred from the appropriate trust funds of OPM without regard to other statutes, including direct procurement of printed materials, for the retirement and insurance programs: *Provided*, That the provisions of this appropriation shall not affect the authority to use applicable trust funds as provided by sections 8348(a)(1)(B), 8958(f)(2)(A), 8988(f)(2)(A), and 9004(f)(2)(A) of title 5, United States Code: *Provided further*, That no part of this appropriation shall be available for salaries and expenses of the Legal Examining Unit of OPM established pursuant to Executive Order No. 9358 of July 1, 1943, or any successor unit of like purpose: *Provided further*, That the President's Commission on White House Fellows, established by Executive Order No. 11183 of October 3, 1964, may, during fiscal year 2015, accept donations of money, property, and personal services: *Provided further*, That such donations, including those from prior years, may be used for the development of publicity materials to provide information about the White House Fellows, except that no such donations shall be accepted for travel or reimbursement of travel expenses, or for the salaries of employees of such Commission.

#### OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL SALARIES AND EXPENSES

##### (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF TRUST FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General in carrying out the provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978, including services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, hire of passenger motor vehicles, \$4,384,000, and in addition, not to exceed \$21,340,000 for administrative expenses to audit, investigate, and provide other oversight of the Office of Personnel Management's retirement and insurance programs, to be transferred from the appropriate trust funds of the Office of Personnel Management, as determined by the Inspector General: *Provided*, That the Inspector General is authorized to rent conference rooms in the District of Columbia and elsewhere.

#### OFFICE OF SPECIAL COUNSEL SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses to carry out functions of the Office of Special Counsel pursuant to Reorganization Plan Numbered 2 of 1978, the Civil Service Reform Act of 1978 (Public Law 95-454), the Whistleblower Protection Act of 1989 (Public Law 101-12) as amended by Public Law 107-304, the Whistleblower Protection Enhancement Act of 2012 (Public Law 112-199), and the Uniformed

Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994 (Public Law 103-353), including services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, payment of fees and expenses for witnesses, rental of conference rooms in the District of Columbia and elsewhere, and hire of passenger motor vehicles; \$22,939,000.

#### POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION

##### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

##### (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Postal Regulatory Commission in carrying out the provisions of the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act (Public Law 109-435), \$14,700,000, to be derived by transfer from the Postal Service Fund and expended as authorized by section 603(a) of such Act.

#### PRIVACY AND CIVIL LIBERTIES OVERSIGHT BOARD

##### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board, as authorized by section 1061 of the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 (42 U.S.C. 2000ee), \$7,500,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016.

#### RECOVERY ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY BOARD

##### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Recovery Accountability and Transparency Board to carry out the provisions of title XV of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Public Law 111-5), and to develop and test information technology resources and oversight mechanisms to enhance transparency of and detect and remediate waste, fraud, and abuse in Federal spending, and to develop and use information technology resources and oversight mechanisms to detect and remediate waste, fraud, and abuse in obligation and expenditure of funds as described in section 904(d) of the Disaster Relief Appropriations Act, 2013 (Public Law 113-2), which shall be administered under the terms and conditions of the accountability authorities of title XV of Public Law 111-5, \$18,000,000.

#### SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses for the Securities and Exchange Commission, including services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, the rental of space (to include multiple year leases) in the District of Columbia and elsewhere, and not to exceed \$3,500 for official reception and representation expenses, \$1,500,000,000, to remain available until expended; of which not less than \$9,239,000 shall be for the Office of Inspector General; of which not to exceed \$50,000 shall be available for a permanent secretariat for the International Organization of Securities Commissions; of which not to exceed \$100,000 shall be available for expenses for consultations and meetings hosted by the Commission with foreign governmental and other regulatory officials, members of their delegations and staffs to exchange views concerning securities matters, such expenses to include necessary logistic and administrative expenses and the expenses of Commission staff and foreign invitees in attendance including: (1) incidental expenses such as meals; (2) travel and transportation; and (3) related lodging or subsistence; and of which not less than \$56,613,000 shall be for the Division of Economic and Risk Analysis: *Provided*, That fees and charges authorized by section 31 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78ee) shall be credited to this account as offsetting collections: *Provided further*, That

not to exceed \$1,500,000,000 of such offsetting collections shall be available until expended for necessary expenses of this account: *Provided further*, That the total amount appropriated under this heading from the general fund for fiscal year 2015 shall be reduced as such offsetting fees are received so as to result in a final total fiscal year 2015 appropriation from the general fund estimated at not more than \$0.

#### SELECTIVE SERVICE SYSTEM SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Selective Service System, including expenses of attendance at meetings and of training for uniformed personnel assigned to the Selective Service System, as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 4101-4118 for civilian employees; hire of passenger motor vehicles; services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109; and not to exceed \$750 for official reception and representation expenses; \$22,500,000: *Provided*, That during the current fiscal year, the President may exempt this appropriation from the provisions of 31 U.S.C. 1341, whenever the President deems such action to be necessary in the interest of national defense: *Provided further*, That none of the funds appropriated by this Act may be expended for or in connection with the induction of any person into the Armed Forces of the United States.

#### SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, of the Small Business Administration, including hire of passenger motor vehicles as authorized by sections 1343 and 1344 of title 31, United States Code, and not to exceed \$3,500 for official reception and representation expenses, \$257,000,000, of which not less than \$12,000,000 shall be available for examinations, reviews, and other lender oversight activities: *Provided*, That the Administrator is authorized to charge fees to cover the cost of publications developed by the Small Business Administration, and certain loan program activities, including fees authorized by section 5(b) of the Small Business Act: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3302, revenues received from all such activities shall be credited to this account, to remain available until expended, for carrying out these purposes without further appropriations: *Provided further*, That the Small Business Administration may accept gifts in an amount not to exceed \$4,000,000 and may co-sponsor activities, each in accordance with section 132(a) of division K of Public Law 108-447, during fiscal year 2015: *Provided further*, That \$6,100,000 shall be available for the Loan Modernization and Accounting System, to be available until September 30, 2016: *Provided further*, That \$2,000,000 shall be for the Federal and State Technology Partnership Program under section 34 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 657d).

#### ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

For necessary expenses of programs supporting entrepreneurial and small business development, \$220,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That \$115,000,000 shall be available to fund grants for performance in fiscal year 2015 or fiscal year 2016 as authorized by section 21 of the Small Business Act: *Provided further*, That \$22,300,000 shall be for marketing, management, and technical assistance under section 7(m) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(m)(4)) by intermediaries that make microloans under the microloan program: *Provided further*, That \$17,400,000 shall be

available for grants to States to carry out export programs that assist small business concerns authorized under section 1207 of Public Law 111-240.

#### OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General in carrying out the provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978, \$19,400,000.

#### OFFICE OF ADVOCACY

For necessary expenses of the Office of Advocacy in carrying out the provisions of title II of Public Law 94-305 (15 U.S.C. 634a et seq.) and the Regulatory Flexibility Act of 1980 (5 U.S.C. 601 et seq.), \$9,120,000, to remain available until expended.

#### BUSINESS LOANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the cost of direct loans, \$2,500,000, to remain available until expended, and for the cost of guaranteed loans as authorized by section 503 of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 (Public Law 85-699), \$45,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That such costs, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974: *Provided further*, That subject to section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, during fiscal year 2015 commitments to guarantee loans under section 503 of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 shall not exceed \$7,500,000,000: *Provided further*, That during fiscal year 2015 commitments for general business loans authorized under section 7(a) of the Small Business Act shall not exceed \$18,750,000,000 for a combination of amortizing term loans and the aggregated maximum line of credit provided by revolving loans: *Provided further*, That during fiscal year 2015 commitments to guarantee loans for debentures under section 303(b) of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 shall not exceed \$4,000,000,000: *Provided further*, That during fiscal year 2015, guarantees of trust certificates authorized by section 5(g) of the Small Business Act shall not exceed a principal amount of \$12,000,000,000. In addition, for administrative expenses to carry out the direct and guaranteed loan programs, \$147,726,000, which may be transferred to and merged with the appropriations for Salaries and Expenses.

#### DISASTER LOANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT (INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For administrative expenses to carry out the direct loan program authorized by section 7(b) of the Small Business Act, \$186,858,000, to be available until expended, of which \$1,000,000 is for the Office of Inspector General of the Small Business Administration for audits and reviews of disaster loans and the disaster loan programs and shall be transferred to and merged with the appropriations for the Office of Inspector General; of which \$176,858,000 is for direct administrative expenses of loan making and servicing to carry out the direct loan program, which may be transferred to and merged with the appropriations for Salaries and Expenses; and of which \$9,000,000 is for indirect administrative expenses for the direct loan program, which may be transferred to and merged with the appropriations for Salaries and Expenses.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 520. Not to exceed 5 percent of any appropriation made available for the current fiscal year for the Small Business Adminis-

tration in this Act may be transferred between such appropriations, but no such appropriation shall be increased by more than 10 percent by any such transfers: *Provided*, That any transfer pursuant to this paragraph shall be treated as a reprogramming of funds under section 608 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation or expenditure except in compliance with the procedures set forth in that section.

SEC. 521. (a) None of the funds made available under this Act may be used to collect a guarantee fee under section 7(a)(18) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(a)(18)) with respect to a loan guaranteed under section 7(a)(31) of such Act that is made to a small business concern (as defined under section 3 of such Act (15 U.S.C. 632)) that is 51 percent or more owned and controlled by 1 or more individuals who is a veteran (as defined in section 101 of title 38, United States Code) or the spouse of a veteran.

(b) Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit the authority of the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to waive such a guarantee fee or any other loan fee with respect to a loan to a small business concern described in subsection (a) or any other borrower.

#### UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE PAYMENT TO THE POSTAL SERVICE FUND

For payment to the Postal Service Fund for revenue forgone on free and reduced rate mail, pursuant to subsections (c) and (d) of section 2401 of title 39, United States Code, \$70,000,000, of which \$41,000,000 shall not be available for obligation until October 1, 2015: *Provided*, That mail for overseas voting and mail for the blind shall continue to be free: *Provided further*, That 6-day delivery and rural delivery of mail shall continue at not less than the 1983 level: *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available to the Postal Service by this Act shall be used to implement any rule, regulation, or policy of charging any officer or employee of any State or local child support enforcement agency, or any individual participating in a State or local program of child support enforcement, a fee for information requested or provided concerning an address of a postal customer: *Provided further*, That none of the funds provided in this Act shall be used to consolidate or close small rural and other small post offices.

#### OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL SALARIES AND EXPENSES (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General in carrying out the provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978, \$243,883,000, to be derived by transfer from the Postal Service Fund and expended as authorized by section 603(b)(3) of the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act (Public Law 109-435).

#### UNITED STATES TAX COURT SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses, including contract reporting and other services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, \$51,300,000: *Provided*, That travel expenses of the judges shall be paid upon the written certificate of the judge.

#### TITLE VI GENERAL PROVISIONS—THIS ACT (INCLUDING RESCISSION)

SEC. 601. None of the funds in this Act shall be used for the planning or execution of any program to pay the expenses of, or otherwise compensate, non-Federal parties intervening in regulatory or adjudicatory proceedings funded in this Act.

SEC. 602. None of the funds appropriated in this Act shall remain available for obligation beyond the current fiscal year, nor may any be transferred to other appropriations, unless expressly so provided herein.

SEC. 603. The expenditure of any appropriation under this Act for any consulting service through procurement contract pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3109, shall be limited to those contracts where such expenditures are a matter of public record and available for public inspection, except where otherwise provided under existing law, or under existing Executive order issued pursuant to existing law.

SEC. 604. None of the funds made available in this Act may be transferred to any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States Government, except pursuant to a transfer made by, or transfer authority provided in, this Act or any other appropriations Act.

SEC. 605. None of the funds made available by this Act shall be available for any activity or for paying the salary of any Government employee where funding an activity or paying a salary to a Government employee would result in a decision, determination, rule, regulation, or policy that would prohibit the enforcement of section 307 of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1307).

SEC. 606. No funds appropriated pursuant to this Act may be expended by an entity unless the entity agrees that in expending the assistance the entity will comply with chapter 83 of title 41, United States Code.

SEC. 607. No funds appropriated or otherwise made available under this Act shall be made available to any person or entity that has been convicted of violating chapter 83 of title 41, United States Code.

SEC. 608. Except as otherwise provided in this Act, none of the funds provided in this Act, provided by previous appropriations Acts to the agencies or entities funded in this Act that remain available for obligation or expenditure in fiscal year 2015, or provided from any accounts in the Treasury derived by the collection of fees and available to the agencies funded by this Act, shall be available for obligation or expenditure through a reprogramming of funds that: (1) creates a new program; (2) eliminates a program, project, or activity; (3) increases funds or personnel for any program, project, or activity for which funds have been denied or restricted by the Congress; (4) proposes to use funds directed for a specific activity by the Committee on Appropriations of either the House of Representatives or the Senate for a different purpose; (5) augments existing programs, projects, or activities in excess of \$5,000,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less; (6) reduces existing programs, projects, or activities by \$5,000,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less; or (7) creates or reorganizes offices, programs, or activities unless prior approval is received from the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate: *Provided*, That prior to any significant reorganization or restructuring of offices, programs, or activities, each agency or entity funded in this Act shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate: *Provided further*, That not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, each agency funded by this Act shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate to establish the baseline for application of reprogramming and transfer authorities for the current fiscal year: *Provided further*, That at a minimum the report shall include: (1) a

table for each appropriation with a separate column to display the President's budget request, adjustments made by Congress, adjustments due to enacted rescissions, if appropriate, and the fiscal year enacted level; (2) a delineation in the table for each appropriation both by object class and program, project, and activity as detailed in the budget appendix for the respective appropriation; and (3) an identification of items of special congressional interest: *Provided further*, That the amount appropriated or limited for salaries and expenses for an agency shall be reduced by \$100,000 per day for each day after the required date that the report has not been submitted to the Congress.

SEC. 609. Except as otherwise specifically provided by law, not to exceed 50 percent of unobligated balances remaining available at the end of fiscal year 2015 from appropriations made available for salaries and expenses for fiscal year 2015 in this Act, shall remain available through September 30, 2016, for each such account for the purposes authorized: *Provided*, That a request shall be submitted to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate for approval prior to the expenditure of such funds: *Provided further*, That these requests shall be made in compliance with reprogramming guidelines.

SEC. 610. (a) None of the funds made available in this Act may be used by the Executive Office of the President to request—

(1) any official background investigation report on any individual from the Federal Bureau of Investigation; or

(2) a determination with respect to the treatment of an organization as described in section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and exempt from taxation under section 501(a) of such Code from the Department of the Treasury or the Internal Revenue Service.

(b) Subsection (a) shall not apply—

(1) in the case of an official background investigation report, if such individual has given express written consent for such request not more than 6 months prior to the date of such request and during the same presidential administration; or

(2) if such request is required due to extraordinary circumstances involving national security.

SEC. 611. The cost accounting standards promulgated under chapter 15 of title 41, United States Code shall not apply with respect to a contract under the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program established under chapter 89 of title 5, United States Code.

SEC. 612. For the purpose of resolving litigation and implementing any settlement agreements regarding the nonforeign area cost-of-living allowance program, the Office of Personnel Management may accept and utilize (without regard to any restriction on unanticipated travel expenses imposed in an Appropriations Act) funds made available to the Office of Personnel Management pursuant to court approval.

SEC. 613. No funds appropriated by this Act shall be available to pay for an abortion, or the administrative expenses in connection with any health plan under the Federal employees health benefits program which provides any benefits or coverage for abortions.

SEC. 614. The provision of section 613 shall not apply where the life of the mother would be endangered if the fetus were carried to term, or the pregnancy is the result of an act of rape or incest.

SEC. 615. In order to promote Government access to commercial information tech-

nology, the restriction on purchasing non-domestic articles, materials, and supplies set forth in chapter 83 of title 41, United States Code (popularly known as the Buy American Act), shall not apply to the acquisition by the Federal Government of information technology (as defined in section 11101 of title 40, United States Code), that is a commercial item (as defined in section 103 of title 41, United States Code).

SEC. 616. Notwithstanding section 1353 of title 31, United States Code, no officer or employee of any regulatory agency or commission funded by this Act may accept on behalf of that agency, nor may such agency or commission accept, payment or reimbursement from a non-Federal entity for travel, subsistence, or related expenses for the purpose of enabling an officer or employee to attend and participate in any meeting or similar function relating to the official duties of the officer or employee when the entity offering payment or reimbursement is a person or entity subject to regulation by such agency or commission, or represents a person or entity subject to regulation by such agency or commission, unless the person or entity is an organization described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and exempt from tax under section 501(a) of such Code.

SEC. 617. Notwithstanding section 708 of this Act, funds made available to the Commodity Futures Trading Commission and the Securities and Exchange Commission by this or any other Act may be used for the inter-agency funding and sponsorship of a joint advisory committee to advise on emerging regulatory issues.

SEC. 618. (a)(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an Executive agency covered by this Act otherwise authorized to enter into contracts for either leases or the construction or alteration of real property for office, meeting, storage, or other space must consult with the General Services Administration before issuing a solicitation for offers of new leases or construction contracts, and in the case of succeeding leases, before entering into negotiations with the current lessor.

(2) Any such agency with authority to enter into an emergency lease may do so during any period declared by the President to require emergency leasing authority with respect to such agency.

(b) For purposes of this section, the term "Executive agency covered by this Act" means any Executive agency provided funds by this Act, but does not include the General Services Administration or the United States Postal Service.

SEC. 619. (a) There are appropriated for the following activities the amounts required under current law:

(1) Compensation of the President (3 U.S.C. 102).

(2) Payments to—

(A) the Judicial Officers' Retirement Fund (28 U.S.C. 377(o));

(B) the Judicial Survivors' Annuities Fund (28 U.S.C. 376(c)); and

(C) the United States Court of Federal Claims Judges' Retirement Fund (28 U.S.C. 178(l)).

(3) Payment of Government contributions—

(A) with respect to the health benefits of retired employees, as authorized by chapter 89 of title 5, United States Code, and the Retired Federal Employees Health Benefits Act (74 Stat. 849); and

(B) with respect to the life insurance benefits for employees retiring after December 31, 1989 (5 U.S.C. ch. 87).

(4) Payment to finance the unfunded liability of new and increased annuity benefits under the Civil Service Retirement and Disability Fund (5 U.S.C. 8348).

(5) Payment of annuities authorized to be paid from the Civil Service Retirement and Disability Fund by statutory provisions other than subchapter III of chapter 83 or chapter 84 of title 5, United States Code.

(b) Nothing in this section may be construed to exempt any amount appropriated by this section from any otherwise applicable limitation on the use of funds contained in this Act.

SEC. 620. The Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (Board) shall have authority to obligate funds for the scholarship program established by section 109(c)(2) of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 (Public Law 107-204) in an aggregate amount not exceeding the amount of funds collected by the Board as of December 31, 2014, including accrued interest, as a result of the assessment of monetary penalties. Funds available for obligation in fiscal year 2015 shall remain available until expended.

SEC. 621. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used by the Federal Trade Commission to complete the draft report entitled "Interagency Working Group on Food Marketed to Children: Preliminary Proposed Nutrition Principles to Guide Industry Self-Regulatory Efforts" unless the Interagency Working Group on Food Marketed to Children complies with Executive Order No. 13563.

SEC. 622. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to pay the salaries and expenses for the following positions:

(1) Director, White House Office of Health Reform.

(2) Assistant to the President for Energy and Climate Change.

(3) Senior Advisor to the Secretary of the Treasury assigned to the Presidential Task Force on the Auto Industry and Senior Counselor for Manufacturing Policy.

(4) White House Director of Urban Affairs.

SEC. 623. None of the funds in this Act may be used for the Director of the Office of Personnel Management to award a contract, enter an extension of, or exercise an option on a contract to a contractor conducting the final quality review processes for background investigation fieldwork services or background investigation support services that, as of the date of the award of the contract, are being conducted by that contractor.

SEC. 624. Sections 1101(a) and 1104(a)(2)(A) of the Internet Tax Freedom Act (title XI of division C of Public Law 105-277; 47 U.S.C. 151 note) are amended by striking "November 1, 2014" and inserting "October 1, 2015".

SEC. 625. (a) The head of each executive branch agency funded by this Act shall ensure that the Chief Information Officer of the agency has the authority to participate in decisions regarding the budget planning process related to information technology.

(b) Amounts appropriated for any executive branch agency funded by this Act that are available for information technology shall be allocated within the agency, consistent with the provisions of appropriations Acts and budget guidelines and recommendations from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, in such manner as specified by, or approved by, the Chief Information Officer of the agency in consultation with the Chief Financial Officer of the agency and budget officials.

SEC. 626. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used in contravention of

chapter 29, 31, or 33 of title 44, United States Code.

SEC. 627. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to enter into any contract with an incorporated entity if such entity's sealed bid or competitive proposal shows that such entity is incorporated or chartered in Bermuda or the Cayman Islands, and such entity's sealed bid or competitive proposal shows that such entity was previously incorporated in the United States.

SEC. 628. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to lease or purchase new light duty vehicles for any executive fleet, or for an agency's fleet inventory, except in accordance with Presidential Memorandum—Federal Fleet Performance, dated May 24, 2011. In instances where there is not an appropriate alternative fueled vehicle commercially available for a particular light duty vehicle class, an exception is granted as to not impede agency missions.

SEC. 629. From the unobligated balances available in the Securities and Exchange Commission Reserve Fund established by section 991 of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (Public Law 111-203), \$25,000,000 are rescinded.

SEC. 630. Section 716 of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (15 U.S.C. 8305) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (2)(B), by striking "insured depository institution" and inserting "covered depository institution"; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

"(3) COVERED DEPOSITORY INSTITUTION.—The term 'covered depository institution' means—

"(A) an insured depository institution, as that term is defined in section 3 of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. 1813); and

"(B) a United States uninsured branch or agency of a foreign bank.";

(2) in subsection (c)—

(A) in the heading for such subsection, by striking "INSURED" and inserting "COVERED";

(B) by striking "an insured" and inserting "a covered";

(C) by striking "such insured" and inserting "such covered"; and

(D) by striking "or savings and loan holding company" and inserting "savings and loan holding company, or foreign banking organization (as such term is defined under Regulation K of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (12 CFR 211.21(o)))";

(3) by amending subsection (d) to read as follows:

"(d) ONLY BONA FIDE HEDGING AND TRADITIONAL BANK ACTIVITIES PERMITTED.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The prohibition in subsection (a) shall not apply to any covered depository institution that limits its swap and security-based swap activities to the following:

"(A) HEDGING AND OTHER SIMILAR RISK MITIGATION ACTIVITIES.—Hedging and other similar risk mitigating activities directly related to the covered depository institution's activities.

"(B) NON-STRUCTURED FINANCE SWAP ACTIVITIES.—Acting as a swaps entity for swaps or security-based swaps other than a structured finance swap.

"(C) CERTAIN STRUCTURED FINANCE SWAP ACTIVITIES.—Acting as a swaps entity for swaps or security-based swaps that are structured finance swaps, if—

"(i) such structured finance swaps are undertaken for hedging or risk management purposes; or

"(ii) each asset-backed security underlying such structured finance swaps is of a credit quality and of a type or category with respect to which the prudential regulators have jointly adopted rules authorizing swap or security-based swap activity by covered depository institutions.

"(2) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this subsection:

"(A) STRUCTURED FINANCE SWAP.—The term 'structured finance swap' means a swap or security-based swap based on an asset-backed security (or group or index primarily comprised of asset-backed securities).

"(B) ASSET-BACKED SECURITY.—The term 'asset-backed security' has the meaning given such term under section 3(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78c(a)).";

(4) in subsection (e), by striking "an insured" and inserting "a covered"; and

(5) in subsection (f)—

(A) by striking "an insured depository" and inserting "a covered depository"; and

(B) by striking "the insured depository" each place such term appears and inserting "the covered depository".

## TITLE VII

### GENERAL PROVISIONS—GOVERNMENT-WIDE

#### DEPARTMENTS, AGENCIES, AND CORPORATIONS (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 701. No department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States receiving appropriated funds under this or any other Act for fiscal year 2015 shall obligate or expend any such funds, unless such department, agency, or instrumentality has in place, and will continue to administer in good faith, a written policy designed to ensure that all of its workplaces are free from the illegal use, possession, or distribution of controlled substances (as defined in the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 802)) by the officers and employees of such department, agency, or instrumentality.

SEC. 702. Unless otherwise specifically provided, the maximum amount allowable during the current fiscal year in accordance with subsection 1343(c) of title 31, United States Code, for the purchase of any passenger motor vehicle (exclusive of buses, ambulances, law enforcement vehicles, protective vehicles, and undercover surveillance vehicles), is hereby fixed at \$13,197 except station wagons for which the maximum shall be \$13,631: *Provided*, That these limits may be exceeded by not to exceed \$3,700 for police-type vehicles, and by not to exceed \$4,000 for special heavy-duty vehicles: *Provided further*, That the limits set forth in this section may not be exceeded by more than 5 percent for electric or hybrid vehicles purchased for demonstration under the provisions of the Electric and Hybrid Vehicle Research, Development, and Demonstration Act of 1976: *Provided further*, That the limits set forth in this section may be exceeded by the incremental cost of clean alternative fuels vehicles acquired pursuant to Public Law 101-549 over the cost of comparable conventionally fueled vehicles: *Provided further*, That the limits set forth in this section shall not apply to any vehicle that is a commercial item and which operates on emerging motor vehicle technology, including but not limited to electric, plug-in hybrid electric, and hydrogen fuel cell vehicles.

SEC. 703. Appropriations of the executive departments and independent establishments

for the current fiscal year available for expenses of travel, or for the expenses of the activity concerned, are hereby made available for quarters allowances and cost-of-living allowances, in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 5922-5924.

SEC. 704. Unless otherwise specified in law during the current fiscal year, no part of any appropriation contained in this or any other Act shall be used to pay the compensation of any officer or employee of the Government of the United States (including any agency the majority of the stock of which is owned by the Government of the United States) whose post of duty is in the continental United States unless such person: (1) is a citizen of the United States; (2) is a person who is lawfully admitted for permanent residence and is seeking citizenship as outlined in 8 U.S.C. 1324b(a)(3)(B); (3) is a person who is admitted as a refugee under 8 U.S.C. 1157 or is granted asylum under 8 U.S.C. 1158 and has filed a declaration of intention to become a lawful permanent resident and then a citizen when eligible; or (4) is a person who owes allegiance to the United States: *Provided*, That for purposes of this section, affidavits signed by any such person shall be considered prima facie evidence that the requirements of this section with respect to his or her status are being complied with: *Provided further*, That for purposes of subsections (2) and (3) such affidavits shall be submitted prior to employment and updated thereafter as necessary: *Provided further*, That any person making a false affidavit shall be guilty of a felony, and upon conviction, shall be fined no more than \$4,000 or imprisoned for not more than 1 year, or both: *Provided further*, That the above penal clause shall be in addition to, and not in substitution for, any other provisions of existing law: *Provided further*, That any payment made to any officer or employee contrary to the provisions of this section shall be recoverable in action by the Federal Government: *Provided further*, That this section shall not apply to any person who is an officer or employee of the Government of the United States on the date of enactment of this Act, or to international broadcasters employed by the Broadcasting Board of Governors, or to temporary employment of translators, or to temporary employment in the field service (not to exceed 60 days) as a result of emergencies: *Provided further*, That this section does not apply to the employment as Wildland firefighters for not more than 120 days of nonresident aliens employed by the Department of the Interior or the USDA Forest Service pursuant to an agreement with another country.

SEC. 705. Appropriations available to any department or agency during the current fiscal year for necessary expenses, including maintenance or operating expenses, shall also be available for payment to the General Services Administration for charges for space and services and those expenses of renovation and alteration of buildings and facilities which constitute public improvements performed in accordance with the Public Buildings Act of 1959 (73 Stat. 479), the Public Buildings Amendments of 1972 (86 Stat. 216), or other applicable law.

SEC. 706. In addition to funds provided in this or any other Act, all Federal agencies are authorized to receive and use funds resulting from the sale of materials, including Federal records disposed of pursuant to a records schedule recovered through recycling or waste prevention programs. Such funds shall be available until expended for the following purposes:

(1) Acquisition, waste reduction and prevention, and recycling programs as described

in Executive Order No. 13423 (January 24, 2007), including any such programs adopted prior to the effective date of the Executive order.

(2) Other Federal agency environmental management programs, including, but not limited to, the development and implementation of hazardous waste management and pollution prevention programs.

(3) Other employee programs as authorized by law or as deemed appropriate by the head of the Federal agency.

SEC. 707. Funds made available by this or any other Act for administrative expenses in the current fiscal year of the corporations and agencies subject to chapter 91 of title 31, United States Code, shall be available, in addition to objects for which such funds are otherwise available, for rent in the District of Columbia; services in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 3109; and the objects specified under this head, all the provisions of which shall be applicable to the expenditure of such funds unless otherwise specified in the Act by which they are made available: *Provided*, That in the event any functions budgeted as administrative expenses are subsequently transferred to or paid from other funds, the limitations on administrative expenses shall be correspondingly reduced.

SEC. 708. No part of any appropriation contained in this or any other Act shall be available for interagency financing of boards (except Federal Executive Boards), commissions, councils, committees, or similar groups (whether or not they are interagency entities) which do not have a prior and specific statutory approval to receive financial support from more than one agency or instrumentality.

SEC. 709. None of the funds made available pursuant to the provisions of this or any other Act shall be used to implement, administer, or enforce any regulation which has been disapproved pursuant to a joint resolution duly adopted in accordance with the applicable law of the United States.

SEC. 710. During the period in which the head of any department or agency, or any other officer or civilian employee of the Federal Government appointed by the President of the United States, holds office, no funds may be obligated or expended in excess of \$5,000 to furnish or redecorate the office of such department head, agency head, officer, or employee, or to purchase furniture or make improvements for any such office, unless advance notice of such furnishing or redecoration is transmitted to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate. For the purposes of this section, the term "office" shall include the entire suite of offices assigned to the individual, as well as any other space used primarily by the individual or the use of which is directly controlled by the individual.

SEC. 711. Notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 1346, or section 708 of this Act, funds made available for the current fiscal year by this or any other Act shall be available for the interagency funding of national security and emergency preparedness telecommunications initiatives which benefit multiple Federal departments, agencies, or entities, as provided by Executive Order No. 13618 (July 6, 2012).

SEC. 712. (a) None of the funds made available by this or any other Act may be obligated or expended by any department, agency, or other instrumentality of the Federal Government to pay the salaries or expenses of any individual appointed to a position of a confidential or policy-determining character that is excepted from the competitive

service under section 3302 of title 5, United States Code, (pursuant to schedule C of subpart C of part 213 of title 5 of the Code of Federal Regulations) unless the head of the applicable department, agency, or other instrumentality employing such schedule C individual certifies to the Director of the Office of Personnel Management that the schedule C position occupied by the individual was not created solely or primarily in order to detail the individual to the White House.

(b) The provisions of this section shall not apply to Federal employees or members of the armed forces detailed to or from an element of the intelligence community (as that term is defined under section 3(4) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3003(4))).

SEC. 713. No part of any appropriation contained in this or any other Act shall be available for the payment of the salary of any officer or employee of the Federal Government, who—

(1) prohibits or prevents, or attempts or threatens to prohibit or prevent, any other officer or employee of the Federal Government from having any direct oral or written communication or contact with any Member, committee, or subcommittee of the Congress in connection with any matter pertaining to the employment of such other officer or employee or pertaining to the department or agency of such other officer or employee in any way, irrespective of whether such communication or contact is at the initiative of such other officer or employee or in response to the request or inquiry of such Member, committee, or subcommittee; or

(2) removes, suspends from duty without pay, demotes, reduces in rank, seniority, status, pay, or performance or efficiency rating, denies promotion to, relocates, reassigns, transfers, disciplines, or discriminates in regard to any employment right, entitlement, or benefit, or any term or condition of employment of, any other officer or employee of the Federal Government, or attempts or threatens to commit any of the foregoing actions with respect to such other officer or employee, by reason of any communication or contact of such other officer or employee with any Member, committee, or subcommittee of the Congress as described in paragraph (1).

SEC. 714. (a) None of the funds made available in this or any other Act may be obligated or expended for any employee training that—

(1) does not meet identified needs for knowledge, skills, and abilities bearing directly upon the performance of official duties;

(2) contains elements likely to induce high levels of emotional response or psychological stress in some participants;

(3) does not require prior employee notification of the content and methods to be used in the training and written end of course evaluation;

(4) contains any methods or content associated with religious or quasi-religious belief systems or "new age" belief systems as defined in Equal Employment Opportunity Commission Notice N-915.022, dated September 2, 1988; or

(5) is offensive to, or designed to change, participants' personal values or lifestyle outside the workplace.

(b) Nothing in this section shall prohibit, restrict, or otherwise preclude an agency from conducting training bearing directly upon the performance of official duties.

SEC. 715. No part of any funds appropriated in this or any other Act shall be used by an

agency of the executive branch, other than for normal and recognized executive-legislative relationships, for publicity or propaganda purposes, and for the preparation, distribution or use of any kit, pamphlet, booklet, publication, radio, television, or film presentation designed to support or defeat legislation pending before the Congress, except in presentation to the Congress itself.

SEC. 716. None of the funds appropriated by this or any other Act may be used by an agency to provide a Federal employee's home address to any labor organization except when the employee has authorized such disclosure or when such disclosure has been ordered by a court of competent jurisdiction.

SEC. 717. None of the funds made available in this or any other Act may be used to provide any non-public information such as mailing, telephone or electronic mailing lists to any person or any organization outside of the Federal Government without the approval of the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

SEC. 718. No part of any appropriation contained in this or any other Act shall be used directly or indirectly, including by private contractor, for publicity or propaganda purposes within the United States not heretofore authorized by Congress.

SEC. 719. (a) In this section, the term "agency"—

(1) means an Executive agency, as defined under 5 U.S.C. 105; and

(2) includes a military department, as defined under section 102 of such title, the Postal Service, and the Postal Regulatory Commission.

(b) Unless authorized in accordance with law or regulations to use such time for other purposes, an employee of an agency shall use official time in an honest effort to perform official duties. An employee not under a leave system, including a Presidential appointee exempted under 5 U.S.C. 6301(2), has an obligation to expend an honest effort and a reasonable proportion of such employee's time in the performance of official duties.

SEC. 720. Notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 1346 and section 708 of this Act, funds made available for the current fiscal year by this or any other Act to any department or agency, which is a member of the Federal Accounting Standards Advisory Board (FASAB), shall be available to finance an appropriate share of FASAB administrative costs.

SEC. 721. Notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 1346 and section 708 of this Act, the head of each Executive department and agency is hereby authorized to transfer to or reimburse "General Services Administration, Government-wide Policy" with the approval of the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, funds made available for the current fiscal year by this or any other Act, including rebates from charge card and other contracts: *Provided*, That these funds shall be administered by the Administrator of General Services to support Government-wide and other multi-agency financial, information technology, procurement, and other management innovations, initiatives, and activities, as approved by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, in consultation with the appropriate interagency and multi-agency groups designated by the Director (including the President's Management Council for overall management improvement initiatives, the Chief Financial Officers Council for financial management initiatives, the Chief Information Officers Council for information technology initiatives, the Chief Human Capital Officers Council for

human capital initiatives, the Chief Acquisition Officers Council for procurement initiatives, and the Performance Improvement Council for performance improvement initiatives): *Provided further*, That the total funds transferred or reimbursed shall not exceed \$17,000,000 for Government-Wide innovations, initiatives, and activities: *Provided further*, That the funds transferred to or for reimbursement of "General Services Administration, Government-wide Policy" during fiscal year 2015 shall remain available for obligation through September 30, 2016: *Provided further*, That such transfers or reimbursements may only be made after 15 days following notification of the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

SEC. 722. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a woman may breastfeed her child at any location in a Federal building or on Federal property, if the woman and her child are otherwise authorized to be present at the location.

SEC. 723. Notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 1346, or section 708 of this Act, funds made available for the current fiscal year by this or any other Act shall be available for the inter-agency funding of specific projects, workshops, studies, and similar efforts to carry out the purposes of the National Science and Technology Council (authorized by Executive Order No. 12881), which benefit multiple Federal departments, agencies, or entities: *Provided*, That the Office of Management and Budget shall provide a report describing the budget of and resources connected with the National Science and Technology Council to the Committees on Appropriations, the House Committee on Science and Technology, and the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation 90 days after enactment of this Act.

SEC. 724. Any request for proposals, solicitation, grant application, form, notification, press release, or other publications involving the distribution of Federal funds shall indicate the agency providing the funds, the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number, as applicable, and the amount provided: *Provided*, That this section shall apply to direct payments, formula funds, and grants received by a State receiving Federal funds.

SEC. 725. (a) PROHIBITION OF FEDERAL AGENCY MONITORING OF INDIVIDUALS' INTERNET USE.—None of the funds made available in this or any other Act may be used by any Federal agency—

(1) to collect, review, or create any aggregation of data, derived from any means, that includes any personally identifiable information relating to an individual's access to or use of any Federal Government Internet site of the agency; or

(2) to enter into any agreement with a third party (including another government agency) to collect, review, or obtain any aggregation of data, derived from any means, that includes any personally identifiable information relating to an individual's access to or use of any nongovernmental Internet site.

(b) EXCEPTIONS.—The limitations established in subsection (a) shall not apply to—

(1) any record of aggregate data that does not identify particular persons;

(2) any voluntary submission of personally identifiable information;

(3) any action taken for law enforcement, regulatory, or supervisory purposes, in accordance with applicable law; or

(4) any action described in subsection (a)(1) that is a system security action taken by the

operator of an Internet site and is necessarily incident to providing the Internet site services or to protecting the rights or property of the provider of the Internet site.

(c) DEFINITIONS.—For the purposes of this section:

(1) The term "regulatory" means agency actions to implement, interpret or enforce authorities provided in law.

(2) The term "supervisory" means examinations of the agency's supervised institutions, including assessing safety and soundness, overall financial condition, management practices and policies and compliance with applicable standards as provided in law.

SEC. 726. (a) None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be used to enter into or renew a contract which includes a provision providing prescription drug coverage, except where the contract also includes a provision for contraceptive coverage.

(b) Nothing in this section shall apply to a contract with—

(1) any of the following religious plans:

(A) Personal Care's HMO; and

(B) OSF HealthPlans, Inc.; and

(2) any existing or future plan, if the carrier for the plan objects to such coverage on the basis of religious beliefs.

(c) In implementing this section, any plan that enters into or renews a contract under this section may not subject any individual to discrimination on the basis that the individual refuses to prescribe or otherwise provide for contraceptives because such activities would be contrary to the individual's religious beliefs or moral convictions.

(d) Nothing in this section shall be construed to require coverage of abortion or abortion-related services.

SEC. 727. The United States is committed to ensuring the health of its Olympic, Pan American, and Paralympic athletes, and supports the strict adherence to anti-doping in sport through testing, adjudication, education, and research as performed by nationally recognized oversight authorities.

SEC. 728. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, funds appropriated for official travel to Federal departments and agencies may be used by such departments and agencies, if consistent with Office of Management and Budget Circular A-126 regarding official travel for Government personnel, to participate in the fractional aircraft ownership pilot program.

SEC. 729. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, none of the funds appropriated or made available under this or any other appropriations Act may be used to implement or enforce restrictions or limitations on the Coast Guard Congressional Fellowship Program, or to implement the proposed regulations of the Office of Personnel Management to add sections 300.311 through 300.316 to part 300 of title 5 of the Code of Federal Regulations, published in the Federal Register, volume 68, number 174, on September 9, 2003 (relating to the detail of executive branch employees to the legislative branch).

SEC. 730. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no executive branch agency shall purchase, construct, or lease any additional facilities, except within or contiguous to existing locations, to be used for the purpose of conducting Federal law enforcement training without the advance approval of the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, except that the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center is authorized to obtain the temporary use of additional facilities by lease, contract, or other agreement for training which cannot be accommodated in existing Center facilities.



SEC. 731. Unless otherwise authorized by existing law, none of the funds provided in this or any other Act may be used by an executive branch agency to produce any prepackaged news story intended for broadcast or distribution in the United States, unless the story includes a clear notification within the text or audio of the prepackaged news story that the prepackaged news story was prepared or funded by that executive branch agency.

SEC. 732. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used in contravention of section 552a of title 5, United States Code (popularly known as the Privacy Act), and regulations implementing that section.

SEC. 733. (a) IN GENERAL.—None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or any other Act may be used for any Federal Government contract with any foreign incorporated entity which is treated as an inverted domestic corporation under section 835(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 395(b)) or any subsidiary of such an entity.

(b) WAIVERS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Any Secretary shall waive subsection (a) with respect to any Federal Government contract under the authority of such Secretary if the Secretary determines that the waiver is required in the interest of national security.

(2) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Any Secretary issuing a waiver under paragraph (1) shall report such issuance to Congress.

(c) EXCEPTION.—This section shall not apply to any Federal Government contract entered into before the date of the enactment of this Act, or to any task order issued pursuant to such contract.

SEC. 734. During fiscal year 2015, for each employee who—

(1) retires under section 8336(d)(2) or 8414(b)(1)(B) of title 5, United States Code; or

(2) retires under any other provision of subchapter III of chapter 83 or chapter 84 of such title 5 and receives a payment as an incentive to separate, the separating agency shall remit to the Civil Service Retirement and Disability Fund an amount equal to the Office of Personnel Management's average unit cost of processing a retirement claim for the preceding fiscal year. Such amounts shall be available until expended to the Office of Personnel Management and shall be deemed to be an administrative expense under section 8348(a)(1)(B) of title 5, United States Code.

SEC. 735. (a) None of the funds made available in this or any other Act may be used to recommend or require any entity submitting an offer for a Federal contract to disclose any of the following information as a condition of submitting the offer:

(1) Any payment consisting of a contribution, expenditure, independent expenditure, or disbursement for an electioneering communication that is made by the entity, its officers or directors, or any of its affiliates or subsidiaries to a candidate for election for Federal office or to a political committee, or that is otherwise made with respect to any election for Federal office.

(2) Any disbursement of funds (other than a payment described in paragraph (1)) made by the entity, its officers or directors, or any of its affiliates or subsidiaries to any person with the intent or the reasonable expectation that the person will use the funds to make a payment described in paragraph (1).

(b) In this section, each of the terms "contribution", "expenditure", "independent expenditure", "electioneering communication", "candidate", "election", and "Federal

office" has the meaning given such term in the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (2 U.S.C. 431 et seq.).

SEC. 736. None of the funds made available in this or any other Act may be used to pay for the painting of a portrait of an officer or employee of the Federal government, including the President, the Vice President, a member of Congress (including a Delegate or a Resident Commissioner to Congress), the head of an executive branch agency (as defined in section 133 of title 41, United States Code), or the head of an office of the legislative branch.

SEC. 737. (a)(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, and except as otherwise provided in this section, no part of any of the funds appropriated for fiscal year 2015, by this or any other Act, may be used to pay any prevailing rate employee described in section 5342(a)(2)(A) of title 5, United States Code—

(A) during the period from the date of expiration of the limitation imposed by the comparable section for the previous fiscal years until the normal effective date of the applicable wage survey adjustment that is to take effect in fiscal year 2015, in an amount that exceeds the rate payable for the applicable grade and step of the applicable wage schedule in accordance with such section; and

(B) during the period consisting of the remainder of fiscal year 2015, in an amount that exceeds, as a result of a wage survey adjustment, the rate payable under subparagraph (A) by more than the sum of—

(i) the percentage adjustment taking effect in fiscal year 2015 under section 5303 of title 5, United States Code, in the rates of pay under the General Schedule; and

(ii) the difference between the overall average percentage of the locality-based comparability payments taking effect in fiscal year 2015 under section 5304 of such title (whether by adjustment or otherwise), and the overall average percentage of such payments which was effective in the previous fiscal year under such section.

(2) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no prevailing rate employee described in subparagraph (B) or (C) of section 5342(a)(2) of title 5, United States Code, and no employee covered by section 5348 of such title, may be paid during the periods for which paragraph (1) is in effect at a rate that exceeds the rates that would be payable under paragraph (1) were paragraph (1) applicable to such employee.

(3) For the purposes of this subsection, the rates payable to an employee who is covered by this subsection and who is paid from a schedule not in existence on September 30, 2014, shall be determined under regulations prescribed by the Office of Personnel Management.

(4) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, rates of premium pay for employees subject to this subsection may not be changed from the rates in effect on September 30, 2014, except to the extent determined by the Office of Personnel Management to be consistent with the purpose of this subsection.

(5) This subsection shall apply with respect to pay for service performed after September 30, 2014.

(6) For the purpose of administering any provision of law (including any rule or regulation that provides premium pay, retirement, life insurance, or any other employee benefit) that requires any deduction or contribution, or that imposes any requirement or limitation on the basis of a rate of salary or basic pay, the rate of salary or basic pay payable after the application of this sub-

section shall be treated as the rate of salary or basic pay.

(7) Nothing in this subsection shall be considered to permit or require the payment to any employee covered by this subsection at a rate in excess of the rate that would be payable were this subsection not in effect.

(8) The Office of Personnel Management may provide for exceptions to the limitations imposed by this subsection if the Office determines that such exceptions are necessary to ensure the recruitment or retention of qualified employees.

(b) Notwithstanding subsection (a), the adjustment in rates of basic pay for the statutory pay systems that take place in fiscal year 2015 under sections 5344 and 5348 of title 5, United States Code, shall be—

(1) not less than the percentage received by employees in the same location whose rates of basic pay are adjusted pursuant to the statutory pay systems under sections 5303 and 5304 of title 5, United States Code: *Provided*, That prevailing rate employees at locations where there are no employees whose pay is increased pursuant to sections 5303 and 5304 of title 5, United States Code, and prevailing rate employees described in section 5343(a)(5) of title 5, United States Code, shall be considered to be located in the pay locality designated as "Rest of United States" pursuant to section 5304 of title 5, United States Code, for purposes of this subsection; and

(2) effective as of the first day of the first applicable pay period beginning after September 30, 2014.

SEC. 738. (a) The Vice President may not receive a pay raise in calendar year 2015, notwithstanding the rate adjustment made under section 104 of title 3, United States Code, or any other provision of law.

(b) An employee serving in an Executive Schedule position, or in a position for which the rate of pay is fixed by statute at an Executive Schedule rate, may not receive a pay rate increase in calendar year 2015, notwithstanding schedule adjustments made under section 5318 of title 5, United States Code, or any other provision of law, except as provided in subsection (g), (h), or (i). This subsection applies only to employees who are holding a position under a political appointment.

(c) A chief of mission or ambassador at large may not receive a pay rate increase in calendar year 2015, notwithstanding section 401 of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (Public Law 96-465) or any other provision of law, except as provided in subsection (g), (h), or (i).

(d) Notwithstanding sections 5382 and 5383 of title 5, United States Code, a pay rate increase may not be received in calendar year 2015 (except as provided in subsection (g), (h), or (i)) by—

(1) a noncareer appointee in the Senior Executive Service paid a rate of basic pay at or above level IV of the Executive Schedule; or

(2) a limited term appointee or limited emergency appointee in the Senior Executive Service serving under a political appointment and paid a rate of basic pay at or above level IV of the Executive Schedule.

(e) Any employee paid a rate of basic pay (including any locality-based payments under section 5304 of title 5, United States Code, or similar authority) at or above level IV of the Executive Schedule who serves under a political appointment may not receive a pay rate increase in calendar year 2015, notwithstanding any other provision of law, except as provided in subsection (g), (h), or (i). This subsection does not apply to employees in the General Schedule pay system

or the Foreign Service pay system, or to employees appointed under section 3161 of title 5, United States Code, or to employees in another pay system whose position would be classified at GS-15 or below if chapter 51 of title 5, United States Code, applied to them.

(f) Nothing in subsections (b) through (e) shall prevent employees who do not serve under a political appointment from receiving pay increases as otherwise provided under applicable law.

(g) A career appointee in the Senior Executive Service who receives a Presidential appointment and who makes an election to retain Senior Executive Service basic pay entitlements under section 3392 of title 5, United States Code, is not subject to this section.

(h) A member of the Senior Foreign Service who receives a Presidential appointment to any position in the executive branch and who makes an election to retain Senior Foreign Service pay entitlements under section 302(b) of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (Public Law 96-465) is not subject to this section.

(i) Notwithstanding subsections (b) through (e), an employee in a covered position may receive a pay rate increase upon an authorized movement to a different covered position with higher-level duties and a pre-established higher level or range of pay, except that any such increase must be based on the rates of pay and applicable pay limitations in effect on December 31, 2013.

(j) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, for an individual who is newly appointed to a covered position during the period of time subject to this section, the initial pay rate shall be based on the rates of pay and applicable pay limitations in effect on December 31, 2013.

(k) If an employee affected by subsections (b) through (e) is subject to a biweekly pay period that begins in calendar year 2015 but ends in calendar year 2016, the bar on the employee's receipt of pay rate increases shall apply through the end of that pay period.

SEC. 739. (a) The head of any Executive branch department, agency, board, commission, or office funded by this or any other appropriations Act shall submit annual reports to the Inspector General or senior ethics official for any entity without an Inspector General, regarding the costs and contracting procedures related to each conference held by any such department, agency, board, commission, or office during fiscal year 2015 for which the cost to the United States Government was more than \$100,000.

(b) Each report submitted shall include, for each conference described in subsection (a) held during the applicable period—

- (1) a description of its purpose;
- (2) the number of participants attending;
- (3) a detailed statement of the costs to the United States Government, including—
  - (A) the cost of any food or beverages;
  - (B) the cost of any audio-visual services;
  - (C) the cost of employee or contractor travel to and from the conference; and
- (D) a discussion of the methodology used to determine which costs relate to the conference; and

(4) a description of the contracting procedures used including—

- (A) whether contracts were awarded on a competitive basis; and
- (B) a discussion of any cost comparison conducted by the departmental component or office in evaluating potential contractors for the conference.

(c) Within 15 days of the date of a conference held by any Executive branch department, agency, board, commission, or office

funded by this or any other appropriations Act during fiscal year 2015 for which the cost to the United States Government was more than \$20,000, the head of any such department, agency, board, commission, or office shall notify the Inspector General or senior ethics official for any entity without an Inspector General, of the date, location, and number of employees attending such conference.

(d) A grant or contract funded by amounts appropriated by this or any other appropriations Act may not be used for the purpose of defraying the costs of a conference described in subsection (c) that is not directly and programmatically related to the purpose for which the grant or contract was awarded, such as a conference held in connection with planning, training, assessment, review, or other routine purposes related to a project funded by the grant or contract.

(e) None of the funds made available in this or any other appropriations Act may be used for travel and conference activities that are not in compliance with Office of Management and Budget Memorandum M-12-12 dated May 11, 2012.

SEC. 740. None of the funds made available in this or any other appropriations Act may be used to increase, eliminate, or reduce funding for a program, project, or activity as proposed in the President's budget request for a fiscal year until such proposed change is subsequently enacted in an appropriation Act, or unless such change is made pursuant to the reprogramming or transfer provisions of this or any other appropriations Act.

SEC. 741. None of the funds made available by this or any other Act may be used to implement, administer, enforce, or apply the rule entitled "Competitive Area" published by the Office of Personnel Management in the Federal Register on April 15, 2008 (73 Fed. Reg. 20180 et seq.).

SEC. 742. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or any other Act may be used to begin or announce a study or public-private competition regarding the conversion to contractor performance of any function performed by Federal employees pursuant to Office of Management and Budget Circular A-76 or any other administrative regulation, directive, or policy.

SEC. 743. (a) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or any other Act may be available for a contract, grant, or cooperative agreement with an entity that requires employees or contractors of such entity seeking to report fraud, waste, or abuse to sign internal confidentiality agreements or statements prohibiting or otherwise restricting such employees or contractors from lawfully reporting such waste, fraud, or abuse to a designated investigative or law enforcement representative of a Federal department or agency authorized to receive such information.

(b) The limitation in subsection (a) shall not contravene requirements applicable to Standard Form 312, Form 4414, or any other form issued by a Federal department or agency governing the nondisclosure of classified information.

SEC. 744. None of the funds made available by this or any other Act may be used to enter into a contract, memorandum of understanding, or cooperative agreement with, make a grant to, or provide a loan or loan guarantee to, any corporation that has any unpaid Federal tax liability that has been assessed, for which all judicial and administrative remedies have been exhausted or have lapsed, and that is not being paid in a timely

manner pursuant to an agreement with the authority responsible for collecting the tax liability, where the awarding agency is aware of the unpaid tax liability, unless a Federal agency has considered suspension or debarment of the corporation and has made a determination that this further action is not necessary to protect the interests of the Government.

SEC. 745. None of the funds made available by this or any other Act may be used to enter into a contract, memorandum of understanding, or cooperative agreement with, make a grant to, or provide a loan or loan guarantee to, any corporation that was convicted of a felony criminal violation under any Federal law within the preceding 24 months, where the awarding agency is aware of the conviction, unless a Federal agency has considered suspension or debarment of the corporation and has made a determination that this further action is not necessary to protect the interests of the Government.

SEC. 746. Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, in consultation with the Council of Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency, the Government Accountability Office, and other stakeholders shall develop—

(1) criteria for an agency that has demonstrated a stabilized, effective system of internal control over financial reporting, whereby the agency would qualify for a consolidated Department level audit for obtaining a financial statement audit opinion, rather than an agency level audit; and

(2) recommendations on how to improve current financial reporting requirements to increase government transparency, in conjunction with the implementation of the Digital Accountability and Transparency Act of 2014 (Public Law 113-101), and better meet the needs of all stakeholders.

SEC. 747. (a) No funds appropriated in this or any other Act may be used to implement or enforce the agreements in Standard Forms 312 and 4414 of the Government or any other nondisclosure policy, form, or agreement if such policy, form, or agreement does not contain the following provisions: "These provisions are consistent with and do not supersede, conflict with, or otherwise alter the employee obligations, rights, or liabilities created by existing statute or Executive order relating to (1) classified information, (2) communications to Congress, (3) the reporting to an Inspector General of a violation of any law, rule, or regulation, or mismanagement, a gross waste of funds, an abuse of authority, or a substantial and specific danger to public health or safety, or (4) any other whistleblower protection. The definitions, requirements, obligations, rights, sanctions, and liabilities created by controlling Executive orders and statutory provisions are incorporated into this agreement and are controlling." *Provided*, That notwithstanding the preceding provision of this section, a nondisclosure policy form or agreement that is to be executed by a person connected with the conduct of an intelligence or intelligence-related activity, other than an employee or officer of the United States Government, may contain provisions appropriate to the particular activity for which such document is to be used. Such form or agreement shall, at a minimum, require that the person will not disclose any classified information received in the course of such activity unless specifically authorized to do so by the United States Government. Such nondisclosure forms shall also



make it clear that they do not bar disclosures to Congress, or to an authorized official of an executive agency or the Department of Justice, that are essential to reporting a substantial violation of law.

(b) A nondisclosure agreement may continue to be implemented and enforced notwithstanding subsection (a) if it complies with the requirements for such agreement that were in effect when the agreement was entered into.

(c) No funds appropriated in this or any other Act may be used to implement or enforce any agreement entered into during fiscal year 2014 which does not contain substantially similar language to that required in subsection (a).

SEC. 748. During fiscal year 2015, on the date that a request is made for a transfer of funds in accordance with section 1017 of Public Law 111–203, the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection shall notify Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate of such requests.

SEC. 749. None of the funds made available by this or any other Act may be used to implement a new Federal Flood Risk Management Standard until the Administration has solicited and considered input from Governors, mayors, and other stakeholders.

SEC. 750. Except as expressly provided otherwise, any reference to “this Act” contained in any title other than title IV or VIII shall not apply to such title IV or VIII.

#### TITLE VIII

#### GENERAL PROVISIONS—DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

##### (INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

SEC. 801. There are appropriated from the applicable funds of the District of Columbia such sums as may be necessary for making refunds and for the payment of legal settlements or judgments that have been entered against the District of Columbia government.

SEC. 802. None of the Federal funds provided in this Act shall be used for publicity or propaganda purposes or implementation of any policy including boycott designed to support or defeat legislation pending before Congress or any State legislature.

SEC. 803. (a) None of the Federal funds provided under this Act to the agencies funded by this Act, both Federal and District government agencies, that remain available for obligation or expenditure in fiscal year 2015, or provided from any accounts in the Treasury of the United States derived by the collection of fees available to the agencies funded by this Act, shall be available for obligation or expenditures for an agency through a reprogramming of funds which—

- (1) creates new programs;
- (2) eliminates a program, project, or responsibility center;
- (3) establishes or changes allocations specifically denied, limited or increased under this Act;
- (4) increases funds or personnel by any means for any program, project, or responsibility center for which funds have been denied or restricted;
- (5) re-establishes any program or project previously deferred through reprogramming;
- (6) augments any existing program, project, or responsibility center through a reprogramming of funds in excess of \$3,000,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less; or
- (7) increases by 20 percent or more personnel assigned to a specific program, project or responsibility center,

unless prior approval is received from the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

(b) The District of Columbia government is authorized to approve and execute reprogramming and transfer requests of local funds under this title through November 7, 2015.

SEC. 804. None of the Federal funds provided in this Act may be used by the District of Columbia to provide for salaries, expenses, or other costs associated with the offices of United States Senator or United States Representative under section 4(d) of the District of Columbia Statehood Constitutional Convention Initiatives of 1979 (D.C. Law 3–171; D.C. Official Code, sec. 1–123).

SEC. 805. Except as otherwise provided in this section, none of the funds made available by this Act or by any other Act may be used to provide any officer or employee of the District of Columbia with an official vehicle unless the officer or employee uses the vehicle only in the performance of the officer's or employee's official duties. For purposes of this section, the term “official duties” does not include travel between the officer's or employee's residence and workplace, except in the case of—

- (1) an officer or employee of the Metropolitan Police Department who resides in the District of Columbia or is otherwise designated by the Chief of the Department;
- (2) at the discretion of the Fire Chief, an officer or employee of the District of Columbia Fire and Emergency Medical Services Department who resides in the District of Columbia and is on call 24 hours a day;
- (3) at the discretion of the Director of the Department of Corrections, an officer or employee of the District of Columbia Department of Corrections who resides in the District of Columbia and is on call 24 hours a day;
- (4) at the discretion of the Chief Medical Examiner, an officer or employee of the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner who resides in the District of Columbia and is on call 24 hours a day;
- (5) at the discretion of the Director of the Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency, an officer or employee of the Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency who resides in the District of Columbia and is on call 24 hours a day;
- (6) the Mayor of the District of Columbia; and
- (7) the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia.

SEC. 806. (a) None of the Federal funds contained in this Act may be used by the District of Columbia Attorney General or any other officer or entity of the District government to provide assistance for any petition drive or civil action which seeks to require Congress to provide for voting representation in Congress for the District of Columbia.

(b) Nothing in this section bars the District of Columbia Attorney General from reviewing or commenting on briefs in private lawsuits, or from consulting with officials of the District government regarding such lawsuits.

SEC. 807. None of the Federal funds contained in this Act may be used to distribute any needle or syringe for the purpose of preventing the spread of blood borne pathogens in any location that has been determined by the local public health or local law enforcement authorities to be inappropriate for such distribution.

SEC. 808. Nothing in this Act may be construed to prevent the Council or Mayor of

the District of Columbia from addressing the issue of the provision of contraceptive coverage by health insurance plans, but it is the intent of Congress that any legislation enacted on such issue should include a “conscience clause” which provides exceptions for religious beliefs and moral convictions.

SEC. 809. (a) None of the Federal funds contained in this Act may be used to enact or carry out any law, rule, or regulation to legalize or otherwise reduce penalties associated with the possession, use, or distribution of any schedule I substance under the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 801 et seq.) or any tetrahydrocannabinols derivative.

(b) None of the funds contained in this Act may be used to enact any law, rule, or regulation to legalize or otherwise reduce penalties associated with the possession, use, or distribution of any schedule I substance under the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 801 et seq.) or any tetrahydrocannabinols derivative for recreational purposes.

SEC. 810. None of the funds appropriated under this Act shall be expended for any abortion except where the life of the mother would be endangered if the fetus were carried to term or where the pregnancy is the result of an act of rape or incest.

SEC. 811. (a) No later than 30 calendar days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Chief Financial Officer for the District of Columbia shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress, the Mayor, and the Council of the District of Columbia, a revised appropriated funds operating budget in the format of the budget that the District of Columbia government submitted pursuant to section 442 of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act (D.C. Official Code, sec. 1–204.42), for all agencies of the District of Columbia government for fiscal year 2015 that is in the total amount of the approved appropriation and that realigns all budgeted data for personal services and other-than-personal services, respectively, with anticipated actual expenditures.

(b) This section shall apply only to an agency for which the Chief Financial Officer for the District of Columbia certifies that a reallocation is required to address unanticipated changes in program requirements.

SEC. 812. No later than 30 calendar days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Chief Financial Officer for the District of Columbia shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress, the Mayor, and the Council for the District of Columbia, a revised appropriated funds operating budget for the District of Columbia Public Schools that aligns schools budgets to actual enrollment. The revised appropriated funds budget shall be in the format of the budget that the District of Columbia government submitted pursuant to section 442 of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act (D.C. Official Code, Sec. 1–204.42).

SEC. 813. (a) Amounts appropriated in this Act as operating funds may be transferred to the District of Columbia's enterprise and capital funds and such amounts, once transferred, shall retain appropriation authority consistent with the provisions of this Act.

(b) The District of Columbia government is authorized to reprogram or transfer for operating expenses any local funds transferred or reprogrammed in this or the four prior fiscal years from operating funds to capital funds, and such amounts, once transferred or reprogrammed, shall retain appropriation authority consistent with the provisions of this Act.

(c) The District of Columbia government may not transfer or reprogram for operating

expenses any funds derived from bonds, notes, or other obligations issued for capital projects.

SEC. 814. None of the Federal funds appropriated in this Act shall remain available for obligation beyond the current fiscal year, nor may any be transferred to other appropriations, unless expressly so provided herein.

SEC. 815. Except as otherwise specifically provided by law or under this Act, not to exceed 50 percent of unobligated balances remaining available at the end of fiscal year 2015 from appropriations of Federal funds made available for salaries and expenses for fiscal year 2015 in this Act, shall remain available through September 30, 2016, for each such account for the purposes authorized: *Provided*, That a request shall be submitted to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate for approval prior to the expenditure of such funds: *Provided further*, That these requests shall be made in compliance with reprogramming guidelines outlined in section 803 of this Act.

SEC. 816. (a) During fiscal year 2016, during a period in which neither a District of Columbia continuing resolution or a regular District of Columbia appropriation bill is in effect, local funds are appropriated in the amount provided for any project or activity for which local funds are provided in the Fiscal Year 2016 Budget Request Act of 2015 as submitted to Congress (subject to any modifications enacted by the District of Columbia as of the beginning of the period during which this subsection is in effect) at the rate set forth by such Act.

(b) Appropriations made by subsection (a) shall cease to be available—

(1) during any period in which a District of Columbia continuing resolution for fiscal year 2016 is in effect; or

(2) upon the enactment into law of the regular District of Columbia appropriation bill for fiscal year 2016.

(c) An appropriation made by subsection (a) is provided under the authority and conditions as provided under this Act and shall be available to the extent and in the manner that would be provided by this Act.

(d) An appropriation made by subsection (a) shall cover all obligations or expenditures incurred for such project or activity during the portion of fiscal year 2016 for which this section applies to such project or activity.

(e) This section shall not apply to a project or activity during any period of fiscal year 2016 if any other provision of law (other than an authorization of appropriations)—

(1) makes an appropriation, makes funds available, or grants authority for such project or activity to continue for such period; or

(2) specifically provides that no appropriation shall be made, no funds shall be made available, or no authority shall be granted for such project or activity to continue for such period.

(f) Nothing in this section shall be construed to affect obligations of the government of the District of Columbia mandated by other law.

SEC. 817. Except as expressly provided otherwise, any reference to “this Act” contained in this title or in title IV shall be treated as referring only to the provisions of this title or of title IV.

This division may be cited as the “Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2015”.

## **DIVISION F—DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015**

### **TITLE I**

#### **DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

##### **BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT**

##### **MANAGEMENT OF LANDS AND RESOURCES**

For necessary expenses for protection, use, improvement, development, disposal, cadastral surveying, classification, acquisition of easements and other interests in lands, and performance of other functions, including maintenance of facilities, as authorized by law, in the management of lands and their resources under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management, including the general administration of the Bureau, and assessment of mineral potential of public lands pursuant to section 1010(a) of Public Law 96-487 (16 U.S.C. 3150(a)), \$970,016,000, to remain available until expended; of which \$3,000,000 shall be available in fiscal year 2015 subject to a match by at least an equal amount by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation for cost-shared projects supporting conservation of Bureau lands; and such funds shall be advanced to the Foundation as a lump-sum grant without regard to when expenses are incurred.

In addition, \$32,500,000 is for the processing of applications for permit to drill and related use authorizations, to remain available until expended, to be reduced by amounts collected by the Bureau and credited to this appropriation that shall be derived from a fee of \$6,500 per new application for permit to drill that the Bureau shall collect upon submission of each new application, and, in addition, \$39,696,000 is for Mining Law Administration program operations, including the cost of administering the mining claim fee program, to remain available until expended, to be reduced by amounts collected by the Bureau and credited to this appropriation from mining claim maintenance fees and location fees that are hereby authorized for fiscal year 2015 so as to result in a final appropriation estimated at not more than \$970,016,000, and \$2,000,000, to remain available until expended, from communication site rental fees established by the Bureau for the cost of administering communication site activities.

##### **LAND ACQUISITION**

For expenses necessary to carry out sections 205, 206, and 318(d) of Public Law 94-579, including administrative expenses and acquisition of lands or waters, or interests therein, \$19,746,000, to be derived from the Land and Water Conservation Fund and to remain available until expended.

##### **OREGON AND CALIFORNIA GRANT LANDS**

For expenses necessary for management, protection, and development of resources and for construction, operation, and maintenance of access roads, reforestation, and other improvements on the revested Oregon and California Railroad grant lands, on other Federal lands in the Oregon and California land-grant counties of Oregon, and on adjacent rights-of-way; and acquisition of lands or interests therein, including existing connecting roads on or adjacent to such grant lands; \$113,777,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That 25 percent of the aggregate of all receipts during the current fiscal year from the revested Oregon and California Railroad grant lands is hereby made a charge against the Oregon and California land-grant fund and shall be transferred to the General Fund in the Treasury in accordance with the second paragraph of

subsection (b) of title II of the Act of August 28, 1937 (43 U.S.C. 1181(f)).

##### **RANGE IMPROVEMENTS**

For rehabilitation, protection, and acquisition of lands and interests therein, and improvement of Federal rangelands pursuant to section 401 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1751), notwithstanding any other Act, sums equal to 50 percent of all moneys received during the prior fiscal year under sections 3 and 15 of the Taylor Grazing Act (43 U.S.C. 315(b), 315(m)) and the amount designated for range improvements from grazing fees and mineral leasing receipts from Bankhead-Jones lands transferred to the Department of the Interior pursuant to law, but not less than \$10,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$600,000 shall be available for administrative expenses.

##### **SERVICE CHARGES, DEPOSITS, AND FORFEITURES**

For administrative expenses and other costs related to processing application documents and other authorizations for use and disposal of public lands and resources, for costs of providing copies of official public land documents, for monitoring construction, operation, and termination of facilities in conjunction with use authorizations, and for rehabilitation of damaged property, such amounts as may be collected under Public Law 94-579 (43 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.), and under section 28 of the Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C. 185), to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That, notwithstanding any provision to the contrary of section 305(a) of Public Law 94-579 (43 U.S.C. 1735(a)), any moneys that have been or will be received pursuant to that section, whether as a result of forfeiture, compromise, or settlement, if not appropriate for refund pursuant to section 305(c) of that Act (43 U.S.C. 1735(c)), shall be available and may be expended under the authority of this Act by the Secretary to improve, protect, or rehabilitate any public lands administered through the Bureau of Land Management which have been damaged by the action of a resource developer, purchaser, permittee, or any unauthorized person, without regard to whether all moneys collected from each such action are used on the exact lands damaged which led to the action: *Provided further*, That any such moneys that are in excess of amounts needed to repair damage to the exact land for which funds were collected may be used to repair other damaged public lands.

##### **MISCELLANEOUS TRUST FUNDS**

In addition to amounts authorized to be expended under existing laws, there is hereby appropriated such amounts as may be contributed under section 307 of Public Law 94-579 (43 U.S.C. 1737), and such amounts as may be advanced for administrative costs, surveys, appraisals, and costs of making conveyances of omitted lands under section 211(b) of that Act (43 U.S.C. 1721(b)), to remain available until expended.

##### **ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS**

The Bureau of Land Management may carry out the operations funded under this Act by direct expenditure, contracts, grants, cooperative agreements and reimbursable agreements with public and private entities, including with States. Appropriations for the Bureau shall be available for purchase, erection, and dismantlement of temporary structures, and alteration and maintenance of necessary buildings and appurtenant facilities to which the United States has title; up to \$100,000 for payments, at the discretion of

the Secretary, for information or evidence concerning violations of laws administered by the Bureau; miscellaneous and emergency expenses of enforcement activities authorized or approved by the Secretary and to be accounted for solely on the Secretary's certificate, not to exceed \$10,000: *Provided*, That notwithstanding Public Law 90-620 (44 U.S.C. 501), the Bureau may, under cooperative cost-sharing and partnership arrangements authorized by law, procure printing services from cooperators in connection with jointly produced publications for which the cooperators share the cost of printing either in cash or in services, and the Bureau determines the cooperator is capable of meeting accepted quality standards: *Provided further*, That projects to be funded pursuant to a written commitment by a State government to provide an identified amount of money in support of the project may be carried out by the Bureau on a reimbursable basis. Appropriations herein made shall not be available for the destruction of healthy, unadopted, wild horses and burros in the care of the Bureau or its contractors or for the sale of wild horses and burros that results in their destruction for processing into commercial products.

#### UNITED STATES FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

For necessary expenses of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, as authorized by law, and for scientific and economic studies, general administration, and for the performance of other authorized functions related to such resources, \$1,207,658,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016 except as otherwise provided herein: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$20,515,000 shall be used for implementing subsections (a), (b), (c), and (e) of section 4 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1533) (except for processing petitions, developing and issuing proposed and final regulations, and taking any other steps to implement actions described in subsection (c)(2)(A), (c)(2)(B)(i), or (c)(2)(B)(ii)), of which not to exceed \$4,605,000 shall be used for any activity regarding the designation of critical habitat, pursuant to subsection (a)(3), excluding litigation support, for species listed pursuant to subsection (a)(1) prior to October 1, 2012; of which not to exceed \$1,501,000 shall be used for any activity regarding petitions to list species that are indigenous to the United States pursuant to subsections (b)(3)(A) and (b)(3)(B); and, of which not to exceed \$1,504,000 shall be used for implementing subsections (a), (b), (c), and (e) of section 4 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1533) for species that are not indigenous to the United States.

#### CONSTRUCTION

For construction, improvement, acquisition, or removal of buildings and other facilities required in the conservation, management, investigation, protection, and utilization of fish and wildlife resources, and the acquisition of lands and interests therein; \$15,687,000, to remain available until expended.

#### LAND ACQUISITION

For expenses necessary to carry out the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, (16 U.S.C. 460l-4 et seq.), including administrative expenses, and for acquisition of land or waters, or interest therein, in accordance with statutory authority applicable to the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, \$47,535,000, to be derived from the Land and Water Conservation Fund and to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That

none of the funds appropriated for specific land acquisition projects may be used to pay for any administrative overhead, planning or other management costs.

#### COOPERATIVE ENDANGERED SPECIES CONSERVATION FUND

For expenses necessary to carry out section 6 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1535), \$50,095,000, to remain available until expended, of which \$22,695,000 is to be derived from the Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund; and of which \$27,400,000 is to be derived from the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

#### NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE FUND

For expenses necessary to implement the Act of October 17, 1978 (16 U.S.C. 715s), \$13,228,000.

#### NORTH AMERICAN WETLANDS CONSERVATION FUND

For expenses necessary to carry out the provisions of the North American Wetlands Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 4401 et seq.), \$34,145,000, to remain available until expended.

#### NEOTROPICAL MIGRATORY BIRD CONSERVATION

For expenses necessary to carry out the Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 6101 et seq.), \$3,660,000, to remain available until expended.

#### MULTINATIONAL SPECIES CONSERVATION FUND

For expenses necessary to carry out the African Elephant Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 4201 et seq.), the Asian Elephant Conservation Act of 1997 (16 U.S.C. 4261 et seq.), the Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Act of 1994 (16 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.), the Great Ape Conservation Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.), and the Marine Turtle Conservation Act of 2004 (16 U.S.C. 6601 et seq.), \$9,061,000, to remain available until expended.

#### STATE AND TRIBAL WILDLIFE GRANTS

For wildlife conservation grants to States and to the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, the United States Virgin Islands, the Northern Mariana Islands, American Samoa, and Indian tribes under the provisions of the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 and the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, for the development and implementation of programs for the benefit of wildlife and their habitat, including species that are not hunted or fished, \$58,695,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of the amount provided herein, \$4,084,000 is for a competitive grant program for Indian tribes not subject to the remaining provisions of this appropriation: *Provided further*, That \$5,487,000 is for a competitive grant program for States, territories, and other jurisdictions and at the discretion of affected States, the regional Associations of fish and wildlife agencies, not subject to the remaining provisions of this appropriation: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall, after deducting \$9,571,000 and administrative expenses, apportion the amount provided herein in the following manner: (1) to the District of Columbia and to the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, each a sum equal to not more than one-half of 1 percent thereof; and (2) to Guam, American Samoa, the United States Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, each a sum equal to not more than one-fourth of 1 percent thereof: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall apportion the remaining amount in the following manner: (1) one-third of which is based on the ratio to which the land area of such State bears to the total land area of all such States; and (2) two-thirds of which is based on the ratio to

which the population of such State bears to the total population of all such States: *Provided further*, That the amounts apportioned under this paragraph shall be adjusted equitably so that no State shall be apportioned a sum which is less than 1 percent of the amount available for apportionment under this paragraph for any fiscal year or more than 5 percent of such amount: *Provided further*, That the Federal share of planning grants shall not exceed 75 percent of the total costs of such projects and the Federal share of implementation grants shall not exceed 65 percent of the total costs of such projects: *Provided further*, That the non-Federal share of such projects may not be derived from Federal grant programs: *Provided further*, That any amount apportioned in 2015 to any State, territory, or other jurisdiction that remains unobligated as of September 30, 2016, shall be reapportioned, together with funds appropriated in 2017, in the manner provided herein.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

The United States Fish and Wildlife Service may carry out the operations of Service programs by direct expenditure, contracts, grants, cooperative agreements and reimbursable agreements with public and private entities. Appropriations and funds available to the United States Fish and Wildlife Service shall be available for repair of damage to public roads within and adjacent to reservation areas caused by operations of the Service; options for the purchase of land at not to exceed \$1 for each option; facilities incident to such public recreational uses on conservation areas as are consistent with their primary purpose; and the maintenance and improvement of aquaria, buildings, and other facilities under the jurisdiction of the Service and to which the United States has title, and which are used pursuant to law in connection with management, and investigation of fish and wildlife resources: *Provided*, That notwithstanding 44 U.S.C. 501, the Service may, under cooperative cost sharing and partnership arrangements authorized by law, procure printing services from cooperators in connection with jointly produced publications for which the cooperators share at least one-half the cost of printing either in cash or services and the Service determines the cooperator is capable of meeting accepted quality standards: *Provided further*, That the Service may accept donated aircraft as replacements for existing aircraft: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3302, all fees collected for non-toxic shot review and approval shall be deposited under the heading "United States Fish and Wildlife Service—Resource Management" and shall be available to the Secretary, without further appropriation, to be used for expenses of processing of such non-toxic shot type or coating applications and revising regulations as necessary, and shall remain available until expended.

#### NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

##### OPERATION OF THE NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM

For expenses necessary for the management, operation, and maintenance of areas and facilities administered by the National Park Service and for the general administration of the National Park Service, \$2,275,773,000, of which \$9,923,000 for planning and interagency coordination in support of Everglades restoration and \$81,961,000 for maintenance, repair, or rehabilitation projects for constructed assets shall remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That funds appropriated under this heading in this Act and previous Appropriations Acts

are available for the purposes of section 5 of Public Law 95-348 and section 204 of Public Law 93-486, as amended by section 1(3) of Public Law 100-355.

#### NATIONAL RECREATION AND PRESERVATION

For expenses necessary to carry out recreation programs, natural programs, cultural programs, heritage partnership programs, environmental compliance and review, international park affairs, and grant administration, not otherwise provided for, \$63,117,000.

#### HISTORIC PRESERVATION FUND

For expenses necessary in carrying out the National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.), \$56,410,000, to be derived from the Historic Preservation Fund and to remain available until September 30, 2016.

#### CONSTRUCTION

For construction, improvements, repair, or replacement of physical facilities, including modifications authorized by section 104 of the Everglades National Park Protection and Expansion Act of 1989 (16 U.S.C. 410r-8), \$138,339,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, for any project initially funded in fiscal year 2015 with a future phase indicated in the National Park Service 5-Year Line Item Construction Plan, a single procurement may be issued which includes the full scope of the project: *Provided further*, That the solicitation and contract shall contain the clause "availability of funds" found at 48 CFR 52.232-18.

#### LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND (RESCISSION)

The contract authority provided for fiscal year 2015 by section 9 of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965 (16 U.S.C. 4601-10a) is rescinded.

#### LAND ACQUISITION AND STATE ASSISTANCE

For expenses necessary to carry out the Land and Water Conservation Act of 1965 (16 U.S.C. 4601-4 through 11), including administrative expenses, and for acquisition of lands or waters, or interest therein, in accordance with the statutory authority applicable to the National Park Service, \$98,960,000, to be derived from the Land and Water Conservation Fund and to remain available until expended, of which \$48,117,000 is for the State assistance program and of which \$8,986,000 shall be for the American Battlefield Protection Program grants as authorized by section 7301 of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (Public Law 111-11).

#### CENTENNIAL CHALLENGE

For expenses necessary to carry out the provisions of section 814(g) of Public Law 104-333 (16 U.S.C. 1f) relating to challenge cost share agreements, \$10,000,000, to remain available until expended, for Centennial Challenge projects and programs: *Provided*, That not less than 50 percent of the total cost of each project or program shall be derived from non-Federal sources in the form of donated cash, assets, or a pledge of donation guaranteed by an irrevocable letter of credit.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

In addition to other uses set forth in section 407(d) of Public Law 105-391, franchise fees credited to a sub-account shall be available for expenditure by the Secretary, without further appropriation, for use at any unit within the National Park System to extinguish or reduce liability for Possessory Interest or leasehold surrender interest. Such funds may only be used for this purpose to

the extent that the benefitting unit anticipated franchise fee receipts over the term of the contract at that unit exceed the amount of funds used to extinguish or reduce liability. Franchise fees at the benefitting unit shall be credited to the sub-account of the originating unit over a period not to exceed the term of a single contract at the benefitting unit, in the amount of funds so expended to extinguish or reduce liability.

For the costs of administration of the Land and Water Conservation Fund grants authorized by section 105(a)(2)(B) of the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act of 2006 (Public Law 109-432), the National Park Service may retain up to 3 percent of the amounts which are authorized to be disbursed under such section, such retained amounts to remain available until expended.

National Park Service funds may be transferred to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Department of Transportation, for purposes authorized under 23 U.S.C. 204. Transfers may include a reasonable amount for FHWA administrative support costs.

#### UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

##### SURVEYS, INVESTIGATIONS, AND RESEARCH

For expenses necessary for the United States Geological Survey to perform surveys, investigations, and research covering topography, geology, hydrology, biology, and the mineral and water resources of the United States, its territories and possessions, and other areas as authorized by 43 U.S.C. 31, 1332, and 1340; classify lands as to their mineral and water resources; give engineering supervision to power permittees and Federal Energy Regulatory Commission licensees; administer the minerals exploration program (30 U.S.C. 641); conduct inquiries into the economic conditions affecting mining and materials processing industries (30 U.S.C. 3, 21a, and 1603; 50 U.S.C. 98g(1)) and related purposes as authorized by law; and to publish and disseminate data relative to the foregoing activities; \$1,045,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016; of which \$53,337,189 shall remain available until expended for satellite operations; and of which \$7,280,000 shall be available until expended for deferred maintenance and capital improvement projects that exceed \$100,000 in cost: *Provided*, That none of the funds provided for the ecosystem research activity shall be used to conduct new surveys on private property, unless specifically authorized in writing by the property owner: *Provided further*, That no part of this appropriation shall be used to pay more than one-half the cost of topographic mapping or water resources data collection and investigations carried on in cooperation with States and municipalities.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

From within the amount appropriated for activities of the United States Geological Survey such sums as are necessary shall be available for contracting for the furnishing of topographic maps and for the making of geophysical or other specialized surveys when it is administratively determined that such procedures are in the public interest; construction and maintenance of necessary buildings and appurtenant facilities; acquisition of lands for gauging stations and observation wells; expenses of the United States National Committee for Geological Sciences; and payment of compensation and expenses of persons employed by the Survey duly appointed to represent the United States in the negotiation and administration of interstate compacts: *Provided*, That activities funded by appropriations herein made may be ac-

complished through the use of contracts, grants, or cooperative agreements as defined in section 6302 of title 31, United States Code: *Provided further*, That the United States Geological Survey may enter into contracts or cooperative agreements directly with individuals or indirectly with institutions or nonprofit organizations, without regard to 41 U.S.C. 6101, for the temporary or intermittent services of students or recent graduates, who shall be considered employees for the purpose of chapters 57 and 81 of title 5, United States Code, relating to compensation for travel and work injuries, and chapter 171 of title 28, United States Code, relating to tort claims, but shall not be considered to be Federal employees for any other purposes.

#### BUREAU OF OCEAN ENERGY MANAGEMENT

##### OCEAN ENERGY MANAGEMENT

For expenses necessary for granting leases, easements, rights-of-way and agreements for use for oil and gas, other minerals, energy, and marine-related purposes on the Outer Continental Shelf and approving operations related thereto, as authorized by law; for environmental studies, as authorized by law; for implementing other laws and to the extent provided by Presidential or Secretarial delegation; and for matching grants or cooperative agreements, \$169,770,000, of which \$72,422,000 is to remain available until September 30, 2016 and of which \$97,348,000 is to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That this total appropriation shall be reduced by amounts collected by the Secretary and credited to this appropriation from additions to receipts resulting from increases to lease rental rates in effect on August 5, 1993, and from cost recovery fees from activities conducted by the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management pursuant to the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act, including studies, assessments, analysis, and miscellaneous administrative activities: *Provided further*, That the sum herein appropriated shall be reduced as such collections are received during the fiscal year, so as to result in a final fiscal year 2015 appropriation estimated at not more than \$72,422,000: *Provided further*, That not to exceed \$3,000 shall be available for reasonable expenses related to promoting volunteer beach and marine cleanup activities.

#### BUREAU OF SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT

##### OFFSHORE SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT

For expenses necessary for the regulation of operations related to leases, easements, rights-of-way and agreements for use for oil and gas, other minerals, energy, and marine-related purposes on the Outer Continental Shelf, as authorized by law; for enforcing and implementing laws and regulations as authorized by law and to the extent provided by Presidential or Secretarial delegation; and for matching grants or cooperative agreements, \$124,726,000, of which \$66,147,000 is to remain available until September 30, 2016 and of which \$58,579,000 is to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That this total appropriation shall be reduced by amounts collected by the Secretary and credited to this appropriation from additions to receipts resulting from increases to lease rental rates in effect on August 5, 1993, and from cost recovery fees from activities conducted by the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement pursuant to the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act, including studies, assessments, analysis, and miscellaneous administrative activities: *Provided further*,

That the sum herein appropriated shall be reduced as such collections are received during the fiscal year, so as to result in a final fiscal year 2015 appropriation estimated at not more than \$66,147,000.

For an additional amount, \$65,000,000, to remain available until expended, to be reduced by amounts collected by the Secretary and credited to this appropriation, which shall be derived from non-refundable inspection fees collected in fiscal year 2015, as provided in this Act: *Provided*, That to the extent that amounts realized from such inspection fees exceed \$65,000,000, the amounts realized in excess of \$65,000,000 shall be credited to this appropriation and remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That for fiscal year 2015, not less than 50 percent of the inspection fees expended by the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement will be used to fund personnel and mission-related costs to expand capacity and expedite the orderly development, subject to environmental safeguards, of the Outer Continental Shelf pursuant to the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1331 et seq.), including the review of applications for permits to drill.

#### OIL SPILL RESEARCH

For necessary expenses to carry out title I, section 1016, title IV, sections 4202 and 4303, title VII, and title VIII, section 8201 of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990, \$14,899,000, which shall be derived from the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund, to remain available until expended.

#### OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT

##### REGULATION AND TECHNOLOGY

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977, Public Law 95-87, \$122,713,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That appropriations for the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement may provide for the travel and per diem expenses of State and tribal personnel attending Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement sponsored training.

In addition, for costs to review, administer, and enforce permits issued by the Bureau pursuant to section 507 of Public Law 95-87 (30 U.S.C. 1257), \$40,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That fees assessed and collected by the Bureau pursuant to such section 507 shall be credited to this account as discretionary offsetting collections, to remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That the sum herein appropriated from the general fund shall be reduced as collections are received during the fiscal year, so as to result in a fiscal year 2015 appropriation estimated at not more than \$122,713,000.

##### ABANDONED MINE RECLAMATION FUND

For necessary expenses to carry out title IV of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977, Public Law 95-87, \$27,399,000, to be derived from receipts of the Abandoned Mine Reclamation Fund and to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That pursuant to Public Law 97-365, the Department of the Interior is authorized to use up to 20 percent from the recovery of the delinquent debt owed to the United States Government to pay for contracts to collect these debts: *Provided further*, That funds made available under title IV of Public Law 95-87 may be used for any required non-Federal share of the cost of projects funded by the Federal Government for the purpose of environmental restoration related to treatment

or abatement of acid mine drainage from abandoned mines: *Provided further*, That such projects must be consistent with the purposes and priorities of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act: *Provided further*, That amounts provided under this heading may be used for the travel and per diem expenses of State and tribal personnel attending Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement sponsored training.

##### ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION

In fiscal year 2015 and each fiscal year thereafter, with funds available for the Technical Innovation and Professional Services program in this or any other Act with respect to any fiscal year, the Secretary may transfer title for computer hardware, software and other technical equipment to State and tribal regulatory and reclamation programs.

#### BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS AND BUREAU OF INDIAN EDUCATION

##### OPERATION OF INDIAN PROGRAMS

##### (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For expenses necessary for the operation of Indian programs, as authorized by law, including the Snyder Act of November 2, 1921 (25 U.S.C. 13), the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act of 1975 (25 U.S.C. 450 et seq.), the Education Amendments of 1978 (25 U.S.C. 2001-2019), and the Tribally Controlled Schools Act of 1988 (25 U.S.C. 2501 et seq.), \$2,429,236,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016, except as otherwise provided herein; of which not to exceed \$8,500 may be for official reception and representation expenses; of which not to exceed \$74,809,000 shall be for welfare assistance payments: *Provided*, That in cases of designated Federal disasters, the Secretary may exceed such cap, from the amounts provided herein, to provide for disaster relief to Indian communities affected by the disaster: *Provided further*, That federally recognized Indian tribes and tribal organizations of federally recognized Indian tribes may use their tribal priority allocations for unmet welfare assistance costs: *Provided further*, That not to exceed \$606,690,000 for school operations costs of Bureau-funded schools and other education programs shall become available on July 1, 2015, and shall remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided further*, That not to exceed \$48,553,000 shall remain available until expended for housing improvement, road maintenance, attorney fees, litigation support, land records improvement, and the Navajo-Hopi Settlement Program: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, including but not limited to the Indian Self-Determination Act of 1975 (25 U.S.C. 450f et seq.) and section 1128 of the Education Amendments of 1978 (25 U.S.C. 2008), not to exceed \$62,395,000 within and only from such amounts made available for school operations shall be available for administrative cost grants associated with ongoing grants entered into with the Bureau prior to or during fiscal year 2014 for the operation of Bureau-funded schools, and up to \$500,000 within and only from such amounts made available for administrative cost grants shall be available for the transitional costs of initial administrative cost grants to grantees that assume operation on or after July 1, 2014, of Bureau-funded schools: *Provided further*, That any forestry funds allocated to a federally recognized tribe which remain unobligated as of September 30, 2016, may be transferred during fiscal year 2017 to an Indian forest land assistance account established for the benefit of the holder of the funds within the holder's trust fund account:

*Provided further*, That any such unobligated balances not so transferred shall expire on September 30, 2017: *Provided further*, That in order to enhance the safety of Bureau field employees, the Bureau may use funds to purchase uniforms or other identifying articles of clothing for personnel.

##### CONSTRUCTION

##### (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For construction, repair, improvement, and maintenance of irrigation and power systems, buildings, utilities, and other facilities, including architectural and engineering services by contract; acquisition of lands, and interests in lands; and preparation of lands for farming, and for construction of the Navajo Indian Irrigation Project pursuant to Public Law 87-483, \$128,876,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That such amounts as may be available for the construction of the Navajo Indian Irrigation Project may be transferred to the Bureau of Reclamation: *Provided further*, That not to exceed 6 percent of contract authority available to the Bureau of Indian Affairs from the Federal Highway Trust Fund may be used to cover the road program management costs of the Bureau: *Provided further*, That any funds provided for the Safety of Dams program pursuant to 25 U.S.C. 13 shall be made available on a nonreimbursable basis: *Provided further*, That for fiscal year 2015, in implementing new construction or facilities improvement and repair project grants in excess of \$100,000 that are provided to grant schools under Public Law 100-297, the Secretary of the Interior shall use the Administrative and Audit Requirements and Cost Principles for Assistance Programs contained in 43 CFR part 12 as the regulatory requirements: *Provided further*, That such grants shall not be subject to section 12.61 of 43 CFR; the Secretary and the grantee shall negotiate and determine a schedule of payments for the work to be performed: *Provided further*, That in considering grant applications, the Secretary shall consider whether such grantee would be deficient in assuring that the construction projects conform to applicable building standards and codes and Federal, tribal, or State health and safety standards as required by 25 U.S.C. 2005(b), with respect to organizational and financial management capabilities: *Provided further*, That if the Secretary declines a grant application, the Secretary shall follow the requirements contained in 25 U.S.C. 2504(f): *Provided further*, That any disputes between the Secretary and any grantee concerning a grant shall be subject to the disputes provision in 25 U.S.C. 2507(e): *Provided further*, That in order to ensure timely completion of construction projects, the Secretary may assume control of a project and all funds related to the project, if, within 18 months of the date of enactment of this Act, any grantee receiving funds appropriated in this Act or in any prior Act, has not completed the planning and design phase of the project and commenced construction: *Provided further*, That this appropriation may be reimbursed from the Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians appropriation for the appropriate share of construction costs for space expansion needed in agency offices to meet trust reform implementation.

##### INDIAN LAND AND WATER CLAIM SETTLEMENTS AND MISCELLANEOUS PAYMENTS TO INDIANS

For payments and necessary administrative expenses for implementation of Indian land and water claim settlements pursuant to Public Laws 99-264, 100-580, 101-618, 111-11, and 111-291, and for implementation of other

land and water rights settlements, \$35,655,000, to remain available until expended.

#### INDIAN GUARANTEED LOAN PROGRAM ACCOUNT

For the cost of guaranteed loans and insured loans, \$7,731,000, of which \$1,045,000 is for administrative expenses, as authorized by the Indian Financing Act of 1974: *Provided*, That such costs, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974: *Provided further*, That these funds are available to subsidize total loan principal, any part of which is to be guaranteed or insured, not to exceed \$100,496,183.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

The Bureau of Indian Affairs may carry out the operation of Indian programs by direct expenditure, contracts, cooperative agreements, compacts, and grants, either directly or in cooperation with States and other organizations.

Notwithstanding 25 U.S.C. 15, the Bureau of Indian Affairs may contract for services in support of the management, operation, and maintenance of the Power Division of the San Carlos Irrigation Project.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no funds available to the Bureau of Indian Affairs for central office oversight and Executive Direction and Administrative Services (except executive direction and administrative services funding for Tribal Priority Allocations, regional offices, and facilities operations and maintenance) shall be available for contracts, grants, compacts, or cooperative agreements with the Bureau of Indian Affairs under the provisions of the Indian Self-Determination Act or the Tribal Self-Governance Act of 1994 (Public Law 103-413).

In the event any tribe returns appropriations made available by this Act to the Bureau of Indian Affairs, this action shall not diminish the Federal Government's trust responsibility to that tribe, or the government-to-government relationship between the United States and that tribe, or that tribe's ability to access future appropriations.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no funds available to the Bureau of Indian Education, other than the amounts provided herein for assistance to public schools under 25 U.S.C. 452 et seq., shall be available to support the operation of any elementary or secondary school in the State of Alaska.

No funds available to the Bureau of Indian Education shall be used to support expanded grades for any school or dormitory beyond the grade structure in place or approved by the Secretary of the Interior at each school in the Bureau of Indian Education school system as of October 1, 1995, except that the Secretary of the Interior may waive this prohibition to support expansion of up to one additional grade when the Secretary determines such waiver is needed to support accomplishment of the mission of the Bureau of Indian Education. Appropriations made available in this or any prior Act for schools funded by the Bureau shall be available, in accordance with the Bureau's funding formula, only to the schools in the Bureau school system as of September 1, 1996, and to any school or school program that was reinstated in fiscal year 2012. Funds made available under this Act may not be used to establish a charter school at a Bureau-funded school (as that term is defined in section 1141 of the Education Amendments of 1978 (25 U.S.C. 2021)), except that a charter school that is in existence on the date of the enact-

ment of this Act and that has operated at a Bureau-funded school before September 1, 1999, may continue to operate during that period, but only if the charter school pays to the Bureau a pro rata share of funds to reimburse the Bureau for the use of the real and personal property (including buses and vans), the funds of the charter school are kept separate and apart from Bureau funds, and the Bureau does not assume any obligation for charter school programs of the State in which the school is located if the charter school loses such funding. Employees of Bureau-funded schools sharing a campus with a charter school and performing functions related to the charter school's operation and employees of a charter school shall not be treated as Federal employees for purposes of chapter 171 of title 28, United States Code.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, including section 113 of title I of appendix C of Public Law 106-113, if in fiscal year 2003 or 2004 a grantee received indirect and administrative costs pursuant to a distribution formula based on section 5(f) of Public Law 101-301, the Secretary shall continue to distribute indirect and administrative cost funds to such grantee using the section 5(f) distribution formula.

Funds available under this Act may not be used to establish satellite locations of schools in the Bureau school system as of September 1, 1996, except that the Secretary may waive this prohibition in order for an Indian tribe to provide language and cultural immersion educational programs for non-public schools located within the jurisdictional area of the tribal government which exclusively serve tribal members, do not include grades beyond those currently served at the existing Bureau-funded school, provide an educational environment with educator presence and academic facilities comparable to the Bureau-funded school, comply with all applicable Tribal, Federal, or State health and safety standards, and the Americans with Disabilities Act, and demonstrate the benefits of establishing operations at a satellite location in lieu of incurring extraordinary costs, such as for transportation or other impacts to students such as those caused by busing students extended distances: *Provided*, That no funds available under this Act may be used to fund operations, maintenance, rehabilitation, construction or other facilities-related costs for such assets that are not owned by the Bureau: *Provided further*, That the term "satellite school" means a school location physically separated from the existing Bureau school by more than 50 miles but that forms part of the existing school in all other respects.

#### DEPARTMENTAL OFFICES

##### OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

##### DEPARTMENTAL OPERATIONS

For necessary expenses for management of the Department of the Interior, including the collection and disbursement of royalties, fees, and other mineral revenue proceeds, and for grants and cooperative agreements, as authorized by law, \$265,263,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016, of which not to exceed \$15,000 may be for official reception and representation expenses; and of which up to \$1,000,000 shall be available for workers compensation payments and unemployment compensation payments associated with the orderly closure of the United States Bureau of Mines; and of which \$12,000,000 for the Office of Valuation Services is to be derived from the Land and Water Conservation Fund and shall remain available until ex-

pendent; and of which \$38,300,000 shall remain available until expended for the purpose of mineral revenue management activities: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, \$15,000 under this heading shall be available for refunds of overpayments in connection with certain Indian leases in which the Secretary concurred with the claimed refund due, to pay amounts owed to Indian allottees or tribes, or to correct prior unrecoverable erroneous payments.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

For fiscal year 2015, up to \$400,000 of the payments authorized by the Act of October 20, 1976 (31 U.S.C. 6901-6907) may be retained for administrative expenses of the Payments in Lieu of Taxes Program: *Provided*, That no payment shall be made pursuant to that Act to otherwise eligible units of local government if the computed amount of the payment is less than \$100: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may reduce the payment authorized by 31 U.S.C. 6901-6907 for an individual county by the amount necessary to correct prior year overpayments to that county: *Provided further*, That the amount needed to correct a prior year underpayment to an individual county shall be paid from any reductions for overpayments to other counties and the amount necessary to cover any remaining underpayment is hereby appropriated and shall be paid to individual counties.

#### INSULAR AFFAIRS

##### ASSISTANCE TO TERRITORIES

For expenses necessary for assistance to territories under the jurisdiction of the Department of the Interior and other jurisdictions identified in section 104(e) of Public Law 108-188, \$85,976,000, of which: (1) \$76,528,000 shall remain available until expended for territorial assistance, including general technical assistance, maintenance assistance, disaster assistance, coral reef initiative activities, and brown tree snake control and research; grants to the judiciary in American Samoa for compensation and expenses, as authorized by law (48 U.S.C. 1661(c)); grants to the Government of American Samoa, in addition to current local revenues, for construction and support of governmental functions; grants to the Government of the Virgin Islands as authorized by law; grants to the Government of Guam, as authorized by law; and grants to the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands as authorized by law (Public Law 94-241; 90 Stat. 272); and (2) \$9,448,000 shall be available until September 30, 2016, for salaries and expenses of the Office of Insular Affairs: *Provided*, That all financial transactions of the territorial and local governments herein provided for, including such transactions of all agencies or instrumentalities established or used by such governments, may be audited by the Government Accountability Office, at its discretion, in accordance with chapter 35 of title 31, United States Code: *Provided further*, That Northern Mariana Islands Covenant grant funding shall be provided according to those terms of the Agreement of the Special Representatives on Future United States Financial Assistance for the Northern Mariana Islands approved by Public Law 104-134: *Provided further*, That the funds for the program of operations and maintenance improvement are appropriated to institutionalize routine operations and maintenance improvement of capital infrastructure with territorial participation and cost sharing to be determined by the Secretary based on the grantee's commitment to timely maintenance of its capital assets: *Provided further*, That any appropriation for disaster assistance under this



heading in this Act or previous appropriations Acts may be used as non-Federal matching funds for the purpose of hazard mitigation grants provided pursuant to section 404 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170c).

#### COMPACT OF FREE ASSOCIATION

For grants and necessary expenses, \$3,318,000, to remain available until expended, as provided for in sections 221(a)(2) and 233 of the Compact of Free Association for the Republic of Palau; and section 221(a)(2) of the Compacts of Free Association for the Government of the Republic of the Marshall Islands and the Federated States of Micronesia, as authorized by Public Law 99-658 and Public Law 108-188.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

##### (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

At the request of the Governor of Guam, the Secretary may transfer discretionary funds or mandatory funds provided under section 104(e) of Public Law 108-188 and Public Law 104-134, that are allocated for Guam, to the Secretary of Agriculture for the subsidy cost of direct or guaranteed loans, plus not to exceed three percent of the amount of the subsidy transferred for the cost of loan administration, for the purposes authorized by the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 and section 306(a)(1) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act for construction and repair projects in Guam, and such funds shall remain available until expended: *Provided*, That such costs, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974: *Provided further*, That such loans or loan guarantees may be made without regard to the population of the area, credit elsewhere requirements, and restrictions on the types of eligible entities under the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 and section 306(a)(1) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act: *Provided further*, That any funds transferred to the Secretary of Agriculture shall be in addition to funds otherwise made available to make or guarantee loans under such authorities.

#### OFFICE OF THE SOLICITOR

##### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Solicitor, \$65,800,000.

#### OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

##### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General, \$50,047,000.

#### OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL TRUSTEE FOR AMERICAN INDIANS

##### FEDERAL TRUST PROGRAMS

##### (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the operation of trust programs for Indians by direct expenditure, contracts, cooperative agreements, compacts, and grants, \$139,029,000, to remain available until expended, of which not to exceed \$23,061,000 from this or any other Act, may be available for historical accounting: *Provided*, That funds for trust management improvements and litigation support may, as needed, be transferred to or merged with the Bureau of Indian Affairs and Bureau of Indian Education, "Operation of Indian Programs" account; the Office of the Solicitor, "Salaries and Expenses" account; and the Office of the Secretary, "Departmental Operations" account: *Provided further*, That funds made available through contracts or grants obligated during fiscal year 2015, as authorized by the Indian Self-Determination Act of 1975

(25 U.S.C. 450 et seq.), shall remain available until expended by the contractor or grantee: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary shall not be required to provide a quarterly statement of performance for any Indian trust account that has not had activity for at least 18 months and has a balance of \$15 or less: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall issue an annual account statement and maintain a record of any such accounts and shall permit the balance in each such account to be withdrawn upon the express written request of the account holder: *Provided further*, That not to exceed \$50,000 is available for the Secretary to make payments to correct administrative errors of either disbursements from or deposits to Individual Indian Money or Tribal accounts after September 30, 2002: *Provided further*, That erroneous payments that are recovered shall be credited to and remain available in this account for this purpose: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall not be required to reconcile Special Deposit Accounts with a balance of less than \$500 unless the Office of the Special Trustee receives proof of ownership from a Special Deposit Accounts claimant.

#### DEPARTMENT-WIDE PROGRAMS

##### WILDLAND FIRE MANAGEMENT

##### (INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses for fire preparedness, fire suppression operations, fire science and research, emergency rehabilitation, hazardous fuels management activities, and rural fire assistance by the Department of the Interior, \$804,779,000, to remain available until expended, of which not to exceed \$6,127,000 shall be for the renovation or construction of fire facilities: *Provided*, That such funds are also available for repayment of advances to other appropriation accounts from which funds were previously transferred for such purposes: *Provided further*, That of the funds provided \$164,000,000 is for hazardous fuels management activities, of which \$10,000,000 is for resilient landscapes activities: *Provided further*, That of the funds provided \$18,035,000 is for burned area rehabilitation: *Provided further*, That persons hired pursuant to 43 U.S.C. 1469 may be furnished subsistence and lodging without cost from funds available from this appropriation: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding 42 U.S.C. 1856d, sums received by a bureau or office of the Department of the Interior for fire protection rendered pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 1856 et seq., protection of United States property, may be credited to the appropriation from which funds were expended to provide that protection, and are available without fiscal year limitation: *Provided further*, That using the amounts designated under this title of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior may enter into procurement contracts, grants, or cooperative agreements, for hazardous fuels management and resilient landscapes activities, and for training and monitoring associated with such hazardous fuels management and resilient landscapes activities on Federal land, or on adjacent non-Federal land for activities that benefit resources on Federal land: *Provided further*, That the costs of implementing any cooperative agreement between the Federal Government and any non-Federal entity may be shared, as mutually agreed on by the affected parties: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding requirements of the Competition in Contracting Act, the Secretary, for purposes of hazardous fuels management and resilient landscapes activities, may obtain maximum practicable competition among:

(1) local private, nonprofit, or cooperative entities; (2) Youth Conservation Corps crews, Public Lands Corps (Public Law 109-154), or related partnerships with State, local, or nonprofit youth groups; (3) small or micro-businesses; or (4) other entities that will hire or train locally a significant percentage, defined as 50 percent or more, of the project workforce to complete such contracts: *Provided further*, That in implementing this section, the Secretary shall develop written guidance to field units to ensure accountability and consistent application of the authorities provided herein: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated under this heading may be used to reimburse the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service for the costs of carrying out their responsibilities under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.) to consult and conference, as required by section 7 of such Act, in connection with wildland fire management activities: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of the Interior may use wildland fire appropriations to enter into leases of real property with local governments, at or below fair market value, to construct capitalized improvements for fire facilities on such leased properties, including but not limited to fire guard stations, retardant stations, and other initial attack and fire support facilities, and to make advance payments for any such lease or for construction activity associated with the lease: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture may authorize the transfer of funds appropriated for wildland fire management, in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$50,000,000, between the Departments when such transfers would facilitate and expedite wildland fire management programs and projects: *Provided further*, That funds provided for wildfire suppression shall be available for support of Federal emergency response actions: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated under this heading shall be available for assistance to or through the Department of State in connection with forest and rangeland research, technical information, and assistance in foreign countries, and, with the concurrence of the Secretary of State, shall be available to support forestry, wildland fire management, and related natural resource activities outside the United States and its territories and possessions, including technical assistance, education and training, and cooperation with United States and international organizations.

#### FLAME WILDFIRE SUPPRESSION RESERVE FUND

##### (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses for large fire suppression operations of the Department of the Interior and as a reserve fund for suppression and Federal emergency response activities, \$92,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That such amounts are only available for transfer to the "Wildland Fire Management" account following a declaration by the Secretary in accordance with section 502 of the FLAME Act of 2009 (43 U.S.C. 1748a).

#### CENTRAL HAZARDOUS MATERIALS FUND

For necessary expenses of the Department of the Interior and any of its component offices and bureaus for the response action, including associated activities, performed pursuant to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (42 U.S.C. 9601 et seq.), \$10,010,000, to remain available until expended.

NATURAL RESOURCE DAMAGE ASSESSMENT AND RESTORATION

NATURAL RESOURCE DAMAGE ASSESSMENT FUND

To conduct natural resource damage assessment, restoration activities, and onshore oil spill preparedness by the Department of the Interior necessary to carry out the provisions of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (42 U.S.C. 9601 et seq.), the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.), the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 2701 et seq.), and Public Law 101-337 (16 U.S.C. 1911 et seq.), \$7,767,000, to remain available until expended.

WORKING CAPITAL FUND

For the operation and maintenance of a departmental financial and business management system, information technology improvements of general benefit to the Department, consolidation of facilities and operations throughout the Department, \$57,100,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That none of the funds appropriated in this Act or any other Act may be used to establish reserves in the Working Capital Fund account other than for accrued annual leave and depreciation of equipment without prior approval of the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may assess reasonable charges to State, local and tribal government employees for training services provided by the National Indian Program Training Center, other than training related to Public Law 93-638: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may lease or otherwise provide space and related facilities, equipment or professional services of the National Indian Program Training Center to State, local and tribal government employees or persons or organizations engaged in cultural, educational, or recreational activities (as defined in section 3306(a) of title 40, United States Code) at the prevailing rate for similar space, facilities, equipment, or services in the vicinity of the National Indian Program Training Center: *Provided further*, That all funds received pursuant to the two preceding provisos shall be credited to this account, shall be available until expended, and shall be used by the Secretary for necessary expenses of the National Indian Program Training Center: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may enter into grants and cooperative agreements to support the Office of Natural Resource Revenue's collection and disbursement of royalties, fees, and other mineral revenue proceeds, as authorized by law.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION

There is hereby authorized for acquisition from available resources within the Working Capital Fund, aircraft which may be obtained by donation, purchase or through available excess surplus property: *Provided*, That existing aircraft being replaced may be sold, with proceeds derived or trade-in value used to offset the purchase price for the replacement aircraft.

GENERAL PROVISIONS, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

EMERGENCY TRANSFER AUTHORITY—INTRA-BUREAU

SEC. 101. Appropriations made in this title shall be available for expenditure or transfer (within each bureau or office), with the approval of the Secretary, for the emergency reconstruction, replacement, or repair of aircraft, buildings, utilities, or other facilities or equipment damaged or destroyed by fire,

flood, storm, or other unavoidable causes: *Provided*, That no funds shall be made available under this authority until funds specifically made available to the Department of the Interior for emergencies shall have been exhausted: *Provided further*, That all funds used pursuant to this section must be replenished by a supplemental appropriation, which must be requested as promptly as possible.

EMERGENCY TRANSFER AUTHORITY—DEPARTMENT-WIDE

SEC. 102. The Secretary may authorize the expenditure or transfer of any no year appropriation in this title, in addition to the amounts included in the budget programs of the several agencies, for the suppression or emergency prevention of wildland fires on or threatening lands under the jurisdiction of the Department of the Interior; for the emergency rehabilitation of burned-over lands under its jurisdiction; for emergency actions related to potential or actual earthquakes, floods, volcanoes, storms, or other unavoidable causes; for contingency planning subsequent to actual oil spills; for response and natural resource damage assessment activities related to actual oil spills or releases of hazardous substances into the environment; for the prevention, suppression, and control of actual or potential grasshopper and Mormon cricket outbreaks on lands under the jurisdiction of the Secretary, pursuant to the authority in section 417(b) of Public Law 106-224 (7 U.S.C. 7717(b)); for emergency reclamation projects under section 410 of Public Law 95-87; and shall transfer, from any no year funds available to the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, such funds as may be necessary to permit assumption of regulatory authority in the event a primacy State is not carrying out the regulatory provisions of the Surface Mining Act: *Provided*, That appropriations made in this title for wildland fire operations shall be available for the payment of obligations incurred during the preceding fiscal year, and for reimbursement to other Federal agencies for destruction of vehicles, aircraft, or other equipment in connection with their use for wildland fire operations, such reimbursement to be credited to appropriations currently available at the time of receipt thereof: *Provided further*, That for wildland fire operations, no funds shall be made available under this authority until the Secretary determines that funds appropriated for "wildland fire operations" and "FLAME Wildfire Suppression Reserve Fund" shall be exhausted within 30 days: *Provided further*, That all funds used pursuant to this section must be replenished by a supplemental appropriation, which must be requested as promptly as possible: *Provided further*, That such replenishment funds shall be used to reimburse, on a pro rata basis, accounts from which emergency funds were transferred.

AUTHORIZED USE OF FUNDS

SEC. 103. Appropriations made to the Department of the Interior in this title shall be available for services as authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, when authorized by the Secretary, in total amount not to exceed \$500,000; purchase and replacement of motor vehicles, including specially equipped law enforcement vehicles; hire, maintenance, and operation of aircraft; hire of passenger motor vehicles; purchase of reprints; payment for telephone service in private residences in the field, when authorized under regulations approved by the Secretary; and the payment of dues, when authorized by the Secretary, for library membership in so-

cieties or associations which issue publications to members only or at a price to members lower than to subscribers who are not members.

AUTHORIZED USE OF FUNDS, INDIAN TRUST MANAGEMENT

SEC. 104. Appropriations made in this Act under the headings Bureau of Indian Affairs and Bureau of Indian Education, and Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians and any unobligated balances from prior appropriations Acts made under the same headings shall be available for expenditure or transfer for Indian trust management and reform activities. Total funding for historical accounting activities shall not exceed amounts specifically designated in this Act for such purpose.

REDISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS, BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

SEC. 105. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of the Interior is authorized to redistribute any Tribal Priority Allocation funds, including tribal base funds, to alleviate tribal funding inequities by transferring funds to address identified, unmet needs, dual enrollment, overlapping service areas or inaccurate distribution methodologies. No tribe shall receive a reduction in Tribal Priority Allocation funds of more than 10 percent in fiscal year 2015. Under circumstances of dual enrollment, overlapping service areas or inaccurate distribution methodologies, the 10 percent limitation does not apply.

ELLIS, GOVERNORS, AND LIBERTY ISLANDS

SEC. 106. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of the Interior is authorized to acquire lands, waters, or interests therein including the use of all or part of any pier, dock, or landing within the State of New York and the State of New Jersey, for the purpose of operating and maintaining facilities in the support of transportation and accommodation of visitors to Ellis, Governors, and Liberty Islands, and of other program and administrative activities, by donation or with appropriated funds, including franchise fees (and other monetary consideration), or by exchange; and the Secretary is authorized to negotiate and enter into leases, subleases, concession contracts or other agreements for the use of such facilities on such terms and conditions as the Secretary may determine reasonable.

OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF INSPECTION FEES

SEC. 107. (a) In fiscal year 2015, the Secretary shall collect a nonrefundable inspection fee, which shall be deposited in the "Offshore Safety and Environmental Enforcement" account, from the designated operator for facilities subject to inspection under 43 U.S.C. 1348(c).

(b) Annual fees shall be collected for facilities that are above the waterline, excluding drilling rigs, and are in place at the start of the fiscal year. Fees for fiscal year 2015 shall be:

(1) \$10,500 for facilities with no wells, but with processing equipment or gathering lines;

(2) \$17,000 for facilities with 1 to 10 wells, with any combination of active or inactive wells; and

(3) \$31,500 for facilities with more than 10 wells, with any combination of active or inactive wells.

(c) Fees for drilling rigs shall be assessed for all inspections completed in fiscal year 2015. Fees for fiscal year 2015 shall be:

(1) \$30,500 per inspection for rigs operating in water depths of 500 feet or more; and



(2) \$16,700 per inspection for rigs operating in water depths of less than 500 feet.

(d) The Secretary shall bill designated operators under subsection (b) within 60 days, with payment required within 30 days of billing. The Secretary shall bill designated operators under subsection (c) within 30 days of the end of the month in which the inspection occurred, with payment required within 30 days of billing.

#### OIL AND GAS LEASING INTERNET PROGRAM

SEC. 108. (a) Notwithstanding section 17(b)(1)(A) of the Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C. 226(b)(1)(A)), the Secretary of the Interior shall have the authority to implement an oil and gas leasing Internet program, under which the Secretary may conduct lease sales through methods other than oral bidding.

(b) The authority in subsection (a) shall be effective for fiscal year 2015 until the date of the enactment of a provision of the Carl Levin and Howard P. "Buck" McKeon National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015 that amends section 17(b)(1) of the Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C. 226(b)(1)) to authorize onshore lease sales through Internet-based bidding methods.

#### BUREAU OF OCEAN ENERGY MANAGEMENT, REGULATION AND ENFORCEMENT REORGANIZATION

SEC. 109. The Secretary of the Interior, in order to implement a reorganization of the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement, may transfer funds among and between the successor offices and bureaus affected by the reorganization only in conformance with the reprogramming guidelines for division F in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act).

#### CONTRACTS AND AGREEMENTS FOR WILD HORSE AND BURRO HOLDING FACILITIES

SEC. 110. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior may enter into multiyear cooperative agreements with nonprofit organizations and other appropriate entities, and may enter into multiyear contracts in accordance with the provisions of section 304B of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 (41 U.S.C. 254c) (except that the 5-year term restriction in subsection (d) shall not apply), for the long-term care and maintenance of excess wild free roaming horses and burros by such organizations or entities on private land. Such cooperative agreements and contracts may not exceed 10 years, subject to renewal at the discretion of the Secretary.

#### MASS MARKING OF SALMONIDS

SEC. 111. The United States Fish and Wildlife Service shall, in carrying out its responsibilities to protect threatened and endangered species of salmon, implement a system of mass marking of salmonid stocks, intended for harvest, that are released from federally operated or federally financed hatcheries including but not limited to fish releases of coho, chinook, and steelhead species. Marked fish must have a visible mark that can be readily identified by commercial and recreational fishers.

#### PROHIBITION ON USE OF FUNDS

SEC. 112. (a) Any proposed new use of the Arizona & California Railroad Company's Right of Way for conveyance of water shall not proceed unless the Secretary of the Interior certifies that the proposed new use is within the scope of the Right of Way.

(b) No funds appropriated or otherwise made available to the Department of the In-

terior may be used, in relation to any proposal to store water underground for the purpose of export, for approval of any right-of-way or similar authorization on the Mojave National Preserve or lands managed by the Needles Field Office of the Bureau of Land Management, or for carrying out any activities associated with such right-of-way or similar approval.

#### REPUBLIC OF PALAU

SEC. 113. (a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsection (c), the United States Government, through the Secretary of the Interior shall provide to the Government of Palau for fiscal year 2015 grants in amounts equal to the annual amounts specified in subsections (a), (c), and (d) of section 211 of the Compact of Free Association between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of Palau (48 U.S.C. 1931 note) (referred to in this section as the "Compact").

(b) PROGRAMMATIC ASSISTANCE.—Subject to subsection (c), the United States shall provide programmatic assistance to the Republic of Palau for fiscal year 2015 in amounts equal to the amounts provided in subsections (a) and (b)(1) of section 221 of the Compact.

(c) LIMITATIONS ON ASSISTANCE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The grants and programmatic assistance provided under subsections (a) and (b) shall be provided to the same extent and in the same manner as the grants and assistance were provided in fiscal year 2009.

(2) TRUST FUND.—If the Government of Palau withdraws more than \$5,000,000 from the trust fund established under section 211(f) of the Compact, amounts to be provided under subsections (a) and (b) shall be withheld from the Government of Palau.

#### EXHAUSTION OF ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW

SEC. 114. Paragraph (1) of section 122(a) of division E of Public Law 112-74 (125 Stat. 1013), as amended by section 122 of division G of Public Law 113-76 (128 Stat. 314), is further amended by striking "through 2015," in the first sentence and inserting "through 2016,".

#### WILD LANDS FUNDING PROHIBITION

SEC. 115. None of the funds made available in this Act or any other Act may be used to implement, administer, or enforce Secretarial Order No. 3310 issued by the Secretary of the Interior on December 22, 2010: *Provided*, That nothing in this section shall restrict the Secretary's authorities under sections 201 and 202 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1711 and 1712).

#### BUREAU OF INDIAN EDUCATION OPERATED SCHOOLS

SEC. 116. Section 115(d) of division E of Public Law 112-74 (125 Stat. 1010) is amended by striking "2014" and inserting "2017".

#### REAUTHORIZATION OF FOREST ECOSYSTEM HEALTH AND RECOVERY FUND

SEC. 117. Title I of the Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010 (Public Law 111-88) is amended in the text under the heading "FOREST ECOSYSTEM HEALTH AND RECOVERY FUND" by striking "2015" each place it appears and inserting "2020".

#### VOLUNTEERS IN PARKS

SEC. 118. Section 4 of Public Law 91-357 (16 U.S.C. 18j), as amended, is further amended by striking "\$3,500,000" and inserting "\$5,000,000".

#### CONTRACTS AND AGREEMENTS WITH INDIAN AFFAIRS

SEC. 119. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, during fiscal year 2015, in car-

rying out work involving cooperation with State, local, and tribal governments or any political subdivision thereof, Indian Affairs may record obligations against accounts receivable from any such entities, except that total obligations at the end of the fiscal year shall not exceed total budgetary resources available at the end of the fiscal year.

#### HERITAGE AREAS

SEC. 120. (a) Section 109 of title I of Public Law 105-355 (16 U.S.C. 461 note) shall be applied for fiscal year 2015 by substituting "2015" for "2014".

(b) Section 157(h)(1) of title I of Public Law 106-291 (16 U.S.C. 461 note) is amended by striking "\$10,000,000" and inserting "\$11,000,000".

#### RATIFICATION OF PAYMENTS

SEC. 121. All payments made to school districts under the first section of the Act of June 4, 1948 (62 Stat. 338, chapter 417; 16 U.S.C. 40a), during the period beginning in fiscal year 1976 and ending on the date of enactment of this Act are ratified and approved, notwithstanding the payments made under chapter 69 of title 31, United States Code to the units of general local government.

#### SAGE-GROUSE

SEC. 122. None of the funds made available by this or any other Act may be used by the Secretary of the Interior to write or issue pursuant to section 4 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1533)—

(1) a proposed rule for greater sage-grouse (*Centrocercus urophasianus*);

(2) a proposed rule for the Columbia basin distinct population segment of greater sage-grouse;

(3) a final rule for the bi-state distinct population segment of greater sage-grouse; or

(4) a final rule for Gunnison sage-grouse (*Centrocercus minimus*).

#### TITLE II

#### ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

For science and technology, including research and development activities, which shall include research and development activities under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980; necessary expenses for personnel and related costs and travel expenses; procurement of laboratory equipment and supplies; and other operating expenses in support of research and development, \$734,648,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That of the funds included under this heading, \$4,100,000 shall be for Research: National Priorities as specified in the explanatory statement accompanying this Act.

#### ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS AND MANAGEMENT

For environmental programs and management, including necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, for personnel and related costs and travel expenses; hire of passenger motor vehicles; hire, maintenance, and operation of aircraft; purchase of reprints; library memberships in societies or associations which issue publications to members only or at a price to members lower than to subscribers who are not members; administrative costs of the brownfields program under the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act of 2002; and not to exceed \$19,000 for official reception and representation expenses, \$2,613,679,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That of the funds included under this heading, \$12,700,000 shall

be for Environmental Protection: National Priorities as specified in the explanatory statement accompanying this Act: *Provided further*, That of the funds included under this heading, \$427,737,000 shall be for Geographic Programs specified in the explanatory statement accompanying this Act: *Provided further*, That of the funds provided under this heading for Information Exchange and Outreach, \$856,750 of funds made available for the Immediate Office of the Administrator and \$1,790,750 of funds made available for the Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations shall be withheld from obligation until reports detailed in the explanatory statement accompanying this Act are provided to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate; and of the funds provided under this heading for Operations and Administration for the Office of the Chief Financial Officer, \$741,500 shall be withheld from obligation until such reports are provided to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

#### HAZARDOUS WASTE ELECTRONIC MANIFEST SYSTEM FUND

For necessary expenses to carry out section 3024 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act (42 U.S.C. 6939g), including the development, operation, maintenance, and upgrading of the hazardous waste electronic manifest system established by such section, \$3,674,000, to remain available until September 30, 2017.

#### OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General in carrying out the provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978, \$41,489,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016.

#### BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

For construction, repair, improvement, extension, alteration, and purchase of fixed equipment or facilities of, or for use by, the Environmental Protection Agency, \$42,317,000, to remain available until expended.

#### HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE SUPERFUND (INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses to carry out the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA), including sections 111(c)(3), (c)(5), (c)(6), and (e)(4) (42 U.S.C. 9611) \$1,088,769,000, to remain available until expended, consisting of such sums as are available in the Trust Fund on September 30, 2014, as authorized by section 517(a) of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 (SARA) and up to \$1,088,769,000 as a payment from general revenues to the Hazardous Substance Superfund for purposes as authorized by section 517(b) of SARA: *Provided*, That funds appropriated under this heading may be allocated to other Federal agencies in accordance with section 111(a) of CERCLA: *Provided further*, That of the funds appropriated under this heading, \$9,939,000 shall be paid to the "Office of Inspector General" appropriation to remain available until September 30, 2016, and \$18,850,000 shall be paid to the "Science and Technology" appropriation to remain available until September 30, 2016.

#### LEAKING UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK TRUST FUND PROGRAM

For necessary expenses to carry out leaking underground storage tank cleanup activities authorized by subtitle I of the Solid Waste Disposal Act, \$91,941,000, to remain available until expended, of which \$66,572,000 shall be for carrying out leaking under-

ground storage tank cleanup activities authorized by section 9003(h) of the Solid Waste Disposal Act; \$25,369,000 shall be for carrying out the other provisions of the Solid Waste Disposal Act specified in section 9508(c) of the Internal Revenue Code: *Provided*, That the Administrator is authorized to use appropriations made available under this heading to implement section 9013 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act to provide financial assistance to federally recognized Indian tribes for the development and implementation of programs to manage underground storage tanks.

#### INLAND OIL SPILL PROGRAMS

For expenses necessary to carry out the Environmental Protection Agency's responsibilities under the Oil Pollution Act of 1990, \$18,209,000, to be derived from the Oil Spill Liability trust fund, to remain available until expended.

#### STATE AND TRIBAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS

For environmental programs and infrastructure assistance, including capitalization grants for State revolving funds and performance partnership grants, \$3,545,161,000, to remain available until expended, of which—

(1) \$1,448,887,000 shall be for making capitalization grants for the Clean Water State Revolving Funds under title VI of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act; and of which \$906,896,000 shall be for making capitalization grants for the Drinking Water State Revolving Funds under section 1452 of the Safe Drinking Water Act: *Provided*, That for fiscal year 2015, to the extent there are sufficient eligible project applications, not less than 10 percent of the funds made available under this title to each State for Clean Water State Revolving Fund capitalization grants shall be used by the State for projects to address green infrastructure, water or energy efficiency improvements, or other environmentally innovative activities: *Provided further*, That for fiscal year 2015, funds made available under this title to each State for Drinking Water State Revolving Fund capitalization grants may, at the discretion of each State, be used for projects to address green infrastructure, water or energy efficiency improvements, or other environmentally innovative activities: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding section 603(d)(7) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, the limitation on the amounts in a State water pollution control revolving fund that may be used by a State to administer the fund shall not apply to amounts included as principal in loans made by such fund in fiscal year 2015 and prior years where such amounts represent costs of administering the fund to the extent that such amounts are or were deemed reasonable by the Administrator, accounted for separately from other assets in the fund, and used for eligible purposes of the fund, including administration: *Provided further*, That for fiscal year 2015, notwithstanding the limitation on amounts in section 518(c) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act and section 1452(i) of the Safe Drinking Water Act, up to a total of 2 percent of the funds appropriated for State Revolving Funds under such Acts may be reserved by the Administrator for grants under section 518(c) and section 1452(i) of such Acts: *Provided further*, That for fiscal year 2015, notwithstanding the amounts specified in section 205(c) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, up to 1.5 percent of the aggregate funds appropriated for the Clean Water State Revolving Fund program under the Act less any sums reserved under section

518(c) of the Act, may be reserved by the Administrator for grants made under title II of the Clean Water Act for American Samoa, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas, and United States Virgin Islands: *Provided further*, That for fiscal year 2015, notwithstanding the limitations on amounts specified in section 1452(j) of the Safe Drinking Water Act, up to 1.5 percent of the funds appropriated for the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund programs under the Safe Drinking Water Act may be reserved by the Administrator for grants made under section 1452(j) of the Safe Drinking Water Act: *Provided further*, That not less than 20 percent but not more than 30 percent of the funds made available under this title to each State for Drinking Water State Revolving Fund capitalization grants shall be used by the State to provide additional subsidy to eligible recipients in the form of forgiveness of principal, negative interest loans, or grants (or any combination of these), and shall be so used by the State only where such funds are provided as initial financing for an eligible recipient or to buy, refinance, or restructure the debt obligations of eligible recipients only where such debt was incurred on or after the date of enactment of this Act;

(2) \$5,000,000 shall be for architectural, engineering, planning, design, construction and related activities in connection with the construction of high priority water and wastewater facilities in the area of the United States-Mexico Border, after consultation with the appropriate border commission; *Provided*, That no funds provided by this appropriations Act to address the water, wastewater and other critical infrastructure needs of the colonias in the United States along the United States-Mexico border shall be made available to a county or municipal government unless that government has established an enforceable local ordinance, or other zoning rule, which prevents in that jurisdiction the development or construction of any additional colonia areas, or the development within an existing colonia the construction of any new home, business, or other structure which lacks water, wastewater, or other necessary infrastructure;

(3) \$10,000,000 shall be for grants to the State of Alaska to address drinking water and wastewater infrastructure needs of rural and Alaska Native Villages: *Provided*, That of these funds: (A) the State of Alaska shall provide a match of 25 percent; (B) no more than 5 percent of the funds may be used for administrative and overhead expenses; and (C) the State of Alaska shall make awards consistent with the Statewide priority list established in conjunction with the Agency and the U.S. Department of Agriculture for all water, sewer, waste disposal, and similar projects carried out by the State of Alaska that are funded under section 221 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1301) or the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1921 et seq.) which shall allocate not less than 25 percent of the funds provided for projects in regional hub communities;

(4) \$80,000,000 shall be to carry out section 104(k) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA), including grants, inter-agency agreements, and associated program support costs: *Provided*, That not more than 25 percent of the amount appropriated to carry out section 104(k) of CERCLA shall be used for site characterization, assessment, and remediation of facilities described in section 101(39)(D)(ii)(II) of CERCLA;

(5) \$30,000,000 shall be for grants under title VII, subtitle G of the Energy Policy Act of 2005;

(6) \$10,000,000 shall be for targeted airshed grants in accordance with the terms and conditions of the explanatory statement accompanying this Act; and

(7) \$1,054,378,000 shall be for grants, including associated program support costs, to States, federally recognized tribes, interstate agencies, tribal consortia, and air pollution control agencies for multi-media or single media pollution prevention, control and abatement and related activities, including activities pursuant to the provisions set forth under this heading in Public Law 104-134, and for making grants under section 103 of the Clean Air Act for particulate matter monitoring and data collection activities subject to terms and conditions specified by the Administrator, of which: \$47,745,000 shall be for carrying out section 128 of CERCLA; \$9,646,000 shall be for Environmental Information Exchange Network grants, including associated program support costs; \$1,498,000 shall be for grants to States under section 2007(f)(2) of the Solid Waste Disposal Act, which shall be in addition to funds appropriated under the heading "Leaking Underground Storage Tank Trust Fund Program" to carry out the provisions of the Solid Waste Disposal Act specified in section 9508(c) of the Internal Revenue Code other than section 9003(h) of the Solid Waste Disposal Act; \$17,848,000 of the funds available for grants under section 106 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act shall be for State participation in national- and State-level statistical surveys of water resources and enhancements to State monitoring programs.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
(INCLUDING TRANSFER AND RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

For fiscal year 2015, notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 6303(1) and 6305(1), the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, in carrying out the Agency's function to implement directly Federal environmental programs required or authorized by law in the absence of an acceptable tribal program, may award cooperative agreements to federally recognized Indian tribes or Intertribal consortia, if authorized by their member tribes, to assist the Administrator in implementing Federal environmental programs for Indian tribes required or authorized by law, except that no such cooperative agreements may be awarded from funds designated for State financial assistance agreements.

The Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency is authorized to collect and obligate pesticide registration service fees in accordance with section 33 of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act, as amended by Public Law 112-177, the Pesticide Registration Improvement Extension Act of 2012.

Notwithstanding section 33(d)(2) of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) (7 U.S.C. 136w-8(d)(2)), the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency may assess fees under section 33 of FIFRA (7 U.S.C. 136w-8) for fiscal year 2015.

The Administrator is authorized to transfer up to \$300,000,000 of the funds appropriated for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative under the heading "Environmental Programs and Management" to the head of any Federal department or agency, with the concurrence of such head, to carry out ac-

tivities that would support the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative and Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement programs, projects, or activities; to enter into an inter-agency agreement with the head of such Federal department or agency to carry out these activities; and to make grants to governmental entities, nonprofit organizations, institutions, and individuals for planning, research, monitoring, outreach, and implementation in furtherance of the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative and the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement.

The Science and Technology, Environmental Programs and Management, Office of Inspector General, Hazardous Substance Superfund, and Leaking Underground Storage Tank Trust Fund Program Accounts, are available for the construction, alteration, repair, rehabilitation, and renovation of facilities provided that the cost does not exceed \$150,000 per project.

The fourth paragraph under the heading "Administrative Provisions" in title II of Public Law 109-54 is amended by striking "2015" and inserting "2020".

For fiscal year 2015, and notwithstanding section 518(f) of the Water Pollution Control Act, the Administrator is authorized to use the amounts appropriated for any fiscal year under Section 319 of the Act to make grants to federally recognized Indian tribes pursuant to sections 319(h) and 518(e) of that Act.

The Administrator is authorized to use the amounts appropriated under the heading "Environmental Programs and Management" for fiscal year 2015 to provide grants to implement the Southeastern New England Watershed Restoration Program.

From unobligated balances to carry out projects and activities funded through the "State and Tribal Assistance Grants" account, \$40,000,000, are hereby permanently rescinded: *Provided*, That no amounts may be rescinded from amounts that were designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

TITLE III  
RELATED AGENCIES  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FOREST SERVICE

FOREST AND RANGELAND RESEARCH

For necessary expenses of forest and rangeland research as authorized by law, \$296,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of the funds provided, \$70,000,000 is for the forest inventory and analysis program.

STATE AND PRIVATE FORESTRY

For necessary expenses of cooperating with and providing technical and financial assistance to States, territories, possessions, and others, and for forest health management, including treatments of pests, pathogens, and invasive or noxious plants and for restoring and rehabilitating forests damaged by pests or invasive plants, cooperative forestry, and education and land conservation activities and conducting an international program as authorized, \$232,653,000, to remain available until expended, as authorized by law; of which \$53,000,000 is to be derived from the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM  
(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Forest Service, not otherwise provided for, for management, protection, improvement, and utilization of the National Forest System,

\$1,494,330,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of the funds provided, \$40,000,000 shall be deposited in the Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Fund for ecological restoration treatments as authorized by 16 U.S.C. 7303(f): *Provided further*, That of the funds provided, \$339,130,000 shall be for forest products: *Provided further*, That of the funds provided, up to \$81,941,000 is for the Integrated Resource Restoration pilot program for Region 1, Region 3 and Region 4: *Provided further*, That of the funds provided for forest products, up to \$65,560,000 may be transferred to support the Integrated Resource Restoration pilot program in the preceding proviso: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Agriculture may transfer to the Secretary of the Interior any unobligated funds appropriated in this fiscal year or in a previous fiscal year for operation of the Valles Caldera National Preserve.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT AND MAINTENANCE  
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Forest Service, not otherwise provided for, \$360,374,000, to remain available until expended, for construction, capital improvement, maintenance and acquisition of buildings and other facilities and infrastructure; and for construction, reconstruction, decommissioning of roads that are no longer needed, including unauthorized roads that are not part of the transportation system, and maintenance of forest roads and trails by the Forest Service as authorized by 16 U.S.C. 532-538 and 23 U.S.C. 101 and 205: *Provided*, That \$40,000,000 shall be designated for urgently needed road decommissioning, road and trail repair and maintenance and associated activities, and removal of fish passage barriers, especially in areas where Forest Service roads may be contributing to water quality problems in streams and water bodies which support threatened, endangered, or sensitive species or community water sources: *Provided further*, That funds becoming available in fiscal year 2015 under the Act of March 4, 1913 (16 U.S.C. 501) shall be transferred to the General Fund of the Treasury and shall not be available for transfer or obligation for any other purpose unless the funds are appropriated: *Provided further*, That of the funds provided for decommissioning of roads, up to \$14,743,000 may be transferred to the "National Forest System" to support the Integrated Resource Restoration pilot program.

LAND ACQUISITION

For expenses necessary to carry out the provisions of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, (16 U.S.C. 4601-4 et seq.), including administrative expenses, and for acquisition of land or waters, or interest therein, in accordance with statutory authority applicable to the Forest Service, \$47,500,000, to be derived from the Land and Water Conservation Fund and to remain available until expended.

ACQUISITION OF LANDS FOR NATIONAL FORESTS  
SPECIAL ACTS

For acquisition of lands within the exterior boundaries of the Cache, Uinta, and Wasatch National Forests, Utah; the Toiyabe National Forest, Nevada; and the Angeles, San Bernardino, Sequoia, and Cleveland National Forests, California, as authorized by law, \$950,000, to be derived from forest receipts.

ACQUISITION OF LANDS TO COMPLETE LAND  
EXCHANGES

For acquisition of lands, such sums, to be derived from funds deposited by State, county, or municipal governments, public school

districts, or other public school authorities, and for authorized expenditures from funds deposited by non-Federal parties pursuant to Land Sale and Exchange Acts, pursuant to the Act of December 4, 1967, (16 U.S.C. 484a), to remain available until expended (16 U.S.C. 460l-516-617a, 555a; Public Law 96-586; Public Law 76-589, 76-591; and Public Law 78-310).

#### RANGE BETTERMENT FUND

For necessary expenses of range rehabilitation, protection, and improvement, 50 percent of all moneys received during the prior fiscal year, as fees for grazing domestic livestock on lands in National Forests in the 16 Western States, pursuant to section 401(b)(1) of Public Law 94-579, to remain available until expended, of which not to exceed 6 percent shall be available for administrative expenses associated with on-the-ground range rehabilitation, protection, and improvements.

#### GIFTS, DONATIONS AND BEQUESTS FOR FOREST AND RANGELAND RESEARCH

For expenses authorized by 16 U.S.C. 1643(b), \$45,000, to remain available until expended, to be derived from the fund established pursuant to the above Act.

#### MANAGEMENT OF NATIONAL FOREST LANDS FOR SUBSISTENCE USES

For necessary expenses of the Forest Service to manage Federal lands in Alaska for subsistence uses under title VIII of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (Public Law 96-487), \$2,500,000, to remain available until expended.

#### WILDLAND FIRE MANAGEMENT

##### (INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses for forest fire suppression activities on National Forest System lands, for emergency fire suppression on or adjacent to such lands or other lands under fire protection agreement, hazardous fuels management on or adjacent to such lands, emergency rehabilitation of burned-over National Forest System lands and water, and for State and volunteer fire assistance, \$2,333,298,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That such funds including unobligated balances under this heading, are available for repayment of advances from other appropriations accounts previously transferred for such purposes: *Provided further*, That such funds shall be available to reimburse State and other cooperating entities for services provided in response to wildfire and other emergencies or disasters to the extent such reimbursements by the Forest Service for non-fire emergencies are fully repaid by the responsible emergency management agency: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, \$6,914,000 of funds appropriated under this appropriation shall be available for the Forest Service in support of fire science research authorized by the Joint Fire Science Program, including all Forest Service authorities for the use of funds, such as contracts, grants, research joint venture agreements, and cooperative agreements: *Provided further*, That all authorities for the use of funds, including the use of contracts, grants, and cooperative agreements, available to execute the Forest and Rangeland Research appropriation, are also available in the utilization of these funds for Fire Science Research: *Provided further*, That funds provided shall be available for emergency rehabilitation and restoration, hazardous fuels management activities, support to Federal emergency response, and wildfire suppression activities of the Forest Service: *Provided further*, That of the funds provided,

\$361,749,000 is for hazardous fuels management activities, \$19,795,000 is for research activities and to make competitive research grants pursuant to the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Research Act, (16 U.S.C. 1641 et seq.), \$78,000,000 is for State fire assistance, and \$13,000,000 is for volunteer fire assistance under section 10 of the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2106): *Provided further*, That amounts in this paragraph may be transferred to the "National Forest System", and "Forest and Rangeland Research" accounts to fund forest and rangeland research, the Joint Fire Science Program, vegetation and watershed management, heritage site rehabilitation, and wildlife and fish habitat management and restoration: *Provided further*, That, of the funds provided, \$65,000,000 shall be available for the purpose of acquiring aircraft for the next-generation airtanker fleet to enhance firefighting mobility, effectiveness, efficiency, and safety, and such aircraft shall be suitable for contractor operation over the terrain and forested-ecosystems characteristic of National Forest System lands, as determined by the Chief of the Forest Service: *Provided further*, That the costs of implementing any cooperative agreement between the Federal Government and any non-Federal entity may be shared, as mutually agreed on by the affected parties: *Provided further*, That up to \$15,000,000 of the funds provided herein may be used by the Secretary of Agriculture to enter into procurement contracts or cooperative agreements or to issue grants for hazardous fuels management activities and for training or monitoring associated with such hazardous fuels management activities on Federal land or on non-Federal land if the Secretary determines such activities implement a community wildfire protection plan (or equivalent) and benefit resources on Federal land: *Provided further*, That funds made available to implement the Community Forest Restoration Act, Public Law 106-393, title VI, shall be available for use on non-Federal lands in accordance with authorities made available to the Forest Service under the "State and Private Forestry" appropriation: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture may authorize the transfer of funds appropriated for wildland fire management, in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$50,000,000, between the Departments when such transfers would facilitate and expedite wildland fire management programs and projects: *Provided further*, That of the funds provided for hazardous fuels management, not to exceed \$15,000,000 may be used to make grants, using any authorities available to the Forest Service under the "State and Private Forestry" appropriation, for the purpose of creating incentives for increased use of biomass from National Forest System lands: *Provided further*, That funds designated for wildfire suppression, including funds transferred from the "FLAME Wildfire Suppression Reserve Fund," shall be assessed for cost pools on the same basis as such assessments are calculated against other agency programs: *Provided further*, That of the funds for hazardous fuels management, up to \$28,077,000 may be transferred to the "National Forest System" to support the Integrated Resource Restoration pilot program.

#### FLAME WILDFIRE SUPPRESSION RESERVE FUND

##### (INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses for large fire suppression operations of the Department of Agriculture and as a reserve fund for suppression and Federal emergency response activi-

ties, \$303,060,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That such amounts are only available for transfer to the "Wildland Fire Management" account following a declaration by the Secretary in accordance with section 502 of the FLAME Act of 2009 (43 U.S.C. 1748a).

#### ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—FOREST SERVICE (INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

Appropriations to the Forest Service for the current fiscal year shall be available for: (1) purchase of passenger motor vehicles; acquisition of passenger motor vehicles from excess sources, and hire of such vehicles; purchase, lease, operation, maintenance, and acquisition of aircraft to maintain the operable fleet for use in Forest Service wildland fire programs and other Forest Service programs; notwithstanding other provisions of law, existing aircraft being replaced may be sold, with proceeds derived or trade-in value used to offset the purchase price for the replacement aircraft; (2) services pursuant to 7 U.S.C. 2225, and not to exceed \$100,000 for employment under 5 U.S.C. 3109; (3) purchase, erection, and alteration of buildings and other public improvements (7 U.S.C. 2250); (4) acquisition of land, waters, and interests therein pursuant to 7 U.S.C. 428a; (5) for expenses pursuant to the Volunteers in the National Forest Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 558a, 558d, and 558a note); (6) the cost of uniforms as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 5901-5902; and (7) for debt collection contracts in accordance with 31 U.S.C. 3718(c).

Any appropriations or funds available to the Forest Service may be transferred to the Wildland Fire Management appropriation for forest firefighting, emergency rehabilitation of burned-over or damaged lands or waters under its jurisdiction, and fire preparedness due to severe burning conditions upon the Secretary's notification of the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations that all fire suppression funds appropriated under the headings "Wildland Fire Management" and "FLAME Wildfire Suppression Reserve Fund" will be obligated within 30 days: *Provided*, That all funds used pursuant to this paragraph must be replenished by a supplemental appropriation which must be requested as promptly as possible.

Funds appropriated to the Forest Service shall be available for assistance to or through the Agency for International Development in connection with forest and rangeland research, technical information, and assistance in foreign countries, and shall be available to support forestry and related natural resource activities outside the United States and its territories and possessions, including technical assistance, education and training, and cooperation with U.S., private, and international organizations. The Forest Service, acting for the International Program, may sign direct funding agreements with foreign governments and institutions as well as other domestic agencies (including the U.S. Agency for International Development, the Department of State, and the Millennium Challenge Corporation), U.S. private sector firms, institutions and organizations to provide technical assistance and training programs overseas on forestry and rangeland management.

Funds appropriated to the Forest Service shall be available for expenditure or transfer to the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, for removal, preparation, and adoption of excess wild horses and burros from National Forest System lands, and for the performance of cadastral surveys to designate the boundaries of such lands.

None of the funds made available to the Forest Service in this Act or any other Act

with respect to any fiscal year shall be subject to transfer under the provisions of section 702(b) of the Department of Agriculture Organic Act of 1944 (7 U.S.C. 2257), section 442 of Public Law 106-224 (7 U.S.C. 7772), or section 10417(b) of Public Law 107-107 (7 U.S.C. 8316(b)).

None of the funds available to the Forest Service may be reprogrammed without the advance approval of the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations in accordance with the reprogramming procedures contained in the explanatory statement accompanying this Act.

Not more than \$82,000,000 of funds available to the Forest Service shall be transferred to the Working Capital Fund of the Department of Agriculture and not more than \$14,500,000 of funds available to the Forest Service shall be transferred to the Department of Agriculture for Department Reimbursable Programs, commonly referred to as Greenbook charges. Nothing in this paragraph shall prohibit or limit the use of reimbursable agreements requested by the Forest Service in order to obtain services from the Department of Agriculture's National Information Technology Center. Nothing in this paragraph shall limit the Forest Service portion of implementation costs to be paid to the Department of Agriculture for the International Technology Service.

Of the funds available to the Forest Service, up to \$5,000,000 shall be available for priority projects within the scope of the approved budget, which shall be carried out by the Youth Conservation Corps and shall be carried out under the authority of the Public Lands Corps Act of 1993, Public Law 103-82, as amended by Public Lands Corps Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2005, Public Law 109-154.

Of the funds available to the Forest Service, \$4,000 is available to the Chief of the Forest Service for official reception and representation expenses.

Pursuant to sections 405(b) and 410(b) of Public Law 101-593, of the funds available to the Forest Service, up to \$3,000,000 may be advanced in a lump sum to the National Forest Foundation to aid conservation partnership projects in support of the Forest Service mission, without regard to when the Foundation incurs expenses, for projects on or benefitting National Forest System lands or related to Forest Service programs: *Provided*, That of the Federal funds made available to the Foundation, no more than \$300,000 shall be available for administrative expenses: *Provided further*, That the Foundation shall obtain, by the end of the period of Federal financial assistance, private contributions to match on at least one-for-one basis funds made available by the Forest Service: *Provided further*, That the Foundation may transfer Federal funds to a Federal or a non-Federal recipient for a project at the same rate that the recipient has obtained the non-Federal matching funds.

Pursuant to section 2(b)(2) of Public Law 98-244, up to \$3,000,000 of the funds available to the Forest Service may be advanced to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation in a lump sum to aid cost-share conservation projects, without regard to when expenses are incurred, on or benefitting National Forest System lands or related to Forest Service programs: *Provided*, That such funds shall be matched on at least a one-for-one basis by the Foundation or its sub-recipients: *Provided further*, That the Foundation may transfer Federal funds to a Federal or non-Federal recipient for a project at the same rate that the recipient has obtained the non-Federal matching funds.

Funds appropriated to the Forest Service shall be available for interactions with and providing technical assistance to rural communities and natural resource-based businesses for sustainable rural development purposes.

Funds appropriated to the Forest Service shall be available for payments to counties within the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area, pursuant to section 14(c)(1) and (2), and section 16(a)(2) of Public Law 99-663.

Any funds appropriated to the Forest Service may be used to meet the non-Federal share requirement in section 502(c) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3056(c)(2)).

Funds available to the Forest Service, not to exceed \$55,000,000, shall be assessed for the purpose of performing fire, administrative and other facilities maintenance and decommissioning. Such assessments shall occur using a square foot rate charged on the same basis the agency uses to assess programs for payment of rent, utilities, and other support services.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any appropriations or funds available to the Forest Service not to exceed \$500,000 may be used to reimburse the Office of the General Counsel (OGC), Department of Agriculture, for travel and related expenses incurred as a result of OGC assistance or participation requested by the Forest Service at meetings, training sessions, management reviews, land purchase negotiations and similar nonlitigation-related matters. Future budget justifications for both the Forest Service and the Department of Agriculture should clearly display the sums previously transferred and the requested funding transfers.

An eligible individual who is employed in any project funded under title V of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3056 et seq.) and administered by the Forest Service shall be considered to be a Federal employee for purposes of chapter 171 of title 28, United States Code.

#### DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

##### INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE

##### INDIAN HEALTH SERVICES

For expenses necessary to carry out the Act of August 5, 1954 (68 Stat. 674), the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act, the Indian Health Care Improvement Act, and titles II and III of the Public Health Service Act with respect to the Indian Health Service, \$4,182,147,000, together with payments received during the fiscal year pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 238(b) and 238b, for services furnished by the Indian Health Service: *Provided*, That funds made available to tribes and tribal organizations through contracts, grant agreements, or any other agreements or compacts authorized by the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act of 1975 (25 U.S.C. 450), shall be deemed to be obligated at the time of the grant or contract award and thereafter shall remain available to the tribe or tribal organization without fiscal year limitation: *Provided further*, That, \$914,139,000 for Purchased/Referred Care, including \$51,500,000 for the Indian Catastrophic Health Emergency Fund, shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That, of the funds provided, up to \$36,000,000 shall remain available until expended for implementation of the loan repayment program under section 108 of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act: *Provided further*, That the amounts collected by the Federal Government as authorized by sec-

tions 104 and 108 of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act (25 U.S.C. 1613a and 1616a) during the preceding fiscal year for breach of contracts shall be deposited to the Fund authorized by section 108A of the Act (25 U.S.C. 1616a-1) and shall remain available until expended and, notwithstanding section 108A(c) of the Act (25 U.S.C. 1616a-1(c)), funds shall be available to make new awards under the loan repayment and scholarship programs under sections 104 and 108 of the Act (25 U.S.C. 1613a and 1616a): *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, the amounts made available within this account for the methamphetamine and suicide prevention and treatment initiative and for the domestic violence prevention initiative shall be allocated at the discretion of the Director of the Indian Health Service and shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That funds provided in this Act may be used for annual contracts and grants that fall within 2 fiscal years, provided the total obligation is recorded in the year the funds are appropriated: *Provided further*, That the amounts collected by the Secretary of Health and Human Services under the authority of title IV of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act shall remain available until expended for the purpose of achieving compliance with the applicable conditions and requirements of titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act, except for those related to the planning, design, or construction of new facilities: *Provided further*, That funding contained herein for scholarship programs under the Indian Health Care Improvement Act (25 U.S.C. 1613) shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That amounts received by tribes and tribal organizations under title IV of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act shall be reported and accounted for and available to the receiving tribes and tribal organizations until expended: *Provided further*, That the Bureau of Indian Affairs may collect from the Indian Health Service, tribes and tribal organizations operating health facilities pursuant to Public Law 93-638, such individually identifiable health information relating to disabled children as may be necessary for the purpose of carrying out its functions under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1400, et seq.): *Provided further*, That the Indian Health Care Improvement Fund may be used, as needed, to carry out activities typically funded under the Indian Health Facilities account.

##### INDIAN HEALTH FACILITIES

For construction, repair, maintenance, improvement, and equipment of health and related auxiliary facilities, including quarters for personnel; preparation of plans, specifications, and drawings; acquisition of sites, purchase and erection of modular buildings, and purchases of trailers; and for provision of domestic and community sanitation facilities for Indians, as authorized by section 7 of the Act of August 5, 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2004a), the Indian Self-Determination Act, and the Indian Health Care Improvement Act, and for expenses necessary to carry out such Acts and titles II and III of the Public Health Service Act with respect to environmental health and facilities support activities of the Indian Health Service, \$460,234,000 to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, funds appropriated for the planning, design, construction, renovation or expansion of health facilities for the benefit of an Indian tribe or tribes may be used to purchase land on which such facilities will be located: *Provided further*, That not to exceed \$500,000 may be

used by the Indian Health Service to purchase TRANSAM equipment from the Department of Defense for distribution to the Indian Health Service and tribal facilities: *Provided further*, That none of the funds appropriated to the Indian Health Service may be used for sanitation facilities construction for new homes funded with grants by the housing programs of the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development: *Provided further*, That not to exceed \$2,700,000 from this account and the "Indian Health Services" account may be used by the Indian Health Service to obtain ambulances for the Indian Health Service and tribal facilities in conjunction with an existing interagency agreement between the Indian Health Service and the General Services Administration: *Provided further*, That not to exceed \$500,000 may be placed in a Demolition Fund, to remain available until expended, and be used by the Indian Health Service for the demolition of Federal buildings.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE

Appropriations provided in this Act to the Indian Health Service shall be available for services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109 at rates not to exceed the per diem rate equivalent to the maximum rate payable for senior-level positions under 5 U.S.C. 5376; hire of passenger motor vehicles and aircraft; purchase of medical equipment; purchase of reprints; purchase, renovation and erection of modular buildings and renovation of existing facilities; payments for telephone service in private residences in the field, when authorized under regulations approved by the Secretary; uniforms or allowances therefor as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 5901–5902; and for expenses of attendance at meetings that relate to the functions or activities of the Indian Health Service: *Provided*, That in accordance with the provisions of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act, non-Indian patients may be extended health care at all tribally administered or Indian Health Service facilities, subject to charges, and the proceeds along with funds recovered under the Federal Medical Care Recovery Act (42 U.S.C. 2651–2653) shall be credited to the account of the facility providing the service and shall be available without fiscal year limitation: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any other law or regulation, funds transferred from the Department of Housing and Urban Development to the Indian Health Service shall be administered under Public Law 86–121, the Indian Sanitation Facilities Act and Public Law 93–638: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated to the Indian Health Service in this Act, except those used for administrative and program direction purposes, shall not be subject to limitations directed at curtailing Federal travel and transportation: *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available to the Indian Health Service in this Act shall be used for any assessments or charges by the Department of Health and Human Services unless identified in the budget justification and provided in this Act, or approved by the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations through the reprogramming process: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, funds previously or herein made available to a tribe or tribal organization through a contract, grant, or agreement authorized by title I or title V of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act of 1975 (25 U.S.C. 450), may be deobligated and reobligated to a self-determination contract under title I, or a self-governance agreement

under title V of such Act and thereafter shall remain available to the tribe or tribal organization without fiscal year limitation: *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available to the Indian Health Service in this Act shall be used to implement the final rule published in the Federal Register on September 16, 1987, by the Department of Health and Human Services, relating to the eligibility for the health care services of the Indian Health Service until the Indian Health Service has submitted a budget request reflecting the increased costs associated with the proposed final rule, and such request has been included in an appropriations Act and enacted into law: *Provided further*, That with respect to functions transferred by the Indian Health Service to tribes or tribal organizations, the Indian Health Service is authorized to provide goods and services to those entities on a reimbursable basis, including payments in advance with subsequent adjustment, and the reimbursements received therefrom, along with the funds received from those entities pursuant to the Indian Self-Determination Act, may be credited to the same or subsequent appropriation account from which the funds were originally derived, with such amounts to remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That reimbursements for training, technical assistance, or services provided by the Indian Health Service will contain total costs, including direct, administrative, and overhead associated with the provision of goods, services, or technical assistance: *Provided further*, That the appropriation structure for the Indian Health Service may not be altered without advance notification to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations.

#### NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SCIENCES

For necessary expenses for the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences in carrying out activities set forth in section 311(a) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9660(a)) and section 126(g) of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986, \$77,349,000.

#### AGENCY FOR TOXIC SUBSTANCES AND DISEASE REGISTRY

##### TOXIC SUBSTANCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH

For necessary expenses for the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) in carrying out activities set forth in sections 104(i) and 111(c)(4) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA) and section 3019 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act, \$74,691,000, of which up to \$1,000 per eligible employee of the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry shall remain available until expended for Individual Learning Accounts: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, in lieu of performing a health assessment under section 104(i)(6) of CERCLA, the Administrator of ATSDR may conduct other appropriate health studies, evaluations, or activities, including, without limitation, biomedical testing, clinical evaluations, medical monitoring, and referral to accredited healthcare providers: *Provided further*, That in performing any such health assessment or health study, evaluation, or activity, the Administrator of ATSDR shall not be bound by the deadlines in section 104(i)(6)(A) of CERCLA: *Provided further*, That none of the funds appropriated under this heading shall be available for ATSDR to

issue in excess of 40 toxicological profiles pursuant to section 104(i) of CERCLA during fiscal year 2015, and existing profiles may be updated as necessary.

#### OTHER RELATED AGENCIES

##### EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

##### COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY AND OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

For necessary expenses to continue functions assigned to the Council on Environmental Quality and Office of Environmental Quality pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, the Environmental Quality Improvement Act of 1970, and Reorganization Plan No. 1 of 1977, and not to exceed \$750 for official reception and representation expenses, \$3,000,000: *Provided*, That notwithstanding section 202 of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1970, the Council shall consist of one member, appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, serving as chairman and exercising all powers, functions, and duties of the Council.

##### CHEMICAL SAFETY AND HAZARD INVESTIGATION BOARD

##### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses in carrying out activities pursuant to section 112(r)(6) of the Clean Air Act, including hire of passenger vehicles, uniforms or allowances therefor, as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 5901–5902, and for services authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109 but at rates for individuals not to exceed the per diem equivalent to the maximum rate payable for senior level positions under 5 U.S.C. 5376, \$11,000,000: *Provided*, That the Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board (Board) shall have not more than three career Senior Executive Service positions: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, the individual appointed to the position of Inspector General of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) shall, by virtue of such appointment, also hold the position of Inspector General of the Board: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Inspector General of the Board shall utilize personnel of the Office of Inspector General of EPA in performing the duties of the Inspector General of the Board, and shall not appoint any individuals to positions within the Board.

##### OFFICE OF NAVAJO AND HOPÍ INDIAN RELOCATION

##### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

##### (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Office of Navajo and Hopi Indian Relocation as authorized by Public Law 93–531, \$7,341,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That funds provided in this or any other appropriations Act are to be used to relocate eligible individuals and groups including evictees from District 6, Hopi-partitioned lands residents, those in significantly substandard housing, and all others certified as eligible and not included in the preceding categories: *Provided further*, That none of the funds contained in this or any other Act may be used by the Office of Navajo and Hopi Indian Relocation to evict any single Navajo or Navajo family who, as of November 30, 1985, was physically domiciled on the lands partitioned to the Hopi Tribe unless a new or replacement home is provided for such household: *Provided further*, That no relocatee will be provided with more than one new or replacement home: *Provided further*, That the Office shall relocate any certified eligible relocatees who have selected and received an approved homesite on the Navajo reservation



or selected a replacement residence off the Navajo reservation or on the land acquired pursuant to 25 U.S.C. 640d-10: *Provided further*, That \$200,000 shall be transferred to the Office of Inspector General of the Department of the Interior, to remain available until expended, for audits and investigations of the Office of Navajo and Hopi Indian Relocation, consistent with the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.).

INSTITUTE OF AMERICAN INDIAN AND ALASKA  
NATIVE CULTURE AND ARTS DEVELOPMENT  
PAYMENT TO THE INSTITUTE

For payment to the Institute of American Indian and Alaska Native Culture and Arts Development, as authorized by title XV of Public Law 99-498 (20 U.S.C. 56 part A), \$9,469,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016.

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Smithsonian Institution, as authorized by law, including research in the fields of art, science, and history; development, preservation, and documentation of the National Collections; presentation of public exhibits and performances; collection, preparation, dissemination, and exchange of information and publications; conduct of education, training, and museum assistance programs; maintenance, alteration, operation, lease agreements of no more than 30 years, and protection of buildings, facilities, and approaches; not to exceed \$100,000 for services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109; and purchase, rental, repair, and cleaning of uniforms for employees, \$675,343,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016, except as otherwise provided herein; of which not to exceed \$47,522,000 for the instrumentation program, collections acquisition, exhibition reinstallation, the National Museum of African American History and Culture, and the repatriation of skeletal remains program shall remain available until expended; and including such funds as may be necessary to support American overseas research centers: *Provided*, That funds appropriated herein are available for advance payments to independent contractors performing research services or participating in official Smithsonian presentations.

FACILITIES CAPITAL

For necessary expenses of repair, revitalization, and alteration of facilities owned or occupied by the Smithsonian Institution, by contract or otherwise, as authorized by section 2 of the Act of August 22, 1949 (63 Stat. 623), and for construction, including necessary personnel, \$144,198,000, to remain available until expended, of which not to exceed \$10,000 shall be for services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, and of which \$24,010,000 shall be for construction of the National Museum of African American History and Culture.

NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For the upkeep and operations of the National Gallery of Art, the protection and care of the works of art therein, and administrative expenses incident thereto, as authorized by the Act of March 24, 1937 (50 Stat. 51), as amended by the public resolution of April 13, 1939 (Public Resolution 9, Seventy-sixth Congress), including services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109; payment in advance when authorized by the treasurer of the Gallery for membership in library, museum, and art associations or societies whose publications or services are available to members only, or to members at a price lower than to

the general public; purchase, repair, and cleaning of uniforms for guards, and uniforms, or allowances therefor, for other employees as authorized by law (5 U.S.C. 5901-5902); purchase or rental of devices and services for protecting buildings and contents thereof, and maintenance, alteration, improvement, and repair of buildings, approaches, and grounds; and purchase of services for restoration and repair of works of art for the National Gallery of Art by contracts made, without advertising, with individuals, firms, or organizations at such rates or prices and under such terms and conditions as the Gallery may deem proper, \$119,500,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016, of which not to exceed \$3,578,000 for the special exhibition program shall remain available until expended.

REPAIR, RESTORATION AND RENOVATION OF  
BUILDINGS

For necessary expenses of repair, restoration and renovation of buildings, grounds and facilities owned or occupied by the National Gallery of Art, by contract or otherwise, for operating lease agreements of no more than 10 years, with no extensions or renewals beyond the 10 years, that address space needs created by the ongoing renovations in the Master Facilities Plan, as authorized, \$19,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That contracts awarded for environmental systems, protection systems, and exterior repair or renovation of buildings of the National Gallery of Art may be negotiated with selected contractors and awarded on the basis of contractor qualifications as well as price.

JOHN F. KENNEDY CENTER FOR THE  
PERFORMING ARTS  
OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE

For necessary expenses for the operation, maintenance and security of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, \$22,000,000.

CAPITAL REPAIR AND RESTORATION

For necessary expenses for capital repair and restoration of the existing features of the building and site of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, \$10,800,000, to remain available until expended.

WOODROW WILSON INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR  
SCHOLARS

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary in carrying out the provisions of the Woodrow Wilson Memorial Act of 1968 (82 Stat. 1356) including hire of passenger vehicles and services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, \$10,500,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016.

NATIONAL FOUNDATION ON THE ARTS AND THE  
HUMANITIES

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS  
GRANTS AND ADMINISTRATION

For necessary expenses to carry out the National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities Act of 1965, \$146,021,000 shall be available to the National Endowment for the Arts for the support of projects and productions in the arts, including arts education and public outreach activities, through assistance to organizations and individuals pursuant to section 5 of the Act, for program support, and for administering the functions of the Act, to remain available until expended.

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES  
GRANTS AND ADMINISTRATION

For necessary expenses to carry out the National Foundation on the Arts and the Hu-

manities Act of 1965, \$146,021,000 to remain available until expended, of which \$135,121,000 shall be available for support of activities in the humanities, pursuant to section 7(c) of the Act and for administering the functions of the Act; and \$10,900,000 shall be available to carry out the matching grants program pursuant to section 10(a)(2) of the Act, including \$8,500,000 for the purposes of section 7(h): *Provided*, That appropriations for carrying out section 10(a)(2) shall be available for obligation only in such amounts as may be equal to the total amounts of gifts, bequests, devises of money, and other property accepted by the chairman or by grantees of the National Endowment for the Humanities under the provisions of sections 11(a)(2)(B) and 11(a)(3)(B) during the current and preceding fiscal years for which equal amounts have not previously been appropriated.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

None of the funds appropriated to the National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities may be used to process any grant or contract documents which do not include the text of 18 U.S.C. 1913: *Provided*, That none of the funds appropriated to the National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities may be used for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided further*, That funds from nonappropriated sources may be used as necessary for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided further*, That the Chairperson of the National Endowment for the Arts may approve grants of up to \$10,000, if in the aggregate the amount of such grants does not exceed 5 percent of the sums appropriated for grantmaking purposes per year: *Provided further*, That such small grant actions are taken pursuant to the terms of an expressed and direct delegation of authority from the National Council on the Arts to the Chairperson.

COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses of the Commission of Fine Arts under Chapter 91 of title 40, United States Code, \$2,524,000: *Provided*, That the Commission is authorized to charge fees to cover the full costs of its publications, and such fees shall be credited to this account as an offsetting collection, to remain available until expended without further appropriation: *Provided further*, That the Commission is authorized to accept gifts, including objects, papers, artwork, drawings and artifacts, that pertain to the history and design of the Nation's Capital or the history and activities of the Commission of Fine Arts, for the purpose of artistic display, study or education.

NATIONAL CAPITAL ARTS AND CULTURAL  
AFFAIRS

For necessary expenses as authorized by Public Law 99-190 (20 U.S.C. 956a), \$2,000,000.

ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC  
PRESERVATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (Public Law 89-665), \$6,204,000.

NATIONAL CAPITAL PLANNING COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the National Capital Planning Commission under chapter 87 of title 40, United States Code, including services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, \$7,948,000: *Provided*, That one-quarter of 1 percent of the funds provided under this heading may be used for official reception

and representational expenses associated with hosting international visitors engaged in the planning and physical development of world capitals.

UNITED STATES HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL  
MUSEUM

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL MUSEUM

For expenses of the Holocaust Memorial Museum, as authorized by Public Law 106-292 (36 U.S.C. 2301-2310), \$52,385,000, of which \$515,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2017, for the Museum's equipment replacement program; and of which \$1,900,000 for the Museum's repair and rehabilitation program and \$1,264,000 for the Museum's outreach initiatives program shall remain available until expended.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER MEMORIAL  
COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses, including the costs of construction design, of the Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial Commission, \$1,000,000, to remain available until expended.

TITLE IV

GENERAL PROVISIONS

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

RESTRICTION ON USE OF FUNDS

SEC. 401. No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall be available for any activity or the publication or distribution of literature that in any way tends to promote public support or opposition to any legislative proposal on which Congressional action is not complete other than to communicate to Members of Congress as described in 18 U.S.C. 1913.

OBLIGATION OF APPROPRIATIONS

SEC. 402. No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall remain available for obligation beyond the current fiscal year unless expressly so provided herein.

DISCLOSURE OF ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

SEC. 403. The amount and basis of estimated overhead charges, deductions, reserves or holdbacks, including working capital fund and cost pool charges, from programs, projects, activities and subactivities to support government-wide, departmental, agency, or bureau administrative functions or headquarters, regional, or central operations shall be presented in annual budget justifications and subject to approval by the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate. Changes to such estimates shall be presented to the Committees on Appropriations for approval.

MINING APPLICATIONS

SEC. 404. (a) LIMITATION OF FUNDS.—None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available pursuant to this Act shall be obligated or expended to accept or process applications for a patent for any mining or mill site claim located under the general mining laws.

(b) EXCEPTIONS.—Subsection (a) shall not apply if the Secretary of the Interior determines that, for the claim concerned (1) a patent application was filed with the Secretary on or before September 30, 1994; and (2) all requirements established under sections 2325 and 2326 of the Revised Statutes (30 U.S.C. 29 and 30) for vein or lode claims, sections 2329, 2330, 2331, and 2333 of the Revised Statutes (30 U.S.C. 35, 36, and 37) for placer claims, and section 2337 of the Revised Statutes (30 U.S.C. 42) for mill site claims, as the case may be, were fully complied with by the applicant by that date.

(c) REPORT.—On September 30, 2015, the Secretary of the Interior shall file with the

House and Senate Committees on Appropriations and the Committee on Natural Resources of the House and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate a report on actions taken by the Department under the plan submitted pursuant to section 314(c) of the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1997 (Public Law 104-208).

(d) MINERAL EXAMINATIONS.—In order to process patent applications in a timely and responsible manner, upon the request of a patent applicant, the Secretary of the Interior shall allow the applicant to fund a qualified third-party contractor to be selected by the Director of the Bureau of Land Management to conduct a mineral examination of the mining claims or mill sites contained in a patent application as set forth in subsection (b). The Bureau of Land Management shall have the sole responsibility to choose and pay the third-party contractor in accordance with the standard procedures employed by the Bureau of Land Management in the retention of third-party contractors.

CONTRACT SUPPORT COSTS, PRIOR YEAR  
LIMITATION

SEC. 405. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, amounts appropriated to or otherwise designated in committee reports for the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Indian Health Service by Public Laws 103-138, 103-332, 104-134, 104-208, 105-83, 105-277, 106-113, 106-291, 107-63, 108-7, 108-108, 108-447, 109-54, 109-289, division B and Continuing Appropriations Resolution, 2007 (division B of Public Law 109-289, as amended by Public Laws 110-5 and 110-28), Public Laws 110-92, 110-116, 110-137, 110-149, 110-161, 110-329, 111-6, 111-8, 111-88, 112-10, 112-74, and 113-6 for payments for contract support costs associated with self-determination or self-governance contracts, grants, compacts, or annual funding agreements with the Bureau of Indian Affairs or the Indian Health Service as funded by such Acts, are the total amounts available for fiscal years 1994 through 2013 for such purposes, except that the Bureau of Indian Affairs, tribes and tribal organizations may use their tribal priority allocations for unmet contract support costs of ongoing contracts, grants, self-governance compacts, or annual funding agreements.

CONTRACT SUPPORT COSTS, FISCAL YEAR 2014  
LIMITATION

SEC. 406. Amounts provided under the headings "Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs and Bureau of Indian Education, Operation of Indian Programs" and "Department of Health and Human Services, Indian Health Service, Indian Health Services" in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014 (Public Law 113-76) are the only amounts available for contract support costs arising out of self-determination or self-governance contracts, grants, compacts, or annual funding agreements with the Bureau of Indian Affairs or the Indian Health Service for activities funded by the fiscal year 2014 appropriation: *Provided*, That such amounts provided by that Act are not available for payment of claims for contract support costs for prior years, or for repayments of payments for settlements or judgments awarding contract support costs for prior years.

CONTRACT SUPPORT COSTS, FISCAL YEAR 2015  
LIMITATION

SEC. 407. Amounts provided by this Act for fiscal year 2015 under the headings "Department of Health and Human Services, Indian Health Service, Indian Health Services" and "Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs and Bureau of Indian Education,

Operation of Indian Programs" are the only amounts available for contract support costs arising out of self-determination or self-governance contracts, grants, compacts, or annual funding agreements for fiscal year 2015 with the Bureau of Indian Affairs or the Indian Health Service: *Provided*, That such amounts provided by this Act are not available for payment of claims for contract support costs for prior years, or for repayments of payments for settlements or judgments awarding contract support costs for prior years.

FOREST MANAGEMENT PLANS

SEC. 408. The Secretary of Agriculture shall not be considered to be in violation of subparagraph 6(f)(5)(A) of the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. 1604(f)(5)(A)) solely because more than 15 years have passed without revision of the plan for a unit of the National Forest System. Nothing in this section exempts the Secretary from any other requirement of the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act (16 U.S.C. 1600 et seq.) or any other law: *Provided*, That if the Secretary is not acting expeditiously and in good faith, within the funding available, to revise a plan for a unit of the National Forest System, this section shall be void with respect to such plan and a court of proper jurisdiction may order completion of the plan on an accelerated basis.

PROHIBITION WITHIN NATIONAL MONUMENTS

SEC. 409. No funds provided in this Act may be expended to conduct preleasing, leasing and related activities under either the Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C. 181 et seq.) or the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1331 et seq.) within the boundaries of a National Monument established pursuant to the Act of June 8, 1906 (16 U.S.C. 431 et seq.) as such boundary existed on January 20, 2001, except where such activities are allowed under the Presidential proclamation establishing such monument.

LIMITATION ON TAKINGS

SEC. 410. Unless otherwise provided herein, no funds appropriated in this Act for the acquisition of lands or interests in lands may be expended for the filing of declarations of taking or complaints in condemnation without the approval of the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations: *Provided*, That this provision shall not apply to funds appropriated to implement the Everglades National Park Protection and Expansion Act of 1989, or to funds appropriated for Federal assistance to the State of Florida to acquire lands for Everglades restoration purposes.

TIMBER SALE REQUIREMENTS

SEC. 411. No timber sale in Alaska's Region 10 shall be advertised if the indicated rate is deficit (defined as the value of the timber is not sufficient to cover all logging and stumpage costs and provide a normal profit and risk allowance under the Forest Service's appraisal process) when appraised using a residual value appraisal. The western red cedar timber from those sales which is surplus to the needs of the domestic processors in Alaska, shall be made available to domestic processors in the contiguous 48 United States at prevailing domestic prices. All additional western red cedar volume not sold to Alaska or contiguous 48 United States domestic processors may be exported to foreign markets at the election of the timber sale holder. All Alaska yellow cedar may be sold at prevailing export prices at the election of the timber sale holder.



## PROHIBITION ON NO-BID CONTRACTS

SEC. 412. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act to executive branch agencies may be used to enter into any Federal contract unless such contract is entered into in accordance with the requirements of Chapter 33 of title 41, United States Code, or Chapter 137 of title 10, United States Code, and the Federal Acquisition Regulation, unless—

(1) Federal law specifically authorizes a contract to be entered into without regard for these requirements, including formula grants for States, or federally recognized Indian tribes; or

(2) such contract is authorized by the Indian Self-Determination and Education and Assistance Act (Public Law 93-638, 25 U.S.C. 450 et seq.) or by any other Federal laws that specifically authorize a contract within an Indian tribe as defined in section 4(e) of that Act (25 U.S.C. 450b(e)); or

(3) such contract was awarded prior to the date of enactment of this Act.

## POSTING OF REPORTS

SEC. 413. (a) Any agency receiving funds made available in this Act, shall, subject to subsections (b) and (c), post on the public website of that agency any report required to be submitted by the Congress in this or any other Act, upon the determination by the head of the agency that it shall serve the national interest.

(b) Subsection (a) shall not apply to a report if—

(1) the public posting of the report compromises national security; or

(2) the report contains proprietary information.

(c) The head of the agency posting such report shall do so only after such report has been made available to the requesting Committee or Committees of Congress for no less than 45 days.

## NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS GRANT GUIDELINES

SEC. 414. Of the funds provided to the National Endowment for the Arts—

(1) The Chairperson shall only award a grant to an individual if such grant is awarded to such individual for a literature fellowship, National Heritage Fellowship, or American Jazz Masters Fellowship.

(2) The Chairperson shall establish procedures to ensure that no funding provided through a grant, except a grant made to a State or local arts agency, or regional group, may be used to make a grant to any other organization or individual to conduct activity independent of the direct grant recipient. Nothing in this subsection shall prohibit payments made in exchange for goods and services.

(3) No grant shall be used for seasonal support to a group, unless the application is specific to the contents of the season, including identified programs and/or projects.

## NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS PROGRAM PRIORITIES

SEC. 415. (a) In providing services or awarding financial assistance under the National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities Act of 1965 from funds appropriated under this Act, the Chairperson of the National Endowment for the Arts shall ensure that priority is given to providing services or awarding financial assistance for projects, productions, workshops, or programs that serve underserved populations.

(b) In this section:

(1) The term “underserved population” means a population of individuals, including urban minorities, who have historically been

outside the purview of arts and humanities programs due to factors such as a high incidence of income below the poverty line or to geographic isolation.

(2) The term “poverty line” means the poverty line (as defined by the Office of Management and Budget, and revised annually in accordance with section 673(2) of the Community Services Block Grant Act (42 U.S.C. 9902(2))) applicable to a family of the size involved.

(c) In providing services and awarding financial assistance under the National Foundation on the Arts and Humanities Act of 1965 with funds appropriated by this Act, the Chairperson of the National Endowment for the Arts shall ensure that priority is given to providing services or awarding financial assistance for projects, productions, workshops, or programs that will encourage public knowledge, education, understanding, and appreciation of the arts.

(d) With funds appropriated by this Act to carry out section 5 of the National Foundation on the Arts and Humanities Act of 1965—

(1) the Chairperson shall establish a grant category for projects, productions, workshops, or programs that are of national impact or availability or are able to tour several States;

(2) the Chairperson shall not make grants exceeding 15 percent, in the aggregate, of such funds to any single State, excluding grants made under the authority of paragraph (1);

(3) the Chairperson shall report to the Congress annually and by State, on grants awarded by the Chairperson in each grant category under section 5 of such Act; and

(4) the Chairperson shall encourage the use of grants to improve and support community-based music performance and education.

## ARTS INDEMNITY LIMITATIONS

SEC. 416. Section 5 of the Arts and Artists Indemnity Act (20 U.S.C. 974) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)—

(A) by striking “\$10,000,000,000” and inserting “\$15,000,000,000”; and

(B) by striking “\$5,000,000,000” and inserting “\$7,500,000,000”; and

(2) in subsection (c)—

(A) by striking “\$1,200,000,000” and inserting “\$1,800,000,000”; and

(B) by striking “\$750,000,000” and inserting “\$1,000,000,000”.

## STATUS OF BALANCES OF APPROPRIATIONS

SEC. 417. The Department of the Interior, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Forest Service, and the Indian Health Service shall provide the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate quarterly reports on the status of balances of appropriations including all uncommitted, committed, and unobligated funds in each program and activity.

## REPORT ON USE OF CLIMATE CHANGE FUNDS

SEC. 418. Not later than 120 days after the date on which the President's fiscal year 2016 budget request is submitted to the Congress, the President shall submit a comprehensive report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate describing in detail all Federal agency funding, domestic and international, for climate change programs, projects, and activities in fiscal years 2014 and 2015, including an accounting of funding by agency with each agency identifying climate change programs, projects, and activities and associated costs by line item as presented in the President's

Budget Appendix, and including citations and linkages where practicable to each strategic plan that is driving funding within each climate change program, project, and activity listed in the report.

## PROHIBITION ON USE OF FUNDS

SEC. 419. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, none of the funds made available in this Act or any other Act may be used to promulgate or implement any regulation requiring the issuance of permits under title V of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7661 et seq.) for carbon dioxide, nitrous oxide, water vapor, or methane emissions resulting from biological processes associated with livestock production.

## GREENHOUSE GAS REPORTING RESTRICTIONS

SEC. 420. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, none of the funds made available in this or any other Act may be used to implement any provision in a rule, if that provision requires mandatory reporting of greenhouse gas emissions from manure management systems.

## AMERICAN BATTLEFIELD PROTECTION PROGRAM GRANTS

SEC. 421. Section 7301(c) of Public Law 111-11 (16 U.S.C. 469k-1(c)) is amended by striking “2014” and inserting “2021”.

## RECREATION FEE

SEC. 422. Section 810 of the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (16 U.S.C. 6809) is amended by striking “10 years after December 8, 2004” and inserting “on September 30, 2016”.

## MODIFICATION OF AUTHORITIES

SEC. 423. (a) Section 8162(m)(3) of the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2000 (40 U.S.C. 8903 note; Public Law 106-79) is amended by striking “September 30, 2014” and inserting “September 30, 2015”.

(b) For fiscal year 2015, the authority provided by the provisos under the heading “Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial Commission—Capital Construction” in division E of Public Law 112-74 shall not be in effect.

## USE OF AMERICAN IRON AND STEEL

SEC. 424. (a)(1) None of the funds made available by a State water pollution control revolving fund as authorized by section 1452 of the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300j-12) shall be used for a project for the construction, alteration, maintenance, or repair of a public water system or treatment works unless all of the iron and steel products used in the project are produced in the United States.

(2) In this section, the term “iron and steel products” means the following products made primarily of iron or steel: lined or unlined pipes and fittings, manhole covers and other municipal castings, hydrants, tanks, flanges, pipe clamps and restraints, valves, structural steel, reinforced precast concrete, and construction materials.

(b) Subsection (a) shall not apply in any case or category of cases in which the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency (in this section referred to as the “Administrator”) finds that—

(1) applying subsection (a) would be inconsistent with the public interest;

(2) iron and steel products are not produced in the United States in sufficient and reasonably available quantities and of a satisfactory quality; or

(3) inclusion of iron and steel products produced in the United States will increase the cost of the overall project by more than 25 percent.

(c) If the Administrator receives a request for a waiver under this section, the Administrator shall make available to the public on

an informal basis a copy of the request and information available to the Administrator concerning the request, and shall allow for informal public input on the request for at least 15 days prior to making a finding based on the request. The Administrator shall make the request and accompanying information available by electronic means, including on the official public Internet Web site of the Environmental Protection Agency.

(d) This section shall be applied in a manner consistent with United States obligations under international agreements.

(e) The Administrator may retain up to 0.25 percent of the funds appropriated in this Act for the Clean and Drinking Water State Revolving Funds for carrying out the provisions described in subsection (a)(1) for management and oversight of the requirements of this section.

(f) This section does not apply with respect to a project if a State agency approves the engineering plans and specifications for the project, in that agency's capacity to approve such plans and specifications prior to a project requesting bids, prior to the date of the enactment of this Act.

#### FUNDING PROHIBITION

SEC. 425. None of the funds made available by this or any other Act may be used to regulate the lead content of ammunition, ammunition components, or fishing tackle under the Toxic Substances Control Act (15 U.S.C. 2601 et seq.) or any other law.

This division may be cited as the "Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2015".

### DIVISION G—DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015

#### TITLE I

#### DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

#### EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ADMINISTRATION

#### TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

#### (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (referred to in this Act as "WIOA"), the Second Chance Act of 2007, and the Women in Apprenticeship and Non-Traditional Occupations Act of 1992 ("WANTO Act"), \$3,139,706,000, plus reimbursements, shall be available. Of the amounts provided:

(1) for grants to States for adult employment and training activities, youth activities, and dislocated worker employment and training activities, \$2,624,108,000 as follows:

(A) \$776,736,000 for adult employment and training activities, of which \$64,736,000 shall be available for the period July 1, 2015, through June 30, 2016, and of which \$712,000,000 shall be available for the period October 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016;

(B) \$831,842,000 for youth activities, which shall be available for the period April 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016; and

(C) \$1,015,530,000 for dislocated worker employment and training activities, of which \$155,530,000 shall be available for the period July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016, and of which \$860,000,000 shall be available for the period October 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016: *Provided*, That notwithstanding section 128(a)(1) of the WIOA, the amount available to the Governor for statewide workforce investment activities shall not exceed 10 percent of the amount allotted to the State from each of the appropriations under the preceding subparagraphs;

(2) for federally administered programs, \$429,520,000 as follows:

(A) \$220,859,000 for the dislocated workers assistance national reserve, of which \$20,859,000 shall be available for the period July 1, 2015 through September 30, 2016, and of which \$200,000,000 shall be available for the period October 1, 2015 through September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That funds provided to carry out section 132(a)(2)(A) of the WIOA may be used to provide assistance to a State for statewide or local use in order to address cases where there have been worker dislocations across multiple sectors or across multiple local areas and such workers remain dislocated; coordinate the State workforce development plan with emerging economic development needs; and train such eligible dislocated workers: *Provided further*, That funds provided to carry out sections 168(b) and 169(c) of the WIOA may be used for technical assistance and demonstration projects, respectively, that provide assistance to new entrants in the workforce and incumbent workers: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding section 168(b) of the WIOA and section 170(b) of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (referred to in this Act as "WIA"), of the funds provided under this subparagraph, and the funds available from the appropriation under this subparagraph under the authority of the WIA in Public Law 113-76, the Secretary of Labor (referred to in this title as "Secretary") may reserve not more than 10 percent of such funds to provide technical assistance and carry out additional activities related to the transition to the WIOA;

(B) \$46,082,000 for Native American programs, which shall be available for the period July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016;

(C) \$81,896,000 for migrant and seasonal farmworker programs under section 167 of the WIOA, including \$75,885,000 for formula grants (of which not less than 70 percent shall be for employment and training services), \$5,517,000 for migrant and seasonal housing (of which not less than 70 percent shall be for permanent housing), and \$494,000 for other discretionary purposes, which shall be available for the period July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law or related regulation, the Department of Labor shall take no action limiting the number or proportion of eligible participants receiving related assistance services or discouraging grantees from providing such services;

(D) \$994,000 for carrying out the WANTO Act, which shall be available for the period July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016; and

(E) \$79,689,000 for YouthBuild activities as described in section 171 of the WIOA, which shall be available for the period April 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016;

(3) for national activities, \$86,078,000, as follows:

(A) \$82,078,000 for ex-offender activities, under the authority of section 169 of the WIOA and section 212 of the Second Chance Act of 2007, which shall be available for the period April 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016: *Provided*, That of this amount, \$20,000,000 shall be for competitive grants to national and regional intermediaries for activities that prepare young ex-offenders and school dropouts for employment, with a priority for projects serving high-crime, high-poverty areas; and

(B) \$4,000,000 for the Workforce Data Quality Initiative, under the authority of section 169 of the WIOA, which shall be available for the period July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016.

#### JOB CORPS

#### (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

To carry out subtitle C of title I of the WIOA, including Federal administrative expenses, the purchase and hire of passenger motor vehicles, the construction, alteration, and repairs of buildings and other facilities, and the purchase of real property for training centers as authorized by the WIOA, \$1,688,155,000, plus reimbursements, as follows:

(1) \$1,580,825,000 for Job Corps Operations, which shall be available for the period July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016;

(2) \$75,000,000 for construction, rehabilitation and acquisition of Job Corps Centers, which shall be available for the period July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2018, and which may include the acquisition, maintenance, and repair of major items of equipment: *Provided*, That the Secretary may transfer up to 15 percent of such funds to meet the operational needs of such centers or to achieve administrative efficiencies: *Provided further*, That any funds transferred pursuant to the preceding proviso shall not be available for obligation after June 30, 2016: *Provided further*, That the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate are notified at least 15 days in advance of any transfer; and

(3) \$32,330,000 for necessary expenses of Job Corps, including expenses under the authority of the WIA, which shall be available for obligation for the period October 1, 2014 through September 30, 2015:

*Provided*, That no funds from any other appropriation shall be used to provide meal services at or for Job Corps centers: *Provided further*, That an entity operating a Job Corps center that is ranked among the top 5 percent of all Job Corps centers based on the Outcome Measurement System for program year 2013 shall be eligible to compete in any selection process to operate such center that is carried out during the period beginning on October 1, 2014 and ending on June 30, 2015.

#### COMMUNITY SERVICE EMPLOYMENT FOR OLDER AMERICANS

To carry out title V of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (referred to in this Act as "OAA"), \$434,371,000, which shall be available for the period July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016, and may be recaptured and reobligated in accordance with section 517(c) of the OAA.

#### FEDERAL UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS AND ALLOWANCES

For payments during fiscal year 2015 of trade adjustment benefit payments and allowances under part I of subchapter B of chapter 2 of title II of the Trade Act of 1974, and section 246 of that Act; and for training, employment and case management services, allowances for job search and relocation, and related State administrative expenses under part II of subchapter B of chapter 2 of title II of the Trade Act of 1974, and including benefit payments, allowances, training, employment and case management services, and related State administration provided pursuant to section 231(a) and section 233(b) of the Trade Adjustment Assistance Extension Act of 2011, \$710,600,000, together with such amounts as may be necessary to be charged to the subsequent appropriation for payments for any period subsequent to September 15, 2015.

#### STATE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE AND EMPLOYMENT SERVICE OPERATIONS

For authorized administrative expenses, \$81,566,000, together with not to exceed \$3,495,584,000 which may be expended from

the Employment Security Administration Account in the Unemployment Trust Fund ("the Trust Fund"), of which:

(1) \$2,757,793,000 from the Trust Fund is for grants to States for the administration of State unemployment insurance laws as authorized under title III of the Social Security Act (including not less than \$60,000,000 to conduct in-person reemployment and eligibility assessments and unemployment insurance improper payment reviews, and to provide reemployment services and referrals to training as appropriate, \$10,000,000 for activities to address the misclassification of workers, and \$3,000,000 for continued support of the Unemployment Insurance Integrity Center of Excellence), the administration of unemployment insurance for Federal employees and for ex-service members as authorized under 5 U.S.C. 8501–8523, and the administration of trade readjustment allowances, reemployment trade adjustment assistance, and alternative trade adjustment assistance under the Trade Act of 1974 and under sections 231(a) and 233(b) of the Trade Adjustment Assistance Extension Act of 2011, and shall be available for obligation by the States through December 31, 2015, except that funds used for automation acquisitions shall be available for Federal obligation through December 31, 2015, and for State obligation through September 30, 2017, or, if the automation acquisition is being carried out through consortia of States, for State obligation through September 30, 2020, and for expenditure through September 30, 2021, and funds for competitive grants awarded to States for improved operations, to conduct in-person assessments and reviews and provide reemployment services and referrals, and to address misclassification of workers shall be available for Federal obligation through December 31, 2015 and for obligation by the States through September 30, 2017, and funds used for unemployment insurance workloads experienced by the States through September 30, 2015 shall be available for Federal obligation through December 31, 2015: *Provided*, That funds provided under this heading for fiscal year 2011 through fiscal year 2014 for automation acquisitions that are being carried out by consortia of States shall be available for expenditure by the States for six fiscal years after the fiscal year in which the funds were obligated to the States;

(2) \$12,892,000 from the Trust Fund is for national activities necessary to support the administration of the Federal-State unemployment insurance system;

(3) \$642,771,000 from the Trust Fund, together with \$21,413,000 from the General Fund of the Treasury, is for grants to States in accordance with section 6 of the Wagner-Peyser Act, and shall be available for Federal obligation for the period July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016;

(4) \$19,818,000 from the Trust Fund is for national activities of the Employment Service, including administration of the work opportunity tax credit under section 51 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, and the provision of technical assistance and staff training under the Wagner-Peyser Act;

(5) \$62,310,000 from the Trust Fund is for the administration of foreign labor certifications and related activities under the Immigration and Nationality Act and related laws, of which \$48,028,000 shall be available for the Federal administration of such activities, and \$14,282,000 shall be available for grants to States for the administration of such activities; and

(6) \$60,153,000 from the General Fund is to provide workforce information, national

electronic tools, and one-stop system building under the Wagner-Peyser Act and shall be available for Federal obligation for the period July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016:

*Provided*, That to the extent that the Average Weekly Insured Unemployment ("AWIU") for fiscal year 2015 is projected by the Department of Labor to exceed 2,957,000, an additional \$28,600,000 from the Trust Fund shall be available for obligation for every 100,000 increase in the AWIU level (including a pro rata amount for any increment less than 100,000) to carry out title III of the Social Security Act: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated in this Act that are allotted to a State to carry out activities under title III of the Social Security Act may be used by such State to assist other States in carrying out activities under such title III if the other States include areas that have suffered a major disaster declared by the President under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may use funds appropriated for grants to States under title III of the Social Security Act to make payments on behalf of States for the use of the National Directory of New Hires under section 453(j)(8) of such Act: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may use funds appropriated for grants to States under title III of the Social Security Act to make payments on behalf of States to the entity operating the State Information Data Exchange System: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated in this Act which are used to establish a national one-stop career center system, or which are used to support the national activities of the Federal-State unemployment insurance, employment service, or immigration programs, may be obligated in contracts, grants, or agreements with States and non-State entities: *Provided further*, That States awarded competitive grants for improved operations under title III of the Social Security Act, or awarded grants to support the national activities of the Federal-State unemployment insurance system, may award subgrants to other States under such grants, subject to the conditions applicable to the grants: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated under this Act for activities authorized under title III of the Social Security Act and the Wagner-Peyser Act may be used by States to fund integrated Unemployment Insurance and Employment Service automation efforts, notwithstanding cost allocation principles prescribed under the Office of Management and Budget Circular A-87: *Provided further*, That the Secretary, at the request of a State participating in a consortium with other States, may reallocate funds allotted to such State under title III of the Social Security Act to other States participating in the consortium in order to carry out activities that benefit the administration of the unemployment compensation law of the State making the request: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may collect fees for the costs associated with additional data collection, analyses, and reporting services relating to the National Agricultural Workers Survey requested by State and local governments, public and private institutions of higher education, and non-profit organizations and may utilize such sums, in accordance with the provisions of 29 U.S.C. 9a, for the National Agricultural Workers Survey infrastructure, methodology, and data to meet the information collection and reporting needs of such entities, which shall be credited to this appropriation and shall remain available until September 30, 2016, for such purposes.

In addition, \$20,000,000 from the Employment Security Administration Account of the Unemployment Trust Fund shall be available for in-person reemployment and eligibility assessments and unemployment insurance improper payment reviews and to provide reemployment services and referrals to training as appropriate, which shall be available for Federal obligations through December 31, 2015, and for State obligation through September 30, 2017.

#### ADVANCES TO THE UNEMPLOYMENT TRUST FUND AND OTHER FUNDS

For repayable advances to the Unemployment Trust Fund as authorized by sections 905(d) and 1203 of the Social Security Act, and to the Black Lung Disability Trust Fund as authorized by section 9501(c)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986; and for non-repayable advances to the revolving fund established by section 901(e) of the Social Security Act, to the Unemployment Trust Fund as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 8509, and to the "Federal Unemployment Benefits and Allowances" account, such sums as may be necessary, which shall be available for obligation through September 30, 2016.

#### PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

For expenses of administering employment and training programs, \$104,577,000, together with not to exceed \$49,982,000 which may be expended from the Employment Security Administration Account in the Unemployment Trust Fund.

#### EMPLOYEE BENEFITS SECURITY ADMINISTRATION SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses for the Employee Benefits Security Administration, \$181,000,000.

#### PENSION BENEFIT GUARANTY CORPORATION PENSION BENEFIT GUARANTY CORPORATION FUND

The Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation ("Corporation") is authorized to make such expenditures, including financial assistance authorized by subtitle E of title IV of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, within limits of funds and borrowing authority available to the Corporation, and in accord with law, and to make such contracts and commitments without regard to fiscal year limitations, as provided by 31 U.S.C. 9104, as may be necessary in carrying out the program, including associated administrative expenses, through September 30, 2015, for the Corporation: *Provided*, That none of the funds available to the Corporation for fiscal year 2015 shall be available for obligations for administrative expenses in excess of \$415,394,000: *Provided further*, That to the extent that the number of new plan participants in plans terminated by the Corporation exceeds 100,000 in fiscal year 2015, an amount not to exceed an additional \$9,200,000 shall be available through September 30, 2016, for obligation for administrative expenses for every 20,000 additional terminated participants: *Provided further*, That obligations in excess of the amounts provided in this paragraph may be incurred for unforeseen and extraordinary pretermination expenses or extraordinary multiemployer program related expenses after approval by the Office of Management and Budget and notification of the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

#### WAGE AND HOUR DIVISION SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses for the Wage and Hour Division, including reimbursement to

State, Federal, and local agencies and their employees for inspection services rendered, \$227,500,000.

OFFICE OF LABOR-MANAGEMENT STANDARDS  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses for the Office of Labor-Management Standards, \$39,129,000.

OFFICE OF FEDERAL CONTRACT COMPLIANCE  
PROGRAMS  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses for the Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs, \$106,476,000.

OFFICE OF WORKERS' COMPENSATION  
PROGRAMS  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses for the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs, \$110,823,000, together with \$2,177,000 which may be expended from the Special Fund in accordance with sections 39(c), 44(d), and 44(j) of the Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act.

SPECIAL BENEFITS  
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the payment of compensation, benefits, and expenses (except administrative expenses) accruing during the current or any prior fiscal year authorized by 5 U.S.C. 81; continuation of benefits as provided for under the heading "Civilian War Benefits" in the Federal Security Agency Appropriation Act, 1947; the Employees' Compensation Commission Appropriation Act, 1944; sections 4(c) and 5(f) of the War Claims Act of 1948; and 50 percent of the additional compensation and benefits required by section 10(h) of the Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act, \$210,000,000, together with such amounts as may be necessary to be charged to the subsequent year appropriation for the payment of compensation and other benefits for any period subsequent to August 15 of the current year: *Provided*, That amounts appropriated may be used under 5 U.S.C. 8104 by the Secretary to reimburse an employer, who is not the employer at the time of injury, for portions of the salary of a re-employed, disabled beneficiary: *Provided further*, That balances of reimbursements unobligated on September 30, 2014, shall remain available until expended for the payment of compensation, benefits, and expenses: *Provided further*, That in addition there shall be transferred to this appropriation from the Postal Service and from any other corporation or instrumentality required under 5 U.S.C. 8147(c) to pay an amount for its fair share of the cost of administration, such sums as the Secretary determines to be the cost of administration for employees of such fair share entities through September 30, 2015: *Provided further*, That of those funds transferred to this account from the fair share entities to pay the cost of administration of the Federal Employees' Compensation Act, \$60,334,000 shall be made available to the Secretary as follows:

- (1) For enhancement and maintenance of automated data processing systems operations and telecommunications systems, \$19,499,000;
- (2) For automated workload processing operations, including document imaging, centralized mail intake, and medical bill processing, \$22,968,000;
- (3) For periodic roll disability management and medical review, \$16,482,000;
- (4) For program integrity, \$1,385,000; and
- (5) The remaining funds shall be paid into the Treasury as miscellaneous receipts:

*Provided further*, That the Secretary may require that any person filing a notice of injury or a claim for benefits under 5 U.S.C. 81, or the Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act, provide as part of such notice and claim, such identifying information (including Social Security account number) as such regulations may prescribe.

SPECIAL BENEFITS FOR DISABLED COAL MINERS

For carrying out title IV of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977, as amended by Public Law 107-275, \$77,262,000, to remain available until expended.

For making after July 31 of the current fiscal year, benefit payments to individuals under title IV of such Act, for costs incurred in the current fiscal year, such amounts as may be necessary.

For making benefit payments under title IV for the first quarter of fiscal year 2016, \$21,000,000, to remain available until expended.

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES, ENERGY EMPLOYEES OCCUPATIONAL ILLNESS COMPENSATION FUND

For necessary expenses to administer the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act, \$56,406,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the Secretary may require that any person filing a claim for benefits under the Act provide as part of such claim such identifying information (including Social Security account number) as may be prescribed.

BLACK LUNG DISABILITY TRUST FUND  
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Such sums as may be necessary from the Black Lung Disability Trust Fund (the "Fund"), to remain available until expended, for payment of all benefits authorized by section 9501(d)(1), (2), (6), and (7) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986; and repayment of, and payment of interest on advances, as authorized by section 9501(d)(4) of that Act. In addition, the following amounts may be expended from the Fund for fiscal year 2015 for expenses of operation and administration of the Black Lung Benefits program, as authorized by section 9501(d)(5): not to exceed \$33,321,000 for transfer to the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs, "Salaries and Expenses"; not to exceed \$30,403,000 for transfer to Departmental Management, "Salaries and Expenses"; not to exceed \$327,000 for transfer to Departmental Management, "Office of Inspector General"; and not to exceed \$356,000 for payments into miscellaneous receipts for the expenses of the Department of the Treasury.

OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH  
ADMINISTRATION  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses for the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, \$552,787,000, including not to exceed \$100,850,000 which shall be the maximum amount available for grants to States under section 23(g) of the Occupational Safety and Health Act (the "Act"), which grants shall be no less than 50 percent of the costs of State occupational safety and health programs required to be incurred under plans approved by the Secretary under section 18 of the Act; and, in addition, notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3302, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration may retain up to \$499,000 per fiscal year of training institute course tuition and fees, otherwise authorized by law to be collected, and may utilize such sums for occupational safety and health training and education: *Provided*, That notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3302, the Secretary is

authorized, during the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, to collect and retain fees for services provided to Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratories, and may utilize such sums, in accordance with the provisions of 29 U.S.C. 9a, to administer national and international laboratory recognition programs that ensure the safety of equipment and products used by workers in the workplace: *Provided further*, That none of the funds appropriated under this paragraph shall be obligated or expended to prescribe, issue, administer, or enforce any standard, rule, regulation, or order under the Act which is applicable to any person who is engaged in a farming operation which does not maintain a temporary labor camp and employs 10 or fewer employees: *Provided further*, That no funds appropriated under this paragraph shall be obligated or expended to administer or enforce any standard, rule, regulation, or order under the Act with respect to any employer of 10 or fewer employees who is included within a category having a Days Away, Restricted, or Transferred ("DART") occupational injury and illness rate, at the most precise industrial classification code for which such data are published, less than the national average rate as such rates are most recently published by the Secretary, acting through the Bureau of Labor Statistics, in accordance with section 24 of the Act, except—

(1) to provide, as authorized by the Act, consultation, technical assistance, educational and training services, and to conduct surveys and studies;

(2) to conduct an inspection or investigation in response to an employee complaint, to issue a citation for violations found during such inspection, and to assess a penalty for violations which are not corrected within a reasonable abatement period and for any willful violations found;

(3) to take any action authorized by the Act with respect to imminent dangers;

(4) to take any action authorized by the Act with respect to health hazards;

(5) to take any action authorized by the Act with respect to a report of an employment accident which is fatal to one or more employees or which results in hospitalization of two or more employees, and to take any action pursuant to such investigation authorized by the Act; and

(6) to take any action authorized by the Act with respect to complaints of discrimination against employees for exercising rights under the Act:

*Provided further*, That the foregoing proviso shall not apply to any person who is engaged in a farming operation which does not maintain a temporary labor camp and employs 10 or fewer employees: *Provided further*, That \$10,537,000 shall be available for Susan Harwood training grants.

MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses for the Mine Safety and Health Administration, \$375,887,000, including purchase and bestowal of certificates and trophies in connection with mine rescue and first-aid work, and the hire of passenger motor vehicles, including up to \$2,000,000 for mine rescue and recovery activities and not less than \$8,441,000 for state assistance grants: *Provided*, That notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3302, not to exceed \$750,000 may be collected by the National Mine Health and Safety Academy for room, board, tuition, and the sale of training materials, otherwise authorized by law to be collected, to be available for mine safety and health education and

training activities: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3302, the Mine Safety and Health Administration is authorized to collect and retain up to \$2,499,000 from fees collected for the approval and certification of equipment, materials, and explosives for use in mines, and may utilize such sums for such activities: *Provided further*, That the Secretary is authorized to accept lands, buildings, equipment, and other contributions from public and private sources and to prosecute projects in cooperation with other agencies, Federal, State, or private: *Provided further*, That the Mine Safety and Health Administration is authorized to promote health and safety education and training in the mining community through cooperative programs with States, industry, and safety associations: *Provided further*, That the Secretary is authorized to recognize the Joseph A. Holmes Safety Association as a principal safety association and, notwithstanding any other provision of law, may provide funds and, with or without reimbursement, personnel, including service of Mine Safety and Health Administration officials as officers in local chapters or in the national organization: *Provided further*, That any funds available to the Department of Labor may be used, with the approval of the Secretary, to provide for the costs of mine rescue and survival operations in the event of a major disaster.

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses for the Bureau of Labor Statistics, including advances or reimbursements to State, Federal, and local agencies and their employees for services rendered, \$527,212,000, together with not to exceed \$65,000,000 which may be expended from the Employment Security Administration account in the Unemployment Trust Fund.

OFFICE OF DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT POLICY  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses for the Office of Disability Employment Policy to provide leadership, develop policy and initiatives, and award grants furthering the objective of eliminating barriers to the training and employment of people with disabilities, \$38,500,000.

DEPARTMENTAL MANAGEMENT  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES  
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses for Departmental Management, including the hire of three passenger motor vehicles, \$337,621,000, together with not to exceed \$308,000, which may be expended from the Employment Security Administration account in the Unemployment Trust Fund: *Provided*, That \$64,825,000 for the Bureau of International Labor Affairs shall be available for obligation through December 31, 2015: *Provided further*, That funds available to the Bureau of International Labor Affairs may be used to administer or operate international labor activities, bilateral and multilateral technical assistance, and microfinance programs, by or through contracts, grants, subgrants and other arrangements: *Provided further*, That not more than \$58,825,000 shall be for programs to combat exploitative child labor internationally and not less than \$6,000,000 shall be used to implement model programs that address worker rights issues through technical assistance in countries with which the United States has free trade agreements or trade preference programs: *Provided further*, That \$8,040,000 shall be used for program evaluation

and shall be available for obligation through September 30, 2016: *Provided further*, That funds available for program evaluation may be transferred to any other appropriate account in the Department for such purpose: *Provided further*, That the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate are notified at least 15 days in advance of any transfer: *Provided further*, That the funds available to the Women's Bureau may be used for grants to serve and promote the interests of women in the workforce.

VETERANS EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING

Not to exceed \$231,872,000 may be derived from the Employment Security Administration account in the Unemployment Trust Fund to carry out the provisions of chapters 41, 42, and 43 of title 38, United States Code, of which:

(1) \$175,000,000 is for Jobs for Veterans State grants under 38 U.S.C. 4102A(b)(5) to support disabled veterans' outreach program specialists under section 4103A of such title and local veterans' employment representatives under section 4104(b) of such title, and for the expenses described in section 4102A(b)(5)(C), which shall be available for obligation by the States through December 31, 2015 and not to exceed 3 percent for the necessary Federal expenditures for data systems and contract support to allow for the tracking of participant and performance information: *Provided*, That, in addition, such funds may be used to support such specialists and representatives in the provision of services to transitioning members of the Armed Forces who have participated in the Transition Assistance Program and have been identified as in need of intensive services, to members of the Armed Forces who are wounded, ill, or injured and receiving treatment in military treatment facilities or warrior transition units, and to the spouses or other family caregivers of such wounded, ill, or injured members;

(2) \$14,000,000 is for carrying out the Transition Assistance Program under 38 U.S.C. 4113 and 10 U.S.C. 1144;

(3) \$39,458,000 is for Federal administration of chapters 41, 42, and 43 of title 38, United States Code; and

(4) \$3,414,000 is for the National Veterans' Employment and Training Services Institute under 38 U.S.C. 4109:

*Provided*, That the Secretary may reallocate among the appropriations provided under paragraphs (1) through (4) above an amount not to exceed 3 percent of the appropriation from which such reallocation is made.

In addition, from the General Fund of the Treasury, \$38,109,000 is for carrying out programs to assist homeless veterans and veterans at risk of homelessness who are transitioning from certain institutions under sections 2021, 2021A, and 2023 of title 38, United States Code: *Provided*, That notwithstanding subsections (c)(3) and (d) of section 2023, the Secretary may award grants through September 30, 2015, to provide services under such section: *Provided further*, That services provided under section 2023 may include, in addition to services to the individuals described in subsection (e) of such section, services to veterans recently released from incarceration who are at risk of homelessness.

IT MODERNIZATION

For necessary expenses for Department of Labor centralized infrastructure technology investment activities related to support systems and modernization, \$15,394,000.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For salaries and expenses of the Office of Inspector General in carrying out the provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978, \$76,000,000, together with not to exceed \$5,590,000 which may be expended from the Employment Security Administration account in the Unemployment Trust Fund.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 101. None of the funds appropriated by this Act for the Job Corps shall be used to pay the salary and bonuses of an individual, either as direct costs or any proration as an indirect cost, at a rate in excess of Executive Level II.

(TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 102. Not to exceed 1 percent of any discretionary funds (pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985) which are appropriated for the current fiscal year for the Department of Labor in this Act may be transferred between a program, project, or activity, but no such program, project, or activity shall be increased by more than 3 percent by any such transfer: *Provided*, That the transfer authority granted by this section shall not be used to create any new program or to fund any project or activity for which no funds are provided in this Act: *Provided further*, That the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate are notified at least 15 days in advance of any transfer.

SEC. 103. In accordance with Executive Order 13126, none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available pursuant to this Act shall be obligated or expended for the procurement of goods mined, produced, manufactured, or harvested or services rendered, in whole or in part, by forced or indentured child labor in industries and host countries already identified by the United States Department of Labor prior to enactment of this Act.

SEC. 104. None of the funds made available to the Department of Labor for grants under section 414(c) of the American Competitiveness and Workforce Improvement Act of 1998 may be used for any purpose other than competitive grants for training individuals over the age of 16 who are not currently enrolled in school within a local educational agency in the occupations and industries for which employers are using H-1B visas to hire foreign workers, and the related activities necessary to support such training: *Provided*, That the preceding limitation shall not apply to funding provided pursuant to solicitations for grant applications issued prior to January 15, 2014.

SEC. 105. None of the funds made available by this Act under the heading "Employment and Training Administration" shall be used by a recipient or subrecipient of such funds to pay the salary and bonuses of an individual, either as direct costs or indirect costs, at a rate in excess of Executive Level II. This limitation shall not apply to vendors providing goods and services as defined in Office of Management and Budget Circular A-133. Where States are recipients of such funds, States may establish a lower limit for salaries and bonuses of those receiving salaries and bonuses from subrecipients of such funds, taking into account factors including the relative cost-of-living in the State, the compensation levels for comparable State or local government employees, and the size of the organizations that administer Federal programs involved including Employment and Training Administration programs.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 106. Notwithstanding section 102, the Secretary may transfer funds made available

to the Employment and Training Administration by this Act, either directly or through a set-aside, for technical assistance services to grantees to "Program Administration" when it is determined that those services will be more efficiently performed by Federal employees: *Provided*, That this section shall not apply to section 171 of the WIOA.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 107. (a) The Secretary may reserve not more than 0.5 percent from each appropriation made available in this Act identified in subsection (b) in order to carry out evaluations of any of the programs or activities that are funded under such accounts. Any funds reserved under this section shall be transferred to "Departmental Management" for use by the Office of the Chief Evaluation Officer within the Department of Labor, and shall be available for obligation through September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That such funds shall only be available if the Chief Evaluation Officer of the Department of Labor submits a plan to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate describing the evaluations to be carried out 15 days in advance of any transfer.

(b) The accounts referred to in subsection (a) are: "Training and Employment Services", "Job Corps", "Community Service Employment for Older Americans", "State Unemployment Insurance and Employment Service Operations", "Employee Benefits Security Administration", "Office of Workers' Compensation Programs", "Wage and Hour Division", "Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs", "Office of Labor Management Standards", "Occupational Safety and Health Administration", "Mine Safety and Health Administration", "Bureau of International Affairs" and "Women's Bureau" within the "Departmental Management, Salaries and Expenses" account, and "Veterans Employment and Training".

SEC. 108. (a) FLEXIBILITY WITH RESPECT TO THE CROSSING OF H-2B NONIMMIGRANTS WORKING IN THE SEAFOOD INDUSTRY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), if a petition for H-2B nonimmigrants filed by an employer in the seafood industry is granted, the employer may bring the nonimmigrants described in the petition into the United States at any time during the 120-day period beginning on the start date for which the employer is seeking the services of the nonimmigrants without filing another petition.

(2) REQUIREMENTS FOR CROSSINGS AFTER 90TH DAY.—An employer in the seafood industry may not bring H-2B nonimmigrants into the United States after the date that is 90 days after the start date for which the employer is seeking the services of the nonimmigrants unless the employer—

(A) completes a new assessment of the local labor market by—

(i) listing job orders in local newspapers on 2 separate Sundays; and

(ii) posting the job opportunity on the appropriate Department of Labor Electronic Job Registry and at the employer's place of employment; and

(B) offers the job to an equally or better qualified United States worker who—

(i) applies for the job; and

(ii) will be available at the time and place of need.

(3) EXEMPTION FROM RULES WITH RESPECT TO STAGGERING.—The Secretary of Labor shall not consider an employer in the seafood industry who brings H-2B nonimmigrants into

the United States during the 120-day period specified in paragraph (1) to be staggering the date of need in violation of section 655.20(d) of title 20, Code of Federal Regulations, or any other applicable provision of law.

(b) H-2B NONIMMIGRANTS DEFINED.—In this section, the term "H-2B nonimmigrants" means aliens admitted to the United States pursuant to section 101(a)(15)(H)(ii)(B) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)(H)(ii)(B)).

SEC. 109. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used by the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation to take any action in connection with any asserted liability under subsection (e) of section 4062 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974: *Provided*, That this section shall cease to apply upon the enactment of any bill that amends such subsection.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 110. (a) The Secretary may reserve not more than 0.25 percent from each appropriation made available in this Act identified in subsection (b) in order to carry out information technology purchases and upgrades for any of the programs or activities that are funded under such accounts. Any funds reserved under this section shall be transferred to "Departmental Management" for use by the Office of the Chief Information Officer within the Department of Labor, and shall be available for obligation through September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That such funds shall only be available if the Chief Information Officer of the Department of Labor submits a plan to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate describing the purchases and upgrades to be carried out and an explanation of why funds are not needed in the donor account 15 days in advance of any transfer.

(b) The accounts referred to in subsection (a) are: "Employment and Training Administration Program Administration", "funding made available for Federal administration within "Job Corps", "Foreign Labor Certification Program Administration", "Employee Benefits Security Administration", "Office of Workers' Compensation Programs", "Wage and Hour Division", "Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs", "Office of Labor Management Standards", "Occupational Safety and Health Administration", "Mine Safety and Health Administration", "Veterans Employment and Training", "Bureau of Labor Statistics", and "Office of Disability Employment Policy".

SEC. 111. (a) Section 7 of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (29 U.S.C. 207) shall be applied as if the following text is part of such section:

"(s)(1) The provisions of this section shall not apply for a period of 2 years after the occurrence of a major disaster to any employee—

"(A) employed to adjust or evaluate claims resulting from or relating to such major disaster, by an employer not engaged, directly or through an affiliate, in underwriting, selling, or marketing property, casualty, or liability insurance policies or contracts;

"(B) who receives from such employer on average weekly compensation of not less than \$591.00 per week or any minimum weekly amount established by the Secretary, whichever is greater, for the number of weeks such employee is engaged in any of the activities described in subparagraph (C); and

"(C) whose duties include any of the following:

"(i) interviewing insured individuals, individuals who suffered injuries or other dam-

ages or losses arising from or relating to a disaster, witnesses, or physicians;

"(ii) inspecting property damage or reviewing factual information to prepare damage estimates;

"(iii) evaluating and making recommendations regarding coverage or compensability of claims or determining liability or value aspects of claims;

"(iv) negotiating settlements; or

"(v) making recommendations regarding litigation.

"(2) The exemption in this subsection shall not affect the exemption provided by section 13(a)(1).

"(3) For purposes of this subsection—

"(A) the term 'major disaster' means any disaster or catastrophe declared or designated by any State or Federal agency or department;

"(B) the term 'employee employed to adjust or evaluate claims resulting from or relating to such major disaster' means an individual who timely secured or secures a license required by applicable law to engage in and perform the activities described in clauses (i) through (v) of paragraph (1)(C) relating to a major disaster, and is employed by an employer that maintains worker compensation insurance coverage or protection for its employees, if required by applicable law, and withholds applicable Federal, State, and local income and payroll taxes from the wages, salaries and any benefits of such employees; and

"(C) the term 'affiliate' means a company that, by reason of ownership or control of 25 percent or more of the outstanding shares of any class of voting securities of one or more companies, directly or indirectly, controls, is controlled by, or is under common control with, another company."

(b) This section shall be effective on the date of enactment of this Act.

This title may be cited as the "Department of Labor Appropriations Act, 2015".

TITLE II

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

HEALTH RESOURCES AND SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

PRIMARY HEALTH CARE

For carrying out titles II and III of the Public Health Service Act (referred to in this Act as the "PHS Act") with respect to primary health care and the Native Hawaiian Health Care Act of 1988, \$1,491,522,000: *Provided*, That no more than \$100,000 shall be available until expended for carrying out the provisions of section 224(o) of the PHS Act, including associated administrative expenses and relevant evaluations: *Provided further*, That no more than \$99,893,000 shall be available until expended for carrying out the provisions of Public Law 104-73 and for expenses incurred by the Department of Health and Human Services (referred to in this Act as "HHS") pertaining to administrative claims made under such law: *Provided further*, That of funds provided for the Health Centers program, as defined by section 330 of the PHS Act, by this Act or any other Act for fiscal year 2015, not less than \$165,000,000 shall be obligated in fiscal year 2015 as base grant adjustments, not less than \$350,000,000 shall be obligated in fiscal year 2015 to support new access points including approved and unfunded applications from fiscal year 2014, grants to expand medical services, behavioral health, oral health, pharmacy, and vision services, and up to \$150,000,000 shall be obligated in fiscal year 2015 for construction and capital improvement costs.



## HEALTH WORKFORCE

For carrying out titles III, VII, and VIII of the PHS Act with respect to the health workforce, section 1128E of the Social Security Act, and the Health Care Quality Improvement Act of 1986, \$751,600,000: *Provided*, That sections 747(c)(2), 751(j)(2), 762(k), and the proportional funding amounts in paragraphs (1) through (4) of section 756(e) of the PHS Act shall not apply to funds made available under this heading: *Provided further*, That for any program operating under section 751 of the PHS Act on or before January 1, 2009, the Secretary may hereafter waive any of the requirements contained in sections 751(d)(2)(A) and 751(d)(2)(B) of such Act for the full project period of a grant under such section: *Provided further*, That no funds shall be available for section 340G-1 of the PHS Act: *Provided further*, That fees collected for the disclosure of information under section 427(b) of the Health Care Quality Improvement Act of 1986 and sections 1128E(d)(2) and 1921 of the Social Security Act shall be sufficient to recover the full costs of operating the programs authorized by such sections and shall remain available until expended for the National Practitioner Data Bank: *Provided further*, That funds transferred to this account to carry out section 846 and subpart 3 of part D of title III of the PHS Act may be used to make prior year adjustments to awards made under such sections.

## MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH

For carrying out titles III, XI, XII, and XIX of the PHS Act with respect to maternal and child health, title V of the Social Security Act, and section 712 of the American Jobs Creation Act of 2004, \$851,738,000: *Provided*, That notwithstanding sections 502(a)(1) and 502(b)(1) of the Social Security Act, not more than \$77,093,000 shall be available for carrying out special projects of regional and national significance pursuant to section 501(a)(2) of such Act and \$10,276,000 shall be available for projects described in paragraphs (A) through (F) of section 501(a)(3) of such Act.

## RYAN WHITE HIV/AIDS PROGRAM

For carrying out title XXVI of the PHS Act with respect to the Ryan White HIV/AIDS program, \$2,318,781,000, of which \$1,970,881,000 shall remain available to the Secretary through September 30, 2017, for parts A and B of title XXVI of the PHS Act, and of which not less than \$900,313,000 shall be for State AIDS Drug Assistance Programs under the authority of section 2616 or 311(c) of such Act.

## HEALTH CARE SYSTEMS

For carrying out titles III and XII of the PHS Act with respect to health care systems, and the Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Act of 2005, \$103,193,000, of which \$122,000 shall be available until expended for facilities renovations at the Gillis W. Long Hansen's Disease Center.

## RURAL HEALTH

For carrying out titles III and IV of the PHS Act with respect to rural health, section 427(a) of the Federal Coal Mine Health and Safety Act, the Cardiac Arrest Survival Act of 2000, and sections 711 and 1820 of the Social Security Act, \$147,471,000, of which \$41,609,000 from general revenues, notwithstanding section 1820(j) of the Social Security Act, shall be available for carrying out the Medicare rural hospital flexibility grants program: *Provided*, That of the funds made available under this heading for Medicare rural hospital flexibility grants, \$14,942,000

shall be available for the Small Rural Hospital Improvement Grant Program for quality improvement and adoption of health information technology and up to \$1,000,000 shall be to carry out section 1820(g)(6) of the Social Security Act, with funds provided for grants under section 1820(g)(6) available for the purchase and implementation of telehealth services, including pilots and demonstrations on the use of electronic health records to coordinate rural veterans care between rural providers and the Department of Veterans Affairs electronic health record system: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding section 338J(k) of the PHS Act, \$9,511,000 shall be available for State Offices of Rural Health.

## FAMILY PLANNING

For carrying out the program under title X of the PHS Act to provide for voluntary family planning projects, \$286,479,000: *Provided*, That amounts provided to said projects under such title shall not be expended for abortions, that all pregnancy counseling shall be nondirective, and that such amounts shall not be expended for any activity (including the publication or distribution of literature) that in any way tends to promote public support or opposition to any legislative proposal or candidate for public office.

## PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

For program support in the Health Resources and Services Administration, \$154,000,000: *Provided*, That funds made available under this heading may be used to supplement program support funding provided under the headings "Primary Health Care", "Health Workforce", "Maternal and Child Health", "Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program", "Health Care Systems", and "Rural Health".

## VACCINE INJURY COMPENSATION PROGRAM TRUST FUND

For payments from the Vaccine Injury Compensation Program Trust Fund (the "Trust Fund"), such sums as may be necessary for claims associated with vaccine-related injury or death with respect to vaccines administered after September 30, 1988, pursuant to subtitle 2 of title XXI of the PHS Act, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That for necessary administrative expenses, not to exceed \$7,500,000 shall be available from the Trust Fund to the Secretary.

## CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION

## IMMUNIZATION AND RESPIRATORY DISEASES

For carrying out titles II, III, XVII, and XXI, and section 2821 of the PHS Act, titles II and IV of the Immigration and Nationality Act, and section 501 of the Refugee Education Assistance Act, with respect to immunization and respiratory diseases, \$573,105,000.

## HIV/AIDS, VIRAL HEPATITIS, SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES, AND TUBERCULOSIS PREVENTION

For carrying out titles II, III, XVII, and XXIII of the PHS Act with respect to HIV/AIDS, viral hepatitis, sexually transmitted diseases, and tuberculosis prevention, \$1,117,609,000.

## EMERGING AND ZOONOTIC INFECTIOUS DISEASES

For carrying out titles II, III, and XVII, and section 2821 of the PHS Act, titles II and IV of the Immigration and Nationality Act, and section 501 of the Refugee Education Assistance Act, with respect to emerging and zoonotic infectious diseases, \$352,990,000: *Provided*, That of the funds available under this heading, \$30,000,000 shall be for the Advanced Molecular Detection initiative.

## CHRONIC DISEASE PREVENTION AND HEALTH PROMOTION

For carrying out titles II, III, XI, XV, XVII, and XIX of the PHS Act with respect to chronic disease prevention and health promotion, \$747,220,000: *Provided*, That funds appropriated under this account may be available for making grants under section 1509 of the PHS Act for not less than 21 States, tribes, or tribal organizations: *Provided further*, That of the funds available under this heading, \$7,500,000 shall be available to continue and expand community specific extension and outreach programs to combat obesity in counties with the highest levels of obesity: *Provided further*, That of the funds provided under this heading, \$80,000,000 shall be available for a program consisting of three-year grants of no less than \$100,000 per year to non-governmental entities, local public health offices, school districts, local housing authorities, local transportation authorities or Indian tribes to implement evidence-based chronic disease prevention strategies: *Provided further*, That applicants for grants described in the previous proviso shall determine the population to be served and shall agree to work in collaboration with multi-sector partners: *Provided further*, That the proportional funding requirements under section 1503(a) of the PHS Act shall not apply to funds made available under this heading.

## BIRTH DEFECTS, DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES, DISABILITIES AND HEALTH

For carrying out titles II, III, XI, and XVII of the PHS Act with respect to birth defects, developmental disabilities, disabilities and health, \$131,781,000.

## PUBLIC HEALTH SCIENTIFIC SERVICES

For carrying out titles II, III, and XVII of the PHS Act with respect to health statistics, surveillance, health informatics, and workforce development, \$481,061,000.

## ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

For carrying out titles II, III, and XVII of the PHS Act with respect to environmental health, \$166,404,000.

## INJURY PREVENTION AND CONTROL

For carrying out titles II, III, and XVII of the PHS Act with respect to injury prevention and control, \$170,447,000: *Provided*, That of the funds provided under this heading, \$20,000,000 shall be available for an evidence-based prescription drug overdose prevention program.

## NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH

For carrying out titles II, III, and XVII of the PHS Act, sections 101, 102, 103, 201, 202, 203, 301, and 501 of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act, section 13 of the Mine Improvement and New Emergency Response Act, and sections 20, 21, and 22 of the Occupational Safety and Health Act, with respect to occupational safety and health, \$334,863,000.

## ENERGY EMPLOYEES OCCUPATIONAL ILLNESS COMPENSATION PROGRAM

For necessary expenses to administer the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act, \$55,358,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That this amount shall be available consistent with the provision regarding administrative expenses in section 151(b) of division B, title I of Public Law 106-554.

## GLOBAL HEALTH

For carrying out titles II, III, and XVII of the PHS Act with respect to global health, \$416,517,000, of which \$128,421,000 for international HIV/AIDS shall remain available

through September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That funds may be used for purchase and insurance of official motor vehicles in foreign countries: *Provided further*, That these funds are in addition to amounts provided in section 137 of Public Law 113-164.

#### PUBLIC HEALTH PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE

For carrying out titles II, III, and XVII of the PHS Act with respect to public health preparedness and response, and for expenses necessary to support activities related to countering potential biological, nuclear, radiological, and chemical threats to civilian populations, \$1,352,551,000, of which \$534,343,000 shall remain available until expended for the Strategic National Stockpile: *Provided*, That in the event the Director of the CDC activates the Emergency Operations Center, the Director of the CDC may detail CDC staff without reimbursement for up to 45 days to support the work of the CDC Emergency Operations Center, so long as the Director provides a notice to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate within 15 days of the use of this authority and a full report within 30 days after use of this authority which includes the number of staff and funding level broken down by the originating center and number of days detailed: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated under this heading may be used to support a contract for the operation and maintenance of an aircraft in direct support of activities throughout CDC to ensure the agency is prepared to address public health preparedness emergencies.

#### BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

For acquisition of real property, equipment, construction, and renovation of facilities, \$10,000,000, which shall remain available until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That funds previously set-aside by CDC for repair and upgrade of the Lake Lynn Experimental Mine and Laboratory shall be used to acquire a replacement mine safety research facility.

#### CDC-WIDE ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAM SUPPORT (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For carrying out titles II, III, XVII and XIX, and section 2821 of the PHS Act and for cross-cutting activities and program support for activities funded in other appropriations included in this Act for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, \$113,570,000: *Provided*, That paragraphs (1) through (3) of subsection (b) of section 2821 of the PHS Act shall not apply to funds appropriated under this heading and in all other accounts of the CDC: *Provided further*, That employees of CDC or the Public Health Service, both civilian and commissioned officers, detailed to States, municipalities, or other organizations under authority of section 214 of the PHS Act, or in overseas assignments, shall be treated as non-Federal employees for reporting purposes only and shall not be included within any personnel ceiling applicable to the Agency, Service, or HHS during the period of detail or assignment: *Provided further*, That CDC may use up to \$10,000 from amounts appropriated to CDC in this Act for official reception and representation expenses when specifically approved by the Director of CDC: *Provided further*, That in addition, such sums as may be derived from authorized user fees, which shall be credited to the appropriation charged with the cost thereof: *Provided further*, That with respect to the previous proviso, authorized user fees from the Vessel Sanitation Program shall be available through September 30, 2016: *Provided further*, That of the funds made available under this heading and in all other ac-

counts of CDC, up to \$1,000 per eligible employee of CDC shall be made available until expended for Individual Learning Accounts.

#### NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

##### NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the PHS Act with respect to cancer, \$4,950,396,000, of which up to \$8,000,000 may be used for facilities repairs and improvements at the National Cancer Institute—Frederick Federally Funded Research and Development Center in Frederick, Maryland.

##### NATIONAL HEART, LUNG, AND BLOOD INSTITUTE

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the PHS Act with respect to cardiovascular, lung, and blood diseases, and blood and blood products, \$2,997,870,000.

##### NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF DENTAL AND CRANIOFACIAL RESEARCH

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the PHS Act with respect to dental and craniofacial diseases, \$399,886,000.

##### NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF DIABETES AND DIGESTIVE AND KIDNEY DISEASES

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the PHS Act with respect to diabetes and digestive and kidney disease, \$1,749,681,000.

##### NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF NEUROLOGICAL DISORDERS AND STROKE

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the PHS Act with respect to neurological disorders and stroke, \$1,605,205,000.

##### NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ALLERGY AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the PHS Act with respect to allergy and infectious diseases, \$4,358,841,000.

##### NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF GENERAL MEDICAL SCIENCES

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the PHS Act with respect to general medical sciences, \$2,371,476,000, of which \$715,000,000 shall be from funds available under section 241 of the PHS Act: *Provided*, That not less than \$273,325,000 is provided for the Institutional Development Awards program.

##### EUNICE KENNEDY SHRIVER NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF CHILD HEALTH AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the PHS Act with respect to child health and human development, \$1,286,571,000.

##### NATIONAL EYE INSTITUTE

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the PHS Act with respect to eye diseases and visual disorders, \$684,191,000.

##### NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SCIENCES

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the PHS Act with respect to environmental health sciences, \$667,502,000.

##### NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON AGING

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the PHS Act with respect to aging, \$1,199,468,000.

##### NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ARTHRITIS AND MUSCULOSKELETAL AND SKIN DISEASES

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the PHS Act with respect to arthritis and musculoskeletal and skin diseases, \$521,665,000.

##### NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON DEAFNESS AND OTHER COMMUNICATION DISORDERS

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the PHS Act with respect to deafness and other communication disorders, \$405,302,000.

##### NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF NURSING RESEARCH

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the PHS Act with respect to nursing research, \$140,953,000.

##### NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON ALCOHOL ABUSE AND ALCOHOLISM

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the PHS Act with respect to alcohol abuse and alcoholism, \$447,408,000.

##### NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON DRUG ABUSE

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the PHS Act with respect to drug abuse, \$1,028,614,000.

##### NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF MENTAL HEALTH

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the PHS Act with respect to mental health, \$1,463,036,000.

##### NATIONAL HUMAN GENOME RESEARCH INSTITUTE

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the PHS Act with respect to human genome research, \$499,356,000.

##### NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF BIOMEDICAL IMAGING AND BIOENGINEERING

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the PHS Act with respect to biomedical imaging and bioengineering research, \$330,192,000.

##### NATIONAL CENTER FOR COMPLEMENTARY AND INTEGRATIVE HEALTH

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the PHS Act with respect to complementary and integrative health, \$124,681,000: *Provided*, That these funds may be used to support the transition enacted in section 224 of this Act.

##### NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON MINORITY HEALTH AND HEALTH DISPARITIES

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the PHS Act with respect to minority health and health disparities research, \$269,154,000.

##### JOHN E. FOGARTY INTERNATIONAL CENTER

For carrying out the activities of the John E. Fogarty International Center (described in subpart 2 of part E of title IV of the PHS Act), \$67,786,000.

##### NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MEDICINE

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the PHS Act with respect to health information communications, \$336,939,000: *Provided*, That of the amounts available for improvement of information systems, \$4,000,000 shall be available until September 30, 2016: *Provided further*, That in fiscal year 2015, the National Library of Medicine may enter into personal services contracts for the provision of services in facilities owned, operated, or constructed under the jurisdiction of the National Institutes of Health (referred to in this title as “NIH”).

##### NATIONAL CENTER FOR ADVANCING TRANSLATIONAL SCIENCES

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the PHS Act with respect to translational sciences, \$635,230,000: *Provided*, That up to \$9,835,000 shall be available to implement section 480 of the PHS Act, relating to the Cures Acceleration Network: *Provided further*, That at least \$474,746,000 is provided to the Clinical and Translational Sciences Awards program.

##### OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For carrying out the responsibilities of the Office of the Director, NIH, \$1,401,134,000, of which up to \$25,000,000 may be used to carry out section 213 of this Act: *Provided*, That funding shall be available for the purchase of not to exceed 29 passenger motor vehicles for replacement only: *Provided further*, That all funds credited to the NIH Management Fund shall remain available for one fiscal year after the fiscal year in which they are deposited: *Provided further*, That \$165,000,000 shall be for the National Children’s Study (“NCS”)



or research related to the Study's goals and mission, and any funds in excess of the estimated need shall be transferred to and merged with the accounts for the various Institutes and Centers to support activity related to the goals and objectives of the NCS: *Provided further*, That NIH shall submit a spend plan on the NCS's next phase to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act: *Provided further*, That \$533,039,000 shall be available for the Common Fund established under section 402A(c)(1) of the PHS Act: *Provided further*, That of the funds provided, \$10,000 shall be for official reception and representation expenses when specifically approved by the Director of the NIH: *Provided further*, That the Office of AIDS Research within the Office of the Director of the NIH may spend up to \$8,000,000 to make grants for construction or renovation of facilities as provided for in section 2354(a)(5)(B) of the PHS Act: *Provided further*, That NIH shall contract with the National Academy of Sciences for a Blue Ribbon Commission on Scientific Literacy and Standing: *Provided further*, That NIH shall submit to Congress an NIH-wide 5-year scientific strategic plan as outlined in sections 402(b)(3) and 402(b)(4) of the PHS Act no later than 1 year after enactment of this Act.

In addition to other funds appropriated for the Common Fund established under section 402A(c) of the PHS Act, \$12,600,000 is appropriated to the Common Fund from the 10-year Pediatric Research Initiative Fund described in section 9008 of title 26, United States Code, for the purpose of carrying out section 402(b)(7)(B)(ii) of the PHS Act (relating to pediatric research), as authorized in the Gabriella Miller Kids First Research Act.

#### BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

For the study of, construction of, renovation of, and acquisition of equipment for, facilities of or used by NIH, including the acquisition of real property, \$128,863,000, to remain available through September 30, 2019.

#### SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION MENTAL HEALTH

For carrying out titles III, V, and XIX of the PHS Act with respect to mental health, and the Protection and Advocacy for Individuals with Mental Illness Act, \$1,045,936,000: *Provided*, That notwithstanding section 520A(f)(2) of the PHS Act, no funds appropriated for carrying out section 520A shall be available for carrying out section 1971 of the PHS Act: *Provided further*, That in addition to amounts provided herein, \$21,039,000 shall be available under section 241 of the PHS Act to carry out subpart I of part B of title XIX of the PHS Act to fund section 1920(b) technical assistance, national data, data collection and evaluation activities, and further that the total available under this Act for section 1920(b) activities shall not exceed 5 percent of the amounts appropriated for subpart I of part B of title XIX: *Provided further*, That section 520E(b)(2) of the PHS Act shall not apply to funds appropriated in this Act for fiscal year 2015: *Provided further*, That of the amount appropriated under this heading, \$45,887,000 shall be for the National Child Traumatic Stress Initiative as described in section 582 of the PHS Act: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding section 565(b)(1) of the PHS Act, technical assistance may be provided to a public entity to establish or operate a system of comprehensive community mental health services to children with a serious emotional disturbance, without regard

to whether the public entity receives a grant under section 561(a) of such Act: *Provided further*, That States shall expend at least 5 percent of the amount each receives for carrying out section 1911 of the PHS Act to support evidence-based programs that address the needs of individuals with early serious mental illness, including psychotic disorders, regardless of the age of the individual at onset: *Provided further*, That none of the funds provided for section 1911 of the PHS Act shall be subject to section 241 of such Act.

#### SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT

For carrying out titles III, V, and XIX of the PHS Act with respect to substance abuse treatment and section 1922(a) of the PHS Act with respect to substance abuse prevention, \$2,102,658,000: *Provided*, That in addition to amounts provided herein, the following amounts shall be available under section 241 of the PHS Act: (1) \$79,200,000 to carry out subpart II of part B of title XIX of the PHS Act to fund section 1935(b) technical assistance, national data, data collection and evaluation activities, and further that the total available under this Act for section 1935(b) activities shall not exceed 5 percent of the amounts appropriated for subpart II of part B of title XIX; and (2) \$2,000,000 to evaluate substance abuse treatment programs: *Provided further*, That none of the funds provided for section 1921 of the PHS Act shall be subject to section 241 of such Act.

#### SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION

For carrying out titles III and V of the PHS Act with respect to substance abuse prevention, \$175,219,000.

#### HEALTH SURVEILLANCE AND PROGRAM SUPPORT

For program support and cross-cutting activities that supplement activities funded under the headings "Mental Health", "Substance Abuse Treatment", and "Substance Abuse Prevention" in carrying out titles III, V, and XIX of the PHS Act and the Protection and Advocacy for Individuals with Mental Illness Act in the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, \$150,232,000: *Provided*, That in addition to amounts provided herein, \$31,428,000 shall be available under section 241 of the PHS Act to supplement funds available to carry out national surveys on drug abuse and mental health, to collect and analyze program data, and to conduct public awareness and technical assistance activities: *Provided further*, That, in addition, fees may be collected for the costs of publications, data, data tabulations, and data analysis completed under title V of the PHS Act and provided to a public or private entity upon request, which shall be credited to this appropriation and shall remain available until expended for such purposes: *Provided further*, That amounts made available in this Act for carrying out section 501(m) of the PHS Act shall remain available through September 30, 2016: *Provided further*, That funds made available under this heading may be used to supplement program support funding provided under the headings "Mental Health", "Substance Abuse Treatment", and "Substance Abuse Prevention".

#### AGENCY FOR HEALTHCARE RESEARCH AND QUALITY

##### HEALTHCARE RESEARCH AND QUALITY

For carrying out titles III and IX of the PHS Act, part A of title XI of the Social Security Act, and section 1013 of the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003, \$363,698,000: *Provided*, That section 947(c) of the PHS Act shall not

apply in fiscal year 2015: *Provided further*, That in addition, amounts received from Freedom of Information Act fees, reimbursable and interagency agreements, and the sale of data shall be credited to this appropriation and shall remain available until September 30, 2016.

#### CENTERS FOR MEDICARE AND MEDICAID SERVICES

##### GRANTS TO STATES FOR MEDICAID

For carrying out, except as otherwise provided, titles XI and XIX of the Social Security Act, \$234,608,916,000, to remain available until expended.

For making, after May 31, 2015, payments to States under title XIX or in the case of section 1928 on behalf of States under title XIX of the Social Security Act for the last quarter of fiscal year 2015 for unanticipated costs incurred for the current fiscal year, such sums as may be necessary.

For making payments to States or in the case of section 1928 on behalf of States under title XIX of the Social Security Act for the first quarter of fiscal year 2016, \$113,272,140,000, to remain available until expended.

Payment under such title XIX may be made for any quarter with respect to a State plan or plan amendment in effect during such quarter, if submitted in or prior to such quarter and approved in that or any subsequent quarter.

##### PAYMENTS TO HEALTH CARE TRUST FUNDS

For payment to the Federal Hospital Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Supplementary Medical Insurance Trust Fund, as provided under sections 217(g), 1844, and 1860D-16 of the Social Security Act, sections 103(c) and 111(d) of the Social Security Amendments of 1965, section 278(d)(3) of Public Law 97-248, and for administrative expenses incurred pursuant to section 201(g) of the Social Security Act, \$259,212,000,000.

In addition, for making matching payments under section 1844 and benefit payments under section 1860D-16 of the Social Security Act that were not anticipated in budget estimates, such sums as may be necessary.

##### PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

For carrying out, except as otherwise provided, titles XI, XVIII, XIX, and XXI of the Social Security Act, titles XIII and XXVII of the PHS Act, the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments of 1988, and other responsibilities of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, not to exceed \$3,669,744,000, to be transferred from the Federal Hospital Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Supplementary Medical Insurance Trust Fund, as authorized by section 201(g) of the Social Security Act; together with all funds collected in accordance with section 353 of the PHS Act and section 1857(e)(2) of the Social Security Act, funds retained by the Secretary pursuant to section 302 of the Tax Relief and Health Care Act of 2006; and such sums as may be collected from authorized user fees and the sale of data, which shall be credited to this account and remain available until September 30, 2020: *Provided*, That all funds derived in accordance with 31 U.S.C. 9701 from organizations established under title XIII of the PHS Act shall be credited to and available for carrying out the purposes of this appropriation: *Provided further*, That the Secretary is directed to collect fees in fiscal year 2015 from Medicare Advantage organizations pursuant to section 1857(e)(2) of the Social Security Act and from eligible organizations with risk-sharing contracts under section 1876 of that Act pursuant to section 1876(k)(4)(D) of that Act.

#### HEALTH CARE FRAUD AND ABUSE CONTROL ACCOUNT

In addition to amounts otherwise available for program integrity and program management, \$672,000,000, to remain available through September 30, 2016, to be transferred from the Federal Hospital Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Supplementary Medical Insurance Trust Fund, as authorized by section 201(g) of the Social Security Act, of which \$477,120,000 shall be for the Medicare Integrity Program at the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, including administrative costs, to conduct oversight activities for Medicare Advantage under Part C and the Medicare Prescription Drug Program under Part D of the Social Security Act and for activities described in section 1893(b) of such Act, of which \$67,200,000 shall be for the Department of Health and Human Services Office of Inspector General to carry out fraud and abuse activities authorized by section 1817(k)(3) of such Act, of which \$67,200,000 shall be for the Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program ("CHIP") program integrity activities, and of which \$60,480,000 shall be for the Department of Justice to carry out fraud and abuse activities authorized by section 1817(k)(3) of such Act: *Provided*, That the report required by section 1817(k)(5) of the Social Security Act for fiscal year 2015 shall include measures of the operational efficiency and impact on fraud, waste, and abuse in the Medicare, Medicaid, and CHIP programs for the funds provided by this appropriation: *Provided further*, That of the amount provided under this heading, \$311,000,000 is provided to meet the terms of section 251(b)(2)(C)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended, and \$361,000,000 is additional new budget authority specified for purposes of section 251(b)(2)(C) of such Act.

#### ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

##### PAYMENTS TO STATES FOR CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT AND FAMILY SUPPORT PROGRAMS

For carrying out, except as otherwise provided, titles I, IV–D, X, XI, XIV, and XVI of the Social Security Act and the Act of July 5, 1960, \$2,438,523,000, to remain available until expended; and for such purposes for the first quarter of fiscal year 2016, \$1,160,000,000, to remain available until expended.

For carrying out, after May 31 of the current fiscal year, except as otherwise provided, titles I, IV–D, X, XI, XIV, and XVI of the Social Security Act and the Act of July 5, 1960, for the last 3 months of the current fiscal year for unanticipated costs, incurred for the current fiscal year, such sums as may be necessary.

##### LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE

For making payments under subsections (b) and (d) of section 2602 of the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Act of 1981, \$3,390,304,000: *Provided*, That all but \$491,000,000 of this amount shall be allocated as though the total appropriation for such payments for fiscal year 2015 was less than \$1,975,000,000: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding section 2609A(a), of the amounts appropriated under section 2602(b), not more than \$2,988,000 of such amounts may be reserved by the Secretary for technical assistance, training, and monitoring of program activities for compliance with internal controls, policies and procedures and may, in addition to the authorities provided in section 2609A(a)(1), use such funds through contracts with private entities that do not qualify as nonprofit organizations.

##### REFUGEE AND ENTRANT ASSISTANCE

For necessary expenses for refugee and entrant assistance activities authorized by sec-

tion 414 of the Immigration and Nationality Act and section 501 of the Refugee Education Assistance Act of 1980, and for carrying out section 462 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, section 235 of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008, the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 ("TVPA"), section 203 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2005, and the Torture Victims Relief Act of 1998, \$1,559,884,000, of which \$1,533,394,000 shall remain available through September 30, 2017 for carrying out such sections 414, 501, 462, and 235: *Provided*, That amounts available under this heading to carry out such section 203 and the TVPA shall also be available for research and evaluation with respect to activities under those authorities: *Provided further*, That the limitation in section 206 of this Act regarding transfers increasing any appropriation shall apply to transfers to appropriations under this heading by substituting "10 percent" for "3 percent".

##### PAYMENTS TO STATES FOR THE CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT

For carrying out the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 ("CCDBG Act"), \$2,435,000,000 shall be used to supplement, not supplant State general revenue funds for child care assistance for low-income families: *Provided*, That \$19,357,000 shall be available for child care resource and referral and school-aged child care activities, of which \$996,000 shall be available to the Secretary for a competitive grant for the operation of a national toll free referral line and Web site to develop and disseminate child care consumer education information for parents and help parents access child care in their local community: *Provided further*, That, in addition to the amounts required to be reserved by the States under section 658G of the CCDBG Act, \$305,906,000 shall be reserved by the States for activities authorized under section 658G, of which \$112,187,000 shall be for activities that improve the quality of infant and toddler care: *Provided further*, That \$9,851,000 shall be for use by the Secretary for child care research, demonstration, and evaluation activities: *Provided further*, That technical assistance under section 658(a)(3) of such Act may be provided directly, or through the use of contracts, grants, cooperative agreements, or inter-agency agreements.

##### SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANT

For making grants to States pursuant to section 2002 of the Social Security Act, \$1,700,000,000: *Provided*, That notwithstanding subparagraph (B) of section 404(d)(2) of such Act, the applicable percent specified under such subparagraph for a State to carry out State programs pursuant to title XX–A of such Act shall be 10 percent.

##### CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SERVICES PROGRAMS

For carrying out, except as otherwise provided, the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act, the Head Start Act, the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act, sections 303 and 313 of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act, the Native American Programs Act of 1974, title II of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment and Adoption Reform Act of 1978 (adoption opportunities), the Abandoned Infants Assistance Act of 1988, part B–1 of title IV and sections 413, 1110, and 1115 of the Social Security Act; for making payments under the Community Services Block Grant Act ("CSBG Act"), sections 473B and 477(i) of the Social Security Act, and the Assets for Independence Act; for necessary administrative expenses to carry

out such Acts and titles I, IV, V, X, XI, XIV, XVI, and XX of the Social Security Act, the Act of July 5, 1960, the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Act of 1981, title IV of the Immigration and Nationality Act, and section 501 of the Refugee Education Assistance Act of 1980; and for the administration of prior year obligations made by the Administration for Children and Families under the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act and the Help America Vote Act of 2002, \$10,346,115,000, of which \$37,943,000, to remain available through September 30, 2016, shall be for grants to States for adoption incentive payments, as authorized by section 473A of the Social Security Act and may be made for adoptions completed before September 30, 2015: *Provided*, That \$8,598,095,000 shall be for making payments under the Head Start Act: *Provided further*, That of the amount in the previous proviso, \$8,073,095,000 shall be available for payments under section 640 of the Head Start Act: *Provided further*, That of the amount provided for making payments under the Head Start Act, \$25,000,000 shall be available for allocation by the Secretary to supplement activities described in paragraphs (7)(B) and (9) of section 641(c) of such Act under the Designation Renewal System, established under the authority of sections 641(c)(7), 645A(b)(12) and 645A(d) of such Act: *Provided further*, That amounts allocated to Head Start grantees at the discretion of the Secretary to supplement activities pursuant to the previous proviso shall not be included in the calculation of the "base grant" in subsequent fiscal years, as such term is used in section 640(a)(7)(A) of the Head Start Act: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding section 640 of the Head Start Act, of the amount provided for making payments under the Head Start Act, and in addition to funds otherwise available under section 640 for such purposes, \$500,000,000 shall be available through March 31, 2016 for Early Head Start programs as described in section 645A of such Act, for conversion of Head Start services to Early Head Start services as described in section 645(a)(5)(A) of such Act, and for discretionary grants for high quality infant and toddler care through Early Head Start-Child Care Partnerships, to entities defined as eligible under section 645A(d) of such Act, with such funds in this Act and Public Law 113–76 not included in the calculation of the "base grant" for the current or any subsequent fiscal year as such term is used in section 640(a)(7)(A) of the Head Start Act, and, notwithstanding section 645A(c)(2) of such Act, these funds are available to serve children under age 4: *Provided further*, That of the amount made available in the immediately preceding proviso, up to \$10,000,000 shall be available for the Federal costs of administration and evaluation activities of the program described in such proviso: *Provided further*, That \$710,383,000 shall be for making payments under the CSBG Act: *Provided further*, That \$36,733,000 shall be for sections 680 and 678E(b)(2) of the CSBG Act, of which not less than \$29,883,000 shall be for section 680(a)(2) and not less than \$6,500,000 shall be for section 680(a)(3)(B) of such Act: *Provided further*, That to the extent Community Services Block Grant funds are distributed as grant funds by a State to an eligible entity as provided under the CSBG Act, and have not been expended by such entity, they shall remain with such entity for carryover into the next fiscal year for expenditure by such entity consistent with program purposes: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall establish procedures regarding the disposition of

intangible assets and program income that permit such assets acquired with, and program income derived from, grant funds authorized under section 680 of the CSBG Act to become the sole property of such grantees after a period of not more than 12 years after the end of the grant period for any activity consistent with section 680(a)(2)(A) of the CSBG Act: *Provided further*, That intangible assets in the form of loans, equity investments and other debt instruments, and program income may be used by grantees for any eligible purpose consistent with section 680(a)(2)(A) of the CSBG Act: *Provided further*, That these procedures shall apply to such grant funds made available after November 29, 1999: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated for section 680(a)(2) of the CSBG Act shall be available for financing construction and rehabilitation and loans or investments in private business enterprises owned by community development corporations: *Provided further*, That section 303(a)(2)(A)(i) of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act shall not apply to amounts provided herein: *Provided further*, That \$1,864,000 shall be for a human services case management system for federally declared disasters, to include a comprehensive national case management contract and Federal costs of administering the system: *Provided further*, That up to \$2,000,000 shall be for improving the Public Assistance Reporting Information System, including grants to States to support data collection for a study of the system's effectiveness.

#### PROMOTING SAFE AND STABLE FAMILIES

For carrying out, except as otherwise provided, section 436 of the Social Security Act, \$345,000,000 and, for carrying out, except as otherwise provided, section 437 of such Act, \$59,765,000.

#### PAYMENTS FOR FOSTER CARE AND PERMANENCY

For carrying out, except as otherwise provided, title IV-E of the Social Security Act, \$4,832,000,000.

For carrying out, except as otherwise provided, title IV-E of the Social Security Act, for the first quarter of fiscal year 2016, \$2,300,000,000.

For carrying out, after May 31 of the current fiscal year, except as otherwise provided, section 474 of title IV-E of the Social Security Act, for the last 3 months of the current fiscal year for unanticipated costs, incurred for the current fiscal year, such sums as may be necessary.

#### ADMINISTRATION FOR COMMUNITY LIVING

##### AGING AND DISABILITY SERVICES PROGRAMS (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For carrying out, to the extent not otherwise provided, the OAA, titles III and XXIX of the PHS Act, section 119 of the Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act of 2008, title XX-B of the Social Security Act, the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act, parts 2 and 5 of subtitle D of title II of the Help America Vote Act of 2002, and for Department-wide coordination of policy and program activities that assist individuals with disabilities, \$1,621,141,000, together with \$52,115,000 to be transferred from the Federal Hospital Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Supplementary Medical Insurance Trust Fund to carry out section 4360 of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990: *Provided*, That amounts appropriated under this heading may be used for grants to States under section 361 of the OAA only for disease prevention and health promotion programs and activities which have been demonstrated

through rigorous evaluation to be evidence-based and effective: *Provided further*, That none of the funds provided shall be used to carry out sections 1701 and 1703 of the PHS Act (with respect to chronic disease self-management activity grants), except that such funds may be used for necessary expenses associated with administering any such grants awarded prior to the date of the enactment of this Act: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, funds made available under this heading to carry out section 311 of the OAA may be transferred to the Secretary of Agriculture in accordance with such section.

#### OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

##### GENERAL DEPARTMENTAL MANAGEMENT

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided, for general departmental management, including hire of six passenger motor vehicles, and for carrying out titles III, XVII, XXI, and section 229 of the PHS Act, the United States-Mexico Border Health Commission Act, and research studies under section 1110 of the Social Security Act, \$448,034,000, together with \$64,828,000 from the amounts available under section 241 of the PHS Act to carry out national health or human services research and evaluation activities: *Provided*, That of this amount, \$52,224,000 shall be for minority AIDS prevention and treatment activities: *Provided further*, That of the funds made available under this heading, \$101,000,000 shall be for making competitive contracts and grants to public and private entities to fund medically accurate and age appropriate programs that reduce teen pregnancy and for the Federal costs associated with administering and evaluating such contracts and grants, of which not more than 10 percent of the available funds shall be for training and technical assistance, evaluation, outreach, and additional program support activities, and of the remaining amount 75 percent shall be for replicating programs that have been proven effective through rigorous evaluation to reduce teenage pregnancy, behavioral risk factors underlying teenage pregnancy, or other associated risk factors, and 25 percent shall be available for research and demonstration grants to develop, replicate, refine, and test additional models and innovative strategies for preventing teenage pregnancy: *Provided further*, That of the amounts provided under this heading from amounts available under section 241 of the PHS Act, \$6,800,000 shall be available to carry out evaluations (including longitudinal evaluations) of teenage pregnancy prevention approaches: *Provided further*, That of the funds made available under this heading, \$1,750,000 is for strengthening the Department's acquisition workforce capacity and capabilities: *Provided further*, That with respect to the previous proviso, such funds shall be available for training, recruiting, retaining, and hiring members of the acquisition workforce as defined by 41 U.S.C. 1703, for information technology in support of acquisition workforce effectiveness and for management solutions to improve acquisition management: *Provided further*, That of the funds made available under this heading, \$5,000,000 shall be for making competitive grants to provide abstinence education (as defined by section 510(b)(2)(A)-(H) of the Social Security Act) to adolescents, and for Federal costs of administering the grant: *Provided further*, That grants made under the authority of section 510(b)(2)(A)-(H) of the Social Security Act shall be made only to public and private entities that agree that, with respect to an adolescent to whom the entities provide abstinence education

under such grant, the entities will not provide to that adolescent any other education regarding sexual conduct, except that, in the case of an entity expressly required by law to provide health information or services the adolescent shall not be precluded from seeking health information or services from the entity in a different setting than the setting in which abstinence education was provided: *Provided further*, That funds provided in this Act for embryo adoption activities may be used to provide to individuals adopting embryos, through grants and other mechanisms, medical and administrative services deemed necessary for such adoptions: *Provided further*, That such services shall be provided consistent with 42 CFR 59.5(a)(4).

#### OFFICE OF MEDICARE HEARINGS AND APPEALS

For expenses necessary for the Office of Medicare Hearings and Appeals, \$87,381,000, to be transferred in appropriate part from the Federal Hospital Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Supplementary Medical Insurance Trust Fund.

#### OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL COORDINATOR FOR HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

For expenses necessary for the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology, including grants, contracts, and cooperative agreements for the development and advancement of interoperable health information technology, \$60,367,000.

#### OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For expenses necessary for the Office of Inspector General, including the hire of passenger motor vehicles for investigations, in carrying out the provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978, \$71,000,000: *Provided*, That of such amount, necessary sums shall be available for providing protective services to the Secretary and investigating non-payment of child support cases for which non-payment is a Federal offense under 18 U.S.C. 228.

#### OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS

For expenses necessary for the Office for Civil Rights, \$38,798,000.

#### RETIREMENT PAY AND MEDICAL BENEFITS FOR COMMISSIONED OFFICERS

For retirement pay and medical benefits of Public Health Service Commissioned Officers as authorized by law, for payments under the Retired Serviceman's Family Protection Plan and Survivor Benefit Plan, and for medical care of dependents and retired personnel under the Dependents' Medical Care Act, such amounts as may be required during the current fiscal year.

#### PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES EMERGENCY FUND

For expenses necessary to support activities related to countering potential biological, nuclear, radiological, chemical, and cybersecurity threats to civilian populations, and for other public health emergencies, \$848,154,000, of which \$415,000,000 shall remain available through September 30, 2016, for expenses necessary to support advanced research and development pursuant to section 319L of the PHS Act, and other administrative expenses of the Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority: *Provided*, That funds provided under this heading for the purpose of acquisition of security countermeasures shall be in addition to any other funds available for such purpose: *Provided further*, That products purchased with funds provided under this heading may, at the discretion of the Secretary, be deposited in the Strategic National Stockpile pursuant to section 319F-2 of the PHS Act: *Provided*

further, That \$5,000,000 of the amounts made available to support emergency operations shall remain available through September 30, 2017: *Provided further*, That these funds are in addition to amounts provided in section 136 of Public Law 113-164.

For expenses necessary for procuring security countermeasures (as defined in section 319F-2(c)(1)(B) of the PHS Act), \$255,000,000, to remain available until expended.

For an additional amount for expenses necessary to prepare for or respond to an influenza pandemic, \$71,915,000; of which \$39,906,000 shall be available until expended, for activities including the development and purchase of vaccine, antivirals, necessary medical supplies, diagnostics, and other surveillance tools: *Provided*, That notwithstanding section 496(b) of the PHS Act, funds may be used for the construction or renovation of privately owned facilities for the production of pandemic influenza vaccines and other biologics, if the Secretary finds such construction or renovation necessary to secure sufficient supplies of such vaccines or biologics.

#### GENERAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 201. Funds appropriated in this title shall be available for not to exceed \$50,000 for official reception and representation expenses when specifically approved by the Secretary.

SEC. 202. The Secretary shall make available through assignment not more than 60 employees of the Public Health Service to assist in child survival activities and to work in AIDS programs through and with funds provided by the Agency for International Development, the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund or the World Health Organization.

SEC. 203. None of the funds appropriated in this title shall be used to pay the salary of an individual, through a grant or other extramural mechanism, at a rate in excess of Executive Level II.

SEC. 204. None of the funds appropriated in this Act may be expended pursuant to section 241 of the PHS Act, except for funds specifically provided for in this Act, or for other taps and assessments made by any office located in HHS, prior to the preparation and submission of a report by the Secretary to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate detailing the planned uses of such funds.

SEC. 205. Notwithstanding section 241(a) of the PHS Act, such portion as the Secretary shall determine, but not more than 2.5 percent, of any amounts appropriated for programs authorized under such Act shall be made available for the evaluation (directly, or by grants or contracts) and the implementation and effectiveness of programs funded in this title.

#### (TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 206. Not to exceed 1 percent of any discretionary funds (pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985) which are appropriated for the current fiscal year for HHS in this Act may be transferred between appropriations, but no such appropriation shall be increased by more than 3 percent by any such transfer: *Provided*, That the transfer authority granted by this section shall not be used to create any new program or to fund any project or activity for which no funds are provided in this Act: *Provided further*, That the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate are notified at least 15 days in advance of any transfer.

#### (TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 207. The Director of the NIH, jointly with the Director of the Office of AIDS Re-

search, may transfer up to 3 percent among institutes and centers from the total amounts identified by these two Directors as funding for research pertaining to the human immunodeficiency virus: *Provided*, That the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate are notified at least 15 days in advance of any transfer.

#### (TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 208. Of the amounts made available in this Act for NIH, the amount for research related to the human immunodeficiency virus, as jointly determined by the Director of NIH and the Director of the Office of AIDS Research, shall be made available to the "Office of AIDS Research" account. The Director of the Office of AIDS Research shall transfer from such account amounts necessary to carry out section 2353(d)(3) of the PHS Act.

SEC. 209. None of the funds appropriated in this Act may be made available to any entity under title X of the PHS Act unless the applicant for the award certifies to the Secretary that it encourages family participation in the decision of minors to seek family planning services and that it provides counseling to minors on how to resist attempts to coerce minors into engaging in sexual activities.

SEC. 210. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no provider of services under title X of the PHS Act shall be exempt from any State law requiring notification or the reporting of child abuse, child molestation, sexual abuse, rape, or incest.

SEC. 211. None of the funds appropriated by this Act (including funds appropriated to any trust fund) may be used to carry out the Medicare Advantage program if the Secretary denies participation in such program to an otherwise eligible entity (including a Provider Sponsored Organization) because the entity informs the Secretary that it will not provide, pay for, provide coverage of, or provide referrals for abortions: *Provided*, That the Secretary shall make appropriate prospective adjustments to the capitation payment to such an entity (based on an actuarially sound estimate of the expected costs of providing the service to such entity's enrollees): *Provided further*, That nothing in this section shall be construed to change the Medicare program's coverage for such services and a Medicare Advantage organization described in this section shall be responsible for informing enrollees where to obtain information about all Medicare covered services.

SEC. 212. In order for HHS to carry out international health activities, including HIV/AIDS and other infectious disease, chronic and environmental disease, and other health activities abroad during fiscal year 2015:

(1) The Secretary may exercise authority equivalent to that available to the Secretary of State in section 2(c) of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956. The Secretary shall consult with the Secretary of State and relevant Chief of Mission to ensure that the authority provided in this section is exercised in a manner consistent with section 207 of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 and other applicable statutes administered by the Department of State.

(2) The Secretary is authorized to provide such funds by advance or reimbursement to the Secretary of State as may be necessary to pay the costs of acquisition, lease, alteration, renovation, and management of facilities outside of the United States for the use of HHS. The Department of State shall co-

operate fully with the Secretary to ensure that HHS has secure, safe, functional facilities that comply with applicable regulation governing location, setback, and other facilities requirements and serve the purposes established by this Act. The Secretary is authorized, in consultation with the Secretary of State, through grant or cooperative agreement, to make available to public or non-profit private institutions or agencies in participating foreign countries, funds to acquire, lease, alter, or renovate facilities in those countries as necessary to conduct programs of assistance for international health activities, including activities relating to HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases, chronic and environmental diseases, and other health activities abroad.

(3) The Secretary is authorized to provide to personnel appointed or assigned by the Secretary to serve abroad, allowances and benefits similar to those provided under chapter 9 of title I of the Foreign Service Act of 1980, and 22 U.S.C. 4081 through 4086 and subject to such regulations prescribed by the Secretary. The Secretary is further authorized to provide locality-based comparability payments (stated as a percentage) up to the amount of the locality-based comparability payment (stated as a percentage) that would be payable to such personnel under section 5304 of title 5, United States Code if such personnel's official duty station were in the District of Columbia. Leaves of absence for personnel under this subsection shall be on the same basis as that provided under subchapter I of chapter 63 of title 5, United States Code, or section 903 of the Foreign Service Act of 1980, to individuals serving in the Foreign Service.

SEC. 213. (a) AUTHORITY.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Director of NIH ("Director") may use funds available under section 402(b)(7) or 402(b)(12) of the PHS Act to enter into transactions (other than contracts, cooperative agreements, or grants) to carry out research identified pursuant to such section 402(b)(7) (pertaining to the Common Fund) or research and activities described in such section 402(b)(12).

(b) PEER REVIEW.—In entering into transactions under subsection (a), the Director may utilize such peer review procedures (including consultation with appropriate scientific experts) as the Director determines to be appropriate to obtain assessments of scientific and technical merit. Such procedures shall apply to such transactions in lieu of the peer review and advisory council review procedures that would otherwise be required under sections 301(a)(3), 405(b)(1)(B), 405(b)(2), 406(a)(3)(A), 492, and 494 of the PHS Act.

SEC. 214. Funds which are available for Individual Learning Accounts for employees of CDC and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry ("ATSDR") may be transferred to appropriate accounts of CDC, to be available only for Individual Learning Accounts: *Provided*, That such funds may be used for any individual full-time equivalent employee while such employee is employed either by CDC or ATSDR.

SEC. 215. Not to exceed \$45,000,000 of funds appropriated by this Act to the institutes and centers of the National Institutes of Health may be used for alteration, repair, or improvement of facilities, as necessary for the proper and efficient conduct of the activities authorized herein, at not to exceed \$3,500,000 per project.

#### (TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 216. Of the amounts made available for NIH, 1 percent of the amount made available for National Research Service Awards

(“NRSA”) shall be made available to the Administrator of the Health Resources and Services Administration to make NRSA awards for research in primary medical care to individuals affiliated with entities who have received grants or contracts under sections 736, 739, or 747 of the PHS Act, and 1 percent of the amount made available for NRSA shall be made available to the Director of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality to make NRSA awards for health service research.

SEC. 217. None of the funds made available in this title may be used, in whole or in part, to advocate or promote gun control.

SEC. 218. (a) The Secretary shall establish a publicly accessible Web site to provide information regarding the uses of funds made available under section 4002 of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010 (“ACA”).

(b) With respect to funds provided under section 4002 of the ACA, the Secretary shall include on the Web site established under subsection (a) at a minimum the following information:

(1) In the case of each transfer of funds under section 4002(c), a statement indicating the program or activity receiving funds, the operating division or office that will administer the funds, and the planned uses of the funds, to be posted not later than the day after the transfer is made.

(2) Identification (along with a link to the full text) of each funding opportunity announcement, request for proposals, or other announcement or solicitation of proposals for grants, cooperative agreements, or contracts intended to be awarded using such funds, to be posted not later than the day after the announcement or solicitation is issued.

(3) Identification of each grant, cooperative agreement, or contract with a value of \$25,000 or more awarded using such funds, including the purpose of the award and the identity of the recipient, to be posted not later than 5 days after the award is made.

(4) A report detailing the uses of all funds transferred under section 4002(c) during the fiscal year, to be posted not later than 90 days after the end of the fiscal year.

(c) With respect to awards made in fiscal years 2013 through 2015, the Secretary shall also include on the Web site established under subsection (a), semi-annual reports from each entity awarded a grant, cooperative agreement, or contract from such funds with a value of \$25,000 or more, summarizing the activities undertaken and identifying any sub-grants or sub-contracts awarded (including the purpose of the award and the identity of the recipient), to be posted not later than 30 days after the end of each 6-month period.

(d) In carrying out this section, the Secretary shall:

(1) present the information required in subsection (b)(1) on a single webpage or on a single database;

(2) ensure that all information required in this section is directly accessible from the single webpage or database; and

(3) ensure that all information required in this section is able to be organized by program or State.

#### (TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 219. (a) Within 45 days of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall transfer funds appropriated under section 4002 of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010 (“ACA”) to the accounts specified, in the amounts specified, and for the activities specified under the heading “Prevention and

Public Health Fund” in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this Consolidated Act) accompanying this Act.

(b) Notwithstanding section 4002(c) of the ACA, the Secretary may not further transfer these amounts.

(c) Funds transferred for activities authorized under section 2821 of the PHS Act shall be made available without reference to section 2821(b) of such Act.

SEC. 220. (a) The Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority (“BARDA”) may enter into a contract, for more than one but no more than 10 program years, for purchase of research services or of security countermeasures, as that term is defined in section 319F–2(c)(1)(B) of the PHS Act (42 U.S.C. 247d–6b(c)(1)(B)), if—

(1) funds are available and obligated—

(A) for the full period of the contract or for the first fiscal year in which the contract is in effect; and

(B) for the estimated costs associated with a necessary termination of the contract; and

(2) the Secretary determines that a multi-year contract will serve the best interests of the Federal Government by encouraging full and open competition or promoting economy in administration, performance, and operation of BARDA’s programs.

(b) A contract entered into under this section:

(1) shall include a termination clause as described by subsection (c) of section 3903 of title 41, United States Code; and

(2) shall be subject to the congressional notice requirement stated in subsection (d) of such section.

SEC. 221. (a) The Secretary shall publish in the fiscal year 2016 budget justification and on Departmental Web sites information concerning the employment of full-time equivalent Federal employees or contractors for the purposes of implementing, administering, enforcing, or otherwise carrying out the provisions of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010 (“ACA”), and the amendments made by that Act, in the proposed fiscal year and the 4 prior fiscal years.

(b) With respect to employees or contractors supported by all funds appropriated for purposes of carrying out the ACA (and the amendments made by that Act), the Secretary shall include, at a minimum, the following information:

(1) For each such fiscal year, the section of such Act under which such funds were appropriated, a statement indicating the program, project, or activity receiving such funds, the Federal operating division or office that administers such program, and the amount of funding received in discretionary or mandatory appropriations.

(2) For each such fiscal year, the number of full-time equivalent employees or contracted employees assigned to each authorized and funded provision detailed in accordance with paragraph (1).

(c) In carrying out this section, the Secretary may exclude from the report employees or contractors who:

(1) Are supported through appropriations enacted in laws other than the ACA and work on programs that existed prior to the passage of the ACA;

(2) spend less than 50 percent of their time on activities funded by or newly authorized in the ACA;

(3) or who work on contracts for which FTE reporting is not a requirement of their contract, such as fixed-price contracts.

SEC. 222. In addition to the amounts otherwise available for “Centers for Medicare and

Medicaid Services, Program Management”, the Secretary of Health and Human Services may transfer up to \$305,000,000 to such account from the Federal Hospital Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Supplementary Medical Insurance Trust Fund to support program management activity related to the Medicare Program: *Provided*, That except for the foregoing purpose, such funds may not be used to support any provision of Public Law 111–148 or Public Law 111–152 (or any amendment made by either such Public Law) or to supplant any other amounts within such account.

SEC. 223. In lieu of the timeframe specified in section 338E(c)(2) of the PHS Act, terminations described in such section may occur up to 60 days after the execution of a contract awarded in fiscal year 2015 under section 338B of such Act.

SEC. 224. Title IV of the PHS Act is amended by:

(1) Striking “National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine” in each place it appears and replacing it with “National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health”;

(2) Striking “alternative medicine” in each place it appears and replacing it with “integrative health”;

(3) Striking all references to “alternative and complementary medical treatment” or “complementary and alternative treatment” in each place either appears and inserting “complementary and integrative health”;

(4) Striking references to “alternative medical treatment” in each place it appears and inserting “integrative health treatment”; and

(5) Striking section 485D(c) and inserting: “(c) In carrying out subsection (a), the Director of the Center shall, as appropriate, study the integration of new and non-traditional approaches to health care treatment and consumption, including but not limited to non-traditional treatment, diagnostic and prevention systems, modalities, and disciplines.”

SEC. 225. In addition to amounts provided herein, payments made for research organisms or substances, authorized under section 301(a) of the PHS Act, shall be retained and credited to the appropriations accounts of the Institutes and Centers of the NIH making the substance or organism available under section 301(a). Amounts credited to the account under this authority shall be available for obligation through September 30, 2016.

SEC. 226. The Secretary shall publish, as part of the fiscal year 2016 budget of the President submitted under section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code, information that details the uses of all funds used by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services specifically for Health Insurance Marketplaces for each fiscal year since the enactment of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (Public Law 111–148) and the proposed uses for such funds for fiscal year 2016. Such information shall include, for each such fiscal year—

(1) the amount of funds used for each activity specified under the heading “Health Insurance Marketplace Transparency” in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this Consolidated Act) accompanying this Act; and

(2) the milestones completed for data hub functionality and implementation readiness.

SEC. 227. None of the funds made available by this Act from the Federal Hospital Insurance Trust Fund or the Federal Supplementary Medical Insurance Trust Fund, or

transferred from other accounts funded by this Act to the “Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services—Program Management” account, may be used for payments under section 1342(b)(1) of Public Law 111–148 (relating to risk corridors).

SEC. 228. (a) Subject to the succeeding provisions of this section, activities authorized under part A of title IV and section 1108(b) of the Social Security Act shall continue through September 30, 2015, in the manner authorized for fiscal year 2014, and out of any money in the Treasury of the United States not otherwise appropriated, there are hereby appropriated such sums as may be necessary for such purpose. Grants and payments may be made pursuant to this authority through September 30, 2015, at the level provided for such activities for fiscal year 2014, except as provided in subsections (b) and (c).

(b) In the case of the Contingency Fund for State Welfare Programs established under section 403(b) of the Social Security Act—

(1) the amount appropriated for section 403(b) of such Act shall be \$608,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2015 and 2016;

(2) the requirement to reserve funds provided for in section 403(b)(2) of such Act shall not apply during fiscal years 2015 and 2016; and

(3) grants and payments may only be made from such Fund for fiscal year 2015 after the application of subsection (d).

(c) In the case of research, evaluations, and national studies funded under section 413(h)(1) of the Social Security Act, no funds shall be appropriated under that section for fiscal year 2015 or any fiscal year thereafter.

(d) Of the amount made available under subsection (b)(1) for section 403(b) of the Social Security Act for fiscal year 2015—

(1) \$15,000,000 is hereby transferred and made available to carry out section 413(h) of the Social Security Act; and

(2) \$10,000,000 is hereby transferred and made available to the Bureau of the Census to conduct activities using the Survey of Income and Program Participation to obtain information to enable interested parties to evaluate the impact of the amendments made by title I of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996.

(e) Section 413(h)(1) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 613(h)(1)) is amended, in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “Out of any money in the Treasury of the United States not otherwise appropriated, there are appropriated \$15,000,000 for fiscal year 2012” and inserting “Funds made available to carry out this section for a fiscal year shall be used”.

(f) Section 414 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 614) is repealed.

(g) Expenditures made pursuant to Public Law 113–164 for section 403(b) of the Social Security Act for fiscal year 2015 shall be charged to the appropriation provided by subsection (b)(1) for such fiscal year.

SEC. 229. The remaining unobligated balances of the amount appropriated for fiscal year 2015 by section 510(d) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 710(d)) for which no application has been received by the Funding Opportunity Announcement deadline, shall be made available to States that require the implementation of each element described in subparagraphs (A) through (H) of the definition of abstinence education in section 510(b)(2). The remaining unobligated balances shall be reallocated to such States that submit a valid application consistent with the original formula for this funding.

SEC. 230. Hereafter, for each fiscal year through fiscal year 2025, the Director of the

National Institutes of Health shall prepare and submit directly to the President for review and transmittal to Congress, after reasonable opportunity for comment, but without change, by the Secretary of Health and Human Services and the Advisory Council on Alzheimer’s Research, Care, and Services, an annual budget estimate (including an estimate of the number and type of personnel needs for the Institutes) for the initiatives of the National Institutes of Health pursuant to the National Alzheimer’s Plan, as required under section 2(d)(2) of Public Law 111–375.

This title may be cited as the “Department of Health and Human Services Appropriations Act, 2015”.

#### TITLE III

##### DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION EDUCATION FOR THE DISADVANTAGED

For carrying out title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (referred to in this Act as “ESEA”) and section 418A of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (referred to in this Act as “HEA”), \$15,536,107,000, of which \$4,652,762,000 shall become available on July 1, 2015, and shall remain available through September 30, 2016, and of which \$10,841,177,000 shall become available on October 1, 2015, and shall remain available through September 30, 2016, for academic year 2015–2016: *Provided*, That \$6,459,401,000 shall be for basic grants under section 1124 of the ESEA: *Provided further*, That up to \$3,984,000 of these funds shall be available to the Secretary of Education (referred to in this title as “Secretary”) on October 1, 2014, to obtain annually updated local educational agency-level census poverty data from the Bureau of the Census: *Provided further*, That \$1,362,301,000 shall be for concentration grants under section 1124A of the ESEA: *Provided further*, That \$3,294,050,000 shall be for targeted grants under section 1125 of the ESEA: *Provided further*, That \$3,294,050,000 shall be for education finance incentive grants under section 1125A of the ESEA: *Provided further*, That funds available under sections 1124, 1124A, 1125 and 1125A of the ESEA may be used to provide homeless children and youths with services not ordinarily provided to other students under those sections, including supporting the liaison designated pursuant to section 722(g)(1)(J)(ii) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, and providing transportation pursuant to section 722(g)(1)(J)(iii) of such Act: *Provided further*, That \$710,000 shall be to carry out sections 1501 and 1503 of the ESEA: *Provided further*, That \$505,756,000 shall be available for school improvement grants under section 1003(g) of the ESEA, which shall be allocated by the Secretary through the formula described in section 1003(g)(2) and shall be used consistent with the requirements of section 1003(g), except that State and local educational agencies may use such funds to serve any school eligible to receive assistance under part A of title I that has not made adequate yearly progress for at least 2 years or is in the State’s lowest quintile of performance based on proficiency rates and, in the case of secondary schools, priority shall be given to those schools with graduation rates below 60 percent: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding section 1003(g)(5)(C) of the ESEA, the Secretary may permit a State educational agency to establish an award period of up to 5 years for each participating local educational agency: *Provided further*, That funds available for school improvement grants for fiscal year 2014 and thereafter may be used by a local educational agency to implement a whole-school

reform strategy for a school using an evidence-based strategy that ensures whole-school reform is undertaken in partnership with a strategy developer offering a whole-school reform program that is based on at least a moderate level of evidence that the program will have a statistically significant effect on student outcomes, including at least one well-designed and well-implemented experimental or quasi-experimental study: *Provided further*, That funds available for school improvement grants may be used by a local educational agency to implement an alternative State-determined school improvement strategy that has been established by a State educational agency with the approval of the Secretary: *Provided further*, That a local educational agency that is determined to be eligible for services under subpart 1 or 2 of part B of title VI of the ESEA may modify not more than one element of a school improvement grant model: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding section 1003(g)(5)(A), each State educational agency may establish a maximum subgrant size of not more than \$2,000,000 for each participating school applicable to such funds: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may reserve up to 5 percent of the funds available for section 1003(g) of the ESEA to carry out activities to build State and local educational agency capacity to implement effectively the school improvement grants program: *Provided further*, That \$160,000,000 shall be available under section 1502 of the ESEA for a comprehensive literacy development and education program to advance literacy skills, including pre-literacy skills, reading, and writing, for students from birth through grade 12, including limited-English-proficient students and students with disabilities, of which one-half of 1 percent shall be reserved for the Secretary of the Interior for such a program at schools funded by the Bureau of Indian Education, one-half of 1 percent shall be reserved for grants to the outlying areas for such a program, up to 5 percent may be reserved for national activities, and the remainder shall be used to award competitive grants to State educational agencies for such a program, of which a State educational agency may reserve up to 5 percent for State leadership activities, including technical assistance and training, data collection, reporting, and administration, and shall subgrant not less than 95 percent to local educational agencies or, in the case of early literacy, to local educational agencies or other nonprofit providers of early childhood education that partner with a public or private nonprofit organization or agency with a demonstrated record of effectiveness in improving the early literacy development of children from birth through kindergarten entry and in providing professional development in early literacy, giving priority to such agencies or other entities serving greater numbers or percentages of disadvantaged children: *Provided further*, That the State educational agency shall ensure that at least 15 percent of the subgranted funds are used to serve children from birth through age 5, 40 percent are used to serve students in kindergarten through grade 5, and 40 percent are used to serve students in middle and high school including an equitable distribution of funds between middle and high schools: *Provided further*, That eligible entities receiving subgrants from State educational agencies shall use such funds for services and activities that have the characteristics of effective literacy instruction through professional development, screening and assessment, targeted interventions for students reading below grade level



and other research-based methods of improving classroom instruction and practice: *Provided further*, That \$37,474,000 shall be for carrying out section 418A of the HEA.

#### IMPACT AID

For carrying out programs of financial assistance to federally affected schools authorized by title VIII of the ESEA, \$1,288,603,000, of which \$1,151,233,000 shall be for basic support payments under section 8003(b), \$48,316,000 shall be for payments for children with disabilities under section 8003(d), \$17,406,000 shall be for construction under section 8007(b) and be available for obligation through September 30, 2016, \$66,813,000 shall be for Federal property payments under section 8002, and \$4,835,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for facilities maintenance under section 8008: *Provided*, That for purposes of computing the amount of a payment for an eligible local educational agency under section 8003(a) for school year 2014–2015, children enrolled in a school of such agency that would otherwise be eligible for payment under section 8003(a)(1)(B) of such Act, but due to the deployment of both parents or legal guardians, or a parent or legal guardian having sole custody of such children, or due to the death of a military parent or legal guardian while on active duty (so long as such children reside on Federal property as described in section 8003(a)(1)(B)), are no longer eligible under such section, shall be considered as eligible students under such section, provided such students remain in average daily attendance at a school in the same local educational agency they attended prior to their change in eligibility status.

#### SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS

For carrying out school improvement activities authorized by parts A and B of title II, part B of title IV, parts A and B of title VI, and parts B and C of title VII of the ESEA; the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act; section 203 of the Educational Technical Assistance Act of 2002; the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003; and the Civil Rights Act of 1964, \$4,402,671,000, of which \$2,585,661,000 shall become available on July 1, 2015, and remain available through September 30, 2016, and of which \$1,681,441,000 shall become available on October 1, 2015, and shall remain available through September 30, 2016, for academic year 2015–2016: *Provided*, That funds made available to carry out part B of title VII of the ESEA may be used for construction, renovation, and modernization of any elementary school, secondary school, or structure related to an elementary school or secondary school, run by the Department of Education of the State of Hawaii, that serves a predominantly Native Hawaiian student body: *Provided further*, That funds made available to carry out part C of title VII of the ESEA shall be awarded on a competitive basis, and also may be used for construction: *Provided further*, That \$48,445,000 shall be available to carry out section 203 of the Educational Technical Assistance Act of 2002: *Provided further*, That \$16,699,000 shall be available to carry out the Supplemental Education Grants program for the Federated States of Micronesia and the Republic of the Marshall Islands: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may reserve up to 5 percent of the amount referred to in the previous proviso to provide technical assistance in the implementation of these grants: *Provided further*, That up to 2.3 percent of the funds for subpart 1 of part A of title II of the ESEA shall be reserved by the Secretary for competitive awards for

teacher or principal recruitment and training or professional enhancement activities, including for civic education instruction, to national not-for-profit organizations, of which up to 8 percent may only be used for research, dissemination, evaluation, and technical assistance for competitive awards carried out under this proviso: *Provided further*, That \$152,717,000 shall be to carry out part B of title II of the ESEA.

#### INDIAN EDUCATION

For expenses necessary to carry out, to the extent not otherwise provided, title VII, part A of the ESEA, \$123,939,000.

#### INNOVATION AND IMPROVEMENT

For carrying out activities authorized by part G of title I, subpart 5 of part A and parts C and D of title II, parts B, C, and D of title V of the ESEA, and section 14007 of division A of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, as amended, \$1,102,111,000: *Provided*, That up to \$120,000,000 shall be available through December 31, 2015 for section 14007 of division A of Public Law 111–5, and up to 5 percent of such funds may be used for technical assistance and the evaluation of activities carried out under such section: *Provided further*, That the education facilities clearinghouse established through a competitive award process in fiscal year 2013 is authorized to collect and disseminate information on effective educational practices and the latest research regarding the planning, design, financing, construction, improvement, operation, and maintenance of safe, healthy, high-performance public facilities for early learning programs, kindergarten through grade 12, and higher education: *Provided further*, That \$230,000,000 of the funds for subpart 1 of part D of title V of the ESEA shall be for competitive grants to local educational agencies, including charter schools that are local educational agencies, or States, or partnerships of: (1) a local educational agency, a State, or both; and (2) at least one nonprofit organization to develop and implement performance-based compensation systems for teachers, principals, and other personnel in high-need schools: *Provided further*, That such performance-based compensation systems must consider gains in student academic achievement as well as classroom evaluations conducted multiple times during each school year among other factors and provide educators with incentives to take on additional responsibilities and leadership roles: *Provided further*, That recipients of such grants shall demonstrate that such performance-based compensation systems are developed with the input of teachers and school leaders in the schools and local educational agencies to be served by the grant: *Provided further*, That recipients of such grants may use such funds to develop or improve systems and tools (which may be developed and used for the entire local educational agency or only for schools served under the grant) that would enhance the quality and success of the compensation system, such as high-quality teacher evaluations and tools to measure growth in student achievement: *Provided further*, That applications for such grants shall include a plan to sustain financially the activities conducted and systems developed under the grant once the grant period has expired: *Provided further*, That up to 5 percent of such funds for competitive grants shall be available for technical assistance, training, peer review of applications, program outreach, and evaluation activities: *Provided further*, That \$250,000,000 of the funds for part D of title V of the ESEA shall be available

through December 31, 2015 for carrying out, in accordance with the applicable requirements of part D of title V of the ESEA, a preschool development grants program: *Provided further*, That the Secretary, jointly with the Secretary of HHS, shall make competitive awards to States for activities that build the capacity within the State to develop, enhance, or expand high-quality preschool programs, including comprehensive services and family engagement, for preschool-aged children from families at or below 200 percent of the Federal poverty line: *Provided further*, That each State may subgrant a portion of such grant funds to local educational agencies and other early learning providers (including, but not limited to, Head Start programs and licensed child care providers), or consortia thereof, for the implementation of high-quality preschool programs for children from families at or below 200 percent of the Federal poverty line: *Provided further*, That subgrantees that are local educational agencies shall form strong partnerships with early learning providers and that subgrantees that are early learning providers shall form strong partnerships with local educational agencies, in order to carry out the requirements of the subgrant: *Provided further*, That up to 3 percent of such funds for preschool development grants shall be available for technical assistance, evaluation, and other national activities related to such grants: *Provided further*, That \$10,000,000 of funds available under part D of title V of the ESEA shall be for the Full-Service Community Schools program: *Provided further*, That of the funds available for part B of title V of the ESEA, the Secretary shall use up to \$11,000,000 to carry out activities under section 5205(b) and shall use not less than \$13,000,000 for subpart 2: *Provided further*, That of the funds available for subpart 1 of part B of title V of the ESEA, and notwithstanding section 5205(a), the Secretary shall reserve up to \$75,000,000 to make multiple awards to non-profit charter management organizations and other entities that are not for-profit entities for the replication and expansion of successful charter school models and shall reserve not less than \$11,000,000 to carry out the activities described in section 5205(a), including improving quality and oversight of charter schools and providing technical assistance and grants to authorized public chartering agencies in order to increase the number of high-performing charter schools: *Provided further*, That funds available for part B of title V of the ESEA may be used for grants that support preschool education in charter schools: *Provided further*, That each application submitted pursuant to section 5203(a) shall describe a plan to monitor and hold accountable authorized public chartering agencies through such activities as providing technical assistance or establishing a professional development program, which may include evaluation, planning, training, and systems development for staff of authorized public chartering agencies to improve the capacity of such agencies in the State to authorize, monitor, and hold accountable charter schools: *Provided further*, That each application submitted pursuant to section 5203(a) shall contain assurances that State law, regulations, or other policies require that: (1) each authorized charter school in the State operate under a legally binding charter or performance contract between itself and the school's authorized public chartering agency that describes the rights and responsibilities of the school and the public chartering agency; conduct annual, timely, and independent audits of

the school's financial statements that are filed with the school's authorized public chartering agency; and demonstrate improved student academic achievement; and (2) authorized public chartering agencies use increases in student academic achievement for all groups of students described in section 1111(b)(2)(C)(v) of the ESEA as one of the most important factors when determining to renew or revoke a school's charter.

#### SAFE SCHOOLS AND CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION

For carrying out activities authorized by part A of title IV and subparts 1, 2, and 10 of part D of title V of the ESEA, \$223,315,000: *Provided*, That \$70,000,000 shall be available for subpart 2 of part A of title IV, of which up to \$5,000,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for the Project School Emergency Response to Violence ("Project SERV") program to provide education-related services to local educational agencies and institutions of higher education in which the learning environment has been disrupted due to a violent or traumatic crisis: *Provided further*, That \$56,754,000 shall be available through December 31, 2015 for Promise Neighborhoods.

#### ENGLISH LANGUAGE ACQUISITION

For carrying out part A of title III of the ESEA, \$737,400,000, which shall become available on July 1, 2015, and shall remain available through September 30, 2016, except that 6.5 percent of such amount shall be available on October 1, 2014, and shall remain available through September 30, 2016, to carry out activities under section 3111(c)(1)(C): *Provided*, That the Secretary shall use estimates of the American Community Survey child counts for the most recent 3-year period available to calculate allocations under such part: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall use \$14,000,000 of funds available under this paragraph for grants to all State educational agencies within States with at least one county where 50 or more unaccompanied children have been released to sponsors since January 1, 2014, through the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Refugee Resettlement: *Provided further*, That awards to eligible State educational agencies shall be based on the State's relative share of unaccompanied children that have been released to sponsors since January 1, 2014: *Provided further*, That the data on unaccompanied children used by the Secretary under the two preceding provisos shall be the most recently available data from the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Refugee Resettlement, as of the date of enactment of this Act: *Provided further*, That each eligible State educational agency that receives a grant shall award subgrants to local educational agencies in the State that have experienced a significant increase during the 2014-2015 school year, as determined by the State educational agency, compared to the average of the 2 preceding school years, in the number or percentage of immigrant children and youth enrolled in their schools: *Provided further*, That local educational agencies shall use those subgrants for supplemental academic and non-academic services and supports to immigrant children and youth: *Provided further*, That the term "immigrant children and youth" has the meaning given in section 3301 of the ESEA, and the terms "State educational agency" and "local educational agency" have the meanings given to them in section 9101 of the ESEA: *Provided further*, That each eligible State educational agency shall prepare and submit to the Secretary not later than 1 year after the award a report identifying the local educational

agencies that received subgrants, the State's definition of "significant increase" used to award the subgrants; and such other information as the Secretary may require.

#### SPECIAL EDUCATION

For carrying out the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and the Special Olympics Sport and Empowerment Act of 2004, \$12,522,358,000, of which \$3,006,259,000 shall become available on July 1, 2015, and shall remain available through September 30, 2016, and of which \$9,283,383,000 shall become available on October 1, 2015, and shall remain available through September 30, 2016, for academic year 2015-2016: *Provided*, That the amount for section 611(b)(2) of the IDEA shall be equal to the lesser of the amount available for that activity during fiscal year 2014, increased by the amount of inflation as specified in section 619(d)(2)(B) of the IDEA, or the percent change in the funds appropriated under section 611(i) of the IDEA, but not less than the amount for that activity during fiscal year 2014: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall, without regard to section 611(d) of the IDEA, distribute to all other States (as that term is defined in section 611(g)(2)), subject to the third proviso, any amount by which a State's allocation under section 611(d), from funds appropriated under this heading, is reduced under section 612(a)(18)(B), according to the following: 85 percent on the basis of the States' relative populations of children aged 3 through 21 who are of the same age as children with disabilities for whom the State ensures the availability of a free appropriate public education under this part, and 15 percent to States on the basis of the States' relative populations of those children who are living in poverty: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may not distribute any funds under the previous proviso to any State whose reduction in allocation from funds appropriated under this heading made funds available for such a distribution: *Provided further*, That the States shall allocate such funds distributed under the second proviso to local educational agencies in accordance with section 611(f): *Provided further*, That the amount by which a State's allocation under section 611(d) of the IDEA is reduced under section 612(a)(18)(B) and the amounts distributed to States under the previous provisos in fiscal year 2012 or any subsequent year shall not be considered in calculating the awards under section 611(d) for fiscal year 2013 or for any subsequent fiscal years: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding the provision in section 612(a)(18)(B) regarding the fiscal year in which a State's allocation under section 611(d) is reduced for failure to comply with the requirement of section 612(a)(18)(A), the Secretary may apply the reduction specified in section 612(a)(18)(B) over a period of consecutive fiscal years, not to exceed five, until the entire reduction is applied: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may, in any fiscal year in which a State's allocation under section 611 is reduced in accordance with section 612(a)(18)(B), reduce the amount a State may reserve under section 611(e)(1) by an amount that bears the same relation to the maximum amount described in that paragraph as the reduction under section 612(a)(18)(B) bears to the total allocation the State would have received in that fiscal year under section 611(d) in the absence of the reduction: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall either reduce the allocation of funds under section 611 for any fiscal year following the fiscal year for which the State fails to comply with the requirement of section 612(a)(18)(A) as authorized by section

612(a)(18)(B), or seek to recover funds under section 452 of the General Education Provisions Act (20 U.S.C. 1234a): *Provided further*, That the funds reserved under 611(c) of the IDEA may be used to provide technical assistance to States to improve the capacity of the States to meet the data collection requirements of sections 616 and 618 and to administer and carry out other services and activities to improve data collection, coordination, quality, and use under parts B and C of the IDEA: *Provided further*, That the level of effort a local educational agency must meet under section 613(a)(2)(A)(iii) of the IDEA, in the year after it fails to maintain effort is the level of effort that would have been required in the absence of that failure and not the LEA's reduced level of expenditures: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may use funds made available for the State Personnel Development Grants program under part D, subpart 1 of IDEA to evaluate program performance under such subpart.

#### REHABILITATION SERVICES AND DISABILITY RESEARCH

For carrying out, to the extent not otherwise provided, the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Assistive Technology Act of 1998, and the Helen Keller National Center Act, \$3,709,853,000, of which \$3,335,074,000 shall be for grants for vocational rehabilitation services under title I of the Rehabilitation Act: *Provided*, That the Secretary may use amounts provided in this Act that remain available subsequent to the reallocation of funds to States pursuant to section 110(b) of the Rehabilitation Act for innovative activities aimed at improving the outcomes of individuals with disabilities as defined in section 7(20)(B) of the Rehabilitation Act, including activities aimed at improving the education and post-school outcomes of children receiving Supplemental Security Income ("SSI") and their families that may result in long-term improvement in the SSI child recipient's economic status and self-sufficiency: *Provided further*, That States may award subgrants for a portion of the funds to other public and private, non-profit entities: *Provided further*, That any funds made available subsequent to reallocation for innovative activities aimed at improving the outcomes of individuals with disabilities shall remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided further*, That \$2,000,000 shall be for competitive grants to support alternative financing programs that provide for the purchase of assistive technology devices, such as a low-interest loan fund; an interest buy-down program; a revolving loan fund; a loan guarantee; or insurance program: *Provided further*, That applicants shall provide an assurance that, and information describing the manner in which, the alternative financing program will expand and emphasize consumer choice and control: *Provided further*, That State agencies and community-based disability organizations that are directed by and operated for individuals with disabilities shall be eligible to compete.

#### SPECIAL INSTITUTIONS FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

##### AMERICAN PRINTING HOUSE FOR THE BLIND

For carrying out the Act of March 3, 1879, \$24,931,000.

##### NATIONAL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE FOR THE DEAF

For the National Technical Institute for the Deaf under titles I and II of the Education of the Deaf Act of 1986, \$67,016,000: *Provided*, That from the total amount available, the Institute may at its discretion use funds for the endowment program as authorized under section 207 of such Act.



## GALLAUDET UNIVERSITY

For the Kendall Demonstration Elementary School, the Model Secondary School for the Deaf, and the partial support of Gallaudet University under titles I and II of the Education of the Deaf Act of 1986, \$120,275,000: *Provided*, That from the total amount available, the University may at its discretion use funds for the endowment program as authorized under section 207 of such Act.

## CAREER, TECHNICAL, AND ADULT EDUCATION

For carrying out, to the extent not otherwise provided, the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 and the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act ("AEFLA"), \$1,707,686,000, of which \$916,686,000 shall become available on July 1, 2015, and shall remain available through September 30, 2016, and of which \$791,000,000 shall become available on October 1, 2015, and shall remain available through September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That of the amount provided for Adult Education State Grants, \$71,439,000 shall be made available for integrated English literacy and civics education services to immigrants and other limited-English-proficient populations: *Provided further*, That of the amount reserved for integrated English literacy and civics education, notwithstanding section 211 of the AEFLA, 65 percent shall be allocated to States based on a State's absolute need as determined by calculating each State's share of a 10-year average of the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services data for immigrants admitted for legal permanent residence for the 10 most recent years, and 35 percent allocated to States that experienced growth as measured by the average of the 3 most recent years for which United States Citizenship and Immigration Services data for immigrants admitted for legal permanent residence are available, except that no State shall be allocated an amount less than \$60,000: *Provided further*, That of the amounts made available for AEFLA, \$13,712,000 shall be for national leadership activities under section 243.

## STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

For carrying out subparts 1, 3, and 10 of part A, and part C of title IV of the HEA, \$24,198,210,000, which shall remain available through September 30, 2016.

The maximum Pell Grant for which a student shall be eligible during award year 2015–2016 shall be \$4,860.

## STUDENT AID ADMINISTRATION

For Federal administrative expenses to carry out part D of title I, and subparts 1, 3, 9, and 10 of part A, and parts B, C, D, and E of title IV of the HEA, and subpart 1 of part A of title VII of the Public Health Service Act, \$1,396,924,000, to remain available through September 30, 2016.

## HIGHER EDUCATION

For carrying out, to the extent not otherwise provided, titles II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, and VIII of the HEA, the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961, and section 117 of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006, \$1,924,839,000: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, funds made available in this Act to carry out title VI of the HEA and section 102(b)(6) of the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961 may be used to support visits and study in foreign countries by individuals who are participating in advanced foreign language training and international studies in areas that are vital to United States national se-

curity and who plan to apply their language skills and knowledge of these countries in the fields of government, the professions, or international development: *Provided further*, That of the funds referred to in the preceding proviso up to 1 percent may be used for program evaluation, national outreach, and information dissemination activities: *Provided further*, That up to 1.5 percent of the funds made available under chapter 2 of subpart 2 of part A of title IV of the HEA may be used for evaluation: *Provided further*, That up to 2.5 percent of the funds made available under this Act for part B of title VII of the HEA may be used for technical assistance and the evaluation of activities carried out under such section.

## HOWARD UNIVERSITY

For partial support of Howard University, \$221,821,000, of which not less than \$3,405,000 shall be for a matching endowment grant pursuant to the Howard University Endowment Act and shall remain available until expended.

COLLEGE HOUSING AND ACADEMIC FACILITIES  
LOANS PROGRAM

For Federal administrative expenses to carry out activities related to existing facility loans pursuant to section 121 of the HEA, \$435,000.

## HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY CAPITAL FINANCING PROGRAM ACCOUNT

For the cost of guaranteed loans, \$19,096,000, as authorized pursuant to part D of title III of the HEA, which shall remain available through September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That such costs, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974: *Provided further*, That these funds are available to subsidize total loan principal, any part of which is to be guaranteed, not to exceed \$303,593,000: *Provided further*, That these funds may be used to support loans to public and private Historically Black Colleges and Universities without regard to the limitations within section 344(a) of the HEA.

In addition, for administrative expenses to carry out the Historically Black College and University Capital Financing Program entered into pursuant to part D of title III of the HEA, \$334,000.

## INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION SCIENCES

For carrying out activities authorized by the Education Sciences Reform Act of 2002, the National Assessment of Educational Progress Authorization Act, section 208 of the Educational Technical Assistance Act of 2002, and section 664 of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, \$573,935,000, which shall remain available through September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That funds available to carry out section 208 of the Educational Technical Assistance Act may be used to link Statewide elementary and secondary data systems with early childhood, postsecondary, and workforce data systems, or to further develop such systems: *Provided further*, That up to \$6,000,000 of the funds available to carry out section 208 of the Educational Technical Assistance Act may be used for awards to public or private organizations or agencies to support activities to improve data coordination, quality, and use at the local, State, and national levels: *Provided further*, That \$137,235,000 shall be for carrying out activities authorized by the National Assessment of Educational Progress Authorization Act.

DEPARTMENTAL MANAGEMENT  
PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

For carrying out, to the extent not otherwise provided, the Department of Education

Organization Act, including rental of conference rooms in the District of Columbia and hire of three passenger motor vehicles, \$411,000,000, of which up to \$1,000,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for relocation of, and renovation of buildings occupied by, Department staff.

## OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS

For expenses necessary for the Office for Civil Rights, as authorized by section 203 of the Department of Education Organization Act, \$100,000,000.

## OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For expenses necessary for the Office of Inspector General, as authorized by section 212 of the Department of Education Organization Act, \$57,791,000.

## GENERAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 301. No funds appropriated in this Act may be used for the transportation of students or teachers (or for the purchase of equipment for such transportation) in order to overcome racial imbalance in any school or school system, or for the transportation of students or teachers (or for the purchase of equipment for such transportation) in order to carry out a plan of racial desegregation of any school or school system.

SEC. 302. None of the funds contained in this Act shall be used to require, directly or indirectly, the transportation of any student to a school other than the school which is nearest the student's home, except for a student requiring special education, to the school offering such special education, in order to comply with title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. For the purpose of this section an indirect requirement of transportation of students includes the transportation of students to carry out a plan involving the reorganization of the grade structure of schools, the pairing of schools, or the clustering of schools, or any combination of grade restructuring, pairing, or clustering. The prohibition described in this section does not include the establishment of magnet schools.

SEC. 303. No funds appropriated in this Act may be used to prevent the implementation of programs of voluntary prayer and meditation in the public schools.

## (TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 304. Not to exceed 1 percent of any discretionary funds (pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985) which are appropriated for the Department of Education in this Act may be transferred between appropriations, but no such appropriation shall be increased by more than 3 percent by any such transfer: *Provided*, That the transfer authority granted by this section shall not be used to create any new program or to fund any project or activity for which no funds are provided in this Act: *Provided further*, That the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate are notified at least 15 days in advance of any transfer.

SEC. 305. The Outlying Areas may consolidate funds received under this Act, pursuant to 48 U.S.C. 1469a, under part A of title V of the ESEA.

SEC. 306. Section 105(f)(1)(B)(ix) of the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003 (48 U.S.C. 1921d(f)(1)(B)(ix)) shall be applied by substituting "2015" for "2009".

SEC. 307. The Secretary, in consultation with the Director of the Institute of Education Sciences, may reserve funds under section 9601 of the ESEA (subject to the limitations in subsections (b) and (c) of that section) in order to carry out activities authorized under paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (a) of that section with respect to

any ESEA program funded in this Act and without respect to the source of funds for those activities: *Provided*, That high-quality evaluations of ESEA programs shall be prioritized, before using funds for any other evaluation activities: *Provided further*, That any funds reserved under this section shall be available from July 1, 2015 through September 30, 2016: *Provided further*, That not later than 10 days prior to the initial obligation of funds reserved under this section, the Secretary, in consultation with the Director, shall submit an evaluation plan to the Senate Committees on Appropriations and Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions and the House Committees on Appropriations and Education and the Workforce which identifies the source and amount of funds reserved under this section, the impact on program grantees if funds are withheld, the programs to be evaluated with such funds, how ESEA programs will be regularly evaluated, and how findings from evaluations completed under this section will be widely disseminated.

SEC. 308. The Secretary of Education shall—

(1) modify the Free Application for Federal Student Aid described in section 483 of the HEA so that the Free Application for Federal Student Aid contains an individual box for the purpose of identifying students who are foster youth or were in the foster care system; and

(2) utilize such identification as a tool to notify students who are foster youth or were in the foster care system of their potential eligibility for Federal student aid, including postsecondary education programs through the John H. Chafee Foster Care Independence Program and any other Federal programs under which such students may be eligible to receive assistance.

SEC. 309. (a) STUDENT ELIGIBILITY.—

(1) Subsection (d) of section 484 of the HEA is amended to read as follows:

“(d) STUDENTS WHO ARE NOT HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES.—

“(1) STUDENT ELIGIBILITY.—In order for a student who does not have a certificate of graduation from a school providing secondary education, or the recognized equivalent of such certificate, to be eligible for any assistance under subparts 1, 3, and 4 of part A and parts B, C, D, and E of this title, the student shall meet the requirements of one of the following subparagraphs:

“(A) The student is enrolled in an eligible career pathway program and meets one of the following standards:

“(i) The student shall take an independently administered examination and shall achieve a score, specified by the Secretary, demonstrating that such student can benefit from the education or training being offered. Such examination shall be approved by the Secretary on the basis of compliance with such standards for development, administration, and scoring as the Secretary may prescribe in regulations.

“(ii) The student shall be determined as having the ability to benefit from the education or training in accordance with such process as the State shall prescribe. Any such process described or approved by a State for the purposes of this section shall be effective 6 months after the date of submission to the Secretary unless the Secretary disapproves such process. In determining whether to approve or disapprove such process, the Secretary shall take into account the effectiveness of such process in enabling students without secondary school diplomas or the equivalent thereof to benefit from the

instruction offered by institutions utilizing such process, and shall also take into account the cultural diversity, economic circumstances, and educational preparation of the populations served by the institutions.

“(iii) The student shall be determined by the institution of higher education as having the ability to benefit from the education or training offered by the institution of higher education upon satisfactory completion of 6 credit hours or the equivalent coursework that are applicable toward a degree or certificate offered by the institution of higher education.

“(B) The student has completed a secondary school education in a home school setting that is treated as a home school or private school under State law.

“(2) ELIGIBLE CAREER PATHWAY PROGRAM.—In this subsection, the term ‘eligible career pathway program’ means a program that—

“(A) concurrently enrolls participants in connected adult education and eligible postsecondary programs;

“(B) provides counseling and supportive services to identify and attain academic and career goals;

“(C) provides structured course sequences that—

“(i) are articulated and contextualized; and

“(ii) allow students to advance to higher levels of education and employment;

“(D) provides opportunities for acceleration to attain recognized postsecondary credentials, including degrees, industry relevant certifications, and certificates of completion of apprenticeship programs;

“(E) is organized to meet the needs of adults;

“(F) is aligned with the education and skill needs of the regional economy; and

“(G) has been developed and implemented in collaboration with partners in business, workforce development, and economic development.”

(2) The amendment made by paragraph (1) shall take effect as if such amendment was enacted on June 30, 2014, and shall apply to students who are enrolled or who first enroll in an eligible program of study on or after July 1, 2014.

(b) Section 401 (b)(2)(A)(ii) of the HEA is amended by inserting after “year” and before the comma “except that a student eligible only under 484(d)(1)(A) who first enrolls in an eligible program of study on or after July 1, 2015 shall not be eligible for the amount of the increase calculated under paragraph (7)(B)”.

SEC. 310. (a) An institution of higher education that maintains an endowment fund supported with funds appropriated for title III or V of the HEA for fiscal year 2015 may use the income from that fund to award scholarships to students, subject to the limitation in section 331(c)(3)(B)(i) of the HEA. The use of such income for such purposes, prior to the enactment of this Act, shall be considered to have been an allowable use of that income, subject to that limitation.

(b) Subsection (a) shall be in effect until titles III and V of the HEA are reauthorized.

SEC. 311. In making awards under section 402D of the HEA with funds appropriated by this Act, the Secretary shall—

(1) notwithstanding any other provision of law, publish a notice inviting applications for new awards no later than December 18, 2014; and

(2) make all awards by August 10, 2015.

This title may be cited as the “Department of Education Appropriations Act, 2015”.

## TITLE IV

### RELATED AGENCIES

#### COMMITTEE FOR PURCHASE FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND OR SEVERELY DISABLED

##### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary for the Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled established by Public Law 92–28, \$5,362,000.

#### CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

##### OPERATING EXPENSES

For necessary expenses for the Corporation for National and Community Service (referred to in this title as “CNCS”) to carry out the Domestic Volunteer Service Act of 1973 (referred to in this title as “1973 Act”) and the National and Community Service Act of 1990 (referred to in this title as “1990 Act”), \$758,349,000, notwithstanding sections 198B(b)(3), 198S(g), 501(a)(6), 501(a)(4)(C), and 501(a)(4)(F) of the 1990 Act: *Provided*, That of the amounts provided under this heading: (1) up to 1 percent of program grant funds may be used to defray the costs of conducting grant application reviews, including the use of outside peer reviewers and electronic management of the grants cycle; (2) \$70,000,000 shall be available for expenses authorized under section 501(a)(4)(E) of the 1990 Act; (3) \$16,038,000 shall be available to provide assistance to State commissions on national and community service, under section 126(a) of the 1990 Act and notwithstanding section 501(a)(5)(B) of the 1990 Act; (4) \$30,000,000 shall be available to carry out subtitle E of the 1990 Act; and (5) \$3,800,000 shall be available for expenses authorized under section 501(a)(4)(F) of the 1990 Act, which, notwithstanding the provisions of section 198P shall be awarded by CNCS on a competitive basis: *Provided further*, That for the purposes of carrying out the 1990 Act, satisfying the requirements in section 122(c)(1)(D) may include a determination of need by the local community: *Provided further*, That not to exceed 20 percent of funds made available under section 501(a)(4)(E) of the 1990 Act may be used for Social Innovation Fund Pilot Program-related performance-based awards for Pay for Success projects and shall remain available through September 30, 2016: *Provided further*, That, with respect to the previous proviso, any funds obligated for such projects shall remain available for disbursement until expended, notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 1552(a): *Provided further*, That any funds deobligated from projects under section 501(a)(4)(E) of the 1990 Act shall immediately be available for activities authorized under 198K of such Act.

#### PAYMENT TO THE NATIONAL SERVICE TRUST

##### (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For payment to the National Service Trust established under subtitle D of title I of the 1990 Act, \$209,618,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That CNCS may transfer additional funds from the amount provided within “Operating Expenses” allocated to grants under subtitle C of title I of the 1990 Act to the National Service Trust upon determination that such transfer is necessary to support the activities of national service participants and after notice is transmitted to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate: *Provided further*, That amounts appropriated for or transferred to the National Service Trust may be invested under section 145(b) of the 1990 Act without regard to the requirement to apportion funds under 31 U.S.C. 1513(b).

## SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of administration as provided under section 501(a)(5) of the 1990 Act and under section 504(a) of the 1973 Act, including payment of salaries, authorized travel, hire of passenger motor vehicles, the rental of conference rooms in the District of Columbia, the employment of experts and consultants authorized under 5 U.S.C. 3109, and not to exceed \$2,500 for official reception and representation expenses, \$81,737,000.

## OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General in carrying out the Inspector General Act of 1978, \$5,250,000.

## ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

SEC. 401. CNCS shall make any significant changes to program requirements, service delivery or policy only through public notice and comment rulemaking. For fiscal year 2015, during any grant selection process, an officer or employee of CNCS shall not knowingly disclose any covered grant selection information regarding such selection, directly or indirectly, to any person other than an officer or employee of CNCS that is authorized by CNCS to receive such information.

SEC. 402. AmeriCorps programs receiving grants under the National Service Trust program shall meet an overall minimum share requirement of 24 percent for the first 3 years that they receive AmeriCorps funding, and thereafter shall meet the overall minimum share requirement as provided in section 2521.60 of title 45, Code of Federal Regulations, without regard to the operating costs match requirement in section 121(e) or the member support Federal share limitations in section 140 of the 1990 Act, and subject to partial waiver consistent with section 2521.70 of title 45, Code of Federal Regulations.

SEC. 403. Donations made to CNCS under section 196 of the 1990 Act for the purposes of financing programs and operations under titles I and II of the 1973 Act or subtitle B, C, D, or E of title I of the 1990 Act shall be used to supplement and not supplant current programs and operations.

SEC. 404. In addition to the requirements in section 146(a) of the 1990 Act, use of an educational award for the purpose described in section 148(a)(4) shall be limited to individuals who are veterans as defined under section 101 of the Act.

SEC. 405. For the purpose of carrying out section 189D of the 1990 Act:

(1) Entities described in paragraph (a) of such section shall be considered "qualified entities" under section 3 of the National Child Protection Act of 1993 ("NCPA"); and

(2) Individuals described in such section shall be considered "volunteers" under section 3 of NCPA; and

(3) State Commissions on National and Community Service established pursuant to section 178 of the 1990 Act, are authorized to receive criminal history record information, consistent with Public Law 92-544.

## CORPORATION FOR PUBLIC BROADCASTING

For payment to the Corporation for Public Broadcasting ("CPB"), as authorized by the Communications Act of 1934, an amount which shall be available within limitations specified by that Act, for the fiscal year 2017, \$445,000,000: *Provided*, That none of the funds made available to CPB by this Act shall be used to pay for receptions, parties, or similar forms of entertainment for Government officials or employees: *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available to CPB by this Act shall be available or used to aid or support any program or activity from which

any person is excluded, or is denied benefits, or is discriminated against, on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, or sex: *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available to CPB by this Act shall be used to apply any political test or qualification in selecting, appointing, promoting, or taking any other personnel action with respect to officers, agents, and employees of CPB: *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available to CPB by this Act shall be used to support the Television Future Fund or any similar purpose.

## FEDERAL MEDIATION AND CONCILIATION SERVICE

## SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary for the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service ("Service") to carry out the functions vested in it by the Labor-Management Relations Act, 1947, including hire of passenger motor vehicles; for expenses necessary for the Labor-Management Cooperation Act of 1978; and for expenses necessary for the Service to carry out the functions vested in it by the Civil Service Reform Act, \$45,666,000, including up to \$400,000 to remain available through September 30, 2016 for activities authorized by the Labor-Management Cooperation Act of 1978: *Provided*, That notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3302, fees charged, up to full-cost recovery, for special training activities and other conflict resolution services and technical assistance, including those provided to foreign governments and international organizations, and for arbitration services shall be credited to and merged with this account, and shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That fees for arbitration services shall be available only for education, training, and professional development of the agency workforce: *Provided further*, That the Director of the Service is authorized to accept and use on behalf of the United States gifts of services and real, personal, or other property in the aid of any projects or functions within the Director's jurisdiction.

## FEDERAL MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH REVIEW COMMISSION

## SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary for the Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission, \$16,751,000.

## INSTITUTE OF MUSEUM AND LIBRARY SERVICES

## OFFICE OF MUSEUM AND LIBRARY SERVICES:

## GRANTS AND ADMINISTRATION

For carrying out the Museum and Library Services Act of 1996 and the National Museum of African American History and Culture Act, \$227,860,000.

## MEDICAID AND CHIP PAYMENT AND ACCESS COMMISSION

## SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary to carry out section 1900 of the Social Security Act, \$7,650,000.

## MEDICARE PAYMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION

## SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary to carry out section 1805 of the Social Security Act, \$11,749,000, to be transferred to this appropriation from the Federal Hospital Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Supplementary Medical Insurance Trust Fund.

## NATIONAL COUNCIL ON DISABILITY

## SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary for the National Council on Disability as authorized by title IV of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, \$3,250,000.

## NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD

## SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary for the National Labor Relations Board to carry out the functions vested in it by the Labor-Management Relations Act, 1947, and other laws, \$274,224,000: *Provided*, That no part of this appropriation shall be available to organize or assist in organizing agricultural laborers or used in connection with investigations, hearings, directives, or orders concerning bargaining units composed of agricultural laborers as referred to in section 2(3) of the Act of July 5, 1935, and as amended by the Labor-Management Relations Act, 1947, and as defined in section 3(f) of the Act of June 25, 1938, and including in said definition employees engaged in the maintenance and operation of ditches, canals, reservoirs, and waterways when maintained or operated on a mutual, nonprofit basis and at least 95 percent of the water stored or supplied thereby is used for farming purposes.

## ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION

SEC. 406. None of the funds provided by this Act or previous Acts making appropriations for the National Labor Relations Board may be used to issue any new administrative directive or regulation that would provide employees any means of voting through any electronic means in an election to determine a representative for the purposes of collective bargaining.

## NATIONAL MEDIATION BOARD

## SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary to carry out the provisions of the Railway Labor Act, including emergency boards appointed by the President, \$13,227,000.

## OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH REVIEW COMMISSION

## SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary for the Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission, \$11,639,000.

## RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD

## DUAL BENEFITS PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

For payment to the Dual Benefits Payments Account, authorized under section 15(d) of the Railroad Retirement Act of 1974, \$34,000,000, which shall include amounts becoming available in fiscal year 2014 pursuant to section 224(c)(1)(B) of Public Law 98-76; and in addition, an amount, not to exceed 2 percent of the amount provided herein, shall be available proportional to the amount by which the product of recipients and the average benefit received exceeds the amount available for payment of vested dual benefits: *Provided*, That the total amount provided herein shall be credited in 12 approximately equal amounts on the first day of each month in the fiscal year.

## FEDERAL PAYMENTS TO THE RAILROAD RETIREMENT ACCOUNTS

For payment to the accounts established in the Treasury for the payment of benefits under the Railroad Retirement Act for interest earned on unnegotiated checks, \$150,000, to remain available through September 30, 2016, which shall be the maximum amount available for payment pursuant to section 417 of Public Law 98-76.

## LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATION

For necessary expenses for the Railroad Retirement Board ("Board") for administration of the Railroad Retirement Act and the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act, \$111,225,000, to be derived in such amounts as determined by the Board from the railroad

retirement accounts and from moneys credited to the railroad unemployment insurance administration fund: *Provided*, That notwithstanding section 7(b)(9) of the Railroad Retirement Act this limitation may be used to hire attorneys only through the excepted service: *Provided further*, That the previous proviso shall not change the status under Federal employment laws of any attorney hired by the Railroad Retirement Board prior to January 1, 2013.

#### LIMITATION ON THE OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For expenses necessary for the Office of Inspector General for audit, investigatory and review activities, as authorized by the Inspector General Act of 1978, not more than \$8,437,000, to be derived from the railroad retirement accounts and railroad unemployment insurance account.

#### SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

##### PAYMENTS TO SOCIAL SECURITY TRUST FUNDS

For payment to the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund, as provided under sections 201(m), 228(g), and 1131(b)(2) of the Social Security Act, \$16,400,000.

##### SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY INCOME PROGRAM

For carrying out titles XI and XVI of the Social Security Act, section 401 of Public Law 92-603, section 212 of Public Law 93-66, as amended, and section 405 of Public Law 95-216, including payment to the Social Security trust funds for administrative expenses incurred pursuant to section 201(g)(1) of the Social Security Act, \$41,232,978,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That any portion of the funds provided to a State in the current fiscal year and not obligated by the State during that year shall be returned to the Treasury: *Provided further*, That not more than \$83,000,000 shall be available for research and demonstrations under sections 1110, 1115, and 1144 of the Social Security Act, and remain available through September 30, 2017.

For making, after June 15 of the current fiscal year, benefit payments to individuals under title XVI of the Social Security Act, for unanticipated costs incurred for the current fiscal year, such sums as may be necessary.

For making benefit payments under title XVI of the Social Security Act for the first quarter of fiscal year 2016, \$19,200,000,000, to remain available until expended.

##### LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

For necessary expenses, including the hire of two passenger motor vehicles, and not to exceed \$20,000 for official reception and representation expenses, not more than \$10,284,945,000 may be expended, as authorized by section 201(g)(1) of the Social Security Act, from any one or all of the trust funds referred to in such section: *Provided*, That not less than \$2,300,000 shall be for the Social Security Advisory Board: *Provided further*, That, \$131,000,000 may be used for the costs associated with conducting continuing disability reviews under titles II and XVI of the Social Security Act and conducting redeterminations of eligibility under title XVI of the Social Security Act: *Provided further*, That the Commissioner may allocate additional funds under this paragraph above the level specified in the previous proviso for such activities but only to reconcile estimated and actual unit costs for conducting such activities and after notifying the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate at least 15

days in advance of any such reallocation: *Provided further*, That unobligated balances of funds provided under this paragraph at the end of fiscal year 2015 not needed for fiscal year 2015 shall remain available until expended to invest in the Social Security Administration information technology and telecommunications hardware and software infrastructure, including related equipment and non-payroll administrative expenses associated solely with this information technology and telecommunications infrastructure: *Provided further*, That the Commissioner of Social Security shall notify the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate prior to making unobligated balances available under the authority in the previous proviso: *Provided further*, That reimbursement to the trust funds under this heading for expenditures for official time for employees of the Social Security Administration pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 7131, and for facilities or support services for labor organizations pursuant to policies, regulations, or procedures referred to in section 7135(b) of such title shall be made by the Secretary of the Treasury, with interest, from amounts in the general fund not otherwise appropriated, as soon as possible after such expenditures are made.

In addition, for the costs associated with continuing disability reviews under titles II and XVI of the Social Security Act and for the cost associated with conducting redeterminations of eligibility under title XVI of the Social Security Act, \$1,396,000,000 may be expended, as authorized by section 201(g)(1) of the Social Security Act, from any one or all of the trust funds referred to therein: *Provided*, That, of such amount, \$273,000,000 is provided to meet the terms of section 251(b)(2)(B)(ii)(III) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended, and \$1,123,000,000 is additional new budget authority specified for purposes of section 251(b)(2)(B) of such Act: *Provided further*, That the Commissioner shall provide to the Congress (at the conclusion of the fiscal year) a report on the obligation and expenditure of these funds, similar to the reports that were required by section 103(d)(2) of Public Law 104-121 for fiscal years 1996 through 2002.

In addition, \$124,000,000 to be derived from administration fees in excess of \$5.00 per supplementary payment collected pursuant to section 1616(d) of the Social Security Act or section 212(b)(3) of Public Law 93-66, which shall remain available until expended. To the extent that the amounts collected pursuant to such sections in fiscal year 2015 exceed \$124,000,000, the amounts shall be available in fiscal year 2016 only to the extent provided in advance in appropriations Acts.

In addition, up to \$1,000,000 to be derived from fees collected pursuant to section 303(c) of the Social Security Protection Act, which shall remain available until expended.

#### OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For expenses necessary for the Office of Inspector General in carrying out the provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978, \$28,829,000, together with not to exceed \$74,521,000, to be transferred and expended as authorized by section 201(g)(1) of the Social Security Act from the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund.

In addition, an amount not to exceed 3 percent of the total provided in this appropriation may be transferred from the "Limitation on Administrative Expenses", Social Security Administration, to be merged with

this account, to be available for the time and purposes for which this account is available: *Provided*, That notice of such transfers shall be transmitted promptly to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate at least 15 days in advance of any transfer.

#### TITLE V GENERAL PROVISIONS (TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 501. The Secretaries of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education are authorized to transfer unexpended balances of prior appropriations to accounts corresponding to current appropriations provided in this Act. Such transferred balances shall be used for the same purpose, and for the same periods of time, for which they were originally appropriated.

SEC. 502. No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall remain available for obligation beyond the current fiscal year unless expressly so provided herein.

SEC. 503. (a) No part of any appropriation contained in this Act or transferred pursuant to section 4002 of Public Law 111-148 shall be used, other than for normal and recognized executive-legislative relationships, for publicity or propaganda purposes, for the preparation, distribution, or use of any kit, pamphlet, booklet, publication, electronic communication, radio, television, or video presentation designed to support or defeat the enactment of legislation before the Congress or any State or local legislature or legislative body, except in presentation to the Congress or any State or local legislature itself, or designed to support or defeat any proposed or pending regulation, administrative action, or order issued by the executive branch of any State or local government, except in presentation to the executive branch of any State or local government itself.

(b) No part of any appropriation contained in this Act or transferred pursuant to section 4002 of Public Law 111-148 shall be used to pay the salary or expenses of any grant or contract recipient, or agent acting for such recipient, related to any activity designed to influence the enactment of legislation, appropriations, regulation, administrative action, or Executive order proposed or pending before the Congress or any State government, State legislature or local legislature or legislative body, other than for normal and recognized executive-legislative relationships or participation by an agency or officer of a State, local or tribal government in policymaking and administrative processes within the executive branch of that government.

(c) The prohibitions in subsections (a) and (b) shall include any activity to advocate or promote any proposed, pending or future Federal, State or local tax increase, or any proposed, pending, or future requirement or restriction on any legal consumer product, including its sale or marketing, including but not limited to the advocacy or promotion of gun control.

SEC. 504. The Secretaries of Labor and Education are authorized to make available not to exceed \$28,000 and \$20,000, respectively, from funds available for salaries and expenses under titles I and III, respectively, for official reception and representation expenses; the Director of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service is authorized to make available for official reception and representation expenses not to exceed \$5,000 from the funds available for "Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service, Salaries and Expenses"; and the Chairman of the National

Mediation Board is authorized to make available for official reception and representation expenses not to exceed \$5,000 from funds available for "National Mediation Board, Salaries and Expenses".

SEC. 505. When issuing statements, press releases, requests for proposals, bid solicitations and other documents describing projects or programs funded in whole or in part with Federal money, all grantees receiving Federal funds included in this Act, including but not limited to State and local governments and recipients of Federal research grants, shall clearly state—

(1) the percentage of the total costs of the program or project which will be financed with Federal money;

(2) the dollar amount of Federal funds for the project or program; and

(3) percentage and dollar amount of the total costs of the project or program that will be financed by non-governmental sources.

SEC. 506. (a) None of the funds appropriated in this Act, and none of the funds in any trust fund to which funds are appropriated in this Act, shall be expended for any abortion.

(b) None of the funds appropriated in this Act, and none of the funds in any trust fund to which funds are appropriated in this Act, shall be expended for health benefits coverage that includes coverage of abortion.

(c) The term "health benefits coverage" means the package of services covered by a managed care provider or organization pursuant to a contract or other arrangement.

SEC. 507. (a) The limitations established in the preceding section shall not apply to an abortion—

(1) if the pregnancy is the result of an act of rape or incest; or

(2) in the case where a woman suffers from a physical disorder, physical injury, or physical illness, including a life-endangering physical condition caused by or arising from the pregnancy itself, that would, as certified by a physician, place the woman in danger of death unless an abortion is performed.

(b) Nothing in the preceding section shall be construed as prohibiting the expenditure by a State, locality, entity, or private person of State, local, or private funds (other than a State's or locality's contribution of Medicaid matching funds).

(c) Nothing in the preceding section shall be construed as restricting the ability of any managed care provider from offering abortion coverage or the ability of a State or locality to contract separately with such a provider for such coverage with State funds (other than a State's or locality's contribution of Medicaid matching funds).

(d)(1) None of the funds made available in this Act may be made available to a Federal agency or program, or to a State or local government, if such agency, program, or government subjects any institutional or individual health care entity to discrimination on the basis that the health care entity does not provide, pay for, provide coverage of, or refer for abortions.

(2) In this subsection, the term "health care entity" includes an individual physician or other health care professional, a hospital, a provider-sponsored organization, a health maintenance organization, a health insurance plan, or any other kind of health care facility, organization, or plan.

SEC. 508. (a) None of the funds made available in this Act may be used for—

(1) the creation of a human embryo or embryos for research purposes; or

(2) research in which a human embryo or embryos are destroyed, discarded, or know-

ingly subjected to risk of injury or death greater than that allowed for research on fetuses in utero under 45 CFR 46.204(b) and section 498(b) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 289g(b)).

(b) For purposes of this section, the term "human embryo or embryos" includes any organism, not protected as a human subject under 45 CFR 46 as of the date of the enactment of this Act, that is derived by fertilization, parthenogenesis, cloning, or any other means from one or more human gametes or human diploid cells.

SEC. 509. (a) None of the funds made available in this Act may be used for any activity that promotes the legalization of any drug or other substance included in schedule I of the schedules of controlled substances established under section 202 of the Controlled Substances Act except for normal and recognized executive-congressional communications.

(b) The limitation in subsection (a) shall not apply when there is significant medical evidence of a therapeutic advantage to the use of such drug or other substance or that federally sponsored clinical trials are being conducted to determine therapeutic advantage.

SEC. 510. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to promulgate or adopt any final standard under section 1173(b) of the Social Security Act providing for, or providing for the assignment of, a unique health identifier for an individual (except in an individual's capacity as an employer or a health care provider), until legislation is enacted specifically approving the standard.

SEC. 511. None of the funds made available in this Act may be obligated or expended to enter into or renew a contract with an entity if—

(1) such entity is otherwise a contractor with the United States and is subject to the requirement in 38 U.S.C. 4212(d) regarding submission of an annual report to the Secretary of Labor concerning employment of certain veterans; and

(2) such entity has not submitted a report as required by that section for the most recent year for which such requirement was applicable to such entity.

SEC. 512. None of the funds made available in this Act may be transferred to any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States Government, except pursuant to a transfer made by, or transfer authority provided in, this Act or any other appropriation Act.

SEC. 513. None of the funds made available by this Act to carry out the Library Services and Technology Act may be made available to any library covered by paragraph (1) of section 224(f) of such Act, as amended by the Children's Internet Protection Act, unless such library has made the certifications required by paragraph (4) of such section.

SEC. 514. (a) None of the funds provided under this Act, or provided under previous appropriations Acts to the agencies funded by this Act that remain available for obligation or expenditure in fiscal year 2015, or provided from any accounts in the Treasury of the United States derived by the collection of fees available to the agencies funded by this Act, shall be available for obligation or expenditure through a reprogramming of funds that—

(1) creates new programs;

(2) eliminates a program, project, or activity;

(3) increases funds or personnel by any means for any project or activity for which funds have been denied or restricted;

(4) relocates an office or employees;

(5) reorganizes or renames offices;

(6) reorganizes programs or activities; or

(7) contracts out or privatizes any functions or activities presently performed by Federal employees; unless the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate are consulted 15 days in advance of such reprogramming or of an announcement of intent relating to such reprogramming, whichever occurs earlier, and are notified in writing 10 days in advance of such reprogramming.

(b) None of the funds provided under this Act, or provided under previous appropriations Acts to the agencies funded by this Act that remain available for obligation or expenditure in fiscal year 2015, or provided from any accounts in the Treasury of the United States derived by the collection of fees available to the agencies funded by this Act, shall be available for obligation or expenditure through a reprogramming of funds in excess of \$500,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less, that—

(1) augments existing programs, projects (including construction projects), or activities;

(2) reduces by 10 percent funding for any existing program, project, or activity, or numbers of personnel by 10 percent as approved by Congress; or

(3) results from any general savings from a reduction in personnel which would result in a change in existing programs, activities, or projects as approved by Congress;

unless the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate are consulted 15 days in advance of such reprogramming or of an announcement of intent relating to such reprogramming, whichever occurs earlier, and are notified in writing 10 days in advance of such reprogramming.

SEC. 515. (a) None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to request that a candidate for appointment to a Federal scientific advisory committee disclose the political affiliation or voting history of the candidate or the position that the candidate holds with respect to political issues not directly related to and necessary for the work of the committee involved.

(b) None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to disseminate information that is deliberately false or misleading.

SEC. 516. Within 45 days of enactment of this Act, each department and related agency funded through this Act shall submit an operating plan that details at the program, project, and activity level any funding allocations for fiscal year 2015 that are different than those specified in this Act, the accompanying detailed table in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act) accompanying this Act, or the fiscal year 2015 budget request.

SEC. 517. The Secretaries of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education shall each prepare and submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a report on the number and amount of contracts, grants, and cooperative agreements exceeding \$500,000 in value and awarded by the Department on a non-competitive basis during each quarter of fiscal year 2015, but not to include grants awarded on a formula basis or directed by law. Such report shall include the name of the contractor or grantee, the amount of funding, the governmental purpose, including a justification for issuing the award on a

non-competitive basis. Such report shall be transmitted to the Committees within 30 days after the end of the quarter for which the report is submitted.

SEC. 518. None of the funds appropriated in this Act shall be expended or obligated by the Commissioner of Social Security, for purposes of administering Social Security benefit payments under title II of the Social Security Act, to process any claim for credit for a quarter of coverage based on work performed under a social security account number that is not the claimant's number and the performance of such work under such number has formed the basis for a conviction of the claimant of a violation of section 208(a)(6) or (7) of the Social Security Act.

SEC. 519. None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be used by the Commissioner of Social Security or the Social Security Administration to pay the compensation of employees of the Social Security Administration to administer Social Security benefit payments, under any agreement between the United States and Mexico establishing totalization arrangements between the social security system established by title II of the Social Security Act and the social security system of Mexico, which would not otherwise be payable but for such agreement.

(RESCISSION)

SEC. 520. Of the funds made available for performance bonus payments under section 2105(a)(3)(E) of the Social Security Act, \$1,745,000,000 are hereby rescinded.

SEC. 521. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, no funds appropriated in this Act shall be used to carry out any program of distributing sterile needles or syringes for the hypodermic injection of any illegal drug.

(RESCISSION)

SEC. 522. Of the funds made available for fiscal year 2015 under section 3403 of Public Law 111-148, \$10,000,000 are rescinded.

SEC. 523. Not later than 30 days after the end of each calendar quarter, beginning with the first quarter of fiscal year 2013, the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services and Education and the Social Security Administration shall provide the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate a quarterly report on the status of balances of appropriations: *Provided*, That for balances that are unobligated and uncommitted, committed, and obligated but unexpended, the quarterly reports shall separately identify the amounts attributable to each source year of appropriation (beginning with fiscal year 2012, or, to the extent feasible, earlier fiscal years) from which balances were derived.

SEC. 524. (a) Federal agencies may use Federal discretionary funds that are made available in this Act to carry out up to 10 Performance Partnership Pilots. Such Pilots shall:

(1) be designed to improve outcomes for disconnected youth, and

(2) involve Federal programs targeted on disconnected youth, or designed to prevent youth from disconnecting from school or work, that provide education, training, employment, and other related social services. Such Pilots shall be governed by the provisions of section 526 of the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2014, except that in carrying out such Pilots section 526 shall be applied by substituting "FISCAL YEAR 2015" for "FISCAL YEAR 2014" in the title of subsection (b) and by substituting "September 30, 2019" for "September 30, 2018" each place it appears.

(b) In addition, Federal agencies may use Federal discretionary funds that are made available in this Act to participate in Performance Partnership Pilots that are being carried out pursuant to the authority provided by section 526 of the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2014.

SEC. 525. Each Federal agency, or in the case of an agency with multiple bureaus, each bureau (or operating division) funded under this Act that has research and development expenditures in excess of \$100,000,000 per year shall develop a Federal research public access policy that provides for—

(1) the submission to the agency, agency bureau, or designated entity acting on behalf of the agency, a machine-readable version of the author's final peer-reviewed manuscripts that have been accepted for publication in peer-reviewed journals describing research supported, in whole or in part, from funding by the Federal Government;

(2) free online public access to such final peer-reviewed manuscripts or published versions not later than 12 months after the official date of publication; and

(3) compliance with all relevant copyright laws.

SEC. 526. (a) None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to maintain or establish a computer network unless such network blocks the viewing, downloading, and exchanging of pornography.

(b) Nothing in subsection (a) shall limit the use of funds necessary for any Federal, State, tribal, or local law enforcement agency or any other entity carrying out criminal investigations, prosecution, or adjudication activities.

SEC. 527. For purposes of carrying out Executive Order 13589, Office of Management and Budget Memorandum M-12-12 dated May 11, 2012, and requirements contained in the annual appropriations bills relating to conference attendance and expenditures:

(1) the operating divisions of HHS shall be considered independent agencies; and

(2) attendance at and support for scientific conferences shall be tabulated separately from and not included in agency totals.

(TRANSFER)

SEC. 528. (a) This section applies to the amounts that—

(1) are made available in this Act—

(A) under the heading "REHABILITATION SERVICES AND DISABILITY RESEARCH" in title III; or

(B) under the heading "PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION" under the heading "DEPARTMENTAL MANAGEMENT" in title III; and

(2) relate to functions described in subsection (b), (m)(1), or (n)(2) of section 491 of the WIOA.

(b) Amounts described in subsection (a) shall be obligated, expended, and transferred in accordance with that section 491.

SEC. 529. None of the funds made available under this or any other Act, or any prior Appropriations Act, may be provided to the Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now (ACORN), or any of its affiliates, subsidiaries, allied organizations, or successors.

TITLE VI

EBOLA RESPONSE AND PREPAREDNESS  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN  
SERVICES

CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND  
PREVENTION

CDC-WIDE ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAM SUPPORT  
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For an additional amount for "CDC-Wide Activities and Program Support," \$1,771,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019, to prevent, prepare for, and respond to Ebola domestically and internationally; for the transportation, medical care, treatment, and other related costs of persons quarantined or isolated under Federal or State quarantine law; and to carry out titles II, III, and XVII of the Public Health Service ("PHS") Act with respect to domestic preparedness and global health: *Provided*, That no less than \$10,000,000 shall be for worker-based training to prevent and reduce exposure of hospital employees, emergency first responders and other workers who are at risk of exposure to Ebola through their work duties: *Provided further*, That \$597,000,000 shall be used to support national public health institutes and global health security: *Provided further*, That \$155,000,000 shall be to support the Public Health Emergency Preparedness program: *Provided further*, That products purchased with these funds may, at the discretion of the Secretary of Health and Human Services, be deposited in the Strategic National Stockpile under section 319F-2 of the PHS Act: *Provided further*, That funds may be used for purchase and insurance of official motor vehicles in foreign countries: *Provided further*, That such funds may be transferred by the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC") to other accounts of the CDC for the purposes provided in this paragraph: *Provided further*, That the Director of the CDC shall notify the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate promptly after any transfer under the preceding proviso: *Provided further*, That the transfer authority provided in this paragraph is in addition to any other transfer authority provided by law: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ALLERGY AND  
INFECTIOUS DISEASES

For an additional amount for "National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases" to prevent, prepare for, and respond to Ebola domestically and internationally, including expenses related to carrying out section 301 and title IV of the PHS Act, \$238,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES  
EMERGENCY FUND

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For an additional amount for "Public Health and Social Services Emergency Fund" to prevent, prepare for, and respond to Ebola domestically or internationally,



and to develop necessary medical countermeasures and vaccines including the development and purchase of vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics, necessary medical supplies, and administrative activities, \$733,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019; *Provided*, That products purchased with these funds may, at the discretion of the Secretary of Health and Human Services, be deposited in the Strategic National Stockpile under section 319F-2 of the PHS Act; *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding section 496(b) of the PHS Act, funds may be used for the renovation and alteration of privately owned facilities to improve preparedness and response capability at the State and local level; *Provided further*, That sections 319C-1(h)(3) and 319C-2(h) of the PHS Act shall not apply to funds appropriated under this heading; *Provided further*, That reimbursement of domestic transportation and treatment costs (other than costs paid or reimbursed by the individual's health coverage) for an individual treated in the United States for Ebola, before or after the date of enactment of this Act, shall be deemed to be a use of resources of the Secretary in implementation of a plan under section 311(c)(1) of the PHS Act (42 U.S.C. 243(c)(1)), and funds made available by this title shall be available for that purpose, at the discretion of the Secretary; *Provided further*, That funds appropriated in this paragraph may be used for the purposes specified in this paragraph and to the fund authorized by section 319F-4 of the PHS Act; *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

#### GENERAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 601. For purposes of preventing, preparing for, and responding to Ebola domestically or internationally, the Secretary of Health and Human Services may use funds provided in this title—

(1) for the CDC to acquire, lease, construct, alter, renovate, equip, furnish, or manage facilities outside of the United States, as necessary to conduct such programs, in consultation with the Secretary of State, either directly for the use of the United States Government or for the use, pursuant to grants, direct assistance, or cooperative agreements, of public or nonprofit private institutions or agencies in participating foreign countries;

(2) for the CDC to obtain by contract (in accordance with section 3109 of title 5, but without regard to the limitations in such section on the period of service and on pay) the personal services of experts or consultants who have scientific or other professional qualifications, except that in no case shall the compensation provided to any such expert or consultant exceed the daily equivalent of the annual rate of compensation for Executive Level II employees; and

(3) to use available resources to provide Federal assistance as necessary for repatriation notwithstanding the limitation on temporary assistance in section 1113(d) of the Social Security Act.

SEC. 602. The Secretary shall provide notice to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate within 15 days of the use of the provisions in section 601.

SEC. 603. A grant awarded by the Department of Health and Human Services with funds made available by this title may be made conditional on agreement by the awardee to comply with existing and future guidance from the Secretary regarding control of the spread of the Ebola virus.

#### (TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 604. Funds appropriated in this title may be transferred to, and merged with, other appropriation accounts of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response, or the National Institutes of Health for the purposes specified in this title following consultation with the Office of Management and Budget; *Provided*, That the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate shall be notified 10 days in advance of any such transfer; *Provided further*, That, upon a determination that all or part of the funds transferred from an appropriation are not necessary, such amounts may be transferred back to that appropriation; *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available by this title may be transferred pursuant to the authority in section 206 of this Act or section 241(a) of the PHS Act.

This division may be cited as the “Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2015”.

### DIVISION H—LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015

#### TITLE I

#### LEGISLATIVE BRANCH SENATE

##### EXPENSE ALLOWANCES

For expense allowances of the Vice President, \$18,760; the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, \$37,520; Majority Leader of the Senate, \$39,920; Minority Leader of the Senate, \$39,920; Majority Whip of the Senate, \$9,980; Minority Whip of the Senate, \$9,980; Chairmen of the Majority and Minority Conference Committees, \$4,690 for each Chairman; and Chairmen of the Majority and Minority Policy Committees, \$4,690 for each Chairman; in all, \$174,840.

##### REPRESENTATION ALLOWANCES FOR THE MAJORITY AND MINORITY LEADERS

For representation allowances of the Majority and Minority Leaders of the Senate, \$14,070 for each such Leader; in all, \$28,140.

##### SALARIES, OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES

For compensation of officers, employees, and others as authorized by law, including agency contributions, \$177,723,681, which shall be paid from this appropriation without regard to the following limitations:

##### OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT

For the Office of the Vice President, \$2,417,248.

##### OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

For the Office of the President Pro Tempore, \$723,466.

##### OFFICES OF THE MAJORITY AND MINORITY LEADERS

For Offices of the Majority and Minority Leaders, \$5,255,576.

##### OFFICES OF THE MAJORITY AND MINORITY WHIPS

For Offices of the Majority and Minority Whips, \$3,359,424.

##### COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

For salaries of the Committee on Appropriations, \$15,142,000.

##### CONFERENCE COMMITTEES

For the Conference of the Majority and the Conference of the Minority, at rates of compensation to be fixed by the Chairman of each such committee, \$1,658,000 for each such committee; in all, \$3,316,000.

##### OFFICES OF THE SECRETARIES OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE MAJORITY AND THE CONFERENCE OF THE MINORITY

For Offices of the Secretaries of the Conference of the Majority and the Conference of the Minority, \$817,402.

##### POLICY COMMITTEES

For salaries of the Majority Policy Committee and the Minority Policy Committee, \$1,692,905 for each such committee; in all, \$3,385,810.

##### OFFICE OF THE CHAPLAIN

For Office of the Chaplain, \$416,886.

##### OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

For Office of the Secretary, \$24,772,000.

##### OFFICE OF THE SERGEANT AT ARMS AND DOORKEEPER

For Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper, \$69,000,000.

##### OFFICES OF THE SECRETARIES FOR THE MAJORITY AND MINORITY

For Offices of the Secretary for the Majority and the Secretary for the Minority, \$1,762,000.

##### AGENCY CONTRIBUTIONS AND RELATED EXPENSES

For agency contributions for employee benefits, as authorized by law, and related expenses, \$47,355,869.

##### OFFICE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL OF THE SENATE

For salaries and expenses of the Office of the Legislative Counsel of the Senate, \$5,408,500.

##### OFFICE OF SENATE LEGAL COUNSEL

For salaries and expenses of the Office of Senate Legal Counsel, \$1,120,000.

##### EXPENSE ALLOWANCES OF THE SECRETARY OF THE SENATE, SERGEANT AT ARMS AND DOOR- KEEPER OF THE SENATE, AND SECRETARIES FOR THE MAJORITY AND MINORITY OF THE SENATE

For expense allowances of the Secretary of the Senate, \$7,110; Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper of the Senate, \$7,110; Secretary for the Majority of the Senate, \$7,110; Secretary for the Minority of the Senate, \$7,110; in all, \$28,440.

##### CONTINGENT EXPENSES OF THE SENATE

##### INQUIRIES AND INVESTIGATIONS

For expenses of inquiries and investigations ordered by the Senate, or conducted under paragraph 1 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, section 112 of the Supplemental Appropriations and Rescission Act, 1980 (Public Law 96-304), and Senate Resolution 281, 96th Congress, agreed to March 11, 1980, \$133,265,000, of which \$26,650,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2017.

##### EXPENSES OF THE UNITED STATES SENATE

##### CAUCUS ON INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL

For expenses of the United States Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control, \$508,000.

##### SECRETARY OF THE SENATE

For expenses of the Office of the Secretary of the Senate, \$6,250,000 of which \$4,350,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2019.

##### SERGEANT AT ARMS AND DOORKEEPER OF THE SENATE

For expenses of the Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper of the Senate, \$128,300,499, which shall remain available until September 30, 2019.

##### MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

For miscellaneous items, \$21,178,002, which shall remain available until September 30, 2017.

#### SENATORS' OFFICIAL PERSONNEL AND OFFICE EXPENSE ACCOUNT

For Senators' Official Personnel and Office Expense Account, \$390,000,000 of which \$19,109,214 shall remain available until September 30, 2017.

#### OFFICIAL MAIL COSTS

For expenses necessary for official mail costs of the Senate, \$300,000.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

##### SENATE STATIONERY PROCUREMENT

SEC. 1. (a) Sections 65, 66, 67, and 68 of the Revised Statutes (2 U.S.C. 6569, 6570, 6571) are repealed.

(b) The fifth paragraph after the paragraph under the side heading "For contingent expenses, namely": under the subheading "Senate", under the heading "Legislative" of the Act of March 3, 1887 (24 Stat. 596, chapter 392; 2 U.S.C. 6572), is amended by striking "sections, sixty-five, sixty six, sixty-seven, sixty-eight, and sixty-nine," and inserting "section 69".

SEC. 2. Section 7(e) of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2003 (2 U.S.C. 6115 note) is amended by striking "and the 110th Congress" and inserting "the 110th Congress, and the 114th Congress".

#### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

##### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For salaries and expenses of the House of Representatives, \$1,180,736,000, as follows:

##### HOUSE LEADERSHIP OFFICES

For salaries and expenses, as authorized by law, \$22,278,891, including: Office of the Speaker, \$6,645,417, including \$25,000 for official expenses of the Speaker; Office of the Majority Floor Leader, \$2,180,048, including \$10,000 for official expenses of the Majority Leader; Office of the Minority Floor Leader, \$7,114,471, including \$10,000 for official expenses of the Minority Leader; Office of the Majority Whip, including the Chief Deputy Majority Whip, \$1,886,632, including \$5,000 for official expenses of the Majority Whip; Office of the Minority Whip, including the Chief Deputy Minority Whip, \$1,459,639, including \$5,000 for official expenses of the Minority Whip; Republican Conference, \$1,505,426; Democratic Caucus, \$1,487,258; *Provided*, That such amount for salaries and expenses shall remain available from January 3, 2015 until January 2, 2016.

##### MEMBERS' REPRESENTATIONAL ALLOWANCES INCLUDING MEMBERS' CLERK HIRE, OFFICIAL EXPENSES OF MEMBERS, AND OFFICIAL MAIL

For Members' representational allowances, including Members' clerk hire, official expenses, and official mail, \$554,317,732.

##### COMMITTEE EMPLOYEES

##### STANDING COMMITTEES, SPECIAL AND SELECT

For salaries and expenses of standing committees, special and select, authorized by House resolutions, \$123,903,173: *Provided*, That such amount shall remain available for such salaries and expenses until December 31, 2016, except that \$2,300,000 of such amount shall remain available until expended for committee room upgrading.

##### COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

For salaries and expenses of the Committee on Appropriations, \$23,271,004, including studies and examinations of executive agencies and temporary personal services for such committee, to be expended in accordance with section 202(b) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 and to be available for reimbursement to agencies for services performed: *Provided*, That such amount shall remain available for such salaries and expenses until December 31, 2016.

#### SALARIES, OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES

For compensation and expenses of officers and employees, as authorized by law, \$171,344,864, including: for salaries and expenses of the Office of the Clerk, including the positions of the Chaplain and the Historian, and including not more than \$25,000 for official representative and reception expenses, of which not more than \$20,000 is for the Family Room and not more than \$2,000 is for the Office of the Chaplain, \$24,009,473; for salaries and expenses of the Office of the Sergeant at Arms, including the position of Superintendent of Garages and the Office of Emergency Management, and including not more than \$3,000 for official representation and reception expenses, \$11,926,729 of which \$4,344,000 shall remain available until expended; for salaries and expenses of the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer including not more than \$3,000 for official representation and reception expenses, \$113,100,000, of which \$4,000,000 shall remain available until expended; for salaries and expenses of the Office of the Inspector General, \$4,741,809; for salaries and expenses of the Office of General Counsel, \$1,340,987; for salaries and expenses of the Office of the Parliamentarian, including the Parliamentarian, \$2,000 for preparing the Digest of Rules, and not more than \$1,000 for official representation and reception expenses, \$1,952,249; for salaries and expenses of the Office of the Law Revision Counsel of the House, \$4,087,587, of which \$1,000,000 shall remain available until expended for the completion of the House Modernization Initiative; for salaries and expenses of the Office of the Legislative Counsel of the House, \$8,892,975, of which \$540,000 shall remain available until expended for the completion of the House Modernization Initiative; for salaries and expenses of the Office of Interparliamentary Affairs, \$814,069; for other authorized employees, \$478,986.

#### ALLOWANCES AND EXPENSES

For allowances and expenses as authorized by House resolution or law, \$285,620,336, including: supplies, materials, administrative costs and Federal tort claims, \$4,152,789; official mail for committees, leadership offices, and administrative offices of the House, \$190,486; Government contributions for health, retirement, Social Security, and other applicable employee benefits, \$256,635,776, to remain available until March 31, 2016; Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery, \$16,217,008 of which \$5,000,000 shall remain available until expended; transition activities for new members and staff, \$3,737,000, to remain available until expended; Wounded Warrior Program \$2,500,000, to remain available until expended; Office of Congressional Ethics, \$1,467,030; and miscellaneous items including purchase, exchange, maintenance, repair and operation of House motor vehicles, interparliamentary receptions, and gratuities to heirs of deceased employees of the House, \$720,247.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

SEC. 101. (a) REQUIRING AMOUNTS REMAINING IN MEMBERS' REPRESENTATIONAL ALLOWANCES TO BE USED FOR DEFICIT REDUCTION OR TO REDUCE THE FEDERAL DEBT.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any amounts appropriated under this Act for "HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES—SALARIES AND EXPENSES—MEMBERS' REPRESENTATIONAL ALLOWANCES" shall be available only for fiscal year 2015. Any amount remaining after all payments are made under such allowances for fiscal year 2015 shall be deposited in the Treasury and used for deficit reduction (or, if there is no Federal budget def-

icit after all such payments have been made, for reducing the Federal debt, in such manner as the Secretary of the Treasury considers appropriate).

(b) REGULATIONS.—The Committee on House Administration of the House of Representatives shall have authority to prescribe regulations to carry out this section.

(c) DEFINITION.—As used in this section, the term "Member of the House of Representatives" means a Representative in, or a Delegate or Resident Commissioner to, the Congress.

#### DELIVERY OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

SEC. 102. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to deliver a printed copy of a bill, joint resolution, or resolution to the office of a Member of the House of Representatives (including a Delegate or Resident Commissioner to the Congress) unless the Member requests a copy.

#### DELIVERY OF CONGRESSIONAL RECORD

SEC. 103. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to deliver a printed copy of any version of the Congressional Record to the office of a Member of the House of Representatives (including a Delegate or Resident Commissioner to the Congress).

#### LIMITATION ON AMOUNT AVAILABLE TO LEASE VEHICLES

SEC. 104. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used by the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives to make any payments from any Members' Representational Allowance for the leasing of a vehicle, excluding mobile district offices, in an aggregate amount that exceeds \$1,000 for the vehicle in any month.

#### LIMITATION ON PRINTED COPIES OF U.S. CODE TO HOUSE

SEC. 105. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to provide an aggregate number of more than 50 printed copies of any edition of the United States Code to all offices of the House of Representatives.

#### DELIVERY OF REPORTS OF DISBURSEMENTS

SEC. 106. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to deliver a printed copy of the report of disbursements for the operations of the House of Representatives under section 106 of the House of Representatives Administrative Reform Technical Corrections Act (2 U.S.C. 5535) to the office of a Member of the House of Representatives (including a Delegate or Resident Commissioner to the Congress).

#### DELIVERY OF DAILY CALENDAR

SEC. 107. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to deliver to the office of a Member of the House of Representatives (including a Delegate or Resident Commissioner to the Congress) a printed copy of the Daily Calendar of the House of Representatives which is prepared by the Clerk of the House of Representatives.

#### JOINT ITEMS

For Joint Committees, as follows:

##### JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

For salaries and expenses of the Joint Economic Committee, \$4,203,000, to be disbursed by the Secretary of the Senate.

##### JOINT COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

For salaries and expenses of the Joint Committee on Taxation, \$10,095,000, to be disbursed by the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives.

For other joint items, as follows:

##### OFFICE OF THE ATTENDING PHYSICIAN

For medical supplies, equipment, and contingent expenses of the emergency rooms,



and for the Attending Physician and his assistants, including:

(1) an allowance of \$2,175 per month to the Attending Physician;

(2) an allowance of \$1,300 per month to the Senior Medical Officer;

(3) an allowance of \$725 per month each to three medical officers while on duty in the Office of the Attending Physician;

(4) an allowance of \$725 per month to 2 assistants and \$580 per month each not to exceed 11 assistants on the basis heretofore provided for such assistants; and

(5) \$2,486,000 for reimbursement to the Department of the Navy for expenses incurred for staff and equipment assigned to the Office of the Attending Physician, which shall be advanced and credited to the applicable appropriation or appropriations from which such salaries, allowances, and other expenses are payable and shall be available for all the purposes thereof, \$3,371,000, to be disbursed by the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives.

#### OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES

##### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For salaries and expenses of the Office of Congressional Accessibility Services, \$1,387,000, to be disbursed by the Secretary of the Senate.

#### CAPITOL POLICE

##### SALARIES

For salaries of employees of the Capitol Police, including overtime, hazardous duty pay, and Government contributions for health, retirement, social security, professional liability insurance, and other applicable employee benefits, \$286,500,000 of which overtime shall not exceed \$23,425,000 unless the Committee on Appropriations of the House and Senate are notified, to be disbursed by the Chief of the Capitol Police or his designee.

##### GENERAL EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Capitol Police, including motor vehicles, communications and other equipment, security equipment and installation, uniforms, weapons, supplies, materials, training, medical services, forensic services, stenographic services, personal and professional services, the employee assistance program, the awards program, postage, communication services, travel advances, relocation of instructor and liaison personnel for the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, and not more than \$5,000 to be expended on the certification of the Chief of the Capitol Police in connection with official representation and reception expenses, \$61,459,000, to be disbursed by the Chief of the Capitol Police or his designee: *Provided*, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, the cost of basic training for the Capitol Police at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center for fiscal year 2015 shall be paid by the Secretary of Homeland Security from funds available to the Department of Homeland Security.

#### OFFICE OF COMPLIANCE

##### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For salaries and expenses of the Office of Compliance, as authorized by section 305 of the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1385), \$3,959,000, of which \$450,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That not more than \$500 may be expended on the certification of the Executive Director of the Office of Compliance in connection with official representation and reception expenses.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION

##### EMPLOYEE NOTIFICATIONS

SEC. 1001. Section 301(h)(2) of the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1381(h)(2)) is amended by striking “the residences of covered employees” and inserting “covered employees by the end of each fiscal year”.

#### CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE

##### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For salaries and expenses necessary for operation of the Congressional Budget Office, including not more than \$6,000 to be expended on the certification of the Director of the Congressional Budget Office in connection with official representation and reception expenses, \$45,700,000.

#### ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL

##### GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

For salaries for the Architect of the Capitol, and other personal services, at rates of pay provided by law; for surveys and studies in connection with activities under the care of the Architect of the Capitol; for all necessary expenses for the general and administrative support of the operations under the Architect of the Capitol including the Botanic Garden; electrical substations of the Capitol, Senate and House office buildings, and other facilities under the jurisdiction of the Architect of the Capitol; including furnishings and office equipment; including not more than \$5,000 for official reception and representation expenses, to be expended as the Architect of the Capitol may approve; for purchase or exchange, maintenance, and operation of a passenger motor vehicle, \$91,455,000.

##### CAPITOL BUILDING

For all necessary expenses for the maintenance, care and operation of the Capitol, \$54,665,000, of which \$9,134,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2019, and of which \$21,222,000 shall remain available until expended.

##### CAPITOL GROUNDS

For all necessary expenses for care and improvement of grounds surrounding the Capitol, the Senate and House office buildings, and the Capitol Power Plant, \$11,973,000, of which \$2,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2019.

##### SENATE OFFICE BUILDINGS

For all necessary expenses for the maintenance, care and operation of Senate office buildings; and furniture and furnishings to be expended under the control and supervision of the Architect of the Capitol, \$94,313,000, of which \$36,488,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2019.

##### HOUSE OFFICE BUILDINGS

For all necessary expenses for the maintenance, care and operation of the House office buildings, \$89,446,898, of which \$24,824,898 shall remain available until September 30, 2019.

In addition, for a payment to the House Historic Buildings Revitalization Trust Fund, \$70,000,000, to remain available until expended.

##### CAPITOL POWER PLANT

For all necessary expenses for the maintenance, care and operation of the Capitol Power Plant; lighting, heating, power (including the purchase of electrical energy) and water and sewer services for the Capitol, Senate and House office buildings, Library of Congress buildings, and the grounds about the same, Botanic Garden, Senate garage, and air conditioning refrigeration not sup-

plied from plants in any of such buildings; heating the Government Printing Office and Washington City Post Office, and heating and chilled water for air conditioning for the Supreme Court Building, the Union Station complex, the Thurgood Marshall Federal Judiciary Building and the Folger Shakespeare Library, expenses for which shall be advanced or reimbursed upon request of the Architect of the Capitol and amounts so received shall be deposited into the Treasury to the credit of this appropriation, \$90,652,000, of which \$8,686,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That not more than \$9,000,000 of the funds credited or to be reimbursed to this appropriation as herein provided shall be available for obligation during fiscal year 2015.

##### LIBRARY BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

For all necessary expenses for the mechanical and structural maintenance, care and operation of the Library buildings and grounds, \$42,180,000, of which \$17,042,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2019.

##### CAPITOL POLICE BUILDINGS, GROUNDS, AND SECURITY

For all necessary expenses for the maintenance, care and operation of buildings, grounds and security enhancements of the United States Capitol Police, wherever located, the Alternate Computer Facility, and AOC security operations, \$19,159,000, of which \$1,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2019.

##### BOTANIC GARDEN

For all necessary expenses for the maintenance, care and operation of the Botanic Garden and the nurseries, buildings, grounds, and collections; and purchase and exchange, maintenance, repair, and operation of a passenger motor vehicle; all under the direction of the Joint Committee on the Library, \$15,573,000, of which \$5,693,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That of the amount made available under this heading, the Architect of the Capitol may obligate and expend such sums as may be necessary for the maintenance, care and operation of the National Garden established under section 307E of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 1989 (2 U.S.C. 2146), upon vouchers approved by the Architect of the Capitol or a duly authorized designee.

##### CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER

For all necessary expenses for the operation of the Capitol Visitor Center, \$20,844,000.

##### ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

##### NO BONUSES FOR CONTRACTORS BEHIND SCHEDULE OR OVER BUDGET

SEC. 1101. None of the funds made available in this Act for the Architect of the Capitol may be used to make incentive or award payments to contractors for work on contracts or programs for which the contractor is behind schedule or over budget, unless the Architect of the Capitol, or agency-employed designee, determines that any such deviations are due to unforeseeable events, government-driven scope changes, or are not significant within the overall scope of the project and/or program.

##### U.S. BOTANIC GARDEN ADMINISTRATION OF EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH AND SERVICES

SEC. 1102. (a) The Architect of the Capitol, subject to the direction of the Joint Committee of Congress on the Library, may enter into cooperative agreements with entities under such terms as the Architect determines advisable, in order to support the United States Botanic Garden in carrying out its duties, authorities, and mission.

(b)(1) The Architect of the Capitol may, subject to the direction of the Joint Committee of Congress on the Library, enter into a no-cost agreement, through a contract, cooperative agreement, or memorandum of understanding, with a qualified entity to conduct, or provide support for, an educational exhibit, program, class, or outreach that benefits the educational mission of the United States Botanic Garden.

(2) Any agreement under paragraph (1) may—

(A) allow the qualified entity to accept fees for any program or class described in paragraph (1) in order to cover all or a portion of the entity's costs of any supplies, honoraria, or associated expenses for the program or class; and

(B) subject to such terms as the Architect considers appropriate and necessary, grant temporary concessions to the qualified entity, or allow the qualified entity to grant temporary concessions to another person, in connection with an educational exhibit, program, class, or outreach described in paragraph (1), including concessions for food and merchandise sales that are specifically related to the educational mission involved.

(3) Section 5104(c) of title 40, United States Code, shall not apply to any activity carried out under this subsection.

(4) In this subsection, the term “qualified entity” means—

(A) the National Fund for the United States Botanic Garden; and

(B) any other organization described in section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and exempt from tax under section 501(a) of such Code that the Architect of the Capitol determines shares interests complementary to the educational mission of the United States Botanic Garden.

(c) Any authority under subsection (a) or (b) shall not apply to any agreement providing for the construction or improvement of real property.

(d) This section shall apply with respect to fiscal year 2015 and each succeeding fiscal year.

#### SCRIMS

SEC. 1103. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used for scrims containing photographs of building facades during restoration or construction projects performed by the Architect of the Capitol.

#### LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

##### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Library of Congress not otherwise provided for, including development and maintenance of the Library's catalogs; custody and custodial care of the Library buildings; special clothing; cleaning, laundering and repair of uniforms; preservation of motion pictures in the custody of the Library; operation and maintenance of the American Folklife Center in the Library; activities under the Civil Rights History Project Act of 2009; preparation and distribution of catalog records and other publications of the Library; hire or purchase of one passenger motor vehicle; and expenses of the Library of Congress Trust Fund Board not properly chargeable to the income of any trust fund held by the Board, \$419,357,000, of which not more than \$6,000,000 shall be derived from collections credited to this appropriation during fiscal year 2015, and shall remain available until expended, under the Act of June 28, 1902 (chapter 1301; 32 Stat. 480; 2 U.S.C. 150) and not more than \$350,000 shall be derived from collections during fiscal year 2015 and shall remain available until expended for the development and maintenance

of an international legal information database and activities related thereto: *Provided*, That the Library of Congress may not obligate or expend any funds derived from collections under the Act of June 28, 1902, in excess of the amount authorized for obligation or expenditure in appropriations Acts: *Provided further*, That the total amount available for obligation shall be reduced by the amount by which collections are less than \$6,350,000: *Provided further*, That of the total amount appropriated, not more than \$12,000 may be expended, on the certification of the Librarian of Congress, in connection with official representation and reception expenses for the Overseas Field Offices: *Provided further*, That of the total amount appropriated, \$8,231,000 shall remain available until expended for the digital collections and educational curricula program.

#### COPYRIGHT OFFICE

##### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For all necessary expenses of the Copyright Office, \$54,303,000, of which not more than \$27,971,000, to remain available until expended, shall be derived from collections credited to this appropriation during fiscal year 2015 under section 708(d) of title 17, United States Code: *Provided*, That the Copyright Office may not obligate or expend any funds derived from collections under such section, in excess of the amount authorized for obligation or expenditure in appropriations Acts: *Provided further*, That not more than \$5,611,000 shall be derived from collections during fiscal year 2015 under sections 111(d)(2), 119(b)(2), 803(e), 1005, and 1316 of such title: *Provided further*, That the total amount available for obligation shall be reduced by the amount by which collections are less than \$33,582,000: *Provided further*, That not more than \$100,000 of the amount appropriated is available for the maintenance of an “International Copyright Institute” in the Copyright Office of the Library of Congress for the purpose of training nationals of developing countries in intellectual property laws and policies: *Provided further*, That not more than \$6,500 may be expended, on the certification of the Librarian of Congress, in connection with official representation and reception expenses for activities of the International Copyright Institute and for copyright delegations, visitors, and seminars: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any provision of chapter 8 of title 17, United States Code, any amounts made available under this heading which are attributable to royalty fees and payments received by the Copyright Office pursuant to sections 111, 119, and chapter 10 of such title may be used for the costs incurred in the administration of the Copyright Royalty Judges program, with the exception of the costs of salaries and benefits for the Copyright Royalty Judges and staff under section 802(e).

#### CONGRESSIONAL RESEARCH SERVICE

##### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of section 203 of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 166) and to revise and extend the Annotated Constitution of the United States of America, \$106,945,000: *Provided*, That no part of such amount may be used to pay any salary or expense in connection with any publication, or preparation of material therefor (except the Digest of Public General Bills), to be issued by the Library of Congress unless such publication has obtained prior approval of either the Committee on House Administration of the House of Representatives or the Com-

mittee on Rules and Administration of the Senate.

#### BOOKS FOR THE BLIND AND PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED

##### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For salaries and expenses to carry out the Act of March 3, 1931 (chapter 400; 46 Stat. 1487; 2 U.S.C. 135a), \$50,248,000: *Provided*, That of the total amount appropriated, \$650,000 shall be available to contract to provide newspapers to blind and physically handicapped residents at no cost to the individual.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION

##### REIMBURSABLE AND REVOLVING FUND ACTIVITIES

SEC. 1201. (a) IN GENERAL.—For fiscal year 2015, the obligational authority of the Library of Congress for the activities described in subsection (b) may not exceed \$203,058,000.

(b) ACTIVITIES.—The activities referred to in subsection (a) are reimbursable and revolving fund activities that are funded from sources other than appropriations to the Library in appropriations Acts for the legislative branch.

#### GOVERNMENT PUBLISHING OFFICE

##### CONGRESSIONAL PUBLISHING

##### (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For authorized publishing of congressional information and the distribution of congressional information in any format; expenses necessary for preparing the semimonthly and session index to the Congressional Record, as authorized by law (section 902 of title 44, United States Code); publishing of Government publications authorized by law to be distributed to Members of Congress; and publishing and distribution of Government publications authorized by law to be distributed without charge to the recipient, \$79,736,000: *Provided*, That this appropriation shall not be available for paper copies of the permanent edition of the Congressional Record for individual Representatives, Resident Commissioners or Delegates authorized under section 906 of title 44, United States Code: *Provided further*, That this appropriation shall be available for the payment of obligations incurred under the appropriations for similar purposes for preceding fiscal years: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding the 2-year limitation under section 718 of title 44, United States Code, none of the funds appropriated or made available under this Act or any other Act for printing and binding and related services provided to Congress under chapter 7 of title 44, United States Code, may be expended to print a document, report, or publication after the 27-month period beginning on the date that such document, report, or publication is authorized by Congress to be printed, unless Congress reauthorizes such printing in accordance with section 718 of title 44, United States Code: *Provided further*, That any unobligated or unexpended balances in this account or accounts for similar purposes for preceding fiscal years may be transferred to the Government Publishing Office business operations revolving fund for carrying out the purposes of this heading, subject to the approval of the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding sections 901, 902, and 906 of title 44, United States Code, this appropriation may be used to prepare indexes to the Congressional Record on only a monthly and session basis.

PUBLIC INFORMATION PROGRAMS OF THE  
SUPERINTENDENT OF DOCUMENTS  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES  
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For expenses of the public information programs of the Office of Superintendent of Documents necessary to provide for the cataloging and indexing of Government publications and their distribution to the public, Members of Congress, other Government agencies, and designated depository and international exchange libraries as authorized by law, \$31,500,000: *Provided*, That amounts of not more than \$2,000,000 from current year appropriations are authorized for producing and disseminating Congressional serial sets and other related publications for fiscal years 2013 and 2014 to depository and other designated libraries: *Provided further*, That any unobligated or unexpended balances in this account or accounts for similar purposes for preceding fiscal years may be transferred to the Government Publishing Office business operations revolving fund for carrying out the purposes of this heading, subject to the approval of the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate.

GOVERNMENT PUBLISHING OFFICE BUSINESS  
OPERATIONS REVOLVING FUND

For payment to the Government Publishing Office Business Operations Revolving Fund, \$8,757,000, to remain available until expended, for information technology development and facilities repair: *Provided*, That the Government Publishing Office is hereby authorized to make such expenditures, within the limits of funds available and in accordance with law, and to make such contracts and commitments without regard to fiscal year limitations as provided by section 9104 of title 31, United States Code, as may be necessary in carrying out the programs and purposes set forth in the budget for the current fiscal year for the Government Publishing Office business operations revolving fund: *Provided further*, That not more than \$7,500 may be expended on the certification of the Director of the Government Publishing Office in connection with official representation and reception expenses: *Provided further*, That the business operations revolving fund shall be available for the hire or purchase of not more than 12 passenger motor vehicles: *Provided further*, That expenditures in connection with travel expenses of the advisory councils to the Director of the Government Publishing Office shall be deemed necessary to carry out the provisions of title 44, United States Code: *Provided further*, That the business operations revolving fund shall be available for temporary or intermittent services under section 3109(b) of title 5, United States Code, but at rates for individuals not more than the daily equivalent of the annual rate of basic pay for level V of the Executive Schedule under section 5316 of such title: *Provided further*, That activities financed through the business operations revolving fund may provide information in any format: *Provided further*, That the business operations revolving fund and the funds provided under the heading "Public Information Programs of the Superintendent of Documents" may not be used for contracted security services at GPO's passport facility in the District of Columbia.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION

REDESIGNATION OF GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE TO GOVERNMENT PUBLISHING OFFICE  
SEC. 1301. (a) IN GENERAL.—The Government Printing Office is hereby redesignated the Government Publishing Office.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference to the Government Printing Office in any law, rule, regulation, certificate, directive, instruction, or other official paper in force on the date of enactment of this Act shall be considered to refer and apply to the Government Publishing Office.

(c) TITLE 44, UNITED STATES CODE.—Title 44, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking "Public Printer" each place that term appears and inserting "Director of the Government Publishing Office"; and

(2) in the heading for each of sections 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 502, 710, 1102, 1111, 1115, 1340, 1701, 1712, and 1914, by striking "PUBLIC PRINTER" and inserting "DIRECTOR OF THE GOVERNMENT PUBLISHING OFFICE".

(d) OTHER REFERENCES.—Any reference in any law other than in title 44, United States Code, or in any rule, regulation, certificate, directive, instruction, or other official paper in force on the date of enactment of this Act to the Public Printer shall be considered to refer and apply to the Director of the Government Publishing Office.

(e) TITLE 44, UNITED STATES CODE.—Title 44, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking "Deputy Public Printer" each place that term appears and inserting "Deputy Director of the Government Publishing Office"; and

(2) in the heading for each of sections 302 and 303, by striking "DEPUTY PUBLIC PRINTER" and inserting "DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE GOVERNMENT PUBLISHING OFFICE".

(f) OTHER REFERENCES.—Any reference in any law other than in title 44, United States Code, or in any rule, regulation, certificate, directive, instruction, or other official paper in force on the date of enactment of this Act to the Deputy Public Printer shall be considered to refer and apply to the Deputy Director of the Government Publishing Office.

(g) Section 301 of title 44, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in the first sentence, by striking " , who must be a practical printer and versed in the art of bookbinding,"; and

(2) in the second sentence, by striking "His" and inserting "The".

(h) Section 302 of title 44, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in the first sentence, by striking " , who must be a practical printer and versed in the art of bookbinding,"; and

(2) in the second sentence—

(A) by striking "He" and inserting "The Deputy Director of the Government Publishing Office";

(B) by striking "perform the duties formerly required of the chief clerk,";

(C) by striking " , and perform" and inserting "and perform"; and

(D) by striking "of him".

(i) Chapter 3 of title 44, United States Code is amended—

(1) in the first sentence of section 304, by striking "or his" and inserting "or the Director's";

(2) in section 305(a)—

(A) by striking "he considers" and inserting "the Director considers"; and

(B) by striking "He may not" and inserting "The Director of the Government Publishing Office may not";

(3) in section 306, by striking "his direction" and inserting "the direction of the Director";

(4) in section 308—

(A) in subsection (b)(1)—

(i) by striking "his accounts" and inserting "the accounts of the disbursing officer"; and

(ii) by striking "his name" and inserting "the name of the disbursing officer";

(B) in subsection (b)(2)—

(i) by striking "his estate" and inserting "the estate of the disbursing officer";

(ii) by striking "to him" and inserting "to the deputy disbursing officer"; and

(iii) by striking "his service" and inserting "the service of the deputy disbursing officer"; and

(C) in subsection (c)(1)—

(i) by striking "by him" and inserting "by such officer or employee";

(ii) by striking "his discretion" and inserting "the discretion of the Comptroller General"; and

(iii) by striking "whenever he" each place that terms appears and inserting "whenever the Comptroller General";

(5) in section 309—

(A) in the second sentence of subsection (a), by striking "by him" and inserting "by the Director"; and

(B) in subsection (f), by striking "his or her discretion" and inserting "the discretion of the Comptroller General";

(6) in section 310, by striking "his written request" and inserting "the written request of the Director";

(7) in section 311(b), by striking "he justifies" and inserting "the Director justifies";

(8) in section 312, by striking "his service" and inserting "the service of such officer"; and

(9) in section 317, by striking "his delegate" and inserting "a delegate of the Director".

GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Government Accountability Office, including not more than \$12,500 to be expended on the certification of the Comptroller General of the United States in connection with official representation and reception expenses; temporary or intermittent services under section 3109(b) of title 5, United States Code, but at rates for individuals not more than the daily equivalent of the annual rate of basic pay for level IV of the Executive Schedule under section 5315 of such title; hire of one passenger motor vehicle; advance payments in foreign countries in accordance with section 3324 of title 31, United States Code; benefits comparable to those payable under sections 901(5), (6), and (8) of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 4081(5), (6), and (8)); and under regulations prescribed by the Comptroller General of the United States, rental of living quarters in foreign countries, \$522,000,000: *Provided*, That, in addition, \$23,750,000 of payments received under sections 782, 3521, and 9105 of title 31, United States Code, shall be available without fiscal year limitation: *Provided further*, That this appropriation and appropriations for administrative expenses of any other department or agency which is a member of the National Intergovernmental Audit Forum or a Regional Intergovernmental Audit Forum shall be available to finance an appropriate share of either Forum's costs as determined by the respective Forum, including necessary travel expenses of non-Federal participants: *Provided further*, That payments hereunder to the Forum may be credited as reimbursements to any appropriation from which costs involved are initially financed.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION

CENTER FOR AUDIT EXCELLENCE

SEC. 1401. (a) CENTER FOR AUDIT EXCELLENCE.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—Chapter 7 of title 31, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new subchapter:

### “Subchapter VII—Center for Audit Excellence

#### “SEC. 791. CENTER FOR AUDIT EXCELLENCE.

“(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Comptroller General shall establish, maintain, and operate a center within the Government Accountability Office to be known as the ‘Center for Audit Excellence’ (hereafter in this subchapter referred to as the ‘Center’).

#### “(b) PURPOSE AND ACTIVITIES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Center shall build institutional auditing capacity and promote good governance by providing affordable, relevant, and high-quality training, technical assistance, and products and services to qualified personnel and entities of governments (including the Federal Government, State and local governments, tribal governments, and governments of foreign nations), international organizations, and other private organizations.

“(2) DETERMINATION OF QUALIFIED PERSONNEL AND ENTITIES.—Personnel and entities shall be considered qualified for purposes of receiving training, technical assistance, and products or services from the Center under paragraph (1) in accordance with such criteria as the Comptroller General may establish and publish.

#### “(c) FEES.—

“(1) PERMITTING CHARGING OF FEES.—The Comptroller General may establish, charge, and collect fees (on a reimbursable or advance basis) for the training, technical assistance, and products and services provided by the Center under this subchapter.

“(2) DEPOSIT INTO SEPARATE ACCOUNT.—The Comptroller General shall deposit all fees collected under paragraph (1) into the Center for Audit Excellence Account established under section 792.

“(d) GIFTS OF PROPERTY AND SERVICES.—The Comptroller General may accept and use conditional or non-conditional gifts of property (both real and personal) and services (including services of guest lecturers) to support the operation of the Center, except that the Comptroller General may not accept or use such a gift if the Comptroller General determines that the acceptance or use of the gift would compromise or appear to compromise the integrity of the Government Accountability Office.

“(e) SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING PERSONNEL.—It is the sense of Congress that the Center should be staffed primarily by personnel of the Government Accountability Office who are not otherwise engaged in carrying out other duties of the Office under this chapter, so as to ensure that the operation of the Center will not detract from or impact the oversight and audit work of the Office.

#### “SEC. 792. ACCOUNT.

“(a) ESTABLISHMENT OF SEPARATE ACCOUNT.—There is established in the Treasury as a separate account for the Government Accountability Office the ‘Center for Audit Excellence Account’, which shall consist of the fees deposited by the Comptroller General under section 791(c) and such other amounts as may be appropriated under law.

“(b) USE OF ACCOUNT.—Amounts in the Center for Audit Excellence Account shall be available to the Comptroller General, in amounts specified in appropriations Acts and without fiscal year limitation, to carry out this subchapter.

#### “SEC. 793. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

“There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out this subchapter.”.

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 7 of title 31, United

States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

#### “SUBCHAPTER VII—CENTER FOR AUDIT EXCELLENCE

“791. Center for Audit Excellence.

“792. Account.

“793. Authorization of appropriations.”.

(b) APPROVAL OF BUSINESS PLAN.—The Comptroller General may not begin operating the Center for Audit Excellence under subchapter VII of chapter 7 of title 31, United States Code (as added by subsection (a)) until—

(1) the Comptroller General submits a business plan for the Center to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate; and

(2) each such Committee approves the plan.

#### OPEN WORLD LEADERSHIP CENTER TRUST FUND

For a payment to the Open World Leadership Center Trust Fund for financing activities of the Open World Leadership Center under section 313 of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2001 (2 U.S.C. 1151), \$5,700,000: *Provided*, That funds made available to support Russian participants shall only be used for those engaging in free market development, humanitarian activities, and civic engagement, and shall not be used for officials of the central government of Russia.

#### JOHN C. STENNIS CENTER FOR PUBLIC SERVICE TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

For payment to the John C. Stennis Center for Public Service Development Trust Fund established under section 116 of the John C. Stennis Center for Public Service Training and Development Act (2 U.S.C. 1105), \$430,000.

#### TITLE II

#### GENERAL PROVISIONS

##### MAINTENANCE AND CARE OF PRIVATE VEHICLES

SEC. 201. No part of the funds appropriated in this Act shall be used for the maintenance or care of private vehicles, except for emergency assistance and cleaning as may be provided under regulations relating to parking facilities for the House of Representatives issued by the Committee on House Administration and for the Senate issued by the Committee on Rules and Administration.

##### FISCAL YEAR LIMITATION

SEC. 202. No part of the funds appropriated in this Act shall remain available for obligation beyond fiscal year 2015 unless expressly so provided in this Act.

##### RATES OF COMPENSATION AND DESIGNATION

SEC. 203. Whenever in this Act any office or position not specifically established by the Legislative Pay Act of 1929 (46 Stat. 32 et seq.) is appropriated for or the rate of compensation or designation of any office or position appropriated for is different from that specifically established by such Act, the rate of compensation and the designation in this Act shall be the permanent law with respect thereto: *Provided*, That the provisions in this Act for the various items of official expenses of Members, officers, and committees of the Senate and House of Representatives, and clerk hire for Senators and Members of the House of Representatives shall be the permanent law with respect thereto.

##### CONSULTING SERVICES

SEC. 204. The expenditure of any appropriation under this Act for any consulting service through procurement contract, under section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, shall be limited to those contracts where such expenditures are a matter of public

record and available for public inspection, except where otherwise provided under existing law, or under existing Executive order issued under existing law.

##### COSTS OF LBFMC

SEC. 205. Amounts available for administrative expenses of any legislative branch entity which participates in the Legislative Branch Financial Managers Council (LBFMC) established by charter on March 26, 1996, shall be available to finance an appropriate share of LBFMC costs as determined by the LBFMC, except that the total LBFMC costs to be shared among all participating legislative branch entities (in such allocations among the entities as the entities may determine) may not exceed \$2,000.

##### LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE

SEC. 206. For fiscal year 2015 and each fiscal year thereafter, the Architect of the Capitol, in consultation with the District of Columbia, is authorized to maintain and improve the landscape features, excluding streets, in Square 580 up to the beginning of I-395.

##### LIMITATION ON TRANSFERS

SEC. 207. None of the funds made available in this Act may be transferred to any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States Government, except pursuant to a transfer made by, or transfer authority provided in, this Act or any other appropriation Act.

##### GUIDED TOURS OF THE CAPITOL

SEC. 208. (a) Except as provided in subsection (b), none of the funds made available to the Architect of the Capitol in this Act may be used to eliminate or restrict guided tours of the United States Capitol which are led by employees and interns of offices of Members of Congress and other offices of the House of Representatives and Senate.

(b) At the direction of the Capitol Police Board, or at the direction of the Architect of the Capitol with the approval of the Capitol Police Board, guided tours of the United States Capitol which are led by employees and interns described in subsection (a) may be suspended temporarily or otherwise subject to restriction for security or related reasons to the same extent as guided tours of the United States Capitol which are led by the Architect of the Capitol.

This division may be cited as the “Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2015”.

### DIVISION I—MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015

#### TITLE I

##### DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

##### MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, ARMY

For acquisition, construction, installation, and equipment of temporary or permanent public works, military installations, facilities, and real property for the Army as currently authorized by law, including personnel in the Army Corps of Engineers and other personal services necessary for the purposes of this appropriation, and for construction and operation of facilities in support of the functions of the Commander in Chief, \$528,427,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That of this amount, not to exceed \$51,127,000 shall be available for study, planning, design, architect and engineer services, and host nation support, as authorized by law, unless the Secretary of the Army determines that additional obligations are necessary for such purposes and notifies the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress of the determination and the reasons therefor.

#### MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS

For acquisition, construction, installation, and equipment of temporary or permanent public works, naval installations, facilities, and real property for the Navy and Marine Corps as currently authorized by law, including personnel in the Naval Facilities Engineering Command and other personal services necessary for the purposes of this appropriation, \$1,018,772,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That of this amount, not to exceed \$33,366,000 shall be available for study, planning, design, and architect and engineer services, as authorized by law, unless the Secretary of the Navy determines that additional obligations are necessary for such purposes and notifies the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress of the determination and the reasons therefor.

#### MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, AIR FORCE

For acquisition, construction, installation, and equipment of temporary or permanent public works, military installations, facilities, and real property for the Air Force as currently authorized by law, \$811,774,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That of this amount, not to exceed \$10,738,000 shall be available for study, planning, design, and architect and engineer services, as authorized by law, unless the Secretary of the Air Force determines that additional obligations are necessary for such purposes and notifies the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress of the determination and the reasons therefor: *Provided further*, That none of the funds provided under this heading for military construction in the United Kingdom as identified in the table entitled "Military Construction" in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act) may be obligated or expended until the Department of Defense completes a European Consolidation Study, and the Secretary of Defense (1) provides to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress a comprehensive European basing strategy reflecting the findings of the Consolidation Study, and (2) certifies in writing the requirement identified in the study for any military construction project in the United Kingdom funded in this section.

#### MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, DEFENSE-WIDE (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For acquisition, construction, installation, and equipment of temporary or permanent public works, installations, facilities, and real property for activities and agencies of the Department of Defense (other than the military departments), as currently authorized by law, \$1,991,690,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That such amounts of this appropriation as may be determined by the Secretary of Defense may be transferred to such appropriations of the Department of Defense available for military construction or family housing as the Secretary may designate, to be merged with and to be available for the same purposes, and for the same time period, as the appropriation or fund to which transferred: *Provided further*, That of the amount appropriated, not to exceed \$162,240,000 shall be available for study, planning, design, and architect and engineer services, as authorized by law, unless the Secretary of Defense determines that additional obligations are necessary for such purposes and notifies the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress of the determination and

the reasons therefor: *Provided further*, That of the amount appropriated, notwithstanding any other provision of law, \$37,918,000 shall be available for payments to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization for the planning, design, and construction of a new North Atlantic Treaty Organization headquarters: *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available by this title may be used to construct a squadron operations facility at Cannon Air Force Base, New Mexico, until the Secretary of Defense submits to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress a report that includes the following:

(1) A definition of "Special Operations Forces-peculiar" as it applies to the use of United States Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) funding to meet military construction requirements for facilities that provide healthcare services or support fitness activities.

(2) A description of the decision-making process used to determine whether a military construction project that provides healthcare facilities or supports fitness activities should be funded by the USSOCOM or the military services.

(3) An addendum to the DOD Form 1391 for this project providing a schematic of the human performance center, a listing of the planned equipment related to training and resiliency and a description of the mission-critical benefit of each item, an explanation of why the unique physical and psychological health services incorporated could not be provided by the Defense Health Agency or military services, and a planned staffing breakdown.

#### MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

For construction, acquisition, expansion, rehabilitation, and conversion of facilities for the training and administration of the Army National Guard, and contributions therefor, as authorized by chapter 1803 of title 10, United States Code, and Military Construction Authorization Acts, \$128,920,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That of the amount appropriated, not to exceed \$17,600,000 shall be available for study, planning, design, and architect and engineer services, as authorized by law, unless the Director of the Army National Guard determines that additional obligations are necessary for such purposes and notifies the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress of the determination and the reasons therefor.

#### MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, AIR NATIONAL GUARD

For construction, acquisition, expansion, rehabilitation, and conversion of facilities for the training and administration of the Air National Guard, and contributions therefor, as authorized by chapter 1803 of title 10, United States Code, and Military Construction Authorization Acts, \$92,663,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That of the amount appropriated, not to exceed \$7,700,000 shall be available for study, planning, design, and architect and engineer services, as authorized by law, unless the Director of the Air National Guard determines that additional obligations are necessary for such purposes and notifies the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress of the determination and the reasons therefor.

#### MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, ARMY RESERVE

For construction, acquisition, expansion, rehabilitation, and conversion of facilities for the training and administration of the

Army Reserve as authorized by chapter 1803 of title 10, United States Code, and Military Construction Authorization Acts, \$103,946,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That of the amount appropriated, not to exceed \$8,337,000 shall be available for study, planning, design, and architect and engineer services, as authorized by law, unless the Chief of the Army Reserve determines that additional obligations are necessary for such purposes and notifies the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress of the determination and the reasons therefor.

#### MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, NAVY RESERVE

For construction, acquisition, expansion, rehabilitation, and conversion of facilities for the training and administration of the reserve components of the Navy and Marine Corps as authorized by chapter 1803 of title 10, United States Code, and Military Construction Authorization Acts, \$51,528,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That of the amount appropriated, not to exceed \$2,123,000 shall be available for study, planning, design, and architect and engineer services, as authorized by law, unless the Secretary of the Navy determines that additional obligations are necessary for such purposes and notifies the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress of the determination and the reasons therefor.

#### MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, AIR FORCE RESERVE

For construction, acquisition, expansion, rehabilitation, and conversion of facilities for the training and administration of the Air Force Reserve as authorized by chapter 1803 of title 10, United States Code, and Military Construction Authorization Acts, \$49,492,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That of the amount appropriated, not to exceed \$6,892,000 shall be available for study, planning, design, and architect and engineer services, as authorized by law, unless the Chief of the Air Force Reserve determines that additional obligations are necessary for such purposes and notifies the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress of the determination and the reasons therefor.

#### NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION

##### SECURITY INVESTMENT PROGRAM

For the United States share of the cost of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization Security Investment Program for the acquisition and construction of military facilities and installations (including international military headquarters) and for related expenses for the collective defense of the North Atlantic Treaty Area as authorized by section 2806 of title 10, United States Code, and Military Construction Authorization Acts, \$199,700,000, to remain available until expended.

#### FAMILY HOUSING CONSTRUCTION, ARMY

For expenses of family housing for the Army for construction, including acquisition, replacement, addition, expansion, extension, and alteration, as authorized by law, \$78,609,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019.

#### FAMILY HOUSING OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY

For expenses of family housing for the Army for operation and maintenance, including debt payment, leasing, minor construction, principal and interest charges, and insurance premiums, as authorized by law, \$350,976,000.

**FAMILY HOUSING CONSTRUCTION, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS**

For expenses of family housing for the Navy and Marine Corps for construction, including acquisition, replacement, addition, expansion, extension, and alteration, as authorized by law, \$16,412,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019.

**FAMILY HOUSING OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS**

For expenses of family housing for the Navy and Marine Corps for operation and maintenance, including debt payment, leasing, minor construction, principal and interest charges, and insurance premiums, as authorized by law, \$354,029,000.

**FAMILY HOUSING OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR FORCE**

For expenses of family housing for the Air Force for operation and maintenance, including debt payment, leasing, minor construction, principal and interest charges, and insurance premiums, as authorized by law, \$327,747,000.

**FAMILY HOUSING OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, DEFENSE-WIDE**

For expenses of family housing for the activities and agencies of the Department of Defense (other than the military departments) for operation and maintenance, leasing, and minor construction, as authorized by law, \$61,100,000.

**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE FAMILY HOUSING IMPROVEMENT FUND**

For the Department of Defense Family Housing Improvement Fund, \$1,662,000, to remain available until expended, for family housing initiatives undertaken pursuant to section 2883 of title 10, United States Code, providing alternative means of acquiring and improving military family housing and supporting facilities.

**CHEMICAL DEMILITARIZATION CONSTRUCTION, DEFENSE-WIDE**

For expenses of construction, not otherwise provided for, necessary for the destruction of the United States stockpile of lethal chemical agents and munitions in accordance with section 1412 of the Department of Defense Authorization Act, 1986 (50 U.S.C. 1521), and for the destruction of other chemical warfare materials that are not in the chemical weapon stockpile, as currently authorized by law, \$38,715,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019, which shall be only for the Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives program.

**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE ACCOUNT**

For deposit into the Department of Defense Base Closure Account, established by section 2906(a)(1) of the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990 (10 U.S.C. 2687 note), as amended by section 2711 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013 (Public Law 112-239), \$315,085,000, to remain available until expended.

**ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS**

SEC. 101. None of the funds made available in this title shall be expended for payments under a cost-plus-a-fixed-fee contract for construction, where cost estimates exceed \$25,000, to be performed within the United States, except Alaska, without the specific approval in writing of the Secretary of Defense setting forth the reasons therefor.

SEC. 102. Funds made available in this title for construction shall be available for hire of passenger motor vehicles.

SEC. 103. Funds made available in this title for construction may be used for advances to

the Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation, for the construction of access roads as authorized by section 210 of title 23, United States Code, when projects authorized therein are certified as important to the national defense by the Secretary of Defense.

SEC. 104. None of the funds made available in this title may be used to begin construction of new bases in the United States for which specific appropriations have not been made.

SEC. 105. None of the funds made available in this title shall be used for purchase of land or land easements in excess of 100 percent of the value as determined by the Army Corps of Engineers or the Naval Facilities Engineering Command, except: (1) where there is a determination of value by a Federal court; (2) purchases negotiated by the Attorney General or the designee of the Attorney General; (3) where the estimated value is less than \$25,000; or (4) as otherwise determined by the Secretary of Defense to be in the public interest.

SEC. 106. None of the funds made available in this title shall be used to: (1) acquire land; (2) provide for site preparation; or (3) install utilities for any family housing, except housing for which funds have been made available in annual Acts making appropriations for military construction.

SEC. 107. None of the funds made available in this title for minor construction may be used to transfer or relocate any activity from one base or installation to another, without prior notification to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

SEC. 108. None of the funds made available in this title may be used for the procurement of steel for any construction project or activity for which American steel producers, fabricators, and manufacturers have been denied the opportunity to compete for such steel procurement.

SEC. 109. None of the funds available to the Department of Defense for military construction or family housing during the current fiscal year may be used to pay real property taxes in any foreign nation.

SEC. 110. None of the funds made available in this title may be used to initiate a new installation overseas without prior notification to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

SEC. 111. None of the funds made available in this title may be obligated for architect and engineer contracts estimated by the Government to exceed \$500,000 for projects to be accomplished in Japan, in any North Atlantic Treaty Organization member country, or in countries bordering the Arabian Gulf, unless such contracts are awarded to United States firms or United States firms in joint venture with host nation firms.

SEC. 112. None of the funds made available in this title for military construction in the United States territories and possessions in the Pacific and on Kwajalein Atoll, or in countries bordering the Arabian Gulf, may be used to award any contract estimated by the Government to exceed \$1,000,000 to a foreign contractor: *Provided*, That this section shall not be applicable to contract awards for which the lowest responsive and responsible bid of a United States contractor exceeds the lowest responsive and responsible bid of a foreign contractor by greater than 20 percent: *Provided further*, That this section shall not apply to contract awards for military construction on Kwajalein Atoll for which the lowest responsive and responsible bid is submitted by a Marshallese contractor.

SEC. 113. The Secretary of Defense shall inform the appropriate committees of both Houses of Congress, including the Committees on Appropriations, of plans and scope of any proposed military exercise involving United States personnel 30 days prior to its occurring, if amounts expended for construction, either temporary or permanent, are anticipated to exceed \$100,000.

SEC. 114. Not more than 20 percent of the funds made available in this title which are limited for obligation during the current fiscal year shall be obligated during the last 2 months of the fiscal year.

SEC. 115. Funds appropriated to the Department of Defense for construction in prior years shall be available for construction authorized for each such military department by the authorizations enacted into law during the current session of Congress.

SEC. 116. For military construction or family housing projects that are being completed with funds otherwise expired or lapsed for obligation, expired or lapsed funds may be used to pay the cost of associated supervision, inspection, overhead, engineering and design on those projects and on subsequent claims, if any.

SEC. 117. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any funds made available to a military department or defense agency for the construction of military projects may be obligated for a military construction project or contract, or for any portion of such a project or contract, at any time before the end of the fourth fiscal year after the fiscal year for which funds for such project were made available, if the funds obligated for such project: (1) are obligated from funds available for military construction projects; and (2) do not exceed the amount appropriated for such project, plus any amount by which the cost of such project is increased pursuant to law.

**(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)**

SEC. 118. In addition to any other transfer authority available to the Department of Defense, proceeds deposited to the Department of Defense Base Closure Account established by section 207(a)(1) of the Defense Authorization Amendments and Base Closure and Realignment Act (10 U.S.C. 2687 note) pursuant to section 207(a)(2)(C) of such Act, may be transferred to the account established by section 2906(a)(1) of the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990 (10 U.S.C. 2687 note), to be merged with, and to be available for the same purposes and the same time period as that account.

**(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)**

SEC. 119. Subject to 30 days prior notification, or 14 days for a notification provided in an electronic medium pursuant to sections 480 and 2883 of title 10, United States Code, to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress, such additional amounts as may be determined by the Secretary of Defense may be transferred to: (1) the Department of Defense Family Housing Improvement Fund from amounts appropriated for construction in "Family Housing" accounts, to be merged with and to be available for the same purposes and for the same period of time as amounts appropriated directly to the Fund; or (2) the Department of Defense Military Unaccompanied Housing Improvement Fund from amounts appropriated for construction of military unaccompanied housing in "Military Construction" accounts, to be merged with and to be available for the same purposes and for the same period of time as amounts appropriated directly to the Fund: *Provided*, That appropriations made available to the Funds shall



be available to cover the costs, as defined in section 502(5) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, of direct loans or loan guarantees issued by the Department of Defense pursuant to the provisions of subchapter IV of chapter 169 of title 10, United States Code, pertaining to alternative means of acquiring and improving military family housing, military unaccompanied housing, and supporting facilities: *Provided further*, That the transfer authority in this provision shall also be applicable to amounts appropriated for construction in "Family Housing" accounts in section 2002 of Public Law 112-10.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 120. In addition to any other transfer authority available to the Department of Defense, amounts may be transferred from the Department of Defense Base Closure Account to the fund established by section 1013(d) of the Demonstration Cities and Metropolitan Development Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 3374) to pay for expenses associated with the Homeowners Assistance Program incurred under 42 U.S.C. 3374(a)(1)(A). Any amounts transferred shall be merged with and be available for the same purposes and for the same time period as the fund to which transferred.

SEC. 121. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, funds made available in this title for operation and maintenance of family housing shall be the exclusive source of funds for repair and maintenance of all family housing units, including general or flag officer quarters: *Provided*, That not more than \$35,000 per unit may be spent annually for the maintenance and repair of any general or flag officer quarters without 30 days prior notification, or 14 days for a notification provided in an electronic medium pursuant to sections 480 and 2883 of title 10, United States Code, to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress, except that an after-the-fact notification shall be submitted if the limitation is exceeded solely due to costs associated with environmental remediation that could not be reasonably anticipated at the time of the budget submission: *Provided further*, That the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller) is to report annually to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress all operation and maintenance expenditures for each individual general or flag officer quarters for the prior fiscal year.

SEC. 122. Amounts contained in the Ford Island Improvement Account established by subsection (h) of section 2814 of title 10, United States Code, are appropriated and shall be available until expended for the purposes specified in subsection (i)(1) of such section or until transferred pursuant to subsection (i)(3) of such section.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 123. During the 5-year period after appropriations available in this Act to the Department of Defense for military construction and family housing operation and maintenance and construction have expired for obligation, upon a determination that such appropriations will not be necessary for the liquidation of obligations or for making authorized adjustments to such appropriations for obligations incurred during the period of availability of such appropriations, unobligated balances of such appropriations may be transferred into the appropriation "Foreign Currency Fluctuations, Construction, Defense", to be merged with and to be available for the same time period and for the same purposes as the appropriation to which transferred.

SEC. 124. (a) Except as provided in subsection (b), none of the funds made available

in this Act may be used by the Secretary of the Army to relocate a unit in the Army that—

(1) performs a testing mission or function that is not performed by any other unit in the Army and is specifically stipulated in title 10, United States Code; and

(2) is located at a military installation at which the total number of civilian employees of the Department of the Army and Army contractor personnel employed exceeds 10 percent of the total number of members of the regular and reserve components of the Army assigned to the installation.

(b) EXCEPTION.—Subsection (a) shall not apply if the Secretary of the Army certifies to the congressional defense committees that in proposing the relocation of the unit of the Army, the Secretary complied with Army Regulation 5-10 relating to the policy, procedures, and responsibilities for Army stationing actions.

SEC. 125. Amounts appropriated or otherwise made available in an account funded under the headings in this title may be transferred among projects and activities within the account in accordance with the reprogramming guidelines for military construction and family housing construction contained in Department of Defense Financial Management Regulation 7000.14-R, Volume 3, Chapter 7, of February 2009, as in effect on the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 126. None of the funds made available in this title may be obligated or expended for planning and design and construction of projects at Arlington National Cemetery.

SEC. 127. For an additional amount for "Military Construction, Navy and Marine Corps", "Military Construction, Air Force", "Military Construction, Army Reserve", and "Military Construction, Navy Reserve", \$125,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, such funds may be obligated and expended to carry out construction of projects, excluding in Europe, as authorized in division B of Public Law 113-66: *Provided further*, That not later than 30 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress an expenditure plan for funds provided under this heading.

SEC. 128. For an additional amount for "Military Construction, Army", \$61,000,000; "Military Construction, Army National Guard", \$5,000,000; and "Military Construction, Army Reserve", \$51,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, such funds may only be obligated to carry out construction of certain projects as authorized in division B of an Act authorizing appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for military activities of the Department of Defense (relating to Military Construction Authorizations): *Provided further*, That not later than 30 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Army shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress an expenditure plan for funds provided under this heading.

(RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

SEC. 129. Of the unobligated balances available for "Military Construction, Army", from prior appropriations Acts (other than appropriations designated by law as being for contingency operations directly related to the global war on terrorism or as an emergency requirement), \$49,533,000 are hereby rescinded.

(RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

SEC. 130. Of the unobligated balances available for "Military Construction, Navy and

Marine Corps", from prior appropriations Acts (other than appropriations designated by law as for being for contingency operations directly related to the global war on terrorism or as an emergency requirement), \$25,522,000 are hereby rescinded.

(RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

SEC. 131. Of the unobligated balances available for "Military Construction, Air Force", from prior appropriations Acts (other than appropriations designated by law as for being for contingency operations directly related to the global war on terrorism or as an emergency requirement), \$41,392,000 are hereby rescinded.

(RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

SEC. 132. Of the unobligated balances available for "NATO Security Investment Program", from prior appropriations Acts (other than appropriations designated by law as being for contingency operations directly related to the global war on terrorism or as an emergency requirement), \$25,000,000 are hereby rescinded.

(RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

SEC. 133. Of the unobligated balances made available in prior appropriation Acts for the fund established in section 1013(d) of the Demonstration Cities and Metropolitan Development Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 3374) (other than appropriations designated by law as being for contingency operations directly related to the global war on terrorism or as an emergency requirement), \$63,800,000 are hereby rescinded.

SEC. 134. For the purposes of this Act, the term "congressional defense committees" means the Committees on Armed Services of the House of Representatives and the Senate, the Subcommittee on Military Construction and Veterans Affairs of the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate, and the Subcommittee on Military Construction and Veterans Affairs of the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

SEC. 135. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used for the closure or abandonment of any facility located at Lajes Field, Azores, Portugal.

TITLE II

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

VETERANS BENEFITS ADMINISTRATION

COMPENSATION AND PENSIONS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the payment of compensation benefits to or on behalf of veterans and a pilot program for disability examinations as authorized by section 107 and chapters 11, 13, 18, 51, 53, 55, and 61 of title 38, United States Code; pension benefits to or on behalf of veterans as authorized by chapters 15, 51, 53, 55, and 61 of title 38, United States Code; and burial benefits, the Reinstated Entitlement Program for Survivors, emergency and other officers' retirement pay, adjusted-service credits and certificates, payment of premiums due on commercial life insurance policies guaranteed under the provisions of title IV of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act (50 U.S.C. App. 541 et seq.) and for other benefits as authorized by sections 107, 1312, 1977, and 2106, and chapters 23, 51, 53, 55, and 61 of title 38, United States Code, \$79,071,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$15,430,000 of the amount appropriated under this heading shall be reimbursed to "General Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration", and "Information Technology Systems" for necessary expenses in implementing the provisions of chapters 51, 53, and 55 of title 38,

United States Code, the funding source for which is specifically provided as the "Compensation and Pensions" appropriation: *Provided further*, That such sums as may be earned on an actual qualifying patient basis, shall be reimbursed to "Medical Care Collections Fund" to augment the funding of individual medical facilities for nursing home care provided to pensioners as authorized.

#### READJUSTMENT BENEFITS

For the payment of readjustment and rehabilitation benefits to or on behalf of veterans as authorized by chapters 21, 30, 31, 33, 34, 35, 36, 39, 41, 51, 53, 55, and 61 of title 38, United States Code, \$14,997,136,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That expenses for rehabilitation program services and assistance which the Secretary is authorized to provide under subsection (a) of section 3104 of title 38, United States Code, other than under paragraphs (1), (2), (5), and (11) of that subsection, shall be charged to this account.

#### VETERANS INSURANCE AND INDEMNITIES

For military and naval insurance, national service life insurance, servicemen's indemnities, service-disabled veterans insurance, and veterans mortgage life insurance as authorized by chapters 19 and 21, title 38, United States Code, \$63,257,000, to remain available until expended.

#### VETERANS HOUSING BENEFIT PROGRAM FUND

For the cost of direct and guaranteed loans, such sums as may be necessary to carry out the program, as authorized by subchapters I through III of chapter 37 of title 38, United States Code: *Provided*, That such costs, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974: *Provided further*, That during fiscal year 2015, within the resources available, not to exceed \$500,000 in gross obligations for direct loans are authorized for specially adapted housing loans.

In addition, for administrative expenses to carry out the direct and guaranteed loan programs, \$160,881,000.

#### VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION LOANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

For the cost of direct loans, \$10,000, as authorized by chapter 31 of title 38, United States Code: *Provided*, That such costs, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974: *Provided further*, That funds made available under this heading are available to subsidize gross obligations for the principal amount of direct loans not to exceed \$2,877,000.

In addition, for administrative expenses necessary to carry out the direct loan program, \$361,000, which may be paid to the appropriation for "General Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration".

#### NATIVE AMERICAN VETERAN HOUSING LOAN PROGRAM ACCOUNT

For administrative expenses to carry out the direct loan program authorized by subchapter V of chapter 37 of title 38, United States Code, \$1,130,000.

#### VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION MEDICAL SERVICES

For necessary expenses for furnishing, as authorized by law, inpatient and outpatient care and treatment to beneficiaries of the Department of Veterans Affairs and veterans described in section 1705(a) of title 38, United States Code, including care and treatment in facilities not under the jurisdiction of the Department, and including medical supplies and equipment, bioengineering services, food

services, and salaries and expenses of healthcare employees hired under title 38, United States Code, aid to State homes as authorized by section 1741 of title 38, United States Code, assistance and support services for caregivers as authorized by section 1720G of title 38, United States Code, loan repayments authorized by section 604 of the Caregivers and Veterans Omnibus Health Services Act of 2010 (Public Law 111-163; 124 Stat. 1174; 38 U.S.C. 7681 note), and hospital care and medical services authorized by section 1787 of title 38, United States Code; \$209,189,000, which shall be in addition to funds previously appropriated under this heading that became available on October 1, 2014; and, in addition, \$47,603,202,000, plus reimbursements, shall become available on October 1, 2015, and shall remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall establish a priority for the provision of medical treatment for veterans who have service-connected disabilities, lower income, or have special needs: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall give priority funding for the provision of basic medical benefits to veterans in enrollment priority groups 1 through 6: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs may authorize the dispensing of prescription drugs from Veterans Health Administration facilities to enrolled veterans with privately written prescriptions based on requirements established by the Secretary: *Provided further*, That the implementation of the program described in the previous proviso shall incur no additional cost to the Department of Veterans Affairs.

#### MEDICAL SUPPORT AND COMPLIANCE

For necessary expenses in the administration of the medical, hospital, nursing home, domiciliary, construction, supply, and research activities, as authorized by law; administrative expenses in support of capital policy activities; and administrative and legal expenses of the Department for collecting and recovering amounts owed the Department as authorized under chapter 17 of title 38, United States Code, and the Federal Medical Care Recovery Act (42 U.S.C. 2651 et seq.), \$6,144,000,000, plus reimbursements, shall become available on October 1, 2015, and shall remain available until September 30, 2016.

#### MEDICAL FACILITIES

For necessary expenses for the maintenance and operation of hospitals, nursing homes, domiciliary facilities, and other necessary facilities of the Veterans Health Administration; for administrative expenses in support of planning, design, project management, real property acquisition and disposition, construction, and renovation of any facility under the jurisdiction or for the use of the Department; for oversight, engineering, and architectural activities not charged to project costs; for repairing, altering, improving, or providing facilities in the several hospitals and homes under the jurisdiction of the Department, not otherwise provided for, either by contract or by the hire of temporary employees and purchase of materials; for leases of facilities; and for laundry services, \$4,915,000,000, plus reimbursements, shall become available on October 1, 2015, and shall remain available until September 30, 2016.

#### MEDICAL AND PROSTHETIC RESEARCH

For necessary expenses in carrying out programs of medical and prosthetic research

and development as authorized by chapter 73 of title 38, United States Code, \$588,922,000, plus reimbursements, shall remain available until September 30, 2016.

#### NATIONAL CEMETERY ADMINISTRATION

For necessary expenses of the National Cemetery Administration for operations and maintenance, not otherwise provided for, including uniforms or allowances therefor; cemetery expenses as authorized by law; purchase of one passenger motor vehicle for use in cemetery operations; hire of passenger motor vehicles; and repair, alteration or improvement of facilities under the jurisdiction of the National Cemetery Administration, \$256,800,000, of which not to exceed \$25,600,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2016.

#### DEPARTMENTAL ADMINISTRATION

##### GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

##### (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary operating expenses of the Department of Veterans Affairs, not otherwise provided for, including administrative expenses in support of Department-wide capital planning, management and policy activities, uniforms, or allowances therefor; not to exceed \$25,000 for official reception and representation expenses; hire of passenger motor vehicles; and reimbursement of the General Services Administration for security guard services, \$321,591,000, of which not to exceed \$9,660,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That funds provided under this heading may be transferred to "General Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration".

#### BOARD OF VETERANS APPEALS

For necessary operating expenses of the Board of Veterans Appeals, \$99,294,000, of which not to exceed \$9,429,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2016.

#### GENERAL OPERATING EXPENSES, VETERANS BENEFITS ADMINISTRATION

For necessary operating expenses of the Veterans Benefits Administration, not otherwise provided for, including hire of passenger motor vehicles, reimbursement of the General Services Administration for security guard services, and reimbursement of the Department of Defense for the cost of overseas employee mail, \$2,534,254,000: *Provided*, That expenses for services and assistance authorized under paragraphs (1), (2), (5), and (11) of section 3104(a) of title 38, United States Code, that the Secretary of Veterans Affairs determines are necessary to enable entitled veterans: (1) to the maximum extent feasible, to become employable and to obtain and maintain suitable employment; or (2) to achieve maximum independence in daily living, shall be charged to this account: *Provided further*, That of the funds made available under this heading, not to exceed \$124,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2016.

#### INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SYSTEMS

##### (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses for information technology systems and telecommunications support, including developmental information systems and operational information systems; for pay and associated costs; and for the capital asset acquisition of information technology systems, including management and related contractual costs of said acquisitions, including contractual costs associated with operations authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, \$3,903,344,000, plus reimbursements: *Provided*, That \$1,039,000,000 shall be for pay and associated costs, of which not to exceed \$30,792,000



shall remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided further*, That \$2,316,009,000 shall be for operations and maintenance, of which not to exceed \$160,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided further*, That \$548,335,000 shall be for information technology systems development, modernization, and enhancement, and shall remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided further*, That amounts made available for information technology systems development, modernization, and enhancement may not be obligated or expended until the Secretary of Veterans Affairs or the Chief Information Officer of the Department of Veterans Affairs submits to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress a certification of the amounts, in parts or in full, to be obligated and expended for each development project: *Provided further*, That amounts made available for salaries and expenses, operations and maintenance, and information technology systems development, modernization, and enhancement may be transferred among the three subaccounts after the Secretary of Veterans Affairs requests from the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress the authority to make the transfer and an approval is issued: *Provided further*, That amounts made available for the "Information Technology Systems" account for development, modernization, and enhancement may be transferred among projects or to newly defined projects: *Provided further*, That no project may be increased or decreased by more than \$1,000,000 of cost prior to submitting a request to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress to make the transfer and an approval is issued, or absent a response, a period of 30 days has elapsed: *Provided further*, That funds under this heading may be used by the Interagency Program Office through the Department of Veterans Affairs to develop a standard data reference terminology model: *Provided further*, That of the funds made available for information technology systems development, modernization, and enhancement for VistA Evolution, not more than 25 percent may be obligated or expended until the Secretary of Veterans Affairs submits to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress, and such Committees approve, a report that describes: (1) the status of and changes to the VistA Evolution program plan (hereinafter referred to as the "Plan"), VistA 4 product roadmap ("Roadmap"), or the VistA Evolution cost estimate, dated March 24, 2014; (2) any changes to the scope or functionality of projects within the VistA Evolution program as established in the Plan; (3) any refinements to the cost estimate presented in the Plan, including those based on actual costs incurred; (4) a Project Management Accountability System resourced schedule for every development project within the VistA Evolution program, including a testing methodology schedule; (5) progress toward developing and implementing all levels of interoperability, including semantic interoperability, between the electronic health record systems of the Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Affairs; and (6) a detailed governance structure for the VistA Evolution program, including the establishment of a single program director and integrator who shall have responsibility for the entire program: *Provided further*, That the funds made available under this heading for information technology systems development, modernization, and enhancement, shall be for the projects, and in the amounts, specified under

this heading in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act).

#### OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General, to include information technology, in carrying out the provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.), \$126,411,000, of which \$12,141,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2016.

#### CONSTRUCTION, MAJOR PROJECTS

For constructing, altering, extending, and improving any of the facilities, including parking projects, under the jurisdiction or for the use of the Department of Veterans Affairs, or for any of the purposes set forth in sections 316, 2404, 2406 and chapter 81 of title 38, United States Code, not otherwise provided for, including planning, architectural and engineering services, construction management services, maintenance or guarantee period services costs associated with equipment guarantees provided under the project, services of claims analysts, offsite utility and storm drainage system construction costs, and site acquisition, where the estimated cost of a project is more than the amount set forth in section 8104(a)(3)(A) of title 38, United States Code, or where funds for a project were made available in a previous major project appropriation, \$561,800,000, of which \$527,800,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2019, and of which \$34,000,000 shall remain available until expended: *Provided*, That except for advance planning activities, including needs assessments which may or may not lead to capital investments, and other capital asset management related activities, including portfolio development and management activities, and investment strategy studies funded through the advance planning fund and the planning and design activities funded through the design fund, including needs assessments which may or may not lead to capital investments, and salaries and associated costs of the resident engineers who oversee those capital investments funded through this account, and funds provided for the purchase of land for the National Cemetery Administration through the land acquisition line item, none of the funds made available under this heading shall be used for any project which has not been approved by the Congress in the budgetary process: *Provided further*, That funds made available under this heading for fiscal year 2015, for each approved project shall be obligated: (1) by the awarding of a construction documents contract by September 30, 2015; and (2) by the awarding of a construction contract by September 30, 2016: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall promptly submit to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress a written report on any approved major construction project for which obligations are not incurred within the time limitations established above.

#### CONSTRUCTION, MINOR PROJECTS

For constructing, altering, extending, and improving any of the facilities, including parking projects, under the jurisdiction or for the use of the Department of Veterans Affairs, including planning and assessments of needs which may lead to capital investments, architectural and engineering services, maintenance or guarantee period services costs associated with equipment guarantees provided under the project, services of claims analysts, offsite utility and storm drainage system construction costs, and site acquisition, or for any of the purposes set forth in sections 316, 2404, 2406, and chapter

81 of title 38, United States Code, not otherwise provided for, where the estimated cost of a project is equal to or less than the amount set forth in section 8104(a)(3)(A) of title 38, United States Code, \$495,200,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019, along with unobligated balances of previous "Construction, Minor Projects" appropriations which are hereby made available for any project where the estimated cost is equal to or less than the amount set forth in such section: *Provided*, That funds made available under this heading shall be for: (1) repairs to any of the nonmedical facilities under the jurisdiction or for the use of the Department which are necessary because of loss or damage caused by any natural disaster or catastrophe; and (2) temporary measures necessary to prevent or to minimize further loss by such causes.

#### GRANTS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF STATE EXTENDED CARE FACILITIES

For grants to assist States to acquire or construct State nursing home and domiciliary facilities and to remodel, modify, or alter existing hospital, nursing home, and domiciliary facilities in State homes, for furnishing care to veterans as authorized by sections 8131 through 8137 of title 38, United States Code, \$90,000,000, to remain available until expended.

#### GRANTS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF VETERANS CEMETERIES

For grants to assist States and tribal organizations in establishing, expanding, or improving veterans cemeteries as authorized by section 2408 of title 38, United States Code, \$46,000,000, to remain available until expended.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 201. Any appropriation for fiscal year 2015 for "Compensation and Pensions", "Readjustment Benefits", and "Veterans Insurance and Indemnities" may be transferred as necessary to any other of the mentioned appropriations: *Provided*, That before a transfer may take place, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall request from the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress the authority to make the transfer and such Committees issue an approval, or absent a response, a period of 30 days has elapsed.

#### (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 202. Amounts made available for the Department of Veterans Affairs for fiscal year 2015, in this or any other Act, under the "Medical Services", "Medical Support and Compliance", and "Medical Facilities" accounts may be transferred among the accounts: *Provided*, That any transfers between the "Medical Services" and "Medical Support and Compliance" accounts of 1 percent or less of the total amount appropriated to the account in this or any other Act may take place subject to notification from the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress of the amount and purpose of the transfer: *Provided further*, That any transfers between the "Medical Services" and "Medical Support and Compliance" accounts in excess of 1 percent, or exceeding the cumulative 1 percent for the fiscal year, may take place only after the Secretary requests from the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress the authority to make the transfer and an approval is issued: *Provided further*, That any transfers to or from the "Medical Facilities" account may take place only after the Secretary requests from the Committees on Appropriations of both

Houses of Congress the authority to make the transfer and an approval is issued.

SEC. 203. Appropriations available in this title for salaries and expenses shall be available for services authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code; hire of passenger motor vehicles; lease of a facility or land or both; and uniforms or allowances therefore, as authorized by sections 5901 through 5902 of title 5, United States Code.

SEC. 204. No appropriations in this title (except the appropriations for "Construction, Major Projects", and "Construction, Minor Projects") shall be available for the purchase of any site for or toward the construction of any new hospital or home.

SEC. 205. No appropriations in this title shall be available for hospitalization or examination of any persons (except beneficiaries entitled to such hospitalization or examination under the laws providing such benefits to veterans, and persons receiving such treatment under sections 7901 through 7904 of title 5, United States Code, or the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.)), unless reimbursement of the cost of such hospitalization or examination is made to the "Medical Services" account at such rates as may be fixed by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

SEC. 206. Appropriations available in this title for "Compensation and Pensions", "Readjustment Benefits", and "Veterans Insurance and Indemnities" shall be available for payment of prior year accrued obligations required to be recorded by law against the corresponding prior year accounts within the last quarter of fiscal year 2014.

SEC. 207. Appropriations available in this title shall be available to pay prior year obligations of corresponding prior year appropriations accounts resulting from sections 3328(a), 3334, and 3712(a) of title 31, United States Code, except that if such obligations are from trust fund accounts they shall be payable only from "Compensation and Pensions".

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 208. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, during fiscal year 2015, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall, from the National Service Life Insurance Fund under section 1920 of title 38, United States Code, the Veterans' Special Life Insurance Fund under section 1923 of title 38, United States Code, and the United States Government Life Insurance Fund under section 1955 of title 38, United States Code, reimburse the "General Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration" and "Information Technology Systems" accounts for the cost of administration of the insurance programs financed through those accounts: *Provided*, That reimbursement shall be made only from the surplus earnings accumulated in such an insurance program during fiscal year 2015 that are available for dividends in that program after claims have been paid and actuarially determined reserves have been set aside: *Provided further*, That if the cost of administration of such an insurance program exceeds the amount of surplus earnings accumulated in that program, reimbursement shall be made only to the extent of such surplus earnings: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall determine the cost of administration for fiscal year 2015 which is properly allocable to the provision of each such insurance program and to the provision of any total disability income insurance included in that insurance program.

SEC. 209. Amounts deducted from enhanced-use lease proceeds to reimburse an

account for expenses incurred by that account during a prior fiscal year for providing enhanced-use lease services, may be obligated during the fiscal year in which the proceeds are received.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 210. Funds available in this title or funds for salaries and other administrative expenses shall also be available to reimburse the Office of Resolution Management of the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Office of Employment Discrimination Complaint Adjudication under section 319 of title 38, United States Code, for all services provided at rates which will recover actual costs but not to exceed \$42,904,000 for the Office of Resolution Management and \$3,400,000 for the Office of Employment Discrimination Complaint Adjudication: *Provided*, That payments may be made in advance for services to be furnished based on estimated costs: *Provided further*, That amounts received shall be credited to the "General Administration" and "Information Technology Systems" accounts for use by the office that provided the service.

SEC. 211. No appropriations in this title shall be available to enter into any new lease of real property if the estimated annual rental cost is more than \$1,000,000, unless the Secretary submits a report which the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress approve within 30 days following the date on which the report is received.

SEC. 212. No funds of the Department of Veterans Affairs shall be available for hospital care, nursing home care, or medical services provided to any person under chapter 17 of title 38, United States Code, for a non-service-connected disability described in section 1729(a)(2) of such title, unless that person has disclosed to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, in such form as the Secretary may require, current, accurate third-party reimbursement information for purposes of section 1729 of such title: *Provided*, That the Secretary may recover, in the same manner as any other debt due the United States, the reasonable charges for such care or services from any person who does not make such disclosure as required: *Provided further*, That any amounts so recovered for care or services provided in a prior fiscal year may be obligated by the Secretary during the fiscal year in which amounts are received.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 213. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, proceeds or revenues derived from enhanced-use leasing activities (including disposal) may be deposited into the "Construction, Major Projects" and "Construction, Minor Projects" accounts and be used for construction (including site acquisition and disposition), alterations, and improvements of any medical facility under the jurisdiction or for the use of the Department of Veterans Affairs. Such sums as realized are in addition to the amount provided for in "Construction, Major Projects" and "Construction, Minor Projects".

SEC. 214. Amounts made available under "Medical Services" are available—

(1) for furnishing recreational facilities, supplies, and equipment; and

(2) for funeral expenses, burial expenses, and other expenses incidental to funerals and burials for beneficiaries receiving care in the Department.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 215. Such sums as may be deposited to the Medical Care Collections Fund pursuant to section 1729A of title 38, United States Code, may be transferred to "Medical Serv-

ices", to remain available until expended for the purposes of that account.

SEC. 216. The Secretary of Veterans Affairs may enter into agreements with Indian tribes and tribal organizations which are party to the Alaska Native Health Compact with the Indian Health Service, and Indian tribes and tribal organizations serving rural Alaska which have entered into contracts with the Indian Health Service under the Indian Self Determination and Educational Assistance Act, to provide healthcare, including behavioral health and dental care. The Secretary shall require participating veterans and facilities to comply with all appropriate rules and regulations, as established by the Secretary. The term "rural Alaska" shall mean those lands sited within the external boundaries of the Alaska Native regions specified in sections 7(a)(1)–(4) and (7)–(12) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, as amended (43 U.S.C. 1606), and those lands within the Alaska Native regions specified in sections 7(a)(5) and 7(a)(6) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, as amended (43 U.S.C. 1606), which are not within the boundaries of the municipality of Anchorage, the Fairbanks North Star Borough, the Kenai Peninsula Borough or the Matanuska Susitna Borough.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 217. Such sums as may be deposited to the Department of Veterans Affairs Capital Asset Fund pursuant to section 8118 of title 38, United States Code, may be transferred to the "Construction, Major Projects" and "Construction, Minor Projects" accounts, to remain available until expended for the purposes of these accounts.

SEC. 218. None of the funds made available in this title may be used to implement any policy prohibiting the Directors of the Veterans Integrated Services Networks from conducting outreach or marketing to enroll new veterans within their respective Networks.

SEC. 219. The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress a quarterly report on the financial status of the Veterans Health Administration.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 220. Amounts made available under the "Medical Services", "Medical Support and Compliance", "Medical Facilities", "General Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration", "General Administration", and "National Cemetery Administration" accounts for fiscal year 2015 may be transferred to or from the "Information Technology Systems" account: *Provided*, That before a transfer may take place, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall request from the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress the authority to make the transfer and an approval is issued.

SEC. 221. Of the amounts made available to the Department of Veterans Affairs for fiscal year 2015, in this or any other Act, under the "Medical Facilities" account for non-recurring maintenance, not more than 20 percent of the funds made available shall be obligated during the last 2 months of that fiscal year: *Provided*, That the Secretary may waive this requirement after providing written notice to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 222. Of the amounts appropriated to the Department of Veterans Affairs for fiscal year 2015 for "Medical Services", "Medical Support and Compliance", "Medical Facilities", "Construction, Minor Projects", and

“Information Technology Systems”, up to \$259,251,213, plus reimbursements, may be transferred to the Joint Department of Defense-Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Facility Demonstration Fund, established by section 1704 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010 (Public Law 111-84; 123 Stat. 3571) and may be used for operation of the facilities designated as combined Federal medical facilities as described by section 706 of the Duncan Hunter National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009 (Public Law 110-417; 122 Stat. 4500): *Provided*, That additional funds may be transferred from accounts designated in this section to the Joint Department of Defense-Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Facility Demonstration Fund upon written notification by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 223. Of the amounts appropriated to the Department of Veterans Affairs which become available on October 1, 2015, for “Medical Services”, “Medical Support and Compliance”, and “Medical Facilities”, up to \$245,398,000, plus reimbursements, may be transferred to the Joint Department of Defense-Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Facility Demonstration Fund, established by section 1704 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010 (Public Law 111-84; 123 Stat. 3571) and may be used for operation of the facilities designated as combined Federal medical facilities as described by section 706 of the Duncan Hunter National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009 (Public Law 110-417; 122 Stat. 4500): *Provided*, That additional funds may be transferred from accounts designated in this section to the Joint Department of Defense-Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Facility Demonstration Fund upon written notification by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 224. Such sums as may be deposited to the Medical Care Collections Fund pursuant to section 1729A of title 38, United States Code, for healthcare provided at facilities designated as combined Federal medical facilities as described by section 706 of the Duncan Hunter National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009 (Public Law 110-417; 122 Stat. 4500) shall also be available: (1) for transfer to the Joint Department of Defense-Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Facility Demonstration Fund, established by section 1704 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010 (Public Law 111-84; 123 Stat. 3571); and (2) for operations of the facilities designated as combined Federal medical facilities as described by section 706 of the Duncan Hunter National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009 (Public Law 110-417; 122 Stat. 4500).

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 225. Of the amounts available in this title for “Medical Services”, “Medical Support and Compliance”, and “Medical Facilities”, a minimum of \$15,000,000 shall be transferred to the DOD-VA Health Care Sharing Incentive Fund, as authorized by section 8111(d) of title 38, United States Code, to remain available until expended, for any purpose authorized by section 8111 of title 38, United States Code.

(INCLUDING RESCISSIONS OF FUNDS)

SEC. 226. (a) Of the funds appropriated in title II of division J of Public Law 113-76, the

following amounts which became available on October 1, 2014, are hereby rescinded from the following accounts in the amounts specified:

(1) “Department of Veterans Affairs, Medical Services”, \$1,400,000,000.

(2) “Department of Veterans Affairs, Medical Support and Compliance”, \$100,000,000.

(3) “Department of Veterans Affairs, Medical Facilities”, \$250,000,000.

(b) In addition to amounts provided elsewhere in this Act, an additional amount is appropriated to the following accounts in the amounts specified to remain available until September 30, 2016:

(1) “Department of Veterans Affairs, Medical Services”, \$1,400,000,000.

(2) “Department of Veterans Affairs, Medical Support and Compliance”, \$100,000,000.

(3) “Department of Veterans Affairs, Medical Facilities”, \$250,000,000.

SEC. 227. The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall notify the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress of all bid savings in major construction projects that total at least \$5,000,000, or 5 percent of the programmed amount of the project, whichever is less: *Provided*, That such notification shall occur within 14 days of a contract identifying the programmed amount: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall notify the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress 14 days prior to the obligation of such bid savings and shall describe the anticipated use of such savings.

SEC. 228. The scope of work for a project included in “Construction, Major Projects” may not be increased above the scope specified for that project in the original justification data provided to the Congress as part of the request for appropriations.

SEC. 229. The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress a quarterly report that contains the following information from each Veterans Benefits Administration Regional Office: (1) the average time to complete a disability compensation claim; (2) the number of claims pending more than 125 days; (3) error rates; (4) the number of claims personnel; (5) any corrective action taken within the quarter to address poor performance; (6) training programs undertaken; and (7) the number and results of Quality Review Team audits: *Provided*, That each quarterly report shall be submitted no later than 30 days after the end of the respective quarter.

SEC. 230. The Secretary shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress a reprogramming request if at any point during fiscal year 2015, the funding allocated for a medical care initiative identified in the fiscal year 2015 expenditure plan is adjusted by more than \$25,000,000 from the allocation shown in the corresponding congressional budget justification. Such a reprogramming request may go forward only if the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress approve the request or if a period of 14 days has elapsed.

SEC. 231. Of the funds provided to the Department of Veterans Affairs for fiscal year 2015 for “Medical Services” and “Medical Support and Compliance”, a maximum of \$8,371,000 may be obligated from the “Medical Services” account and a maximum of \$114,703,000 may be obligated from the “Medical Support and Compliance” account for the VistA Evolution and electronic health record interoperability projects: *Provided*, That funds in addition to these amounts may be obligated for the VistA Evolution and

electronic health record interoperability projects upon written notification by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

SEC. 232. The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall provide written notification to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress 15 days prior to organizational changes which result in the transfer of 25 or more full-time equivalents from one organizational unit of the Department of Veterans Affairs to another.

(INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

SEC. 233. (a) There is hereby rescinded an aggregate amount of \$41,000,000 from the total budget authority provided for fiscal year 2015 for discretionary accounts of the Department of Veterans Affairs in—

(1) this Act; or

(2) any advance appropriation for fiscal year 2015 in prior appropriation Acts.

(b) The Secretary shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress a report specifying the account and amount of each rescission not later than 20 days following enactment of this Act.

SEC. 234. The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall provide on a quarterly basis to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress notification of any single national outreach and awareness marketing campaign in which obligations exceed \$2,000,000.

SEC. 235. None of the funds in this or any other Act may be used to close Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) hospitals, domiciliarys, or clinics, conduct an environmental assessment, or to diminish healthcare services at existing Veterans Health Administration medical facilities located in Veterans Integrated Service Network 23 as part of a planned realignment of VA services until the Secretary provides to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress a report including the following elements: (1) a national realignment strategy that includes a detailed description of realignment plans within each Veterans Integrated Service Network (VISN), including an updated Long Range Capital Plan to implement realignment requirements; (2) an explanation of the process by which those plans were developed and coordinated within the VISN; (3) a cost vs. benefit analysis of each planned realignment, including the cost of replacing Veterans Health Administration services with contract care or other outsourced services; (4) an analysis of how any such planned realignment of services will impact access to care for veterans living in rural or highly rural areas, including travel distances and transportation costs to access a VA medical facility and availability of local specialty and primary care; (5) an inventory of VA buildings with historic designation and the methodology used to determine the buildings' condition and utilization; (6) a description of how any realignment will be consistent with requirements under the National Historic Preservation Act; and (7) consideration given for reuse of historic buildings within newly identified realignment requirements: *Provided*, That this provision shall not apply to capital projects in VISN 23, or any other VISN, which have been authorized or approved by Congress.

SEC. 236. None of the funds available to the Department of Veterans Affairs, in this or any other Act, may be used to replace the current system by which the Veterans Integrated Service Networks select and contract for diabetes monitoring supplies and equipment.

SEC. 237. None of the funds made available in this Act or prior Acts may be used by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to expand the dialysis pilot program approved by the Under Secretary of Veterans Affairs for Health in August 2010 and by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs in September 2010 or to create any new dialysis capability provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs in any facility that is not an initial facility under the pilot program until the later of the following dates:

(1) September 30, 2015.

(2) The date on which an independent analysis of the dialysis pilot program has been conducted at each initial facility and has been submitted to the Committees on Appropriations and the Committees on Veterans' Affairs of both Houses of Congress.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 238. The Secretary of Veterans Affairs, upon determination that such action is necessary to address needs of the Veterans Health Administration, may transfer to the "Medical Services" account any discretionary appropriations made available for fiscal year 2015 in this title (except appropriations made to the "General Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration" account) or any discretionary unobligated balances within the Department of Veterans Affairs, including those appropriated for fiscal year 2015, that were provided in advance by appropriations Acts: *Provided*, That transfers shall be made only with the approval of the Office of Management and Budget: *Provided further*, That the transfer authority provided in this section is in addition to any other transfer authority provided by law: *Provided further*, That no amounts may be transferred from amounts that were designated by Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: *Provided further*, That such authority to transfer may not be used unless for higher priority items, based on emergent healthcare requirements, than those for which originally appropriated and in no case where the item for which funds are requested has been denied by Congress: *Provided further*, That, upon determination that all or part of the funds transferred from an appropriation are not necessary, such amounts may be transferred back to that appropriation and shall be available for the same purposes as originally appropriated: *Provided further*, That before a transfer may take place, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall request from the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress the authority to make the transfer and receive approval of that request.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 239. Amounts made available for the Department of Veterans Affairs for fiscal year 2015, under the "Board of Veterans Appeals" and the "General Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration" accounts may be transferred between such accounts: *Provided*, That before a transfer may take place, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall request from the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress the authority to make the transfer and such Committees issue an approval.

(RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

SEC. 240. Of the unobligated balances available within the "DOD-VA Health Care Sharing Incentive Fund", \$15,000,000 are hereby rescinded.

SEC. 241. Subsection (b) of section 504 of the Veterans' Benefits Improvements Act of 1996

(Public Law 104-275; 38 U.S.C. 5101 note) is amended to read as follows:

"(b) LIMITATION.—The Secretary may carry out the pilot program under this section as follows:

"(1) In fiscal years before fiscal year 2015, through not more than 10 regional offices of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

"(2) In fiscal year 2015, through not more than 12 regional offices of the Department.

"(3) In fiscal year 2016, through not more than 15 regional offices of the Department.

"(4) In fiscal year 2017 and each fiscal year thereafter, through such regional offices of the Department as the Secretary considers appropriate."

SEC. 242. Section 101(d)(2)(B)(ii) of the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014 (Public Law 113-146; 38 U.S.C. 1701 note) is amended by adding at the end the following new subclause:

"(III) OTHER EXCEPTIONS.—With respect to furnishing care or services under this section in Alaska, the Alaska Fee Schedule of the Department of Veterans Affairs will be followed, except for when another payment agreement, including a contract or provider agreement, is in place. With respect to care or services furnished under this section in a State with an All-Payer Model Agreement under the Social Security Act that became effective on January 1, 2014, the Medicare payment rates under clause (i) shall be calculated based on the payment rates under such agreement."

SEC. 243. Section 1710(e)(1)(F) of title 38, United States Code, is amended by striking "January 1, 1957," and inserting "August 1, 1953".

ADVANCE APPROPRIATIONS FOR CERTAIN ACCOUNTS OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

SEC. 244. (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 117 of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking "medical care accounts of the Department" each place it appears and inserting "covered accounts of the Department";

(2) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking "beginning with fiscal year 2011,"; and

(B) by striking "discretionary" each place it appears;

(3) in subsection (c)—

(A) by striking "medical care accounts of the Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs account" and inserting "accounts of the Department of Veterans Affairs account";

(B) in paragraph (1), by inserting "Veterans Health Administration," and after "(1)";

(C) in paragraph (2), by inserting "Veterans Health Administration," after "(2)";

(D) in paragraph (3), by inserting "Veterans Health Administration," after "(3)";

(E) by redesignating paragraphs (1) through (3) as paragraphs (4) through (6), respectively;

(F) by inserting before paragraph (4), as redesignated by subparagraph (E), the following new paragraphs:

"(1) Veterans Benefits Administration, Compensation and Pensions.

"(2) Veterans Benefits Administration, Readjustment Benefits.

"(3) Veterans Benefits Administration, Veterans Insurance and Indemnities."; and

(G) in the subsection heading, by striking "MEDICAL CARE ACCOUNTS" and inserting "COVERED ACCOUNTS OF THE DEPARTMENT"; and

(4) in the section heading, by striking "**certain medical care accounts**" and inserting "**certain accounts**".

(b) APPLICABILITY.—Section 117 of title 38, United States Code, shall apply as follows:

(1) With respect to an account described in paragraph (4), (5), or (6) of subsection (c) of such section, as redesignated by subsection (a) of this section, for each fiscal year beginning with fiscal year 2011.

(2) With respect to an account described in paragraph (1), (2), or (3) of such subsection (c), as added by subsection (a) of this section, for each fiscal year beginning with 2017.

(c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 1 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by striking the item relating to section 117 and inserting the following new item:

"117. Advance appropriations for certain accounts."

(d) CONFORMING AND TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.—Section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking the first paragraph (37) and inserting the following new paragraph:

"(37) information on estimates of appropriations for the fiscal year following the fiscal year for which the budget is submitted for the following accounts of the Department of Veterans Affairs:

"(A) Veterans Benefits Administration, Compensation and Pensions.

"(B) Veterans Benefits Administration, Readjustment Benefits.

"(C) Veterans Benefits Administration, Veterans Insurance and Indemnities.

"(D) Veterans Health Administration, Medical Services.

"(E) Veterans Health Administration, Medical Support and Compliance.

"(F) Veterans Health Administration, Medical Facilities."; and

(2) by redesignating the second paragraph (37), as added by section 11(a)(2) of the GPRA Modernization Act of 2010 (Public Law 111-352; 124 Stat. 3881), as paragraph (39).

TITLE III

RELATED AGENCIES

AMERICAN BATTLE MONUMENTS COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, of the American Battle Monuments Commission, including the acquisition of land or interest in land in foreign countries; purchases and repair of uniforms for caretakers of national cemeteries and monuments outside of the United States and its territories and possessions; rent of office and garage space in foreign countries; purchase (one-for-one replacement basis only) and hire of passenger motor vehicles; not to exceed \$7,500 for official reception and representation expenses; and insurance of official motor vehicles in foreign countries, when required by law of such countries, \$74,100,000, to remain available until expended.

FOREIGN CURRENCY FLUCTUATIONS ACCOUNT

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, of the American Battle Monuments Commission, such sums as may be necessary, to remain available until expended, for purposes authorized by section 2109 of title 36, United States Code.

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR VETERANS CLAIMS

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses for the operation of the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims as authorized by sections 7251 through 7298 of title 38, United States Code, \$31,386,000: *Provided*, That \$2,500,000 shall be

available for the purpose of providing financial assistance as described, and in accordance with the process and reporting procedures set forth, under this heading in Public Law 102-229.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE—CIVIL  
CEMETERIAL EXPENSES, ARMY  
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses for maintenance, operation, and improvement of Arlington National Cemetery and Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery, including the purchase or lease of passenger motor vehicles for replacement on a one-for-one basis only, and not to exceed \$1,000 for official reception and representation expenses, \$65,800,000, of which not to exceed \$3,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2016. In addition, such sums as may be necessary for parking maintenance, repairs and replacement, to be derived from the "Lease of Department of Defense Real Property for Defense Agencies" account.

ARMED FORCES RETIREMENT HOME  
TRUST FUND

For expenses necessary for the Armed Forces Retirement Home to operate and maintain the Armed Forces Retirement Home—Washington, District of Columbia, and the Armed Forces Retirement Home—Gulftport, Mississippi, to be paid from funds available in the Armed Forces Retirement Home Trust Fund, \$63,400,000, of which \$1,000,000 shall remain available until expended for construction and renovation of the physical plants at the Armed Forces Retirement Home—Washington, District of Columbia, and the Armed Forces Retirement Home—Gulftport, Mississippi.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION

SEC. 301. Funds appropriated in this Act under the heading "Department of Defense—Civil, Cemeterial Expenses, Army", may be provided to Arlington County, Virginia, for the relocation of the federally owned water main at Arlington National Cemetery, making additional land available for ground burials.

TITLE IV

OVERSEAS CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS  
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, DEFENSE-WIDE

For an additional amount for "Military Construction, Defense-Wide", \$46,000,000 to remain available until September 30, 2017, for a project outside of the United States: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

EUROPEAN REASSURANCE INITIATIVE MILITARY  
CONSTRUCTION

For an additional amount for "Military Construction, Army", "Military Construction, Air Force", and "Military Construction, Defense-Wide", \$175,000,000 to remain available until September 30, 2017, for military construction (including planning and design) for projects associated with the European Reassurance Initiative: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: *Provided further*, That none of the funds provided under this heading may be obligated or expended until the Secretary of Defense sub-

mits to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress: (1) a final spending plan for the European Reassurance Initiative military construction projects, and (2) the relevant Department of Defense Form 1391 for each project prior to the execution of that project.

TITLE V  
GENERAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 501. No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall remain available for obligation beyond the current fiscal year unless expressly so provided herein.

SEC. 502. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used for any program, project, or activity, when it is made known to the Federal entity or official to which the funds are made available that the program, project, or activity is not in compliance with any Federal law relating to risk assessment, the protection of private property rights, or unfunded mandates.

SEC. 503. All departments and agencies funded under this Act are encouraged, within the limits of the existing statutory authorities and funding, to expand their use of "E-Commerce" technologies and procedures in the conduct of their business practices and public service activities.

SEC. 504. Unless stated otherwise, all reports and notifications required by this Act shall be submitted to the Subcommittee on Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies of the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Subcommittee on Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies of the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate.

SEC. 505. None of the funds made available in this Act may be transferred to any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States Government except pursuant to a transfer made by, or transfer authority provided in, this or any other appropriations Act.

SEC. 506. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used for a project or program named for an individual serving as a Member, Delegate, or Resident Commissioner of the United States House of Representatives.

SEC. 507. (a) Any agency receiving funds made available in this Act, shall, subject to subsections (b) and (c), post on the public Web site of that agency any report required to be submitted by the Congress in this or any other Act, upon the determination by the head of the agency that it shall serve the national interest.

(b) Subsection (a) shall not apply to a report if—

(1) the public posting of the report compromises national security; or

(2) the report contains confidential or proprietary information.

(c) The head of the agency posting such report shall do so only after such report has been made available to the requesting Committee or Committees of Congress for no less than 45 days.

SEC. 508. (a) None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to maintain or establish a computer network unless such network blocks the viewing, downloading, and exchanging of pornography.

(b) Nothing in subsection (a) shall limit the use of funds necessary for any Federal, State, tribal, or local law enforcement agency or any other entity carrying out criminal investigations, prosecution, or adjudication activities.

SEC. 509. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used by an agency of the

executive branch to pay for first-class travel by an employee of the agency in contravention of sections 301–10.122 through 301–10.124 of title 41, Code of Federal Regulations.

SEC. 510. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to execute a contract for goods or services, including construction services, where the contractor has not complied with Executive Order No. 12989.

SEC. 511. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used by the Department of Defense or the Department of Veterans Affairs to lease or purchase new light duty vehicles for any executive fleet, or for an agency's fleet inventory, except in accordance with Presidential Memorandum—Federal Fleet Performance, dated May 24, 2011.

SEC. 512. (a) IN GENERAL.—None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available to the Department of Defense in this Act may be used to construct, renovate, or expand any facility in the United States, its territories, or possessions to house any individual detained at United States Naval Station, Guantánamo Bay, Cuba, for the purposes of detention or imprisonment in the custody or under the control of the Department of Defense.

(b) The prohibition in subsection (a) shall not apply to any modification of facilities at United States Naval Station, Guantánamo Bay, Cuba.

(c) An individual described in this subsection is any individual who, as of June 24, 2009, is located at United States Naval Station, Guantánamo Bay, Cuba, and who—

(1) is not a citizen of the United States or a member of the Armed Forces of the United States; and

(2) is—

(A) in the custody or under the effective control of the Department of Defense; or

(B) otherwise under detention at United States Naval Station, Guantánamo Bay, Cuba.

This division may be cited as the "Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2015".

**DIVISION J—DEPARTMENT OF STATE,  
FOREIGN OPERATIONS, AND RELATED  
PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015**

TITLE I

DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND RELATED  
AGENCY

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ADMINISTRATION OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR PROGRAMS

For necessary expenses of the Department of State and the Foreign Service not otherwise provided for, \$6,460,639,000, of which up to \$650,000,000 may remain available until September 30, 2016, and of which up to \$2,128,115,000 may remain available until expended for Worldwide Security Protection: *Provided*, That funds made available under this heading shall be allocated in accordance with paragraphs (1) through (4) as follows:

(1) HUMAN RESOURCES.—For necessary expenses for training, human resources management, and salaries, including employment without regard to civil service and classification laws of persons on a temporary basis (not to exceed \$700,000), as authorized by section 801 of the United States Information and Educational Exchange Act of 1948, \$2,270,036,000, of which up to \$331,885,000 is for Worldwide Security Protection.

(2) OVERSEAS PROGRAMS.—For necessary expenses for the regional bureaus of the Department of State and overseas activities as authorized by law, \$1,595,805,000.

(3) **DIPLOMATIC POLICY AND SUPPORT.**—For necessary expenses for the functional bureaus of the Department of State, including representation to certain international organizations in which the United States participates pursuant to treaties ratified pursuant to the advice and consent of the Senate or specific Acts of Congress, general administration, and arms control, nonproliferation and disarmament activities as authorized, \$780,860,000.

(4) **SECURITY PROGRAMS.**—For necessary expenses for security activities, \$1,813,938,000, of which up to \$1,796,230,000 is for Worldwide Security Protection.

(5) **FEES AND PAYMENTS COLLECTED.**—In addition to amounts otherwise made available under this heading—

(A) not to exceed \$1,806,600 shall be derived from fees collected from other executive agencies for lease or use of facilities located at the International Center in accordance with section 4 of the International Center Act, and, in addition, as authorized by section 5 of such Act, \$533,000, to be derived from the reserve authorized by that section, to be used for the purposes set out in that section;

(B) as authorized by section 810 of the United States Information and Educational Exchange Act, not to exceed \$5,000,000, to remain available until expended, may be credited to this appropriation from fees or other payments received from English teaching, library, motion pictures, and publication programs and from fees from educational advising and counseling and exchange visitor programs; and

(C) not to exceed \$15,000, which shall be derived from reimbursements, surcharges, and fees for use of Blair House facilities.

(6) **TRANSFER, REPROGRAMMING, AND OTHER MATTERS.**—

(A) Notwithstanding any provision of this Act, funds may be reprogrammed within and between paragraphs (1) through (4) under this heading subject to section 7015 of this Act.

(B) Of the amount made available under this heading, not to exceed \$10,000,000 may be transferred to, and merged with, funds made available by this Act under the heading “Emergencies in the Diplomatic and Consular Service”, to be available only for emergency evacuations and rewards, as authorized.

(C) Funds appropriated under this heading are available for acquisition by exchange or purchase of passenger motor vehicles as authorized by law and, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1108(g), for the field examination of programs and activities in the United States funded from any account contained in this title.

(D) Of the funds appropriated under this heading, up to \$23,500,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for Conflict Stabilization Operations and for related reconstruction and stabilization assistance to prevent or respond to conflict or civil strife in foreign countries or regions, or to enable transition from such strife: *Provided*, That such funds may be transferred to, and merged with, funds previously made available under the heading “Conflict Stabilization Operations” in title I of prior acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs.

(E) None of the funds appropriated under this heading may be used for the preservation of religious sites unless the Secretary of State determines and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that such sites are historically, artistically, or culturally sig-

nificant, that the purpose of the project is neither to advance nor to inhibit the free exercise of religion, and that the project is in the national interest of the United States.

#### CAPITAL INVESTMENT FUND

For necessary expenses of the Capital Investment Fund, \$56,400,000, to remain available until expended, as authorized.

#### OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General, \$73,400,000, notwithstanding section 209(a)(1) of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (Public Law 96-465), as it relates to post inspections: *Provided*, That of the funds appropriated under this heading, \$11,000,000 may remain available until September 30, 2016.

#### EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMS

For expenses of educational and cultural exchange programs, as authorized, \$589,900,000, to remain available until expended, of which not less than \$236,485,000 shall be for the Fulbright Program: *Provided*, That fees or other payments received from, or in connection with, English teaching, educational advising and counseling programs, and exchange visitor programs as authorized may be credited to this account, to remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That a portion of the Fulbright awards from the Eurasia and Central Asia regions shall be designated as Edmund S. Muskie Fellowships, following consultation with the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That not later than 45 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations detailing modifications made to existing educational and cultural exchange programs since calendar year 2013, including for special academic and special professional and cultural exchanges: *Provided further*, That any further substantive modifications to programs funded by this Act under this heading shall be subject to prior consultation with, and the regular notification procedures of, the Committees on Appropriations.

#### REPRESENTATION EXPENSES

For representation expenses as authorized, \$3,030,000.

#### PROTECTION OF FOREIGN MISSIONS AND OFFICIALS

For expenses, not otherwise provided, to enable the Secretary of State to provide for extraordinary protective services, as authorized, \$30,036,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016.

#### EMBASSY SECURITY, CONSTRUCTION, AND MAINTENANCE

For necessary expenses for carrying out the Foreign Service Buildings Act of 1926 (22 U.S.C. 292-303), preserving, maintaining, repairing, and planning for buildings that are owned or directly leased by the Department of State, renovating, in addition to funds otherwise available, the Harry S Truman Building, and carrying out the Diplomatic Security Construction Program as authorized, \$822,755,000, to remain available until expended as authorized, of which not to exceed \$25,000 may be used for domestic and overseas representation expenses as authorized: *Provided*, That none of the funds appropriated in this paragraph shall be available for acquisition of furniture, furnishings, or generators for other departments and agencies.

In addition, for the costs of worldwide security upgrades, acquisition, and construction as authorized, \$1,240,500,000, to remain

available until expended: *Provided*, That not later than 45 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations the proposed allocation of funds made available under this heading and the actual and anticipated proceeds of sales for all projects in fiscal year 2015.

#### EMERGENCIES IN THE DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR SERVICE

For necessary expenses to enable the Secretary of State to meet unforeseen emergencies arising in the Diplomatic and Consular Service, \$7,900,000, to remain available until expended as authorized, of which not to exceed \$1,000,000 may be transferred to, and merged with, funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “Repatriation Loans Program Account”, subject to the same terms and conditions.

#### REPATRIATION LOANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

For the cost of direct loans, \$1,300,000, as authorized: *Provided*, That such costs, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974: *Provided further*, That such funds are available to subsidize gross obligations for the principal amount of direct loans not to exceed \$2,469,136.

#### PAYMENT TO THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE IN TAIWAN

For necessary expenses to carry out the Taiwan Relations Act (Public Law 96-8), \$30,000,000.

#### PAYMENT TO THE FOREIGN SERVICE RETIREMENT AND DISABILITY FUND

For payment to the Foreign Service Retirement and Disability Fund, as authorized, \$158,900,000.

#### INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS CONTRIBUTIONS TO INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, to meet annual obligations of membership in international multilateral organizations, pursuant to treaties ratified pursuant to the advice and consent of the Senate, conventions or specific Acts of Congress, \$1,399,151,000: *Provided*, That the Secretary of State shall, at the time of the submission of the President's budget to Congress under section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code, transmit to the Committees on Appropriations the most recent biennial budget prepared by the United Nations for the operations of the United Nations: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of State shall notify the Committees on Appropriations at least 15 days in advance (or in an emergency, as far in advance as is practicable) of any United Nations action to increase funding for any United Nations program without identifying an offsetting decrease elsewhere in the United Nations budget: *Provided further*, That not later than May 1, 2015, and 30 days after the end of fiscal year 2015, the Secretary of State shall report to the Committees on Appropriations any credits available to the United States, including from the United Nations Tax Equalization Fund, and provide updated fiscal year 2015 and fiscal year 2016 assessment costs including offsets from available credits and updated foreign currency exchange rates: *Provided further*, That any such credits shall only be available for United States assessed contributions to the United Nations and the Committees on Appropriations shall be notified when such credits are applied to any assessed contribution, including any payment of arrearages: *Provided further*, That any notification regarding funds appropriated or



otherwise made available under this heading in this Act or prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs submitted pursuant to section 7015 of this Act, section 34 of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2706), or any operating plan submitted pursuant to section 7076 of this Act, shall include an estimate of all known credits currently available to the United States and provide updated assessment costs including offsets from available credits and updated foreign currency exchange rates: *Provided further*, That any payment of arrearages under this heading shall be directed to activities that are mutually agreed upon by the United States and the respective international organization and shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That none of the funds appropriated under this heading shall be available for a United States contribution to an international organization for the United States share of interest costs made known to the United States Government by such organization for loans incurred on or after October 1, 1984, through external borrowings: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of State shall review the budgetary and personnel procedures of the United Nations and affiliated agencies funded under this heading and, not later than 180 days after enactment of this Act, submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations on steps taken at each agency to eliminate unnecessary administrative costs and duplicative activities and ensure that personnel practices are transparent and merit-based.

#### CONTRIBUTIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACEKEEPING ACTIVITIES

For necessary expenses to pay assessed and other expenses of international peacekeeping activities directed to the maintenance or restoration of international peace and security, \$2,118,891,000, of which 15 percent shall remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That none of the funds made available by this Act shall be obligated or expended for any new or expanded United Nations peacekeeping mission unless, at least 15 days in advance of voting for such mission in the United Nations Security Council (or in an emergency as far in advance as is practicable), the Committees on Appropriations are notified: (1) of the estimated cost and duration of the mission, the objectives of the mission, the national interest that will be served, and the exit strategy; (2) that the United Nations has in place measures to prevent United Nations employees, contractor personnel, and peacekeeping troops serving in the mission from trafficking in persons, exploiting victims of trafficking, or committing acts of illegal sexual exploitation or other violations of human rights, and to bring to justice individuals who engage in such acts while participating in the peacekeeping mission, including prosecution in their home countries of such individuals in connection with such acts, and to make information about such cases publicly available in the country where an alleged crime occurs and on the United Nations' Web site; and (3) the source of funds that will be used to pay the cost of the new or expanded mission, and the estimated cost in future fiscal years: *Provided further*, That funds shall be available for peacekeeping expenses unless the Secretary of State determines that American manufacturers and suppliers are not being given opportunities to provide equipment, services, and material for United Nations peacekeeping activities equal to

those being given to foreign manufacturers and suppliers: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of State shall work with the United Nations and foreign governments contributing peacekeeping troops to implement effective vetting procedures to ensure that such troops have not violated human rights: *Provided further*, That none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available under this heading may be used for any United Nations peacekeeping mission that will involve United States Armed Forces under the command or operational control of a foreign national, unless the President's military advisors have submitted to the President a recommendation that such involvement is in the national interest of the United States and the President has submitted to the Congress such a recommendation: *Provided further*, That not later than May 1, 2015, and 30 days after the end of fiscal year 2015, the Secretary of State shall report to the Committees on Appropriations any credits available to the United States, including those resulting from United Nations peacekeeping missions or the United Nations Tax Equalization Fund, and provide updated fiscal year 2015 and fiscal year 2016 assessment costs including offsets from available credits: *Provided further*, That any such credits shall only be available for United States assessed contributions to the United Nations, and the Committees on Appropriations shall be notified when such credits are applied to any assessed contribution, including any payment of arrearages: *Provided further*, That any notification regarding funds appropriated or otherwise made available under this heading in this Act or prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs submitted pursuant to section 7015 of this Act, section 34 of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2706), or any operating plan submitted pursuant to section 7076 of this Act, shall include an estimate of all known credits currently available to the United States and provide updated assessment costs including offsets from available credits: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, funds appropriated or otherwise made available under this heading shall be available for United States assessed contributions up to the amount specified in Annex IV accompanying United Nations General Assembly Resolution 64/220: *Provided further*, That such funds may be made available above the amount authorized in section 404(b)(2)(B) of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, fiscal years 1994 and 1995 (22 U.S.C. 287e note) only if the Secretary of State determines and reports to the appropriate congressional committees that it is important to the national interest of the United States.

#### INTERNATIONAL COMMISSIONS

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, to meet obligations of the United States arising under treaties, or specific Acts of Congress, as follows:

##### INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY AND WATER COMMISSION, UNITED STATES AND MEXICO

For necessary expenses for the United States Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission, United States and Mexico, and to comply with laws applicable to the United States Section, including not to exceed \$6,000 for representation expenses; as follows:

##### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For salaries and expenses, not otherwise provided for, \$44,707,000.

#### CONSTRUCTION

For detailed plan preparation and construction of authorized projects, \$29,000,000, to remain available until expended, as authorized.

##### AMERICAN SECTIONS, INTERNATIONAL COMMISSIONS

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided, for the International Joint Commission and the International Boundary Commission, United States and Canada, as authorized by treaties between the United States and Canada or Great Britain, and the Border Environment Cooperation Commission as authorized by Public Law 103-182, \$12,561,000: *Provided*, That of the amount provided under this heading for the International Joint Commission, up to \$500,000 may remain available until September 30, 2016, and \$9,000 may be made available for representation expenses.

##### INTERNATIONAL FISHERIES COMMISSIONS

For necessary expenses for international fisheries commissions, not otherwise provided for, as authorized by law, \$36,681,000: *Provided*, That the United States share of such expenses may be advanced to the respective commissions pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 3324.

#### RELATED AGENCY

##### BROADCASTING BOARD OF GOVERNORS

##### INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING OPERATIONS

For necessary expenses to enable the Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG), as authorized, to carry out international communication activities, and to make and supervise grants for radio and television broadcasting to the Middle East, \$726,567,000: *Provided*, That in addition to amounts otherwise available for such purposes, up to \$44,025,000 of the amount appropriated under this heading may remain available until expended for satellite transmissions and Internet freedom programs, of which not less than \$17,500,000 shall be for Internet freedom programs: *Provided further*, That of the total amount appropriated under this heading, not to exceed \$35,000 may be used for representation expenses, of which \$10,000 may be used for representation expenses within the United States as authorized, and not to exceed \$30,000 may be used for representation expenses of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty: *Provided further*, That the authority provided by section 504(c) of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Year 2003 (Public Law 107-228; 22 U.S.C. 6206 note) shall remain in effect through September 30, 2015: *Provided further*, That the BBG shall notify the Committees on Appropriations within 15 days of any determination by the Board that any of its broadcast entities, including its grantee organizations, provides an open platform for international terrorists or those who support international terrorism, or is in violation of the principles and standards set forth in subsections (a) and (b) of section 303 of the United States International Broadcasting Act of 1994 (22 U.S.C. 6202) or the entity's journalistic code of ethics: *Provided further*, That significant modifications to BBG broadcast hours previously justified to Congress, including changes to transmission platforms (shortwave, medium wave, satellite, Internet, and television), for all BBG language services shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That in addition to funds made available under this heading, and notwithstanding any other provision of law, up to \$5,000,000 in receipts from advertising and revenue from

business ventures, up to \$500,000 in receipts from cooperating international organizations, and up to \$1,000,000 in receipts from privatization efforts of the Voice of America and the International Broadcasting Bureau, shall remain available until expended for carrying out authorized purposes.

#### BROADCASTING CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

For the purchase, rent, construction, repair, preservation, and improvement of facilities for radio, television, and digital transmission and reception; the purchase, rent, and installation of necessary equipment for radio, television, and digital transmission and reception, including to Cuba, as authorized; and physical security worldwide, in addition to amounts otherwise available for such purposes, \$4,800,000, to remain available until expended, as authorized.

#### RELATED PROGRAMS

##### THE ASIA FOUNDATION

For a grant to The Asia Foundation, as authorized by The Asia Foundation Act (22 U.S.C. 4402), \$17,000,000, to remain available until expended, as authorized.

##### UNITED STATES INSTITUTE OF PEACE

For necessary expenses of the United States Institute of Peace, as authorized by the United States Institute of Peace Act, \$35,300,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016, which shall not be used for construction activities.

##### CENTER FOR MIDDLE EASTERN-WESTERN DIALOGUE TRUST FUND

For necessary expenses of the Center for Middle Eastern-Western Dialogue Trust Fund, as authorized by section 633 of the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2004 (22 U.S.C. 2078), the total amount of the interest and earnings accruing to such Fund on or before September 30, 2015, to remain available until expended.

##### EISENHOWER EXCHANGE FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

For necessary expenses of Eisenhower Exchange Fellowships, Incorporated, as authorized by sections 4 and 5 of the Eisenhower Exchange Fellowship Act of 1990 (20 U.S.C. 5204-5205), all interest and earnings accruing to the Eisenhower Exchange Fellowship Program Trust Fund on or before September 30, 2015, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That none of the funds appropriated herein shall be used to pay any salary or other compensation, or to enter into any contract providing for the payment thereof, in excess of the rate authorized by 5 U.S.C. 5376; or for purposes which are not in accordance with OMB Circulars A-110 (Uniform Administrative Requirements) and A-122 (Cost Principles for Non-profit Organizations), including the restrictions on compensation for personal services.

##### ISRAELI ARAB SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

For necessary expenses of the Israeli Arab Scholarship Program, as authorized by section 214 of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1992 and 1993 (22 U.S.C. 2452), all interest and earnings accruing to the Israeli Arab Scholarship Fund on or before September 30, 2015, to remain available until expended.

##### EAST-WEST CENTER

To enable the Secretary of State to provide for carrying out the provisions of the Center for Cultural and Technical Interchange Between East and West Act of 1960, by grant to the Center for Cultural and Technical Interchange Between East and West in the State of Hawaii, \$16,700,000.

##### NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR DEMOCRACY

For grants made by the Department of State to the National Endowment for De-

mocracy, as authorized by the National Endowment for Democracy Act, \$135,000,000, to remain available until expended, of which \$100,000,000 shall be allocated in the traditional and customary manner, including for the core institutes, and \$35,000,000 shall be for democracy, human rights, and rule of law programs.

#### OTHER COMMISSIONS

##### COMMISSION FOR THE PRESERVATION OF AMERICA'S HERITAGE ABROAD SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses for the Commission for the Preservation of America's Heritage Abroad, \$644,000, as authorized by section 1303 of Public Law 99-83: *Provided*, That the Commission may procure temporary, intermittent, and other services notwithstanding paragraph (3) of section 1303(g) of Public Law 99-83 (16 U.S.C. 469j): *Provided further*, That such authority shall terminate on October 1, 2015: *Provided further*, That the Commission shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations prior to exercising such authority.

##### UNITED STATES COMMISSION ON INTERNATIONAL RELIGIOUS FREEDOM SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses for the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom established in title II of the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6431 et seq.), \$3,500,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016, including not more than \$4,000 for representation expenses, subject to authorization.

##### COMMISSION ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, as authorized by Public Law 94-304, \$2,579,000, including not more than \$4,000 for representation expenses, to remain available until September 30, 2016.

##### CONGRESSIONAL-EXECUTIVE COMMISSION ON THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Congressional-Executive Commission on the People's Republic of China, as authorized by title III of the U.S.-China Relations Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 6911-6919), \$2,000,000, including not more than \$3,000 for representation expenses, to remain available until September 30, 2016.

##### UNITED STATES-CHINA ECONOMIC AND SECURITY REVIEW COMMISSION SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the United States-China Economic and Security Review Commission, as authorized by section 1238 of the Floyd D. Spence National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2001 (22 U.S.C. 7002), \$3,500,000, including not more than \$4,000 for representation expenses, to remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That the authorities, requirements, limitations, and conditions contained in the second through sixth provisos under this heading in division F of Public Law 111-117 shall continue in effect during fiscal year 2015 and shall apply to funds appropriated under this heading as if included in this Act.

#### TITLE II

##### UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT OPERATING EXPENSES

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of section 667 of the Foreign As-

sistance Act of 1961, \$1,090,836,000, of which up to \$163,625,000 may remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That none of the funds appropriated under this heading and under the heading "Capital Investment Fund" in this title may be made available to finance the construction (including architect and engineering services), purchase, or long-term lease of offices for use by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), unless the USAID Administrator has identified such proposed use of funds in a report submitted to the Committees on Appropriations at least 15 days prior to the obligation of funds for such purposes: *Provided further*, That contracts or agreements entered into with funds appropriated under this heading may entail commitments for the expenditure of such funds through the following fiscal year: *Provided further*, That the authority of sections 610 and 109 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 may be exercised by the Secretary of State to transfer funds appropriated to carry out chapter 1 of part I of such Act to "Operating Expenses" in accordance with the provisions of those sections: *Provided further*, That of the funds appropriated or made available under this heading, not to exceed \$250,000 may be available for representation and entertainment expenses, of which not to exceed \$5,000 may be available for entertainment expenses, for USAID during the current fiscal year.

##### CAPITAL INVESTMENT FUND

For necessary expenses for overseas construction and related costs, and for the procurement and enhancement of information technology and related capital investments, pursuant to section 667 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, \$130,815,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That this amount is in addition to funds otherwise available for such purposes: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated under this heading shall be available for obligation only pursuant to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

##### OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of section 667 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, \$54,285,000, of which up to \$8,143,000 may remain available until September 30, 2016, for the Office of Inspector General of the United States Agency for International Development.

#### TITLE III

##### BILATERAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT

For necessary expenses to enable the President to carry out the provisions of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, and for other purposes, as follows:

##### GLOBAL HEALTH PROGRAMS

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of chapters 1 and 10 of part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, for global health activities, in addition to funds otherwise available for such purposes, \$2,783,950,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016, and which shall be apportioned directly to the United States Agency for International Development (USAID): *Provided*, That this amount shall be made available for training, equipment, and technical assistance to build the capacity of public health institutions and organizations in developing countries, and for such activities as: (1) child survival and maternal health programs; (2) immunization and oral rehydration programs; (3) other health, nutrition, water and sanitation programs which



directly address the needs of mothers and children, and related education programs; (4) assistance for children displaced or orphaned by causes other than AIDS; (5) programs for the prevention, treatment, control of, and research on HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, polio, malaria, and other infectious diseases including neglected tropical diseases, and for assistance to communities severely affected by HIV/AIDS, including children infected or affected by AIDS; (6) disaster preparedness training for health crises; and (7) family planning/reproductive health: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated under this paragraph may be made available for a United States contribution to the GAVI Alliance: *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available in this Act nor any unobligated balances from prior appropriations Acts may be made available to any organization or program which, as determined by the President of the United States, supports or participates in the management of a program of coercive abortion or involuntary sterilization: *Provided further*, That any determination made under the previous proviso must be made not later than 6 months after the date of enactment of this Act, and must be accompanied by the evidence and criteria utilized to make the determination: *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available under this Act may be used to pay for the performance of abortion as a method of family planning or to motivate or coerce any person to practice abortions: *Provided further*, That nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to alter any existing statutory prohibitions against abortion under section 104 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961: *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available under this Act may be used to lobby for or against abortion: *Provided further*, That in order to reduce reliance on abortion in developing nations, funds shall be available only to voluntary family planning projects which offer, either directly or through referral to, or information about access to, a broad range of family planning methods and services, and that any such voluntary family planning project shall meet the following requirements: (1) service providers or referral agents in the project shall not implement or be subject to quotas, or other numerical targets, of total number of births, number of family planning acceptors, or acceptors of a particular method of family planning (this provision shall not be construed to include the use of quantitative estimates or indicators for budgeting and planning purposes); (2) the project shall not include payment of incentives, bribes, gratuities, or financial reward to: (A) an individual in exchange for becoming a family planning acceptor; or (B) program personnel for achieving a numerical target or quota of total number of births, number of family planning acceptors, or acceptors of a particular method of family planning; (3) the project shall not deny any right or benefit, including the right of access to participate in any program of general welfare or the right of access to health care, as a consequence of any individual's decision not to accept family planning services; (4) the project shall provide family planning acceptors comprehensible information on the health benefits and risks of the method chosen, including those conditions that might render the use of the method inadvisable and those adverse side effects known to be consequent to the use of the method; and (5) the project shall ensure that experimental contraceptive drugs and devices and medical procedures are provided only in the context

of a scientific study in which participants are advised of potential risks and benefits; and, not less than 60 days after the date on which the USAID Administrator determines that there has been a violation of the requirements contained in paragraph (1), (2), (3), or (5) of this proviso, or a pattern or practice of violations of the requirements contained in paragraph (4) of this proviso, the Administrator shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations a report containing a description of such violation and the corrective action taken by the Agency: *Provided further*, That in awarding grants for natural family planning under section 104 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 no applicant shall be discriminated against because of such applicant's religious or conscientious commitment to offer only natural family planning; and, additionally, all such applicants shall comply with the requirements of the previous proviso: *Provided further*, That for purposes of this or any other Act authorizing or appropriating funds for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs, the term "motivate", as it relates to family planning assistance, shall not be construed to prohibit the provision, consistent with local law, of information or counseling about all pregnancy options: *Provided further*, That information provided about the use of condoms as part of projects or activities that are funded from amounts appropriated by this Act shall be medically accurate and shall include the public health benefits and failure rates of such use.

In addition, for necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 for the prevention, treatment, and control of, and research on, HIV/AIDS, \$5,670,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019, which shall be apportioned directly to the Department of State: *Provided*, That funds appropriated under this paragraph may be made available, notwithstanding any other provision of law, except for the United States Leadership Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria Act of 2003 (Public Law 108-25), as amended, for a United States contribution to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (Global Fund), and shall be expended at the minimum rate necessary to make timely payment for projects and activities: *Provided further*, That the amount of such contribution should be \$1,350,000,000: *Provided further*, That up to 5 percent of the aggregate amount of funds made available to the Global Fund in fiscal year 2015 may be made available to USAID for technical assistance related to the activities of the Global Fund: *Provided further*, That of the funds appropriated under this paragraph, up to \$17,000,000 may be made available, in addition to amounts otherwise available for such purposes, for administrative expenses of the Office of the United States Global AIDS Coordinator.

#### DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of sections 103, 105, 106, 214, and sections 251 through 255, and chapter 10 of part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, \$2,507,001,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That of the funds appropriated under this heading, not less than \$23,000,000 shall be made available for the American Schools and Hospitals Abroad program, and not less than \$10,500,000 shall be made available for cooperative development programs of the United States Agency for International Development.

#### INTERNATIONAL DISASTER ASSISTANCE

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of section 491 of the Foreign As-

sistance Act of 1961 for international disaster relief, rehabilitation, and reconstruction assistance, \$560,000,000, to remain available until expended.

#### TRANSITION INITIATIVES

For necessary expenses for international disaster rehabilitation and reconstruction assistance administered by the Office of Transition Initiatives, United States Agency for International Development (USAID), pursuant to section 491 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, \$47,000,000, to remain available until expended, to support transition to democracy and long-term development for countries in crisis: *Provided*, That such support may include assistance to develop, strengthen, or preserve democratic institutions and processes, revitalize basic infrastructure, and foster the peaceful resolution of conflict: *Provided further*, That the USAID Administrator shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations at least 5 days prior to beginning a new program of assistance: *Provided further*, That if the Secretary of State determines that it is important to the national interest of the United States to provide transition assistance in excess of the amount appropriated under this heading, up to \$15,000,000 of the funds appropriated by this Act to carry out the provisions of part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 may be used for purposes of this heading and under the authorities applicable to funds appropriated under this heading: *Provided further*, That funds made available pursuant to the previous proviso shall be made available subject to prior consultation with the Committees on Appropriations.

#### COMPLEX CRISES FUND

##### (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to support programs and activities to prevent or respond to emerging or unforeseen foreign challenges and complex crises overseas, \$20,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That funds appropriated under this heading may be made available on such terms and conditions as are appropriate and necessary for the purposes of preventing or responding to such challenges and crises, except that no funds shall be made available for lethal assistance or to respond to natural disasters: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated under this heading may be made available notwithstanding any other provision of law, except sections 7007, 7008, and 7018 of this Act and section 620M of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated under this heading may be used for administrative expenses, in addition to funds otherwise made available for such purposes, except that such expenses may not exceed 5 percent of the funds appropriated under this heading: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated under this heading shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations, except that such notifications shall be transmitted at least 5 days prior to the obligation of funds.

#### DEVELOPMENT CREDIT AUTHORITY

For the cost of direct loans and loan guarantees provided by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), as authorized by sections 256 and 635 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, up to \$40,000,000 may be derived by transfer from funds appropriated by this Act to carry out part I of such Act: *Provided*, That funds provided under this paragraph and funds provided as a gift that are used for purposes of this paragraph pursuant to section 635(d) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 shall be made

available only for micro- and small enterprise programs, urban programs, and other programs which further the purposes of part I of such Act: *Provided further*, That such costs, including the cost of modifying such direct and guaranteed loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, as amended: *Provided further*, That funds made available by this paragraph may be used for the cost of modifying any such guaranteed loans under this Act or prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs, and funds used for such costs shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That the provisions of section 107A(d) (relating to general provisions applicable to the Development Credit Authority) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as contained in section 306 of H.R. 1486 as reported by the House Committee on International Relations on May 9, 1997, shall be applicable to direct loans and loan guarantees provided under this heading, except that the principal amount of loans made or guaranteed under this heading with respect to any single country shall not exceed \$300,000,000: *Provided further*, That these funds are available to subsidize total loan principal, any portion of which is to be guaranteed, of up to \$1,500,000,000.

In addition, for administrative expenses to carry out credit programs administered by USAID, \$8,120,000, which may be transferred to, and merged with, funds made available under the heading "Operating Expenses" in title II of this Act: *Provided*, That funds made available under this heading shall remain available until September 30, 2017.

#### ECONOMIC SUPPORT FUND

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of chapter 4 of part II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, \$2,632,529,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016.

#### DEMOCRACY FUND

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 for the promotion of democracy globally, \$130,500,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016, of which \$75,500,000 shall be made available for the Human Rights and Democracy Fund of the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, Department of State, and \$55,000,000 shall be made available for the Bureau for Democracy, Conflict, and Humanitarian Assistance, United States Agency for International Development.

#### DEPARTMENT OF STATE

##### MIGRATION AND REFUGEE ASSISTANCE

For necessary expenses not otherwise provided for, to enable the Secretary of State to carry out the provisions of section 2(a) and (b) of the Migration and Refugee Assistance Act of 1962, and other activities to meet refugee and migration needs; salaries and expenses of personnel and dependents as authorized by the Foreign Service Act of 1980; allowances as authorized by sections 5921 through 5925 of title 5, United States Code; purchase and hire of passenger motor vehicles; and services as authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, \$931,886,000, to remain available until expended, of which not less than \$35,000,000 shall be made available to respond to small-scale emergency humanitarian requirements, and \$10,000,000 shall be made available for refugees resettling in Israel.

##### UNITED STATES EMERGENCY REFUGEE AND MIGRATION ASSISTANCE FUND

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of section 2(c) of the Migration

and Refugee Assistance Act of 1962, as amended (22 U.S.C. 2601(c)), \$50,000,000, to remain available until expended.

#### INDEPENDENT AGENCIES

##### PEACE CORPS

##### (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of the Peace Corps Act (22 U.S.C. 2501-2523), including the purchase of not to exceed five passenger motor vehicles for administrative purposes for use outside of the United States, \$379,500,000, of which \$5,150,000 is for the Office of Inspector General, to remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That the Director of the Peace Corps may transfer to the Foreign Currency Fluctuations Account, as authorized by 22 U.S.C. 2515, an amount not to exceed \$5,000,000: *Provided further*, That funds transferred pursuant to the previous proviso may not be derived from amounts made available for Peace Corps overseas operations: *Provided further*, That of the funds appropriated under this heading, not to exceed \$104,000 may be available for representation expenses, of which not to exceed \$4,000 may be made available for entertainment expenses: *Provided further*, That any decision to open, close, significantly reduce, or suspend a domestic or overseas office or country program shall be subject to prior consultation with, and the regular notification procedures of, the Committees on Appropriations, except that prior consultation and regular notification procedures may be waived when there is a substantial security risk to volunteers or other Peace Corps personnel, pursuant to section 7015(e) of this Act: *Provided further*, That none of the funds appropriated under this heading shall be used to pay for abortions: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding the previous proviso, section 614 of division E of Public Law 113-76 shall apply to funds appropriated under this heading.

##### MILLENNIUM CHALLENGE CORPORATION

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of the Millennium Challenge Act of 2003 (MCA), \$899,500,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of the funds appropriated under this heading, up to \$105,000,000 may be available for administrative expenses of the Millennium Challenge Corporation (the Corporation): *Provided further*, That up to 5 percent of the funds appropriated under this heading may be made available to carry out the purposes of section 616 of the MCA for fiscal year 2015: *Provided further*, That section 605(e) of the MCA shall apply to funds appropriated under this heading: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated under this heading may be made available for a Millennium Challenge Compact entered into pursuant to section 609 of the MCA only if such Compact obligates, or contains a commitment to obligate subject to the availability of funds and the mutual agreement of the parties to the Compact to proceed, the entire amount of the United States Government funding anticipated for the duration of the Compact: *Provided further*, That the Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation shall notify the Committees on Appropriations not later than 15 days prior to commencing negotiations for any country compact or threshold country program; signing any such compact or threshold program; or terminating or suspending any such compact or threshold program: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated under this heading by this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs that are available to implement section 609(g) of the

MCA shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That no country should be eligible for a threshold program after such country has completed a country compact: *Provided further*, That any funds that are deobligated from a Millennium Challenge Compact shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations prior to re-obligation: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding section 606(a)(2) of the MCA, a country shall be a candidate country for purposes of eligibility for assistance for the fiscal year if the country has a per capita income equal to or below the World Bank's lower middle income country threshold for the fiscal year and is among the 75 lowest per capita income countries as identified by the World Bank; and the country meets the requirements of section 606(a)(1)(B) of the MCA: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding section 606(b)(1) of the MCA, in addition to countries described in the preceding proviso, a country shall be a candidate country for purposes of eligibility for assistance for the fiscal year if the country has a per capita income equal to or below the World Bank's lower middle income country threshold for the fiscal year and is not among the 75 lowest per capita income countries as identified by the World Bank; and the country meets the requirements of section 606(a)(1)(B) of the MCA: *Provided further*, That any Millennium Challenge Corporation candidate country under section 606 of the MCA with a per capita income that changes in the fiscal year such that the country would be reclassified from a low income country to a lower middle income country or from a lower middle income country to a low income country shall retain its candidacy status in its former income classification for the fiscal year and the 2 subsequent fiscal years: *Provided further*, That publication in the Federal Register of a notice of availability of a copy of a Compact on the Millennium Challenge Corporation Web site shall be deemed to satisfy the requirements of section 610(b)(2) of the MCA for such Compact: *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available by this Act or prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs shall be available for a threshold program in a country that is not currently a candidate country: *Provided further*, That of the funds appropriated under this heading, not to exceed \$100,000 may be available for representation and entertainment expenses, of which not to exceed \$5,000 may be available for entertainment expenses.

##### INTER-AMERICAN FOUNDATION

For necessary expenses to carry out the functions of the Inter-American Foundation in accordance with the provisions of section 401 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1969, \$22,500,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That of the funds appropriated under this heading, not to exceed \$2,000 may be available for representation expenses.

##### UNITED STATES AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

For necessary expenses to carry out title V of the International Security and Development Cooperation Act of 1980 (Public Law 96-533), \$30,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016, of which not to exceed \$2,000 may be available for representation expenses: *Provided*, That funds made available to grantees may be invested pending expenditure for project purposes when authorized by the Board of Directors of the United

States African Development Foundation (USADF): *Provided further*, That interest earned shall be used only for the purposes for which the grant was made: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding section 505(a)(2) of the African Development Foundation Act, in exceptional circumstances the Board of Directors of the USADF may waive the \$250,000 limitation contained in that section with respect to a project and a project may exceed the limitation by up to 10 percent if the increase is due solely to foreign currency fluctuation: *Provided further*, That the USADF shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations after each time such waiver authority is exercised: *Provided further*, That the USADF may make rent or lease payments in advance from appropriations available for such purpose for offices, buildings, grounds, and quarters in Africa as may be necessary to carry out its functions.

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY  
INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS TECHNICAL  
ASSISTANCE

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of section 129 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, \$23,500,000, to remain available until September 30, 2017, which shall be available notwithstanding any other provision of law.

TITLE IV  
INTERNATIONAL SECURITY ASSISTANCE  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL AND LAW  
ENFORCEMENT

For necessary expenses to carry out section 481 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, \$853,055,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That the provision of assistance by any other United States Government department or agency which is comparable to assistance made available under this heading but which is provided under any other provision of law, shall be administered in accordance with the provisions of sections 481(b) and 622(c) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated under this heading for counternarcotics programs should be used to support social, economic, and judicial reform programs that address the causes of illicit drug production, trafficking, addiction, and related violent crime and corruption: *Provided further*, That the reporting requirements contained in section 1404 of Public Law 110-252 shall apply to funds made available by this Act, including a description of modifications, if any, to the Palestinian Authority's security strategy: *Provided further*, That the Department of State may use the authority of section 608 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, without regard to its restrictions, to receive excess property from an agency of the United States Government for the purpose of providing such property to a foreign country or international organization under chapter 8 of part I of that Act, subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated under this heading shall be made available to support training and technical assistance for foreign law enforcement, corrections, and other judicial authorities, utilizing regional partners: *Provided further*, That section 482(b) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 shall not apply to funds appropriated under this heading, except that any funds made available notwithstanding such section shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That not later than 90 days

after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations on the feasibility and cost of establishing an aviation platform in Africa to conduct the activities described in House Report 113-499.

NONPROLIFERATION, ANTI-TERRORISM,  
DEMINEING AND RELATED PROGRAMS

For necessary expenses for nonproliferation, anti-terrorism, demining and related programs and activities, \$586,260,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016, to carry out the provisions of chapter 8 of part II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 for anti-terrorism assistance, chapter 9 of part II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, section 504 of the FREEDOM Support Act, section 23 of the Arms Export Control Act or the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 for demining activities, the clearance of unexploded ordnance, the destruction of small arms, and related activities, notwithstanding any other provision of law, including activities implemented through non-governmental and international organizations, and section 301 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 for a voluntary contribution to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), and for a United States contribution to the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty Preparatory Commission: *Provided*, That for the clearance of unexploded ordnance, the Secretary of State should prioritize those areas where such ordnance was caused by the United States: *Provided further*, That funds made available under this heading for the Nonproliferation and Disarmament Fund shall be available notwithstanding any other provision of law and subject to prior consultation with, and the regular notification procedures of, the Committees on Appropriations, to promote bilateral and multilateral activities relating to nonproliferation, disarmament and weapons destruction, and shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That such funds may also be used for such countries other than the Independent States of the former Soviet Union and international organizations when it is in the national security interest of the United States to do so: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated under this heading may be made available for the IAEA unless the Secretary of State determines that Israel is being denied its right to participate in the activities of that Agency: *Provided further*, That funds made available for conventional weapons destruction programs, including demining and related activities, in addition to funds otherwise available for such purposes, may be used for administrative expenses related to the operation and management of such programs and activities.

PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of section 551 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, \$144,993,000: *Provided*, That funds appropriated under this heading may be used, notwithstanding section 660 of such Act, to provide assistance to enhance the capacity of foreign civilian security forces, including gendarmes, to participate in peacekeeping operations: *Provided further*, That of the funds appropriated under this heading, not less than \$28,000,000 shall be made available for a United States contribution to the Multinational Force and Observers mission in the Sinai: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated under this Act should not be used to support any military training or operations that include child soldiers: *Provided further*, That none of the

funds appropriated under this heading shall be obligated except as provided through the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT  
INTERNATIONAL MILITARY EDUCATION AND  
TRAINING

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of section 541 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, \$106,074,000, of which up to \$4,000,000 may remain available until September 30, 2016, and may only be provided through the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided*, That the civilian personnel for whom military education and training may be provided under this heading may include civilians who are not members of a government whose participation would contribute to improved civil-military relations, civilian control of the military, or respect for human rights: *Provided further*, That of the funds appropriated under this heading, not to exceed \$55,000 may be available for entertainment expenses.

FOREIGN MILITARY FINANCING PROGRAM

For necessary expenses for grants to enable the President to carry out the provisions of section 23 of the Arms Export Control Act, \$5,014,109,000: *Provided*, That to expedite the provision of assistance to foreign countries and international organizations, the Secretary of State, following consultation with the Committees on Appropriations and subject to the regular notification procedures of such Committees, may use the funds appropriated under this heading to procure defense articles and services to enhance the capacity of foreign security forces: *Provided further*, That of the funds appropriated under this heading, not less than \$3,100,000,000 shall be available for grants only for Israel, and funds are available for assistance for Jordan and Egypt subject to section 7041 of this Act: *Provided further*, That the funds appropriated under this heading for assistance for Israel shall be disbursed within 30 days of enactment of this Act: *Provided further*, That to the extent that the Government of Israel requests that funds be used for such purposes, grants made available for Israel under this heading shall, as agreed by the United States and Israel, be available for advanced weapons systems, of which not less than \$815,300,000 shall be available for the procurement in Israel of defense articles and defense services, including research and development: *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available under this heading shall be made available to support or continue any program initially funded under the authority of section 1206 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2006 (Public Law 109-163; 119 Stat. 3456) (or any successor authority) unless the Secretary of State, in coordination with the Secretary of Defense, has justified such program to the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated or otherwise made available under this heading shall be nonrepayable notwithstanding any requirement in section 23 of the Arms Export Control Act: *Provided further*, That funds made available under this heading shall be obligated upon apportionment in accordance with paragraph (5)(C) of title 31, United States Code, section 1501(a).

None of the funds made available under this heading shall be available to finance the procurement of defense articles, defense services, or design and construction services that are not sold by the United States Government under the Arms Export Control Act

unless the foreign country proposing to make such procurement has first signed an agreement with the United States Government specifying the conditions under which such procurement may be financed with such funds: *Provided*, That all country and funding level increases in allocations shall be submitted through the regular notification procedures of section 7015 of this Act: *Provided further*, That funds made available under this heading may be used, notwithstanding any other provision of law, for demining, the clearance of unexploded ordnance, and related activities, and may include activities implemented through nongovernmental and international organizations: *Provided further*, That only those countries for which assistance was justified for the "Foreign Military Sales Financing Program" in the fiscal year 1989 congressional presentation for security assistance programs may utilize funds made available under this heading for procurement of defense articles, defense services or design and construction services that are not sold by the United States Government under the Arms Export Control Act: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated under this heading shall be expended at the minimum rate necessary to make timely payment for defense articles and services: *Provided further*, That not more than \$63,945,000 of the funds appropriated under this heading may be obligated for necessary expenses, including the purchase of passenger motor vehicles for replacement only for use outside of the United States, for the general costs of administering military assistance and sales, except that this limitation may be exceeded only through the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That of the funds made available under this heading for general costs of administering military assistance and sales, not to exceed \$4,000 may be available for entertainment expenses and not to exceed \$130,000 may be available for representation expenses: *Provided further*, That not more than \$904,000,000 of funds realized pursuant to section 21(e)(1)(A) of the Arms Export Control Act may be obligated for expenses incurred by the Department of Defense during fiscal year 2015 pursuant to section 43(b) of the Arms Export Control Act, except that this limitation may be exceeded only through the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

#### TITLE V

##### MULTILATERAL ASSISTANCE

##### FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT

##### INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND PROGRAMS

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of section 301 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, and of section 2 of the United Nations Environment Program Participation Act of 1973, \$344,170,000, of which up to \$10,000,000 may be made available for the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change/United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change: *Provided*, That section 307(a) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 shall not apply to contributions to the United Nations Democracy Fund.

##### INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

##### GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY

For payment to the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development as trustee for the Global Environment Facility by the Secretary of the Treasury, \$136,563,000, to remain available until expended.

##### CONTRIBUTION TO THE INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

For payment to the International Development Association by the Secretary of the

Treasury, \$1,287,800,000, to remain available until expended.

##### CONTRIBUTION TO THE INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT

For payment to the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development by the Secretary of the Treasury for the United States share of the paid-in portion of the increases in capital stock, \$186,957,000, to remain available until expended.

##### LIMITATION ON CALLABLE CAPITAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

The United States Governor of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development may subscribe without fiscal year limitation to the callable capital portion of the United States share of increases in capital stock in an amount not to exceed \$2,928,990,899.

##### CONTRIBUTION TO THE CLEAN TECHNOLOGY FUND

For payment to the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development as trustee for the Clean Technology Fund by the Secretary of the Treasury, \$184,630,000, to remain available until expended.

##### CONTRIBUTION TO THE STRATEGIC CLIMATE FUND

For payment to the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development as trustee for the Strategic Climate Fund by the Secretary of the Treasury, \$49,900,000, to remain available until expended.

##### CONTRIBUTION TO THE INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

For payment to the Inter-American Development Bank by the Secretary of the Treasury for the United States share of the paid-in portion of the increase in capital stock, \$102,020,448, to remain available until expended.

##### LIMITATION ON CALLABLE CAPITAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

The United States Governor of the Inter-American Development Bank may subscribe without fiscal year limitation to the callable capital portion of the United States share of such capital stock in an amount not to exceed \$4,098,794,833.

##### CONTRIBUTION TO THE ENTERPRISE FOR THE AMERICAS MULTILATERAL INVESTMENT FUND

For payment to the Enterprise for the Americas Multilateral Investment Fund by the Secretary of the Treasury, \$3,378,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That such payment shall be subject to prior consultation with the Committees on Appropriations.

##### CONTRIBUTION TO THE ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

For payment to the Asian Development Bank by the Secretary of the Treasury for the United States share of the paid-in portion of increase in capital stock, \$106,586,000, to remain available until expended.

##### LIMITATION ON CALLABLE CAPITAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

The United States Governor of the Asian Development Bank may subscribe without fiscal year limitation to the callable capital portion of the United States share of such capital stock in an amount not to exceed \$2,558,048,769.

##### CONTRIBUTION TO THE ASIAN DEVELOPMENT FUND

For payment to the Asian Development Bank's Asian Development Fund by the Secretary of the Treasury, \$104,977,000, to remain available until expended.

##### CONTRIBUTION TO THE AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

For payment to the African Development Bank by the Secretary of the Treasury for the United States share of the paid-in portion of the increase in capital stock, \$32,418,000, to remain available until expended.

##### LIMITATION ON CALLABLE CAPITAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

The United States Governor of the African Development Bank may subscribe without fiscal year limitation to the callable capital portion of the United States share of such capital stock in an amount not to exceed \$507,860,808.

##### CONTRIBUTION TO THE AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT FUND

For payment to the African Development Fund by the Secretary of the Treasury, \$175,668,000, to remain available until expended.

##### CONTRIBUTION TO THE INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

For payment to the International Fund for Agricultural Development by the Secretary of the Treasury, \$30,000,000, to remain available until expended.

#### TITLE VI

##### EXPORT AND INVESTMENT ASSISTANCE

##### EXPORT-IMPORT BANK OF THE UNITED STATES

##### INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General in carrying out the provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, \$5,750,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016.

##### PROGRAM ACCOUNT

The Export-Import Bank (the Bank) of the United States is authorized to make such expenditures within the limits of funds and borrowing authority available to such corporation, and in accordance with law, and to make such contracts and commitments without regard to fiscal year limitations, as provided by section 104 of the Government Corporation Control Act, as may be necessary in carrying out the program for the current fiscal year for such corporation: *Provided*, That none of the funds available during the current fiscal year may be used to make expenditures, contracts, or commitments for the export of nuclear equipment, fuel, or technology to any country, other than a nuclear-weapon state as defined in Article IX of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons eligible to receive economic or military assistance under this Act, that has detonated a nuclear explosive after the date of the enactment of this Act: *Provided further*, That not less than 20 percent of the aggregate loan, guarantee, and insurance authority available to the Bank under this Act should be used to finance exports directly by small business concerns (as defined under section 3 of the Small Business Act): *Provided further*, That not less than 10 percent of the aggregate loan, guarantee, and insurance authority available to the Bank under this Act should be used for renewable energy technologies or energy efficiency technologies: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding section 1(c) of Public Law 103-428, as amended, sections 1(a) and (b) of Public Law 103-428 shall remain in effect through October 1, 2015.

##### ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

For administrative expenses to carry out the direct and guaranteed loan and insurance programs, including hire of passenger motor

vehicles and services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, and not to exceed \$30,000 for official reception and representation expenses for members of the Board of Directors, not to exceed \$106,250,000: *Provided*, That the Export-Import Bank (the Bank) may accept, and use, payment or services provided by transaction participants for legal, financial, or technical services in connection with any transaction for which an application for a loan, guarantee or insurance commitment has been made: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding subsection (b) of section 117 of the Export Enhancement Act of 1992, subsection (a) thereof shall remain in effect until September 30, 2015: *Provided further*, That the Bank shall charge fees for necessary expenses (including special services performed on a contract or fee basis, but not including other personal services) in connection with the collection of moneys owed the Bank, repossession or sale of pledged collateral or other assets acquired by the Bank in satisfaction of moneys owed the Bank, or the investigation or appraisal of any property, or the evaluation of the legal, financial, or technical aspects of any transaction for which an application for a loan, guarantee or insurance commitment has been made, or systems infrastructure directly supporting transactions: *Provided further*, That in addition to other funds appropriated for administrative expenses, such fees shall be credited to this account for such purposes, to remain available until expended.

#### RECEIPTS COLLECTED

Receipts collected pursuant to the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945, as amended, and the Federal Credit Reform Act of 1990, as amended, in an amount not to exceed the amount appropriated herein, shall be credited as offsetting collections to this account: *Provided*, That the sums herein appropriated from the General Fund shall be reduced on a dollar-for-dollar basis by such offsetting collections so as to result in a final fiscal year appropriation from the General Fund estimated at \$0: *Provided further*, That amounts collected in fiscal year 2015 in excess of obligations, up to \$10,000,000, shall become available on September 1, 2015, and shall remain available until September 30, 2018.

#### OVERSEAS PRIVATE INVESTMENT CORPORATION NONCREDIT ACCOUNT

The Overseas Private Investment Corporation is authorized to make, without regard to fiscal year limitations, as provided by 31 U.S.C. 9104, such expenditures and commitments within the limits of funds available to it and in accordance with law as may be necessary: *Provided*, That the amount available for administrative expenses to carry out the credit and insurance programs (including an amount for official reception and representation expenses which shall not exceed \$35,000) shall not exceed \$62,787,000: *Provided further*, That project-specific transaction costs, including direct and indirect costs incurred in claims settlements, and other direct costs associated with services provided to specific investors or potential investors pursuant to section 234 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, shall not be considered administrative expenses for the purposes of this heading.

#### PROGRAM ACCOUNT

For the cost of direct and guaranteed loans, \$25,000,000, as authorized by section 234 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, to be derived by transfer from the Overseas Private Investment Corporation Noncredit Account: *Provided*, That such costs, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional

Budget Act of 1974: *Provided further*, That such sums shall be available for direct loan obligations and loan guaranty commitments incurred or made during fiscal years 2015, 2016, and 2017: *Provided further*, That funds so obligated in fiscal year 2015 remain available for disbursement through 2023; funds obligated in fiscal year 2016 remain available for disbursement through 2024; and funds obligated in fiscal year 2017 remain available for disbursement through 2025: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Overseas Private Investment Corporation is authorized to undertake any program authorized by title IV of chapter 2 of part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 in Iraq: *Provided further*, That funds made available pursuant to the authority of the previous proviso shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

In addition, such sums as may be necessary for administrative expenses to carry out the credit program may be derived from amounts available for administrative expenses to carry out the credit and insurance programs in the Overseas Private Investment Corporation Noncredit Account and merged with said account.

#### TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of section 661 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, \$60,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That of the amounts made available under this heading, up to \$2,500,000 may be made available to provide comprehensive procurement advice to foreign governments to support local procurements funded by the United States Agency for International Development, the Millennium Challenge Corporation, and the Department of State: *Provided further*, That of the funds appropriated under this heading, not more than \$4,000 may be available for representation and entertainment expenses.

#### TITLE VII

##### GENERAL PROVISIONS

##### ALLOWANCES AND DIFFERENTIALS

SEC. 7001. Funds appropriated under title I of this Act shall be available, except as otherwise provided, for allowances and differentials as authorized by subchapter 59 of title 5, United States Code; for services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109; and for hire of passenger transportation pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1343(b).

##### UNOBLIGATED BALANCES REPORT

SEC. 7002. Any department or agency of the United States Government to which funds are appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act shall provide to the Committees on Appropriations a quarterly accounting of cumulative unobligated balances and obligated, but unexpended, balances by program, project, and activity, and Treasury Account Fund Symbol of all funds received by such department or agency in fiscal year 2015 or any previous fiscal year, disaggregated by fiscal year: *Provided*, That the report required by this section should specify by account the amount of funds obligated pursuant to bilateral agreements which have not been further sub-obligated.

##### CONSULTING SERVICES

SEC. 7003. The expenditure of any appropriation under title I of this Act for any consulting service through procurement contract, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3109, shall be limited to those contracts where such expenditures are a matter of public record and available for public inspection, except where oth-

erwise provided under existing law, or under existing Executive Order issued pursuant to existing law.

#### DIPLOMATIC FACILITIES

SEC. 7004. (a) Of funds provided under title I of this Act, except as provided in subsection (b), a project to construct a diplomatic facility of the United States may not include office space or other accommodations for an employee of a Federal agency or department if the Secretary of State determines that such department or agency has not provided to the Department of State the full amount of funding required by subsection (e) of section 604 of the Secure Embassy Construction and Counterterrorism Act of 1999 (as enacted into law by section 1000(a)(7) of Public Law 106-113 and contained in appendix G of that Act; 113 Stat. 1501A-453), as amended by section 629 of the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2005.

(b) Notwithstanding the prohibition in subsection (a), a project to construct a diplomatic facility of the United States may include office space or other accommodations for members of the United States Marine Corps.

(c) For the purposes of calculating the fiscal year 2015 costs of providing new United States diplomatic facilities in accordance with section 604(e) of the Secure Embassy Construction and Counterterrorism Act of 1999 (22 U.S.C. 4865 note), the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, shall determine the annual program level and agency shares in a manner that is proportional to the Department of State's contribution for this purpose.

(d) Funds appropriated by this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs, which may be made available for the acquisition of property or award of construction contracts for overseas diplomatic facilities during fiscal year 2015, shall be subject to prior consultation with, and the regular notification procedures of, the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided*, That notifications pursuant to this subsection shall include the information enumerated under the heading "Embassy Security, Construction, and Maintenance" in House Report 113-499.

(e)(1) None of the funds appropriated under the heading "Embassy Security, Construction, and Maintenance" in this Act and in prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs, made available through Federal agency Capital Security Cost Sharing contributions and reimbursements, or generated from the proceeds of real property sales, other than from real property sales located in London, United Kingdom, may be made available for site acquisition and mitigation, planning, design, or construction of the New London Embassy: *Provided*, That the reporting requirement contained in section 7004(f)(2) of division I of Public Law 112-74 shall remain in effect during fiscal year 2015.

(2) Funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs under the heading "Embassy Security, Construction, and Maintenance" may be obligated for the relocation of the United States Embassy to the Holy See only if the Secretary of State reports in writing to the Committees on Appropriations that such relocation continues to be consistent with the

conditions of section 7004(e)(2) of division K of Public Law 113–76.

(f)(1) Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “Embassy Security, Construction, and Maintenance” may be made available to address security vulnerabilities at expeditionary, interim, and temporary facilities abroad, including physical security upgrades and local guard staffing, except that the amount of funds made available for such purposes from this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs shall be a minimum of \$25,000,000: *Provided*, That the uses of such funds shall be the responsibility of the Assistant Secretary of State for the Bureau of Diplomatic Security and Foreign Missions, in consultation with the Director of the Bureau of Overseas Buildings Operations: *Provided further*, That such funds shall be subject to prior consultation with the Committees on Appropriations.

(2) Not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a list of all expeditionary, interim, and temporary diplomatic facilities and the number of personnel and security costs for each such facility: *Provided*, That the report required by this paragraph may be submitted in classified form if necessary.

(3) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the opening, closure, or any significant modification to an expeditionary, interim, or temporary diplomatic facility shall be subject to prior consultation with the appropriate congressional committees and the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations, except that such consultation and notification may be waived if there is a security risk to personnel.

(g) Funds appropriated under the heading “Diplomatic and Consular Programs”, including for Worldwide Security Protection, and under the heading “Embassy Security, Construction, and Maintenance” in titles I and VIII of this Act may be transferred to, and merged with, funds appropriated by such titles under such headings if the Secretary of State determines and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that to do so is necessary to implement the recommendations of the Benghazi Accountability Review Board, or to prevent or respond to security situations and requirements, following consultation with, and subject to the regular notification procedures of, such Committees: *Provided*, That such transfer authority is in addition to any transfer authority otherwise available under any other provision of law.

#### PERSONNEL ACTIONS

SEC. 7005. Any costs incurred by a department or agency funded under title I of this Act resulting from personnel actions taken in response to funding reductions included in this Act shall be absorbed within the total budgetary resources available under title I to such department or agency: *Provided*, That the authority to transfer funds between appropriations accounts as may be necessary to carry out this section is provided in addition to authorities included elsewhere in this Act: *Provided further*, That use of funds to carry out this section shall be treated as a reprogramming of funds under section 7015 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation or expenditure except in compliance with the procedures set forth in that section.

#### LOCAL GUARD CONTRACTS

SEC. 7006. In evaluating proposals for local guard contracts, the Secretary of State shall award contracts in accordance with section 136 of the Foreign Relations Authorization

Act, Fiscal Years 1990 and 1991 (22 U.S.C. 4864), except that the Secretary may grant authorization to award such contracts on the basis of best value as determined by a cost-technical tradeoff analysis (as described in Federal Acquisition Regulation part 15.101), notwithstanding subsection (c)(3) of such section, for high risk, high threat posts: *Provided*, That the authority in this section shall apply to any options for renewal that may be exercised under such contracts that are awarded during the current fiscal year.

#### PROHIBITION AGAINST DIRECT FUNDING FOR CERTAIN COUNTRIES

SEC. 7007. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available pursuant to titles III through VI of this Act shall be obligated or expended to finance directly any assistance or reparations for the governments of Cuba, North Korea, Iran, or Syria: *Provided*, That for purposes of this section, the prohibition on obligations or expenditures shall include direct loans, credits, insurance and guarantees of the Export-Import Bank or its agents.

#### COUPS D'ÉTAT

SEC. 7008. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available pursuant to titles III through VI of this Act shall be obligated or expended to finance directly any assistance to the government of any country whose duly elected head of government is deposed by military coup d'état or decree or, after the date of enactment of this Act, a coup d'état or decree in which the military plays a decisive role: *Provided*, That assistance may be resumed to such government if the Secretary of State certifies and reports to the appropriate congressional committees that subsequent to the termination of assistance a democratically elected government has taken office: *Provided further*, That the provisions of this section shall not apply to assistance to promote democratic elections or public participation in democratic processes: *Provided further*, That funds made available pursuant to the previous provisos shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

#### TRANSFER AUTHORITY

SEC. 7009. (a) DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND BROADCASTING BOARD OF GOVERNORS.—

(1) Not to exceed 5 percent of any appropriation made available for the current fiscal year for the Department of State under title I of this Act may be transferred between, and merged with, such appropriations, but no such appropriation, except as otherwise specifically provided, shall be increased by more than 10 percent by any such transfers, and no such transfer may be made to increase the appropriation under the heading “Representation Expenses”.

(2) Not to exceed 5 percent of any appropriation made available for the current fiscal year for the Broadcasting Board of Governors under title I of this Act may be transferred between, and merged with, such appropriations, but no such appropriation, except as otherwise specifically provided, shall be increased by more than 10 percent by any such transfers.

(3) Any transfer pursuant to this section shall be treated as a reprogramming of funds under section 7015(a) and (b) of this Act and shall not be available for obligation or expenditure except in compliance with the procedures set forth in that section.

(b) EXPORT FINANCING TRANSFER AUTHORITIES.—Not to exceed 5 percent of any appropriation other than for administrative expenses made available for fiscal year 2015, for

programs under title VI of this Act may be transferred between such appropriations for use for any of the purposes, programs, and activities for which the funds in such receiving account may be used, but no such appropriation, except as otherwise specifically provided, shall be increased by more than 25 percent by any such transfer: *Provided*, That the exercise of such authority shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

#### (C) LIMITATION ON TRANSFERS BETWEEN AGENCIES.—

(1) None of the funds made available under titles II through V of this Act may be transferred to any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States Government, except pursuant to a transfer made by, or transfer authority provided in, this Act or any other appropriations Act.

(2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), in addition to transfers made by, or authorized elsewhere in, this Act, funds appropriated by this Act to carry out the purposes of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 may be allocated or transferred to agencies of the United States Government pursuant to the provisions of sections 109, 610, and 632 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961.

(3) Any agreement entered into by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) or the Department of State with any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States Government pursuant to section 632(b) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 valued in excess of \$1,000,000 and any agreement made pursuant to section 632(a) of such Act, with funds appropriated by this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs under the headings “Global Health Programs”, “Development Assistance”, and “Economic Support Fund” shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided*, That the requirement in the previous sentence shall not apply to agreements entered into between USAID and the Department of State.

(d) TRANSFERS BETWEEN ACCOUNTS.—None of the funds made available under titles II through V of this Act may be obligated under an appropriation account to which such funds were not appropriated, except for transfers specifically provided for in this Act, unless the President, not less than 5 days prior to the exercise of any authority contained in the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to transfer funds, consults with and provides a written policy justification to the Committees on Appropriations.

(e) AUDIT OF INTER-AGENCY TRANSFERS.—Any agreement for the transfer or allocation of funds appropriated by this Act, or prior Acts, entered into between the Department of State or USAID and another agency of the United States Government under the authority of section 632(a) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 or any comparable provision of law, shall expressly provide that the Inspector General (IG) for the agency receiving the transfer or allocation of such funds, or other entity with audit responsibility if the receiving agency does not have an IG, shall perform periodic program and financial audits of the use of such funds: *Provided*, That such audits shall be transmitted to the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That funds transferred under such authority may be made available for the cost of such audits.

#### SECURITY ASSISTANCE REPORT

SEC. 7010. Not later than 120 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State



shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations a report on funds obligated and expended during fiscal year 2014 under the headings "International Military Education and Training", "Peacekeeping Operations", and "Foreign Military Financing Program".

#### AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS

SEC. 7011. No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall remain available for obligation after the expiration of the current fiscal year unless expressly so provided in this Act: *Provided*, That funds appropriated for the purposes of chapters 1 and 8 of part I, section 661, chapters 4, 5, 6, 8, and 9 of part II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, section 23 of the Arms Export Control Act, and funds provided under the heading "Development Credit Authority" shall remain available for an additional 4 years from the date on which the availability of such funds would otherwise have expired, if such funds are initially obligated before the expiration of their respective periods of availability contained in this Act: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, any funds made available for the purposes of chapter 1 of part I and chapter 4 of part II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 which are allocated or obligated for cash disbursements in order to address balance of payments or economic policy reform objectives, shall remain available for an additional 4 years from the date on which the availability of such funds would otherwise have expired, if such funds are initially allocated or obligated before the expiration of their respective periods of availability contained in this Act: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of State shall provide a report to the Committees on Appropriations at the beginning of each fiscal year, detailing by account and source year, the use of this authority during the previous fiscal year.

#### LIMITATION ON ASSISTANCE TO COUNTRIES IN DEFAULT

SEC. 7012. No part of any appropriation provided under titles III through VI in this Act shall be used to furnish assistance to the government of any country which is in default during a period in excess of 1 calendar year in payment to the United States of principal or interest on any loan made to the government of such country by the United States pursuant to a program for which funds are appropriated under this Act unless the President determines, following consultations with the Committees on Appropriations, that assistance for such country is in the national interest of the United States.

#### PROHIBITION ON TAXATION OF UNITED STATES ASSISTANCE

SEC. 7013. (a) PROHIBITION ON TAXATION.—None of the funds appropriated under titles III through VI of this Act may be made available to provide assistance for a foreign country under a new bilateral agreement governing the terms and conditions under which such assistance is to be provided unless such agreement includes a provision stating that assistance provided by the United States shall be exempt from taxation, or reimbursed, by the foreign government, and the Secretary of State shall expeditiously seek to negotiate amendments to existing bilateral agreements, as necessary, to conform with this requirement.

(b) REIMBURSEMENT OF FOREIGN TAXES.—An amount equivalent to 200 percent of the total taxes assessed during fiscal year 2015 on funds appropriated by this Act by a foreign government or entity against United States assistance programs for which funds are appropriated by this Act, either directly

or through grantees, contractors, and subcontractors shall be withheld from obligation from funds appropriated for assistance for fiscal year 2016 and allocated for the central government of such country and for the West Bank and Gaza program to the extent that the Secretary of State certifies and reports in writing to the Committees on Appropriations, not later than September 30, 2016, that such taxes have not been reimbursed to the Government of the United States.

(c) DE MINIMIS EXCEPTION.—Foreign taxes of a de minimis nature shall not be subject to the provisions of subsection (b).

(d) REPROGRAMMING OF FUNDS.—Funds withheld from obligation for each country or entity pursuant to subsection (b) shall be reprogrammed for assistance for countries which do not assess taxes on United States assistance or which have an effective arrangement that is providing substantial reimbursement of such taxes, and that can reasonably accommodate such assistance in a programmatically responsible manner.

(e) DETERMINATIONS.—

(1) The provisions of this section shall not apply to any country or entity the Secretary of State reports to the Committees on Appropriations—

(A) does not assess taxes on United States assistance or which has an effective arrangement that is providing substantial reimbursement of such taxes; or

(B) the foreign policy interests of the United States outweigh the purpose of this section to ensure that United States assistance is not subject to taxation.

(2) The Secretary of State shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations at least 15 days prior to exercising the authority of this subsection with regard to any country or entity.

(f) IMPLEMENTATION.—The Secretary of State shall issue rules, regulations, or policy guidance, as appropriate, to implement the prohibition against the taxation of assistance contained in this section.

(g) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section—

(1) the term "bilateral agreement" refers to a framework bilateral agreement between the Government of the United States and the government of the country receiving assistance that describes the privileges and immunities applicable to United States foreign assistance for such country generally, or an individual agreement between the Government of the United States and such government that describes, among other things, the treatment for tax purposes that will be accorded the United States assistance provided under that agreement;

(2) the term "taxes and taxation" shall include value added taxes and customs duties but shall not include individual income taxes assessed to local staff.

(h) REPORT.—The Secretary of State, in consultation with the heads of other relevant departments or agencies, shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations, not later than 90 days after the enactment of this Act, detailing steps taken by such departments or agencies to comply with the requirements of this section.

#### RESERVATIONS OF FUNDS

SEC. 7014. (a) Funds appropriated under titles III through VI of this Act which are specifically designated may be reprogrammed for other programs within the same account notwithstanding the designation if compliance with the designation is made impossible by operation of any provision of this or any other Act: *Provided*, That any such reprogramming shall be subject to the regular

notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That assistance that is reprogrammed pursuant to this subsection shall be made available under the same terms and conditions as originally provided.

(b) In addition to the authority contained in subsection (a), the original period of availability of funds appropriated by this Act and administered by the Department of State or the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) that are specifically designated for particular programs or activities by this or any other Act may be extended for an additional fiscal year if the Secretary of State or the USAID Administrator, as appropriate, determines and reports promptly to the Committees on Appropriations that the termination of assistance to a country or a significant change in circumstances makes it unlikely that such designated funds can be obligated during the original period of availability: *Provided*, That such designated funds that continue to be available for an additional fiscal year shall be obligated only for the purpose of such designation.

(c) Ceilings and specifically designated funding levels contained in this Act shall not be applicable to funds or authorities appropriated or otherwise made available by any subsequent Act unless such Act specifically so directs: *Provided*, That specifically designated funding levels or minimum funding requirements contained in any other Act shall not be applicable to funds appropriated by this Act.

#### NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

SEC. 7015. (a) None of the funds made available in titles I and II of this Act, or in prior appropriations Acts to the agencies and departments funded by this Act that remain available for obligation or expenditure in fiscal year 2015, or provided from any accounts in the Treasury of the United States derived by the collection of fees or of currency reflows or other offsetting collections, or made available by transfer, to the agencies and departments funded by this Act, shall be available for obligation or expenditure through a reprogramming of funds that—

- (1) creates new programs;
- (2) eliminates a program, project, or activity;
- (3) increases funds or personnel by any means for any project or activity for which funds have been denied or restricted;
- (4) relocates an office or employees;
- (5) closes or opens a mission or post;
- (6) creates, closes, reorganizes, or renames bureaus, centers, or offices;
- (7) reorganizes programs or activities; or
- (8) contracts out or privatizes any functions or activities presently performed by Federal employees;

unless the Committees on Appropriations are notified 15 days in advance of such reprogramming of funds: *Provided*, That unless previously justified to the Committees on Appropriations, the requirements of this subsection shall apply to all obligations of funds appropriated under titles I and II of this Act for paragraphs (1), (2), (5), and (6) of this subsection.

(b) None of the funds provided under titles I and II of this Act, or provided under previous appropriations Acts to the agency or department funded under titles I and II of this Act that remain available for obligation or expenditure in fiscal year 2015, or provided from any accounts in the Treasury of the United States derived by the collection of fees available to the agency or department funded under title I of this Act, shall be

available for obligation or expenditure for activities, programs, or projects through a reprogramming of funds in excess of \$1,000,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less, that—

(1) augments existing programs, projects, or activities;

(2) reduces by 10 percent funding for any existing program, project, or activity, or numbers of personnel by 10 percent as approved by Congress; or

(3) results from any general savings, including savings from a reduction in personnel, which would result in a change in existing programs, activities, or projects as approved by Congress; unless the Committees on Appropriations are notified 15 days in advance of such reprogramming of funds.

(c) None of the funds made available by this Act under the headings “Global Health Programs”, “Development Assistance”, “International Organizations and Programs”, “Trade and Development Agency”, “International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement”, “Economic Support Fund”, “Democracy Fund”, “Peacekeeping Operations”, “Nonproliferation, Anti-terrorism, Demining and Related Programs”, “Millennium Challenge Corporation”, “Foreign Military Financing Program”, “International Military Education and Training”, “Conflict Stabilization Operations”, and “Peace Corps”, shall be available for obligation for activities, programs, projects, type of materiel assistance, countries, or other operations not justified or in excess of the amount justified to the Committees on Appropriations for obligation under any of these specific headings unless the Committees on Appropriations are notified 15 days in advance: *Provided*, That the President shall not enter into any commitment of funds appropriated for the purposes of section 23 of the Arms Export Control Act for the provision of major defense equipment, other than conventional ammunition, or other major defense items defined to be aircraft, ships, missiles, or combat vehicles, not previously justified to Congress or 20 percent in excess of the quantities justified to Congress unless the Committees on Appropriations are notified 15 days in advance of such commitment: *Provided further*, That requirements of this subsection or any similar provision of this or any other Act shall not apply to any reprogramming for an activity, program, or project for which funds are appropriated under titles III through VI of this Act of less than 10 percent of the amount previously justified to the Congress for obligation for such activity, program, or project for the current fiscal year: *Provided further*, That any notification submitted pursuant to subsection (f) of this section shall include information (if known on the date of transmittal of such notification) on the use of notwithstanding authority: *Provided further*, That if subsequent to the notification of assistance it becomes necessary to rely on notwithstanding authority, the Committees on Appropriations should be informed at the earliest opportunity and to the extent practicable.

(d) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, with the exception of funds transferred to, and merged with, funds appropriated under title I of this Act, funds transferred by the Department of Defense to the Department of State and the United States Agency for International Development for assistance for foreign countries and international organizations, and funds made available for programs authorized by section 1206 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal

Year 2006 (Public Law 109-163) (or any successor authority), shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

(e) The requirements of this section or any similar provision of this Act or any other Act, including any prior Act requiring notification in accordance with the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations, may be waived if failure to do so would pose a substantial risk to human health or welfare: *Provided*, That in case of any such waiver, notification to the Committees on Appropriations shall be provided as early as practicable, but in no event later than 3 days after taking the action to which such notification requirement was applicable, in the context of the circumstances necessitating such waiver: *Provided further*, That any notification provided pursuant to such a waiver shall contain an explanation of the emergency circumstances.

(f) None of the funds appropriated under titles III through VI of this Act shall be obligated or expended for assistance for Afghanistan, Bahrain, Bolivia, Burma, Cambodia, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Iran, Iraq, Lebanon, Libya, Pakistan, the Russian Federation, Serbia, Somalia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syria, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Yemen, and Zimbabwe except as provided through the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

#### NOTIFICATION ON EXCESS DEFENSE EQUIPMENT

SEC. 7016. Prior to providing excess Department of Defense articles in accordance with section 516(a) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, the Department of Defense shall notify the Committees on Appropriations to the same extent and under the same conditions as other committees pursuant to subsection (f) of that section: *Provided*, That before issuing a letter of offer to sell excess defense articles under the Arms Export Control Act, the Department of Defense shall notify the Committees on Appropriations in accordance with the regular notification procedures of such Committees if such defense articles are significant military equipment (as defined in section 47(9) of the Arms Export Control Act) or are valued (in terms of original acquisition cost) at \$7,000,000 or more, or if notification is required elsewhere in this Act for the use of appropriated funds for specific countries that would receive such excess defense articles: *Provided further*, That such Committees shall also be informed of the original acquisition cost of such defense articles.

#### LIMITATION ON AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS FOR INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND PROGRAMS

SEC. 7017. Subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations, funds appropriated under titles I and III through V of this Act, which are returned or not made available for organizations and programs because of the implementation of section 307(a) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 or section 7048(a) of this Act, shall remain available for obligation until September 30, 2017: *Provided*, That the requirement to withhold funds for programs in Burma under section 307(a) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 shall not apply to funds appropriated by this Act.

#### PROHIBITION ON FUNDING FOR ABORTIONS AND INVOLUNTARY STERILIZATION

SEC. 7018. None of the funds made available to carry out part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended, may be used to pay for the performance of abortions as a method of family planning or to motivate or coerce

any person to practice abortions. None of the funds made available to carry out part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended, may be used to pay for the performance of involuntary sterilization as a method of family planning or to coerce or provide any financial incentive to any person to undergo sterilizations. None of the funds made available to carry out part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended, may be used to pay for any biomedical research which relates in whole or in part, to methods of, or the performance of, abortions or involuntary sterilization as a means of family planning. None of the funds made available to carry out part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended, may be obligated or expended for any country or organization if the President certifies that the use of these funds by any such country or organization would violate any of the above provisions related to abortions and involuntary sterilizations.

#### ALLOCATIONS

SEC. 7019. (a) Funds provided by this Act shall be made available for programs and countries in the amounts specifically designated in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act).

(b) For the purposes of implementing this section and only with respect to the amounts for programs and countries specifically designated in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act), the Secretary of State, the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, and the Broadcasting Board of Governors, as appropriate, may propose deviations to the amounts referenced in subsection (a), subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

#### REPRESENTATION AND ENTERTAINMENT EXPENSES

SEC. 7020. (a) Each Federal department, agency, or entity funded in titles I or II of this Act, and the Department of the Treasury and independent agencies funded in titles III or VI of this Act, shall take steps to ensure that domestic and overseas representation and entertainment expenses further official agency business and United States foreign policy interests and are—

(1) primarily for fostering relations outside of the Executive Branch;

(2) principally for meals and events of a protocol nature;

(3) not for employee-only events; and

(4) do not include activities that are substantially of a recreational character.

(b) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act under the headings “International Military Education and Training” or “Foreign Military Financing Program” for Informational Program activities or under the headings “Global Health Programs”, “Development Assistance”, and “Economic Support Fund” may be obligated or expended to pay for—

(1) alcoholic beverages; or

(2) entertainment expenses for activities that are substantially of a recreational character, including but not limited to entrance fees at sporting events, theatrical and musical productions, and amusement parks.

#### PROHIBITION ON ASSISTANCE TO GOVERNMENTS SUPPORTING INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM

SEC. 7021. (a) LETHAL MILITARY EQUIPMENT EXPORTS.—

(1) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by titles III through VI



of this Act may be available to any foreign government which provides lethal military equipment to a country the government of which the Secretary of State has determined supports international terrorism for purposes of section 6(j) of the Export Administration Act of 1979 as continued in effect pursuant to the International Emergency Economic Powers Act: *Provided*, That the prohibition under this section with respect to a foreign government shall terminate 12 months after that government ceases to provide such military equipment: *Provided further*, That this section applies with respect to lethal military equipment provided under a contract entered into after October 1, 1997.

(2) Assistance restricted by paragraph (1) or any other similar provision of law, may be furnished if the President determines that to do so is important to the national interest of the United States.

(3) Whenever the President makes a determination pursuant to paragraph (2), the President shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations a report with respect to the furnishing of such assistance, including a detailed explanation of the assistance to be provided, the estimated dollar amount of such assistance, and an explanation of how the assistance furthers United States national interests.

#### (b) BILATERAL ASSISTANCE.—

(1) Funds appropriated for bilateral assistance in titles III through VI of this Act and funds appropriated under any such title in prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs, shall not be made available to any foreign government which the President determines—

(A) grants sanctuary from prosecution to any individual or group which has committed an act of international terrorism;

(B) otherwise supports international terrorism; or

(C) is controlled by an organization designated as a terrorist organization under section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act.

(2) The President may waive the application of paragraph (1) to a government if the President determines that national security or humanitarian reasons justify such waiver: *Provided*, That the President shall publish each such waiver in the Federal Register and, at least 15 days before the waiver takes effect, shall notify the Committees on Appropriations of the waiver (including the justification for the waiver) in accordance with the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

#### AUTHORIZATION REQUIREMENTS

SEC. 7022. Funds appropriated by this Act, except funds appropriated under the heading “Trade and Development Agency”, may be obligated and expended notwithstanding section 10 of Public Law 91–672, section 15 of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956, section 313 of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1994 and 1995 (Public Law 103–236), and section 504(a)(1) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3094(a)(1)).

#### DEFINITION OF PROGRAM, PROJECT, AND ACTIVITY

SEC. 7023. For the purpose of titles II through VI of this Act “program, project, and activity” shall be defined at the appropriations Act account level and shall include all appropriations and authorizations Acts funding directives, ceilings, and limitations with the exception that for the following accounts: “Economic Support Fund” and “For-

eign Military Financing Program”, “program, project, and activity” shall also be considered to include country, regional, and central program level funding within each such account; and for the development assistance accounts of the United States Agency for International Development, “program, project, and activity” shall also be considered to include central, country, regional, and program level funding, either as—

(1) justified to the Congress; or

(2) allocated by the Executive Branch in accordance with a report, to be provided to the Committees on Appropriations within 30 days of the enactment of this Act, as required by section 653(a) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961.

#### AUTHORITIES FOR THE PEACE CORPS, INTER-AMERICAN FOUNDATION AND UNITED STATES AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

SEC. 7024. Unless expressly provided to the contrary, provisions of this or any other Act, including provisions contained in prior Acts authorizing or making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs, shall not be construed to prohibit activities authorized by or conducted under the Peace Corps Act, the Inter-American Foundation Act or the African Development Foundation Act: *Provided*, That prior to conducting activities in a country for which assistance is prohibited, the agency shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations and report to such Committees within 15 days of taking such action.

#### COMMERCE, TRADE AND SURPLUS COMMODITIES

SEC. 7025. (a) None of the funds appropriated or made available pursuant to titles III through VI of this Act for direct assistance and none of the funds otherwise made available to the Export-Import Bank and the Overseas Private Investment Corporation shall be obligated or expended to finance any loan, any assistance or any other financial commitments for establishing or expanding production of any commodity for export by any country other than the United States, if the commodity is likely to be in surplus on world markets at the time the resulting productive capacity is expected to become operative and if the assistance will cause substantial injury to United States producers of the same, similar, or competing commodity: *Provided*, That such prohibition shall not apply to the Export-Import Bank if in the judgment of its Board of Directors the benefits to industry and employment in the United States are likely to outweigh the injury to United States producers of the same, similar, or competing commodity, and the Chairman of the Board so notifies the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That this subsection shall not prohibit—

(1) activities in a country that is eligible for assistance from the International Development Association, is not eligible for assistance from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, and does not export on a consistent basis the agricultural commodity with respect to which assistance is furnished; or

(2) activities in a country the President determines is recovering from widespread conflict, a humanitarian crisis, or a complex emergency.

(b) None of the funds appropriated by this or any other Act to carry out chapter 1 of part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 shall be available for any testing or breeding feasibility study, variety improvement or introduction, consultancy, publication, conference, or training in connection with the growth or production in a foreign country of

an agricultural commodity for export which would compete with a similar commodity grown or produced in the United States: *Provided*, That this subsection shall not prohibit—

(1) activities designed to increase food security in developing countries where such activities will not have a significant impact on the export of agricultural commodities of the United States;

(2) research activities intended primarily to benefit American producers;

(3) activities in a country that is eligible for assistance from the International Development Association, is not eligible for assistance from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, and does not export on a consistent basis the agricultural commodity with respect to which assistance is furnished; or

(4) activities in a country the President determines is recovering from widespread conflict, a humanitarian crisis, or a complex emergency.

(c) The Secretary of the Treasury shall instruct the United States executive directors of the international financial institutions, as defined in section 7029(h) of this Act, to use the voice and vote of the United States to oppose any assistance by such institutions, using funds appropriated or made available by this Act, for the production or extraction of any commodity or mineral for export, if it is in surplus on world markets and if the assistance will cause substantial injury to United States producers of the same, similar, or competing commodity.

#### SEPARATE ACCOUNTS

SEC. 7026. (a) SEPARATE ACCOUNTS FOR LOCAL CURRENCIES.—

(1) If assistance is furnished to the government of a foreign country under chapters 1 and 10 of part I or chapter 4 of part II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 under agreements which result in the generation of local currencies of that country, the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) shall—

(A) require that local currencies be deposited in a separate account established by that government;

(B) enter into an agreement with that government which sets forth—

(i) the amount of the local currencies to be generated; and

(ii) the terms and conditions under which the currencies so deposited may be utilized, consistent with this section; and

(C) establish by agreement with that government the responsibilities of USAID and that government to monitor and account for deposits into and disbursements from the separate account.

(2) USES OF LOCAL CURRENCIES.—As may be agreed upon with the foreign government, local currencies deposited in a separate account pursuant to subsection (a), or an equivalent amount of local currencies, shall be used only—

(A) to carry out chapter 1 or 10 of part I or chapter 4 of part II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (as the case may be), for such purposes as—

(i) project and sector assistance activities; or

(ii) debt and deficit financing; or

(B) for the administrative requirements of the United States Government.

(3) PROGRAMMING ACCOUNTABILITY.—USAID shall take all necessary steps to ensure that the equivalent of the local currencies disbursed pursuant to subsection (a)(2)(A) from the separate account established pursuant to subsection (a)(1) are used for the purposes agreed upon pursuant to subsection (a)(2).

(4) **TERMINATION OF ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS.**—Upon termination of assistance to a country under chapter 1 or 10 of part I or chapter 4 of part II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (as the case may be), any unencumbered balances of funds which remain in a separate account established pursuant to subsection (a) shall be disposed of for such purposes as may be agreed to by the government of that country and the United States Government.

(5) **REPORTING REQUIREMENT.**—The USAID Administrator shall report on an annual basis as part of the justification documents submitted to the Committees on Appropriations on the use of local currencies for the administrative requirements of the United States Government as authorized in subsection (a)(2)(B), and such report shall include the amount of local currency (and United States dollar equivalent) used or to be used for such purpose in each applicable country.

(b) **SEPARATE ACCOUNTS FOR CASH TRANSFERS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—If assistance is made available to the government of a foreign country, under chapter 1 or 10 of part I or chapter 4 of part II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as cash transfer assistance or as nonproject sector assistance, that country shall be required to maintain such funds in a separate account and not commingle them with any other funds.

(2) **APPLICABILITY OF OTHER PROVISIONS OF LAW.**—Such funds may be obligated and expended notwithstanding provisions of law which are inconsistent with the nature of this assistance including provisions which are referenced in the Joint Explanatory Statement of the Committee of Conference accompanying House Joint Resolution 648 (House Report No. 98-1159).

(3) **NOTIFICATION.**—At least 15 days prior to obligating any such cash transfer or nonproject sector assistance, the President shall submit a notification through the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations, which shall include a detailed description of how the funds proposed to be made available will be used, with a discussion of the United States interests that will be served by the assistance (including, as appropriate, a description of the economic policy reforms that will be promoted by such assistance).

(4) **EXEMPTION.**—Nonproject sector assistance funds may be exempt from the requirements of subsection (b)(1) only through the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

#### ELIGIBILITY FOR ASSISTANCE

**SEC. 7027. (a) ASSISTANCE THROUGH NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS.**—Restrictions contained in this or any other Act with respect to assistance for a country shall not be construed to restrict assistance in support of programs of nongovernmental organizations from funds appropriated by this Act to carry out the provisions of chapters 1, 10, 11, and 12 of part I and chapter 4 of part II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961: *Provided*, That before using the authority of this subsection to furnish assistance in support of programs of nongovernmental organizations, the President shall notify the Committees on Appropriations pursuant to the regular notification procedures, including a description of the program to be assisted, the assistance to be provided, and the reasons for furnishing such assistance: *Provided further*, That nothing in this subsection shall be construed to alter any existing statutory prohibitions against abortion or involuntary

sterilizations contained in this or any other Act.

(b) **PUBLIC LAW 480.**—During fiscal year 2015, restrictions contained in this or any other Act with respect to assistance for a country shall not be construed to restrict assistance under the Food for Peace Act (Public Law 83-480): *Provided*, That none of the funds appropriated to carry out title I of such Act and made available pursuant to this subsection may be obligated or expended except as provided through the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

(c) **EXCEPTION.**—This section shall not apply—

(1) with respect to section 620A of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 or any comparable provision of law prohibiting assistance to countries that support international terrorism; or

(2) with respect to section 116 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 or any comparable provision of law prohibiting assistance to the government of a country that violates internationally recognized human rights.

#### LOCAL COMPETITION

**SEC. 7028. (a) REQUIREMENTS FOR EXCEPTIONS TO COMPETITION FOR LOCAL ENTITIES.**—Funds appropriated by this Act that are made available to the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) may only be made available for limited competitions through local entities if—

(1) prior to the determination to limit competition to local entities, USAID has—

(A) assessed the level of local capacity to effectively implement, manage, and account for programs included in such competition; and

(B) documented the written results of the assessment and decisions made; and

(2) prior to making an award after limiting competition to local entities—

(A) each successful local entity has been determined to be responsible in accordance with USAID guidelines; and

(B) effective monitoring and evaluation systems are in place to ensure that award funding is used for its intended purposes; and

(3) no level of acceptable fraud is assumed.

(b) In addition to the requirements of paragraph (1), the Administrator of USAID shall report, on a semi-annual basis, to the appropriate congressional committees on all awards subject to limited or no competition for local entities: *Provided*, That such report should be posted on the USAID Web site: *Provided further*, That the requirements of this subsection shall only apply to awards in excess of \$3,000,000 and sole source awards to local entities in excess of \$2,000,000.

(c) Section 7077 of division I of Public Law 112-74 shall continue in effect during fiscal year 2015, as amended by division K of Public Law 113-76.

#### INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

**SEC. 7029. (a)** The Secretary of the Treasury shall instruct the United States executive director of each international financial institution to seek to require that such institution adopts and implements a publicly available policy, including the strategic use of peer reviews and external experts, to conduct independent, in-depth evaluations of the effectiveness of at least 25 percent of all loans, grants, programs, and significant analytical non-lending activities in advancing the institution's goals of reducing poverty and promoting equitable economic growth, consistent with relevant safeguards, to ensure that decisions to support such loans,

grants, programs, and activities are based on accurate data and objective analysis: *Provided*, That not later than 180 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations on steps taken by the United States executive directors and the international financial institutions consistent with this paragraph.

(b) The Secretary of the Treasury shall instruct the United States Executive Director of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the International Development Association to vote against any loan, grant, policy, or strategy if such institution has adopted and is implementing any social or environmental safeguard relevant to such loan, grant, policy, or strategy that provides less protection than World Bank safeguards in effect on September 30, 2014.

(c) None of the funds appropriated under title V of this Act may be made as payment to any international financial institution while the United States executive director to such institution is compensated by the institution at a rate which, together with whatever compensation such executive director receives from the United States, is in excess of the rate provided for an individual occupying a position at level IV of the Executive Schedule under section 5315 of title 5, United States Code, or while any alternate United States executive director to such institution is compensated by the institution at a rate in excess of the rate provided for an individual occupying a position at level V of the Executive Schedule under section 5316 of title 5, United States Code.

(d) The Secretary of the Treasury shall instruct the United States executive director of each international financial institution to seek to require that such institution conducts rigorous human rights due diligence and human rights risk management, as appropriate, in connection with any loan, grant, policy, or strategy of such institution: *Provided*, That prior to voting on any such loan, grant, policy, or strategy the executive director shall consult with the Assistant Secretary for Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, Department of State, if the executive director has reason to believe that such loan, grant, policy, or strategy could result in forced displacement or other violation of human rights.

(e) The Secretary of the Treasury shall instruct the United States executive director of each international financial institution to promote in loan, grant, and other financing agreements improvements in borrowing countries' financial management and judicial capacity to investigate, prosecute, and punish fraud and corruption.

(f) The Secretary of the Treasury shall instruct the United States executive director of each international financial institution to seek to require that such institution collects, verifies, and publishes, to the maximum extent practicable, beneficial ownership information (excluding proprietary information) for any corporation or limited liability company, other than a publicly listed company, that receives funds appropriated by this Act that are provided as payment to such institution: *Provided*, That not later than 180 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations on steps taken by the United States executive directors and the international financial institutions consistent with this paragraph.

(g) The Secretary of the Treasury should support efforts by the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) to promote economic cooperation and integration within the Caribbean region, consistent with the IDB's charter and United States policy.

(h) For the purposes of this Act "international financial institutions" shall mean the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the International Development Association, the International Finance Corporation, the Inter-American Development Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the Asian Development Bank, the Asian Development Fund, the Inter-American Investment Corporation, the North American Development Bank, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the African Development Bank, the African Development Fund, and the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency.

#### DEBT-FOR-DEVELOPMENT

SEC. 7030. In order to enhance the continued participation of nongovernmental organizations in debt-for-development and debt-for-nature exchanges, a nongovernmental organization which is a grantee or contractor of the United States Agency for International Development may place in interest bearing accounts local currencies which accrue to that organization as a result of economic assistance provided under title III of this Act and, subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations, any interest earned on such investment shall be used for the purpose for which the assistance was provided to that organization.

#### FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET TRANSPARENCY

SEC. 7031. (a) LIMITATION ON DIRECT GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE.—

(1) Funds appropriated by this Act may be made available for direct government-to-government assistance only if—

(A) each implementing agency or ministry to receive assistance has been assessed and is considered to have the systems required to manage such assistance and any identified vulnerabilities or weaknesses of such agency or ministry have been addressed; and

(i) the recipient agency or ministry employs and utilizes staff with the necessary technical, financial, and management capabilities;

(ii) the recipient agency or ministry has adopted competitive procurement policies and systems;

(iii) effective monitoring and evaluation systems are in place to ensure that such assistance is used for its intended purposes;

(iv) no level of acceptable fraud is assumed; and

(v) the government of the recipient country is taking steps to publicly disclose on an annual basis its national budget, to include income and expenditures;

(B) the recipient government is in compliance with the principles set forth in section 7013 of this Act;

(C) the recipient agency or ministry is not headed or controlled by an organization designated as a foreign terrorist organization under section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act;

(D) the Government of the United States and the government of the recipient country have agreed, in writing, on clear and achievable objectives for the use of such assistance, which should be made available on a cost-reimbursable basis; and

(E) the recipient government is taking steps to protect the rights of civil society,

including freedoms of expression, association, and assembly.

(2) In addition to the requirements in subsection (a), no funds may be made available for direct government-to-government assistance without prior consultation with, and notification of, the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided*, That such notification shall contain an explanation of how the proposed activity meets the requirements of paragraph (1): *Provided further*, That the requirements of this paragraph shall only apply to direct government-to-government assistance in excess of \$10,000,000 and all funds available for cash transfer, budget support, and cash payments to individuals.

(3) The Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) or the Secretary of State, as appropriate, shall suspend any direct government-to-government assistance if the Administrator or the Secretary has credible information of material misuse of such assistance, unless the Administrator or the Secretary reports to the Committees on Appropriations that it is in the national interest of the United States to continue such assistance, including a justification, or that such misuse has been appropriately addressed.

(4) The Secretary of State shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations, concurrent with the fiscal year 2016 congressional budget justification materials, amounts planned for assistance described in subsection (a) by country, proposed funding amount, source of funds, and type of assistance.

(5) Not later than 90 days after the enactment of this Act and 6 months thereafter until September 30, 2015, the USAID Administrator shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations a report that—

(A) details all assistance described in subsection (a) provided during the previous 6-month period by country, funding amount, source of funds, and type of such assistance; and

(B) the type of procurement instrument or mechanism utilized and whether the assistance was provided on a reimbursable basis.

(6) None of the funds made available by this Act may be used for any foreign country for debt service payments owed by any country to any international financial institution: *Provided*, That for purposes of this subsection, the term "international financial institution" has the meaning given the term in section 7029(h) of this Act.

(b) NATIONAL BUDGET AND CONTRACT TRANSPARENCY.—

(1) MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS OF FISCAL TRANSPARENCY.—The Secretary of State shall continue to update and strengthen the "minimum requirements of fiscal transparency" for each government receiving assistance appropriated by this Act, as identified in the report required by section 7031(b) of division K of Public Law 113-76.

(2) DEFINITION.—For purposes of paragraph (1), "minimum requirements of fiscal transparency" are requirements consistent with those in subsection (a)(1), and the public disclosure of national budget documentation (to include receipts and expenditures by ministry) and government contracts and licenses for natural resource extraction (to include bidding and concession allocation practices).

(3) DETERMINATION AND REPORT.—For each government identified pursuant to paragraph (1), the Secretary of State, not later than 180 days after enactment of this Act, shall make or update any determination of "significant progress" or "no significant progress" in meeting the minimum requirements of fiscal

transparency, and make such determinations publicly available in an annual "Fiscal Transparency Report" to be posted on the Department of State's Web site: *Provided*, That the Secretary shall identify the significant progress made by each such government to publicly disclose national budget documentation, contracts, and licenses which are additional to such information disclosed in previous fiscal years, and include specific recommendations of short- and long-term steps such government should take to improve fiscal transparency: *Provided further*, That the annual report shall include a detailed description of how funds appropriated by this Act are being used to improve fiscal transparency, and identify benchmarks for measuring progress.

(4) ASSISTANCE.—Funds appropriated under title III of this Act shall be made available for programs and activities to assist governments identified pursuant to paragraph (1) to improve budget transparency and to support civil society organizations in such countries that promote budget transparency: *Provided*, That such sums shall be in addition to funds otherwise made available for such purposes: *Provided further*, That a description of the uses of such funds shall be included in the annual "Fiscal Transparency Report" required by paragraph (3).

(c) ANTI-KLEPTOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS.—

(1)(A) Officials of foreign governments and their immediate family members about whom the Secretary of State has credible information have been involved in significant corruption, including corruption related to the extraction of natural resources, or a gross violation of human rights shall be ineligible for entry into the United States.

(B) The Secretary may also publicly or privately designate or identify officials of foreign governments and their immediate family members about whom the Secretary has such credible information without regard to whether the individual has applied for a visa.

(2) Individuals shall not be ineligible if entry into the United States would further important United States law enforcement objectives or is necessary to permit the United States to fulfill its obligations under the United Nations Headquarters Agreement: *Provided*, That nothing in paragraph (1) shall be construed to derogate from United States Government obligations under applicable international agreements.

(3) The Secretary may waive the application of paragraph (1) if the Secretary determines that the waiver would serve a compelling national interest or that the circumstances which caused the individual to be ineligible have changed sufficiently.

(4) Not later than 6 months after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit a report, including a classified annex if necessary, to the Committees on Appropriations and the Committees on the Judiciary describing the information related to corruption or violation of human rights concerning each of the individuals found ineligible in the previous 12 months pursuant to paragraph (1)(A) as well as the individuals who the Secretary designated or identified pursuant to paragraph (1)(B), or who would be ineligible but for the application of paragraph (2), a list of any waivers provided under paragraph (3), and the justification for each waiver.

(5) Any unclassified portion of the report required under paragraph (4) shall be posted on the Department of State's Web site.

(6) For purposes of paragraphs (1)(B), (4), and (5), the records of the Department of

State and of diplomatic and consular offices of the United States pertaining to the issuance or refusal of visas or permits to enter the United States shall not be considered confidential.

(d) **FOREIGN ASSISTANCE WEB SITE.**—Funds appropriated by this Act under titles I and II, and funds made available for any independent agency in title III, as appropriate, shall be made available to support the provision of additional information on United States Government foreign assistance on the Department of State's foreign assistance Web site: *Provided*, That all Federal agencies funded under this Act shall provide such information on foreign assistance, upon request, to the Department of State.

#### DEMOCRACY PROGRAMS

SEC. 7032. (a) Of the funds appropriated by this Act, not less than \$2,264,986,000 should be made available for democracy programs, as defined in subsection (c).

(b) Funds made available by this Act for democracy programs may be made available notwithstanding any other provision of law, and with regard to the National Endowment for Democracy (NED), any regulation.

(c) For purposes of funds appropriated by this Act, the term "democracy programs" means programs that support good governance, credible and competitive elections, freedom of expression, association, assembly, and religion, human rights, labor rights, independent media, and the rule of law, and that otherwise strengthen the capacity of democratic political parties, governments, nongovernmental organizations and institutions, and citizens to support the development of democratic states, and institutions that are responsive and accountable to citizens.

(d) Funds appropriated by this Act that are made available for governance programs should be made available to support institutions and individuals that demonstrate a commitment to democracy.

(e) With respect to the provision of assistance for democracy, human rights, and governance activities in this Act, the organizations implementing such assistance, the specific nature of that assistance, and the participants in such programs shall not be subject to the prior approval by the government of any foreign country: *Provided*, That the Secretary of State, in coordination with the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), shall report to the Committees on Appropriations, not later than 120 days after enactment of this Act, detailing steps taken by the Department of State and USAID to comply with the requirements of this subsection.

(f) Any funds made available by this Act for a business and human rights program in the People's Republic of China shall be made available on a cost-matching basis from sources other than the United States Government.

(g) The Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, Department of State (DRL) and the Bureau for Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance, USAID, shall regularly communicate their planned programs to the NED.

(h) Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading "Democracy Fund" that are made available to DRL shall be made available to maintain a database of prisons and gulags in North Korea, in accordance with section 7032(i) of division K of Public Law 113-76.

(i) Funds appropriated by this Act that are made available for democracy programs shall be made available to support freedom

of religion, including in the Middle East and North Africa.

(j) Funds appropriated under title III of this Act shall be made available for democracy programs in countries in the Western Hemisphere above the total amount requested in the Congressional Budget Justification, Foreign Operations, Fiscal Year 2015: *Provided*, That the Department of State and USAID, as appropriate, shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations prior to the obligation of such funds.

(k) Funds made available by this Act for the Near East Regional Democracy program shall be the responsibility of the Assistant Secretary for Near Eastern Affairs, Department of State, in consultation with the Assistant Secretary for DRL: *Provided*, That such funds shall be made available for the activities described in section 1243 of Public Law 112-239, following consultation with the appropriate congressional committees.

#### MULTI-YEAR PLEDGES

SEC. 7033. None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be used to make any pledge for future year funding for any multilateral or bilateral program funded in titles III through VI of this Act unless such pledge was—

(1) previously justified, including the projected future year costs, in a congressional budget justification;

(2) included in an Act making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs or previously authorized by an Act of Congress;

(3) notified in accordance with the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations, including the projected future year costs; or

(4) the subject of prior consultation with the Committees on Appropriations and such consultation was conducted at least 7 days in advance of the pledge.

#### SPECIAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 7034. (a) **VICTIMS OF WAR, DISPLACED CHILDREN, AND DISPLACED BURMESE.**—Funds appropriated in titles III and VI of this Act that are made available for victims of war, displaced children, displaced Burmese, and to combat trafficking in persons and assist victims of such trafficking, may be made available notwithstanding any other provision of law.

(b) **RECONSTITUTING CIVILIAN POLICE AUTHORITY.**—In providing assistance with funds appropriated by this Act under section 660(b)(6) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, support for a nation emerging from instability may be deemed to mean support for regional, district, municipal, or other subnational entity emerging from instability, as well as a nation emerging from instability.

(c) **WORLD FOOD PROGRAM.**—Funds managed by the Bureau for Democracy, Conflict, and Humanitarian Assistance, United States Agency for International Development (USAID), from this or any other Act, may be made available as a general contribution to the World Food Program, notwithstanding any other provision of law.

(d) **DISARMAMENT, DEMOBILIZATION AND REINTEGRATION.**—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, regulation or Executive order, funds appropriated under titles III and IV of this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs under the headings "Economic Support Fund", "Peacekeeping Operations", "International Disaster Assistance", "Complex Crises Fund", and "Transition Initiatives" may be made available to support programs to dis-

arm, demobilize, and reintegrate into civilian society former members of foreign terrorist organizations: *Provided*, That the Secretary of State shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations prior to the obligation of funds pursuant to this subsection: *Provided further*, That for the purposes of this subsection the term "foreign terrorist organization" means an organization designated as a terrorist organization under section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act.

(e) **DIRECTIVES AND AUTHORITIES.**—(1) Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading "Economic Support Fund" shall be made available to carry out the Program for Research and Training on Eastern Europe and the Independent States of the Former Soviet Union as authorized by the Soviet-Eastern European Research and Training Act of 1983 (22 U.S.C. 4501-4508).

(2) Funds appropriated by this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs under the heading "Economic Support Fund" may be made available as a contribution to establish and maintain memorial sites of genocide, subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

(3) Of the amounts made available by this Act under the heading "Diplomatic and Consular Programs" in title I, up to \$500,000 may be made available for grants pursuant to section 504 of Public Law 95-426 (22 U.S.C. 2656d), including to facilitate collaboration with indigenous communities.

(f) **PARTNER VETTING.**—Funds appropriated by this Act or in titles I through IV of prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs shall be used by the Secretary of State and the USAID Administrator, as appropriate, to support the continued implementation of the Partner Vetting System (PVS) pilot program: *Provided*, That the Secretary of State and the USAID Administrator shall jointly submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations, not later than 30 days after completion of the pilot program, on the estimated timeline and criteria for evaluating the PVS pilot program for possible expansion: *Provided further*, That such report shall include the requirements in Senate Report 113-195 and House Report 113-499: *Provided further*, That such report may be delivered in classified form, if necessary.

(g) **CONTINGENCIES.**—During fiscal year 2015, the President may use up to \$100,000,000 under the authority of section 451 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, notwithstanding any other provision of law.

(h) **INTERNATIONAL CHILD ABDUCTIONS.**—The Secretary of State should withhold funds appropriated under title III of this Act for assistance for the central government of any country that is not taking appropriate steps to comply with the Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abductions, done at The Hague on October 25, 1980: *Provided*, That the Secretary shall report to the Committees on Appropriations within 15 days of withholding funds under this subsection.

(i) **REPORTS REPEALED.**—Section 304(f) of Public Law 107-173; section 2104 of Public Law 109-13; and subsection 1405(c) of the Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-252), are hereby repealed.

(j) **TRANSFERS FOR EXTRAORDINARY PROTECTION.**—The Secretary of State may transfer to, and merge with, funds under the heading "Protection of Foreign Missions and Officials" unobligated balances of expired funds appropriated under the heading "Diplomatic

and Consular Programs” for fiscal year 2015, except for funds designated for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, at no later than the end of the fifth fiscal year after the last fiscal year for which such funds are available for the purposes for which appropriated: *Provided*, That not more than \$50,000,000 may be transferred.

(k) PROTECTIONS AND REMEDIES FOR EMPLOYEES OF DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS.—The Secretary of State shall implement section 203(a)(2) of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-457): *Provided*, That in determining whether to suspend the issuance of A-3 or G-5 visas under such section, the Secretary should consider the following as “credible evidence”: (1) a final court judgment (including a default judgment) issued against a current or former employee of such mission or organization (for which the time period for appeal has expired); (2) the issuance of a T-visa to the victim; or (3) a request by the Department of State to the sending state that immunity of individual diplomats or family members be waived to permit criminal prosecution: *Provided further*, That the Secretary should assist in obtaining payment of final court judgments awarded to A-3 and G-5 visa holders, including encouraging the sending states to provide compensation directly to victims: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall include in the Trafficking in Persons annual report a concise summary of each trafficking case involving an A-3 or G-5 visa holder which meets one or more of the items in the first proviso of this subsection.

(l) EXTENSION OF AUTHORITIES.—

(1) Section 1(b)(2) of the Passport Act of June 4, 1920 (22 U.S.C. 214(b)(2)) shall be applied by substituting “September 30, 2015” for “September 30, 2010”.

(2) The authority provided by section 301(a)(3) of the Omnibus Diplomatic Security and Antiterrorism Act of 1986 (22 U.S.C. 4831(a)(3)) shall remain in effect for facilities in Afghanistan through September 30, 2015, except that the notification and reporting requirements contained in such section shall include the Committees on Appropriations.

(3) The authority contained in section 1115(d) of Public Law 111-32 shall remain in effect through September 30, 2015.

(4) Section 824(g) of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 4064(g)) shall be applied by substituting “September 30, 2015” for “October 1, 2010” in paragraph (2).

(5) Section 61(a) of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2733(a)) shall be applied by substituting “September 30, 2015” for “October 1, 2010” in paragraph (2).

(6) Section 625(j)(1) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2385(j)(1)) shall be applied by substituting “September 30, 2015” for “October 1, 2010” in subparagraph (B).

(7)(A) Subject to the limitation described in subparagraph (B), the authority provided by section 1113 of the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2009 (Public Law 111-32; 123 Stat. 1904) shall remain in effect through September 30, 2015.

(B) The authority described in subparagraph (A) may not be used to pay an eligible member of the Foreign Service (as defined in section 1113(b) of the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2009) a locality-based comparability payment (stated as a percentage) that exceeds two-thirds of the amount of the

locality-based comparability payment (stated as a percentage) that would be payable to such member under section 5304 of title 5, United States Code, if such member’s official duty station were in the District of Columbia.

(8) The Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 1990 (Public Law 101-167) is amended—

(A) In section 599D (8 U.S.C. 1157 note)—

(i) in subsection (b)(3), by striking “and 2014” and inserting “2014, and 2015”; and

(ii) in subsection (e), by striking “2014” each place it appears and inserting “2015”; and

(B) in section 599E (8 U.S.C. 1255 note) in subsection (b)(2), by striking “2014” and inserting “2015”.

(9) The authorities provided in section 1015(b) of Public Law 111-212 shall remain in effect through September 30, 2015.

(m) CROWD CONTROL ITEMS.—Funds appropriated by this Act should not be used for tear gas, small arms, light weapons, ammunition, or other items for crowd control purposes for foreign security forces that use excessive force to repress peaceful expression, association, or assembly in countries undergoing democratic transition.

(n) DEPARTMENT OF STATE WORKING CAPITAL FUND.—Funds appropriated by this Act or otherwise made available to the Department of State for payments to the Working Capital Fund may only be used for the activities and in the amounts allowed in the President’s fiscal year 2015 budget: *Provided*, That Federal agency components shall be charged only for their direct usage of each Working Capital Fund service: *Provided further*, That Federal agency components may only pay for Working Capital Fund services that are consistent with the component’s purpose and authorities: *Provided further*, That the Working Capital Fund shall be paid in advance or reimbursed at rates which will return the full cost of each service.

(o) SECURITY FORCE ACCOUNTABILITY ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary of State shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act on steps taken to implement section 620M(c) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, including program details and sources of funding: *Provided*, That such report shall describe how funds appropriated by this Act are used to encourage, assist, and build the capacity of foreign governments to investigate, prosecute, and punish security force personnel who are credibly alleged to have committed gross violations of human rights, including by providing:

(1) technical assistance in support of such investigations and prosecutions;

(2) assistance to strengthen civilian-military cooperation on human rights and the rule of law;

(3) assistance to strengthen the internal accountability mechanisms and technical capacity of foreign governments to bring such personnel to justice; and

(4) support for nongovernmental organizations that monitor and document gross violations.

(p) HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE.—Funds appropriated by this Act that are available for monitoring and evaluation of assistance under the headings “International Disaster Assistance” and “Migration and Refugee Assistance” shall, as appropriate, be made available for the regular collection of feedback obtained directly from beneficiaries on the quality and relevance of such assistance: *Provided*, That the Department of State and USAID shall conduct regular oversight to en-

sure that such feedback is collected and used by grantees to maximize the cost-effectiveness and utility of such assistance, and require grantees that receive funds under such headings to establish procedures for collecting and responding to such feedback.

(q) HIV/AIDS WORKING CAPITAL FUND.—Funds available in the HIV/AIDS Working Capital Fund established pursuant to section 525(b)(1) of the Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2005 (Public Law 108-477) may be made available for pharmaceuticals and other products for child survival, malaria, and tuberculosis to the same extent as HIV/AIDS pharmaceuticals and other products, subject to the terms and conditions in such section: *Provided*, That the authority in section 525(b)(5) of the Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2005 (Public Law 108-477) shall be exercised by the Assistant Administrator for Global Health, USAID, with respect to funds deposited for such non-HIV/AIDS pharmaceuticals and other products, and shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of State shall include in the congressional budget justification an accounting of budgetary resources, disbursements, balances, and reimbursements related to such fund.

(r) LOAN GUARANTEES AND ENTERPRISE FUNDS.—

(1) Funds appropriated under the heading “Economic Support Fund” only in title III of this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs may be made available for the costs, as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, of loan guarantees for Jordan, Ukraine, and Tunisia, which are authorized to be provided: *Provided*, That amounts made available under this paragraph for the costs of such guarantees shall not be considered assistance for the purposes of provisions of law limiting assistance to a country.

(2) Funds appropriated under the heading “Economic Support Fund” in this Act may be made available to establish and operate one or more enterprise funds for Egypt and Tunisia: *Provided*, That the first, third and fifth provisos under section 7041(b) of division I of Public Law 112-74 shall apply to funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “Economic Support Fund” for an enterprise fund or funds to the same extent and in the same manner as such provision of law applied to funds made available under such section (except that the clause excluding subsection (d)(3) of section 201 of the SEED Act shall not apply): *Provided further*, That the authority of any such enterprise fund or funds to provide assistance shall cease to be effective on December 31, 2025.

(3) Funds made available by this subsection shall be subject to prior consultation with, and the regular notification procedures of, the Committees on Appropriations.

(s) REPORT ON EXECUTIVE SALARIES.—Not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act, the head of any non-Federal or quasi-Federal organization that is provided a direct appropriation with funds made available by this Act under titles I or III shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations on executive salary and compensation: *Provided*, That the report shall include the information specified under this section in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act).

## (t) DEFINITIONS.—

(1) Unless otherwise defined in this Act, for purposes of this Act the term “appropriate congressional committees” shall mean the Committees on Appropriations and Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committees on Appropriations and Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives.

(2) Unless otherwise defined in this Act, for purposes of this Act the term “funds appropriated in this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs” shall mean funds that remain available for obligation, and have not expired.

(3) Any reference to Southern Kordofan in this or any other Act making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs shall be deemed to include portions of Western Kordofan that were previously part of Southern Kordofan prior to the 2013 division of Southern Kordofan.

## ARAB LEAGUE BOYCOTT OF ISRAEL

SEC. 7035. It is the sense of the Congress that—

(1) the Arab League boycott of Israel, and the secondary boycott of American firms that have commercial ties with Israel, is an impediment to peace in the region and to United States investment and trade in the Middle East and North Africa;

(2) the Arab League boycott, which was regrettably reinstated in 1997, should be immediately and publicly terminated, and the Central Office for the Boycott of Israel immediately disbanded;

(3) all Arab League states should normalize relations with their neighbor Israel;

(4) the President and the Secretary of State should continue to vigorously oppose the Arab League boycott of Israel and find concrete steps to demonstrate that opposition by, for example, taking into consideration the participation of any recipient country in the boycott when determining to sell weapons to said country; and

(5) the President should report to Congress annually on specific steps being taken by the United States to encourage Arab League states to normalize their relations with Israel to bring about the termination of the Arab League boycott of Israel, including those to encourage allies and trading partners of the United States to enact laws prohibiting businesses from complying with the boycott and penalizing businesses that do comply.

## PALESTINIAN STATEHOOD

SEC. 7036. (a) LIMITATION ON ASSISTANCE.—None of the funds appropriated under titles III through VI of this Act may be provided to support a Palestinian state unless the Secretary of State determines and certifies to the appropriate congressional committees that—

(1) the governing entity of a new Palestinian state—

(A) has demonstrated a firm commitment to peaceful co-existence with the State of Israel; and

(B) is taking appropriate measures to counter terrorism and terrorist financing in the West Bank and Gaza, including the dismantling of terrorist infrastructures, and is cooperating with appropriate Israeli and other appropriate security organizations; and

(2) the Palestinian Authority (or the governing entity of a new Palestinian state) is working with other countries in the region to vigorously pursue efforts to establish a just, lasting, and comprehensive peace in the

Middle East that will enable Israel and an independent Palestinian state to exist within the context of full and normal relationships, which should include—

(A) termination of all claims or states of belligerence;

(B) respect for and acknowledgment of the sovereignty, territorial integrity, and political independence of every state in the area through measures including the establishment of demilitarized zones;

(C) their right to live in peace within secure and recognized boundaries free from threats or acts of force;

(D) freedom of navigation through international waterways in the area; and

(E) a framework for achieving a just settlement of the refugee problem.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that the governing entity should enact a constitution assuring the rule of law, an independent judiciary, and respect for human rights for its citizens, and should enact other laws and regulations assuring transparent and accountable governance.

(c) WAIVER.—The President may waive subsection (a) if the President determines that it is important to the national security interest of the United States to do so.

(d) EXEMPTION.—The restriction in subsection (a) shall not apply to assistance intended to help reform the Palestinian Authority and affiliated institutions, or the governing entity, in order to help meet the requirements of subsection (a), consistent with the provisions of section 7040 of this Act (“Limitation on Assistance for the Palestinian Authority”).

## RESTRICTIONS CONCERNING THE PALESTINIAN AUTHORITY

SEC. 7037. None of the funds appropriated under titles II through VI of this Act may be obligated or expended to create in any part of Jerusalem a new office of any department or agency of the United States Government for the purpose of conducting official United States Government business with the Palestinian Authority over Gaza and Jericho or any successor Palestinian governing entity provided for in the Israel-PLO Declaration of Principles: *Provided*, That this restriction shall not apply to the acquisition of additional space for the existing Consulate General in Jerusalem: *Provided further*, That meetings between officers and employees of the United States and officials of the Palestinian Authority, or any successor Palestinian governing entity provided for in the Israel-PLO Declaration of Principles, for the purpose of conducting official United States Government business with such authority should continue to take place in locations other than Jerusalem: *Provided further*, That as has been true in the past, officers and employees of the United States Government may continue to meet in Jerusalem on other subjects with Palestinians (including those who now occupy positions in the Palestinian Authority), have social contacts, and have incidental discussions.

## PROHIBITION ON ASSISTANCE TO THE PALESTINIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION

SEC. 7038. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used to provide equipment, technical support, consulting services, or any other form of assistance to the Palestinian Broadcasting Corporation.

## ASSISTANCE FOR THE WEST BANK AND GAZA

SEC. 7039. (a) OVERSIGHT.—For fiscal year 2015, 30 days prior to the initial obligation of funds for the bilateral West Bank and Gaza Program, the Secretary of State shall certify

to the Committees on Appropriations that procedures have been established to assure the Comptroller General of the United States will have access to appropriate United States financial information in order to review the uses of United States assistance for the Program funded under the heading “Economic Support Fund” for the West Bank and Gaza.

(b) VETTING.—Prior to the obligation of funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “Economic Support Fund” for assistance for the West Bank and Gaza, the Secretary of State shall take all appropriate steps to ensure that such assistance is not provided to or through any individual, private or government entity, or educational institution that the Secretary knows or has reason to believe advocates, plans, sponsors, engages in, or has engaged in, terrorist activity nor, with respect to private entities or educational institutions, those that have as a principal officer of the entity’s governing board or governing board of trustees any individual that has been determined to be involved in, or advocating terrorist activity or determined to be a member of a designated foreign terrorist organization: *Provided*, That the Secretary of State shall, as appropriate, establish procedures specifying the steps to be taken in carrying out this subsection and shall terminate assistance to any individual, entity, or educational institution which the Secretary has determined to be involved in or advocating terrorist activity.

## (c) PROHIBITION.—

(1) None of the funds appropriated under titles III through VI of this Act for assistance under the West Bank and Gaza Program may be made available for the purpose of recognizing or otherwise honoring individuals who commit, or have committed acts of terrorism.

(2) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, none of the funds made available by this or prior appropriations Acts, including funds made available by transfer, may be made available for obligation for security assistance for the West Bank and Gaza until the Secretary of State reports to the Committees on Appropriations on the benchmarks that have been established for security assistance for the West Bank and Gaza and reports on the extent of Palestinian compliance with such benchmarks.

## (d) AUDITS.—

(1) The Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development shall ensure that Federal or non-Federal audits of all contractors and grantees, and significant subcontractors and sub-grantees, under the West Bank and Gaza Program, are conducted at least on an annual basis to ensure, among other things, compliance with this section.

(2) Of the funds appropriated by this Act up to \$500,000 may be used by the Office of Inspector General of the United States Agency for International Development for audits, inspections, and other activities in furtherance of the requirements of this subsection: *Provided*, That such funds are in addition to funds otherwise available for such purposes.

(e) Subsequent to the certification specified in subsection (a), the Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct an audit and an investigation of the treatment, handling, and uses of all funds for the bilateral West Bank and Gaza Program, including all funds provided as cash transfer assistance, in fiscal year 2015 under the heading “Economic Support Fund”, and such audit shall address—

(1) the extent to which such Program complies with the requirements of subsections (b) and (c); and



(2) an examination of all programs, projects, and activities carried out under such Program, including both obligations and expenditures.

(f) Funds made available in this Act for West Bank and Gaza shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

(g) Not later than 180 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations updating the report contained in section 2106 of chapter 2 of title II of Public Law 109-13.

#### LIMITATION ON ASSISTANCE FOR THE PALESTINIAN AUTHORITY

SEC. 7040. (a) PROHIBITION OF FUNDS.—None of the funds appropriated by this Act to carry out the provisions of chapter 4 of part II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 may be obligated or expended with respect to providing funds to the Palestinian Authority.

(b) WAIVER.—The prohibition included in subsection (a) shall not apply if the President certifies in writing to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President pro tempore of the Senate, and the Committees on Appropriations that waiving such prohibition is important to the national security interest of the United States.

(c) PERIOD OF APPLICATION OF WAIVER.—Any waiver pursuant to subsection (b) shall be effective for no more than a period of 6 months at a time and shall not apply beyond 12 months after the enactment of this Act.

(d) REPORT.—Whenever the waiver authority pursuant to subsection (b) is exercised, the President shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations detailing the justification for the waiver, the purposes for which the funds will be spent, and the accounting procedures in place to ensure that the funds are properly disbursed: *Provided*, That the report shall also detail the steps the Palestinian Authority has taken to arrest terrorists, confiscate weapons and dismantle the terrorist infrastructure.

(e) CERTIFICATION.—If the President exercises the waiver authority under subsection (b), the Secretary of State must certify and report to the Committees on Appropriations prior to the obligation of funds that the Palestinian Authority has established a single treasury account for all Palestinian Authority financing and all financing mechanisms flow through this account, no parallel financing mechanisms exist outside of the Palestinian Authority treasury account, and there is a single comprehensive civil service roster and payroll, and the Palestinian Authority is acting to counter incitement of violence against Israelis and is supporting activities aimed at promoting peace, coexistence, and security cooperation with Israel.

(f) PROHIBITION TO HAMAS AND THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION.—

(1) None of the funds appropriated in titles III through VI of this Act may be obligated for salaries of personnel of the Palestinian Authority located in Gaza or may be obligated or expended for assistance to Hamas or any entity effectively controlled by Hamas, any power-sharing government of which Hamas is a member, or that results from an agreement with Hamas and over which Hamas exercises undue influence.

(2) Notwithstanding the limitation of paragraph (1), assistance may be provided to a power-sharing government only if the President certifies and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that such government, including all of its ministers or such equivalent, has publicly accepted and is complying with the principles contained in section

620K(b)(1) (A) and (B) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended.

(3) The President may exercise the authority in section 620K(e) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as added by the Palestinian Anti-Terrorism Act of 2006 (Public Law 109-446) with respect to this subsection.

(4) Whenever the certification pursuant to paragraph (2) is exercised, the Secretary of State shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations within 120 days of the certification and every quarter thereafter on whether such government, including all of its ministers or such equivalent are continuing to comply with the principles contained in section 620K(b)(1) (A) and (B) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended: *Provided*, That the report shall also detail the amount, purposes and delivery mechanisms for any assistance provided pursuant to the abovementioned certification and a full accounting of any direct support of such government.

(5) None of the funds appropriated under titles III through VI of this Act may be obligated for assistance for the Palestine Liberation Organization.

#### MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

SEC. 7041. (a) EGYPT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Funds appropriated by this Act that are available for assistance for the Government of Egypt may only be made available if the Secretary of State certifies and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that such government is—

(A) sustaining the strategic relationship with the United States; and

(B) meeting its obligations under the 1979 Egypt-Israel Peace Treaty.

(2) ECONOMIC SUPPORT FUND.—

(A) Of the funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “Economic Support Fund”, and subject to paragraph (6) of this subsection, up to \$150,000,000 may be made available for assistance for Egypt, of which not less than \$35,000,000 should be made available for higher education programs including not less than \$10,000,000 for scholarships at not-for-profit institutions for Egyptian students with high financial need: *Provided*, That such funds may also be made available for democracy programs: *Provided further*, That such funds shall be made available for a demonstration project to combat hepatitis C, on a cost matching basis from sources other than the United States Government.

(B) Notwithstanding any provision of law restricting assistance for Egypt, including paragraph (6) of this subsection, funds made available under the heading “Economic Support Fund” in this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs for assistance for Egypt may be made available for education and economic growth programs, subject to prior consultation with the appropriate congressional committees: *Provided*, That such funds may not be made available for cash transfer assistance or budget support unless the Secretary of State certifies to the appropriate congressional committees that the Government of Egypt is taking consistent and effective steps to stabilize the economy and implement market-based economic reforms.

(C)(i) Of the funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “Economic Support Fund” that are available for assistance for Egypt, the Secretary of State shall withhold from obligation an amount that the Secretary determines to be equivalent to that expended by the United States Government for bail, and by nongovernmental organiza-

tions for legal and court fees, associated with democracy related trials in Egypt until the Secretary certifies and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that the Government of Egypt has dismissed the convictions issued by the Cairo Criminal Court on June 4, 2013, in “Public Prosecution Case No. 1110 for the Year 2012”.

(ii) No conviction issued by the Cairo Criminal Court on June 4, 2013, in “Public Prosecution Case No. 1110 for the Year 2012”, against a citizen or national of the United States or an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence in the United States, shall be considered a conviction for purposes of United States law or for any activity undertaken within the jurisdiction of the United States.

(3) FOREIGN MILITARY FINANCING PROGRAM.—Of the funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “Foreign Military Financing Program”, and subject to paragraph (6) of this subsection, up to \$1,300,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016, may be made available for assistance for Egypt which may be transferred to an interest bearing account in the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, following consultation with the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided*, That if the Secretary of State is unable to make the certification in subparagraph (6)(A) or (B) of this subsection, such funds may be made available at the minimum rate necessary to continue existing programs, notwithstanding any provision of law restricting assistance for Egypt and following consultation with the Committees on Appropriations, except that defense articles and services from such programs shall not be delivered until the requirements in subparagraphs (6)(A), (B), or (C) of this subsection are met: *Provided further*, That not later than 30 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations describing any defense articles withheld from delivery to Egypt as of the date of enactment of this Act: *Provided further*, That not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations on plans to restructure military assistance for Egypt, including cash flow financing.

(4) PRIOR YEAR FUNDS.—Funds appropriated under the headings “Foreign Military Financing Program” and “International Military Education and Training” in prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs may be made available notwithstanding any provision of law restricting assistance for Egypt, except that such funds under the heading “Foreign Military Financing Program” shall only be made available at the minimum rate necessary to continue existing programs and following consultation with the Committees on Appropriations, and the defense articles and services from such programs shall not be delivered until the requirements in subparagraphs (6)(A), (B), or (C) of this subsection are met.

(5) SECURITY EXEMPTIONS.—Notwithstanding any provision of law restricting assistance for Egypt, including paragraphs (3), (4), and (6) of this subsection, funds made available for assistance for Egypt in this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs may be made available for counterterrorism, border security, and non-proliferation programs in Egypt, and for development activities in the Sinai, if the Secretary of State certifies and reports to the appropriate congressional committees that

to do so is important to the national security interest of the United States.

(6) FISCAL YEAR 2015 FUNDS.—Except as provided in paragraphs (2), (3) and (5) of this subsection, funds appropriated by this Act under the headings “Economic Support Fund”, “International Military Education and Training”, and “Foreign Military Financing Program” for assistance for the Government of Egypt may be made available notwithstanding any provision of law restricting assistance for Egypt as follows—

(A) up to \$725,850,000 may be made available only if the Secretary of State certifies and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that the Government of Egypt—

(i) has held free and fair parliamentary elections;

(ii) is implementing laws or policies to govern democratically and protect the rights of individuals;

(iii) is implementing reforms that protect freedoms of expression, association, and peaceful assembly, including the ability of civil society organizations and the media to function without interference;

(iv) is taking consistent steps to protect and advance the rights of women and religious minorities;

(v) is providing detainees with due process of law;

(vi) is conducting credible investigations and prosecutions of the use of excessive force by security forces; and

(vii) has released American citizens who the Secretary of State determines to be political prisoners and dismissed charges against them; and

(B) not less than 180 days after a certification and report under subparagraph (6)(A), up to \$725,850,000 may be made available only if the Secretary of State certifies and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that the requirements in subparagraph (6)(A) are being met.

(C) The Secretary of State may provide assistance, notwithstanding the certification requirements of subparagraphs 6(A) and (B) of this subsection or similar provisions of law in prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs, if the Secretary, after consultation with the Committees on Appropriations, certifies and reports to such Committees that it is important to the national security interest of the United States to provide such assistance: *Provided*, That such report, which may be in classified form if necessary, shall contain a detailed justification and the reasons why any of the requirements of subparagraphs 6(A) or (B) cannot be met.

(b) IRAN.—

(1) The terms and conditions of paragraphs (1) and (2) of section 7041(c) in division I of Public Law 112-74 shall continue in effect during fiscal year 2015 as if part of this Act.

(2)(A) The reporting requirements in section 7043(c) in division F of Public Law 111-117 shall continue in effect during fiscal year 2015 as if part of this Act: *Provided*, That the date in subsection (c)(1) shall be deemed to be “September 30, 2015”.

(B) The Secretary of State shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees, not later than 30 days after enactment of this Act and at the end of each 30-day period thereafter until September 30, 2015, a report on the implementation of the Joint Plan of Action between the P5+1 and the Government of Iran concluded on November 24, 2013, and any extension of or successor to that agreement: *Provided*, That the report shall include the information required in House Report 113-499 and Senate Report 113-195, and

may be submitted in classified form if necessary.

(c) IRAQ.—

(1) Funds appropriated by this Act may be made available for assistance for Iraq to promote governance, security, and internal and regional stability, including in Kurdistan and other areas impacted by the conflict in Syria, and among Iraq’s religious and ethnic minority populations.

(2) None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be made available for construction of a permanent United States consulate in Iraq on property for which no land-use agreement has been entered into by the Governments of the United States and Iraq.

(3) Funds appropriated by this Act under the headings “International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement” and “Foreign Military Financing Program” that are available for assistance for Iraq should be made available to enhance the capacity of Kurdistan Regional Government security services and for security programs in Kurdistan to address requirements arising from the violence in Syria and Iraq: *Provided*, That the Secretary of State shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations prior to obligating such funds.

(4) Not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in consultation with the heads of other relevant United States Government agencies, shall submit a report to the appropriate congressional committees detailing steps taken by the United States Government to address the plight, including resettlement needs, of Iranian dissidents located at Camp Liberty/Hurriya in Iraq.

(d) JORDAN.—Of the funds appropriated by this Act under the headings “Economic Support Fund” and “Foreign Military Financing Program”, not less than \$1,000,000,000 shall be made available for assistance for Jordan.

(e) LEBANON.—

(1) None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be made available for the Lebanese Internal Security Forces (ISF) or the Lebanese Armed Forces (LAF) if the ISF or the LAF is controlled by a foreign terrorist organization, as designated pursuant to section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act.

(2) Funds appropriated by this Act under the headings “International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement” and “Foreign Military Financing Program” that are available for assistance for Lebanon may be made available for programs and equipment for the ISF and the LAF to address security and stability requirements in areas affected by the conflict in Syria, following consultation with the appropriate congressional committees.

(3) Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “Economic Support Fund” that are available for assistance for Lebanon may be made available notwithstanding section 1224 of Public Law 107-228.

(4) In addition to the activities described in paragraph (2), funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “Foreign Military Financing Program” for assistance for Lebanon may be made available only to professionalize the LAF and to strengthen border security and combat terrorism, including training and equipping the LAF to secure Lebanon’s borders, interdicting arms shipments, preventing the use of Lebanon as a safe haven for terrorist groups, and to implement United Nations Security Council Resolution 1701: *Provided*, That funds may not be obligated for assistance for the LAF until the Secretary of State submits to the Committees on Appropriations a detailed spend

plan, including actions to be taken to ensure equipment provided to the LAF is only used for the intended purposes, except such plan may not be considered as meeting the notification requirements under section 7015 of this Act or under section 634A of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, and shall be submitted not later than September 1, 2015: *Provided further*, That any notification submitted pursuant to such sections shall include any funds specifically intended for lethal military equipment.

(f) LIBYA.—

(1) None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be made available for assistance for the central Government of Libya unless the Secretary of State reports to the Committees on Appropriations that such government is cooperating with United States Government efforts to investigate and bring to justice those responsible for the attack on United States personnel and facilities in Benghazi, Libya in September 2012: *Provided*, That the limitation in this paragraph shall not apply to funds made available for the purpose of protecting United States Government personnel or facilities.

(2) Any notification required for assistance for Libya for funds appropriated under title IV of this Act shall include a detailed justification for such assistance, and a description of the vetting procedures used for any individual or unit receiving such assistance.

(3) The limitation on the uses of funds in section 7041(f)(2) of division K of Public Law 113-76 shall apply to funds appropriated by this Act that are made available for assistance for Libya: *Provided*, That prior to the obligation of such funds, the Secretary of State shall take all appropriate steps to ensure that mechanisms are in place for monitoring and control of assistance for Libya.

(4) Not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit a report to the appropriate congressional committees detailing—

(A) the number of claims against Libya filed with the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission pursuant to the Department of State’s referral of claims of November 27, 2013 in connection with the Claims Settlement Agreement between the United States of America and the Great Socialist People’s Libyan Arab Jamahiriya of August 14, 2008, as implemented pursuant to the Libyan Claims Resolution Act, Public Law 110-301 and Executive Order 13477 dated October 31, 2008;

(B) the amount of remaining balances of funds received by the United States, and held by the United States Treasury, for payment of awards rendered by the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission pursuant to the November 27, 2013 referral; and

(C) the process by which the claims are to be adjudicated.

(g) MOROCCO.—

(1) Funds appropriated under title III of this Act shall be made available for assistance for the Western Sahara: *Provided*, That not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act and prior to the obligation of such funds the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations on the proposed uses of such funds.

(2) Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “Foreign Military Financing Program” that are available for assistance for Morocco may only be used for the purposes requested in the Congressional Budget Justification, Foreign Operations, Fiscal Year 2015.



(h) SYRIA.—

(1) Funds appropriated under title III of this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs may be made available notwithstanding any other provision of law for non-lethal assistance for programs to address the needs of civilians affected by conflict in Syria, and for programs that seek to—

(A) establish governance in Syria that is representative, inclusive, and accountable;

(B) expand the role of women in negotiations to end the violence and in any political transition in Syria;

(C) develop and implement political processes that are democratic, transparent, and adhere to the rule of law;

(D) further the legitimacy of the Syrian opposition through cross-border programs;

(E) develop civil society and an independent media in Syria;

(F) promote economic development in Syria;

(G) document, investigate, and prosecute human rights violations in Syria, including through transitional justice programs and support for nongovernmental organizations;

(H) counter extremist ideologies; and

(I) assist Syrian refugees whose education has been interrupted by the ongoing conflict to complete higher education requirements at regional academic institutions.

(2) Prior to the obligation of funds appropriated by this Act and made available for assistance for Syria, the Secretary of State shall take all practicable steps to ensure that mechanisms are in place for monitoring, oversight, and control of such assistance inside Syria: *Provided*, That the Secretary of State shall promptly inform the appropriate congressional committees of each significant instance in which assistance provided pursuant to the authority of this subsection has been compromised, to include the type and amount of assistance affected, a description of the incident and parties involved, and an explanation of the Department of State's response.

(3) Funds appropriated by this Act that are made available for assistance for Syria pursuant to the authority of this subsection may only be made available after the Secretary of State, in consultation with the heads of relevant United States Government agencies, submits, in classified form if necessary, an update to the comprehensive strategy required in section 7041(i)(3) of Public Law 113–76.

(4) Funds made available pursuant to this subsection may only be made available following consultation with the appropriate congressional committees, and shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

(i) WEST BANK AND GAZA.—

(1) REPORT ON ASSISTANCE.—Prior to the initial obligation of funds made available by this Act under the heading “Economic Support Fund” for assistance for the West Bank and Gaza, the Secretary of State shall report to the Committees on Appropriations that the purpose of such assistance is to—

(A) advance Middle East peace;

(B) improve security in the region;

(C) continue support for transparent and accountable government institutions;

(D) promote a private sector economy; or

(E) address urgent humanitarian needs.

(2) LIMITATIONS.—

(A)(i) None of the funds appropriated under the heading “Economic Support Fund” in this Act may be made available for assistance for the Palestinian Authority, if after the date of enactment of this Act—

(I) the Palestinians obtain the same standing as member states or full membership as a state in the United Nations or any specialized agency thereof outside an agreement negotiated between Israel and the Palestinians; or

(II) the Palestinians initiate an International Criminal Court judicially authorized investigation, or actively support such an investigation, that subjects Israeli nationals to an investigation for alleged crimes against Palestinians.

(ii) The Secretary of State may waive the restriction in paragraph (2)(A) resulting from the application of paragraph (2)(A)(i)(I) if the Secretary certifies to the Committees on Appropriations that to do so is in the national security interest of the United States, and submits a report to such Committees detailing how the waiver and the continuation of assistance would assist in furthering Middle East peace.

(B)(i) The President may waive the provisions of section 1003 of Public Law 100–204 if the President determines and certifies in writing to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President pro tempore of the Senate, and the Committees on Appropriations that the Palestinians have not, after the date of enactment of this Act, obtained in the United Nations or any specialized agency thereof the same standing as member states or full membership as a state outside an agreement negotiated between Israel and the Palestinians.

(ii) Not less than 90 days after the President is unable to make the certification and report pursuant to subparagraph (B)(i), the President may waive section 1003 of Public Law 100–204 if the President determines and certifies in writing to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President pro tempore of the Senate, and the Committees on Appropriations that the Palestinians have entered into direct and meaningful negotiations with Israel: *Provided*, That any waiver of the provisions of section 1003 of Public Law 100–204 under subparagraph (B)(i) of this paragraph or under previous provisions of law must expire before the waiver under the preceding sentence may be exercised.

(iii) Any waiver pursuant to this subparagraph shall be effective for no more than a period of 6 months at a time and shall not apply beyond 12 months after the enactment of this Act.

(3) REDUCTION.—The Secretary of State shall reduce the amount of assistance made available by this Act under the heading “Economic Support Fund” for the Palestinian Authority by an amount the Secretary determines is equivalent to the amount expended by the Palestinian Authority as payments for acts of terrorism by individuals who are imprisoned after being fairly tried and convicted for acts of terrorism and by individuals who died committing acts of terrorism during the previous calendar year: *Provided*, That the Secretary shall report to the Committees on Appropriations on the amount reduced for fiscal year 2015 prior to the obligation of funds for the Palestinian Authority.

(j) YEMEN.—None of the funds appropriated by this Act for assistance for Yemen may be made available for the Armed Forces of Yemen if such forces are controlled by a foreign terrorist organization, as designated pursuant to section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act.

#### AFRICA

SEC. 7042. (a) CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC.—Funds made available by this Act for assistance for the Central African Republic shall

be made available for reconciliation and peacebuilding programs, including activities to promote inter-faith dialogue at the national and local levels, and for programs to prevent crimes against humanity.

(b) COUNTERTERRORISM PROGRAMS.—

(1) Of the funds appropriated by this Act, not less than \$63,331,000 should be made available for the Trans-Sahara Counterterrorism Partnership program, and not less than \$24,000,000 should be made available for the Partnership for Regional East Africa Counterterrorism program.

(2) Of the funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “Economic Support Fund”, \$10,000,000 shall be made available for programs to counter extremism in East Africa, in addition to such sums that may otherwise be made available for such purposes.

(c) CRISIS RESPONSE.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, up to \$10,000,000 of the funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “Global Health Programs” for HIV/AIDS activities may be transferred to, and merged with, funds appropriated under the headings “Economic Support Fund” and “Transition Initiatives” to respond to unanticipated crises in Africa, except that funds shall not be transferred unless the Secretary of State certifies to the Committees on Appropriations that no individual currently on anti-retroviral therapy supported by such funds shall be negatively impacted by the transfer of such funds: *Provided*, That the authority of this subsection shall be subject to prior consultation with the Committees on Appropriations.

(d) ETHIOPIA.—

(1) Funds appropriated by this Act that are available for assistance for Ethiopian military and police forces shall not be made available until the Secretary of State—

(A) certifies and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that the Government of Ethiopia is implementing policies to—

(i) protect judicial independence; freedom of expression, association, assembly, and religion; the right of political opposition parties, civil society organizations, and journalists to operate without harassment or interference; and due process of law; and

(ii) permit access for human rights and humanitarian organizations to the Somali region of Ethiopia; and

(B) submits a report to the Committees on Appropriations on the types and amounts of United States training and equipment proposed to be provided to the Ethiopian military and police, including steps to ensure that such assistance is not provided in contravention of section 620M of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961.

(2) The restriction in paragraph (1) shall not apply to assistance made available under the heading “International Military Education and Training” (IMET) in this Act, assistance to Ethiopian military efforts in support of international peacekeeping operations, countering regional terrorism, and border security, and assistance for the Ethiopian Defense Command and Staff College.

(3) Funds appropriated by this Act under the headings “Development Assistance” and “Economic Support Fund” that are available for assistance in the lower Omo and Gambella regions of Ethiopia shall—

(A) not be used to support activities that directly or indirectly involve forced evictions;

(B) support initiatives of local communities to improve their livelihoods; and

(C) be subject to prior consultation with affected populations.

(4) The Secretary of the Treasury shall instruct the United States executive director

of each international financial institution to vote against financing for any activities that directly or indirectly involve forced evictions in Ethiopia.

(e) **EXPANDED INTERNATIONAL MILITARY EDUCATION AND TRAINING.**—

(1) Funds appropriated under the heading “International Military Education and Training” in this Act that are made available for assistance for Angola, Cameroon, Chad, Côte d’Ivoire, Guinea, and Zimbabwe may be made available only for training related to international peacekeeping operations, expanded IMET, and professional military education: *Provided*, That the limitation included in this paragraph shall not apply to courses that support training in maritime security.

(2) None of the funds appropriated under the heading “International Military Education and Training” in this Act should be made available for assistance for Equatorial Guinea.

(f) **LORD’S RESISTANCE ARMY.**—Funds appropriated by this Act shall be made available for programs and activities in areas affected by the Lord’s Resistance Army (LRA) consistent with the goals of the Lord’s Resistance Army Disarmament and Northern Uganda Recovery Act (Public Law 111-172), including to improve physical access, telecommunications infrastructure, and early-warning mechanisms and to support the disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration of former LRA combatants, especially child soldiers.

(g) **NIGERIA.**—Funds appropriated by this Act that are made available for assistance for Nigeria shall be made available for assistance for women and girls who are targeted by the terrorist organization Boko Haram, consistent with the provisions of section 7059 of this Act, and in consultation with the Government of Nigeria.

(h) **PROGRAMS IN AFRICA.**—

(1) Of the funds appropriated by this Act under the headings “Global Health Programs” and “Economic Support Fund”, not less than \$7,000,000 shall be made available for the purposes of section 7042(g)(1) of division K of Public Law 113-76.

(2) Of the funds appropriated by this Act under the headings “Economic Support Fund” and “International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement”, not less than \$8,000,000 shall be made available for the purposes of section 7042(g)(2) of division K of Public Law 113-76.

(3) Funds made available under paragraphs (1) and (2) shall be programmed in a manner that leverages a United States Government-wide approach to addressing shared challenges and mutually beneficial opportunities, and shall be the responsibility of United States Chiefs of Mission in countries in Africa seeking enhanced partnerships with the United States in areas of trade, investment, development, health, and security.

(i) **SOMALIA.**—

(1) Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “Economic Support Fund” that are made available for assistance for Somalia should be used to promote dialogue and reconciliation between the central government and Somali regions, and should be provided in an impartial manner that is based on need and institutional capacity: *Provided*, That such assistance should also be used to strengthen the rule of law and government institutions, support civil society organizations involved in peace building, and support other development priorities including education and employment opportunities.

(2) Funds appropriated in prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of

State, foreign operations, and related programs may be made available for assistance for Somalia, notwithstanding section 7042(h)(2) of division K of Public Law 113-76, following consultation with, and the regular notification procedures of, the Committees on Appropriations.

(j) **SOUTH SUDAN.**—

(1) Funds appropriated by this Act that are made available for assistance for South Sudan should—

(A) be prioritized for programs that respond to humanitarian needs and the delivery of basic services and to mitigate conflict and promote stability, including to address protection needs and prevent and respond to gender-based violence;

(B) support programs that build resilience of communities to address food insecurity, maintain educational opportunities, and enhance local governance;

(C) be used to advance democracy, including support for civil society, independent media, and other means to strengthen the rule of law;

(D) support the transparent and sustainable management of natural resources by assisting the Government of South Sudan in conducting regular audits of financial accounts, including revenues from oil and gas, and the timely public disclosure of such audits; and

(E) support the professionalization of security forces, including human rights and accountability to civilian authorities.

(2) None of the funds appropriated by this Act that are available for assistance for the central Government of South Sudan may be made available until the Secretary of State certifies and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that such government is taking steps to—

(A) provide access for humanitarian organizations;

(B) end the use of child soldiers;

(C) support a cessation of hostilities agreement;

(D) protect freedoms of expression, association, and assembly;

(E) reduce corruption related to the extraction and sale of oil and gas; and

(F) establish democratic institutions, including accountable military and police forces under civilian authority.

(3) The limitation of paragraph (2) shall not apply to—

(A) humanitarian assistance;

(B) assistance to directly support South Sudan peace negotiations or to implement a peace agreement; and

(C) assistance to support implementation of outstanding issues of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) and mutual arrangements related to the CPA.

(k) **SUDAN.**—

(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, none of the funds appropriated by this Act may be made available for assistance for the Government of Sudan.

(2) None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be made available for the cost, as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, of modifying loans and loan guarantees held by the Government of Sudan, including the cost of selling, reducing, or canceling amounts owed to the United States, and modifying concessional loans, guarantees, and credit agreements.

(3) The limitations of paragraphs (1) and (2) shall not apply to—

(A) humanitarian assistance;

(B) assistance for the Darfur region, Southern Kordofan State, Blue Nile State, other marginalized areas and populations in Sudan, and Abyei; and

(C) assistance to support implementation of outstanding issues of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA), mutual arrangements related to post-referendum issues associated with the CPA, or any other internationally recognized viable peace agreement in Sudan.

(l) **TRAFFICKING IN CONFLICT MINERALS, WILDLIFE, AND OTHER CONTRABAND.**—

(1) None of the funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “Foreign Military Financing Program” may be made available for assistance for Rwanda unless the Secretary of State certifies to the Committees on Appropriations that the Government of Rwanda is implementing a policy to cease political, military and/or financial support to armed groups in the Democratic of the Congo (DRC) that have violated human rights or are involved in the illegal exportation of minerals, wildlife, or other contraband.

(2) The restriction in paragraph (1) shall not apply to assistance to improve border controls to prevent the illegal exportation of minerals, wildlife, and other contraband out of the DRC by such groups, to protect humanitarian relief efforts, to support the training and deployment of members of the Rwandan military in international peacekeeping operations, or to conduct operations against the Lord’s Resistance Army.

(m) **ZIMBABWE.**—

(1) The Secretary of the Treasury shall instruct the United States executive director of each international financial institution to vote against any extension by the respective institution of any loan or grant to the Government of Zimbabwe, except to meet basic human needs or to promote democracy, unless the Secretary of State certifies and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that the rule of law has been restored, including respect for ownership and title to property, and freedoms of expression, association, and assembly.

(2) None of the funds appropriated by this Act shall be made available for assistance for the central Government of Zimbabwe, except for health and education, unless the Secretary of State certifies and reports as required in paragraph (1), and funds may be made available for macroeconomic growth assistance if the Secretary reports to the Committees on Appropriations that such government is implementing transparent fiscal policies, including public disclosure of revenues from the extraction of natural resources.

#### EAST ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

**SEC. 7043. (a) ASIA REBALANCING INITIATIVE.**—

(1) **ASIA MARITIME SECURITY.**—

(A) Funds appropriated by this Act under the headings “International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement” and “Foreign Military Financing Program” shall be made available for activities to strengthen maritime security in the Asia region: *Provided*, That prior to obligating such funds, the Secretary of State shall consult with the appropriate congressional committees on the uses of such funds on a country-by-country basis and on the specific regional strategic objectives supported by such funds: *Provided further*, That such funds may only be made available for programs for naval forces, coast guards, or other governmental maritime entities and nongovernmental organizations, as appropriate, directly engaged in maritime security issues, and shall be coordinated with other United States Government activities that seek to strengthen maritime security in such region.

(B) Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “International Military Education and Training” shall be made available for activities to promote the professionalism and capabilities of naval forces, coast guard, or other governmental maritime entities directly engaged in maritime security issues in the Asia region, including to counter piracy and facilitate cooperation on disaster relief efforts.

(C) In addition to the consultation requirement in paragraph (1)(A), not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in coordination with the heads of other relevant United States Government agencies, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a multi-year strategy to increase cooperation on maritime security issues with countries in the Asia region, including a description of specific regional strategic objectives served by such funds: *Provided*, That such strategy shall include clear goals and objectives, and cost estimates for implementation on an annual, country-by-country and regional basis.

(D) None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be made available for equipment or training for the armed forces of the People's Republic of China.

(E) Funds appropriated under titles III and IV of this Act may be made available by the Secretary of State for the participation by the United States in the Information Sharing Centre located in Singapore, as established by the Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships in Asia.

(2) REGIONAL ALLIANCES AND PARTNERSHIPS.—Funds appropriated under title III of this Act that are made available for programs to strengthen regional alliances and partnerships among governments in the Asia region should be matched to the maximum extent practicable and as appropriate from sources other than the United States Government: *Provided*, That prior to the obligation of funds for such programs, the Secretary of State shall certify to the appropriate congressional committees that such regional alliance or partnership is in the national security interest of the United States, and that the program or programs supporting such alliance serve specific strategic objectives, including a description of such objectives and an explanation of how such programs are coordinated with other United States Government programs to rebalance policy toward Asia.

(3) ECONOMIC GROWTH AND TRADE.—

(A) Funds appropriated under title III of this Act that are made available for bilateral economic growth programs in the Asia region shall also be made available to increase United States trade in such region, and for assistance for capacity building activities relating to free trade agreements.

(B) Funds appropriated under title VI of this Act shall be made available to increase United States trade in the Asia region above amounts made available for such purposes in prior fiscal years.

(4) OPERATIONS AND ASSISTANCE CALCULATIONS.—Not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit a report to the appropriate congressional committees detailing the funds provided for the Asia Rebalancing Initiative for operations and assistance for each fiscal year beginning in fiscal year 2011: *Provided*, That such report shall include total amounts made available for such Initiative for each fiscal year, and shall specify the increased amounts for operations and assistance for the Asia region to support such Initiative.

(5) PUBLIC DIPLOMACY.—

(A) Funds appropriated by this Act under the headings “Educational and Cultural Exchange Programs” and “Economic Support Fund” shall be made available for exchange programs for the Asia region, including for the Young Southeast Asian Leaders Initiative, which should be matched to the maximum extent practicable and as appropriate from sources other than the United States Government: *Provided*, That such Initiative shall include the participation of representatives of democratic political parties and human rights organizations.

(B) Not later than 180 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in consultation with the heads of other relevant United States Government agencies, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report detailing a clear and comprehensive narrative on United States foreign policy for the Asia region, including a description of steps taken to disseminate such narrative among such agencies.

(C) Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “International Broadcasting Operations” that are made available for the Asia region shall be made available to support the narrative required in subparagraph (B), as appropriate: *Provided*, That not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act, the Broadcasting Board of Governors shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations detailing the programs that are attributable to the Asia Rebalancing Initiative, including the costs of such programs.

(6) DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS.—

(A) Funds appropriated by title III of this Act for the Asia Rebalancing Initiative shall be made available to promote and protect democracy and human rights in the Asia region, including for political parties, civil society, and organizations and individuals seeking to advance transparency, accountability, and the rule of law: *Provided*, That such funds shall also be made available, through an open and competitive process, to nongovernmental networks and alliances that seek to promote democracy, human rights, and the rule of law in the Asia region: *Provided further*, That to the maximum extent practicable, such funds should be made available on a grant or cooperative agreement basis.

(B) Funds appropriated by this Act under the headings “Global Health Programs”, “Development Assistance”, “Economic Support Fund”, and “Migration and Refugee Assistance” shall be made available for programs to promote and preserve Tibetan culture and the resilience of Tibetan communities in India and Nepal, and to assist in the education and development of the next generation of Tibetan leaders from such communities: *Provided*, That such funds are in addition to amounts made available for programs inside Tibet in subsection (g)(2) of this section.

(7) CONFLICT RESOLUTION.—Funds appropriated under titles III and IV of this Act shall be made available to address and mitigate conflict in the Asia region arising from ethnic, religious, and territorial disputes.

(8) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this subsection, the Asia region means countries and territories in Oceania, Southeast Asia, and South Asia, and the Indian and Pacific Oceans bordering those countries and territories.

(b) BURMA.—

(1) Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “Economic Support Fund” may be made available for assistance for Burma notwithstanding any other provision of law:

*Provided*, That no such funds shall be made available to any successor or affiliated organization of the State Peace and Development Council (SPDC) controlled by former SPDC members that promotes the repressive policies of the SPDC, or to any individual or organization credibly alleged to have committed gross violations of human rights, including against Rohingyas and other minority groups: *Provided further*, That such funds may be made available for programs administered by the Office of Transition Initiatives, USAID, for ethnic groups and civil society in Burma to help sustain ceasefire agreements and further prospects for reconciliation and peace, which may include support to representatives of ethnic armed groups for this purpose.

(2) Funds appropriated under title III of this Act for assistance for Burma—

(A) may not be made available for budget support for the Government of Burma;

(B) shall be provided to strengthen civil society organizations in Burma, including as core support for such organizations;

(C) shall be made available for community-based organizations operating in Thailand to provide food, medical, and other humanitarian assistance to internally displaced persons in eastern Burma, in addition to assistance for Burmese refugees from funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “Migration and Refugee Assistance”;

(D) shall be made available for parliamentary strengthening programs; and

(E) shall be made available for ethnic and religious reconciliation programs, including in ceasefire areas, as appropriate, and to address the Rohingya and Kachin crises.

(3) None of the funds appropriated by this Act under the headings “International Military Education and Training” and “Foreign Military Financing Program” may be made available for assistance for Burma: *Provided*, That the Department of State may continue consultations with the armed forces of Burma only on human rights and disaster response in a manner consistent with the prior fiscal year, and following consultation with the appropriate congressional committees.

(4) Funds made available by this Act for assistance for Burma shall be made available for the implementation of the democracy and human rights strategy required by section 7043(b)(3)(A) of division K of Public Law 113-76: *Provided*, That the United States Chief of Mission in Burma, in consultation with the Assistant Secretary for the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, Department of State (DRL), shall be responsible for democracy and human rights programs in Burma: *Provided further*, That not less than 90 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit a report to the appropriate congressional committees detailing steps taken by the United States and other international donors to protect human rights and address conflict in Rakhine State.

(5) Funds appropriated by this Act shall only be made available for assistance for the central Government of Burma if the Secretary of State certifies and reports to the appropriate congressional committees that such government has implemented reforms, in consultation with Burma's political opposition and ethnic groups, providing for free and fair presidential and parliamentary elections, to include participation of citizens as voters and candidates: *Provided*, That the Secretary of State may waive the requirements of this paragraph if the Secretary certifies and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that to do so is important to

the democratic development of Burma, including a detailed justification for such waiver.

(6) Any new program or activity in Burma initiated in fiscal year 2015 shall be subject to prior consultation with the appropriate congressional committees.

(7) Notwithstanding any provision of law, the position established by section 7 of Public Law 110-286 shall remain vacant following the expiration of the current term.

(8)(A) Section 3(3) of Public Law 112-192 (October 5, 2012) is amended by inserting after “Public Law 112-74” the phrase “and shall also include the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency”.

(B) The amendment made in subparagraph (A) shall only take effect if the Secretary of State certifies and reports to the Committees on Appropriations by September 30, 2015 that the Government of Burma has implemented reforms, in consultation with Burma's political opposition and ethnic groups, providing for free and fair presidential and parliamentary elections.

(C) CAMBODIA.—

(1) Funds appropriated under title III of this Act for assistance for Cambodia shall be made available for democracy and human rights programs: *Provided*, That such funds shall not include the costs associated with a United States contribution to a Khmer Rouge tribunal: *Provided further*, That decisions regarding the uses of such funds shall be the responsibility of the United States Chief of Mission in Cambodia, in consultation with the Assistant Secretary for DRL, and should include programs that seek to—

(A) strengthen Cambodian civil society;

(B) promote transparent and accountable parliamentary and electoral processes;

(C) provide access to justice for political prisoners and individuals whose land has been confiscated through extra-legal means;

(D) protect the rights, livelihood and traditions of minority groups in Cambodia;

(E) support research and documentation on the Khmer Rouge genocide, including in a regional context; and

(F) support efforts to educate the people of Cambodia on such genocide.

(2) Funds appropriated by this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs under the heading “Development Assistance” shall be made available for basic education programs in Cambodia.

(3) Funds appropriated by this Act may not be made available for a United States contribution to a Khmer Rouge tribunal until the Secretary of State reports to the appropriate congressional committees on whether—

(A) international donors, in cooperation with the Government of Cambodia, have determined an estimate of costs and a timeline associated with the winding down of such tribunal;

(B) the workings of the tribunal are free of interference by the Government of Cambodia; and

(C) the Government of Cambodia is making financial contributions to such tribunal in a manner consistent with its pledges.

(4) The Secretary of State shall consult with international donors to the Khmer Rouge tribunal on a plan to reimburse the Documentation Center of Cambodia for costs incurred in support of the work of such tribunal: *Provided*, That not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report detailing the steps taken to develop such plan.

(D) NORTH KOREA.—

(1) Funds made available under the heading “International Broadcasting Operations” in title I of this Act shall be made available to maintain broadcasts into North Korea.

(2) Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “Migration and Refugee Assistance” shall be made available for assistance for refugees from North Korea, including for protection activities in the People's Republic of China.

(3) None of the funds made available by this Act under the heading “Economic Support Fund” may be made available for assistance for the government of North Korea.

(E) PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA.—

(1) None of the funds appropriated under the heading “Diplomatic and Consular Programs” in this Act may be obligated or expended for processing licenses for the export of satellites of United States origin (including commercial satellites and satellite components) to the People's Republic of China unless, at least 15 days in advance, the Committees on Appropriations are notified of such proposed action.

(2) The terms and requirements of section 620(h) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 shall apply to foreign assistance projects or activities of the People's Liberation Army (PLA) of the People's Republic of China, to include such projects or activities by any entity that is owned or controlled by, or an affiliate of, the PLA: *Provided*, That none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available pursuant to this Act may be used to finance any grant, contract, or cooperative agreement with the PLA, or any entity that the Secretary of State has reason to believe is owned or controlled by, or an affiliate of, the PLA.

(3) Funds appropriated by this Act for public diplomacy under title I and for assistance under titles III and IV shall be made available to counter the influence of the People's Republic of China, in accordance with the strategy required by section 7043(e)(3) of division K of Public Law 113-76, following consultation with the Committees on Appropriations.

(F) PHILIPPINES.—Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “Foreign Military Financing Program” that are available for assistance for the Philippine army should only be made available in accordance with the conditions under this section in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act).

(G) TIBET.—

(1) The Secretary of the Treasury should instruct the United States executive director of each international financial institution to use the voice and vote of the United States to support financing of projects in Tibet if such projects do not provide incentives for the migration and settlement of non-Tibetans into Tibet or facilitate the transfer of ownership of Tibetan land and natural resources to non-Tibetans, are based on a thorough needs-assessment, foster self-sufficiency of the Tibetan people and respect Tibetan culture and traditions, and are subject to effective monitoring.

(2) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “Economic Support Fund” shall be made available to nongovernmental organizations to support activities which preserve cultural traditions and promote sustainable development, education, and environmental conservation in Tibetan communities in the Tibetan Autonomous Region and in other Tibetan communities in China.

(H) VIETNAM.—Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “Economic Support Fund” shall be made available for remediation of dioxin contaminated sites in Vietnam and may be made available for assistance for the Government of Vietnam, including the military, for such purposes, and funds appropriated under the heading “Development Assistance” shall be made available for health/disability activities in areas sprayed with Agent Orange or otherwise contaminated with dioxin.

#### SOUTH AND CENTRAL ASIA

SEC. 7044. (A) AFGHANISTAN.—

(1) OPERATIONS AND REPORTS.—

(A) Funds appropriated by this Act under the headings “Diplomatic and Consular Programs”, “Embassy Security, Construction, and Maintenance”, and “Operating Expenses” that are available for the construction and renovation of United States Government facilities in Afghanistan may not be made available if the purpose is to accommodate Federal employee positions or to expand aviation facilities or assets above those notified by the Department of State and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to the Committees on Appropriations, or contractors in addition to those in place on the date of enactment of this Act: *Provided*, That the limitations in this paragraph shall not apply if funds are necessary to protect such facilities or the security, health, and welfare of United States personnel.

(B) Of the funds appropriated by this Act under the headings “Diplomatic and Consular Programs” and “Operating Expenses” that are made available for operations in Afghanistan, 15 percent shall be withheld from obligation until the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense and the USAID Administrator, submits to the Committees on Appropriations, in classified form if necessary, an update of the report required by section 7044(a)(1)(B) of division K of Public Law 113-76.

(2) ASSISTANCE.—Funds appropriated by this Act under the headings “Economic Support Fund” and “International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement” for assistance for Afghanistan—

(A) may not be used to support any program, project, or activity that—

(i) does not have regular oversight by the Department of State or USAID, as appropriate, to include site visits;

(ii) involves any individual or organization that the Secretary of State determines to be involved in corrupt practices; or

(iii) initiates new major infrastructure;

(B) shall only be made available for programs that the Government of Afghanistan or other Afghan entity is capable of sustaining, as appropriate and as determined by the United States Chief of Mission;

(C) shall be prioritized for programs that promote women's economic and political empowerment, strengthen and protect the rights of women and girls, and to implement the United States Embassy Kabul Gender Strategy; and

(D) shall be implemented in accordance with all applicable audit policies of the Department of State and USAID.

(3) NOTIFICATION AND CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENT.—Funds appropriated by this Act under the headings “Economic Support Fund” and “International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement” for assistance for the central Government of Afghanistan shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations,

and may not be obligated unless the Secretary of State certifies and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that the Government of Afghanistan is—

(A) implementing laws or policies to govern democratically and protect the rights of individuals and civil society;

(B) implementing the Bilateral Security Agreement with the United States;

(C) taking consistent steps to protect and advance the rights of women and girls in Afghanistan;

(D) implementing the necessary policies and procedures to comply with section 7013 of this Act; and

(E) reducing corruption and recovering stolen assets.

(4) **WAIVER.**—The Secretary of State, after consultation with the Secretary of Defense, may waive the certification requirement of paragraph (3) if the Secretary of State determines that to do so is important to the national security interest of the United States and the Secretary submits a report to the Committees on Appropriations, in classified form if necessary, on the justification for the waiver and the reasons why any part of the certification requirement of paragraph (3) has not been met.

(5) **RULE OF LAW PROGRAMS.**—Of the funds appropriated by this Act that are available for assistance for Afghanistan, not less than \$50,000,000 shall be made available for rule of law programs: *Provided*, That decisions regarding the uses of such funds shall be the responsibility of the Coordinating Director, in consultation with other appropriate United States Government officials in Afghanistan, and such Director shall be consulted on the uses of all funds appropriated by this Act for rule of law programs in Afghanistan.

(6) **FUNDING REDUCTION.**—Funds appropriated by this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs that are available for assistance for the Government of Afghanistan shall be reduced by \$5 for every \$1 that the Government of Afghanistan imposes in taxes, duties, penalties, or other fees on the transport of property of the United States Government (including the United States Armed Forces), entering or leaving Afghanistan.

(7) **ENDOWMENT TO EMPOWER WOMEN AND GIRLS.**—Funds appropriated under the heading “Economic Support Fund” in this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs may be made available for an endowment to empower women and girls in Afghanistan, following consultation with the appropriate congressional committees.

(8) **AUTHORITIES.**—

(A) Funds appropriated under titles III through VI of this Act that are made available for assistance for Afghanistan may be made available—

(i) notwithstanding section 7012 of this Act or any similar provision of law and section 660 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961; and

(ii) for reconciliation programs and disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration activities for former combatants who have renounced violence against the Government of Afghanistan in accordance with section 7046(a)(2)(B)(ii) of Public Law 112-74.

(B) Section 7046(a)(2)(A) of division I of Public Law 112-74 shall apply to funds appropriated by this Act for assistance for Afghanistan.

(9) **AFGHANISTAN REGIONAL TRANSITION.**—Funds made available by this Act for assistance for Afghanistan may be made available

for programs in Central and South Asia relating to a transition in Afghanistan, including expanding Afghanistan linkages within the region: *Provided*, That such funds shall be the responsibility of the Assistant Secretary for the Bureau of South and Central Asian Affairs, Department of State, and the coordinator designated pursuant to section 601 of the Support for Eastern European Democracy (SEED) Act of 1989 (Public Law 101-179) and section 102 of the FREEDOM Support Act (Public Law 102-511): *Provided further*, That such funds shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

(10) **BASE RIGHTS.**—None of the funds made available by this Act may be used by the United States Government to enter into a permanent basing rights agreement between the United States and Afghanistan.

(b) **BANGLADESH.**—Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “Development Assistance” that are made available for assistance for Bangladesh shall be made available for programs to improve labor conditions by strengthening the capacity of independent workers’ organizations in Bangladesh’s readymade garment, shrimp, and fish export sectors.

(c) **NEPAL.**—

(1) Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “Foreign Military Financing Program” may be made available for assistance for Nepal only if the Secretary of State certifies and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that the Government of Nepal is investigating and prosecuting violations of human rights and the laws of war, and the Nepal army is cooperating fully with civilian judicial authorities, including providing investigators access to witnesses, documents, and other information.

(2) The conditions in paragraph (1) shall not apply to assistance for humanitarian relief and reconstruction activities in Nepal, or for training to participate in international peacekeeping missions.

(d) **PAKISTAN.**—

(1) **CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENT.**—None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act under the headings “Economic Support Fund”, “International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement”, and “Foreign Military Financing Program” for assistance for the Government of Pakistan may be made available unless the Secretary of State certifies and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that the Government of Pakistan is—

(A) cooperating with the United States in counterterrorism efforts against the Haqqani Network, the Quetta Shura Taliban, Lashkar e-Tayyiba, Jaish-e-Mohammed, Al-Qaeda, and other domestic and foreign terrorist organizations, including taking steps to end support for such groups and prevent them from basing and operating in Pakistan and carrying out cross border attacks into neighboring countries;

(B) not supporting terrorist activities against United States or coalition forces in Afghanistan, and Pakistan’s military and intelligence agencies are not intervening extra-judicially into political and judicial processes in Pakistan;

(C) dismantling improvised explosive device (IED) networks and interdicting precursor chemicals used in the manufacture of IEDs;

(D) preventing the proliferation of nuclear-related material and expertise;

(E) issuing visas in a timely manner for United States visitors engaged in counterterrorism efforts and assistance programs in Pakistan; and

(F) providing humanitarian organizations access to detainees, internally displaced persons, and other Pakistani civilians affected by the conflict.

(2) **WAIVER.**—The Secretary of State, after consultation with the Secretary of Defense, may waive the certification requirement of paragraph (1) if the Secretary of State determines that to do so is important to the national security interest of the United States and the Secretary submits a report to the Committees on Appropriations, in classified form if necessary, on the justification for the waiver and the reasons why any part of the certification requirement of paragraph (1) has not been met.

(3) **ASSISTANCE.**—

(A) Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “Foreign Military Financing Program” for assistance for Pakistan may be made available only to support counterterrorism and counterinsurgency capabilities in Pakistan, and are subject to section 620M of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961.

(B) Funds appropriated by this Act under the headings “Economic Support Fund” and “Nonproliferation, Anti-terrorism, Demining and Related Programs” that are available for assistance for Pakistan shall be made available to interdict precursor materials from Pakistan to Afghanistan that are used to manufacture IEDs, including calcium ammonium nitrate; to support programs to train border and customs officials in Pakistan and Afghanistan; and for agricultural extension programs that encourage alternative fertilizer use among Pakistani farmers.

(C) Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “Economic Support Fund” that are made available for assistance for infrastructure projects in Pakistan shall be implemented in a manner consistent with section 507(6) of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2467(6)).

(D) Funds appropriated by this Act under titles III and IV for assistance for Pakistan may be made available notwithstanding any other provision of law, except for this subsection.

(E) Of the funds appropriated under titles III and IV of this Act that are made available for assistance for Pakistan, \$33,000,000 shall be withheld from obligation until the Secretary of State reports to the Committees on Appropriations that Dr. Shakil Afridi has been released from prison and cleared of all charges relating to the assistance provided to the United States in locating Osama bin Laden.

(4) **SCHOLARSHIPS FOR WOMEN.**—

(A) Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “Economic Support Fund” that are made available for assistance for Pakistan shall be made available to increase the number of scholarships for women under the Merit and Needs-Based Scholarship Program during fiscal year 2015.

(B) The additional scholarships available pursuant to this subsection shall be awarded in accordance with other scholarship eligibility criteria already established by USAID.

(C) Additional scholarships funded pursuant to this subsection shall be awarded for a range of disciplines to improve the employability of graduates and to meet the needs of scholarship recipients.

(D) Not less than 50 percent of the scholarships available under such Program should be awarded to Pakistani women.

(5) **REPORTS.**—

(A)(i) The spend plan required by section 7076 of this Act for assistance for Pakistan shall include achievable and sustainable

goals, benchmarks for measuring progress, and expected results regarding combating poverty and furthering development in Pakistan, countering extremism, and establishing conditions conducive to the rule of law and transparent and accountable governance: *Provided*, That such benchmarks may incorporate those required in title III of Public Law 111–73, as appropriate: *Provided further*, That not later than 6 months after submission of such spend plan, and each 6 months thereafter until September 30, 2016, the Secretary of State shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations on the status of achieving the goals and benchmarks in such plan.

(ii) The Secretary of State should suspend assistance for the Government of Pakistan if any report required by paragraph (A)(i) indicates that Pakistan is failing to make measurable progress in meeting such goals or benchmarks.

(B) Not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations detailing the costs and objectives associated with significant infrastructure projects supported by the United States in Pakistan, and an assessment of the extent to which such projects achieve such objectives.

(e) SRI LANKA.—

(1) None of the funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “Foreign Military Financing Program” may be made available for assistance for Sri Lanka, no defense export license may be issued, and no military equipment or technology shall be sold or transferred to Sri Lanka pursuant to the authorities contained in this Act or any other Act, unless the Secretary of State certifies and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that the Government of Sri Lanka is meeting the conditions under this subsection in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act).

(2) Paragraph (1) shall not apply to assistance for humanitarian demining, disaster relief, and aerial and maritime surveillance.

(3) If the Secretary makes the certification required in paragraph (1), funds appropriated under the heading “Foreign Military Financing Program” that are made available for assistance for Sri Lanka should be used to support the recruitment of Tamils into the Sri Lankan military in an inclusive and transparent manner, Tamil language training for Sinhalese military personnel, and human rights training for all military personnel.

(4) Funds appropriated under the heading “International Military Education and Training” (IMET) in this Act that are available for assistance for Sri Lanka, may be made available only for training related to international peacekeeping operations and expanded IMET: *Provided*, That the limitation in this paragraph shall not apply to maritime security.

(5) The Secretary of the Treasury shall instruct the United States executive directors of the international financial institutions to vote against any loan, agreement, or other financial support for Sri Lanka except to meet basic human needs, unless the Secretary of State makes the certification to the Committees on Appropriations required in paragraph (1).

(f) REGIONAL PROGRAMS.—

(1) Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “Economic Support Fund” for assistance for Afghanistan and Pakistan may be provided, notwithstanding any other provision of law that restricts assistance to foreign countries, for cross border stabiliza-

tion and development programs between Afghanistan and Pakistan, or between either country and the Central Asian countries.

(2) Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement” that are available for assistance for countries in South and Central Asia should be made available to enhance the recruitment, retention, and professionalism of women in police and other security forces.

#### WESTERN HEMISPHERE

SEC. 7045. (a) CENTRAL AMERICAN MIGRATION PREVENTION AND RESPONSE.—

(1) STRATEGY.—Not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), and after consultation with the heads of other relevant Federal agencies and the Committees on Appropriations, shall submit to such Committees a strategy to address the key factors in the countries in Central America contributing to the migration of unaccompanied, undocumented minors to the United States: *Provided*, That such strategy shall include a clear mission statement, achievable goals and objectives, benchmarks, timelines, and a spend plan: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated under titles III and IV of this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs shall be made available to implement such strategy, subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

(2) BORDER SECURITY.—The strategy required by paragraph (1) shall address the need for greater border security for the countries in Central America and for Mexico, particularly the southern border of Mexico: *Provided*, That funds shall be made available by this Act to assist such countries to improve border security.

(3) ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT.—The strategy required by paragraph (1) shall include economic and social development programs, with a focus on communities that are major contributors of unaccompanied migrants and where there is significant gang activity.

(4) JUDICIAL AND LAW ENFORCEMENT REFORM.—The strategy required by paragraph (1) shall include judicial and police reform and capacity building programs, with a focus on strengthening judicial independence and community policing.

(5) TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS.—The strategy required by paragraph (1) shall include activities to combat human trafficking in Central America, including through the use of forensic technology: *Provided*, That funds in this Act shall be made available to support a multi-faceted approach to combat human trafficking in Guatemala.

(6) REPATRIATION AND REINTEGRATION.—The strategy required by paragraph (1) shall address the need for the safe repatriation and reintegration of minors into families or family-like settings: *Provided*, That funds shall be made available to support repatriation facilities for the processing of undocumented migrants returning from the United States.

(7) Not later than 60 days after submission of the strategy required by paragraph (1), and every 120 days thereafter until September 30, 2016, the Secretary of State, in consultation with the USAID Administrator, shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations on progress toward achieving the goals and objectives contained in such strategy and an updated spend plan, as appropriate: *Provided*, That such report shall

specify the amount of funds obligated and expended pursuant to this section by country and the steps taken by the government of each country to—

(A) improve border security;

(B) enforce laws and policies to reduce the flow of illegal migrants to the United States, including to increase penalties for human smuggling;

(C) conduct public outreach campaigns to explain the dangers of the journey to the southwest border of the United States, and to inform potential migrants of relevant United States immigration laws; and

(D) cooperate with United States Federal agencies to facilitate and expedite the return, repatriation, and reintegration of illegal migrants arriving at the southwest border of the United States.

(8) SUSPENSION OF ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary of State shall suspend further obligation of funds provided pursuant to this subsection for assistance for the government of a country if the Secretary determines and reports to the appropriate congressional committees that such government is not taking the steps specified in subparagraphs (A) through (D) of paragraph (7).

(b) COLOMBIA.—

(1) Funds appropriated by this Act and made available to the Department of State for assistance for the Government of Colombia may be used to support a unified campaign against narcotics trafficking, organizations designated as Foreign Terrorist Organizations, and other criminal or illegal armed groups, and to take actions to protect human health and welfare in emergency circumstances, including undertaking rescue operations: *Provided*, That the first through fifth provisos of paragraph (1), and paragraph (3) of section 7045(a) of division I of Public Law 112–74 shall continue in effect during fiscal year 2015 and shall apply to funds appropriated by this Act and made available for assistance for Colombia as if included in this Act: *Provided further*, That 10 percent of the funds appropriated by this Act for the Colombian national police for aerial drug eradication programs may not be used for the aerial spraying of chemical herbicides unless the Secretary of State certifies to the Committees on Appropriations that the herbicides do not pose unreasonable risks or adverse effects to humans, including pregnant women and children, or the environment, including endemic species: *Provided further*, That any complaints of harm to health or licit crops caused by such aerial spraying shall be thoroughly investigated and evaluated, and fair compensation paid in a timely manner for meritorious claims: *Provided further*, That of the funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “Economic Support Fund”, not less than \$133,000,000 shall be apportioned directly to USAID for alternative development/institution building, local governance programs, and support for victims of the violence in Colombia.

(2) LIMITATION.—Of the funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “Foreign Military Financing Program” that are available for assistance for Colombia, 25 percent may be obligated only in accordance with the conditions under section 7045 in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act).

(c) CUBA.—Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading “Economic Support Fund” should be made available for programs in Cuba.

(d) GUATEMALA.—Funds appropriated by this Act may be made available for assistance for the Guatemalan army only in accordance with the conditions under section 7045 in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act).

(e) HAITI.—

(1) None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be made available for assistance for the central Government of Haiti until the Secretary of State certifies and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that the Government of Haiti—

(A) is taking steps to hold free and fair parliamentary elections and to seat a new Haitian Parliament;

(B) is selecting judges in a transparent manner and respecting the independence of the judiciary;

(C) is combating corruption, including implementing the anti-corruption law by prosecuting corrupt officials; and

(D) is improving governance and implementing financial transparency and accountability requirements for government institutions.

(2) The Government of Haiti shall be eligible to purchase defense articles and services under the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2751 et seq.) for the Coast Guard.

(f) HONDURAS.—

(1) Of the funds appropriated by this Act under the headings “International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement” and “Foreign Military Financing Program” that are available for assistance for the Honduran army and police, 25 percent may be obligated only in accordance with the conditions under section 7045 in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act).

(2) The restriction in paragraph (1) shall not apply to assistance to promote transparency, anti-corruption, border and maritime security, respect for the rule of law within the army and police, and to combat human trafficking.

(g) MEXICO.—

(1) Prior to the obligation of 15 percent of the funds appropriated by this Act under the headings “International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement” and “Foreign Military Financing Program” that are available for assistance for the Mexican army and police, the Secretary of State shall report in writing to the Committees on Appropriations that the Government of Mexico is meeting the conditions under section 7045 in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act).

(2) The restriction in paragraph (1) shall not apply to assistance to promote transparency, anti-corruption, border and maritime security, and respect for the rule of law within the army and police.

(3) Not later than 45 days after the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Commissioner for the United States Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission (IBWC), shall report to the Committees on Appropriations on the efforts to work with the Mexico Section of the IBWC and the Government of Mexico to establish mechanisms to improve the transparency of data on, and predictability of, the water deliveries from Mexico to the United States to meet annual water apportionments to the Rio Grande, in accordance with the 1944 Treaty between the United States and Mexico Respecting Utilization of Waters of the Colorado and Tijuana Rivers and of the Rio Grande, and on actions

taken to minimize or eliminate the water deficits owed to the United States in the current 5-year cycle by the end of such cycle: *Provided*, That such report shall include a projection of the balance of the water delivery deficit at the end of the current 5-year cycle, as well as the estimated impact to the United States of a negative delivery balance.

(h) AIRCRAFT OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE.—To the maximum extent practicable, the costs of operations and maintenance, including fuel, of aircraft funded by this Act should be borne by the recipient country.

(i) TRADE CAPACITY.—Funds appropriated by this Act under the headings “Development Assistance” and “Economic Support Fund” should be made available for labor and environmental capacity building activities relating to free trade agreements with countries of Central America, Colombia, Peru, and the Dominican Republic.

#### PROHIBITION OF PAYMENTS TO UNITED NATIONS MEMBERS

SEC. 7046. None of the funds appropriated or made available pursuant to titles III through VI of this Act for carrying out the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, may be used to pay in whole or in part any assessments, arrearages, or dues of any member of the United Nations or, from funds appropriated by this Act to carry out chapter 1 of part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, the costs for participation of another country's delegation at international conferences held under the auspices of multilateral or international organizations.

#### WAR CRIMES TRIBUNALS

SEC. 7047. If the President determines that doing so will contribute to a just resolution of charges regarding genocide or other violations of international humanitarian law, the President may direct a drawdown pursuant to section 552(c) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 of up to \$30,000,000 of commodities and services for the United Nations War Crimes Tribunal established with regard to the former Yugoslavia by the United Nations Security Council or such other tribunals or commissions as the Council may establish or authorize to deal with such violations, without regard to the ceiling limitation contained in paragraph (2) thereof: *Provided*, That the determination required under this section shall be in lieu of any determinations otherwise required under section 552(c): *Provided further*, That funds made available pursuant to this section shall be made available subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

#### UNITED NATIONS

SEC. 7048. (a) TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY.—Of the funds appropriated under title I and under the heading “International Organizations and Programs” in title V of this Act that are available for contributions to the United Nations (including the Department of Peacekeeping Operations), any United Nations agency, or the Organization of American States, 15 percent may not be obligated for such organization, department, or agency until the Secretary of State reports to the Committees on Appropriations that the organization, department, or agency is—

(1) posting on a publicly available Web site, consistent with privacy regulations and due process, regular financial and programmatic audits of such organization, department, or agency, and providing the United States Government with necessary access to such financial and performance audits; and

(2) effectively implementing and enforcing policies and procedures which reflect best

practices as defined in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act) for the protection of whistleblowers from retaliation, including best practices for—

(A) protection against retaliation for internal and lawful public disclosures;

(B) legal burdens of proof;

(C) statutes of limitation for reporting retaliation;

(D) access to independent adjudicative bodies, including external arbitration; and

(E) results that eliminate the effects of proven retaliation.

#### (b) RESTRICTIONS ON UNITED NATIONS DELEGATIONS AND ORGANIZATIONS.—

(1) None of the funds made available under title I of this Act may be used to pay expenses for any United States delegation to any specialized agency, body, or commission of the United Nations if such agency, body, or commission is chaired or presided over by a country, the government of which the Secretary of State has determined, for purposes of section 6(j)(1) of the Export Administration Act of 1979 as continued in effect pursuant to the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. App. 2405(j)(1)), supports international terrorism.

(2) None of the funds made available under title I of this Act may be used by the Secretary of State as a contribution to any organization, agency, commission, or program within the United Nations system if such organization, agency, commission, or program is chaired or presided over by a country the government of which the Secretary of State has determined, for purposes of section 620A of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, section 40 of the Arms Export Control Act, section 6(j)(1) of the Export Administration Act of 1979, or any other provision of law, is a government that has repeatedly provided support for acts of international terrorism.

(3) The Secretary of State may waive the restriction in this subsection if the Secretary reports to the Committees on Appropriations that to do so is in the national interest of the United States.

(c) UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL.—Funds appropriated by this Act may be made available to support the United Nations Human Rights Council only if the Secretary of State reports to the Committees on Appropriations that participation in the Council is in the national interest of the United States: *Provided*, That the Secretary of State shall report to the Committees on Appropriations not later than September 30, 2015, on the resolutions considered in the United Nations Human Rights Council during the previous 12 months, and on steps taken to remove Israel as a permanent agenda item.

(d) UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY.—The Secretary of State shall submit a report in writing to the Committees on Appropriations not less than 45 days after enactment of this Act on whether the United Nations Relief and Works Agency is—

(1) utilizing Operations Support Officers in the West Bank, Gaza, and other fields of operation to inspect UNRWA installations and reporting any inappropriate use;

(2) acting promptly to address any staff or beneficiary violation of its own policies (including the policies on neutrality and impartiality of employees) and the legal requirements under section 301(c) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961;



(3) implementing procedures to maintain the neutrality of its facilities, including implementing a no-weapons policy, and conducting regular inspections of its installations, to ensure they are only used for humanitarian or other appropriate purposes;

(4) taking necessary and appropriate measures to ensure it is operating in compliance with the conditions of section 301(c) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 and continuing regular reporting to the Department of State on actions it has taken to ensure conformance with such conditions;

(5) taking steps to ensure the content of all educational materials currently taught in UNRWA-administered schools and summer camps is consistent with the values of human rights, dignity, and tolerance and does not induce incitement;

(6) not engaging in operations with financial institutions or related entities in violation of relevant United States law, and is taking steps to improve the financial transparency of the organization; and

(7) in compliance with the United Nations Board of Auditors' biennial audit requirements and is implementing in a timely fashion the Board's recommendations.

(e) UNITED NATIONS CAPITAL MASTER PLAN.—None of the funds made available in this Act may be used for the design, renovation, or construction of the United Nations Headquarters in New York.

(f) WAIVER.—The restrictions imposed by or pursuant to subsection (a) may be waived on a case-by-case basis by the Secretary of State if the Secretary determines and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that such waiver is necessary to avert or respond to a humanitarian crisis.

(g) REPORT.—Not later than 45 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations detailing the amount of funds available for obligation or expenditure in fiscal year 2015 for contributions to any organization, department, agency, or program within the United Nations system or any international program that are withheld from obligation or expenditure due to any provision of law: *Provided*, That the Secretary of State shall update such report each time additional funds are withheld by operation of any provision of law: *Provided further*, That the reprogramming of any withheld funds identified in such report, including updates thereof, shall be subject to prior consultation with, and the regular notification procedures of, the Committees on Appropriations.

#### COMMUNITY-BASED POLICE ASSISTANCE

SEC. 7049. (a) AUTHORITY.—Funds made available by titles III and IV of this Act to carry out the provisions of chapter 1 of part I and chapters 4 and 6 of part II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, may be used, notwithstanding section 660 of that Act, to enhance the effectiveness and accountability of civilian police authority through training and technical assistance in human rights, the rule of law, anti-corruption, strategic planning, and through assistance to foster civilian police roles that support democratic governance, including assistance for programs to prevent conflict, respond to disasters, address gender-based violence, and foster improved police relations with the communities they serve.

(b) NOTIFICATION.—Assistance provided under subsection (a) shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

#### PROHIBITION ON PROMOTION OF TOBACCO

SEC. 7050. None of the funds provided by this Act shall be available to promote the

sale or export of tobacco or tobacco products, or to seek the reduction or removal by any foreign country of restrictions on the marketing of tobacco or tobacco products, except for restrictions which are not applied equally to all tobacco or tobacco products of the same type.

#### INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

SEC. 7051. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to send or otherwise pay for the attendance of more than 50 employees of agencies or departments of the United States Government who are stationed in the United States, at any single international conference occurring outside the United States, unless the Secretary of State reports to the Committees on Appropriations at least 5 days in advance that such attendance is important to the national interest: *Provided*, That for purposes of this section the term "international conference" shall mean a conference attended by representatives of the United States Government and of foreign governments, international organizations, or nongovernmental organizations.

#### AIRCRAFT TRANSFER AND COORDINATION

SEC. 7052. (a) TRANSFER AUTHORITY.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law or regulation, aircraft procured with funds appropriated by this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs under the headings "Diplomatic and Consular Programs", "International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement", "Andean Counterdrug Initiative", and "Andean Counterdrug Programs" may be used for any other program and in any region, including for the transportation of active and standby Civilian Response Corps personnel and equipment during a deployment: *Provided*, That the responsibility for policy decisions and justification for the use of such transfer authority shall be the responsibility of the Secretary of State and the Deputy Secretary of State and this responsibility shall not be delegated.

(b) PROPERTY DISPOSAL.—The authority provided in subsection (a) shall apply only after the Secretary of State determines and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that the equipment is no longer required to meet programmatic purposes in the designated country or region: *Provided*, That any such transfer shall be subject to prior consultation with, and the regular notification procedures of, the Committees on Appropriations.

#### (c) AIRCRAFT COORDINATION.—

(1) The uses of aircraft purchased or leased by the Department of State and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) with funds made available in this Act or prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs shall be coordinated under the authority of the appropriate Chief of Mission: *Provided*, That such aircraft may be used to transport, on a reimbursable or non-reimbursable basis, Federal and non-Federal personnel supporting Department of State and USAID programs and activities: *Provided further*, That official travel for other agencies for other purposes may be supported on a reimbursable basis, or without reimbursement when traveling on a space available basis: *Provided further*, That funds received by the Department of State for the use of aircraft owned, leased, or chartered by the Department of State may be credited to the Department's Working Capital Fund and shall be available for expenses

related to the purchase, lease, maintenance, chartering, or operation of such aircraft.

(2) The requirement and authorities of this subsection shall only apply to aircraft, the primary purpose of which is the transportation of personnel.

#### PARKING FINES AND REAL PROPERTY TAXES OWED BY FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS

SEC. 7053. The terms and conditions of section 7055 of division F of Public Law 111-117 shall apply to this Act: *Provided*, That the date "September 30, 2009" in subsection (f)(2)(B) shall be deemed to be "September 30, 2014".

#### LANDMINES AND CLUSTER MUNITIONS

SEC. 7054. (a) LANDMINES.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, demining equipment available to the United States Agency for International Development and the Department of State and used in support of the clearance of landmines and unexploded ordnance for humanitarian purposes may be disposed of on a grant basis in foreign countries, subject to such terms and conditions as the Secretary of State may prescribe.

(b) CLUSTER MUNITIONS.—No military assistance shall be furnished for cluster munitions, no defense export license for cluster munitions may be issued, and no cluster munitions or cluster munitions technology shall be sold or transferred, unless—

(1) the submunitions of the cluster munitions, after arming, do not result in more than 1 percent unexploded ordnance across the range of intended operational environments, and the agreement applicable to the assistance, transfer, or sale of such cluster munitions or cluster munitions technology specifies that the cluster munitions will only be used against clearly defined military targets and will not be used where civilians are known to be present or in areas normally inhabited by civilians; or

(2) such assistance, license, sale, or transfer is for the purpose of demilitarizing or permanently disposing of such cluster munitions.

#### PROHIBITION ON PUBLICITY OR PROPAGANDA

SEC. 7055. No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall be used for publicity or propaganda purposes within the United States not authorized before the date of the enactment of this Act by the Congress: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$25,000 may be made available to carry out the provisions of section 316 of Public Law 96-533.

#### LIMITATION ON RESIDENCE EXPENSES

SEC. 7056. Of the funds appropriated or made available pursuant to title II of this Act, not to exceed \$100,500 shall be for official residence expenses of the United States Agency for International Development during the current fiscal year.

#### UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT

##### (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 7057. (a) AUTHORITY.—Up to \$93,000,000 of the funds made available in title III of this Act pursuant to or to carry out the provisions of part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 may be used by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to hire and employ individuals in the United States and overseas on a limited appointment basis pursuant to the authority of sections 308 and 309 of the Foreign Service Act of 1980.

#### (b) RESTRICTIONS.—

(1) The number of individuals hired in any fiscal year pursuant to the authority contained in subsection (a) may not exceed 175.



(2) The authority to hire individuals contained in subsection (a) shall expire on September 30, 2016.

(c) **CONDITIONS.**—The authority of subsection (a) should only be used to the extent that an equivalent number of positions that are filled by personal services contractors or other non-direct hire employees of USAID, who are compensated with funds appropriated to carry out part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, are eliminated.

(d) **PROGRAM ACCOUNT CHARGED.**—The account charged for the cost of an individual hired and employed under the authority of this section shall be the account to which such individual's responsibilities primarily relate: *Provided*, That funds made available to carry out this section may be transferred to, and merged with, funds appropriated by this Act in title II under the heading "Operating Expenses".

(e) **FOREIGN SERVICE LIMITED EXTENSIONS.**—Individuals hired and employed by USAID, with funds made available in this Act or prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs, pursuant to the authority of section 309 of the Foreign Service Act of 1980, may be extended for a period of up to 4 years notwithstanding the limitation set forth in such section.

(f) **DISASTER SURGE CAPACITY.**—Funds appropriated under title III of this Act to carry out part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 may be used, in addition to funds otherwise available for such purposes, for the cost (including the support costs) of individuals detailed to or employed by USAID whose primary responsibility is to carry out programs in response to natural disasters, or man-made disasters subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

(g) **PERSONAL SERVICES CONTRACTORS.**—Funds appropriated by this Act to carry out chapter 1 of part I, chapter 4 of part II, and section 667 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, and title II of the Food for Peace Act (Public Law 83-480), may be used by USAID to employ up to 40 personal services contractors in the United States, notwithstanding any other provision of law, for the purpose of providing direct, interim support for new or expanded overseas programs and activities managed by the agency until permanent direct hire personnel are hired and trained: *Provided*, That not more than 15 of such contractors shall be assigned to any bureau or office: *Provided further*, That such funds appropriated to carry out title II of the Food for Peace Act (Public Law 83-480), may be made available only for personal services contractors assigned to the Office of Food for Peace.

(h) **SMALL BUSINESS.**—In entering into multiple award indefinite-quantity contracts with funds appropriated by this Act, USAID may provide an exception to the fair opportunity process for placing task orders under such contracts when the order is placed with any category of small or small disadvantaged business.

(i) **SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE LIMITED APPOINTMENTS.**—Individuals hired pursuant to the authority provided by section 7059(o) of division F of Public Law 111-117 may be assigned to or support programs in Afghanistan or Pakistan with funds made available in this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs.

(j) **LOCAL SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT.**—Not later than 180 days after enactment of this Act and after consultation with the appro-

priate congressional committees, the USAID Administrator shall submit to such committees a plan, including a timeline and resources required by fiscal year, to incorporate the following components into USAID Foreign Service training, assignment, and promotion practices in order to enable all Foreign Service Officers to effectively apply local sustainable development principles to USAID assistance programs:

(1) a time period for overseas assignments that facilitates sustainable development, and which includes the option of extending such assignments;

(2) sufficient foreign language training;

(3) expertise in one or more program areas;

(4) work objectives that give Foreign Service Officers primary responsibility for developing relationships with, and building the capacity of, local nongovernmental and governmental entities, and supporting grants to and cooperative agreements with such entities to design and implement small-scale, sustainable programs, projects, and activities across all development sectors;

(5) incentives, including training, compensation, and career development opportunities including promotions, to encourage such officers to carry out their responsibilities; and

(6) procedures to ensure that the responsibilities and assignments of relevant locally employed staff are fully integrated with the work of such officers.

#### GLOBAL HEALTH ACTIVITIES

SEC. 7058. (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Funds appropriated by titles III and IV of this Act that are made available for bilateral assistance for child survival activities or disease programs including activities relating to research on, and the prevention, treatment and control of, HIV/AIDS may be made available notwithstanding any other provision of law except for provisions under the heading "Global Health Programs" and the United States Leadership Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria Act of 2003 (117 Stat. 711; 22 U.S.C. 7601 et seq.), as amended: *Provided*, That of the funds appropriated under title III of this Act, not less than \$575,000,000 should be made available for family planning/reproductive health, including in areas where population growth threatens biodiversity or endangered species.

(b) **GLOBAL FUND.**—

(1) Of the funds appropriated by this Act that are available for a contribution to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (Global Fund), 10 percent should be withheld from obligation until the Secretary of State determines and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that—

(A) the Global Fund is maintaining and implementing a policy of transparency, including the authority of the Global Fund Office of the Inspector General (OIG) to publish OIG reports on a public Web site;

(B) the Global Fund is providing sufficient resources to maintain an independent OIG that—

(i) reports directly to the Board of the Global Fund;

(ii) maintains a mandate to conduct thorough investigations and programmatic audits, free from undue interference; and

(iii) compiles regular, publicly published audits and investigations of financial, programmatic, and reporting aspects of the Global Fund, its grantees, recipients, sub-recipients, and Local Fund Agents;

(C) the Global Fund maintains an effective whistleblower policy to protect whistleblowers from retaliation, including confidential procedures for reporting possible misconduct or irregularities; and

(D) the Global Fund is implementing the recommendations contained in the Consolidated Transformation Plan approved by the Board of the Global Fund on November 21, 2011.

(2) The withholding required by this subsection shall not be in addition to funds that are withheld from the Global Fund in fiscal year 2015 pursuant to the application of any other provision contained in this or any other Act.

(c) **CONTAGIOUS INFECTIOUS DISEASE OUTBREAKS.**—If the Secretary of State determines and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that an international infectious disease outbreak is sustained, severe, and is spreading internationally, or that it is in the national interest to respond to a Public Health Emergency of International Concern, funds made available under title III of this Act may be made available to combat such infectious disease or public health emergency: *Provided*, That funds made available pursuant to the authority of this subsection shall be subject to prior consultation with, and the regular notification procedures of, the Committees on Appropriations.

#### GENDER EQUALITY

SEC. 7059. (a) **GENDER EQUALITY.**—Funds appropriated by this Act shall be made available to promote gender equality in United States Government diplomatic and development efforts by raising the status, increasing the participation, and protecting the rights of women and girls worldwide.

(b) **WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP.**—Of the funds appropriated by title III of this Act, not less than \$50,000,000 shall be made available to increase leadership opportunities for women in countries where women and girls suffer discrimination due to law, policy, or practice, by strengthening protections for women's political status, expanding women's participation in political parties and elections, and increasing women's opportunities for leadership positions in the public and private sectors at the local, provincial, and national levels.

(c) **GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE.**—

(1)(A) Of the funds appropriated by titles III and IV of this Act, not less than \$150,000,000 shall be made available to implement a multi-year strategy to prevent and respond to gender-based violence in countries where it is common in conflict and non-conflict settings.

(B) Funds appropriated by titles III and IV of this Act that are available to train foreign police, judicial, and military personnel, including for international peacekeeping operations, shall address, where appropriate, prevention and response to gender-based violence and trafficking in persons, and shall promote the integration of women into the police and other security forces.

(2) Department of State and United States Agency for International Development gender programs shall incorporate coordinated efforts to combat a variety of forms of gender-based violence, including child marriage, rape, female genital cutting and mutilation, and domestic violence, among other forms of gender-based violence in conflict and non-conflict settings.

(d) **WOMEN, PEACE, AND SECURITY.**—Funds appropriated by this Act under the headings "Development Assistance", "Economic Support Fund", and "International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement" should be made available to support a multi-year strategy to expand, and improve coordination of, United States Government efforts to empower women as equal partners in conflict prevention, peace building, transitional

processes, and reconstruction efforts in countries affected by conflict or in political transition, and to ensure the equitable provision of relief and recovery assistance to women and girls.

#### SECTOR ALLOCATIONS

##### SEC. 7060. (a) EDUCATION.—

###### (1) BASIC EDUCATION.—

(A) Of the funds appropriated under title III of this Act, not less than \$800,000,000 should be made available for assistance for basic education, and such funds may be made available notwithstanding any provision of law that restricts assistance to foreign countries, except for the conditions provided in this subsection: *Provided*, That not later than 60 days after enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) shall report to the Committees on Appropriations on the status of cumulative unobligated balances and obligated, but unexpended, balances in each country where USAID provides basic education assistance and such report shall also include details on the types of contracts and grants provided and the goals and objectives of such assistance: *Provided further*, That the Administrator shall update such report on a monthly basis thereafter until the unobligated and unexpended balances for such assistance are less than the amount made available by this paragraph for basic education assistance: *Provided further*, That the initial report shall also include a detailed plan, timeline, and the current status of assistance for basic education.

(B) USAID shall ensure that programs supported with funds appropriated for basic education in this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs are integrated, as appropriate, with health, agriculture, governance, and economic and social development activities to address the broader needs of target populations: *Provided*, That USAID shall work to achieve quality universal basic education by—

(i) assisting foreign governments, non-governmental, and multilateral organizations working in developing countries to provide children with a quality basic education, including through strengthening host country educational systems; and

(ii) promoting basic education as the foundation for comprehensive community development programs.

(C) Of the funds appropriated by this Act under title III for basic education, not less than \$45,000,000 shall be made available for a contribution to multilateral partnerships that support education.

(2) HIGHER EDUCATION.—Of the funds appropriated by title III of this Act, not less than \$225,000,000 shall be made available for assistance for higher education, of which not less than \$35,000,000 shall be to support such programs in Africa, including \$17,500,000 for human and institutional capacity development partnerships between higher education institutions in Africa and the United States.

(3) DEFINITION.—For purposes of funds appropriated under title III of this Act, the term “democracy programs” in section 7032(c) of this Act shall also include programs to rescue scholars, and fellowships, scholarships, and exchanges in the Middle East and North Africa for academic professionals and university students from countries in such region, subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

(b) COUNTERING VIOLENT EXTREMISM.—Funds appropriated by titles I, III, and IV of this Act may be made available for programs

to reduce support for foreign terrorist organizations (FTOs), as designated pursuant to section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act, through messaging campaigns to damage their appeal; programs for potential supporters of violent extremism; counter radicalization and rehabilitation programs in prisons; job training and social reintegration for former supporters of FTOs; law enforcement training programs; and capacity building for civil society organizations to combat radicalization in local communities: *Provided*, That for purposes of this subsection the term “countering violent extremism” shall be defined as non-coercive interventions aimed directly at reducing public support for FTOs: *Provided further*, That not later than 180 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in consultation with the heads of other relevant United States Government agencies, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a multi-year strategy to counter violent extremism, including a description of the objectives of such strategy, oversight mechanisms for programs to carry out such strategy, and multi-year cost estimates.

###### (c) ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Of the funds appropriated by this Act, not less than \$1,153,500,000 should be made available for environment programs.

(2) CLEAN ENERGY.—The limitation in section 7081(b) of division F of Public Law 111-117 shall continue in effect during fiscal year 2015 as if part of this Act: *Provided*, That the proviso contained in such section shall not apply.

(3) ADAPTATION AND MITIGATION.—Funds appropriated by this Act may be made available for United States contributions to multilateral environmental funds and facilities to support adaptation and mitigation programs only in accordance with the directives under this subsection in the joint explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act).

(4) SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPES AND BIODIVERSITY.—Of the funds appropriated under title III of this Act, not less than \$123,500,000 shall be made available for sustainable landscapes programs and, in addition, not less than \$250,000,000 shall be made available to protect biodiversity, and shall not be used to support or promote the expansion of industrial scale logging or any other industrial scale extractive activity into areas that were primary/intact tropical forest as of December 30, 2013: *Provided*, That of the funds made available for the Central African Regional Program for the Environment and other tropical forest programs in the Congo Basin, not less than \$17,500,000 shall be apportioned directly to the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS): *Provided further*, That funds made available for the Department of the Interior (DOI) for programs in the Mayan Biosphere Reserve shall be apportioned directly to the DOI: *Provided further*, That such funds shall be made available to support other international conservation programs of the USFWS, programs of the United States Forest Service, and programs to protect great apes and other endangered species.

###### (5) WILDLIFE POACHING AND TRAFFICKING.—

(A) Not less than \$55,000,000 of the funds appropriated under titles III and IV of this Act shall be made available to combat the transnational threat of wildlife poaching and trafficking, including not less than \$10,000,000 for programs to combat rhinoceros poaching.

(B) None of the funds appropriated under title IV of this Act may be made available

for training or other assistance for any military unit or personnel that the Secretary of State determines has been credibly alleged to have participated in wildlife poaching or trafficking, unless the Secretary reports to the Committees on Appropriations that to do so is in the national security interest of the United States.

(6) AUTHORITY.—Funds appropriated by this Act to carry out the provisions of sections 103 through 106, and chapter 4 of part II, of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 may be used, notwithstanding any other provision of law except for the provisions of this subsection and subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations, to support environment programs.

###### (7) EXTRACTION OF NATURAL RESOURCES.—

(A) Funds appropriated by this Act shall be made available to promote and support transparency and accountability of expenditures and revenues related to the extraction of natural resources, including by strengthening implementation and monitoring of the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative, implementing and enforcing section 8204 of Public Law 110-246 and to prevent the sale of conflict diamonds, and provide technical assistance to promote independent audit mechanisms and support civil society participation in natural resource management.

(B)(i) The Secretary of the Treasury shall inform the management of the international financial institutions and post on the Department of the Treasury's Web site that it is the policy of the United States to vote against any assistance by such institutions (including but not limited to any loan, credit, grant, or guarantee) for the extraction and export of a natural resource if the government of the country has in place laws, regulations, or procedures to prevent or limit the public disclosure of company payments as required by section 1504 of Public Law 111-203, and unless such government has adopted laws, regulations, or procedures in the sector in which assistance is being considered for—

(I) accurately accounting for and public disclosure of payments to the host government by companies involved in the extraction and export of natural resources;

(II) the independent auditing of accounts receiving such payments and public disclosure of the findings of such audits; and

(III) public disclosure of such documents as Host Government Agreements, Concession Agreements, and bidding documents, allowing in any such dissemination or disclosure for the redaction of, or exceptions for, information that is commercially proprietary or that would create competitive disadvantage.

(ii) The requirements of clause (i) shall not apply to assistance for the purpose of building the capacity of such government to meet the requirements of this subparagraph.

(C) The Secretary of the Treasury or the Secretary of State, as appropriate, shall instruct the United States executive director of each international financial institution and the United States representatives to all forest-related multilateral financing mechanisms and processes to vote against any financing to support or promote the expansion of industrial scale logging or any other industrial scale extractive activity into areas that were primary/intact tropical forest as of December 30, 2013.

(D) The Secretary of the Treasury shall instruct the United States executive director of each international financial institution that it is the policy of the United States to vote in relation to any loan, grant, strategy,

or policy of such institution to support the construction of any large dam, only in accordance with the conditions under this section in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act).

(E)(i) Not later than 120 days after enactment of this Act, the USAID Administrator shall designate sufficient personnel with the technical expertise to fulfill the agency's responsibilities under sections 1302, 1303, and 1307 of title XIII of the International Financial Institutions Act of 1977, as amended, including the ability for personnel with such expertise from other relevant United States Government agencies to be detailed to USAID, as needed, which may be on a non-reimbursable basis, to provide additional technical support and specific subject matter reviews as part of USAID's Title XIII analytical, investigative, and reporting responsibilities: *Provided*, That the responsibilities of such personnel shall include, but not be limited to—

(I) conducting independent, technical, and thorough reviews of proposed multilateral development bank (MDB) projects at the technical assessment/feasibility stage prior to the drafting of environmental impact assessments;

(II) conducting reviews, and coordinating and compiling the analyses by other relevant United States Government agencies with technical expertise of environmental impact assessments in support of the project review process, to assist in fulfilling USAID's responsibilities under section 1303(c) of the International Financial Institutions Act, as amended; and

(III) ongoing monitoring of MDB projects reviewed pursuant to USAID's Title XIII reporting responsibilities to determine the degree of incorporation and effectiveness of United States Government recommendations and the adequacy of safeguard policies.

(ii) Not later than 45 days after enactment of this Act, the USAID Administrator shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations on the implementation of this subsection.

(8) TRANSFER OF FUNDS.—Not later than 120 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, after consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury, shall transfer \$29,907,000 of funds appropriated under the heading "Economic Support Fund" to funds appropriated by this Act under the headings "Multilateral Assistance, International Financial Institutions" for additional payments to trust funds enumerated under such headings: *Provided*, That prior to exercising such transfer authority the Secretary of State shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations.

(9) CONTINUATION OF PRIOR LAW.—Section 7081(g)(2) and (4) of division F of Public Law 111-117 shall continue in effect during fiscal year 2015 as if part of this Act.

(d) FOOD SECURITY AND AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT.—

(1) Of the funds appropriated by title III of this Act, not less than \$1,000,600,000 should be made available for food security and agricultural development programs, of which \$32,000,000 shall be made available for the Feed the Future Collaborative Research Innovation Lab: *Provided*, That such funds may be made available notwithstanding any other provision of law to address food shortages, and for a United States contribution to the endowment of the Global Crop Diversity Trust.

(2) Funds appropriated under title III of this Act may be made available as a con-

tribution to the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program if such contribution will not cause the United States to exceed 33 percent of the total amount of funds contributed to such Program.

(e) MICROENTERPRISE AND MICROFINANCE.—Of the funds appropriated by this Act, not less than \$265,000,000 should be made available for microenterprise and microfinance development programs for the poor, especially women.

(f) RECONCILIATION PROGRAMS.—Of the funds appropriated by this Act under the headings "Economic Support Fund" and "Development Assistance", not less than \$26,000,000 shall be made available to support people-to-people reconciliation programs which bring together individuals of different ethnic, religious, and political backgrounds from areas of civil strife and war: *Provided*, That the USAID Administrator shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations, prior to the initial obligation of funds, on the uses of such funds: *Provided further*, That to the maximum extent practicable, such funds shall be matched by sources other than the United States Government.

(g) TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS.—Of the funds appropriated by this Act under the headings "Development Assistance", "Economic Support Fund", and "International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement", not less than \$52,500,000 shall be made available for activities to combat trafficking in persons internationally.

(h) WATER AND SANITATION.—Of the funds appropriated by this Act, not less than \$382,500,000 shall be made available for water and sanitation supply projects pursuant to the Senator Paul Simon Water for the Poor Act of 2005 (Public Law 109-121), of which not less than \$145,000,000 should be for programs in sub-Saharan Africa, and of which not less than \$12,500,000 shall be made available for programs to design and build safe, public latrines in Africa and Asia.

(i) NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS.—Authorized deviations from funding levels contained in this section shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

#### UZBEKISTAN

SEC. 7061. The terms and conditions of section 7076 of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2009 (division H of Public Law 111-8) shall apply to funds appropriated by this Act, except that the Secretary of State may waive the application of section 7076(a) for a period of not more than 6 months and every 6 months thereafter until September 30, 2016, if the Secretary certifies to the Committees on Appropriations that the waiver is in the national security interest and necessary to obtain access to and from Afghanistan for the United States, and the waiver includes an assessment of progress, if any, by the Government of Uzbekistan in meeting the requirements in section 7076(a): *Provided*, That the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense, shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations not later than 12 months after enactment of this Act and 6 months thereafter, on all United States Government assistance provided to the Government of Uzbekistan and expenditures made in support of the Northern Distribution Network in Uzbekistan during the previous 12 months, including any credible information that such assistance or expenditures are being diverted for corrupt purposes: *Provided further*, That information provided in the assessment and report required by the previous provisos shall be un-

classified but may be accompanied by a classified annex and such annex shall indicate the basis for such classification: *Provided further*, That for purposes of the application of section 7076(e) to this Act, the term "assistance" shall not include expanded international military education and training.

#### ARMS TRADE TREATY

SEC. 7062. None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be obligated or expended to implement the Arms Trade Treaty until the Senate approves a resolution of ratification for the Treaty.

#### UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND

SEC. 7063. (a) CONTRIBUTION.—Of the funds made available under the heading "International Organizations and Programs" in this Act for fiscal year 2015, \$35,000,000 shall be made available for the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).

(b) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—Funds appropriated by this Act for UNFPA, that are not made available for UNFPA because of the operation of any provision of law, shall be transferred to the "Global Health Programs" account and shall be made available for family planning, maternal, and reproductive health activities, subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

(c) PROHIBITION ON USE OF FUNDS IN CHINA.—None of the funds made available by this Act may be used by UNFPA for a country program in the People's Republic of China.

(d) CONDITIONS ON AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—Funds made available by this Act for UNFPA may not be made available unless—

(1) UNFPA maintains funds made available by this Act in an account separate from other accounts of UNFPA and does not commingle such funds with other sums; and

(2) UNFPA does not fund abortions.

(e) REPORT TO CONGRESS AND DOLLAR-FOR-DOLLAR WITHHOLDING OF FUNDS.—

(1) Not later than 4 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations indicating the amount of funds that UNFPA is budgeting for the year in which the report is submitted for a country program in the People's Republic of China.

(2) If a report under paragraph (1) indicates that UNFPA plans to spend funds for a country program in the People's Republic of China in the year covered by the report, then the amount of such funds UNFPA plans to spend in the People's Republic of China shall be deducted from the funds made available to UNFPA after March 1 for obligation for the remainder of the fiscal year in which the report is submitted.

#### REQUESTS FOR DOCUMENTS

SEC. 7064. None of the funds appropriated or made available pursuant to titles III through VI of this Act shall be available to a nongovernmental organization, including any contractor, which fails to provide upon timely request any document, file, or record necessary to the auditing requirements of the United States Agency for International Development.

#### INTERNATIONAL PRISON CONDITIONS

SEC. 7065. Funds appropriated under the headings "Development Assistance", "Economic Support Fund", and "International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement" in this Act shall be made available, notwithstanding section 660 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, for assistance to eliminate

inhumane conditions in foreign prisons and other detention facilities: *Provided*, That decisions regarding the uses of such funds shall be the responsibility of the Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor (DRL), in consultation with the Assistant Secretary of State for International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement Affairs, and the Assistant Administrator for Democracy, Conflict, and Humanitarian Assistance, United States Agency for International Development, as appropriate: *Provided further*, That the Assistant Secretary of State for DRL shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations prior to the obligation of funds.

#### PROHIBITION ON USE OF TORTURE

SEC. 7066. (a) None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to support or justify the use of torture, cruel, or inhumane treatment by any official or contract employee of the United States Government.

(b) Funds appropriated under titles III and IV of this Act shall be made available, notwithstanding section 660 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 and following consultation with the Committees on Appropriations, for assistance to eliminate torture by foreign police, military or other security forces in countries receiving assistance from funds appropriated by this Act.

#### EXTRADITION

SEC. 7067. (a) None of the funds appropriated in this Act may be used to provide assistance (other than funds provided under the headings "International Disaster Assistance", "Complex Crises Fund", "International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement", "Migration and Refugee Assistance", "United States Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance Fund", and "Non-proliferation, Anti-terrorism, Demining and Related Assistance") for the central government of a country which has notified the Department of State of its refusal to extradite to the United States any individual indicted for a criminal offense for which the maximum penalty is life imprisonment without the possibility of parole or for killing a law enforcement officer, as specified in a United States extradition request.

(b) Subsection (a) shall only apply to the central government of a country with which the United States maintains diplomatic relations and with which the United States has an extradition treaty and the government of that country is in violation of the terms and conditions of the treaty.

(c) The Secretary of State may waive the restriction in subsection (a) on a case-by-case basis if the Secretary certifies to the Committees on Appropriations that such waiver is important to the national interests of the United States.

#### COMMERCIAL LEASING OF DEFENSE ARTICLES

SEC. 7068. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, and subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations, the authority of section 23(a) of the Arms Export Control Act may be used to provide financing to Israel, Egypt, and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), and major non-NATO allies for the procurement by leasing (including leasing with an option to purchase) of defense articles from United States commercial suppliers, not including Major Defense Equipment (other than helicopters and other types of aircraft having possible civilian application), if the President determines that there are compelling foreign policy or national security reasons for those defense articles being provided by commercial lease rather

than by government-to-government sale under such Act.

#### INDEPENDENT STATES OF THE FORMER SOVIET UNION

SEC. 7069. (a) None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be made available for assistance for a government of an Independent State of the former Soviet Union if that government directs any action in violation of the territorial integrity or national sovereignty of any other Independent State of the former Soviet Union, such as those violations included in the Helsinki Final Act: *Provided*, That except as otherwise provided in section 7070(a) of this Act, funds may be made available without regard to the restriction in this subsection if the President determines that to do so is in the national security interest of the United States: *Provided further*, That prior to executing the authority contained in this subsection the Department of State shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations on how such assistance supports the national interest of the United States.

(b) Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading "Economic Support Fund" may be made available, notwithstanding any other provision of law, except for the limitation contained in section 7070(a) of this Act, for assistance and related programs for the countries identified in section 3(c) of the Support for Eastern European Democracy (SEED) Act of 1989 (Public Law 101-179) and section 3 of the FREEDOM Support Act (Public Law 102-511) and may be used to carry out the provisions of those Acts: *Provided*, That such assistance and related programs from funds appropriated by this Act under the headings "Global Health Programs", "Economic Support Fund", and "International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement" shall be administered in accordance with the responsibilities of the coordinator designated pursuant to section 601 of the Support for Eastern European Democracy (SEED) Act of 1989 (Public Law 101-179) and section 102 of the FREEDOM Support Act (Public Law 102-511).

(c) Section 907 of the FREEDOM Support Act shall not apply to—

(1) activities to support democracy or assistance under title V of the FREEDOM Support Act and section 1424 of Public Law 104-201 or non-proliferation assistance;

(2) any assistance provided by the Trade and Development Agency under section 661 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2421);

(3) any activity carried out by a member of the United States and Foreign Commercial Service while acting within his or her official capacity;

(4) any insurance, reinsurance, guarantee, or other assistance provided by the Overseas Private Investment Corporation under title IV of chapter 2 of part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2191 et seq.);

(5) any financing provided under the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945; or

(6) humanitarian assistance.

#### RUSSIA

SEC. 7070. (a) None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be made available for assistance for the central Government of the Russian Federation.

(b)(1) None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be made available for assistance for the central government of a country that the Secretary of State determines and reports to the Committees on Appropriations has taken affirmative steps intended to support or be supportive of the Russian Federa-

tion annexation of Crimea: *Provided*, That except as otherwise provided in subsection (a), the Secretary may waive the restriction on assistance required by this paragraph if the Secretary certifies to such Committees that to do so is in the national interest of the United States, and includes a justification for such interest.

(2) None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be made available for—

(A) the implementation of any action or policy that recognizes the sovereignty of the Russian Federation over Crimea;

(B) the facilitation, financing, or guarantee of United States Government investments in Crimea, if such activity includes the participation of Russian Government officials, and Russian owned and controlled banks, or other Russian Government owned and controlled financial entities; or

(C) assistance for Crimea, if such assistance includes the participation of Russian Government officials, and Russian owned and controlled banks, and other Russian Government owned and controlled financial entities.

(3) The Secretary of the Treasury shall instruct the United States executive directors of each international financial institution to vote against any assistance by such institution (including but not limited to any loan, credit, or guarantee) for any program that violates the sovereignty or territorial integrity of Ukraine.

(4) The requirements of subsection (b) shall cease to be in effect if the Secretary of State certifies and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that the Government of Ukraine has reestablished sovereignty over Crimea.

(c) Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading "Economic Support Fund" in title III to counter Russian aggression and influence in Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia may be transferred to, and merged with, funds appropriated under the headings "International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement" and "Foreign Military Financing Program" in title IV: *Provided*, That such transfer authority is in addition to transfer authority otherwise available under any other provision of law: *Provided further*, That such transfer authority shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

(d) Funds appropriated by this Act for assistance for the Eastern Partnership countries shall be made available to advance the implementation of Association Agreements, trade agreements, and visa liberalization agreements with the European Union, and to reduce their vulnerability to external economic and political pressure from the Russian Federation.

(e) Funds appropriated by this Act shall be made available to support the advancement of democracy and the rule of law in the Russian Federation, including to promote Internet freedom, and shall also be made available to support the democracy and rule of law strategy required by section 7071(d) of division K of Public Law 113-76.

(f) Not later than 45 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall update the reports required by section 7071(b)(2), (c), and (e) of division K of Public Law 113-76.

#### INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND

SEC. 7071. (a) The terms and conditions of sections 7086(b) (1) and (2) and 7090(a) of division F of Public Law 111-117 shall apply to this Act.

(b) The Secretary of the Treasury shall instruct the United States Executive Director

of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to seek to ensure that any loan will be repaid to the IMF before other private creditors.

(c) The Secretary of the Treasury shall seek to require that the IMF implements and enforces policies and procedures which reflect best practices as defined in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act) for the protection of whistleblowers from retaliation, including best practices for—

- (1) protection against retaliation for internal and lawful public disclosures;
- (2) legal burdens of proof;
- (3) statutes of limitation for reporting retaliation;
- (4) access to independent adjudicative bodies, including external arbitration; and
- (5) results that eliminate the effects of proven retaliation.

#### PUBLIC POSTING OF REPORTS

SEC. 7072. (a) Any agency receiving funds made available by this Act shall, subject to subsections (b) and (c), post on the public Web site of such agency any report required by this Act to be submitted to the Committees on Appropriations, upon a determination by the head of such agency that to do so is in the national interest.

(b) Subsection (a) shall not apply to a report if—

- (1) the public posting of such report would compromise national security, including the conduct of diplomacy; or
- (2) the report contains proprietary, privileged, or sensitive information.

(c) The head of the agency posting such report shall do so only after such report has been made available to the Committees on Appropriations for not less than 45 days.

#### OVERSEAS PRIVATE INVESTMENT CORPORATION

SEC. 7073. (a) Whenever the President determines that it is in furtherance of the purposes of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, up to a total of \$20,000,000 of the funds appropriated under title III of this Act may be transferred to, and merged with, funds appropriated by this Act for the Overseas Private Investment Corporation Program Account, to be subject to the terms and conditions of that account: *Provided*, That such funds shall not be available for administrative expenses of the Overseas Private Investment Corporation: *Provided further*, That designated funding levels in this Act shall not be transferred pursuant to this section: *Provided further*, That the exercise of such authority shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

(b) Notwithstanding section 235(a)(2) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, the authority of subsections (a) through (c) of section 234 of such Act shall remain in effect until September 30, 2015.

#### SPECIAL DEFENSE ACQUISITION FUND

SEC. 7074. Not to exceed \$100,000,000 may be obligated pursuant to section 51(c)(2) of the Arms Export Control Act for the purposes of the Special Defense Acquisition Fund (Fund), to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2017: *Provided*, That the provision of defense articles and defense services to foreign countries or international organizations from the Fund shall be subject to the concurrence of the Secretary of State.

#### ENTERPRISE FUNDS

SEC. 7075. (a) None of the funds made available under titles III through VI of this Act may be made available for Enterprise Funds unless the appropriate congressional com-

mittees are notified at least 15 days in advance.

(b) Prior to the distribution of any assets resulting from any liquidation, dissolution, or winding up of an Enterprise Fund, in whole or in part, the President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a plan for the distribution of the assets of the Enterprise Fund.

(c) Prior to a transition to and operation of any private equity fund or other parallel investment fund under an existing Enterprise Fund, the President shall submit such transition or operating plan to the appropriate congressional committees.

#### BUDGET DOCUMENTS

SEC. 7076. (a) OPERATING PLANS.—Not later than 45 days after the date of enactment of this Act, each department, agency, or organization funded in titles I, II, and VI of this Act, and the Department of the Treasury and Independent Agencies funded in title III of this Act, including the Inter-American Foundation and the United States African Development Foundation, shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations an operating plan for funds appropriated to such department, agency, or organization in such titles of this Act, or funds otherwise available for obligation in fiscal year 2015, that provides details of the uses of such funds at the program, project, and activity level: *Provided*, That such plans shall include, as applicable, a comparison between the most recent congressional directives or approved funding levels and the funding levels proposed by the department or agency; and a clear, concise, and informative description/justification: *Provided further*, That operating plans for funds for such department, agency, or organization in titles I, II, or III and title VIII, shall simultaneously submit the operating plans for, and integrated information on, enduring and Overseas Contingency Operations funds: *Provided further*, That operating plans that include changes in levels of funding specified in this Act or in the joint explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this Consolidated Act) shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

(b) SPEND PLANS.—

(1) Prior to the initial obligation of funds, the Secretary of State shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations a detailed spend plan for funds made available by this Act, for—

(A) assistance for Afghanistan, Colombia, Egypt, Haiti, Iraq, Lebanon, Libya, Mexico, Pakistan, the West Bank and Gaza, and Yemen;

(B) the Caribbean Basin Security Initiative, the Central American Regional Security Initiative, the Trans-Sahara Counterterrorism Partnership program, and the Partnership for Regional East Africa Counterterrorism program; and

(C) democracy programs and each sector enumerated in section 7060 of this Act.

(2) Not later than 45 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Treasury shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations a detailed spend plan for funds made available by this Act under the headings “Department of the Treasury” in title III and “International Financial Institutions” in title V.

(c) SPENDING REPORT.—Not later than 45 days after enactment of this Act, the USAID Administrator shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations a detailed report on spending of funds made available during fiscal year 2014 under the heading “Development Credit Authority”.

(d) NOTIFICATIONS.—The spend plans referenced in subsection (b) shall not be considered as meeting the notification requirements in this Act or under section 634A of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961.

(e) CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET JUSTIFICATIONS.—

(1) The congressional budget justifications for Department of State operations and foreign operations shall be provided to the Committees on Appropriations concurrent with the date of submission of the President's budget for fiscal year 2016.

(2) The Secretary of State and the USAID Administrator shall include in the congressional budget justification a detailed justification for multi-year availability for any funds requested under the headings “Diplomatic and Consular Programs” and “Operating Expenses”.

#### USE OF FUNDS IN CONTRAVENTION OF THIS ACT

SEC. 7077. If the President makes a determination not to comply with any provision of this Act on constitutional grounds, the head of the relevant Federal agency shall notify the Committees on Appropriations in writing within 5 days of such determination, the basis for such determination and any resulting changes to program and policy.

#### GLOBAL INTERNET FREEDOM

SEC. 7078. (a) Of the funds available for obligation during fiscal year 2015 under the headings “International Broadcasting Operations”, “Economic Support Fund”, and “Democracy Fund”, not less than \$50,500,000 shall be made available for programs to promote Internet freedom globally: *Provided*, That such programs shall be prioritized for countries whose governments restrict freedom of expression on the Internet, and that are important to the national interests of the United States: *Provided further*, That funds made available pursuant to this section shall be matched, to the maximum extent practicable, by sources other than the United States Government, including from the private sector.

(b) Funds made available pursuant to subsection (a) shall be—

(1) coordinated with other democracy, governance, and broadcasting programs funded by this Act under the headings “International Broadcasting Operations”, “Economic Support Fund”, “Democracy Fund”, and “Complex Crises Fund”, and shall be incorporated into country assistance, democracy promotion, and broadcasting strategies, as appropriate;

(2) made available to the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, Department of State for programs to implement the May 2011, International Strategy for Cyberspace and the comprehensive strategy to promote Internet freedom and access to information in Iran, as required by section 414 of Public Law 112-158;

(3) made available to the Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG) to provide tools and techniques to access the Internet Web sites of BBG broadcasters that are censored, and to work with such broadcasters to promote and distribute such tools and techniques, including digital security techniques;

(4) made available for programs that support the efforts of civil society to counter the development of repressive Internet-related laws and regulations, including countering threats to Internet freedom at international organizations; to combat violence against bloggers and other users; and to enhance digital security training and capacity building for democracy activists; and

(5) made available for research of key threats to Internet freedom; the continued

development of technologies that provide or enhance access to the Internet, including circumvention tools that bypass Internet blocking, filtering, and other censorship techniques used by authoritarian governments; and maintenance of the United States Government's technological advantage over such censorship techniques: *Provided*, That the Secretary of State, in consultation with the BBG, shall coordinate any such research and development programs with other relevant United States Government departments and agencies in order to share information, technologies, and best practices, and to assess the effectiveness of such technologies.

(c) After consultation among the relevant agency heads to coordinate and de-conflict planned activities, but not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State and the BBG Chairman shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations spend plans for funds made available by this Act for programs to promote Internet freedom globally, which shall include a description of safeguards established by relevant agencies to ensure that such programs are not used for illicit purposes.

(d) The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct an audit of Internet freedom programs supported by funds appropriated by this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs, and shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations on the scope and requirements of such audit.

#### DISABILITY PROGRAMS

SEC. 7079. (a) Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading "Economic Support Fund" shall be made available for programs and activities administered by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to address the needs and protect and promote the rights of people with disabilities in developing countries, including initiatives that focus on independent living, economic self-sufficiency, advocacy, education, employment, transportation, sports, and integration of individuals with disabilities, including for the cost of translation.

(b) Of the funds made available by this section, 5 percent may be used for USAID for management, oversight, and technical support.

#### SMALL GRANTS PROGRAM

SEC. 7080. (a) IN GENERAL.—A Small Grants Program (SGP) shall be established within the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to provide small grants, cooperative agreements, and other assistance mechanisms and agreements of not more than \$2,000,000 for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of chapters 1 and 10 of part I and chapter 4 of part II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961: *Provided*, That the SGP established pursuant to this section shall replace the function served previously by the Development Grants Program established under section 674 of division J, of Public Law 110-161, which is hereby abolished.

(b) ELIGIBILITY.—Grants from the SGP shall only be made to eligible entities as described in the joint explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act).

(c) PROPOSALS.—Grants made pursuant to the authority of this section shall be provided through—

(1) unsolicited applications received and evaluated pursuant to USAID policy regarding such proposals; or

(2) an open and competitive process.

(d) FUNDING.—

(1) Of the funds appropriated by this Act to carry out chapter 1 of part I and chapter 4 of part II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, not less than \$45,000,000 shall be made available for the SGP within USAID's Local Sustainability Office of the Bureau for Economic Growth, Education and Environment to carry out this subsection.

(2) Other than to meet the requirements of this section, funds made available to carry out this section may not be allocated in the report required by section 653(a) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to meet any other specifically designated funding levels contained in this Act: *Provided*, That such funds may be attributed to any such specifically designated funding level after the award of funds under this section, if applicable.

(3) Funds made available under this section shall remain available for obligation until September 30, 2019.

(e) MANAGEMENT.—

(1) Not later than 120 days after enactment of this Act, the USAID Administrator shall issue guidance to implement this section: *Provided*, That such guidance shall include the requirements contained in the joint explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act).

(2) Upon selection of a mission pursuant to the procedures required by paragraph (1), such selected mission may be allocated the full estimated cost of the multi-year program: *Provided*, That such allocations shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

(3) In addition to funds otherwise available for such purposes, up to 12 percent of the funds made available to carry out this section may be used by USAID for administrative and oversight expenses associated with managing relationships with entities under the SGP.

(f) REPORT.—Not later than 120 days after enactment of this Act and after consultation with the appropriate congressional committees, the Administrator shall submit a report to such committees describing the guidance to implement the SGP.

#### PROHIBITION ON FIRST-CLASS TRAVEL

SEC. 7081. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used for first-class travel by employees of agencies funded by this Act in contravention of sections 301-10.122 through 301-10.124 of title 41, Code of Federal Regulations.

#### REPORTING REQUIREMENTS CONCERNING INDIVIDUALS DETAINED AT NAVAL STATION, GUANTANAMO BAY, CUBA

SEC. 7082. Not later than 5 days after the conclusion of an agreement with a country, including a state with a compact of free association with the United States, to receive by transfer or release individuals detained at United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, the Secretary of State shall notify the Committees on Appropriations in writing of the terms of the agreement, including whether funds appropriated by this Act or prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs will be made available for assistance for such country pursuant to such agreement.

#### AUTHORITY FOR REPLENISHMENTS

SEC. 7083. (a) The Asian Development Bank Act, Public Law 89-369, as amended (22 U.S.C. 285 et seq.), is further amended by adding at the end thereof the following new section:

#### "SEC. 35. TENTH REPLENISHMENT.

"(a) The United States Governor of the Bank is authorized to contribute, on behalf of the United States, \$359,600,000 to the tenth replenishment of the resources of the Fund, subject to obtaining the necessary appropriations.

"(b) In order to pay for the United States contribution provided for in subsection (a), there are authorized to be appropriated, without fiscal year limitation, \$359,600,000 for payment by the Secretary of the Treasury."

(b) The International Development Association Act, Public Law 86-565, as amended (22 U.S.C. 284 et seq.), is further amended by adding at the end thereof the following new sections:

#### "SEC. 28. SEVENTEENTH REPLENISHMENT.

"(a) The United States Governor of the International Development Association is authorized to contribute on behalf of the United States \$3,871,800,000 to the seventeenth replenishment of the resources of the Association, subject to obtaining the necessary appropriations.

"(b) In order to pay for the United States contribution provided for in subsection (a), there are authorized to be appropriated, without fiscal year limitation, \$3,871,800,000 for payment by the Secretary of the Treasury.

#### "SEC. 29. MULTILATERAL DEBT RELIEF.

"(a) The Secretary of the Treasury is authorized to contribute, on behalf of the United States, not more than \$565,020,000 to the International Development Association for the purpose of funding debt relief costs under the Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative incurred in the period governed by the seventeenth replenishment of resources of the International Development Association, subject to obtaining the necessary appropriations and without prejudice to any funding arrangements in existence on the date of the enactment of this section.

"(b) In order to pay for the United States contribution provided for in subsection (a), there are authorized to be appropriated, without fiscal year limitation, not more than \$565,020,000 for payment by the Secretary of the Treasury.

"(c) In this section, the term 'Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative' means the proposal set out in the G8 Finance Ministers' Communiqué entitled 'Conclusions on Development,' done at London, June 11, 2005, and reaffirmed by G8 Heads of State at the Gleneagles Summit on July 8, 2005."

(c) The African Development Fund Act, Public Law 94-302, as amended (22 U.S.C. 290g et seq.), is further amended by adding at the end thereof the following new sections:

#### "SEC. 223. THIRTEENTH REPLENISHMENT.

"(a) The United States Governor of the Fund is authorized to contribute on behalf of the United States \$585,000,000 to the thirteenth replenishment of the resources of the Fund, subject to obtaining the necessary appropriations.

"(b) In order to pay for the United States contribution provided for in subsection (a), there are authorized to be appropriated, without fiscal year limitation, \$585,000,000 for payment by the Secretary of the Treasury.

#### "SEC. 224. MULTILATERAL DEBT RELIEF.

"(a) The Secretary of the Treasury is authorized to contribute, on behalf of the United States, not more than \$54,620,000 to the African Development Fund for the purpose of funding debt relief costs under the Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative incurred



in the period governed by the thirteenth replenishment of resources of the African Development Fund, subject to obtaining the necessary appropriations and without prejudice to any funding arrangements in existence on the date of the enactment of this section.

“(b) In order to pay for the United States contribution provided for in subsection (a), there are authorized to be appropriated, without fiscal year limitation, not more than \$54,620,000 for payment by the Secretary of the Treasury.

“(c) In this section, the term ‘Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative’ means the proposal set out in the G8 Finance Ministers’ Communiqué entitled ‘Conclusions on Development,’ done at London, June 11, 2005, and reaffirmed by G8 Heads of State at the Gleneagles Summit on July 8, 2005.’”

#### RESCISSION OF FUNDS

SEC. 7084. Of the unexpended balances available under the heading ‘Export and Investment Assistance, Export-Import Bank of the United States, Subsidy Appropriation’ from prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs, \$30,000,000 are rescinded.

#### MODIFICATIONS TO THE VIETNAM EDUCATION FOUNDATION ACT OF 2000

SEC. 7085. (a) EXPANDED USE OF VIETNAM DEBT REPAYMENT FUND.—Section 207(c)(3) of the Vietnam Education Foundation Act of 2000 (title II of division B of H.R. 5666, as enacted by section 1(a)(4) of Public Law 106-554 and contained in appendix D of that Act; 114 Stat. 2763A-257; 22 U.S.C. 2452 note) is amended to read as follows:

“(3) EXCESS FUNDS.—During each of the fiscal years 2015 through 2018, amounts deposited into the Fund, in excess of the amounts made available to the Foundation under paragraph (1), shall be made available by the Secretary of the Treasury, upon the request of the Secretary of State, for grants to support the establishment of an independent, not-for-profit academic institution in the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.”

(b) ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS.—Section 209(a) of the Vietnam Education Foundation Act of 2000 (title II of division B of H.R. 5666, as enacted by section 1(a)(4) of Public Law 106-554 and contained in appendix D of that Act; 114 Stat. 2763A-257; 22 U.S.C. 2452 note) is amended in the matter preceding paragraph (1) by inserting “(other than section 211)” after “this title”.

(c) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—The Vietnam Education Foundation Act of 2000 (title II of division B of H.R. 5666, as enacted by section 1(a)(4) of Public Law 106-554 and contained in appendix D of that Act; 114 Stat. 2763A-257; 22 U.S.C. 2452 note) is amended by adding at the end the following:

#### “SEC. 211. ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INDEPENDENT, NOT-FOR-PROFIT ACADEMIC INSTITUTION IN THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM.

“(a) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary of State is authorized to award 1 or more grants which shall be used to support the establishment of an independent, not-for-profit academic institution in the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

“(b) APPLICATION.—In order to receive a grant pursuant to subsection (a), a prospective grantee shall submit an application to the Secretary of State at such time, in such manner, and accompanied by such information as the Secretary may reasonably require.

“(c) MINIMUM STANDARDS.—As a condition of receiving a grant under subsection (a), a

prospective grantee shall ensure that the independent, not-for-profit academic institution in the Socialist Republic of Vietnam described in subsection (a)—

“(1) achieves standards comparable to those required for accreditation in the United States;

“(2) offers graduate and undergraduate level teaching and research programs in a broad range of fields, including public policy, management, and engineering; and

“(3) establishes a policy of academic freedom and prohibits the censorship of dissenting or critical views.

“(d) ANNUAL REPORT.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the last day of each fiscal year until 2020, the Secretary of State shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report that summarizes the activities carried out under this section during such fiscal year.

“(2) DEFINITION.—In this subsection, the term ‘appropriate congressional committees’ means—

“(A) the Committee on Appropriations and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives; and

“(B) the Committee on Appropriations and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate.”

#### IMPACT ON JOBS IN THE UNITED STATES

SEC. 7086. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available under titles III through VI of this Act may be obligated or expended to provide—

(1) any financial incentive to a business enterprise currently located in the United States for the purpose of inducing such an enterprise to relocate outside the United States if such incentive or inducement is likely to reduce the number of employees of such business enterprise in the United States because United States production is being replaced by such enterprise outside the United States;

(2) assistance for any program, project, or activity that contributes to the violation of internationally recognized workers rights, as defined in section 507(4) of the Trade Act of 1974, of workers in the recipient country, including any designated zone or area in that country: *Provided*, That the application of section 507(4)(D) and (E) of such Act should be commensurate with the level of development of the recipient country and sector, and shall not preclude assistance for the informal sector in such country, micro and small-scale enterprise, and smallholder agriculture;

(3) any assistance to an entity outside the United States if such assistance is for the purpose of directly relocating or transferring jobs from the United States to other countries and adversely impacts the labor force in the United States; or

(4) for the enforcement of any rule, regulation, policy, or guidelines implemented pursuant to—

(A) the third proviso of subsection 7079(b) of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2010;

(B) the modification proposed by the Overseas Private Investment Corporation in November 2013 to the Corporation’s Environmental and Social Policy Statement relating to coal; or

(C) the Supplemental Guidelines for High Carbon Intensity Projects approved by the Export-Import Bank of the United States on December 12, 2013,

when enforcement of such rule, regulation, policy, or guidelines would prohibit, or have the effect of prohibiting, any coal-fired or other power-generation project the purpose

of which is to: (i) provide affordable electricity in International Development Association (IDA)-eligible countries and IDA-blend countries; and (ii) increase exports of goods and services from the United States or prevent the loss of jobs from the United States.

#### TITLE VIII

#### OVERSEAS CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT OF STATE

#### ADMINISTRATION OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR PROGRAMS

#### (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For an additional amount for “Diplomatic and Consular Programs”, \$1,350,803,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016, of which \$989,706,000 is for Worldwide Security Protection and shall remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the Secretary of State may transfer up to \$35,000,000 of the total funds made available under this heading to any other appropriation of any department or agency of the United States, upon the concurrence of the head of such department or agency, to support operations in and assistance for Afghanistan and to carry out the provisions of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961: *Provided further*, That any such transfer shall be treated as a reprogramming of funds under subsections (a) and (b) of section 7015 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation or expenditure except in compliance with the procedures set forth in that section: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

#### CONFLICT STABILIZATION OPERATIONS

For an additional amount for “Conflict Stabilization Operations”, \$15,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

#### OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For an additional amount for “Office of Inspector General”, \$56,900,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016, which shall be for the Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction (SIGAR) for reconstruction oversight: *Provided*, That printing and reproduction costs shall not exceed amounts for such costs during fiscal year 2014: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, any employee of SIGAR who completes at least 12 months of continuous service after the date of enactment of this Act or who is employed on the date on which SIGAR terminates, whichever occurs first, shall acquire competitive status for appointment to any position in the competitive service for which the employee possesses the required qualifications: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

#### EMBASSY SECURITY, CONSTRUCTION, AND MAINTENANCE

For an additional amount for “Embassy Security, Construction, and Maintenance”, \$260,800,000, to remain available until expended, of which \$250,000,000 shall be for Worldwide Security Upgrades, acquisition, and construction as authorized: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/

Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS  
CONTRIBUTIONS TO INTERNATIONAL  
ORGANIZATIONS

For an additional amount for “Contributions to International Organizations”, \$74,400,000: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

RELATED AGENCY

BROADCASTING BOARD OF GOVERNORS  
INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING OPERATIONS

For an additional amount for “International Broadcasting Operations”, \$10,700,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR  
INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT  
OPERATING EXPENSES

For an additional amount for “Operating Expenses”, \$125,464,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

BILATERAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE  
FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT

INTERNATIONAL DISASTER ASSISTANCE

For an additional amount for “International Disaster Assistance”, \$1,335,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

TRANSITION INITIATIVES

For an additional amount for “Transition Initiatives”, \$20,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

COMPLEX CRISES FUND

For an additional amount for “Complex Crises Fund”, \$30,000,000 to remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

ECONOMIC SUPPORT FUND

For an additional amount for “Economic Support Fund”, \$2,114,266,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

MIGRATION AND REFUGEE ASSISTANCE

For an additional amount for “Migration and Refugee Assistance”, \$2,127,114,000, to re-

main available until expended: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

INTERNATIONAL SECURITY ASSISTANCE  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL AND LAW  
ENFORCEMENT

For an additional amount for “International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement”, \$443,195,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

NONPROLIFERATION, ANTI-TERRORISM,  
DEMING AND RELATED PROGRAMS

For an additional amount for “Nonproliferation, Anti-terrorism, Demining and Related Programs”, \$99,240,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS

For an additional amount for “Peacekeeping Operations”, \$328,698,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: *Provided further*, That funds may be used to pay assessed expenses of international peacekeeping activities in Somalia and other peacekeeping requirements, subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That the total amount of United States contributions to support an assessed peacekeeping operation shall not exceed the level described in the final proviso under the heading “Contributions for International Peacekeeping Activities” in title I of this Act.

FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT

FOREIGN MILITARY FINANCING PROGRAM

For an additional amount for “Foreign Military Financing Program”, \$866,420,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS

SEC. 8001. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, funds appropriated in this title are in addition to amounts appropriated or otherwise made available in this Act for fiscal year 2015.

EXTENSION OF AUTHORITIES AND CONDITIONS

SEC. 8002. Unless otherwise provided for in this Act, the additional amounts appropriated by this title to appropriations accounts in this Act shall be available under the authorities and conditions applicable to such appropriations accounts.

TRANSFER AND ADDITIONAL AUTHORITY

SEC. 8003. (a) Funds appropriated by this title in this Act under the headings “Transition Initiatives”, “Complex Crises Fund”, “Economic Support Fund”, “International

Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement”, “Nonproliferation, Anti-terrorism, Demining and Related Programs”, “Peacekeeping Operations”, and “Foreign Military Financing Program” may be transferred to, and merged with—

(1) funds appropriated by this title under such headings; and

(2) funds appropriated by this title under the headings “International Disaster Assistance” and “Migration and Refugee Assistance”.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, not to exceed \$25,000,000 from funds appropriated under the headings “International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement”, “Peacekeeping Operations”, and “Foreign Military Financing Program” by this title in this Act may be transferred to, and merged with, funds previously made available under the heading “Global Security Contingency Fund”: *Provided*, That not later than 15 days prior to making any such transfer, the Secretary of State shall notify the Committees on Appropriations on a country basis, including the implementation plan and timeline for each proposed use of such funds.

(c) The transfer authority provided in subsections (a) and (b) may only be exercised to address unanticipated contingencies.

(d) Of the funds made available in this title under the heading “Bilateral Economic Assistance”, up to \$380,000,000 may be made available to support international peacekeeping requirements only if the Secretary of State submits a determination to the Committees on Appropriations that additional funds are necessary to support such requirements above the amounts provided under the heading “Contributions for International Peacekeeping Activities” in title I of this Act and under the heading “Peacekeeping Operations” in this title and title IV of this Act, and that it is in the national security interest of the United States to do so: *Provided*, That such funds may only be made available for the purposes described in the determination and shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That funds made available pursuant to this subsection shall be used in accordance with the terms and conditions under the heading “Peacekeeping Operations” in this title.

(e) The transfer authority provided in subsections (a) and (b) shall be subject to prior consultation with, and the regular notification procedures of, the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided*, That such transfer authority is in addition to any transfer authority otherwise available under any other provision of law, including section 610 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 which may be exercised by the Secretary of State for the purposes of this title.

TITLE IX

EBOLA RESPONSE AND PREPAREDNESS  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ADMINISTRATION OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR PROGRAMS

For an additional amount for “Diplomatic and Consular Programs”, \$36,420,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016, for necessary expenses to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the Ebola virus disease outbreak: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.



UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR  
INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT  
FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT  
OPERATING EXPENSES

For an additional amount for “Operating Expenses”, \$19,037,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016, for necessary expenses to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the Ebola virus disease outbreak: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For an additional amount for “Office of Inspector General”, \$5,626,000, to remain available until expended, for oversight of activities funded by this title and administered by the United States Agency for International Development: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

BILATERAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE  
FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT  
GLOBAL HEALTH PROGRAMS

For an additional amount for “Global Health Programs”, \$312,000,000, to remain available until expended, for necessary expenses to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the Ebola virus disease outbreak in countries directly affected by, or at risk of being affected by, such outbreak: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

INTERNATIONAL DISASTER ASSISTANCE

For an additional amount for “International Disaster Assistance”, \$1,436,273,000, to remain available until expended, for assistance for countries affected by, or at risk of being affected by, the Ebola virus disease outbreak: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

ECONOMIC SUPPORT FUND

For an additional amount for “Economic Support Fund”, \$711,725,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016, for necessary expenses to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the Ebola virus disease outbreak and to address economic and stabilization requirements resulting from such outbreak: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

INTERNATIONAL SECURITY ASSISTANCE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

NONPROLIFERATION, ANTI-TERRORISM,  
DEMINEING AND RELATED PROGRAMS

For an additional amount for “Nonproliferation, Anti-terrorism, Demining and Related Programs”, \$5,300,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016, for necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of chapter 9 of Part II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, for efforts to mitigate the risk of illicit acquisition of the Ebola virus and to promote biosecurity practices associated with Ebola virus disease outbreak response efforts: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section

251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

TRANSFER AUTHORITY

SEC. 9001. (a) Funds appropriated by this title in this Act under the headings “Global Health Programs”, “International Disaster Assistance”, and “Economic Support Fund” may be transferred to, and merged with, funds appropriated by this title under such headings and under the headings “International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement”, “Nonproliferation, Anti-terrorism, Demining and Related Programs”, and “Peacekeeping Operations” in this Act to carry out the purposes of this title: *Provided*, That the Secretary of State and the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), as appropriate, shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations prior to exercising the transfer authority provided by this subsection.

(b) Of the funds appropriated by this title under the heading “Diplomatic and Consular Programs”, up to \$1,000,000 may be transferred to, and merged with, funds appropriated under the heading “Repatriation Loans Program Account” in Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs for the cost of direct loans, which may remain available until expended: *Provided*, That such costs, including cost of modifying such loans, shall be defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974: *Provided further*, That such funds are available to subsidize an additional amount of gross obligations for the principal amount of direct loans not to exceed \$1,899,335.

(c) Of the funds appropriated by this title under the heading “Global Health Programs”, up to \$50,000,000 may be transferred to, and merged with, funds appropriated under the heading “International Organizations and Programs” to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the Ebola virus disease outbreak.

(d) Of the funds appropriated by this title under the heading “International Disaster Assistance”, up to \$35,300,000 may be transferred to, and merged with, funds appropriated under the headings “International Organizations and Programs” and “Contributions to International Organizations” to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the Ebola virus disease outbreak: *Provided*, That no such funds that are made available for a United States contribution to the United Nations Mission for Ebola Emergency Response may be obligated until the Secretary of State reports to the Committees on Appropriations that an assessment for such mission has been received and reviewed by the Department of State.

(e) The transfer authorities of this section are in addition to any other transfer authority provided by law.

(f) No funds shall be transferred pursuant to this section unless at least 15 days prior to making such transfer the Secretary of State or USAID Administrator, as appropriate, notifies the Committees on Appropriations in writing of the details of any such transfer.

(g) Upon a determination that all or part of the funds transferred pursuant to the authorities of this section are not necessary for such purposes, such amounts may be transferred back to such headings: *Provided*, That any transfer pursuant to this subsection shall be subject to subsection (f) of this section.

REIMBURSEMENT AUTHORITY

SEC. 9002. Funds appropriated by this title under the headings “Global Health Programs”, “International Disaster Assistance”, and “Economic Support Fund” may be used to reimburse accounts administered by the United States Agency for International Development and the Department of State for obligations incurred to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the Ebola virus disease outbreak prior to the enactment of this Act.

NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENT

SEC. 9003. Funds appropriated by this title shall not be available for obligation unless the Secretary of State or the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, as appropriate, notifies the appropriate congressional committees in writing at least 15 days in advance of such obligation: *Provided*, That the requirement of this section shall not apply to funds made available by this title under the heading “International Disaster Assistance”.

REPORTING REQUIREMENT

SEC. 9004. The Secretary of State, in consultation with the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations not later than 30 days after enactment of this Act a report on the proposed uses of funds on a country and project basis, for which the obligation of funds is anticipated: *Provided*, That such report shall be updated and submitted to the Committee on Appropriations every 30 days until September 30, 2016, and every 180 days thereafter until all funds have been fully expended, and shall include information detailing how the estimates and assumptions contained in the previous reports have changed, and obligations and expenditures on a country and project basis.

COMPTROLLER GENERAL OVERSIGHT

SEC. 9005. Of the funds appropriated by this title under the heading “Economic Support Fund”, up to \$500,000 may be made available to the Comptroller General of the United States, and shall remain available until expended, for oversight of activities supported and reimbursements made pursuant to section 9002 of this title with funds appropriated by this title: *Provided*, That the Secretary of State and the Comptroller General shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations prior to obligating such funds.

This division may be cited as the “Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2015”.

**DIVISION K—TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING  
AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RE-  
LATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS  
ACT, 2015**

TITLE I

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Secretary, \$105,000,000, of which not to exceed \$2,696,000 shall be available for the immediate Office of the Secretary; not to exceed \$1,011,000 shall be available for the immediate Office of the Deputy Secretary; not to exceed \$19,900,000 shall be available for the Office of the General Counsel; not to exceed \$9,800,000 shall be available for the Office of the Under Secretary of Transportation for Policy; not to exceed \$12,500,000 shall be

available for the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Budget and Programs; not to exceed \$2,500,000 shall be available for the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Governmental Affairs; not to exceed \$25,365,000 shall be available for the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration; not to exceed \$2,000,000 shall be available for the Office of Public Affairs; not to exceed \$1,714,000 shall be available for the Office of the Executive Secretariat; not to exceed \$1,414,000 shall be available for the Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization; not to exceed \$10,600,000 shall be available for the Office of Intelligence, Security, and Emergency Response; and not to exceed \$15,500,000 shall be available for the Office of the Chief Information Officer: *Provided*, That the Secretary of Transportation is authorized to transfer funds appropriated for any office of the Office of the Secretary to any other office of the Office of the Secretary: *Provided further*, That no appropriation for any office shall be increased or decreased by more than 5 percent by all such transfers: *Provided further*, That notice of any change in funding greater than 5 percent shall be submitted for approval to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That not to exceed \$60,000 shall be for allocation within the Department for official reception and representation expenses as the Secretary may determine: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, excluding fees authorized in Public Law 107-71, there may be credited to this appropriation up to \$2,500,000 in funds received in user fees: *Provided further*, That none of the funds provided in this Act shall be available for the position of Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs.

#### RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY

For necessary expenses related to the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Research and Technology, \$13,000,000, of which \$8,218,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2017: *Provided*, That there may be credited to this appropriation, to be available until expended, funds received from States, counties, municipalities, other public authorities, and private sources for expenses incurred for training: *Provided further*, That any reference in law, regulation, judicial proceedings, or elsewhere to the Research and Innovative Technology Administration shall continue to be deemed to be a reference to the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Research and Technology of the Department of Transportation.

#### NATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENTS

For capital investments in surface transportation infrastructure, \$500,000,000, to remain available through September 30, 2017: *Provided*, That the Secretary of Transportation shall distribute funds provided under this heading as discretionary grants to be awarded to a State, local government, transit agency, or a collaboration among such entities on a competitive basis for projects that will have a significant impact on the Nation, a metropolitan area, or a region: *Provided further*, That projects eligible for funding provided under this heading shall include, but not be limited to, highway or bridge projects eligible under title 23, United States Code; public transportation projects eligible under chapter 53 of title 49, United States Code; passenger and freight rail transportation projects; and port infrastructure investments (including inland port infrastructure): *Provided further*, That the Secretary may use up to 20 percent of the funds made available under this heading for the

purpose of paying the subsidy and administrative costs of projects eligible for Federal credit assistance under chapter 6 of title 23, United States Code, if the Secretary finds that such use of the funds would advance the purposes of this paragraph: *Provided further*, That in distributing funds provided under this heading, the Secretary shall take such measures so as to ensure an equitable geographic distribution of funds, an appropriate balance in addressing the needs of urban and rural areas, and the investment in a variety of transportation modes: *Provided further*, That a grant funded under this heading shall be not less than \$10,000,000 and not greater than \$200,000,000: *Provided further*, That not more than 25 percent of the funds made available under this heading may be awarded to projects in a single State: *Provided further*, That the Federal share of the costs for which an expenditure is made under this heading shall be, at the option of the recipient, up to 80 percent: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall give priority to projects that require a contribution of Federal funds in order to complete an overall financing package: *Provided further*, That not less than 20 percent of the funds provided under this heading shall be for projects located in rural areas: *Provided further*, That for projects located in rural areas, the minimum grant size shall be \$1,000,000 and the Secretary may increase the Federal share of costs above 80 percent: *Provided further*, That projects conducted using funds provided under this heading must comply with the requirements of subchapter IV of chapter 31 of title 40, United States Code: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall conduct a new competition to select the grants and credit assistance awarded under this heading: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may retain up to \$20,000,000 of the funds provided under this heading, and may transfer portions of those funds to the Administrators of the Federal Highway Administration, the Federal Transit Administration, the Federal Railroad Administration and the Federal Maritime Administration, to fund the award and oversight of grants and credit assistance made under the National Infrastructure Investments program.

#### FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT CAPITAL

For necessary expenses for upgrading and enhancing the Department of Transportation's financial systems and re-engineering business processes, \$5,000,000, to remain available through September 30, 2016.

#### CYBER SECURITY INITIATIVES

For necessary expenses for cyber security initiatives, including necessary upgrades to wide area network and information technology infrastructure, improvement of network perimeter controls and identity management, testing and assessment of information technology against business, security, and other requirements, implementation of Federal cyber security initiatives and information infrastructure enhancements, implementation of enhanced security controls on network devices, and enhancement of cyber security workforce training tools, \$5,000,000, to remain available through September 30, 2016.

#### OFFICE OF CIVIL RIGHTS

For necessary expenses of the Office of Civil Rights, \$9,600,000.

#### TRANSPORTATION PLANNING, RESEARCH, AND DEVELOPMENT

For necessary expenses for conducting transportation planning, research, systems development, development activities, and

making grants, to remain available until expended, \$6,000,000.

#### WORKING CAPITAL FUND

For necessary expenses for operating costs and capital outlays of the Working Capital Fund, not to exceed \$181,500,000 shall be paid from appropriations made available to the Department of Transportation: *Provided*, That such services shall be provided on a competitive basis to entities within the Department of Transportation: *Provided further*, That the above limitation on operating expenses shall not apply to non-DOT entities: *Provided further*, That no funds appropriated in this Act to an agency of the Department shall be transferred to the Working Capital Fund without majority approval of the Working Capital Fund Steering Committee and approval of the Secretary: *Provided further*, That no assessments may be levied against any program, budget activity, subactivity or project funded by this Act unless notice of such assessments and the basis therefor are presented to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations and are approved by such Committees.

#### MINORITY BUSINESS RESOURCE CENTER PROGRAM

For the cost of guaranteed loans, \$333,000, as authorized by 49 U.S.C. 332: *Provided*, That such costs, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974: *Provided further*, That these funds are available to subsidize total loan principal, any part of which is to be guaranteed, not to exceed \$18,367,000.

In addition, for administrative expenses to carry out the guaranteed loan program, \$592,000.

#### MINORITY BUSINESS OUTREACH

For necessary expenses of Minority Business Resource Center outreach activities, \$3,099,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That notwithstanding 49 U.S.C. 332, these funds may be used for business opportunities related to any mode of transportation.

#### PAYMENTS TO AIR CARRIERS

##### (AIRPORT AND AIRWAY TRUST FUND)

In addition to funds made available from any other source to carry out the essential air service program under 49 U.S.C. 41731 through 41742, \$155,000,000, to be derived from the Airport and Airway Trust Fund, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That in determining between or among carriers competing to provide service to a community, the Secretary may consider the relative subsidy requirements of the carriers: *Provided further*, That basic essential air service minimum requirements shall not include the 15-passenger capacity requirement under subsection 41732(b)(3) of title 49, United States Code: *Provided further*, That none of the funds in this Act or any other Act shall be used to enter into a new contract with a community located less than 40 miles from the nearest small hub airport before the Secretary has negotiated with the community over a local cost share: *Provided further*, That amounts authorized to be distributed for the essential air service program under subsection 41742(b) of title 49, United States Code, shall be made available immediately from amounts otherwise provided to the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration: *Provided further*, That the Administrator may reimburse such amounts from fees credited to the account established under section 45303 of title 49, United States Code.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—OFFICE OF THE  
SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION

SEC. 101. None of the funds made available in this Act to the Department of Transportation may be obligated for the Office of the Secretary of Transportation to approve assessments or reimbursable agreements pertaining to funds appropriated to the modal administrations in this Act, except for activities underway on the date of enactment of this Act, unless such assessments or agreements have completed the normal reprogramming process for Congressional notification.

SEC. 102. The Secretary or his designee may engage in activities with States and State legislators to consider proposals related to the reduction of motorcycle fatalities.

SEC. 103. Notwithstanding section 3324 of title 31, United States Code, in addition to authority provided by section 327 of title 49, United States Code, the Department's Working Capital Fund is hereby authorized to provide payments in advance to vendors that are necessary to carry out the Federal transit pass transportation fringe benefit program under Executive Order 13150 and section 3049 of Public Law 109-59: *Provided*, That the Department shall include adequate safeguards in the contract with the vendors to ensure timely and high-quality performance under the contract.

SEC. 104. The Secretary shall post on the Web site of the Department of Transportation a schedule of all meetings of the Credit Council, including the agenda for each meeting, and require the Credit Council to record the decisions and actions of each meeting.

FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION  
OPERATIONS

(AIRPORT AND AIRWAY TRUST FUND)

For necessary expenses of the Federal Aviation Administration, not otherwise provided for, including operations and research activities related to commercial space transportation, administrative expenses for research and development, establishment of air navigation facilities, the operation (including leasing) and maintenance of aircraft, subsidizing the cost of aeronautical charts and maps sold to the public, lease or purchase of passenger motor vehicles for replacement only, in addition to amounts made available by Public Law 112-95, \$9,740,700,000 of which \$8,595,000,000 shall be derived from the Airport and Airway Trust Fund, of which not to exceed \$7,396,654,000 shall be available for air traffic organization activities; not to exceed \$1,218,458,000 shall be available for aviation safety activities; not to exceed \$16,605,000 shall be available for commercial space transportation activities; not to exceed \$756,047,000 shall be available for finance and management activities; not to exceed \$60,089,000 shall be available for NextGen and operations planning activities; and not to exceed \$292,847,000 shall be available for staff offices: *Provided*, That not to exceed 2 percent of any budget activity, except for aviation safety budget activity, may be transferred to any budget activity under this heading: *Provided further*, That no transfer may increase or decrease any appropriation by more than 2 percent: *Provided further*, That any transfer in excess of 2 percent shall be treated as a reprogramming of funds under section 405 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation or expenditure except in compliance with the procedures set forth in that section: *Provided further*, That not later than March 31 of each fiscal year

hereafter, the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration shall transmit to Congress an annual update to the report submitted to Congress in December 2004 pursuant to section 221 of Public Law 108-176: *Provided further*, That the amount herein appropriated shall be reduced by \$100,000 for each day after March 31 that such report has not been submitted to the Congress: *Provided further*, That not later than March 31 of each fiscal year hereafter, the Administrator shall transmit to Congress a companion report that describes a comprehensive strategy for staffing, hiring, and training flight standards and aircraft certification staff in a format similar to the one utilized for the controller staffing plan, including stated attrition estimates and numerical hiring goals by fiscal year: *Provided further*, That the amount herein appropriated shall be reduced by \$100,000 per day for each day after March 31 that such report has not been submitted to Congress: *Provided further*, That funds may be used to enter into a grant agreement with a non-profit standard-setting organization to assist in the development of aviation safety standards: *Provided further*, That none of the funds in this Act shall be available for new applicants for the second career training program: *Provided further*, That none of the funds in this Act shall be available for the Federal Aviation Administration to finalize or implement any regulation that would promulgate new aviation user fees not specifically authorized by law after the date of the enactment of this Act: *Provided further*, That there may be credited to this appropriation as offsetting collections funds received from States, counties, municipalities, foreign authorities, other public authorities, and private sources for expenses incurred in the provision of agency services, including receipts for the maintenance and operation of air navigation facilities, and for issuance, renewal or modification of certificates, including airman, aircraft, and repair station certificates, or for tests related thereto, or for processing major repair or alteration forms: *Provided further*, That of the funds appropriated under this heading, not less than \$144,500,000 shall be for the contract tower program, of which not less than \$9,500,000 is for the contract tower cost share program: *Provided further*, That none of the funds in this Act for aeronautical charting and cartography are available for activities conducted by, or coordinated through, the Working Capital Fund: *Provided further*, That none of the funds provided in this Act may be used for the Federal Aviation Administration to issue a job announcement for air traffic control specialists that renders ineligible by reason of age any applicant who had been included in the air traffic control specialist applicant inventory as of January 15, 2014, and who was born between February 9, 1983, and October 1, 1984.

FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT

(AIRPORT AND AIRWAY TRUST FUND)

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, for acquisition, establishment, technical support services, improvement by contract or purchase, and hire of national airspace systems and experimental facilities and equipment, as authorized under part A of subtitle VII of title 49, United States Code, including initial acquisition of necessary sites by lease or grant; engineering and service testing, including construction of test facilities and acquisition of necessary sites by lease or grant; construction and furnishing of quarters and related accommodations for officers and employees of the Federal Aviation Administration stationed at remote lo-

calities where such accommodations are not available; and the purchase, lease, or transfer of aircraft from funds available under this heading, including aircraft for aviation regulation and certification; to be derived from the Airport and Airway Trust Fund, \$2,600,000,000, of which \$460,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2015, and \$2,140,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2017: *Provided*, That there may be credited to this appropriation funds received from States, counties, municipalities, other public authorities, and private sources, for expenses incurred in the establishment, improvement, and modernization of national airspace systems: *Provided further*, That upon initial submission to the Congress of the fiscal year 2016 President's budget, the Secretary of Transportation shall transmit to the Congress a comprehensive capital investment plan for the Federal Aviation Administration which includes funding for each budget line item for fiscal years 2016 through 2020, with total funding for each year of the plan constrained to the funding targets for those years as estimated and approved by the Office of Management and Budget: *Provided further*, That the amount herein appropriated shall be reduced by \$100,000 per day for each day after the initial submission of the fiscal year 2016 President's budget that such report has not been submitted to Congress.

RESEARCH, ENGINEERING, AND DEVELOPMENT

(AIRPORT AND AIRWAY TRUST FUND)

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, for research, engineering, and development, as authorized under part A of subtitle VII of title 49, United States Code, including construction of experimental facilities and acquisition of necessary sites by lease or grant, \$156,750,000, to be derived from the Airport and Airway Trust Fund and to remain available until September 30, 2017: *Provided*, That there may be credited to this appropriation as offsetting collections, funds received from States, counties, municipalities, other public authorities, and private sources, which shall be available for expenses incurred for research, engineering, and development.

GRANTS-IN-AID FOR AIRPORTS

(LIQUIDATION OF CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION)

(LIMITATION ON OBLIGATIONS)

(AIRPORT AND AIRWAY TRUST FUND)

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

(INCLUDING RESCISSION)

For liquidation of obligations incurred for grants-in-aid for airport planning and development, and noise compatibility planning and programs as authorized under subchapter I of chapter 471 and subchapter I of chapter 475 of title 49, United States Code, and under other law authorizing such obligations; for procurement, installation, and commissioning of runway incursion prevention devices and systems at airports of such title; for grants authorized under section 41743 of title 49, United States Code; and for inspection activities and administration of airport safety programs, including those related to airport operating certificates under section 44706 of title 49, United States Code, \$3,200,000,000, to be derived from the Airport and Airway Trust Fund and to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That none of the funds under this heading shall be available for the planning or execution of programs the obligations for which are in excess of \$3,350,000,000 in fiscal year 2015, notwithstanding section 47117(g) of title 49, United States Code: *Provided further*, That none of

the funds under this heading shall be available for the replacement of baggage conveyor systems, reconfiguration of terminal baggage areas, or other airport improvements that are necessary to install bulk explosive detection systems: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding section 47109(a) of title 49, United States Code, the Government's share of allowable project costs under paragraph (2) for subgrants or paragraph (3) of that section shall be 95 percent for a project at other than a large or medium hub airport that is a successive phase of a multiphased construction project for which the project sponsor received a grant in fiscal year 2011 for the construction project: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, of funds limited under this heading, not more than \$107,100,000 shall be obligated for administration, not less than \$15,000,000 shall be available for the Airport Cooperative Research Program, not less than \$29,750,000 shall be available for Airport Technology Research, and \$5,500,000, to remain available until expended, shall be available and transferred to "Office of the Secretary, Salaries and Expenses" to carry out the Small Community Air Service Development Program.

## (RESCISSION)

Of the amounts authorized for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and prior years under section 48112 of title 49, United States Code, all unobligated balances are permanently rescinded.

## ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

SEC. 110. None of the funds in this Act may be used to compensate in excess of 600 technical staff-years under the federally funded research and development center contract between the Federal Aviation Administration and the Center for Advanced Aviation Systems Development during fiscal year 2015.

SEC. 111. None of the funds in this Act shall be used to pursue or adopt guidelines or regulations requiring airport sponsors to provide to the Federal Aviation Administration without cost building construction, maintenance, utilities and expenses, or space in airport sponsor-owned buildings for services relating to air traffic control, air navigation, or weather reporting: *Provided*, That the prohibition of funds in this section does not apply to negotiations between the agency and airport sponsors to achieve agreement on "below-market" rates for these items or to grant assurances that require airport sponsors to provide land without cost to the FAA for air traffic control facilities.

SEC. 112. The Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration may reimburse amounts made available to satisfy 49 U.S.C. 41742(a)(1) from fees credited under 49 U.S.C. 45303 and any amount remaining in such account at the close of that fiscal year may be made available to satisfy section 41742(a)(1) for the subsequent fiscal year.

SEC. 113. Amounts collected under section 40113(e) of title 49, United States Code, shall be credited to the appropriation current at the time of collection, to be merged with and available for the same purposes of such appropriation.

SEC. 114. None of the funds in this Act shall be available for paying premium pay under subsection 5546(a) of title 5, United States Code, to any Federal Aviation Administration employee unless such employee actually performed work during the time corresponding to such premium pay.

SEC. 115. None of the funds in this Act may be obligated or expended for an employee of

the Federal Aviation Administration to purchase a store gift card or gift certificate through use of a Government-issued credit card.

SEC. 116. The Secretary shall apportion to the sponsor of an airport that received scheduled or unscheduled air service from a large certified air carrier (as defined in part 241 of title 14 Code of Federal Regulations, or such other regulations as may be issued by the Secretary under the authority of section 41709) an amount equal to the minimum apportionment specified in 49 U.S.C. 47114(c), if the Secretary determines that airport had more than 10,000 passenger boardings in the preceding calendar year, based on data submitted to the Secretary under part 241 of title 14, Code of Federal Regulations.

SEC. 117. None of the funds in this Act may be obligated or expended for retention bonuses for an employee of the Federal Aviation Administration without the prior written approval of the Assistant Secretary for Administration of the Department of Transportation.

SEC. 118. Subparagraph (D) of section 47124(b)(3) of title 49, United States Code, is amended by striking "benefit." and inserting "benefit, with the maximum allowable local cost share capped at 20 percent."

SEC. 119. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, none of the funds made available under this Act or any prior Act may be used to implement or to continue to implement any limitation on the ability of any owner or operator of a private aircraft to obtain, upon a request to the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration, a blocking of that owner's or operator's aircraft registration number from any display of the Federal Aviation Administration's Aircraft Situational Display to Industry data that is made available to the public, except data made available to a Government agency, for the noncommercial flights of that owner or operator.

SEC. 119A. None of the funds in this Act shall be available for salaries and expenses of more than 9 political and Presidential appointees in the Federal Aviation Administration.

SEC. 119B. None of the funds made available under this Act may be used to increase fees pursuant to section 44721 of title 49, United States Code, until the FAA provides to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations a report that justifies all fees related to aeronautical navigation products and explains how such fees are consistent with Executive Order 13642.

SEC. 119C. None of the funds appropriated or limited by this Act may be used to change weight restrictions or prior permission rules at Teterboro airport in Teterboro, New Jersey.

SEC. 119D. None of the funds in this Act may be used to close a regional operations center of the Federal Aviation Administration or reduce its services unless the Administrator notifies the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations not less than 90 full business days in advance.

SEC. 119E. Section 916 of Public Law 112-95 is amended by striking "Advanced Materials in Transport Aircraft" and inserting "Joint Advanced Materials and Structures".

SEC. 119F. Subsection 47109(c)(2) of title 49, United States Code, is amended by adding before the period " , except that at a primary non-hub airport located in a State as set forth in paragraph (1) of this subsection that is within 15 miles of another State as set forth in paragraph (1) of this subsection, the Government's share shall be an average of

the Government share applicable to any project in each of the States".

FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION  
LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES  
(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

## (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Not to exceed \$426,100,000, together with advances and reimbursements received by the Federal Highway Administration, shall be obligated for necessary expenses for administration and operation of the Federal Highway Administration. In addition, not to exceed \$3,248,000 shall be transferred to the Appalachian Regional Commission in accordance with section 104 of title 23, United States Code.

FEDERAL-AID HIGHWAYS  
(LIMITATION ON OBLIGATIONS)  
(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

Funds available for the implementation or execution of programs of Federal-aid Highways and highway safety construction programs authorized under titles 23 and 49, United States Code, and the provisions of Public Law 112-141 shall not exceed total obligations of \$40,256,000,000 for fiscal year 2015: *Provided*, That the Secretary may collect and spend fees, as authorized by title 23, United States Code, to cover the costs of services of expert firms, including counsel, in the field of municipal and project finance to assist in the underwriting and servicing of Federal credit instruments and all or a portion of the costs to the Federal Government of servicing such credit instruments: *Provided further*, That such fees are available until expended to pay for such costs: *Provided further*, That such amounts are in addition to administrative expenses that are also available for such purpose, and are not subject to any obligation limitation or the limitation on administrative expenses under section 608 of title 23, United States Code.

(LIQUIDATION OF CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION)  
(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

For the payment of obligations incurred in carrying out Federal-aid Highways and highway safety construction programs authorized under title 23, United States Code, \$40,995,000,000 derived from the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account), to remain available until expended.

## ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

SEC. 120. (a) For fiscal year 2015, the Secretary of Transportation shall—

(1) not distribute from the obligation limitation for Federal-aid Highways—

(A) amounts authorized for administrative expenses and programs by section 104(a) of title 23, United States Code; and

(B) amounts authorized for the Bureau of Transportation Statistics;

(2) not distribute an amount from the obligation limitation for Federal-aid Highways that is equal to the unobligated balance of amounts—

(A) made available from the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account) for Federal-aid Highways and highway safety construction programs for previous fiscal years the funds for which are allocated by the Secretary (or apportioned by the Secretary under section 202 or 204 of title 23, United States Code); and

(B) for which obligation limitation was provided in a previous fiscal year;

(3) determine the proportion that—

(A) the obligation limitation for Federal-aid Highways, less the aggregate of amounts not distributed under paragraphs (1) and (2) of this subsection; bears to

(B) the total of the sums authorized to be appropriated for the Federal-aid Highways and highway safety construction programs (other than sums authorized to be appropriated for provisions of law described in paragraphs (1) through (12) of subsection (b) and sums authorized to be appropriated for section 119 of title 23, United States Code, equal to the amount referred to in subsection (b)(13) for such fiscal year), less the aggregate of the amounts not distributed under paragraphs (1) and (2) of this subsection;

(4) distribute the obligation limitation for Federal-aid Highways, less the aggregate amounts not distributed under paragraphs (1) and (2), for each of the programs (other than programs to which paragraph (1) applies) that are allocated by the Secretary under the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act and title 23, United States Code, or apportioned by the Secretary under sections 202 or 204 of that title, by multiplying—

(A) the proportion determined under paragraph (3); by

(B) the amounts authorized to be appropriated for each such program for such fiscal year; and

(5) distribute the obligation limitation for Federal-aid Highways, less the aggregate amounts not distributed under paragraphs (1) and (2) and the amounts distributed under paragraph (4), for Federal-aid Highways and highway safety construction programs that are apportioned by the Secretary under title 23, United States Code (other than the amounts apportioned for the National Highway Performance Program in section 119 of title 23, United States Code, that are exempt from the limitation under subsection (b)(13) and the amounts apportioned under sections 202 and 204 of that title) in the proportion that—

(A) amounts authorized to be appropriated for the programs that are apportioned under title 23, United States Code, to each State for such fiscal year; bears to

(B) the total of the amounts authorized to be appropriated for the programs that are apportioned under title 23, United States Code, to all States for such fiscal year.

(b) EXCEPTIONS FROM OBLIGATION LIMITATION.—The obligation limitation for Federal-aid Highways shall not apply to obligations under or for—

(1) section 125 of title 23, United States Code;

(2) section 147 of the Surface Transportation Assistance Act of 1978 (23 U.S.C. 144 note; 92 Stat. 2714);

(3) section 9 of the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1981 (95 Stat. 1701);

(4) subsections (b) and (j) of section 131 of the Surface Transportation Assistance Act of 1982 (96 Stat. 2119);

(5) subsections (b) and (c) of section 149 of the Surface Transportation and Uniform Relocation Assistance Act of 1987 (101 Stat. 198);

(6) sections 1103 through 1108 of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (105 Stat. 2027);

(7) section 157 of title 23, United States Code (as in effect on June 8, 1998);

(8) section 105 of title 23, United States Code (as in effect for fiscal years 1998 through 2004, but only in an amount equal to \$639,000,000 for each of those fiscal years);

(9) Federal-aid Highways programs for which obligation authority was made available under the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (112 Stat. 107) or subsequent Acts for multiple years or to remain available until expended, but only to the ex-

tent that the obligation authority has not lapsed or been used;

(10) section 105 of title 23, United States Code (as in effect for fiscal years 2005 through 2012, but only in an amount equal to \$639,000,000 for each of those fiscal years);

(11) section 1603 of SAFETEA-LU (23 U.S.C. 118 note; 119 Stat. 1248), to the extent that funds obligated in accordance with that section were not subject to a limitation on obligations at the time at which the funds were initially made available for obligation; and

(12) section 119 of title 23, United States Code (as in effect for fiscal years 2013 and 2014, but only in an amount equal to \$639,000,000 for each of those fiscal years); and

(13) section 119 of title 23, United States Code (but, for fiscal year 2015, only in an amount equal to \$639,000,000).

(c) REDISTRIBUTION OF UNUSED OBLIGATION AUTHORITY.—Notwithstanding subsection (a), the Secretary shall, after August 1 of such fiscal year—

(1) revise a distribution of the obligation limitation made available under subsection (a) if an amount distributed cannot be obligated during that fiscal year; and

(2) redistribute sufficient amounts to those States able to obligate amounts in addition to those previously distributed during that fiscal year, giving priority to those States having large unobligated balances of funds apportioned under sections 144 (as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of Public Law 112-141) and 104 of title 23, United States Code.

(d) APPLICABILITY OF OBLIGATION LIMITATIONS TO TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH PROGRAMS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the obligation limitation for Federal-aid Highways shall apply to contract authority for transportation research programs carried out under—

(A) chapter 5 of title 23, United States Code; and

(B) division E of the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act.

(2) EXCEPTION.—Obligation authority made available under paragraph (1) shall—

(A) remain available for a period of 4 fiscal years; and

(B) be in addition to the amount of any limitation imposed on obligations for Federal-aid Highways and highway safety construction programs for future fiscal years.

(e) REDISTRIBUTION OF CERTAIN AUTHORIZED FUNDS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after the date of distribution of obligation limitation under subsection (a), the Secretary shall distribute to the States any funds (excluding funds authorized for the program under section 202 of title 23, United States Code) that—

(A) are authorized to be appropriated for such fiscal year for Federal-aid Highways programs; and

(B) the Secretary determines will not be allocated to the States (or will not be apportioned to the States under section 204 of title 23, United States Code), and will not be available for obligation, for such fiscal year because of the imposition of any obligation limitation for such fiscal year.

(2) RATIO.—Funds shall be distributed under paragraph (1) in the same proportion as the distribution of obligation authority under subsection (a)(5).

(3) AVAILABILITY.—Funds distributed to each State under paragraph (1) shall be available for any purpose described in section 133(b) of title 23, United States Code.

SEC. 121. Notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3302, funds received by the Bureau of Transportation Statistics from the sale of data products, for necessary expenses incurred pursuant to chapter 63 of title 49, United States Code, may be credited to the Federal-aid Highways account for the purpose of reimbursing the Bureau for such expenses: *Provided*, That such funds shall be subject to the obligation limitation for Federal-aid Highways and highway safety construction programs.

SEC. 122. Not less than 15 days prior to waiving, under his or her statutory authority, any Buy America requirement for Federal-aid Highways projects, the Secretary of Transportation shall make an informal public notice and comment opportunity on the intent to issue such waiver and the reasons therefor: *Provided*, That the Secretary shall provide an annual report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations on any waivers granted under the Buy America requirements.

SEC. 123. (a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection (b), none of the funds made available, limited, or otherwise affected by this Act shall be used to approve or otherwise authorize the imposition of any toll on any segment of highway located on the Federal-aid system in the State of Texas that—

(1) as of the date of enactment of this Act, is not tolled;

(2) is constructed with Federal assistance provided under title 23, United States Code; and

(3) is in actual operation as of the date of enactment of this Act.

(b) EXCEPTIONS.—

(1) NUMBER OF TOLL LANES.—Subsection (a) shall not apply to any segment of highway on the Federal-aid system described in that subsection that, as of the date on which a toll is imposed on the segment, will have the same number of nontoll lanes as were in existence prior to that date.

(2) HIGH-OCCUPANCY VEHICLE LANES.—A high-occupancy vehicle lane that is converted to a toll lane shall not be subject to this section, and shall not be considered to be a nontoll lane for purposes of determining whether a highway will have fewer nontoll lanes than prior to the date of imposition of the toll, if—

(A) high-occupancy vehicles occupied by the number of passengers specified by the entity operating the toll lane may use the toll lane without paying a toll, unless otherwise specified by the appropriate county, town, municipal or other local government entity, or public toll road or transit authority; or

(B) each high-occupancy vehicle lane that was converted to a toll lane was constructed as a temporary lane to be replaced by a toll lane under a plan approved by the appropriate county, town, municipal or other local government entity, or public toll road or transit authority.

SEC. 124. None of the funds in this Act to the Department of Transportation may be used to provide credit assistance unless not less than 3 days before any application approval to provide credit assistance under sections 603 and 604 of title 23, United States Code, the Secretary of Transportation provides notification in writing to the following committees: the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations; the Committee on Environment and Public Works and the Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs of the Senate; and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives: *Provided*, That

such notification shall include, but not be limited to, the name of the project sponsor; a description of the project; whether credit assistance will be provided as a direct loan, loan guarantee, or line of credit; and the amount of credit assistance.

SEC. 125. Section 127 of title 23, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(j) OPERATION OF VEHICLES ON CERTAIN OTHER WISCONSIN HIGHWAYS.—If any segment of the United States Route 41 corridor, as described in section 1105(c)(57) of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991, is designated as a route on the Interstate System, a vehicle that could operate legally on that segment before the date of such designation may continue to operate on that segment, without regard to any requirement under subsection (a).

“(k) OPERATION OF VEHICLES ON CERTAIN MISSISSIPPI HIGHWAYS.—If any segment of United States Route 78 in Mississippi from mile marker 0 to mile marker 113 is designated as part of the Interstate System, no limit established under this section may apply to that segment with respect to the operation of any vehicle that could have legally operated on that segment before such designation.

“(l) OPERATION OF VEHICLES ON CERTAIN KENTUCKY HIGHWAYS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—If any segment of highway described in paragraph (2) is designated as a route on the Interstate System, a vehicle that could operate legally on that segment before the date of such designation may continue to operate on that segment, without regard to any requirement under subsection (a).

“(2) DESCRIPTION OF HIGHWAY SEGMENTS.—The highway segments referred to in paragraph (1) are as follows:

“(A) Interstate Route 69 in Kentucky (formerly the Wendell H. Ford (Western Kentucky) Parkway) from the Interstate Route 24 Interchange, near Eddyville, to the Edward T. Breathitt (Pennyrite) Parkway Interchange.

“(B) The Edward T. Breathitt (Pennyrite) Parkway (to be designated as Interstate Route 69) in Kentucky from the Wendell H. Ford (Western Kentucky) Parkway Interchange to near milepost 77, and on new alignment to an interchange on the Audubon Parkway, if the segment is designated as part of the Interstate System.”.

#### FEDERAL MOTOR CARRIER SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

#### MOTOR CARRIER SAFETY OPERATIONS AND PROGRAMS

#### (LIQUIDATION OF CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION) (LIMITATION ON OBLIGATIONS) (HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

For payment of obligations incurred in the implementation, execution and administration of motor carrier safety operations and programs pursuant to section 31104(i) of title 49, United States Code, and sections 4127 and 4134 of Public Law 109-59, as amended by Public Law 112-141, \$271,000,000, to be derived from the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account), together with advances and reimbursements received by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, the sum of which shall remain available until expended: *Provided*, That funds available for implementation, execution or administration of motor carrier safety operations and programs authorized under title 49, United States Code, shall not exceed total obligations of \$271,000,000 for “Motor Carrier Safety Operations and Programs” for fiscal

year 2015, of which \$9,000,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2017, is for the research and technology program, and of which \$34,545,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2017, is for information management: *Provided further*, That \$2,300,000 shall be made available for commercial motor vehicle operator grants to carry out section 4134 of Public Law 109-59, as amended by Public Law 112-141, of which \$1,300,000 is to be made available from prior year unobligated contract authority provided in Public Law 112-141, or other appropriations or authorization acts: *Provided further*, That of unobligated contract authority provided in Public Law 112-141, or other appropriations or authorization acts for “Motor Carrier Safety Operations and Programs”, \$6,700,000 shall be made available for enforcement and investigation activities related to the safe transportation of energy products, information management and technology needs related to the monitoring of high-risk carriers and carriers operating under consent agreements, and the Capital Improvement Plan for border facilities and field offices, and an additional \$4,000,000 shall be made available to administer the study required under section 133 of this Act, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2017: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall complete final regulatory action on the implementation of 49 United States Code 31137 no later than June 1, 2015.

#### MOTOR CARRIER SAFETY GRANTS

#### (LIQUIDATION OF CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION) (LIMITATION ON OBLIGATIONS) (HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

For payment of obligations incurred in carrying out sections 31102, 31104(a), 31106, 31107, 31109, 31309, 31313 of title 49, United States Code, and sections 4126 and 4128 of Public Law 109-59, as amended by Public Law 112-141, \$313,000,000, to be derived from the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account) and to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That funds available for the implementation or execution of motor carrier safety programs shall not exceed total obligations of \$313,000,000 in fiscal year 2015 for “Motor Carrier Safety Grants”: of which \$218,000,000 shall be available for the motor carrier safety assistance program, \$30,000,000 shall be available for commercial driver's license program improvement grants, \$32,000,000 shall be available for border enforcement grants, \$5,000,000 shall be available for performance and registration information system management grants, \$25,000,000 shall be available for the commercial vehicle information systems and networks deployment program, and \$3,000,000 shall be available for safety data improvement grants: *Provided further*, That, of the funds made available herein for the motor carrier safety assistance program, \$32,000,000 shall be available for audits of new entrant motor carriers.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—FEDERAL MOTOR CARRIER SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

SEC. 130. Funds appropriated or limited in this Act shall be subject to the terms and conditions stipulated in section 350 of Public Law 107-87 and section 6901 of Public Law 110-28.

SEC. 131. The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration shall send notice of 49 CFR section 385.308 violations by certified mail, registered mail, or another manner of delivery, which records the receipt of the notice by the persons responsible for the violations.

SEC. 132. None of the funds limited or otherwise made available under this Act shall be

used by the Secretary to enforce any regulation prohibiting a State from issuing a commercial learner's permit to individuals under the age of eighteen if the State had a law authorizing the issuance of commercial learner's permits to individuals under eighteen years of age as of May 9, 2011.

SEC. 133. (a) TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF ENFORCEMENT.—None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act or any other Act shall be used to enforce sections 395.3(c) and 395.3(d) of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, and such sections shall have no force or effect from the date of enactment of this Act until the later of September 30, 2015, or upon submission of the final report issued by the Secretary under this section. The restart provisions in effect on June 30, 2013, shall be in effect during this period.

(b) PUBLIC NOTIFICATION.—As soon as possible after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Transportation shall publish a Notice in the Federal Register and on the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration website announcing that the provisions in the rule referred to in subsection (a) shall have no force or effect from the date of enactment of this Act through September 30, 2015, and the restart rule in effect on June 30, 2013, shall immediately be in effect.

(c) COMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLE (CMV) DRIVER RESTART STUDY.—Within 90 days of the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall initiate a naturalistic study of the operational, safety, health and fatigue impacts of the restart provisions in sections 395.3(c) and 395.3(d) of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, on commercial motor vehicle drivers. The study required under this subsection shall—

(1) compare the work schedules and assess operator fatigue between the following two groups of commercial motor vehicle drivers, each large enough to produce statistically significant results:

(A) commercial motor vehicle drivers who operate under such provisions, in effect between July 1, 2013, and the day before the date of enactment of this Act, and

(B) commercial motor vehicle drivers who operate under the provisions in effect on June 30, 2013.

(2) compare, at a minimum, the 5-month work schedules, and assess safety critical events (crashes, near crashes and crash-relevant conflicts) and operator fatigue between the commercial motor vehicle drivers identified under subsection (c)(1) of this section from a statistically significant sample of drivers comprised of fleets of all sizes, including long-haul, regional and short-haul operations in various sectors of the industry, including flat-bed, refrigerated, tank, and dry-van, to the extent practicable;

(3) assess drivers' safety critical events, fatigue and levels of alertness, and driver health outcomes by using both electronic and captured record of duty status, including the Psychomotor Vigilance Test (PVT), e-logging data, actigraph watches and cameras or other on-board monitoring systems that record or measure safety critical events and driver alertness;

(4) utilize data from electronic logging devices, consistent to the extent practicable, with the anticipated requirements for such devices in section 31137(b) of title 49, United States Code, from motor carriers and drivers of commercial motor vehicles, notwithstanding any limitation on the use of such data under section 31137(e) of title 49, United States Code; and

(5) include the development of an initial study plan and final report, each of which



shall be subject to an independent peer review by a panel of individuals with relevant medical and scientific expertise.

(d) DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL REVIEW.—Prior to the study required under this subsection commencing and within 60 days of the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit a plan outlining the scope and methodology for the study to the Department of Transportation Inspector General.

(1) Within 30 days of receiving the plan, the Office of Inspector General shall review and report whether it includes—

(A) a sufficient number of participating drivers to produce statistically significant results consistent with subsection (c)(2);

(B) the use of reliable technologies to assess the operational, safety and fatigue components of the study to produce consistent and valid results;

(C) appropriate performance measures to properly evaluate the study outcomes; and

(D) an appropriate selection of the independent review panel under subsection (c)(5).

(2) The Office of Inspector General shall report its findings, conclusions and any recommendations to the Secretary and to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations within 30 days of receipt of the plan.

(e) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary shall submit a final report on the findings and conclusions of the study and the Department's recommendations on whether the provisions in effect on July 1, 2013, provide a greater net benefit for the operational, safety, health and fatigue impacts of the restart provisions to the Inspector General within 210 days of receiving the Office of the Inspector General report required in subsection (d)(2).

(1) Within 60 days of receipt of the Secretary's findings and recommendations in subsection (e), the Inspector General shall report to the Secretary and the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations on the study's compliance with the requirements outlined under subsection (c).

(2) Upon submission of the Office of the Inspector General report in paragraph (1), the Secretary shall submit its report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations and make the report publically available on its website.

(f) CERTIFICATION.—The Secretary of Transportation shall certify in writing in a manner addressing the Inspector General's findings and recommendations in subsection (d)(1) and (e)(1) of this section that the Secretary has met the requirements as described in section (c) and (d).

(g) PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT EXCEPTION.—The study and the Office of the Inspector General reviews shall not be subject to section 3506 or 3507 of title 44, United States Code.

SEC. 134. None of the funds limited or otherwise made available under the heading "Motor Carrier Safety Operations and Programs" may be used to deny an application to renew a Hazardous Materials Safety Program permit for a motor carrier based on that carrier's Hazardous Materials Out-of-Service rate, unless the carrier has the opportunity to submit a written description of corrective actions taken, and other documentation the carrier wishes the Secretary to consider, including submitting a corrective action plan, and the Secretary determines the actions or plan is insufficient to address the safety concerns that resulted in that Hazardous Materials Out-of-Service rate.

#### NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

##### OPERATIONS AND RESEARCH

For expenses necessary to discharge the functions of the Secretary, with respect to traffic and highway safety authorized under chapter 301 and part C of subtitle VI of title 49, United States Code, \$130,000,000, of which \$20,000,000 shall remain available through September 30, 2016.

##### OPERATIONS AND RESEARCH

##### (LIQUIDATION OF CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION)

##### (LIMITATION ON OBLIGATIONS)

##### (HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

For payment of obligations incurred in carrying out the provisions of 23 U.S.C. 403, and chapter 303 of title 49, United States Code, \$138,500,000, to be derived from the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account) and to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That none of the funds in this Act shall be available for the planning or execution of programs the total obligations for which, in fiscal year 2015, are in excess of \$138,500,000, of which \$133,500,000 shall be for programs authorized under 23 U.S.C. 403 and \$5,000,000 shall be for the National Driver Register authorized under chapter 303 of title 49, United States Code: *Provided further*, That within the \$133,500,000 obligation limitation for operations and research, \$20,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2016, and shall be in addition to the amount of any limitation imposed on obligations for future years: *Provided further*, That \$20,000,000 of the total obligation limitation for operations and research in fiscal year 2015 shall be applied toward unobligated balances of contract authority provided in prior Acts for carrying out the provisions of 23 U.S.C. 403, and chapter 303 of title 49, United States Code.

##### HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY GRANTS

##### (LIQUIDATION OF CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION)

##### (LIMITATION ON OBLIGATIONS)

##### (HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

For payment of obligations incurred in carrying out provisions of 23 U.S.C. 402 and 405, section 2009 of Public Law 109-59, as amended by Public Law 112-141, and section 31101(a)(6) of Public Law 112-141, to remain available until expended, \$561,500,000, to be derived from the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account): *Provided*, That none of the funds in this Act shall be available for the planning or execution of programs the total obligations for which, in fiscal year 2015, are in excess of \$561,500,000 for programs authorized under 23 U.S.C. 402 and 405, section 2009 of Public Law 109-59, as amended by Public Law 112-141, and section 31101(a)(6) of Public Law 112-141, of which \$235,000,000 shall be for "Highway Safety Programs" under 23 U.S.C. 402; \$272,000,000 shall be for "National Priority Safety Programs" under 23 U.S.C. 405; \$29,000,000 shall be for "High Visibility Enforcement Program" under section 2009 of Public Law 109-59, as amended by Public Law 112-141; \$25,500,000 shall be for "Administrative Expenses" under section 31101(a)(6) of Public Law 112-141: *Provided further*, That none of these funds shall be used for construction, rehabilitation, or remodeling costs, or for office furnishings and fixtures for State, local or private buildings or structures: *Provided further*, That not to exceed \$500,000 of the funds made available for "National Priority Safety Programs" under 23 U.S.C. 405 for "Impaired Driving Countermeasures" (as described in subsection (d) of that section) shall be avail-

able for technical assistance to the States: *Provided further*, That with respect to the "Transfers" provision under 23 U.S.C. 405(a)(1)(G), any amounts transferred to increase the amounts made available under section 402 shall include the obligation authority for such amounts: *Provided further*, That the Administrator shall notify the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations of any exercise of the authority granted under the previous proviso or under 23 U.S.C. 405(a)(1)(G) within 60 days.

##### ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

SEC. 140. An additional \$130,000 shall be made available to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, out of the amount limited for section 402 of title 23, United States Code, to pay for travel and related expenses for State management reviews and to pay for core competency development training and related expenses for highway safety staff.

SEC. 141. The limitations on obligations for the programs of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration set in this Act shall not apply to obligations for which obligation authority was made available in previous public laws but only to the extent that the obligation authority has not lapsed or been used.

SEC. 142. None of the funds in this Act shall be used to implement section 404 of title 23, United States Code.

##### FEDERAL RAILROAD ADMINISTRATION

##### SAFETY AND OPERATIONS

For necessary expenses of the Federal Railroad Administration, not otherwise provided for, \$186,870,000, of which \$15,400,000 shall remain available until expended.

##### RAILROAD RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

For necessary expenses for railroad research and development, \$39,100,000, to remain available until expended.

##### RAILROAD REHABILITATION AND IMPROVEMENT FINANCING PROGRAM

The Secretary of Transportation is authorized to issue direct loans and loan guarantees pursuant to sections 501 through 504 of the Railroad Revitalization and Regulatory Reform Act of 1976 (Public Law 94-210), as amended, such authority to exist as long as any such direct loan or loan guarantee is outstanding: *Provided*, That pursuant to section 502 of such Act, as amended, no new direct loans or loan guarantee commitments shall be made using Federal funds for the credit risk premium during fiscal year 2015: *Provided further*, That no new direct loans or loan guarantee commitments made under the Railroad Rehabilitation and Improvement Financing Program in fiscal year 2015 shall cause the total principal amount of direct loans and loan guarantees committed under the Railroad Rehabilitation and Improvement Financing Program to projects in a single state to exceed \$5,600,000,000.

##### OPERATING GRANTS TO THE NATIONAL RAILROAD PASSENGER CORPORATION

To enable the Secretary of Transportation to make quarterly grants to the National Railroad Passenger Corporation, in amounts based on the Secretary's assessment of the Corporation's seasonal cash flow requirements, for the operation of intercity passenger rail, as authorized by section 101 of the Passenger Rail Investment and Improvement Act of 2008 (division B of Public Law 110-432), \$250,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the amounts available under this paragraph shall be available for the Secretary to approve funding to cover operating losses for the Corporation only after receiving and reviewing a

grant request for each specific train route: *Provided further*, That each such grant request shall be accompanied by a detailed financial analysis, revenue projection, and capital expenditure projection justifying the Federal support to the Secretary's satisfaction: *Provided further*, That not later than 60 days after enactment of this Act, the Corporation shall transmit, in electronic format, to the Secretary and the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations the annual budget, business plan, the 5-Year Financial Plan for fiscal year 2015 required under section 204 of the Passenger Rail Investment and Improvement Act of 2008 and the comprehensive fleet plan for all Amtrak rolling stock: *Provided further*, That the budget, business plan and the 5-Year Financial Plan shall include annual information on the maintenance, refurbishment, replacement, and expansion for all Amtrak rolling stock consistent with the comprehensive fleet plan: *Provided further*, That the Corporation shall provide monthly performance reports in an electronic format which shall describe the work completed to date, any changes to the business plan, and the reasons for such changes as well as progress against the milestones and target dates of the 2012 performance improvement plan: *Provided further*, That the Corporation's budget, business plan, 5-Year Financial Plan, semiannual reports, monthly reports, comprehensive fleet plan and all supplemental reports or plans comply with requirements in Public Law 112-55: *Provided further*, That none of the funds provided in this Act may be used to support any route on which Amtrak offers a discounted fare of more than 50 percent off the normal peak fare: *Provided further*, That the preceding proviso does not apply to routes where the operating loss as a result of the discount is covered by a State and the State participates in the setting of fares.

#### CAPITAL AND DEBT SERVICE GRANTS TO THE NATIONAL RAILROAD PASSENGER CORPORATION

To enable the Secretary of Transportation to make grants to the National Railroad Passenger Corporation for capital investments as authorized by sections 101(c), 102, and 219(b) of the Passenger Rail Investment and Improvement Act of 2008 (division B of Public Law 110-432), \$1,140,000,000, to remain available until expended, of which not to exceed \$175,000,000 shall be for debt service obligations as authorized by section 102 of such Act: *Provided*, That of the amounts made available under this heading, not less than \$50,000,000 shall be made available to bring Amtrak-served facilities and stations into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act: *Provided further*, That after an initial distribution of up to \$200,000,000, which shall be used by the Corporation as a working capital account, all remaining funds shall be provided to the Corporation only on a reimbursable basis: *Provided further*, That of the amounts made available under this heading, up to \$50,000,000 may be used by the Secretary to subsidize operating losses of the Corporation should the funds provided under the heading "Operating Grants to the National Railroad Passenger Corporation" be insufficient to meet operational costs for fiscal year 2015: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may retain up to one-half of 1 percent of the funds provided under this heading to fund the costs of project management and oversight of activities authorized by subsections 101(a) and 101(c) of division B of Public Law 110-432: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall approve funding for capital expenditures, including advance purchase orders of materials, for the Corporation only

after receiving and reviewing a grant request for each specific capital project justifying the Federal support to the Secretary's satisfaction: *Provided further*, That except as otherwise provided herein, none of the funds under this heading may be used to subsidize operating losses of the Corporation: *Provided further*, That none of the funds under this heading may be used for capital projects not approved by the Secretary of Transportation or on the Corporation's fiscal year 2015 business plan: *Provided further*, That in addition to the project management oversight funds authorized under section 101(d) of division B of Public Law 110-432, the Secretary may retain up to an additional \$5,000,000 of the funds provided under this heading to fund expenses associated with implementing section 212 of division B of Public Law 110-432, including the amendments made by section 212 to section 24905 of title 49, United States Code.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—FEDERAL RAILROAD ADMINISTRATION

SEC. 150. The Secretary of Transportation may receive and expend cash, or receive and utilize spare parts and similar items, from non-United States Government sources to repair damages to or replace United States Government owned automated track inspection cars and equipment as a result of third-party liability for such damages, and any amounts collected under this section shall be credited directly to the Safety and Operations account of the Federal Railroad Administration, and shall remain available until expended for the repair, operation and maintenance of automated track inspection cars and equipment in connection with the automated track inspection program.

SEC. 151. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, rule or regulation, the Secretary of Transportation is authorized to allow the issuer of any preferred stock heretofore sold to the Department to redeem or repurchase such stock upon the payment to the Department of an amount to be determined by the Secretary.

SEC. 152. None of the funds provided to the National Railroad Passenger Corporation may be used to fund any overtime costs in excess of \$35,000 for any individual employee: *Provided*, That the President of Amtrak may waive the cap set in the previous proviso for specific employees when the President of Amtrak determines such a cap poses a risk to the safety and operational efficiency of the system: *Provided further*, That the President of Amtrak shall report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations each quarter of the calendar year on waivers granted to employees and amounts paid above the cap for each month within such quarter and delineate the reasons each waiver was granted: *Provided further*, That the President of Amtrak shall report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations by March 1, 2015, a summary of all overtime payments incurred by the Corporation for 2014 and the three prior calendar years: *Provided further*, That such summary shall include the total number of employees that received waivers and the total overtime payments the Corporation paid to those employees receiving waivers for each month for 2014 and for the three prior calendar years.

SEC. 153. For an additional amount, \$10,000,000 shall be made available until expended for the Secretary to make grants for grade crossing and track improvements on rail routes that transport energy products.

#### FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

For necessary administrative expenses of the Federal Transit Administration's pro-

grams authorized by chapter 53 of title 49, United States Code, \$105,933,000, of which not less than \$4,500,000 shall be available to carry out the provisions of 49 U.S.C. 5329 and not less than \$1,000,000 shall be available to carry out the provisions of 49 U.S.C. 5326: *Provided*, That none of the funds provided or limited in this Act may be used to create a permanent office of transit security under this heading: *Provided further*, That upon submission to the Congress of the fiscal year 2016 President's budget, the Secretary of Transportation shall transmit to Congress the annual report on New Starts, including proposed allocations for fiscal year 2016.

#### TRANSIT FORMULA GRANTS (LIQUIDATION OF CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION) (LIMITATION ON OBLIGATIONS) (HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

For payment of obligations incurred in the Federal Public Transportation Assistance Program in this account, and for payment of obligations incurred in carrying out the provisions of 49 U.S.C. 5305, 5307, 5310, 5311, 5318, 5322(d), 5329(e)(6), 5335, 5337, 5339, and 5340, as amended by Public Law 112-141, and section 20005(b) of Public Law 112-141, \$9,500,000,000, to be derived from the Mass Transit Account of the Highway Trust Fund and to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That funds available for the implementation or execution of programs authorized under 49 U.S.C. 5305, 5307, 5310, 5311, 5318, 5322(d), 5329(e)(6), 5335, 5337, 5339, and 5340, as amended by Public Law 112-141, and section 20005(b) of Public Law 112-141, shall not exceed total obligations of \$8,595,000,000 in fiscal year 2015.

#### TRANSIT RESEARCH

For necessary expenses to carry out 49 U.S.C. 5312 and 5313, \$33,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That \$30,000,000 shall be for activities authorized under 49 U.S.C. 5312 and \$3,000,000 shall be for activities authorized under 49 U.S.C. 5313.

#### TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING

For necessary expenses to carry out 49 U.S.C. 5314 and 5322(a), (b) and (e), \$4,500,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That \$4,000,000 shall be for activities authorized under 49 U.S.C. 5314 and \$500,000 shall be for activities authorized under 49 U.S.C. 5322(a), (b) and (e).

#### CAPITAL INVESTMENT GRANTS (INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses to carry out 49 U.S.C. 5309, \$2,120,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That when distributing funds among Recommended New Starts Projects, the Administrator shall first fully fund those projects covered by a full funding grant agreement, then fully fund those projects whose section 5309 share is less than 40 percent, and then distribute the remaining funds so as to protect as much as possible the projects' budgets and schedules: *Provided further*, That of the unobligated amounts available for the Capital Investment Grants program, \$121,546,138 is hereby rescinded.

#### GRANTS TO THE WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT AUTHORITY

For grants to the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority as authorized under section 601 of division B of Public Law 110-432, \$150,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the Secretary shall approve grants for capital and preventive maintenance expenditures for the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority only after receiving and reviewing a request



for each specific project: *Provided further*, That prior to approving such grants, the Secretary shall certify that the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority is making significant progress in eliminating the material weaknesses, significant deficiencies, and minor control deficiencies identified in the most recent Financial Management Oversight Review: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall determine that the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority has placed the highest priority on those investments that will improve the safety of the system before approving such grants: *Provided further*, That the Secretary, in order to ensure safety throughout the rail system, may waive the requirements of section 601(e)(1) of title VI of Public Law 110-432 (112 Stat. 4968).

#### ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION

SEC. 160. The limitations on obligations for the programs of the Federal Transit Administration shall not apply to any authority under 49 U.S.C. 5338, previously made available for obligation, or to any other authority previously made available for obligation.

SEC. 161. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, funds appropriated or limited by this Act under the heading “Fixed Guideway Capital Investment” of the Federal Transit Administration for projects specified in this Act or identified in reports accompanying this Act not obligated by September 30, 2019, and other recoveries, shall be directed to projects eligible to use the funds for the purposes for which they were originally provided.

SEC. 162. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any funds appropriated before October 1, 2014, under any section of chapter 53 of title 49, United States Code, that remain available for expenditure, may be transferred to and administered under the most recent appropriation heading for any such section.

SEC. 163. The Secretary may not enforce regulations related to charter bus service under part 604 of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, for any transit agency that during fiscal year 2008 was both initially granted a 60-day period to come into compliance with part 604, and then was subsequently granted an exception from said part.

SEC. 164. For purposes of applying the project justification and local financial commitment criteria of 49 U.S.C. 5309(d) to a New Starts project, the Secretary may consider the costs and ridership of any connected project in an instance in which private parties are making significant financial contributions to the construction of the connected project; additionally, the Secretary may consider the significant financial contributions of private parties to the connected project in calculating the non-Federal share of net capital project costs for the New Starts project.

SEC. 165. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, none of the funds made available in this Act shall be used to enter into a full funding grant agreement for a project with a New Starts share greater than 60 percent.

SEC. 166. None of the funds in this or any other Act may be available to advance in any way a new light or heavy rail project towards a full funding grant agreement as defined by 49 U.S.C. 5309 for the Metropolitan Transit Authority of Harris County, Texas if the proposed capital project is constructed on or planned to be constructed on Richmond Avenue west of South Shepherd Drive or on Post Oak Boulevard north of Richmond Avenue in Houston, Texas.

SEC. 167. In developing guidance implementing 49 U.S.C. 5309(i) Program of Interrelated Projects, the Secretary shall consider projects eligible under section 5309(h) Small Starts Projects, including streetcars.

SEC. 168. Of the unobligated balance of amounts made available for fiscal year 2011 or prior fiscal years to carry out the discretionary bus and bus facilities program under 49 U.S.C. 5309, \$27,989,839 shall be used for new bus rapid transit projects recommended, in the President's fiscal year 2015 budget request, to be funded under the heading “Department of Transportation-Federal Transit Administration-Capital Investment Grants”: *Provided*, That all such projects shall remain subject to the requirements of 49 U.S.C. 5309 for New Starts, Small Starts, or Core Capacity projects, as applicable, under the Capital Investment Grants Program: *Provided further*, That such funds shall be in addition to the amounts otherwise made available by this Act for “Department of Transportation-Federal Transit Administration-Capital Investment Grants”.

#### SAINT LAWRENCE SEAWAY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

The Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation is hereby authorized to make such expenditures, within the limits of funds and borrowing authority available to the Corporation, and in accord with law, and to make such contracts and commitments without regard to fiscal year limitations as provided by section 104 of the Government Corporation Control Act, as amended, as may be necessary in carrying out the programs set forth in the Corporation's budget for the current fiscal year.

#### OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE (HARBOR MAINTENANCE TRUST FUND)

For necessary expenses to conduct the operations, maintenance, and capital asset renewal activities of those portions of the St. Lawrence Seaway owned, operated, and maintained by the Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation, \$32,042,000, to be derived from the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund, pursuant to Public Law 99-662.

#### MARITIME ADMINISTRATION MARITIME SECURITY PROGRAM

For necessary expenses to maintain and preserve a U.S.-flag merchant fleet to serve the national security needs of the United States, \$186,000,000, to remain available until expended.

#### OPERATIONS AND TRAINING

For necessary expenses of operations and training activities authorized by law, \$148,050,000, of which \$11,300,000 shall remain available until expended for maintenance and repair of training ships at State Maritime Academies, and of which \$2,400,000 shall remain available through September 30, 2016, for the Student Incentive Program at State Maritime Academies, and of which \$1,200,000 shall remain available until expended for training ship fuel assistance payments, and of which \$15,000,000 shall remain available until expended for facilities maintenance and repair, equipment, and capital improvements at the United States Merchant Marine Academy: *Provided*, That amounts apportioned for the United States Merchant Marine Academy shall be available only upon allotments made personally by the Secretary of Transportation or the Assistant Secretary for Budget and Programs: *Provided further*, That the Superintendent, Deputy Superintendent and the Director of the Office of Resource Management of the United States Merchant Marine Academy may not be allot-

ment holders for the United States Merchant Marine Academy, and the Administrator of the Maritime Administration shall hold all allotments made by the Secretary of Transportation or the Assistant Secretary for Budget and Programs under the previous proviso: *Provided further*, That 50 percent of the funding made available for the United States Merchant Marine Academy under this heading shall be available only after the Secretary, in consultation with the Superintendent and the Maritime Administrator, completes a plan detailing by program or activity how such funding will be expended at the Academy, and this plan is submitted to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That not later than January 12, 2015, the Administrator of the Maritime Administration shall transmit to Congress the biennial survey and report on sexual assault and sexual harassment at the United States Merchant Marine Academy as required pursuant to section 3507 of Public Law 110-417.

#### SHIP DISPOSAL

For necessary expenses related to the disposal of obsolete vessels in the National Defense Reserve Fleet of the Maritime Administration, \$4,000,000, to remain available until expended.

#### MARITIME GUARANTEED LOAN (TITLE XI) PROGRAM ACCOUNT

##### (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary administrative expenses of the maritime guaranteed loan program, \$3,100,000 shall be paid to the appropriations for “Maritime Administration-Operations and Training”.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—MARITIME ADMINISTRATION

SEC. 170. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the Maritime Administration is authorized to furnish utilities and services and make necessary repairs in connection with any lease, contract, or occupancy involving Government property under control of the Maritime Administration: *Provided*, That payments received therefor shall be credited to the appropriation charged with the cost thereof and shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That rental payments under any such lease, contract, or occupancy for items other than such utilities, services, or repairs shall be covered into the Treasury as miscellaneous receipts.

SEC. 171. None of the funds available or appropriated in this Act shall be used by the United States Department of Transportation or the United States Maritime Administration to negotiate or otherwise execute, enter into, facilitate or perform fee-for-service contracts for vessel disposal, scrapping or recycling, unless there is no qualified domestic ship recycler that will pay any sum of money to purchase and scrap or recycle a vessel owned, operated or managed by the Maritime Administration or that is part of the National Defense Reserve Fleet: *Provided*, That such sales offers must be consistent with the solicitation and provide that the work will be performed in a timely manner at a facility qualified within the meaning of section 3502 of Public Law 106-398: *Provided further*, That nothing contained herein shall affect the Maritime Administration's authority to award contracts at least cost to the Federal Government and consistent with the requirements of 16 U.S.C. 5405(c), section 3502, or otherwise authorized under the Federal Acquisition Regulation.

PIPELINE AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SAFETY  
ADMINISTRATION  
OPERATIONAL EXPENSES  
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary operational expenses of the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, \$22,225,000: *Provided*, That \$1,500,000 shall be transferred to "Pipeline Safety" in order to fund "Pipeline Safety Information Grants to Communities" as authorized under section 60130 of title 49, United States Code.

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SAFETY

For expenses necessary to discharge the hazardous materials safety functions of the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, \$52,000,000, of which \$7,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2017: *Provided*, That up to \$800,000 in fees collected under 49 U.S.C. 5108(g) shall be deposited in the general fund of the Treasury as offsetting receipts: *Provided further*, That there may be credited to this appropriation, to be available until expended, funds received from States, counties, municipalities, other public authorities, and private sources for expenses incurred for training, for reports publication and dissemination, and for travel expenses incurred in performance of hazardous materials exemptions and approvals functions.

PIPELINE SAFETY

(PIPELINE SAFETY FUND)

(OIL SPILL LIABILITY TRUST FUND)

(PIPELINE SAFETY DESIGN REVIEW FUND)

For expenses necessary to conduct the functions of the pipeline safety program, for grants-in-aid to carry out a pipeline safety program, as authorized by 49 U.S.C. 60107, and to discharge the pipeline program responsibilities of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990, \$146,000,000, of which \$19,500,000 shall be derived from the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund and shall remain available until September 30, 2017; and of which \$124,500,000 shall be derived from the Pipeline Safety Fund, of which \$66,309,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2017; and of which \$2,000,000, to remain available until expended, shall be derived from the Pipeline Safety Design Review Fund as authorized in 49 U.S.C. 60117(n): *Provided*, That not less than \$1,058,000 of the funds provided under this heading shall be for the One-Call state grant program.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS GRANTS

(EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS FUND)

For necessary expenses to carryout 49 U.S.C. 5128(b), \$188,000, to be derived from the Emergency Preparedness Fund, to remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That notwithstanding the fiscal year limitation specified in 49 U.S.C. 5116, not more than \$28,318,000 shall be made available for obligation in fiscal year 2015 from amounts made available by 49 U.S.C. 5116(i), and 5128(b) and (c): *Provided further*, That notwithstanding 49 U.S.C. 5116(i)(4), not more than 4 percent of the amounts made available from this account shall be available to pay administrative costs: *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available by 49 U.S.C. 5116(i), 5128(b), or 5128(c) shall be made available for obligation by individuals other than the Secretary of Transportation, or his or her designee: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding 49 U.S.C. 5128(b) and (c) and the current year obligation limitation, prior year recoveries recognized in the current year shall be available to develop a hazardous materials response training curriculum for emergency responders, including

response activities for the transportation of crude oil, ethanol and other flammable liquids by rail, consistent with National Fire Protection Association standards, and to make such training available through an electronic format: *Provided further*, That the prior year recoveries made available under this heading shall also be available to carry out 49 U.S.C. 5116(b) and (j).

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Inspector General to carry out the provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, \$86,223,000: *Provided*, That the Inspector General shall have all necessary authority, in carrying out the duties specified in the Inspector General Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. App. 3), to investigate allegations of fraud, including false statements to the government (18 U.S.C. 1001), by any person or entity that is subject to regulation by the Department: *Provided further*, That the funds made available under this heading may be used to investigate, pursuant to section 41712 of title 49, United States Code: (1) unfair or deceptive practices and unfair methods of competition by domestic and foreign air carriers and ticket agents; and (2) the compliance of domestic and foreign air carriers with respect to item (1) of this proviso: *Provided further*, That hereafter funds transferred to the Office of the Inspector General through forfeiture proceedings or from the Department of Justice Assets Forfeiture Fund or the Department of the Treasury Forfeiture Fund, as a participating agency, as an equitable share from the forfeiture of property in investigations in which the Office of Inspector General participates, or through the granting of a Petition for Remission or Mitigation, shall be deposited to the credit of this account for law enforcement activities authorized under the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, to remain available until expended.

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Surface Transportation Board, including services authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, \$31,375,000: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, not to exceed \$1,250,000 from fees established by the Chairman of the Surface Transportation Board shall be credited to this appropriation as offsetting collections and used for necessary and authorized expenses under this heading: *Provided further*, That the sum herein appropriated from the general fund shall be reduced on a dollar-for-dollar basis as such offsetting collections are received during fiscal year 2015, to result in a final appropriation from the general fund estimated at no more than \$30,125,000.

GENERAL PROVISIONS—DEPARTMENT OF  
TRANSPORTATION

SEC. 180. During the current fiscal year, applicable appropriations to the Department of Transportation shall be available for maintenance and operation of aircraft; hire of passenger motor vehicles and aircraft; purchase of liability insurance for motor vehicles operating in foreign countries on official department business; and uniforms or allowances therefor, as authorized by law (5 U.S.C. 5901–5902).

SEC. 181. Appropriations contained in this Act for the Department of Transportation shall be available for services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, but at rates for individuals not to exceed the per diem rate equivalent to the rate for an Executive Level IV.

SEC. 182. None of the funds in this Act shall be available for salaries and expenses of more than 110 political and Presidential appointees in the Department of Transportation: *Provided*, That none of the personnel covered by this provision may be assigned on temporary detail outside the Department of Transportation.

SEC. 183. (a) No recipient of funds made available in this Act shall disseminate personal information (as defined in 18 U.S.C. 2725(3)) obtained by a State department of motor vehicles in connection with a motor vehicle record as defined in 18 U.S.C. 2725(1), except as provided in 18 U.S.C. 2721 for a use permitted under 18 U.S.C. 2721.

(b) Notwithstanding subsection (a), the Secretary shall not withhold funds provided in this Act for any grantee if a State is in noncompliance with this provision.

SEC. 184. Funds received by the Federal Highway Administration, Federal Transit Administration, and Federal Railroad Administration from States, counties, municipalities, other public authorities, and private sources for expenses incurred for training may be credited respectively to the Federal Highway Administration's "Federal-Aid Highways" account, the Federal Transit Administration's "Technical Assistance and Training" account, and to the Federal Railroad Administration's "Safety and Operations" account, except for State rail safety inspectors participating in training pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 20105.

SEC. 185. None of the funds in this Act to the Department of Transportation may be used to make a loan, loan guarantee, line of credit, or grant unless the Secretary of Transportation notifies the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations not less than 3 full business days before any project competitively selected to receive a discretionary grant award, any discretionary grant award, letter of intent, loan commitment, loan guarantee commitment, line of credit commitment, or full funding grant agreement is announced by the department or its modal administrations from:

(1) any discretionary grant or federal credit program of the Federal Highway Administration including the emergency relief program;

(2) the airport improvement program of the Federal Aviation Administration;

(3) any program of the Federal Railroad Administration;

(4) any program of the Federal Transit Administration other than the formula grants and fixed guideway modernization programs;

(5) any program of the Maritime Administration; or

(6) any funding provided under the headings "National Infrastructure Investments" in this Act: *Provided*, That the Secretary gives concurrent notification to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations for any "quick release" of funds from the emergency relief program: *Provided further*, That no notification shall involve funds that are not available for obligation.

SEC. 186. Rebates, refunds, incentive payments, minor fees and other funds received by the Department of Transportation from travel management centers, charge card programs, the subleasing of building space, and miscellaneous sources are to be credited to appropriations of the Department of Transportation and allocated to elements of the Department of Transportation using fair and equitable criteria and such funds shall be available until expended.

SEC. 187. Amounts made available in this or any other Act that the Secretary determines represent improper payments by the

Department of Transportation to a third-party contractor under a financial assistance award, which are recovered pursuant to law, shall be available—

(1) to reimburse the actual expenses incurred by the Department of Transportation in recovering improper payments; and

(2) to pay contractors for services provided in recovering improper payments or contractor support in the implementation of the Improper Payments Information Act of 2002: *Provided*, That amounts in excess of that required for paragraphs (1) and (2)—

(A) shall be credited to and merged with the appropriation from which the improper payments were made, and shall be available for the purposes and period for which such appropriations are available: *Provided further*, That where specific project or accounting information associated with the improper payment or payments is not readily available, the Secretary may credit an appropriate account, which shall be available for the purposes and period associated with the account so credited; or

(B) if no such appropriation remains available, shall be deposited in the Treasury as miscellaneous receipts: *Provided further*, That prior to the transfer of any such recovery to an appropriations account, the Secretary shall notify the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations of the amount and reasons for such transfer: *Provided further*, That for purposes of this section, the term “improper payments” has the same meaning as that provided in section 2(d)(2) of Public Law 107-300.

SEC. 188. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, if any funds provided in or limited by this Act are subject to a reprogramming action that requires notice to be provided to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations, transmission of said reprogramming notice shall be provided solely to the Committees on Appropriations, and said reprogramming action shall be approved or denied solely by the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided*, That the Secretary may provide notice to other congressional committees of the action of the Committees on Appropriations on such reprogramming but not sooner than 30 days following the date on which the reprogramming action has been approved or denied by the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations.

SEC. 189. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available under this Act may be used by the Surface Transportation Board of the Department of Transportation to charge or collect any filing fee for rate or practice complaints filed with the Board in an amount in excess of the amount authorized for district court civil suit filing fees under section 1914 of title 28, United States Code.

SEC. 190. Funds appropriated in this Act to the modal administrations may be obligated for the Office of the Secretary for the costs related to assessments or reimbursable agreements only when such amounts are for the costs of goods and services that are purchased to provide a direct benefit to the applicable modal administration or administrations.

SEC. 191. The Secretary of Transportation is authorized to carry out a program that establishes uniform standards for developing and supporting agency transit pass and transit benefits authorized under section 7905 of title 5, United States Code, including distribution of transit benefits by various paper and electronic media.

This title may be cited as the “Department of Transportation Appropriations Act, 2015”.

## TITLE II

### DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

#### MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION EXECUTIVE OFFICES

For necessary salaries and expenses for Executive Offices, which shall be comprised of the offices of the Secretary, Deputy Secretary, Adjudicatory Services, Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations, Public Affairs, Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization, and the Center for Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships, \$14,500,000: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$25,000 of the amount made available under this heading shall be available to the Secretary for official reception and representation expenses as the Secretary may determine.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT OFFICES

For necessary salaries and expenses for Administrative Support Offices, \$518,100,000, of which not to exceed \$47,000,000 shall be available for the Office of the Chief Financial Officer; not to exceed \$94,000,000 shall be available for the Office of the General Counsel; not to exceed \$200,000,000 shall be available for the Office of Administration; not to exceed \$57,000,000 shall be available for the Office of the Chief Human Capital Officer; not to exceed \$50,000,000 shall be available for the Office of Field Policy and Management; not to exceed \$16,500,000 shall be available for the Office of the Chief Procurement Officer; not to exceed \$3,200,000 shall be available for the Office of Departmental Equal Employment Opportunity; not to exceed \$4,400,000 shall be available for the Office of Strategic Planning and Management; and not to exceed \$46,000,000 shall be available for the Office of the Chief Information Officer: *Provided*, That funds provided under this heading may be used for necessary administrative and non-administrative expenses of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, not otherwise provided for, including purchase of uniforms, or allowances therefor, as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 5901-5902; hire of passenger motor vehicles; and services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, funds appropriated under this heading may be used for advertising and promotional activities that support the housing mission area: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall provide the Committees on Appropriations quarterly written notification regarding the status of pending congressional reports: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall provide in electronic form all signed reports required by Congress.

#### PROGRAM OFFICE SALARIES AND EXPENSES

##### PUBLIC AND INDIAN HOUSING

For necessary salaries and expenses of the Office of Public and Indian Housing, \$203,000,000.

##### COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

For necessary salaries and expenses of the Office of Community Planning and Development, \$102,000,000.

##### HOUSING

For necessary salaries and expenses of the Office of Housing, \$379,000,000, of which at least \$9,000,000 shall be for the Office of Risk and Regulatory Affairs.

##### POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND RESEARCH

For necessary salaries and expenses of the Office of Policy Development and Research, \$22,700,000.

##### FAIR HOUSING AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

For necessary salaries and expenses of the Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity, \$68,000,000.

#### OFFICE OF LEAD HAZARD CONTROL AND HEALTHY HOMES

For necessary salaries and expenses of the Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes, \$6,700,000.

#### PUBLIC AND INDIAN HOUSING

##### TENANT-BASED RENTAL ASSISTANCE

For activities and assistance for the provision of tenant-based rental assistance authorized under the United States Housing Act of 1937, as amended (42 U.S.C. 1437 et seq.) (“the Act” herein), not otherwise provided for, \$15,304,160,000, to remain available until expended, shall be available on October 1, 2014 (in addition to the \$4,000,000,000 previously appropriated under this heading that became available on October 1, 2014), and \$4,000,000,000, to remain available until expended, shall be available on October 1, 2015: *Provided*, That the amounts made available under this heading are provided as follows:

(1) \$17,486,000,000 shall be available for renewals of expiring section 8 tenant-based annual contributions contracts (including renewals of enhanced vouchers under any provision of law authorizing such assistance under section 8(t) of the Act) and including renewal of other special purpose incremental vouchers: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, from amounts provided under this paragraph and any carryover, the Secretary for the calendar year 2015 funding cycle shall provide renewal funding for each public housing agency based on validated voucher management system (VMS) leasing and cost data for the prior calendar year and by applying an inflation factor as established by the Secretary, by notice published in the Federal Register, and by making any necessary adjustments for the costs associated with the first-time renewal of vouchers under this paragraph including tenant protection, HOPE VI, and Choice Neighborhoods vouchers: *Provided further*, That in determining calendar year 2015 funding allocations under this heading for public housing agencies, including agencies participating in the Moving To Work (MTW) demonstration, the Secretary may take into account the anticipated impact of changes in targeting and utility allowances, on public housing agencies' contract renewal needs: *Provided further*, That none of the funds provided under this paragraph may be used to fund a total number of unit months under lease which exceeds a public housing agency's authorized level of units under contract, except for public housing agencies participating in the MTW demonstration, which are instead governed by the terms and conditions of their MTW agreements: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall, to the extent necessary to stay within the amount specified under this paragraph (except as otherwise modified under this paragraph), prorate each public housing agency's allocation otherwise established pursuant to this paragraph: *Provided further*, That except as provided in the following provisos, the entire amount specified under this paragraph (except as otherwise modified under this paragraph) shall be obligated to the public housing agencies based on the allocation and pro rata method described above, and the Secretary shall notify public housing agencies of their annual budget by the latter of 60 days after enactment of this Act or March 1, 2015: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may extend the notification period with the prior written approval of the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That public housing agencies participating in the MTW demonstration shall be

funded pursuant to their MTW agreements and shall be subject to the same pro rata adjustments under the previous provisos: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may offset public housing agencies' calendar year 2015 allocations based on the excess amounts of public housing agencies' net restricted assets accounts, including HUD held programmatic reserves (in accordance with VMS data in calendar year 2014 that is verifiable and complete), as determined by the Secretary: *Provided further*, That public housing agencies participating in the MTW demonstration shall also be subject to the offset, as determined by the Secretary, excluding amounts subject to the single fund budget authority provisions of their MTW agreements, from the agencies' calendar year 2015 MTW funding allocation: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall use any offset referred to in the previous two provisos throughout the calendar year to prevent the termination of rental assistance for families as the result of insufficient funding, as determined by the Secretary, and to avoid or reduce the proration of renewal funding allocations: *Provided further*, That up to \$120,000,000 shall be available only: (1) for adjustments in the allocations for public housing agencies, after application for an adjustment by a public housing agency that experienced a significant increase, as determined by the Secretary, in renewal costs of vouchers resulting from unforeseen circumstances or from portability under section 8(r) of the Act; (2) for vouchers that were not in use during the 12-month period in order to be available to meet a commitment pursuant to section 8(o)(13) of the Act; (3) for adjustments for costs associated with HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) vouchers; (4) for adjustments for public housing agencies with voucher leasing rates at the end of the calendar year that exceed the average leasing for the 12-month period used to establish the allocation, and for additional leasing of vouchers that were issued but not leased prior to the end of such calendar year; and (5) for public housing agencies that despite taking reasonable cost savings measures, as determined by the Secretary, would otherwise be required to terminate rental assistance for families as a result of insufficient funding: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall allocate amounts under the previous proviso based on need, as determined by the Secretary;

(2) \$130,000,000 shall be for section 8 rental assistance for relocation and replacement of housing units that are demolished or disposed of pursuant to section 18 of the Act, conversion of section 23 projects to assistance under section 8, the family unification program under section 8(x) of the Act, relocation of witnesses in connection with efforts to combat crime in public and assisted housing pursuant to a request from a law enforcement or prosecution agency, enhanced vouchers under any provision of law authorizing such assistance under section 8(t) of the Act, HOPE VI and Choice Neighborhood vouchers, mandatory and voluntary conversions, and tenant protection assistance including replacement and relocation assistance or for project-based assistance to prevent the displacement of unassisted elderly tenants currently residing in section 202 properties financed between 1959 and 1974 that are refinanced pursuant to Public Law 106-569, as amended, or under the authority as provided under this Act: *Provided*, That when a public housing development is submitted for demolition or disposition under section 18 of the Act, the Secretary may pro-

vide section 8 rental assistance when the units pose an imminent health and safety risk to residents: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may only provide replacement vouchers for units that were occupied within the previous 24 months that cease to be available as assisted housing, subject only to the availability of funds: *Provided further*, That of the amounts made available under this paragraph, \$5,000,000 may be available to provide tenant protection assistance, not otherwise provided under this paragraph, to residents residing in low vacancy areas and who may have to pay rents greater than 30 percent of household income, as the result of (1) the maturity of a HUD-insured, HUD-held or section 202 loan that requires the permission of the Secretary prior to loan prepayment; (2) the expiration of a rental assistance contract for which the tenants are not eligible for enhanced voucher or tenant protection assistance under existing law; or (3) the expiration of affordability restrictions accompanying a mortgage or preservation program administered by the Secretary: *Provided further*, That such tenant protection assistance made available under the previous proviso may be provided under the authority of section 8(t) or section 8(o)(13) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(t)): *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall issue guidance to implement the previous provisos, including, but not limited to, requirements for defining eligible at-risk households within 120 days of the enactment of this Act: *Provided further*, That any tenant protection voucher made available from amounts under this paragraph shall not be reissued by any public housing agency, except the replacement vouchers as defined by the Secretary by notice, when the initial family that received any such voucher no longer receives such voucher, and the authority for any public housing agency to issue any such voucher shall cease to exist: *Provided further*, That the Secretary, for the purpose under this paragraph, may use unobligated balances, including recaptures and carryovers, remaining from amounts appropriated in prior fiscal years under this heading for voucher assistance for nonelderly disabled families and for disaster assistance made available under Public Law 110-329;

(3) \$1,530,000,000 shall be for administrative and other expenses of public housing agencies in administering the section 8 tenant-based rental assistance program, of which up to \$10,000,000 shall be available to the Secretary to allocate to public housing agencies that need additional funds to administer their section 8 programs, including fees associated with section 8 tenant protection rental assistance, the administration of disaster related vouchers, Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing vouchers, and other special purpose incremental vouchers: *Provided*, That no less than \$1,520,000,000 of the amount provided in this paragraph shall be allocated to public housing agencies for the calendar year 2015 funding cycle based on section 8(q) of the Act (and related Appropriation Act provisions) as in effect immediately before the enactment of the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998 (Public Law 105-276): *Provided further*, That if the amounts made available under this paragraph are insufficient to pay the amounts determined under the previous proviso, the Secretary may decrease the amounts allocated to agencies by a uniform percentage applicable to all agencies receiving funding under this paragraph or may, to the extent necessary to provide full payment of amounts determined under the previous pro-

viso, utilize unobligated balances, including recaptures and carryovers, remaining from funds appropriated to the Department of Housing and Urban Development under this heading from prior fiscal years, excluding special purpose vouchers, notwithstanding the purposes for which such amounts were appropriated: *Provided further*, That all public housing agencies participating in the MTW demonstration shall be funded pursuant to their MTW agreements, and shall be subject to the same uniform percentage decrease as under the previous proviso: *Provided further*, That amounts provided under this paragraph shall be only for activities related to the provision of tenant-based rental assistance authorized under section 8, including related development activities;

(4) \$83,160,000 for the renewal of tenant-based assistance contracts under section 811 of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 8013), including necessary administrative expenses: *Provided*, That administrative and other expenses of public housing agencies in administering the special purpose vouchers in this paragraph shall be funded under the same terms and be subject to the same pro rata reduction as the percent decrease for administrative and other expenses to public housing agencies under paragraph (3) of this heading;

(5) \$75,000,000 for incremental rental voucher assistance for use through a supported housing program administered in conjunction with the Department of Veterans Affairs as authorized under section 8(o)(19) of the United States Housing Act of 1937: *Provided*, That the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall make such funding available, notwithstanding section 204 (competition provision) of this title, to public housing agencies that partner with eligible VA Medical Centers or other entities as designated by the Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs, based on geographical need for such assistance as identified by the Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs, public housing agency administrative performance, and other factors as specified by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development in consultation with the Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development administers in connection with the use of funds made available under this paragraph (except for requirements related to fair housing, nondiscrimination, labor standards, and the environment), upon a finding by the Secretary that any such waivers or alternative requirements are necessary for the effective delivery and administration of such voucher assistance: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall set aside an amount provided under this paragraph for a rental assistance and supportive housing demonstration program for Native American veterans that are homeless or at-risk of homelessness living on or near a reservation or other Indian areas: *Provided further*, That such demonstration program shall be modeled after, with necessary and appropriate adjustments for Native American grant recipients and veterans, the rental assistance and supportive housing program funded under this paragraph, including administration in conjunction with the Department of Veterans Affairs and overall implementation of section 8(o)(19) of the Act: *Provided further*, That amounts for

rental assistance and associated administrative costs shall be made available by grants to recipients eligible to receive block grants under the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. section 4101 et seq.): *Provided further*, That funds shall be awarded based on need, administrative capacity, and any other funding criteria established by the Secretary in a Notice published in the Federal Register after coordination with the Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs within 180 days of enactment of this Act: *Provided further*, That such rental assistance shall be administered by block grant recipients in accordance with program requirements under the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996: *Provided further*, That the first and second provisos under this paragraph shall apply to use of funds made available for this demonstration, as appropriate: *Provided further*, That the Secretary, in coordination with the Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs, shall coordinate with block grant recipients and any other appropriate tribal organizations on the design of such demonstration and shall ensure the effective delivery of supportive services to Native American veterans that are homeless or at-risk of homelessness eligible to receive assistance under this demonstration: *Provided further*, That grant recipients shall report to the Secretary, as prescribed by the Secretary, utilization of such rental assistance provided under this demonstration: *Provided further*, That assistance made available under this paragraph shall continue to remain available for homeless veterans upon turn-over; and

(6) The Secretary shall separately track all special purpose vouchers funded under this heading.

#### HOUSING CERTIFICATE FUND (INCLUDING RESCISSIONS)

Unobligated balances, including recaptures and carryover, remaining from funds appropriated to the Department of Housing and Urban Development under this heading, the heading “Annual Contributions for Assisted Housing” and the heading “Project-Based Rental Assistance”, for fiscal year 2015 and prior years may be used for renewal of or amendments to section 8 project-based contracts and for performance-based contract administrators, notwithstanding the purposes for which such funds were appropriated: *Provided*, That any obligated balances of contract authority from fiscal year 1974 and prior that have been terminated shall be rescinded: *Provided further*, That amounts heretofore recaptured, or recaptured during the current fiscal year, from section 8 project-based contracts from source years fiscal year 1975 through fiscal year 1987 are hereby rescinded, and an amount of additional new budget authority, equivalent to the amount rescinded is hereby appropriated, to remain available until expended, for the purposes set forth under this heading, in addition to amounts otherwise available.

#### PUBLIC HOUSING CAPITAL FUND

For the Public Housing Capital Fund Program to carry out capital and management activities for public housing agencies, as authorized under section 9 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437g) (the “Act”) \$1,875,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law or regulation, during fiscal year 2015 the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development may not delegate to any Department official other than the Deputy Secretary and the As-

sistant Secretary for Public and Indian Housing any authority under paragraph (2) of section 9(j) regarding the extension of the time periods under such section: *Provided further*, That for purposes of such section 9(j), the term “obligate” means, with respect to amounts, that the amounts are subject to a binding agreement that will result in outlays, immediately or in the future: *Provided further*, That up to \$5,000,000 shall be to support ongoing Public Housing Financial and Physical Assessment activities: *Provided further*, That up to \$3,000,000 shall be to support the costs of administrative and judicial receiverships: *Provided further*, That of the total amount provided under this heading, not to exceed \$23,000,000 shall be available for the Secretary to make grants, notwithstanding section 204 of this Act, to public housing agencies for emergency capital needs including safety and security measures necessary to address crime and drug-related activity as well as needs resulting from unforeseen or unpreventable emergencies and natural disasters excluding Presidentially declared emergencies and natural disasters under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.) occurring in fiscal year 2015: *Provided further*, That of the amount made available under the previous proviso, not less than \$6,000,000 shall be for safety and security measures: *Provided further*, That of the total amount provided under this heading \$45,000,000 shall be for supportive services, service coordinator and congregate services as authorized by section 34 of the Act (42 U.S.C. 1437z-6) and the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4101 et seq.): *Provided further*, That of the total amount made available under this heading, up to \$15,000,000 may be used for incentives as part of a Jobs-Plus Pilot initiative modeled after the Jobs-Plus demonstration: *Provided further*, That the funding provided under the previous proviso shall provide competitive grants to partnerships between public housing authorities, local workforce investment boards established under section 117 of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998, and other agencies and organizations that provide support to help public housing residents obtain employment and increase earnings: *Provided further*, That applicants must demonstrate the ability to provide services to residents, partner with workforce investment boards, and leverage service dollars: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may set aside a portion of the funds provided for the Resident Opportunity and Self-Sufficiency program to support the services element of the Jobs-Plus Pilot initiative: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may allow PHAs to request exemptions from rent and income limitation requirements under sections 3 and 6 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 as necessary to implement the Jobs-Plus program, on such terms and conditions as the Secretary may approve upon a finding by the Secretary that any such waivers or alternative requirements are necessary for the effective implementation of the Jobs-Plus Pilot initiative as a voluntary program for residents: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall publish by notice in the Federal Register any waivers or alternative requirements pursuant to the preceding proviso no later than 10 days before the effective date of such notice: *Provided further*, That for funds provided under this heading, the limitation in section 9(g)(1) of the Act shall be 25 percent: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may waive the limitation in the previous proviso to allow public

housing agencies to fund activities authorized under section 9(e)(1)(C) of the Act: *Provided further*, That from the funds made available under this heading, the Secretary shall provide bonus awards in fiscal year 2015 to public housing agencies that are designated high performers: *Provided further*, That the Department shall notify public housing agencies of their formula allocation within 60 days of enactment of this Act.

#### PUBLIC HOUSING OPERATING FUND

For 2015 payments to public housing agencies for the operation and management of public housing, as authorized by section 9(e) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437g(e)), \$4,440,000,000.

#### CHOICE NEIGHBORHOODS INITIATIVE

For competitive grants under the Choice Neighborhoods Initiative (subject to section 24 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437v), unless otherwise specified under this heading), for transformation, rehabilitation, and replacement housing needs of both public and HUD-assisted housing and to transform neighborhoods of poverty into functioning, sustainable mixed income neighborhoods with appropriate services, schools, public assets, transportation and access to jobs, \$80,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2017: *Provided*, That grant funds may be used for resident and community services, community development, and affordable housing needs in the community, and for conversion of vacant or foreclosed properties to affordable housing: *Provided further*, That the use of funds made available under this heading shall not be deemed to be public housing notwithstanding section 3(b)(1) of such Act: *Provided further*, That grantees shall commit to an additional period of affordability determined by the Secretary of not fewer than 20 years: *Provided further*, That grantees shall undertake comprehensive local planning with input from residents and the community, and that grantees shall provide a match in State, local, other Federal or private funds: *Provided further*, That grantees may include local governments, tribal entities, public housing authorities, and nonprofits: *Provided further*, That for-profit developers may apply jointly with a public entity: *Provided further*, That for purposes of environmental review, a grantee shall be treated as a public housing agency under section 26 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437x), and grants under this heading shall be subject to the regulations issued by the Secretary to implement such section: *Provided further*, That of the amount provided, not less than \$50,000,000 shall be awarded to public housing authorities: *Provided further*, That such grantees shall create partnerships with other local organizations including assisted housing owners, service agencies, and resident organizations: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall consult with the Secretaries of Education, Labor, Transportation, Health and Human Services, Agriculture, and Commerce, the Attorney General, and the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to coordinate and leverage other appropriate Federal resources: *Provided further*, That no more than \$5,000,000 of funds made available under this heading may be provided to assist communities in developing comprehensive strategies for implementing this program or implementing other revitalization efforts in conjunction with community notice and input: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall develop and publish guidelines for the use of such competitive funds, including but not limited to eligible

activities, program requirements, and performance metrics: *Provided further*, That unobligated balances, including recaptures, remaining from funds appropriated under the heading “Revitalization of Severely Distressed Public Housing (HOPE VI)” in fiscal year 2011 and prior fiscal years may be used for purposes under this heading, notwithstanding the purposes for which such amounts were appropriated.

#### FAMILY SELF-SUFFICIENCY

For the Family Self-Sufficiency program to support family self-sufficiency coordinators under section 23 of the United States Housing Act of 1937, to promote the development of local strategies to coordinate the use of assistance under sections 8(o) and 9 of such Act with public and private resources, and enable eligible families to achieve economic independence and self-sufficiency, \$75,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That the Secretary may, by Federal Register notice, waive or specify alternative requirements under sections b(3), b(4), b(5), or c(1) of section 23 of such Act in order to facilitate the operation of a unified self-sufficiency program for individuals receiving assistance under different provisions of the Act, as determined by the Secretary: *Provided further*, That owners of a privately owned multifamily property with a section 8 contract may voluntarily make a Family Self-Sufficiency program available to the assisted tenants of such property in accordance with procedures established by the Secretary: *Provided further*, That such procedures established pursuant to the previous proviso shall permit participating tenants to accrue escrow funds in accordance with section 23(d)(2) and shall allow owners to use funding from residual receipt accounts to hire coordinators for their own Family Self-Sufficiency program: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may carry out a demonstration testing the effectiveness of combining vouchers for homeless youth under the Family Unification Program authorized under section 8(x) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437 et seq.) (“the Act” herein) with assistance under the Family Self-Sufficiency program authorized under section 23 of the Act: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may establish alternative requirements to those contained in section 8(x) of the Act to facilitate such a demonstration: *Provided further*, That any public housing agency that has existing Family Unification Program vouchers and an established Family Self-Sufficiency program may participate in such demonstration provided that they can demonstrate (1) an agreement with the public child welfare agency or agencies to serve the target population; (2) capacity to serve the target population; (3) the success of the agency’s existing Family Self-Sufficiency program in serving residents; (4) partnerships with local organizations that serve homeless youth; and (5) any other factors established by the Secretary: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall monitor and evaluate the demonstration and report on whether the demonstration helped homeless youth achieve self-sufficiency.

#### NATIVE AMERICAN HOUSING BLOCK GRANTS

For the Native American Housing Block Grants program, as authorized under title I of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (NAHASDA) (25 U.S.C. 4111 et seq.), \$650,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That, notwithstanding the Native American Housing As-

sistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996, to determine the amount of the allocation under title I of such Act for each Indian tribe, the Secretary shall apply the formula under section 302 of such Act with the need component based on single-race census data and with the need component based on multi-race census data, and the amount of the allocation for each Indian tribe shall be the greater of the two resulting allocation amounts: *Provided further*, That of the amounts made available under this heading, \$3,500,000 shall be contracted for assistance for national or regional organizations representing Native American housing interests for providing training and technical assistance to Indian housing authorities and tribally designated housing entities as authorized under NAHASDA: *Provided further*, That of the funds made available under the previous proviso, not less than \$2,000,000 shall be made available for a national organization as authorized under section 703 of NAHASDA (25 U.S.C. 4212): *Provided further*, That of the amounts made available under this heading, \$2,000,000 shall be to support the inspection of Indian housing units, contract expertise, training, and technical assistance in the training, oversight, and management of such Indian housing and tenant-based assistance, including up to \$300,000 for related travel: *Provided further*, That of the amount provided under this heading, \$2,000,000 shall be made available for the cost of guaranteed notes and other obligations, as authorized by title VI of NAHASDA: *Provided further*, That such costs, including the costs of modifying such notes and other obligations, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, as amended: *Provided further*, That these funds are available to subsidize the total principal amount of any notes and other obligations, any part of which is to be guaranteed, not to exceed \$16,530,000: *Provided further*, That the Department will notify grantees of their formula allocation within 60 days of the date of enactment of this Act.

#### NATIVE HAWAIIAN HOUSING BLOCK GRANT

For the Native Hawaiian Housing Block Grant program, as authorized under title VIII of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4111 et seq.), \$9,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That of this amount, \$300,000 shall be for training and technical assistance activities, including up to \$100,000 for related travel by Hawaii-based employees of the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

#### INDIAN HOUSING LOAN GUARANTEE FUND PROGRAM ACCOUNT

For the cost of guaranteed loans, as authorized by section 184 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992 (12 U.S.C. 1715z–13a), \$7,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That such costs, including the costs of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974: *Provided further*, That these funds are available to subsidize total loan principal, any part of which is to be guaranteed, up to \$744,047,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That up to \$750,000 of this amount may be for administrative contract expenses including management processes and systems to carry out the loan guarantee program.

#### NATIVE HAWAIIAN HOUSING LOAN GUARANTEE FUND PROGRAM ACCOUNT

For the cost of guaranteed loans, as authorized by section 184A of the Housing and

Community Development Act of 1992 (12 U.S.C. 1715z–13b) and for such costs for loans used for refinancing, \$100,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That such costs, including the costs of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974: *Provided further*, That these funds are available to subsidize total loan principal, any part of which is to be guaranteed, up to \$16,130,000, to remain available until expended.

#### COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PERSONS WITH AIDS

For carrying out the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS program, as authorized by the AIDS Housing Opportunity Act (42 U.S.C. 12901 et seq.), \$330,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016, except that amounts allocated pursuant to section 854(c)(3) of such Act shall remain available until September 30, 2017: *Provided*, That the Secretary shall renew all expiring contracts for permanent supportive housing that initially were funded under section 854(c)(3) of such Act from funds made available under this heading in fiscal year 2010 and prior fiscal years that meet all program requirements before awarding funds for new contracts under such section: *Provided further*, That the Department shall notify grantees of their formula allocation within 60 days of enactment of this Act.

#### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUND

For assistance to units of State and local government, and to other entities, for economic and community development activities, and for other purposes, \$3,066,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2017, unless otherwise specified: *Provided*, That of the total amount provided, \$3,000,000,000 is for carrying out the community development block grant program under title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended (the “Act” herein) (42 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.): *Provided further*, That unless explicitly provided for under this heading, not to exceed 20 percent of any grant made with funds appropriated under this heading shall be expended for planning and management development and administration: *Provided further*, That a metropolitan city, urban county, unit of general local government, or Indian tribe, or insular area that directly or indirectly receives funds under this heading may not sell, trade, or otherwise transfer all or any portion of such funds to another such entity in exchange for any other funds, credits or non-Federal considerations, but must use such funds for activities eligible under title I of the Act: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding section 105(e)(1) of the Act, no funds provided under this heading may be provided to a for-profit entity for an economic development project under section 105(a)(17) unless such project has been evaluated and selected in accordance with guidelines required under subparagraph (e)(2): *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available under this heading may be used for grants for the Economic Development Initiative (“EDI”) or Neighborhood Initiatives activities, Rural Innovation Fund, or for grants pursuant to section 107 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5307): *Provided further*, That the Department shall notify grantees of their formula allocation within 60 days of enactment of this Act: *Provided further*, That \$66,000,000 shall be for grants to Indian tribes notwithstanding section 106(a)(1) of such Act, of which, notwithstanding any other provision of law (including section 204 of this



Act), up to \$3,960,000 may be used for emergencies that constitute imminent threats to health and safety: *Provided further*, That of the amounts made available under the previous proviso, \$6,000,000 shall be for grants for mold remediation and prevention that shall be awarded through one national competition to Native American tribes with the greatest need.

#### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT LOAN GUARANTEES PROGRAM ACCOUNT

Subject to section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, during fiscal year 2015, commitments to guarantee loans under section 108 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5308), any part of which is guaranteed, shall not exceed a total principal amount of \$500,000,000, notwithstanding any aggregate limitation on outstanding obligations guaranteed in subsection (k) of such section 108: *Provided*, That the Secretary shall collect fees from borrowers, notwithstanding subsection (m) of such section 108, to result in a credit subsidy cost of zero for guaranteeing such loans, and any such fees shall be collected in accordance with section 502(7) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

#### HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIPS PROGRAM

For the HOME investment partnerships program, as authorized under title II of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act, as amended, \$900,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That notwithstanding the amount made available under this heading, the threshold reduction requirements in sections 216(10) and 217(b)(4) of such Act shall not apply to allocations of such amount: *Provided further*, That the requirements under provisos 2 through 6 under this heading for fiscal year 2012 and such requirements applicable pursuant to the “Full-Year Continuing Appropriations Act, 2013”, shall not apply to any project to which funds were committed on or after August 23, 2013, but such projects shall instead be governed by the Final Rule titled “Home Investment Partnerships Program; Improving Performance and Accountability; Updating Property Standards” which became effective on such date: *Provided further*, That the Department shall notify grantees of their formula allocation within 60 days of enactment of this Act.

#### SELF-HELP AND ASSISTED HOMEOWNERSHIP OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM

For the Self-Help and Assisted Homeownership Opportunity Program, as authorized under section 11 of the Housing Opportunity Program Extension Act of 1996, as amended, \$50,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2017: *Provided*, That of the total amount provided under this heading, \$10,000,000 shall be made available to the Self-Help and Assisted Homeownership Opportunity Program as authorized under section 11 of the Housing Opportunity Program Extension Act of 1996, as amended: *Provided further*, That \$35,000,000 shall be made available for the second, third, and fourth capacity building activities authorized under section 4(a) of the HUD Demonstration Act of 1993 (42 U.S.C. 9816 note), of which not less than \$5,000,000 shall be made available for rural capacity building activities: *Provided further*, That \$5,000,000 shall be made available for capacity building by national rural housing organizations with experience assessing national rural conditions and providing financing, training, technical assistance, information, and research to local nonprofits, local governments and Indian Tribes serving high need rural communities.

#### HOMELESS ASSISTANCE GRANTS

For the emergency solutions grants program as authorized under subtitle B of title IV of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, as amended; the continuum of care program as authorized under subtitle C of title IV of such Act; and the rural housing stability assistance program as authorized under subtitle D of title IV of such Act, \$2,135,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2017: *Provided*, That any rental assistance amounts that are recaptured under such continuum of care program shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That not less than \$250,000,000 of the funds appropriated under this heading shall be available for such emergency solutions grants program: *Provided further*, That not less than \$1,862,000,000 of the funds appropriated under this heading shall be available for such continuum of care and rural housing stability assistance programs: *Provided further*, That up to \$7,000,000 of the funds appropriated under this heading shall be available for the national homeless data analysis project: *Provided further*, That all funds awarded for supportive services under the continuum of care program and the rural housing stability assistance program shall be matched by not less than 25 percent in cash or in kind by each grantee: *Provided further*, That for all match requirements applicable to funds made available under this heading for this fiscal year and prior years, a grantee may use (or could have used) as a source of match funds other funds administered by the Secretary and other Federal agencies unless there is (or was) a specific statutory prohibition on any such use of any such funds: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may renew on an annual basis expiring contracts or amendments to contracts funded under the continuum of care program if the program is determined to be needed under the applicable continuum of care and meets appropriate program requirements, performance measures, and financial standards, as determined by the Secretary: *Provided further*, That all awards of assistance under this heading shall be required to coordinate and integrate homeless programs with other mainstream health, social services, and employment programs for which homeless populations may be eligible: *Provided further*, That with respect to funds provided under this heading for the continuum of care program for fiscal years 2012, 2013, 2014, and 2015 provision of permanent housing rental assistance may be administered by private nonprofit organizations: *Provided further*, That the Department shall notify grantees of their formula allocation from amounts allocated (which may represent initial or final amounts allocated) for the emergency solutions grant program within 60 days of enactment of this Act.

#### HOUSING PROGRAMS

##### PROJECT-BASED RENTAL ASSISTANCE

For activities and assistance for the provision of project-based subsidy contracts under the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437 et seq.) (“the Act”), not otherwise provided for, \$9,330,000,000, to remain available until expended, shall be available on October 1, 2014 (in addition to the \$400,000,000 previously appropriated under this heading that became available October 1, 2014), and \$400,000,000, to remain available until expended, shall be available on October 1, 2015: *Provided*, That the amounts made available under this heading shall be available for expiring or terminating section 8 project-based subsidy contracts (including section 8 moderate rehabilitation contracts),

for amendments to section 8 project-based subsidy contracts (including section 8 moderate rehabilitation contracts), for contracts entered into pursuant to section 441 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11401), for renewal of section 8 contracts for units in projects that are subject to approved plans of action under the Emergency Low Income Housing Preservation Act of 1987 or the Low-Income Housing Preservation and Resident Homeownership Act of 1990, and for administrative and other expenses associated with project-based activities and assistance funded under this paragraph: *Provided further*, That of the total amounts provided under this heading, not to exceed \$210,000,000 shall be available for performance-based contract administrators for section 8 project-based assistance, for carrying out 42 U.S.C. 1437(f): *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development may also use such amounts in the previous proviso for performance-based contract administrators for the administration of: interest reduction payments pursuant to section 236(a) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1715z-1(a)); rent supplement payments pursuant to section 101 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1965 (12 U.S.C. 1701s); section 236(f)(2) rental assistance payments (12 U.S.C. 1715z-1(f)(2)); project rental assistance contracts for the elderly under section 202(c)(2) of the Housing Act of 1959 (12 U.S.C. 1701q); project rental assistance contracts for supportive housing for persons with disabilities under section 811(d)(2) of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 8013(d)(2)); project assistance contracts pursuant to section 202(h) of the Housing Act of 1959 (Public Law 86-372; 73 Stat. 667); and loans under section 202 of the Housing Act of 1959 (Public Law 86-372; 73 Stat. 667): *Provided further*, That amounts recaptured under this heading, the heading “Annual Contributions for Assisted Housing”, or the heading “Housing Certificate Fund”, may be used for renewals of or amendments to section 8 project-based contracts or for performance-based contract administrators, notwithstanding the purposes for which such amounts were appropriated: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, upon the request of the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, project funds that are held in residual receipts accounts for any project subject to a section 8 project-based Housing Assistance Payments contract that authorizes HUD or a Housing Finance Agency to require that surplus project funds be deposited in an interest-bearing residual receipts account and that are in excess of an amount to be determined by the Secretary, shall be remitted to the Department and deposited in this account, to be available until expended: *Provided further*, That amounts deposited pursuant to the previous proviso shall be available in addition to the amount otherwise provided by this heading for uses authorized under this heading.

##### HOUSING FOR THE ELDERLY

For amendments to capital advance contracts for housing for the elderly, as authorized by section 202 of the Housing Act of 1959, as amended, and for project rental assistance for the elderly under section 202(c)(2) of such Act, including amendments to contracts for such assistance and renewal of expiring contracts for such assistance for up to a 1-year term, and for senior preservation rental assistance contracts, including renewals, as authorized by section 811(e) of the American Housing and Economic Opportunity Act of 2000, as amended, and for supportive services

associated with the housing, \$420,000,000 to remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That of the amount provided under this heading, up to \$70,000,000 shall be for service coordinators and the continuation of existing congregate service grants for residents of assisted housing projects: *Provided further*, That amounts under this heading shall be available for Real Estate Assessment Center inspections and inspection-related activities associated with section 202 projects: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may waive the provisions of section 202 governing the terms and conditions of project rental assistance, except that the initial contract term for such assistance shall not exceed 5 years in duration: *Provided further*, That upon request of the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, project funds that are held in residual receipts accounts for any project subject to a section 202 project rental assistance contract, and that upon termination of such contract are in excess of an amount to be determined by the Secretary, up to \$16,000,000 in any such excess amounts shall be remitted to the Department and deposited in this account, to be available until September 30, 2018, for purposes under this heading, and shall be in addition to the amounts otherwise provided under this heading for such purposes.

#### HOUSING FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

For amendments to capital advance contracts for supportive housing for persons with disabilities, as authorized by section 811 of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 8013), for project rental assistance for supportive housing for persons with disabilities under section 811(d)(2) of such Act and for project assistance contracts pursuant to section 202(h) of the Housing Act of 1959 (Public Law 86-372; 73 Stat. 667), including amendments to contracts for such assistance and renewal of expiring contracts for such assistance for up to a 1-year term, for project rental assistance to State housing finance agencies and other appropriate entities as authorized under section 811(b)(3) of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Housing Act, and for supportive services associated with the housing for persons with disabilities as authorized by section 811(b)(1) of such Act, \$135,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That amounts made available under this heading shall be available for Real Estate Assessment Center inspections and inspection-related activities associated with section 811 projects: *Provided further*, That, in this fiscal year, upon the request of the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, project funds that are held in residual receipts accounts for any project subject to a section 811 project rental assistance contract and that upon termination of such contract are in excess of an amount to be determined by the Secretary shall be remitted to the Department and deposited in this account, to be available until September 30, 2018: *Provided further*, That amounts deposited in this account pursuant to the previous proviso shall be available in addition to the amounts otherwise provided by this heading for the purposes authorized under this heading: *Provided further*, That unobligated balances, including recaptures and carryover, remaining from funds transferred to or appropriated under this heading may be used for the current purposes authorized under this heading notwithstanding the purposes for which such funds originally were appropriated.

#### HOUSING COUNSELING ASSISTANCE

For contracts, grants, and other assistance excluding loans, as authorized under section

106 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968, as amended, \$47,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016, including up to \$4,500,000 for administrative contract services: *Provided*, That grants made available from amounts provided under this heading shall be awarded within 180 days of enactment of this Act: *Provided further*, That funds shall be used for providing counseling and advice to tenants and homeowners, both current and prospective, with respect to property maintenance, financial management/literacy, and such other matters as may be appropriate to assist them in improving their housing conditions, meeting their financial needs, and fulfilling the responsibilities of tenancy or homeownership; for program administration; and for housing counselor training: *Provided further*, That for purposes of providing such grants from amounts provided under this heading, the Secretary may enter into multiyear agreements as is appropriate, subject to the availability of annual appropriations.

#### RENTAL HOUSING ASSISTANCE

For amendments to contracts under section 101 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1965 (12 U.S.C. 1701s) and section 236(f)(2) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1715z-1) in State-aided, noninsured rental housing projects, \$18,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That such amount, together with unobligated balances from recaptured amounts appropriated prior to fiscal year 2006 from terminated contracts under such sections of law, and any unobligated balances, including recaptures and carryover, remaining from funds appropriated under this heading after fiscal year 2005, shall also be available for extensions of up to one year for expiring contracts under such sections of law.

#### PAYMENT TO MANUFACTURED HOUSING FEES TRUST FUND

For necessary expenses as authorized by the National Manufactured Housing Construction and Safety Standards Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5401 et seq.), up to \$10,000,000, to remain available until expended, of which \$10,000,000 is to be derived from the Manufactured Housing Fees Trust Fund: *Provided*, That not to exceed the total amount appropriated under this heading shall be available from the general fund of the Treasury to the extent necessary to incur obligations and make expenditures pending the receipt of collections to the Fund pursuant to section 620 of such Act: *Provided further*, That the amount made available under this heading from the general fund shall be reduced as such collections are received during fiscal year 2015 so as to result in a final fiscal year 2015 appropriation from the general fund estimated at zero, and fees pursuant to such section 620 shall be modified as necessary to ensure such a final fiscal year 2015 appropriation: *Provided further*, That for the dispute resolution and installation programs, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development may assess and collect fees from any program participant: *Provided further*, That such collections shall be deposited into the Fund, and the Secretary, as provided herein, may use such collections, as well as fees collected under section 620, for necessary expenses of such Act: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding the requirements of section 620 of such Act, the Secretary may carry out responsibilities of the Secretary under such Act through the use of approved service providers that are paid directly by the recipients of their services.

#### FEDERAL HOUSING ADMINISTRATION MUTUAL MORTGAGE INSURANCE PROGRAM ACCOUNT

New commitments to guarantee single family loans insured under the Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund shall not exceed \$400,000,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That during fiscal year 2015, obligations to make direct loans to carry out the purposes of section 204(g) of the National Housing Act, as amended, shall not exceed \$20,000,000: *Provided further*, That the foregoing amount in the previous proviso shall be for loans to nonprofit and governmental entities in connection with sales of single family real properties owned by the Secretary and formerly insured under the Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund: *Provided further*, That for administrative contract expenses of the Federal Housing Administration, \$130,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided further*, That to the extent guaranteed loan commitments exceed \$200,000,000,000 on or before April 1, 2015, an additional \$1,400 for administrative contract expenses shall be available for each \$1,000,000 in additional guaranteed loan commitments (including a pro rata amount for any amount below \$1,000,000), but in no case shall funds made available by this proviso exceed \$30,000,000.

#### GENERAL AND SPECIAL RISK PROGRAM ACCOUNT (INCLUDING RESCISSION)

New commitments to guarantee loans insured under the General and Special Risk Insurance Funds, as authorized by sections 238 and 519 of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1715z-3 and 1735c), shall not exceed \$30,000,000,000 in total loan principal, any part of which is to be guaranteed, to remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That during fiscal year 2015, gross obligations for the principal amount of direct loans, as authorized by sections 204(g), 207(1), 238, and 519(a) of the National Housing Act, shall not exceed \$20,000,000, which shall be for loans to nonprofit and governmental entities in connection with the sale of single family real properties owned by the Secretary and formerly insured under such Act: *Provided further*, That \$10,000,000 previously provided under this heading is hereby permanently rescinded.

#### GOVERNMENT NATIONAL MORTGAGE ASSOCIATION

#### GUARANTEES OF MORTGAGE-BACKED SECURITIES LOAN GUARANTEE PROGRAM ACCOUNT

New commitments to issue guarantees to carry out the purposes of section 306 of the National Housing Act, as amended (12 U.S.C. 1721(g)), shall not exceed \$500,000,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That \$23,000,000 shall be available for necessary salaries and expenses of the Office of Government National Mortgage Association: *Provided further*, That to the extent that guaranteed loan commitments will and do exceed \$155,000,000,000 on or before April 1, 2015, an additional \$100 for necessary salaries and expenses shall be available until expended for each \$1,000,000 in additional guaranteed loan commitments (including a pro rata amount for any amount below \$1,000,000), but in no case shall funds made available by this proviso exceed \$3,000,000: *Provided further*, That receipts from Commitment and Multiclass fees collected pursuant to title III of the National Housing Act, as amended, shall be credited as offsetting collections to this account.

#### POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND RESEARCH RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY

For contracts, grants, and necessary expenses of programs of research and studies



relating to housing and urban problems, not otherwise provided for, as authorized by title V of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1970 (12 U.S.C. 1701z-1 et seq.), including carrying out the functions of the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development under section 1(a)(1)(i) of Reorganization Plan No. 2 of 1968, and for technical assistance, \$72,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016, of which \$22,000,000 shall be for technical assistance: *Provided*, That with respect to amounts made available under this heading, notwithstanding section 204 of this title, the Secretary may enter into cooperative agreements funded with philanthropic entities, other Federal agencies, or State or local governments and their agencies for research projects: *Provided further*, That with respect to the previous proviso, such partners to the cooperative agreements must contribute at least a 50 percent match toward the cost of the project: *Provided further*, That for non-competitive agreements entered into in accordance with the previous two provisos, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall comply with section 2(b) of the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (Public Law 109-282, 31 U.S.C. note) in lieu of compliance with section 102(a)(4)(C) with respect to documentation of award decisions: *Provided further*, That prior to obligation of technical assistance funding, the Secretary shall submit a plan, for approval, to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations on how it will allocate funding for this activity.

#### FAIR HOUSING AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

##### FAIR HOUSING ACTIVITIES

For contracts, grants, and other assistance, not otherwise provided for, as authorized by title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, as amended by the Fair Housing Amendments Act of 1988, and section 561 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1987, as amended, \$65,300,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016, of which \$40,100,000 shall be to carry out activities pursuant to such section 561: *Provided*, That notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3302, the Secretary may assess and collect fees to cover the costs of the Fair Housing Training Academy, and may use such funds to provide such training: *Provided further*, That no funds made available under this heading shall be used to lobby the executive or legislative branches of the Federal Government in connection with a specific contract, grant, or loan: *Provided further*, That of the funds made available under this heading, \$300,000 shall be available to the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development for the creation and promotion of translated materials and other programs that support the assistance of persons with limited English proficiency in utilizing the services provided by the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

#### OFFICE OF LEAD HAZARD CONTROL AND HEALTHY HOMES

##### LEAD HAZARD REDUCTION

For the Lead Hazard Reduction Program, as authorized by section 1011 of the Residential Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction Act of 1992, \$110,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That up to \$15,000,000 of that amount shall be for the Healthy Homes Initiative, pursuant to sections 501 and 502 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1970 that shall include research, studies, testing, and demonstration efforts, including education and outreach concerning lead-based paint poisoning and other housing-related diseases and hazards:

*Provided further*, That for purposes of environmental review, pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) and other provisions of the law that further the purposes of such Act, a grant under the Healthy Homes Initiative, or the Lead Technical Studies program under this heading or under prior appropriations Acts for such purposes under this heading, shall be considered to be funds for a special project for purposes of section 305(c) of the Multifamily Housing Property Disposition Reform Act of 1994: *Provided further*, That of the total amount made available under this heading, \$45,000,000 shall be made available on a competitive basis for areas with the highest lead paint abatement needs: *Provided further*, That each recipient of funds provided under the third proviso shall make a matching contribution in an amount not less than 25 percent: *Provided further*, That each applicant shall certify adequate capacity that is acceptable to the Secretary to carry out the proposed use of funds pursuant to a notice of funding availability: *Provided further*, That amounts made available under this heading in this or prior appropriations Acts, and that still remain available, may be used for any purpose under this heading notwithstanding the purpose for which such amounts were appropriated if a program competition is undersubscribed and there are other program competitions under this heading that are oversubscribed.

#### INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY FUND

For the development of, modifications to, and infrastructure for Department-wide and program-specific information technology systems, for the continuing operation and maintenance of both Department-wide and program-specific information systems, and for program-related maintenance activities, \$250,000,000, which shall remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That any amounts transferred to this Fund under this Act shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That any amounts transferred to this Fund from amounts appropriated by previously enacted appropriations Acts may be used for the purposes specified under this Fund, in addition to any other information technology purposes for which such amounts were appropriated.

#### OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary salaries and expenses of the Office of Inspector General in carrying out the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, \$126,000,000: *Provided*, That the Inspector General shall have independent authority over all personnel issues within this office.

#### GENERAL PROVISIONS—DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

##### (INCLUDING RESCISSIONS)

SEC. 201. Fifty percent of the amounts of budget authority, or in lieu thereof 50 percent of the cash amounts associated with such budget authority, that are recaptured from projects described in section 1012(a) of the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Amendments Act of 1988 (42 U.S.C. 1437 note) shall be rescinded or in the case of cash, shall be remitted to the Treasury, and such amounts of budget authority or cash recaptured and not rescinded or remitted to the Treasury shall be used by State housing finance agencies or local governments or local housing agencies with projects approved by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development for which settlement occurred after January 1, 1992, in accordance with such section. Notwithstanding the pre-

vious sentence, the Secretary may award up to 15 percent of the budget authority or cash recaptured and not rescinded or remitted to the Treasury to provide project owners with incentives to refinance their project at a lower interest rate.

SEC. 202. None of the amounts made available under this Act may be used during fiscal year 2015 to investigate or prosecute under the Fair Housing Act any otherwise lawful activity engaged in by one or more persons, including the filing or maintaining of a non-frivolous legal action, that is engaged in solely for the purpose of achieving or preventing action by a Government official or entity, or a court of competent jurisdiction.

SEC. 203. Sections 203 and 209 of division C of Public Law 112-55 (125 Stat. 693-694) shall apply during fiscal year 2015 as if such sections were included in this title, except that during such fiscal year such sections shall be applied by substituting “fiscal year 2015” for “fiscal year 2011” and for “fiscal year 2012” each place such terms appear, and shall be amended to reflect revised delineations of statistical areas established by the Office of Management and Budget pursuant to 44 U.S.C. 3504(e)(3), 31 U.S.C. 1104(d), and Executive Order No. 10253.

SEC. 204. Except as explicitly provided in law, any grant, cooperative agreement or other assistance made pursuant to title II of this Act shall be made on a competitive basis and in accordance with section 102 of the Department of Housing and Urban Development Reform Act of 1989 (42 U.S.C. 3545).

SEC. 205. Funds of the Department of Housing and Urban Development subject to the Government Corporation Control Act or section 402 of the Housing Act of 1950 shall be available, without regard to the limitations on administrative expenses, for legal services on a contract or fee basis, and for utilizing and making payment for services and facilities of the Federal National Mortgage Association, Government National Mortgage Association, Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, Federal Financing Bank, Federal Reserve banks or any member thereof, Federal Home Loan banks, and any insured bank within the meaning of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation Act, as amended (12 U.S.C. 1811-1).

SEC. 206. Unless otherwise provided for in this Act or through a reprogramming of funds, no part of any appropriation for the Department of Housing and Urban Development shall be available for any program, project or activity in excess of amounts set forth in the budget estimates submitted to Congress.

SEC. 207. Corporations and agencies of the Department of Housing and Urban Development which are subject to the Government Corporation Control Act are hereby authorized to make such expenditures, within the limits of funds and borrowing authority available to each such corporation or agency and in accordance with law, and to make such contracts and commitments without regard to fiscal year limitations as provided by section 104 of such Act as may be necessary in carrying out the programs set forth in the budget for 2015 for such corporation or agency except as hereinafter provided: *Provided*, That collections of these corporations and agencies may be used for new loan or mortgage purchase commitments only to the extent expressly provided for in this Act (unless such loans are in support of other forms of assistance provided for in this or prior appropriations Acts), except that this proviso shall not apply to the mortgage insurance or guaranty operations of these corporations,

or where loans or mortgage purchases are necessary to protect the financial interest of the United States Government.

SEC. 208. The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall provide quarterly reports to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations regarding all uncommitted, unobligated, recaptured and excess funds in each program and activity within the jurisdiction of the Department and shall submit additional, updated budget information to these Committees upon request.

SEC. 209. The President's formal budget request for fiscal year 2016, as well as the Department of Housing and Urban Development's congressional budget justifications to be submitted to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, shall use the identical account and sub-account structure provided under this Act.

SEC. 210. A public housing agency or such other entity that administers Federal housing assistance for the Housing Authority of the county of Los Angeles, California, and the States of Alaska, Iowa, and Mississippi shall not be required to include a resident of public housing or a recipient of assistance provided under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 on the board of directors or a similar governing board of such agency or entity as required under section 2(b) of such Act. Each public housing agency or other entity that administers Federal housing assistance under section 8 for the Housing Authority of the county of Los Angeles, California and the States of Alaska, Iowa and Mississippi that chooses not to include a resident of public housing or a recipient of section 8 assistance on the board of directors or a similar governing board shall establish an advisory board of not less than six residents of public housing or recipients of section 8 assistance to provide advice and comment to the public housing agency or other administering entity on issues related to public housing and section 8. Such advisory board shall meet not less than quarterly.

SEC. 211. No funds provided under this title may be used for an audit of the Government National Mortgage Association that makes applicable requirements under the Federal Credit Reform Act of 1990 (2 U.S.C. 661 et seq.).

SEC. 212. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, subject to the conditions listed under this section, for fiscal years 2015 and 2016, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development may authorize the transfer of some or all project-based assistance, debt held or insured by the Secretary and statutorily required low-income and very low-income use restrictions if any, associated with one or more multifamily housing project or projects to another multifamily housing project or projects.

(b) PHASED TRANSFERS.—Transfers of project-based assistance under this section may be done in phases to accommodate the financing and other requirements related to rehabilitating or constructing the project or projects to which the assistance is transferred, to ensure that such project or projects meet the standards under subsection (c).

(c) The transfer authorized in subsection (a) is subject to the following conditions:

(1) NUMBER AND BEDROOM SIZE OF UNITS.—

(A) For occupied units in the transferring project: the number of low-income and very low-income units and the configuration (i.e., bedroom size) provided by the transferring project shall be no less than when transferred to the receiving project or projects

and the net dollar amount of Federal assistance provided to the transferring project shall remain the same in the receiving project or projects.

(B) For unoccupied units in the transferring project: the Secretary may authorize a reduction in the number of dwelling units in the receiving project or projects to allow for a reconfiguration of bedroom sizes to meet current market demands, as determined by the Secretary and provided there is no increase in the project-based assistance budget authority.

(2) The transferring project shall, as determined by the Secretary, be either physically obsolete or economically nonviable.

(3) The receiving project or projects shall meet or exceed applicable physical standards established by the Secretary.

(4) The owner or mortgagor of the transferring project shall notify and consult with the tenants residing in the transferring project and provide a certification of approval by all appropriate local governmental officials.

(5) The tenants of the transferring project who remain eligible for assistance to be provided by the receiving project or projects shall not be required to vacate their units in the transferring project or projects until new units in the receiving project are available for occupancy.

(6) The Secretary determines that this transfer is in the best interest of the tenants.

(7) If either the transferring project or the receiving project or projects meets the condition specified in subsection (d)(2)(A), any lien on the receiving project resulting from additional financing obtained by the owner shall be subordinate to any FHA-insured mortgage lien transferred to, or placed on, such project by the Secretary, except that the Secretary may waive this requirement upon determination that such a waiver is necessary to facilitate the financing of acquisition, construction, and/or rehabilitation of the receiving project or projects.

(8) If the transferring project meets the requirements of subsection (d)(2), the owner or mortgagor of the receiving project or projects shall execute and record either a continuation of the existing use agreement or a new use agreement for the project where, in either case, any use restrictions in such agreement are of no lesser duration than the existing use restrictions.

(9) The transfer does not increase the cost (as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, as amended) of any FHA-insured mortgage, except to the extent that appropriations are provided in advance for the amount of any such increased cost.

(d) For purposes of this section—

(1) the terms "low-income" and "very low-income" shall have the meanings provided by the statute and/or regulations governing the program under which the project is insured or assisted;

(2) the term "multifamily housing project" means housing that meets one of the following conditions—

(A) housing that is subject to a mortgage insured under the National Housing Act;

(B) housing that has project-based assistance attached to the structure including projects undergoing mark to market debt restructuring under the Multifamily Assisted Housing Reform and Affordability Housing Act;

(C) housing that is assisted under section 202 of the Housing Act of 1959, as amended by section 801 of the Cranston-Gonzales National Affordable Housing Act;

(D) housing that is assisted under section 202 of the Housing Act of 1959, as such sec-

tion existed before the enactment of the Cranston-Gonzales National Affordable Housing Act;

(E) housing that is assisted under section 811 of the Cranston-Gonzales National Affordable Housing Act; or

(F) housing or vacant land that is subject to a use agreement;

(3) the term "project-based assistance" means—

(A) assistance provided under section 8(b) of the United States Housing Act of 1937;

(B) assistance for housing constructed or substantially rehabilitated pursuant to assistance provided under section 8(b)(2) of such Act (as such section existed immediately before October 1, 1983);

(C) rent supplement payments under section 101 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1965;

(D) interest reduction payments under section 236 and/or additional assistance payments under section 236(f)(2) of the National Housing Act;

(E) assistance payments made under section 202(c)(2) of the Housing Act of 1959; and

(F) assistance payments made under section 811(d)(2) of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act;

(4) the term "receiving project or projects" means the multifamily housing project or projects to which some or all of the project-based assistance, debt, and statutorily required low-income and very low-income use restrictions are to be transferred;

(5) the term "transferring project" means the multifamily housing project which is transferring some or all of the project-based assistance, debt, and the statutorily required low-income and very low-income use restrictions to the receiving project or projects; and

(6) the term "Secretary" means the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

(e) PUBLIC NOTICE AND RESEARCH REPORT.—

(1) The Secretary shall publish by notice in the Federal Register the terms and conditions, including criteria for HUD approval, of transfers pursuant to this section no later than 30 days before the effective date of such notice.

(2) The Secretary shall conduct an evaluation of the transfer authority under this section, including the effect of such transfers on the operational efficiency, contract rents, physical and financial conditions, and long-term preservation of the affected properties.

SEC. 213. (a) No assistance shall be provided under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f) to any individual who—

(1) is enrolled as a student at an institution of higher education (as defined under section 102 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1002));

(2) is under 24 years of age;

(3) is not a veteran;

(4) is unmarried;

(5) does not have a dependent child;

(6) is not a person with disabilities, as such term is defined in section 3(b)(3)(E) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437a(b)(3)(E)) and was not receiving assistance under such section 8 as of November 30, 2005; and

(7) is not otherwise individually eligible, or has parents who, individually or jointly, are not eligible, to receive assistance under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f).

(b) For purposes of determining the eligibility of a person to receive assistance under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f), any financial assistance

(in excess of amounts received for tuition and any other required fees and charges) that an individual receives under the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001 et seq.), from private sources, or an institution of higher education (as defined under the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1002)), shall be considered income to that individual, except for a person over the age of 23 with dependent children.

SEC. 214. The funds made available for Native Alaskans under the heading “Native American Housing Block Grants” in title II of this Act shall be allocated to the same Native Alaskan housing block grant recipients that received funds in fiscal year 2005.

SEC. 215. Notwithstanding the limitation in the first sentence of section 255(g) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1715z–20(g)), the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development may, until September 30, 2015, insure and enter into commitments to insure mortgages under such section 255.

SEC. 216. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in fiscal year 2015, in managing and disposing of any multifamily property that is owned or has a mortgage held by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, and during the process of foreclosure on any property with a contract for rental assistance payments under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 or other Federal programs, the Secretary shall maintain any rental assistance payments under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 and other programs that are attached to any dwelling units in the property. To the extent the Secretary determines, in consultation with the tenants and the local government, that such a multifamily property owned or held by the Secretary is not feasible for continued rental assistance payments under such section 8 or other programs, based on consideration of (1) the costs of rehabilitating and operating the property and all available Federal, State, and local resources, including rent adjustments under section 524 of the Multifamily Assisted Housing Reform and Affordability Act of 1997 (“MAHRAA”) and (2) environmental conditions that cannot be remedied in a cost-effective fashion, the Secretary may, in consultation with the tenants of that property, contract for project-based rental assistance payments with an owner or owners of other existing housing properties, or provide other rental assistance. The Secretary shall also take appropriate steps to ensure that project-based contracts remain in effect prior to foreclosure, subject to the exercise of contractual abatement remedies to assist relocation of tenants for imminent major threats to health and safety after written notice to and informed consent of the affected tenants and use of other available remedies, such as partial abatements or receivership. After disposition of any multifamily property described under this section, the contract and allowable rent levels on such properties shall be subject to the requirements under section 524 of MAHRAA.

SEC. 217. The commitment authority funded by fees as provided under the heading “Community Development Loan Guarantees Program Account” may be used to guarantee, or make commitments to guarantee, notes, or other obligations issued by any State on behalf of non-entitlement communities in the State in accordance with the requirements of section 108 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974: *Provided*, That any State receiving such a guarantee or commitment shall distribute all funds subject to such guarantee to the units

of general local government in non-entitlement areas that received the commitment.

SEC. 218. Public housing agencies that own and operate 400 or fewer public housing units may elect to be exempt from any asset management requirement imposed by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development in connection with the operating fund rule: *Provided*, That an agency seeking a discontinuance of a reduction of subsidy under the operating fund formula shall not be exempt from asset management requirements.

SEC. 219. With respect to the use of amounts provided in this Act and in future Acts for the operation, capital improvement and management of public housing as authorized by sections 9(d) and 9(e) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437g(d) and (e)), the Secretary shall not impose any requirement or guideline relating to asset management that restricts or limits in any way the use of capital funds for central office costs pursuant to section 9(g)(1) or 9(g)(2) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437g(g)(1), (2)): *Provided*, That a public housing agency may not use capital funds authorized under section 9(d) for activities that are eligible under section 9(e) for assistance with amounts from the operating fund in excess of the amounts permitted under section 9(g)(1) or 9(g)(2).

SEC. 220. No official or employee of the Department of Housing and Urban Development shall be designated as an allotment holder unless the Office of the Chief Financial Officer has determined that such allotment holder has implemented an adequate system of funds control and has received training in funds control procedures and directives. The Chief Financial Officer shall ensure that there is a trained allotment holder for each HUD sub-office under the accounts “Executive Offices” and “Administrative Support Offices,” as well as each account receiving appropriations for “Program Office Salaries and Expenses”, “Government National Mortgage Association—Guarantees of Mortgage-Backed Securities Loan Guarantee Program Account”, and “Office of Inspector General” within the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

SEC. 221. The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall report annually to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations on the status of all section 8 project-based housing, including the number of all project-based units by region as well as an analysis of all federally subsidized housing being refinanced under the Mark-to-Market program. The Secretary shall identify all existing units maintained by region as section 8 project-based units, all project-based units that have opted out or have otherwise been eliminated, and the reasons these units opted out or otherwise were lost as section 8 project-based units.

SEC. 222. The Secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development shall, for fiscal year 2015, notify the public through the Federal Register and other means, as determined appropriate, of the issuance of a notice of the availability of assistance or notice of funding availability (NOFA) for any program or discretionary fund administered by the Secretary that is to be competitively awarded. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, for fiscal year 2015, the Secretary may make the NOFA available only on the Internet at the appropriate Government Web site or through other electronic media, as determined by the Secretary.

SEC. 223. Payment of attorney fees in program-related litigation must be paid from the individual program office and Office of

General Counsel personnel funding. The annual budget submissions for program offices and Office of General Counsel personnel funding must include program-related litigation costs for attorney fees as a separate line item request.

SEC. 224. The Secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development is authorized to transfer up to 5 percent or \$5,000,000, whichever is less, of the funds appropriated for any office funded under the heading “Administrative Support Offices” to any other office funded under such heading: *Provided*, That no appropriation for any office funded under the heading “Administrative Support Offices” shall be increased or decreased by more than 5 percent or \$5,000,000, whichever is less, without prior written approval of the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That the Secretary is authorized to transfer up to 5 percent or \$5,000,000, whichever is less, of the funds appropriated for any account funded under the general heading “Program Office Salaries and Expenses” to any other account funded under such heading: *Provided further*, That no appropriation for any account funded under the general heading “Program Office Salaries and Expenses” shall be increased or decreased by more than 5 percent or \$5,000,000, whichever is less, without prior written approval of the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may transfer funds made available for salaries and expenses between any office funded under the heading “Administrative Support Offices” and any account funded under the general heading “Program Office Salaries and Expenses”, but only with the prior written approval of the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations.

SEC. 225. The Disaster Housing Assistance Programs, administered by the Department of Housing and Urban Development, shall be considered a “program of the Department of Housing and Urban Development” under section 904 of the McKinney Act for the purpose of income verifications and matching.

SEC. 226. (a) The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall take the required actions under subsection (b) when a multifamily housing project with a section 8 contract or contract for similar project-based assistance:

(1) receives a Real Estate Assessment Center (REAC) score of 30 or less; or

(2) receives a REAC score between 31 and 59 and:

(A) fails to certify in writing to HUD within 60 days that all deficiencies have been corrected; or

(B) receives consecutive scores of less than 60 on REAC inspections.

Such requirements shall apply to insured and noninsured projects with assistance attached to the units under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f), but do not apply to such units assisted under section 8(o)(13) (42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)(13)) or to public housing units assisted with capital or operating funds under section 9 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437g).

(b) The Secretary shall take the following required actions as authorized under subsection (a)—

(1) The Secretary shall notify the owner and provide an opportunity for response within 30 days. If the violations remain, the Secretary shall develop a Compliance, Disposition and Enforcement Plan within 60 days, with a specified timetable for correcting all deficiencies. The Secretary shall

provide notice of the Plan to the owner, tenants, the local government, any mortgagees, and any contract administrator.

(2) At the end of the term of the Compliance, Disposition and Enforcement Plan, if the owner fails to fully comply with such plan, the Secretary may require immediate replacement of project management with a management agent approved by the Secretary, and shall take one or more of the following actions, and provide additional notice of those actions to the owner and the parties specified above:

(A) impose civil money penalties;

(B) abate the section 8 contract, including partial abatement, as determined by the Secretary, until all deficiencies have been corrected;

(C) pursue transfer of the project to an owner, approved by the Secretary under established procedures, which will be obligated to promptly make all required repairs and to accept renewal of the assistance contract as long as such renewal is offered; or

(D) seek judicial appointment of a receiver to manage the property and cure all project deficiencies or seek a judicial order of specific performance requiring the owner to cure all project deficiencies.

(c) The Secretary shall also take appropriate steps to ensure that project-based contracts remain in effect, subject to the exercise of contractual abatement remedies to assist relocation of tenants for imminent major threats to health and safety after written notice to and informed consent of the affected tenants and use of other remedies set forth above. To the extent the Secretary determines, in consultation with the tenants and the local government, that the property is not feasible for continued rental assistance payments under such section 8 or other programs, based on consideration of (1) the costs of rehabilitating and operating the property and all available Federal, State, and local resources, including rent adjustments under section 524 of the Multifamily Assisted Housing Reform and Affordability Act of 1997 (“MAHRAA”) and (2) environmental conditions that cannot be remedied in a cost-effective fashion, the Secretary may, in consultation with the tenants of that property, contract for project-based rental assistance payments with an owner or owners of other existing housing properties, or provide other rental assistance. The Secretary shall report semi-annually on all properties covered by this section that are assessed through the Real Estate Assessment Center and have physical inspection scores of less than 30 or have consecutive physical inspection scores of less than 60. The report shall include:

(1) The enforcement actions being taken to address such conditions, including imposition of civil money penalties and termination of subsidies, and identify properties that have such conditions multiple times; and

(2) Actions that the Department of Housing and Urban Development is taking to protect tenants of such identified properties.

SEC. 227. None of the funds made available by this Act, or any other Act, for purposes authorized under section 8 (only with respect to the tenant-based rental assistance program) and section 9 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437 et seq.), may be used by any public housing agency for any amount of salary, including bonuses, for the chief executive officer of which, or any other official or employee of which, that exceeds the annual rate of basic pay payable for a position at level IV of the Executive

Schedule at any time during any public housing agency fiscal year 2015.

SEC. 228. None of the funds in this Act may be available for the doctoral dissertation research grant program at the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

SEC. 229. Section 24 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437v) is amended—

(1) in subsection (m)(1), by striking “fiscal year” and all that follows through the period at the end and inserting “fiscal year 2015.”; and

(2) in subsection (o), by striking “September” and all that follows through the period at the end and inserting “September 30, 2015.”.

SEC. 230. None of the funds in this Act provided to the Department of Housing and Urban Development may be used to make a grant award unless the Secretary notifies the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations not less than 3 full business days before any project, State, locality, housing authority, tribe, nonprofit organization, or other entity selected to receive a grant award is announced by the Department or its offices.

SEC. 231. Of the amounts made available for salaries and expenses under all accounts under this title (except for the Office of Inspector General account), a total of up to \$2,500,000 may be transferred to and merged with amounts made available in the “Information Technology Fund” account under this title.

SEC. 232. Section 579 of the Multifamily Assisted Housing Reform and Affordability Act (MAHRA) of 1997 (42 U.S.C. 1437f note) is amended by striking “October 1, 2015” each place it appears and inserting in lieu thereof “October 1, 2017”.

SEC. 233. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to require or enforce the Physical Needs Assessment (PNA).

SEC. 234. The language under the heading Rental Assistance Demonstration in the Department of Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Act, 2012 (Public Law 112-55), is amended—

(1) by striking “(except for funds allocated under such section for single room occupancy dwellings as authorized by title IV of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act)” in both places it appears;

(2) in the second proviso, by striking “2015” and inserting “2018”;

(3) in the third proviso, after “associated with such conversion”, by inserting “in excess of amounts made available under this heading”;

(4) in the fourth proviso, by striking “60,000” and inserting “185,000”;

(5) in the penultimate proviso, by—

(A) striking “for fiscal years 2012 through December 31, 2014”;

(B) striking “and agreement of the administering public housing agency”; and

(C) inserting “a long-term project-based subsidy contract under section 8 of the Act, which shall have a term of no less than 20 years, with rent adjustments only by an operating cost factor established by the Secretary, which shall be eligible for renewal under section 524 of the Multifamily Assisted Housing Reform and Affordability Act of 1997 (42 U.S.C. 1437f note), or, subject to agreement of the administering public housing agency, to assistance under” following “vouchers to assistance under”;

(6) by inserting the following provisos before the final proviso: “*Provided further*, That amounts made available under the heading ‘Rental Housing Assistance’ during the pe-

riod of conversion under the previous proviso, which may extend beyond fiscal year 2016 as necessary to allow processing of all timely applications, shall be available for project-based subsidy contracts entered into pursuant to the previous proviso: *Provided further*, That amounts, including contract authority, recaptured from contracts following a conversion under the previous two provisos are hereby rescinded and an amount of additional new budget authority, equivalent to the amount rescinded is hereby appropriated, to remain available until expended for such conversions: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may transfer amounts made available under the heading ‘Rental Housing Assistance’, amounts made available for tenant protection vouchers under the heading ‘Tenant-Based Rental Assistance’ and specifically associated with any such conversions, and amounts made available under the previous proviso as needed to the account under the ‘Project-Based Rental Assistance’ heading to facilitate conversion under the three previous provisos and any increase in cost for ‘Project-Based Rental Assistance’ associated with such conversion shall be equal to amounts so transferred.”; and

(7) in the final proviso, by—

(A) striking “with respect to the previous proviso” and inserting “with respect to the previous four provisos”; and

(B) striking “impact of the previous proviso” and inserting “impact of the fiscal year 2012 and 2013 conversion of tenant protection vouchers to assistance under section 8(o)(13) of the Act”.

SEC. 235. None of the funds made available by this Act nor any receipts or amounts collected under any Federal Housing Administration program may be used to implement the Homeowners Armed with Knowledge (HAWK) program.

SEC. 236. None of the funds made available in this Act shall be used by the Federal Housing Administration, the Government National Mortgage Administration, or the Department of Housing and Urban Development to insure, securitize, or establish a Federal guarantee of any mortgage or mortgage backed security that refinances or otherwise replaces a mortgage that has been subject to eminent domain condemnation or seizure, by a state, municipality, or any other political subdivision of a state.

SEC. 237. All unobligated balances, including recaptures and carryover, remaining from funds appropriated to the Department of Housing and Urban Development under the heading “Brownfields Redevelopment” are hereby permanently rescinded: *Provided*, That all unobligated balances, including recaptures and carryover, remaining from funds appropriated to the Department of Housing and Urban Development under the heading “Drug Elimination Grants for Low Income Housing” are hereby permanently rescinded: *Provided further*, That all unobligated balances, including recaptures and carryover, remaining from funds appropriated to the Department of Housing and Urban Development for Youthbuild program activities authorized by subtitle D of title IV of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act are hereby permanently rescinded.

SEC. 238. Clause (i) of section 3(a)(2)(B) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437a(a)(2)(B)(i)), as amended by section 210 of the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2014 (division L of Public Law 113-76; 128 Stat. 625), is amended—

(1) by striking “which shall not be lower” in the matter preceding subclause (I) and all that follows through the end of subclause (I) and inserting the following: “which—

“(I) shall not be lower than 80 percent of—

“(aa) the applicable fair market rental established under section 8(c) of this Act; or

“(bb) at the discretion of the Secretary, such other applicable fair market rental established by the Secretary that the Secretary determines more accurately reflects local market conditions and is based on an applicable market area that is geographically smaller than the applicable market area used for purposes of the applicable fair market rental under section 8(c);

except that a public housing agency may apply to the Secretary for exception allowing for a flat rental amount for a property that is lower than the amount otherwise determined pursuant to item (aa) or (bb) and the Secretary may grant such exception if the Secretary determines that the fair market rental for the applicable market area pursuant to item (aa) or (bb) does not reflect the market value of the property and the proposed lower flat rental amount is based on a market analysis of the applicable market and complies with subclause (II) and”;

(2) in subclause (II), by inserting “shall” before “be designed”; and

(3) in the matter after and below subclause (II), by striking “Public housing agencies must comply by June 1, 2014, with the requirement of this clause, except that if” and inserting “If”.

SEC. 239. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to require the relocation, or to carry out any required relocation, of any asset management positions of the Office of Multifamily Housing of the Department of Housing and Urban Development in existence as of the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 240. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to terminate the status of a unit of general local government as a metropolitan city (as defined in section 102 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5302)) with respect to grants under section 106 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 5306).

SEC. 241. Section 184(h)(1)(B) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992 (12 U.S.C. 1715z–13a(h)(1)(B)) is amended by inserting after the first sentence the following: “Exhausting all reasonable possibilities of collection by the holder of the guarantee shall include a good faith consideration of loan modification as well as meeting standards for servicing loans in default, as determined by the Secretary.”.

This title may be cited as the “Department of Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Act, 2015”.

### TITLE III RELATED AGENCIES ACCESS BOARD SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary for the Access Board, as authorized by section 502 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, \$7,548,000: *Provided*, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, there may be credited to this appropriation funds received for publications and training expenses.

### FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Federal Maritime Commission as authorized by section 201(d) of the Merchant Marine Act, 1936, as amended (46 U.S.C. 307), including services as

authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109; hire of passenger motor vehicles as authorized by 31 U.S.C. 1343(b); and uniforms or allowances therefore, as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 5901–5902, \$25,660,000: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$2,000 shall be available for official reception and representation expenses.

### NATIONAL RAILROAD PASSENGER CORPORATION OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General for the National Railroad Passenger Corporation to carry out the provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, \$23,999,000: *Provided*, That the Inspector General shall have all necessary authority, in carrying out the duties specified in the Inspector General Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. App. 3), to investigate allegations of fraud, including false statements to the government (18 U.S.C. 1001), by any person or entity that is subject to regulation by the National Railroad Passenger Corporation: *Provided further*, That the Inspector General may enter into contracts and other arrangements for audits, studies, analyses, and other services with public agencies and with private persons, subject to the applicable laws and regulations that govern the obtaining of such services within the National Railroad Passenger Corporation: *Provided further*, That the Inspector General may select, appoint, and employ such officers and employees as may be necessary for carrying out the functions, powers, and duties of the Office of Inspector General, subject to the applicable laws and regulations that govern such selections, appointments, and employment within Amtrak: *Provided further*, That concurrent with the President’s budget request for fiscal year 2016, the Inspector General shall submit to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations a budget request for fiscal year 2016 in similar format and substance to those submitted by executive agencies of the Federal Government.

### NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the National Transportation Safety Board, including hire of passenger motor vehicles and aircraft; services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, but at rates for individuals not to exceed the per diem rate equivalent to the rate for a GS–15; uniforms, or allowances therefor, as authorized by law (5 U.S.C. 5901–5902), \$103,981,000, of which not to exceed \$2,000 may be used for official reception and representation expenses. The amounts made available to the National Transportation Safety Board in this Act include amounts necessary to make lease payments on an obligation incurred in fiscal year 2001 for a capital lease.

### NEIGHBORHOOD REINVESTMENT CORPORATION PAYMENT TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD REINVESTMENT CORPORATION

For payment to the Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation for use in neighborhood reinvestment activities, as authorized by the Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation Act (42 U.S.C. 8101–8107), \$135,000,000, of which \$5,000,000 shall be for a multi-family rental housing program: *Provided*, That in addition, \$50,000,000 shall be made available until expended to the Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation for mortgage foreclosure mitigation activities, under the following terms and conditions:

(1) The Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation (“NRC”) shall make grants to counseling intermediaries approved by the Department of Housing and Urban Development

(HUD) (with match to be determined by the NRC based on affordability and the economic conditions of an area; a match also may be waived by the NRC based on the aforementioned conditions) to provide mortgage foreclosure mitigation assistance primarily to States and areas with high rates of defaults and foreclosures to help eliminate the default and foreclosure of mortgages of owner-occupied single-family homes that are at risk of such foreclosure. Other than areas with high rates of defaults and foreclosures, grants may also be provided to approved counseling intermediaries based on a geographic analysis of the Nation by the NRC which determines where there is a prevalence of mortgages that are risky and likely to fail, including any trends for mortgages that are likely to default and face foreclosure. A State Housing Finance Agency may also be eligible where the State Housing Finance Agency meets all the requirements under this paragraph. A HUD-approved counseling intermediary shall meet certain mortgage foreclosure mitigation assistance counseling requirements, as determined by the NRC, and shall be approved by HUD or the NRC as meeting these requirements.

(2) Mortgage foreclosure mitigation assistance shall only be made available to homeowners of owner-occupied homes with mortgages in default or in danger of default. These mortgages shall likely be subject to a foreclosure action and homeowners will be provided such assistance that shall consist of activities that are likely to prevent foreclosures and result in the long-term affordability of the mortgage retained pursuant to such activity or another positive outcome for the homeowner. No funds made available under this paragraph may be provided directly to lenders or homeowners to discharge outstanding mortgage balances or for any other direct debt reduction payments.

(3) The use of mortgage foreclosure mitigation assistance by approved counseling intermediaries and State Housing Finance Agencies shall involve a reasonable analysis of the borrower’s financial situation, an evaluation of the current value of the property that is subject to the mortgage, counseling regarding the assumption of the mortgage by another non-Federal party, counseling regarding the possible purchase of the mortgage by a non-Federal third party, counseling and advice of all likely restructuring and refinancing strategies or the approval of a work-out strategy by all interested parties.

(4) NRC may provide up to 15 percent of the total funds under this paragraph to its own charter members with expertise in foreclosure prevention counseling, subject to a certification by the NRC that the procedures for selection do not consist of any procedures or activities that could be construed as a conflict of interest or have the appearance of impropriety.

(5) HUD-approved counseling entities and State Housing Finance Agencies receiving funds under this paragraph shall have demonstrated experience in successfully working with financial institutions as well as borrowers facing default, delinquency and foreclosure as well as documented counseling capacity, outreach capacity, past successful performance and positive outcomes with documented counseling plans (including post mortgage foreclosure mitigation counseling), loan workout agreements and loan modification agreements. NRC may use other criteria to demonstrate capacity in underserved areas.

(6) Of the total amount made available under this paragraph, up to \$2,500,000 may be

made available to build the mortgage foreclosure and default mitigation counseling capacity of counseling intermediaries through NRC training courses with HUD-approved counseling intermediaries and their partners, except that private financial institutions that participate in NRC training shall pay market rates for such training.

(7) Of the total amount made available under this paragraph, up to 5 percent may be used for associated administrative expenses for the NRC to carry out activities provided under this section.

(8) Of the total amount made available under this paragraph, up to \$4,000,000 may be used for wind-down and closeout of the mortgage foreclosure mitigation activities program.

(9) Mortgage foreclosure mitigation assistance grants may include a budget for outreach and advertising, and training, as determined by the NRC.

(10) The NRC shall continue to report bi-annually to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations as well as the Senate Banking Committee and House Financial Services Committee on its efforts to mitigate mortgage default.

#### UNITED STATES INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS OPERATING EXPENSES

For necessary expenses (including payment of salaries, authorized travel, hire of passenger motor vehicles, the rental of conference rooms, and the employment of experts and consultants under section 3109 of title 5, United States Code) of the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness in carrying out the functions pursuant to title II of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, as amended, \$3,530,000. Title II of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11319) is amended by striking “October 1, 2016” in section 209 and inserting “October 1, 2017”.

#### TITLE IV

##### GENERAL PROVISIONS—THIS ACT

SEC. 401. None of the funds in this Act shall be used for the planning or execution of any program to pay the expenses of, or otherwise compensate, non-Federal parties intervening in regulatory or adjudicatory proceedings funded in this Act.

SEC. 402. None of the funds appropriated in this Act shall remain available for obligation beyond the current fiscal year, nor may any be transferred to other appropriations, unless expressly so provided herein.

SEC. 403. The expenditure of any appropriation under this Act for any consulting service through a procurement contract pursuant to section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, shall be limited to those contracts where such expenditures are a matter of public record and available for public inspection, except where otherwise provided under existing law, or under existing Executive order issued pursuant to existing law.

SEC. 404. (a) None of the funds made available in this Act may be obligated or expended for any employee training that—

(1) does not meet identified needs for knowledge, skills, and abilities bearing directly upon the performance of official duties;

(2) contains elements likely to induce high levels of emotional response or psychological stress in some participants;

(3) does not require prior employee notification of the content and methods to be used in the training and written end of course evaluation;

(4) contains any methods or content associated with religious or quasi-religious belief

systems or “new age” belief systems as defined in Equal Employment Opportunity Commission Notice N-915.022, dated September 2, 1988; or

(5) is offensive to, or designed to change, participants’ personal values or lifestyle outside the workplace.

(b) Nothing in this section shall prohibit, restrict, or otherwise preclude an agency from conducting training bearing directly upon the performance of official duties.

SEC. 405. Except as otherwise provided in this Act, none of the funds provided in this Act, provided by previous appropriations Acts to the agencies or entities funded in this Act that remain available for obligation or expenditure in fiscal year 2015, or provided from any accounts in the Treasury derived by the collection of fees and available to the agencies funded by this Act, shall be available for obligation or expenditure through a reprogramming of funds that:

(1) creates a new program;

(2) eliminates a program, project, or activity;

(3) increases funds or personnel for any program, project, or activity for which funds have been denied or restricted by the Congress;

(4) proposes to use funds directed for a specific activity by either the House or Senate Committees on Appropriations for a different purpose;

(5) augments existing programs, projects, or activities in excess of \$5,000,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less;

(6) reduces existing programs, projects, or activities by \$5,000,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less; or

(7) creates, reorganizes, or restructures a branch, division, office, bureau, board, commission, agency, administration, or department different from the budget justifications submitted to the Committees on Appropriations or the table accompanying the explanatory statement accompanying this Act, whichever is more detailed, unless prior approval is received from the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations: *Provided*, That not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, each agency funded by this Act shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and of the House of Representatives to establish the baseline for application of reprogramming and transfer authorities for the current fiscal year: *Provided further*, That the report shall include:

(A) a table for each appropriation with a separate column to display the prior year enacted level, the President’s budget request, adjustments made by Congress, adjustments due to enacted rescissions, if appropriate, and the fiscal year enacted level;

(B) a delineation in the table for each appropriation and its respective prior year enacted level by object class and program, project, and activity as detailed in the budget appendix for the respective appropriation; and

(C) an identification of items of special congressional interest: *Provided further*, That the amount appropriated or limited for salaries and expenses for an agency shall be reduced by \$100,000 per day for each day after the required date that the report has not been submitted to the Congress.

SEC. 406. Except as otherwise specifically provided by law, not to exceed 50 percent of unobligated balances remaining available at the end of fiscal year 2015 from appropriations made available for salaries and expenses for fiscal year 2015 in this Act, shall remain available through September 30, 2016,

for each such account for the purposes authorized: *Provided*, That a request shall be submitted to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations for approval prior to the expenditure of such funds: *Provided further*, That these requests shall be made in compliance with reprogramming guidelines under section 405 of this Act.

SEC. 407. No funds in this Act may be used to support any Federal, State, or local projects that seek to use the power of eminent domain, unless eminent domain is employed only for a public use: *Provided*, That for purposes of this section, public use shall not be construed to include economic development that primarily benefits private entities: *Provided further*, That any use of funds for mass transit, railroad, airport, seaport or highway projects, as well as utility projects which benefit or serve the general public (including energy-related, communication-related, water-related and wastewater-related infrastructure), other structures designated for use by the general public or which have other common-carrier or public-utility functions that serve the general public and are subject to regulation and oversight by the government, and projects for the removal of an immediate threat to public health and safety or brownfields as defined in the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act (Public Law 107-118) shall be considered a public use for purposes of eminent domain.

SEC. 408. All Federal agencies and departments that are funded under this Act shall issue a report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations on all sole-source contracts by no later than July 30, 2015. Such report shall include the contractor, the amount of the contract and the rationale for using a sole-source contract.

SEC. 409. None of the funds made available in this Act may be transferred to any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States Government, except pursuant to a transfer made by, or transfer authority provided in, this Act or any other appropriations Act.

SEC. 410. No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall be available to pay the salary for any person filling a position, other than a temporary position, formerly held by an employee who has left to enter the Armed Forces of the United States and has satisfactorily completed his or her period of active military or naval service, and has within 90 days after his or her release from such service or from hospitalization continuing after discharge for a period of not more than 1 year, made application for restoration to his or her former position and has been certified by the Office of Personnel Management as still qualified to perform the duties of his or her former position and has not been restored thereto.

SEC. 411. No funds appropriated pursuant to this Act may be expended by an entity unless the entity agrees that in expending the assistance the entity will comply with sections 2 through 4 of the Act of March 3, 1933 (41 U.S.C. 10a–10c, popularly known as the “Buy American Act”).

SEC. 412. No funds appropriated or otherwise made available under this Act shall be made available to any person or entity that has been convicted of violating the Buy American Act (41 U.S.C. 10a–10c).

SEC. 413. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used for first-class airline accommodations in contravention of sections 301–10.122 and 301–10.123 of title 41, Code of Federal Regulations.

SEC. 414. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used in contravention of



the 5th or 14th Amendment to the Constitution or title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

SEC. 415. (a) None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to approve a new foreign air carrier permit under sections 41301 through 41305 of title 49, United States Code, or exemption application under section 40109 of that title of an air carrier already holding an air operators certificate issued by a country that is party to the U.S.-E.U.-Iceland-Norway Air Transport Agreement where such approval would contravene United States law or Article 17 bis of the U.S.-E.U.-Iceland-Norway Air Transport Agreement.

(b) Nothing in this section shall prohibit, restrict or otherwise preclude the Secretary of Transportation from granting a foreign air carrier permit or an exemption to such an air carrier where such authorization is consistent with the U.S.-E.U.-Iceland-Norway Air Transport Agreement and United States law.

SEC. 416. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to obligate or award funds for the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's National Roadside Survey.

SEC. 417. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to mandate global positioning system (GPS) tracking in private passenger motor vehicles without providing full and appropriate consideration of privacy concerns under 5 U.S.C. chapter 5, subchapter II.

SEC. 418. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used by the Federal Transit Administration to implement, administer, or enforce section 18.36(c)(2) of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, for construction hiring purposes.

SEC. 419. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to lease or purchase new light duty vehicles for any executive fleet, or for an agency's fleet inventory, except in accordance with Presidential Memorandum—Federal Fleet Performance, dated May 24, 2011.

SEC. 420. It is the sense of the Congress that the Congress should not pass any legislation that authorizes spending cuts that would increase poverty in the United States.

SEC. 421. All agencies and departments funded by the Act shall send to Congress at the end of the fiscal year a report containing a complete inventory of the total number of vehicles owned, leased, permanently retired, and purchased during fiscal year 2015, as well as the total cost of the vehicle fleet, including maintenance, fuel, storage, purchasing, and leasing.

SEC. 422. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to send or otherwise pay for the attendance of more than 50 employees of a single agency or department of the United States Government, who are stationed in the United States, at any single international conference unless the relevant Secretary reports to the Committees on Appropriations at least 5 days in advance that such attendance is important to the national interest: *Provided*, That for purposes of this section the term "international conference" shall mean a conference occurring outside of the United States attended by representatives of the United States Government and of foreign governments, international organizations, or nongovernmental organizations.

SEC. 423. (a) Any agency receiving funds made available in this Act, shall, subject to subsections (b) and (c), post on the public website of that agency any report required

to be submitted by the Committee in this or any other Act, upon the determination by the head of the agency that it shall serve the national interest.

(b) Subsection (a) shall not apply to a report if—

(1) the public posting of the report compromises national security; or

(2) the report contains proprietary information.

(c) The head of the agency posting such report shall do so only after such report has been made available to the requesting Committee or Committees of Congress for no less than 45 days.

SEC. 424. Any Federal agency or department that is funded under this Act shall respond to any recommendation made to such agency or department by the Government Accountability Office in a timely manner.

This division may be cited as the "Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2015".

#### DIVISION L—FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS, 2015

SEC. 101. The Continuing Appropriations Resolution, 2015 (Public Law 113-164) is amended by—

(1) striking the date specified in section 106(3) and inserting "February 27, 2015";

(2) striking "the date specified in section 106(3) of this joint resolution" in section 144 and inserting "December 11, 2014"; and

(3) adding after section 149 the following new sections:

"SEC. 150. (a) Amounts made available by section 101 for 'Department of Homeland Security—United States Secret Service—Salaries and Expenses' shall be obligated at a rate for operations necessary for Presidential candidate nominee protection.

"(b) The Secretary of Homeland Security shall notify the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate on each use of the authority provided in this section.

"SEC. 151. The Department of Homeland Security shall continue preparations to award the construction contract for the National Bio- and Agro-defense Facility by May 1, 2015."

SEC. 102. (a) Section 44302(f) of title 49, United States Code, is amended by striking "the date specified in section 106(3) of the Continuing Appropriations Resolution, 2015" and inserting "December 11, 2014".

(b) Section 44303(b) of title 49, United States Code, is amended by striking "the date specified in section 106(3) of the Continuing Appropriations Resolution, 2015" and inserting "December 11, 2014".

(c) Section 44310(a) of title 49, United States Code, is amended by striking "the date specified in section 106(3) of the Continuing Appropriations Resolution, 2015" and inserting "December 11, 2014".

#### DIVISION M—EXPATRIATE HEALTH COVERAGE CLARIFICATION ACT OF 2014

##### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This division may be cited as the "Expatriate Health Coverage Clarification Act of 2014".

##### SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) American expatriate health insurance companies should be permitted to compete on a level playing field in the global marketplace;

(2) the global competitiveness of American companies should be encouraged; and

(3) in implementing the health insurance provider fee under section 9010 of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (Public Law 111-148; 26 U.S.C. 4001 note prec.) and other provisions of such Act and title I and subtitle B of title II of the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010 (Public Law 111-152), the Secretary of the Treasury, Secretary of Health and Human Services, and Secretary of Labor should continue to recognize the unique and multinational features of expatriate health plans and the United States companies that operate such plans and the competitive pressures of such plans and companies.

#### SEC. 3. TREATMENT OF EXPATRIATE HEALTH PLANS UNDER ACA.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsection (b), the provisions of (including any amendment made by) the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (Public Law 111-148) and of title I and subtitle B of title II of the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010 (Public Law 111-152) shall not apply with respect to—

(1) expatriate health plans;

(2) employers with respect to such plans, solely in their capacity as plan sponsors for such plans; or

(3) expatriate health insurance issuers with respect to coverage offered by such issuers under such plans.

(b) MINIMUM ESSENTIAL COVERAGE AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—For the purpose of section 5000A(f) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, and any other section of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 that incorporates the definition of minimum essential coverage under such section 5000A(f) by reference:

(A) An expatriate health plan offered to primary enrollees who are described in subsections (d)(3)(A) and (d)(3)(B) of this section shall be treated as an eligible employer sponsored plan under 5000A(f)(2) of such Code.

(B) An expatriate health plan offered to primary enrollees who are described in subsection (d)(3)(C) of this section shall be treated as a plan in the individual market under section 5000A(f)(1)(C) of such Code. This subparagraph shall apply solely for the purposes of sections 36B, 5000A, and 6055 of such Code.

(2) EXCEPTION.—Subsection (a) shall not apply with respect to section 6055 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or sections 4980H and 6056 of such Code in the case of an applicable large employer (as defined in section 4980H of such Code), except that statements furnished to individuals may be provided through electronic media and the primary insured shall be deemed to have consented to receive the statements under such sections in electronic form, unless the individual explicitly refuses such consent. Notwithstanding subsection (a), section 4980I of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 shall continue to apply with respect to applicable employer-sponsored coverage (as defined in such section) of a qualified expatriate described in section 3(d)(3)(A)(i) who is assigned (rather than transferred) to work in the United States.

(c) QUALIFIED EXPATRIATES, SPOUSES, AND DEPENDENTS NOT UNITED STATES HEALTH RISK.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of section 9010 of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (26 U.S.C. 4001 note prec.), for calendar years after 2015, a qualified expatriate (and any spouse, dependent, or any other individual enrolled in the plan) enrolled in an expatriate health plan shall not be considered a United States health risk.

(2) **SPECIAL RULE.**—Notwithstanding paragraph (1), the fee under section 9010 of such Act for each of calendar years 2014 and 2015 with respect to any expatriate health insurance issuer shall be the amount which bears the same ratio to the fee amount determined by the Secretary of the Treasury with respect to such issuer under such section for each such year (determined without regard to this paragraph) as—

(A) the amount of premiums taken into account under such section with respect to such issuer for each such year, less the amount of premiums for expatriate health plans taken into account under such section with respect to such issuer for each such year, bears to

(B) the amount of premiums taken into account under such section with respect to such issuer for each such year.

(d) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

(1) **EXPATRIATE HEALTH INSURANCE ISSUER.**—The term “expatriate health insurance issuer” means a health insurance issuer that issues expatriate health plans.

(2) **EXPATRIATE HEALTH PLAN.**—The term “expatriate health plan” means a group health plan, health insurance coverage offered in connection with a group health plan, or health insurance coverage offered to a group of individuals described in paragraph (3)(C) (which may include spouses, dependents, and other individuals enrolled in the plan) that meets each of the following standards:

(A) Substantially all of the primary enrollees in such plan or coverage are qualified expatriates with respect to such plan or coverage. In applying the previous sentence, an individual shall not be considered a primary enrollee if the individual is not a national of the United States and the individual resides in the country of which the individual is a citizen.

(B) Substantially all of the benefits provided under the plan or coverage are not excepted benefits described in section 9832(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

(C) The plan or coverage provides coverage for inpatient hospital services, outpatient facility services, physician services, and emergency services (comparable to such emergency services coverage described in and offered under section 8903(1) of title 5, United States Code for plan year 2009)—

(i) in the case of individuals described in paragraph (3)(A), both in the United States and in the country or countries from which the individual was transferred or assigned (accounting for flexibility needed with existing coverage), and such other country or countries as the Secretary of Health and Human Services, in consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury and the Secretary of Labor, may designate (after taking into account the barriers and prohibitions to providing health care services in the countries as designated);

(ii) in the case of individuals described in paragraph (3)(B), in the country or countries in which the individual is present in connection with the individual's employment, and such other country or countries as the Secretary of Health and Human Services, in consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury and the Secretary of Labor, may designate; or

(iii) in the case of individuals described in paragraph (3)(C), in the country or countries as the Secretary of Health and Human Services, in consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury and the Secretary of Labor, may designate.

(D) The plan sponsor reasonably believes that the benefits provided by the expatriate

health plan satisfy a standard at least actuarially equivalent to the level provided for in section 36B(c)(2)(C)(ii) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

(E) If the plan or coverage provides dependent coverage of children, the plan or coverage makes such dependent coverage available for adult children until the adult child turns 26 years of age, unless such individual is the child of a child receiving dependent coverage.

(F) The plan or coverage—

(i) is issued by an expatriate health plan issuer, or administered by an administrator, that together with any other person in the expatriate health plan issuer's or administrator's controlled group (as described in section 9010 of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (and the regulations promulgated thereunder)), has licenses to sell insurance in more than two countries, and, with respect to such plan, coverage, or company in the controlled group—

(I) maintains network provider agreements that provide for direct claims payments, directly or through third party contracts, with health care providers in eight or more countries;

(II) maintains call centers, directly or through third party contracts, in three or more countries and accepts calls from customers in eight or more languages;

(III) processes (in the aggregate together with other plans or coverage it issues or administers) at least \$1,000,000 in claims in foreign currency equivalents each year;

(IV) makes available (directly or through third party contracts) global evacuation/repatriation coverage; and

(V) maintains legal and compliance resources in three or more countries; and

(ii) offers reimbursements for items or services under such plan or coverage in the local currency in eight or more countries.

(G) The plan or coverage, and the plan sponsor or expatriate health insurance issuer with respect to such plan or coverage, satisfies the provisions of title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300gg et seq.), chapter 100 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, and part 7 of subtitle B of title I of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1181 et seq.), which would otherwise apply to such a plan or coverage, and sponsor or issuer, if not for the enactment of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and title I and subtitle B of title II of the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010.

(3) **QUALIFIED EXPATRIATE.**—The term “qualified expatriate” means a primary insured, or individual otherwise described in subparagraph (C)—

(A)(i) whose skills, qualifications, job duties, or expertise is of a type that has caused his or her employer to transfer or assign him or her to the United States for a specific and temporary purpose or assignment tied to his or her employment; and

(ii) in connection with such transfer or assignment, is reasonably determined by the plan sponsor to require access to health insurance and other related services and support in multiple countries, and is offered other multinational benefits on a periodic basis (such as tax equalization, compensation for cross border moving expenses, or compensation to enable the expatriate to return to their home country);

(B) who is working outside of the United States for a period of at least 180 days in a consecutive 12-month period that overlaps with the plan year; or

(C) who is a member of a group of similarly situated individuals—

(i) that is formed for the purpose of traveling or relocating internationally in service of one or more of the purposes listed in section 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or similarly situated organizations or groups (such as students or religious missionaries);

(ii) that is not formed primarily for the sale of health insurance coverage; and

(iii) that the Secretary of Health and Human Services, in consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury and the Secretary of Labor, determines requires access to health insurance and other related services and support in multiple countries.

(4) **UNITED STATES.**—The term “United States” means the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

(5) **MISCELLANEOUS TERMS.**—

(A) **GROUP HEALTH PLAN; HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE; HEALTH INSURANCE ISSUER; PLAN SPONSOR.**—The terms “group health plan”, “health insurance coverage”, “health insurance issuer”, and “plan sponsor” have the meanings given those terms in section 2791 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300gg–91).

(B) **TRANSFER.**—The term “transfer” means an employer has transferred an employee to perform services for a branch of the same employer or a parent, affiliate, franchise, or subsidiary thereof.

(e) **REGULATIONS.**—The Secretary of the Treasury, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, and the Secretary of Labor may promulgate regulations necessary to carry out this Act, including such rules as may be necessary to prevent inappropriate expansion of the application of the exclusions under this Act from applicable laws and regulations, and to amend existing annual reporting requirements or procedures to include applicable qualified expatriate health insurers' total number of expatriate plan enrollees.

(f) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—Unless otherwise specified, this Act shall take effect on the date of enactment of this Act, and shall apply only to expatriate health plans issued or renewed on or after July 1, 2015.

## DIVISION N—OTHER MATTERS

### SEC. 101. SEPARATE CONTRIBUTION LIMITS FOR CONTRIBUTIONS MADE TO NATIONAL PARTIES TO SUPPORT PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATING CONVENTIONS, NATIONAL PARTY HEADQUARTERS BUILDINGS, AND RECOUNTS.

(a) **SEPARATE LIMITS.**—Section 315(a) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (52 U.S.C. 30116(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)(B), by striking the semicolon at the end and inserting the following: “, or, in the case of contributions made to any of the accounts described in paragraph (9), exceed 300 percent of the amount otherwise applicable under this subparagraph with respect to such calendar year;”;

(2) in paragraph (2)(B), by striking the semicolon at the end and inserting the following: “, or, in the case of contributions made to any of the accounts described in paragraph (9), exceed 300 percent of the amount otherwise applicable under this subparagraph with respect to such calendar year;”;

(3) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(9) An account described in this paragraph is any of the following accounts:

“(A) A separate, segregated account of a national committee of a political party



(other than a national congressional campaign committee of a political party) which is used solely to defray expenses incurred with respect to a presidential nominating convention (including the payment of deposits) or to repay loans the proceeds of which were used to defray such expenses, or otherwise to restore funds used to defray such expenses, except that the aggregate amount of expenditures the national committee of a political party may make from such account may not exceed \$20,000,000 with respect to any single convention.

“(B) A separate, segregated account of a national committee of a political party (including a national congressional campaign committee of a political party) which is used solely to defray expenses incurred with respect to the construction, purchase, renovation, operation, and furnishing of one or more headquarters buildings of the party or to repay loans the proceeds of which were used to defray such expenses, or otherwise to restore funds used to defray such expenses (including expenses for obligations incurred during the 2-year period which ends on the date of the enactment of this paragraph).

“(C) A separate, segregated account of a national committee of a political party (including a national congressional campaign committee of a political party) which is used to defray expenses incurred with respect to the preparation for and the conduct of election recounts and contests and other legal proceedings.”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT RELATING TO DETERMINATION OF COORDINATED EXPENDITURE LIMITATIONS.—Section 315(d) of such Act (52 U.S.C. 30116(d)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(5) The limitations contained in paragraphs (2), (3), and (4) of this subsection shall not apply to expenditures made from any of the accounts described in subsection (a)(9).”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply with respect to funds that are solicited, received, transferred, or spent on or after the date of the enactment of this section.

#### **SEC. 102. MODIFICATION OF TREATMENT OF CERTAIN HEALTH ORGANIZATIONS.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (5) of section 833(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended—

(1) by striking “this section” and inserting “paragraphs (2) and (3) of subsection (a)”, and

(2) by inserting “and for activities that improve health care quality” after “clinical services”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2009.

#### **SEC. 103. BUDGETARY EFFECTS.**

(a) STATUTORY PAY-AS-YOU-GO SCORECARDS.—The budgetary effects of division M and sections 101 and 102 of division N shall not be entered on either PAYGO scorecard maintained pursuant to section 4(d) of the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010.

(b) SENATE PAY-AS-YOU-GO SCORECARDS.—The budgetary effects of division M and sections 101 and 102 of division N shall not be entered on any PAYGO scorecard maintained for purposes of section 201 of S. Con. Res. 21 (110th Congress).

(c) CLASSIFICATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.—Notwithstanding Rule 3 of the Budget Scorekeeping Guidelines set forth in the joint explanatory statement of the committee of conference accompanying Conference Report 105-217 and section 250(c)(8) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, the budgetary effects of

division M and sections 101 and 102 of division N shall not be estimated—

(1) for purposes of section 251 of such Act; and

(2) for purposes of paragraph 4(C) of section 3 of the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 as being included in an appropriation Act.

### **DIVISION O—MULTIEMPLOYER PENSION REFORM**

#### **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This division may be cited as the “Multiemployer Pension Reform Act of 2014”.

#### **SEC. 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

The table of contents for this division is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title.

Sec. 2. Table of Contents.

#### **TITLE I—MODIFICATIONS TO MULTIEMPLOYER PLAN RULES**

##### **Subtitle A—Amendments to Pension Protection Act of 2006**

Sec. 101. Repeal of sunset of PPA funding rules.

Sec. 102. Election to be in critical status.

Sec. 103. Clarification of rule for emergence from critical status.

Sec. 104. Endangered status not applicable if no additional action is required.

Sec. 105. Correct endangered status funding improvement plan target funded percentage.

Sec. 106. Conforming endangered status and critical status rules during funding improvement and rehabilitation plan adoption periods.

Sec. 107. Corrective plan schedules when parties fail to adopt in bargaining.

Sec. 108. Repeal of reorganization rules for multiemployer plans.

Sec. 109. Disregard of certain contribution increases for withdrawal liability purposes.

Sec. 110. Guarantee for pre-retirement survivor annuities under multiemployer pension plans.

Sec. 111. Required disclosure of multiemployer plan information.

##### **Subtitle B—Multiemployer Plan Mergers and Partitions**

Sec. 121. Mergers.

Sec. 122. Partitions of eligible multiemployer plans.

##### **Subtitle C—Strengthening the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation**

Sec. 131. Premium increases for multiemployer plans.

#### **TITLE II—REMEDIATION MEASURES FOR DEEPLY TROUBLED PLANS**

Sec. 201. Conditions, limitations, distribution and notice requirements, and approval process for benefit suspensions under multiemployer plans in critical and declining status.

#### **TITLE I—MODIFICATIONS TO MULTIEMPLOYER PLAN RULES**

##### **Subtitle A—Amendments to Pension Protection Act of 2006**

#### **SEC. 101. REPEAL OF SUNSET OF PPA FUNDING RULES.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle C of title II of the Pension Protection Act of 2006 (26 U.S.C. 412 note) is repealed.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) AMENDMENT TO EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT INCOME SECURITY ACT OF 1974.—Section 304(d)(1) of the Employee Retirement Income

Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1084) is amended by striking subparagraph (C).

(2) AMENDMENT TO INTERNAL REVENUE CODE.—Section 431(d)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking subparagraph (C).

#### **SEC. 102. ELECTION TO BE IN CRITICAL STATUS.**

(a) AMENDMENTS TO EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT INCOME SECURITY ACT OF 1974.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 305(b) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1085(b)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(4) ELECTION TO BE IN CRITICAL STATUS.—Notwithstanding paragraph (2) and subject to paragraph (3)(B)(iv)—

“(A) the plan sponsor of a multiemployer plan that is not in critical status for a plan year but that is projected by the plan actuary, pursuant to the determination under paragraph (3), to be in critical status in any of the succeeding 5 plan years may, not later than 30 days after the date of the certification under paragraph (3)(A), elect to be in critical status effective for the current plan year,

“(B) the plan year in which the plan sponsor elects to be in critical status under subparagraph (A) shall be treated for purposes of this section as the first year in which the plan is in critical status, regardless of the date on which the plan first satisfies the criteria for critical status under paragraph (2), and

“(C) a plan that is in critical status under this paragraph shall not emerge from critical status except in accordance with subsection (e)(4)(B).”.

(2) ANNUAL CERTIFICATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Section 305(b)(3)(A)(i) of such Act (29 U.S.C. 1085(b)(3)(A)(i)) is amended by striking “, and” and inserting “or for any of the succeeding 5 plan years, and”.

(B) ACTUARIAL PROJECTIONS.—Section 305(b)(3)(B) of such Act (29 U.S.C. 1085(b)(3)(B)) is amended—

(i) in clause (i), by striking “In making the determinations” and inserting “Except as provided in clause (iv), in making the determinations”; and

(ii) by adding at the end the following:

“(iv) PROJECTIONS RELATING TO CRITICAL STATUS IN SUCCEEDING PLAN YEARS.—Clauses (i) and (ii) (other than the 2nd sentence of clause (i)) may be disregarded by a plan actuary in the case of any certification of whether a plan will be in critical status in a succeeding plan year, except that a plan sponsor may not elect to be in critical status for a plan year under paragraph (4) in any case in which the certification upon which such election would be based is made without regard to such clauses.”.

(3) NOTICE.—

(A) OF ELECTION TO BE IN CRITICAL STATUS.—Section 305(b)(3)(D)(i) of such Act (29 U.S.C. 1085(b)(3)(D)(i)) is amended—

(i) by inserting after “for a plan year” the following: “or in which a plan sponsor elects to be in critical status for a plan year under paragraph (4)”;

(ii) by adding at the end the following: “In any case in which a plan sponsor elects to be in critical status for a plan year under paragraph (4), the plan sponsor shall notify the Secretary of the Treasury of such election not later than 30 days after the date of such certification or such other time as the Secretary of the Treasury may prescribe by regulations or other guidance.”

(B) OF PROJECTION TO BE IN CRITICAL STATUS IN A FUTURE PLAN YEAR.—Section 305(b)(3)(D) of such Act (29 U.S.C. 1085(b)(3)(D)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(iv) NOTICE OF PROJECTION TO BE IN CRITICAL STATUS IN A FUTURE PLAN YEAR.—In any case in which it is certified under subparagraph (A)(i) that a multiemployer plan will be in critical status for any of 5 succeeding plan years (but not for the current plan year) and the plan sponsor of such plan has not made an election to be in critical status for the plan year under paragraph (4), the plan sponsor shall, not later than 30 days after the date of the certification, provide notification of the projected critical status to the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation.”.

(b) AMENDMENTS TO INTERNAL REVENUE CODE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 432(b) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(4) ELECTION TO BE IN CRITICAL STATUS.—Notwithstanding paragraph (2) and subject to paragraph (3)(B)(iv)—

“(A) the plan sponsor of a multiemployer plan that is not in critical status for a plan year but that is projected by the plan actuary, pursuant to the determination under paragraph (3), to be in critical status in any of the succeeding 5 plan years may, not later than 30 days after the date of the certification under paragraph (3)(A), elect to be in critical status effective for the current plan year,

“(B) the plan year in which the plan sponsor elects to be in critical status under subparagraph (A) shall be treated for purposes of this section as the first year in which the plan is in critical status, regardless of the date on which the plan first satisfies the criteria for critical status under paragraph (2), and

“(C) a plan that is in critical status under this paragraph shall not emerge from critical status except in accordance with subsection (e)(4)(B).”.

(2) ANNUAL CERTIFICATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Section 432(b)(3)(A)(i) of such Code is amended by striking “, and” and inserting “or for any of the succeeding 5 plan years, and”.

(B) ACTUARIAL PROJECTIONS.—Section 432(b)(3)(B) of such Code is amended—

(i) in clause (i), by striking “In making the determinations” and inserting “Except as provided in clause (iv), in making the determinations”; and

(ii) by adding at the end the following:

“(iv) PROJECTIONS RELATING TO CRITICAL STATUS IN SUCCEEDING PLAN YEARS.—Clauses (i) and (ii) (other than the 2nd sentence of clause (i)) may be disregarded by a plan actuary in the case of any certification of whether a plan will be in critical status in a succeeding plan year, except that a plan sponsor may not elect to be in critical status for a plan year under paragraph (4) in any case in which the certification upon which such election would be based is made without regard to such clauses.”.

(3) NOTICE.—

(A) OF ELECTION TO BE IN CRITICAL STATUS.—Section 432(b)(3)(D)(i) of such Code is amended—

(i) by inserting after “for a plan year” the following: “or in which a plan sponsor elects to be in critical status for a plan year under paragraph (4)”; and

(ii) by adding at the end the following: “In any case in which a plan sponsor elects to be in critical status for a plan year under paragraph (4), the plan sponsor shall notify the Secretary of such election not later than 30 days after the date of such certification or such other time as the Secretary may prescribe by regulations or other guidance.”.

(B) OF PROJECTION TO BE IN CRITICAL STATUS IN A FUTURE PLAN YEAR.—Section 432(b)(3)(D)

of such Code is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(iv) NOTICE OF PROJECTION TO BE IN CRITICAL STATUS IN A FUTURE PLAN YEAR.—In any case in which it is certified under subparagraph (A)(i) that a multiemployer plan will be in critical status for any of 5 succeeding plan years (but not for the current plan year) and the plan sponsor of such plan has not made an election to be in critical status for the plan year under paragraph (4), the plan sponsor shall, not later than 30 days after the date of the certification, provide notification of the projected critical status to the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation.”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply with respect to plan years beginning after December 31, 2014.

#### SEC. 103. CLARIFICATION OF RULE FOR EMERGENCE FROM CRITICAL STATUS.

(a) AMENDMENT TO EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT INCOME SECURITY ACT OF 1974.—Section 305(e)(4)(B) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1085(e)(4)(B)) is amended to read as follows:

“(B) EMERGENCE.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—A plan in critical status shall remain in such status until a plan year for which the plan actuary certifies, in accordance with subsection (b)(3)(A), that—

“(I) the plan is not described in one or more of the subparagraphs in subsection (b)(2) as of the beginning of the plan year;

“(II) the plan is not projected to have an accumulated funding deficiency for the plan year or any of the 9 succeeding plan years, without regard to the use of the shortfall method but taking into account any extension of amortization periods under section 304(d)(2) or section 304 (as in effect prior to the enactment of the Pension Protection Act of 2006); and

“(III) the plan is not projected to become insolvent within the meaning of section 4245 for any of the 30 succeeding plan years.

“(ii) PLANS WITH CERTAIN AMORTIZATION EXTENSIONS.—

“(I) SPECIAL EMERGENCE RULE.—Notwithstanding clause (i), a plan in critical status that has an automatic extension of amortization periods under section 304(d)(1) shall no longer be in critical status if the plan actuary certifies for a plan year, in accordance with subsection (b)(3)(A), that—

“(aa) the plan is not projected to have an accumulated funding deficiency for the plan year or any of the 9 succeeding plan years, without regard to the use of the shortfall method but taking into account any extension of amortization periods under section 304(d)(1); and

“(bb) the plan is not projected to become insolvent within the meaning of section 4245 for any of the 30 succeeding plan years,

regardless of whether the plan is described in one or more of the subparagraphs in subsection (b)(2) as of the beginning of the plan year.

“(II) REENTRY INTO CRITICAL STATUS.—A plan that emerges from critical status under subclause (I) shall not reenter critical status for any subsequent plan year unless—

“(aa) the plan is projected to have an accumulated funding deficiency for the plan year or any of the 9 succeeding plan years, without regard to the use of the shortfall method but taking into account any extension of amortization periods under section 304(d); or

“(bb) the plan is projected to become insolvent within the meaning of section 4245 for any of the 30 succeeding plan years.”.

(b) AMENDMENT TO THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE.—Section 432(e)(4)(B) of the Internal

Revenue Code of 1986 is amended to read as follows:

“(B) EMERGENCE.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—A plan in critical status shall remain in such status until a plan year for which the plan actuary certifies, in accordance with subsection (b)(3)(A), that—

“(I) the plan is not described in one or more of the subparagraphs in subsection (b)(2) as of the beginning of the plan year,

“(II) the plan is not projected to have an accumulated funding deficiency for the plan year or any of the 9 succeeding plan years, without regard to the use of the shortfall method but taking into account any extension of amortization periods under section 431(d)(2) or section 412(e) (as in effect prior to the enactment of the Pension Protection Act of 2006), and

“(III) the plan is not projected to become insolvent within the meaning of section 418E for any of the 30 succeeding plan years.

“(ii) PLANS WITH CERTAIN AMORTIZATION EXTENSIONS.—

“(I) SPECIAL EMERGENCE RULE.—Notwithstanding clause (i), a plan in critical status that has an automatic extension of amortization periods under section 431(d)(1) shall no longer be in critical status if the plan actuary certifies for a plan year, in accordance with subsection (b)(3)(A), that—

“(aa) the plan is not projected to have an accumulated funding deficiency for the plan year or any of the 9 succeeding plan years, without regard to the use of the shortfall method but taking into account any extension of amortization periods under section 431(d)(1), and

“(bb) the plan is not projected to become insolvent within the meaning of section 418E for any of the 30 succeeding plan years,

regardless of whether the plan is described in one or more of the subparagraphs in subsection (b)(2) as of the beginning of the plan year.

“(II) REENTRY INTO CRITICAL STATUS.—A plan that emerges from critical status under subclause (I) shall not reenter critical status for any subsequent plan year unless—

“(aa) the plan is projected to have an accumulated funding deficiency for the plan year or any of the 9 succeeding plan years, without regard to the use of the shortfall method but taking into account any extension of amortization periods under section 431(d), or

“(bb) the plan is projected to become insolvent within the meaning of section 418E for any of the 30 succeeding plan years.”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply with respect to plan years beginning after December 31, 2014.

#### SEC. 104. ENDANGERED STATUS NOT APPLICABLE IF NO ADDITIONAL ACTION IS REQUIRED.

(a) AMENDMENTS TO EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT INCOME SECURITY ACT OF 1974.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 305(b) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1085(b)), as amended by section 102, is further amended—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking “the plan is not in critical status for the plan year” and inserting “the plan is not in critical status for the plan year and is not described in paragraph (5).”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

“(5) SPECIAL RULE.—A plan is described in this paragraph if—

“(A) as part of the actuarial certification of endangered status under paragraph (3)(A) for the plan year, the plan actuary certifies that the plan is projected to no longer be described in either paragraph (1)(A) or paragraph (1)(B) as of the end of the tenth plan

year ending after the plan year to which the certification relates, and

“(B) the plan was not in critical or endangered status for the immediately preceding plan year.”.

(2) NOTICE.—Section 305(b)(3)(D) of such Act (29 U.S.C. 1085(b)(3)(D)) is amended—

(A) by redesignating clause (iii) and clause (iv) (as added by section 102(a)(3)(B)) as clauses (iv) and (v), respectively; and

(B) by inserting after clause (ii) the following:

“(iii) In the case of a multiemployer plan that would be in endangered status but for paragraph (5), the plan sponsor shall provide notice to the bargaining parties and the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation that the plan would be in endangered status but for such paragraph.”.

(C) in clause (iv) (as redesignated by subparagraph (A)), by striking “clause (ii)” and inserting “clauses (ii) and (iii)”.

(3) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 305(b)(3)(A)(i) of such Act (29 U.S.C. 1085(b)(3)(A)(i)) is amended by inserting after “endangered status for a plan year” the following: “, or would be in endangered status for such plan year but for paragraph (5),”.

(b) AMENDMENTS TO INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1986.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 432(b) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended by section 102, is further amended—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking “the plan is not in critical status for the plan year” and inserting “the plan is not in critical status for the plan year and is not described in paragraph (5),”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

“(5) SPECIAL RULE.—A plan is described in this paragraph if—

“(A) as part of the actuarial certification of endangered status under paragraph (3)(A) for the plan year, the plan actuary certifies that the plan is projected to no longer be described in either paragraph (1)(A) or paragraph (1)(B) as of the end of the tenth plan year ending after the plan year to which the certification relates, and

“(B) the plan was not in critical or endangered status for the immediately preceding plan year.”.

(2) NOTICE.—Section 432(b)(3)(D) of such Code is amended—

(A) by redesignating clause (iii) and clause (iv) (as added by section 102(b)(3)(B)) as clauses (iv) and (v), respectively; and

(B) by inserting after clause (ii) the following:

“(iii) In the case of a multiemployer plan that would be in endangered status but for paragraph (5), the plan sponsor shall provide notice to the bargaining parties and the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation that the plan would be in endangered status but for such paragraph.”.

(C) in clause (iv) (as redesignated by subparagraph (A)), by striking “clause (ii)” and inserting “clauses (ii) and (iii)”.

(3) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 432(b)(3)(A)(i) of such Code is amended by inserting after “endangered status for a plan year” the following: “, or would be in endangered status for such plan year but for paragraph (5),”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply with respect to plan years beginning after December 31, 2014.

#### SEC. 105. CORRECT ENDANGERED STATUS FUNDING IMPROVEMENT PLAN TARGET FUNDED PERCENTAGE.

(a) AMENDMENT TO EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT INCOME SECURITY ACT OF 1974.—Section

305(c)(3)(A) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1085(c)(3)(A)) is amended—

(1) in clause (i)(I), by striking “of such period” and inserting “of the first plan year for which the plan is certified to be in endangered status pursuant to paragraph (b)(3)”; and

(2) in clause (ii), by striking “any plan year” and inserting “the last plan year”.

(b) AMENDMENT TO INTERNAL REVENUE CODE.—Section 432(c)(3)(A) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended—

(1) in clause (i)(I), by striking “of such period” and inserting “of the first plan year for which the plan is certified to be in endangered status pursuant to paragraph (b)(3)”; and

(2) in clause (ii), by striking “any plan year” and inserting “the last plan year”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply with respect to plan years beginning after December 31, 2014.

#### SEC. 106. CONFORMING ENDANGERED STATUS AND CRITICAL STATUS RULES DURING FUNDING IMPROVEMENT AND REHABILITATION PLAN ADOPTION PERIODS.

(a) AMENDMENTS TO EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT INCOME SECURITY ACT OF 1974.—Section 305(d) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1085(d)) is amended to read as follows:

“(d) RULES FOR OPERATION OF PLAN DURING ADOPTION AND IMPROVEMENT PERIODS.—

“(1) COMPLIANCE WITH FUNDING IMPROVEMENT PLAN.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—A plan may not be amended after the date of the adoption of a funding improvement plan under subsection (c) so as to be inconsistent with the funding improvement plan.

“(B) SPECIAL RULES FOR BENEFIT INCREASES.—A plan may not be amended after the date of the adoption of a funding improvement plan under subsection (c) so as to increase benefits, including future benefit accruals, unless the plan actuary certifies that such increase is paid for out of additional contributions not contemplated by the funding improvement plan, and, after taking into account the benefit increase, the multiemployer plan still is reasonably expected to meet the applicable benchmark on the schedule contemplated in the funding improvement plan.

“(2) SPECIAL RULES FOR PLAN ADOPTION PERIOD.—During the period beginning on the date of the certification under subsection (b)(3)(A) for the initial determination year and ending on the date of the adoption of a funding improvement plan—

“(A) the plan sponsor may not accept a collective bargaining agreement or participation agreement with respect to the multiemployer plan that provides for—

“(i) a reduction in the level of contributions for any participants,

“(ii) a suspension of contributions with respect to any period of service, or

“(iii) any new direct or indirect exclusion of younger or newly hired employees from plan participation, and

“(B) no amendment of the plan which increases the liabilities of the plan by reason of any increase in benefits, any change in the accrual of benefits, or any change in the rate at which benefits become nonforfeitable under the plan may be adopted unless the amendment is required as a condition of qualification under part I of subchapter D of chapter 1 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or to comply with other applicable law.”.

(b) AMENDMENTS TO INTERNAL REVENUE CODE.—Section 432(d) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended to read as follows:

“(d) RULES FOR OPERATION OF PLAN DURING ADOPTION AND IMPROVEMENT PERIODS.—

“(1) COMPLIANCE WITH FUNDING IMPROVEMENT PLAN.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—A plan may not be amended after the date of the adoption of a funding improvement plan under subsection (c) so as to be inconsistent with the funding improvement plan.

“(B) SPECIAL RULES FOR BENEFIT INCREASES.—A plan may not be amended after the date of the adoption of a funding improvement plan under subsection (c) so as to increase benefits, including future benefit accruals, unless the plan actuary certifies that such increase is paid for out of additional contributions not contemplated by the funding improvement plan, and, after taking into account the benefit increase, the multiemployer plan still is reasonably expected to meet the applicable benchmark on the schedule contemplated in the funding improvement plan.

“(2) SPECIAL RULES FOR PLAN ADOPTION PERIOD.—During the period beginning on the date of the certification under subsection (b)(3)(A) for the initial determination year and ending on the date of the adoption of a funding improvement plan—

“(A) the plan sponsor may not accept a collective bargaining agreement or participation agreement with respect to the multiemployer plan that provides for—

“(i) a reduction in the level of contributions for any participants,

“(ii) a suspension of contributions with respect to any period of service, or

“(iii) any new direct or indirect exclusion of younger or newly hired employees from plan participation, and

“(B) no amendment of the plan which increases the liabilities of the plan by reason of any increase in benefits, any change in the accrual of benefits, or any change in the rate at which benefits become nonforfeitable under the plan may be adopted unless the amendment is required as a condition of qualification under part I of subchapter D of chapter 1 or to comply with other applicable law.”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply with respect to plan years beginning after December 31, 2014.

#### SEC. 107. CORRECTIVE PLAN SCHEDULES WHEN PARTIES FAIL TO ADOPT IN BARGAINING.

(a) AMENDMENTS TO EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT INCOME SECURITY ACT OF 1974.—Section 305 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1085) is amended—

(1) in subsection (c), by amending paragraph (7) to read as follows:

“(7) IMPOSITION OF SCHEDULE WHERE FAILURE TO ADOPT FUNDING IMPROVEMENT PLAN.—

“(A) INITIAL CONTRIBUTION SCHEDULE.—If—

“(i) a collective bargaining agreement providing for contributions under a multiemployer plan that was in effect at the time the plan entered endangered status expires, and

“(ii) after receiving one or more schedules from the plan sponsor under paragraph (1)(B), the bargaining parties with respect to such agreement fail to adopt a contribution schedule with terms consistent with the funding improvement plan and a schedule from the plan sponsor,

the plan sponsor shall implement the schedule described in paragraph (1)(B)(i)(I) beginning on the date specified in subparagraph (C).

“(B) SUBSEQUENT CONTRIBUTION SCHEDULE.—If—

“(i) a collective bargaining agreement providing for contributions under a multiemployer plan in accordance with a schedule provided by the plan sponsor pursuant to a funding improvement plan (or imposed under subparagraph (A)) expires while the plan is still in endangered status, and

“(ii) after receiving one or more updated schedules from the plan sponsor under paragraph (6)(B), the bargaining parties with respect to such agreement fail to adopt a contribution schedule with terms consistent with the updated funding improvement plan and a schedule from the plan sponsor,

then the contribution schedule applicable under the expired collective bargaining agreement, as updated and in effect on the date the collective bargaining agreement expires, shall be implemented by the plan sponsor beginning on the date specified in subparagraph (C).

“(C) DATE OF IMPLEMENTATION.—The date specified in this subparagraph is the date which is 180 days after the date on which the collective bargaining agreement described in subparagraph (A) or (B) expires.

“(D) FAILURE TO MAKE SCHEDULED CONTRIBUTIONS.—Any failure to make a contribution under a schedule of contribution rates provided under this paragraph shall be treated as a delinquent contribution under section 515 and shall be enforceable as such.”

(2) in subsection (e)(3), by amending subparagraph (C) to read as follows:

“(C) IMPOSITION OF SCHEDULE WHERE FAILURE TO ADOPT REHABILITATION PLAN.—

“(i) INITIAL CONTRIBUTION SCHEDULE.—If—

“(I) a collective bargaining agreement providing for contributions under a multiemployer plan that was in effect at the time the plan entered critical status expires, and

“(II) after receiving one or more schedules from the plan sponsor under paragraph (1)(B), the bargaining parties with respect to such agreement fail to adopt a contribution schedule with terms consistent with the rehabilitation plan and a schedule from the plan sponsor under paragraph (1)(B)(i),

the plan sponsor shall implement the schedule described in the last sentence of paragraph (1) beginning on the date specified in clause (iii).

“(ii) SUBSEQUENT CONTRIBUTION SCHEDULE.—If—

“(I) a collective bargaining agreement providing for contributions under a multiemployer plan in accordance with a schedule provided by the plan sponsor pursuant to a rehabilitation plan (or imposed under subparagraph (C)(i)) expires while the plan is still in critical status, and

“(II) after receiving one or more updated schedules from the plan sponsor under subparagraph (B)(ii), the bargaining parties with respect to such agreement fail to adopt a contribution schedule with terms consistent with the updated rehabilitation plan and a schedule from the plan sponsor,

then the contribution schedule applicable under the expired collective bargaining agreement, as updated and in effect on the date the collective bargaining agreement expires, shall be implemented by the plan sponsor beginning on the date specified in clause (iii).

“(iii) DATE OF IMPLEMENTATION.—The date specified in this subparagraph is the date which is 180 days after the date on which the collective bargaining agreement described in clause (i) or (ii) expires.

“(iv) FAILURE TO MAKE SCHEDULED CONTRIBUTIONS.—Any failure to make a contribution under a schedule of contribution rates provided under this subsection shall be treated as a delinquent contribution under section 515 and shall be enforceable as such.”

(b) AMENDMENTS TO THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE.—Section 432 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended—

(1) in subsection (c), by amending paragraph (7) to read as follows:

“(7) IMPOSITION OF SCHEDULE WHERE FAILURE TO ADOPT FUNDING IMPROVEMENT PLAN.—

“(A) INITIAL CONTRIBUTION SCHEDULE.—If—

“(i) a collective bargaining agreement providing for contributions under a multiemployer plan that was in effect at the time the plan entered endangered status expires, and

“(ii) after receiving one or more schedules from the plan sponsor under paragraph (1)(B), the bargaining parties with respect to such agreement fail to adopt a contribution schedule with terms consistent with the funding improvement plan and a schedule from the plan sponsor,

the plan sponsor shall implement the schedule described in paragraph (1)(B)(i)(I) beginning on the date specified in subparagraph (C).

“(B) SUBSEQUENT CONTRIBUTION SCHEDULE.—If—

“(i) a collective bargaining agreement providing for contributions under a multiemployer plan in accordance with a schedule provided by the plan sponsor pursuant to a funding improvement plan (or imposed under subparagraph (A)) expires while the plan is still in endangered status, and

“(ii) after receiving one or more updated schedules from the plan sponsor under paragraph (6)(B), the bargaining parties with respect to such agreement fail to adopt a contribution schedule with terms consistent with the updated funding improvement plan and a schedule from the plan sponsor,

then the contribution schedule applicable under the expired collective bargaining agreement, as updated and in effect on the date the collective bargaining agreement expires, shall be implemented by the plan sponsor beginning on the date specified in subparagraph (C).

“(C) DATE OF IMPLEMENTATION.—The date specified in this subparagraph is the date which is 180 days after the date on which the collective bargaining agreement described in subparagraph (A) or (B) expires.”, and

(2) in subsection (e)(3), by amending subparagraph (C) to read as follows:

“(C) IMPOSITION OF SCHEDULE WHERE FAILURE TO ADOPT REHABILITATION PLAN.—

“(i) INITIAL CONTRIBUTION SCHEDULE.—If—

“(I) a collective bargaining agreement providing for contributions under a multiemployer plan that was in effect at the time the plan entered critical status expires, and

“(II) after receiving one or more schedules from the plan sponsor under paragraph (1)(B), the bargaining parties with respect to such agreement fail to adopt a contribution schedule with terms consistent with the rehabilitation plan and a schedule from the plan sponsor under paragraph (1)(B)(i),

the plan sponsor shall implement the schedule described in the last sentence of paragraph (1) beginning on the date specified in clause (iii).

“(ii) SUBSEQUENT CONTRIBUTION SCHEDULE.—If—

“(I) a collective bargaining agreement providing for contributions under a multiemployer plan in accordance with a schedule provided by the plan sponsor pursuant to a

rehabilitation plan (or imposed under subparagraph (C)(i)) expires while the plan is still in critical status, and

“(II) after receiving one or more updated schedules from the plan sponsor under subparagraph (B)(ii), the bargaining parties with respect to such agreement fail to adopt a contribution schedule with terms consistent with the updated rehabilitation plan and a schedule from the plan sponsor,

then the contribution schedule applicable under the expired collective bargaining agreement, as updated and in effect on the date the collective bargaining agreement expires, shall be implemented by the plan sponsor beginning on the date specified in clause (iii).

“(iii) DATE OF IMPLEMENTATION.—The date specified in this subparagraph is the date which is 180 days after the date on which the collective bargaining agreement described in clause (ii) or (iii) expires.”

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply with respect to plan years beginning after December 31, 2014.

#### SEC. 108. REPEAL OF REORGANIZATION RULES FOR MULTIEMPLOYER PLANS.

(a) AMENDMENTS TO EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT INCOME SECURITY ACT OF 1974.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Sections 4241, 4242, 4243, 4244, and 4244A of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1421; 1422; 1423; 1424; 1425) are repealed.

(2) MODIFICATION OF INSOLVENCY RULES.—Section 4245 of such Act (29 U.S.C. 1426) is amended—

(A) by striking “reorganization” each place it appears and inserting “critical status, as described in subsection 305(b)(2).”;

(B) in subsection (c)(2)—

(i) by striking “The suspension” and inserting “(A) The suspension”;

(ii) by striking “(within the meaning of section 4241(b)(6))”; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

“(B) For purposes of this paragraph—

“(i) the term ‘person in pay status’ means—

“(I) a participant or beneficiary on the last day of the base plan year who, at any time during such year, was paid an early, late, normal, or disability retirement benefit (or a death benefit related to a retirement benefit), and

“(II) to the extent provided in regulations prescribed by the Secretary of the Treasury, any other person who is entitled to such a benefit under the plan.

“(ii) the base plan year for any plan year is—

“(I) if there is a relevant collective bargaining agreement, the last plan year ending at least 6 months before the relevant effective date, or

“(II) if there is no relevant collective bargaining agreement, the last plan year ending at least 12 months before the beginning of the plan year.

“(iii) a relevant collective bargaining agreement is a collective bargaining agreement—

“(I) which is in effect for at least 6 months during the plan year, and

“(II) which has not been in effect for more than 36 months as of the end of the plan year.

“(iv) the relevant effective date is the earliest of the effective dates for the relevant collective bargaining agreements.”;

(C) in subsection (d)—

(i) in paragraph (1), by striking “(determined in accordance with section 4243(3)(B)(ii))”; and

(ii) by adding at the end the following:

“(4) For purposes of this subsection, the value of plan assets shall be the value of the available plan assets determined under regulations prescribed by the Secretary of the Treasury.”;

(D) in subsection (e)(1)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by striking “the corporation, the parties described in section 4242(a)(2), and the plan participants and beneficiaries” and inserting “the parties described in section 101(f)(1)”;

(ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking “section 4242(a)(2) and the plan participants and beneficiaries” and inserting “section 101(f)(1)”;

(E) by adding at the end the following:

“(g) Subsections (a) and (c) shall not apply to a plan that, for the plan year, is operating under section 305(e)(9), regarding benefit suspensions by certain multiemployer plans in critical and declining status.”.

(3) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) DEFINITION OF REORGANIZATION INDEX.—Section 4001(a) of such Act (29 U.S.C. 1301(a)) is amended by striking paragraph (9).

(B) MINIMUM FUNDING STANDARDS.—Section 304(a) of such Act (29 U.S.C. 1084(a)) is amended to read as follows:

“(a) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of section 302, the accumulated funding deficiency of a multiemployer plan for any plan year is the amount, determined as of the end of the plan year, equal to the excess (if any) of the total charges to the funding standard account of the plan for all plan years (beginning with the first plan year for which this part applies to the plan) over the total credits to such account for such years.”.

(C) MODIFICATION OF PART HEADING.—Part 3 of subtitle D of title IV of such Act (29 U.S.C. 1421 et seq.) is amended by striking the heading and inserting “**INSOLVENT PLANS**”.

(D) CONFORMING AMENDMENT TO TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents in section 1 of such Act (29 U.S.C. 1001 note) is amended by striking the items relating to sections 4241 through 4244A.

(b) AMENDMENTS TO THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Sections 418, 418A, 418B, 418C, and 418D of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 are repealed.

(2) MODIFICATION OF INSOLVENCY RULES.—Section 418E of such Code is amended—

(A) by striking “reorganization” each place it appears and inserting “critical status, as described in subsection 432(b)(2)”;

(B) in subsection (c)(2)—

(i) by striking “The suspension” and inserting “(A) The suspension”;

(ii) by striking “(within the meaning of section 418(b)(6))”;

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

“(B) For purposes of this paragraph—

“(i) the term ‘person in pay status’ means—

“(I) a participant or beneficiary on the last day of the base plan year who, at any time during such year, was paid an early, late, normal, or disability retirement benefit (or a death benefit related to a retirement benefit), and

“(II) to the extent provided in regulations prescribed by the Secretary of the Treasury, any other person who is entitled to such a benefit under the plan.

“(ii) the base plan year for any plan year is—

“(I) if there is a relevant collective bargaining agreement, the last plan year ending at least 6 months before the relevant effective date, or

“(II) if there is no relevant collective bargaining agreement, the last plan year ending

at least 12 months before the beginning of the plan year.

“(iii) a relevant collective bargaining agreement is a collective bargaining agreement—

“(I) which is in effect for at least 6 months during the plan year, and

“(II) which has not been in effect for more than 36 months as of the end of the plan year.

“(iv) the relevant effective date is the earliest of the effective dates for the relevant collective bargaining agreements.”;

(C) in subsection (d)—

(i) in paragraph (1), by striking “(determined in accordance with section 418B(3)(B)(ii))”;

(ii) by adding at the end the following:

“(4) For purposes of this subsection, the value of plan assets shall be the value of the available plan assets determined under regulations prescribed by the Secretary of the Treasury.”;

(D) in subsection (e)(1)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by striking “the corporation, the parties described in section 418A(a)(2), and the plan participants and beneficiaries” and inserting “the parties described in section 101(f)(1) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974”;

(ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking “section 418A(a)(2) and the plan participants and beneficiaries” and inserting “section 101(f)(1) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974”;

(E) by adding at the end the following:

“(h) Subsections (a) and (c) shall not apply to a plan that, for the plan year, is operating under section 432(e)(9), regarding benefit suspensions by certain multiemployer plans in critical and declining status.”.

(3) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) MINIMUM FUNDING STANDARDS.—Section 431(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended to read as follows:

“(a) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of section 412, the accumulated funding deficiency of a multiemployer plan for any plan year is the amount, determined as of the end of the plan year, equal to the excess (if any) of the total charges to the funding standard account of the plan for all plan years (beginning with the first plan year for which this part applies to the plan) over the total credits to such account for such years.”.

(B) MODIFICATION OF SUBPART HEADING.—Subpart C of part I of subchapter D of chapter 1 of such Code is amended by striking the heading and inserting “**INSOLVENT PLANS**”.

(C) CONFORMING AMENDMENT TO TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for such subpart C is amended by striking the items relating to sections 418 through 418D.

(D) CONFORMING AMENDMENT TO TABLE OF SUBPARTS.—The table of subparts for part I of subchapter D of chapter 1 of such Code is amended by striking the heading and inserting “**INSOLVENT PLANS**”.

(e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply with respect to plan years beginning after December 31, 2014.

#### SEC. 109. DISREGARD OF CERTAIN CONTRIBUTION INCREASES FOR WITHDRAWAL LIABILITY PURPOSES.

(a) AMENDMENT TO EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT INCOME SECURITY ACT OF 1974.—Section 305 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1085) is amended—

(1) in subsection (e), by striking paragraph (9);

(2) in subsection (f)—

(A) by striking paragraph (3) and redesignating paragraph (4) as paragraph (3); and

(B) in paragraph (3) (as redesignated by subparagraph (A)), by striking “During the rehabilitation plan adoption period—” and inserting “During the period beginning on the date of the certification under subsection (b)(3)(A) for the initial critical year and ending on the date of the adoption of a rehabilitation plan—”;

(3) by redesignating subsections (g), (h), and (i) as subsections (h), (i), and (j), respectively; and

(4) by inserting after subsection (f) the following:

“(g) ADJUSTMENTS DISREGARDED IN WITHDRAWAL LIABILITY DETERMINATION.—

“(1) BENEFIT REDUCTION.—Any benefit reductions under subsection (e)(8) or (f) shall be disregarded in determining a plan’s unfunded vested benefits for purposes of determining an employer’s withdrawal liability under section 4201.

“(2) SURCHARGES.—Any surcharges under subsection (e)(7) shall be disregarded in determining the allocation of unfunded vested benefits to an employer under section 4211 and in determining the highest contribution rate under section 4219(c), except for purposes of determining the unfunded vested benefits attributable to an employer under section 4211(c)(4) or a comparable method approved under section 4211(c)(5).

“(3) CONTRIBUTION INCREASES REQUIRED BY FUNDING IMPROVEMENT OR REHABILITATION PLAN.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Any increase in the contribution rate (or other increase in contribution requirements unless due to increased levels of work, employment, or periods for which compensation is provided) that is required or made in order to enable the plan to meet the requirement of the funding improvement plan or rehabilitation plan shall be disregarded in determining the allocation of unfunded vested benefits to an employer under section 4211 and in determining the highest contribution rate under section 4219(c), except for purposes of determining the unfunded vested benefits attributable to an employer under section 4211(c)(4) or a comparable method approved under section 4211(c)(5).

“(B) SPECIAL RULES.—For purposes of this paragraph, any increase in the contribution rate (or other increase in contribution requirements) shall be deemed to be required or made in order to enable the plan to meet the requirement of the funding improvement plan or rehabilitation plan except for increases in contribution requirements due to increased levels of work, employment, or periods for which compensation is provided or additional contributions are used to provide an increase in benefits, including an increase in future benefit accruals, permitted by subsection (d)(1)(B) or (f)(1)(B).

“(4) EMERGENCE FROM ENDANGERED OR CRITICAL STATUS.—In the case of increases in the contribution rate (or other increases in contribution requirements unless due to increased levels of work, employment, or periods for which compensation is provided) disregarded pursuant to paragraph (3), this subsection shall cease to apply as of the expiration date of the collective bargaining agreement in effect when the plan emerges from endangered or critical status. Notwithstanding the preceding sentence, once the plan emerges from critical or endangered status, increases in the contribution rate disregarded pursuant to paragraph (3) shall continue to be disregarded in determining the highest contribution rate under section 4219(c) for plan years during which the plan was in endangered or critical status.

“(5) **SIMPLIFIED CALCULATIONS.**—The Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation shall prescribe simplified methods for the application of this subsection in determining withdrawal liability and payment amounts under section 4219(c).”

(b) **AMENDMENTS TO INTERNAL REVENUE CODE.**—Section 432 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended—

(1) in subsection (e), by striking paragraph (9),

(2) in subsection (f)—

(A) by striking paragraph (3) and redesignating paragraph (4) as paragraph (3); and

(B) in paragraph (4) (as redesignated by subparagraph (A)), striking “During the rehabilitation plan adoption period—” and inserting “During the period beginning on the date of the certification under subsection (b)(3)(A) for the initial critical year and ending on the date of the adoption of a rehabilitation plan—”;

(3) by redesignating subsections (g), (h), and (i) as subsections (h), (i), and (j), respectively; and

(4) by inserting after subsection (f) the following:

“(g) **ADJUSTMENTS DISREGARDED IN WITHDRAWAL LIABILITY DETERMINATION.**—

“(1) **BENEFIT REDUCTION.**—Any benefit reductions under subsection (e)(8) or (f) shall be disregarded in determining a plan’s unfunded vested benefits for purposes of determining an employer’s withdrawal liability under section 4201 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974.

“(2) **SURCHARGES.**—Any surcharges under subsection (e)(7) shall be disregarded in determining the allocation of unfunded vested benefits to an employer under section 4211 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 and in determining the highest contribution rate under section 4219(c) of such Act, except for purposes of determining the unfunded vested benefits attributable to an employer under section 4211(c)(4) of such Act or a comparable method approved under section 4211(c)(5) of such Act.

“(3) **CONTRIBUTION INCREASES REQUIRED BY FUNDING IMPROVEMENT OR REHABILITATION PLAN.**—

“(A) **IN GENERAL.**—Any increase in the contribution rate (or other increase in contribution requirements unless due to increased levels of work, employment, or periods for which compensation is provided) that is required or made in order to enable the plan to meet the requirement of the funding improvement plan or rehabilitation plan shall be disregarded in determining the allocation of unfunded vested benefits to an employer under section 4211 of such Act and in determining the highest contribution rate under section 4219(c) of such Act, except for purposes of determining the unfunded vested benefits attributable to an employer under section 4211(c)(4) of such Act or a comparable method approved under section 4211(c)(5) of such Act.

“(B) **SPECIAL RULES.**—For purposes of this paragraph, any increase in the contribution rate (or other increase in contribution requirements) shall be deemed to be required or made in order to enable the plan to meet the requirement of the funding improvement plan or rehabilitation plan except for increases in contribution requirements due to increased levels of work, employment, or periods for which compensation is provided or additional contributions are used to provide an increase in benefits, including an increase in future benefit accruals, permitted by subsection (d)(1)(B) or (f)(1)(B).

“(4) **EMERGENCE FROM ENDANGERED OR CRITICAL STATUS.**—In the case of increases in the

contribution rate (or other increases in contribution requirements unless due to increased levels of work, employment, or periods for which compensation is provided) disregarded pursuant to paragraph (3), this subsection shall cease to apply as of the expiration date of the collective bargaining agreement in effect when the plan emerges from endangered or critical status. Notwithstanding the preceding sentence, once the plan emerges from critical or endangered status, increases in the contribution rate disregarded pursuant to paragraph (3) shall continue to be disregarded in determining the highest contribution rate under section 4219(c) of such Act for plan years during which the plan was in endangered or critical status.

“(5) **SIMPLIFIED CALCULATIONS.**—The Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation shall prescribe simplified methods for the application of this subsection in determining withdrawal liability and payment amounts under section 4219(c) of such Act.”

(c) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendments made by this section shall apply to benefit reductions and increases in the contribution rate or other required contribution increases that go into effect during plan years beginning after December 31, 2014 and to surcharges the obligation for which accrue on or after December 31, 2014.

#### **SEC. 110. GUARANTEE FOR PRE-RETIREMENT SURVIVOR ANNUITIES UNDER MULTIEMPLOYER PENSION PLANS.**

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 4022A(c) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1322a(c)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(4) For purposes of subsection (a), in the case of a qualified preretirement survivor annuity (as defined in section 205(e)(1)) payable to the surviving spouse of a participant under a multiemployer plan which becomes insolvent under section 4245(b) or 4281(d)(2) or is terminated, such annuity shall not be treated as forfeitable solely because the participant has not died as of the date on which the plan became so insolvent or the termination date.”

(b) **RETROACTIVE APPLICATION.**—The amendment made by this section shall apply with respect to multiemployer plan benefit payments becoming payable on or after January 1, 1985, except that the amendment shall not apply in any case where the surviving spouse has died before the date of the enactment of this Act.

#### **SEC. 111. REQUIRED DISCLOSURE OF MULTIEMPLOYER PLAN INFORMATION.**

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 101(k)(1) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1021(k)(1)) is amended to read as follows:

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Each administrator of a defined benefit plan that is a multiemployer plan shall, upon written request, furnish to any plan participant or beneficiary, employee representative, or any employer that has an obligation to contribute to the plan a copy of—

“(A) the current plan document (including any amendments thereto),

“(B) the latest summary plan description of the plan,

“(C) the current trust agreement (including any amendments thereto), or any other instrument or agreement under which the plan is established or operated,

“(D) in the case of a request by an employer, any participation agreement with respect to the plan for such employer that relates to the employer’s plan participation during the current or any of the 5 immediately preceding plan years,

“(E) the annual report filed under section 104 for any plan year,

“(F) the plan funding notice provided under subsection (f) for any plan year,

“(G) any periodic actuarial report (including any sensitivity testing) received by the plan for any plan year which has been in the plan’s possession for at least 30 days,

“(H) any quarterly, semi-annual, or annual financial report prepared for the plan by any plan investment manager or advisor or other fiduciary which has been in the plan’s possession for at least 30 days,

“(I) audited financial statements of the plan for any plan year,

“(J) any application filed with the Secretary of the Treasury requesting an extension under section 304(d) of this Act or section 431(d) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and the determination of such Secretary pursuant to such application, and

“(K) in the case of a plan which was in critical or endangered status under section 305 for a plan year, the latest funding improvement or rehabilitation plan, and the contribution schedules applicable with respect to such funding improvement or rehabilitation plan (other than a contribution schedule applicable to a specific employer).”

(b) **LIMITATIONS ON DISCLOSURE.**—Section 101(k)(3) of such Act (29 U.S.C. 1021(k)(3)) is amended by striking the 1st sentence and inserting the following: “In no case shall a participant, beneficiary, employee representative, or employer be entitled under this subsection to receive more than one copy of any document described in paragraph (1) during any one 12-month period, or, in the case of any document described in subparagraph (E), (F), (G), (H) or (I) of paragraph (1), a copy of any such document that as of the date on which the request is received by the administrator, has been in the administrator’s possession for 6 years or more. If the administrator provides a copy of a document described in paragraph (1) to any person upon request, the administrator shall be considered as having met any obligation the administrator may have under any other provision of this title to furnish a copy of the same document to such person upon request.”

(c) **RETENTION OF RECORDS.**—Section 107 of such Act (29 U.S.C. 1027) is amended—

(1) by inserting “(including the documents described in subparagraphs (E) through (I) of section 101(k))” after “file any report”; and

(2) by inserting “a copy of such report and” after “shall maintain”.

(d) **CIVIL ENFORCEMENT.**—Section 502(a) of such Act (29 U.S.C. 1132(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (9), by striking “or” at the end;

(2) in paragraph (10), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; or”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(11) in the case of a multiemployer plan, by an employee representative, or any employer that has an obligation to contribute to the plan, (A) to enjoin any act or practice which violates subsection (k) of section 101 (or, in the case of an employer, subsection (l) of such section), or (B) to obtain appropriate equitable relief (i) to redress such violation or (ii) to enforce such subsection.”

(e) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendments made by this section shall apply with respect to plan years beginning after December 31, 2014.

#### **Subtitle B—Multiemployer Plan Mergers and Partitions**

##### **SEC. 121. MERGERS.**

(a) **PBGC ASSISTANCE FOR MULTIEMPLOYER PLAN MERGERS.**—Section 4231 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of



1974 (29 U.S.C. 1411) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(e) FACILITATED MERGERS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—When requested to do so by the plan sponsors, the corporation may take such actions as it deems appropriate to promote and facilitate the merger of two or more multiemployer plans if it determines, after consultation with the Participant and Plan Sponsor Advocate selected under section 4004, that the transaction is in the interests of the participants and beneficiaries of at least one of the plans and is not reasonably expected to be adverse to the overall interests of the participants and beneficiaries of any of the plans. Such facilitation may include training, technical assistance, mediation, communication with stakeholders, and support with related requests to other government agencies.

“(2) FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.—In order to facilitate a merger which it determines is necessary to enable one or more of the plans involved to avoid or postpone insolvency, the corporation may provide financial assistance (within the meaning of section 4261) to the merged plan if—

“(A) one or more of the multiemployer plans participating in the merger is in critical and declining status (as defined in section 305(b)(4));

“(B) the corporation reasonably expects that—

“(i) such financial assistance will reduce the corporation's expected long-term loss with respect to the plans involved; and

“(ii) such financial assistance is necessary for the merged plan to become or remain solvent;

“(C) the corporation certifies that its ability to meet existing financial assistance obligations to other plans will not be impaired by such financial assistance; and

“(D) such financial assistance is paid exclusively from the fund for basic benefits guaranteed for multiemployer plans.

Not later than 14 days after the provision of such financial assistance, the corporation shall provide notice of such financial assistance to the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Finance of the Senate, the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate.”

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply with respect to plan years beginning after December 31, 2014.

#### SEC. 122. PARTITIONS OF ELIGIBLE MULTIEMPLOYER PLANS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 4233 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1413) is amended to read as follows:

#### “SEC. 4233. PARTITIONS OF ELIGIBLE MULTIEMPLOYER PLANS.

“(a)(1) Upon the application by the plan sponsor of an eligible multiemployer plan for a partition of the plan, the corporation may order a partition of the plan in accordance with this section. The corporation shall make a determination regarding the application not later than 270 days after the date such application was filed (or, if later, the date such application was completed) in accordance with regulations promulgated by the corporation.

“(2) Not later than 30 days after submitting an application for partition of a plan under paragraph (1), the plan sponsor of the plan shall notify the participants and bene-

ficiaries of such application, in the form and manner prescribed by regulations issued by the corporation.

“(b) For purposes of this section, a multiemployer plan is an eligible multiemployer plan if—

“(1) the plan is in critical and declining status (as defined in section 305(b)(4));

“(2) the corporation determines, after consultation with the Participant and Plan Sponsor Advocate selected under section 4004, that the plan sponsor has taken (or is taking concurrently with an application for partition) all reasonable measures to avoid insolvency, including the maximum benefit suspensions under section 305(e)(9), if applicable;

“(3) the corporation reasonably expects that—

“(A) a partition of the plan will reduce the corporation's expected long-term loss with respect to the plan; and

“(B) a partition of the plan is necessary for the plan to remain solvent;

“(4) the corporation certifies to Congress that its ability to meet existing financial assistance obligations to other plans (including any liabilities associated with multiemployer plans that are insolvent or that are projected to become insolvent within 10 years) will not be impaired by such partition; and

“(5) the cost to the corporation arising from such partition is paid exclusively from the fund for basic benefits guaranteed for multiemployer plans.

“(c) The corporation's partition order shall provide for a transfer to the plan referenced in subsection (d)(1) of the minimum amount of the plan's liabilities necessary for the plan to remain solvent.

“(d)(1) The plan created by the partition order is a successor plan to which section 4022A applies.

“(2) The plan sponsor of an eligible multiemployer plan prior to the partition and the administrator of such plan shall be the plan sponsor and the administrator, respectively, of the plan created by the partition order.

“(3) In the event an employer withdraws from the plan that was partitioned within ten years following the date of the partition order, withdrawal liability shall be computed under section 4201 with respect to both the plan that was partitioned and the plan created by the partition order. If the withdrawal occurs more than ten years after the date of the partition order, withdrawal liability shall be computed under section 4201 only with respect to the plan that was partitioned (and not with respect to the plan created by the partition order).

“(e)(1) For each participant or beneficiary of the plan whose benefit was transferred to the plan created by the partition order pursuant to a partition, the plan that was partitioned shall pay a monthly benefit to such participant or beneficiary for each month in which such benefit is in pay status following the effective date of such partition in an amount equal to the excess of—

“(A) the monthly benefit that would be paid to such participant or beneficiary for such month under the terms of the plan (taking into account benefit suspensions under section 305(e)(9) and any plan amendments following the effective date of such partition) if the partition had not occurred, over

“(B) the monthly benefit for such participant or beneficiary which is guaranteed under section 4022A.

“(2) In any case in which a plan provides a benefit improvement (as defined in section 305(e)(9)(E)(vi)) that takes effect after the ef-

fective date of the partition, the plan shall pay to the corporation for each year during the 10-year period following the partition effective date, an annual amount equal to the lesser of—

“(A) the total value of the increase in benefit payments for such year that is attributable to the benefit improvement, or

“(B) the total benefit payments from the plan created by the partition for such year. Such payment shall be made at the time of, and in addition to, any other premium imposed by the corporation under this title.

“(3) The plan that was partitioned shall pay the premiums imposed by the corporation under this title with respect to participants whose benefits were transferred to the plan created by the partition order for each year during the 10-year period following the partition effective date.

“(f) Not later than 14 days after the partition order, the corporation shall provide notice of such order to the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Finance of the Senate, the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate, and any affected participants or beneficiaries.”

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply with respect to plan years beginning after December 31, 2014.

#### Subtitle C—Strengthening the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation

#### SEC. 131. PREMIUM INCREASES FOR MULTIEMPLOYER PLANS.

(a) INCREASE IN PREMIUM RATE FOR MULTIEMPLOYER PLANS.—Section 4006(a)(3) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1306(a)(3)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A)—

(A) in clause (iv), by striking “or” at the end;

(B) in clause (v)—

(i) by inserting “and before January 1, 2015,” after “December 31, 2012,”; and

(ii) by striking the period at the end and inserting “, or”; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(vi) in the case of a multiemployer plan, for plan years beginning after December 31, 2014, \$26 for each individual who is a participant in such plan during the applicable plan year.”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(M) For each plan year beginning in a calendar year after 2015, there shall be substituted for the dollar amount specified in clause (vi) of subparagraph (A) an amount equal to the greater of—

“(i) the product derived by multiplying such dollar amount by the ratio of—

“(I) the national average wage index (as defined in section 209(k)(1) of the Social Security Act) for the first of the 2 calendar years preceding the calendar year in which such plan year begins, to

“(II) the national average wage index (as so defined) for 2013; and

“(ii) such dollar amount for plan years beginning in the preceding calendar year.

If the amount determined under this subparagraph is not a multiple of \$1, such product shall be rounded to the nearest multiple of \$1.”

(b) TREATMENT OF CERTAIN FUNDS.—Section 4005(b)(3) of such Act (29 U.S.C. 1305(b)(3)) is amended—

(1) by striking “Whenever” and inserting “(A) Whenever”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(B) Notwithstanding subparagraph (A)—

“(i) the amounts of premiums received under section 4006 with respect to the fund to be used for basic benefits under section 4022A in a fiscal year in the period beginning with fiscal year 2016 and ending with fiscal year 2020 shall be placed in a noninterest-bearing account within such fund in the following amounts:

“(I) for fiscal year 2016, \$108,000,000;

“(II) for fiscal year 2017, \$111,000,000;

“(III) for fiscal year 2018, \$113,000,000;

“(IV) for fiscal year 2019, \$149,000,000; and

“(V) for fiscal year 2020, \$296,000,000;

“(ii) premiums received in fiscal years specified in subclauses (I) through (V) of clause (i) shall be allocated in order first to the noninterest-bearing account in the amount specified and second to any other accounts within such fund; and

“(iii) financial assistance, as provided under section 4261, shall be withdrawn proportionately from the noninterest-bearing and other accounts within the fund.”

(c) **REPORT.**—In addition to any other report required by section 4022A(f), not later than June 1, 2016, the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation shall submit to Congress a report that includes—

(1) an analysis of whether the premium levels enacted under the amendment made by subsection (a) are sufficient for the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation to meet its projected mean stochastic basic benefit guarantee obligations for the ten- and twenty-year periods beginning with 2015, including an explanation of the assumptions underlying this analysis; and

(2) if the analysis under paragraph (1) concludes that the premium levels are insufficient to meet such obligations (or are in excess of the levels sufficient to meet such obligations), a proposed schedule of revised premiums sufficient to meet (but not exceed) such obligations.

(d) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendments made by subsection (a) shall apply with respect to plan years beginning after December 31, 2014.

## **TITLE II—REMEDIAL MEASURES FOR DEEPLY TROUBLED PLANS**

### **SEC. 201. CONDITIONS, LIMITATIONS, DISTRIBUTION AND NOTICE REQUIREMENTS, AND APPROVAL PROCESS FOR BENEFIT SUSPENSIONS UNDER MULTIEMPLOYER PLANS IN CRITICAL AND DECLINING STATUS.**

(a) **AMENDMENTS TO EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT INCOME SECURITY ACT OF 1974.**—

(1) **GENERAL RULE FOR PLAN IN CRITICAL AND DECLINING STATUS.**—Section 305(a) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1085(a)) is amended—

(A) in paragraph (1)(B), by striking “and” at the end;

(B) in paragraph (2)(B), by striking the period at the end and inserting “, and”; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(3) if the plan is in critical and declining status—

“(A) the requirements of paragraph (2) shall apply to the plan; and

“(B) the plan sponsor may, by plan amendment, suspend benefits in accordance with the requirements of subsection (e)(9).”

(2) **CRITICAL AND DECLINING STATUS DEFINED.**—Section 305(b) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1085(b)), as amended by sections 102 and 104, is further amended by adding at the end the following:

“(6) **CRITICAL AND DECLINING STATUS.**—For purposes of this section, a plan in critical status shall be treated as in critical and de-

clining status if the plan is described in one or more of subparagraphs (A), (B), (C), and (D) of paragraph (2) and the plan is projected to become insolvent within the meaning of section 4245 during the current plan year or any of the 14 succeeding plan years (19 succeeding plan years if the plan has a ratio of inactive participants to active participants that exceeds 2 to 1 or if the funded percentage of the plan is less than 80 percent).”

(3) **ANNUAL CERTIFICATION.**—Section 305(b)(3)(A)(i) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1085(b)(3)(A)(i)) is amended—

(A) by striking “and whether” and inserting “, whether”, and

(B) by inserting “, and whether or not the plan is or will be in critical and declining status for such plan year” before “, and” at the end.

(4) **ANNUAL FUNDING NOTICES.**—Section 101(f)(2)(B) of such Act (29 U.S.C. 1021(f)(2)(B)) is amended—

(A) by redesignating clauses (vi) through (x) as clauses (vii) through (xi), respectively; and

(B) by inserting after clause (v) the following:

“(vi) in the case of a multiemployer plan, whether the plan was in critical and declining status under section 305 for such plan year and, if so—

“(I) the projected date of insolvency;

“(II) a clear statement that such insolvency may result in benefit reductions; and

“(III) a statement describing whether the plan sponsor has taken legally permitted actions to prevent insolvency.”

(5) **PROJECTIONS OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.**—Section 305(b)(3)(B) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1085(b)(3)(B)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(iv) **PROJECTIONS OF CRITICAL AND DECLINING STATUS.**—In determining whether a plan is in critical and declining status as described in subsection (e)(9), clauses (i), (ii), and (iii) shall apply, except that—

“(I) if reasonable, the plan actuary shall assume that each contributing employer in compliance continues to comply through the end of the rehabilitation period or such later time as provided in subsection (e)(3)(A)(ii) with the terms of the rehabilitation plan that correspond to the schedule adopted or imposed under subsection (e), and

“(II) the plan actuary shall take into account any suspensions of benefits described in subsection (e)(9) adopted in a prior plan year that are still in effect.”

(6) **BENEFIT SUSPENSIONS FOR MULTIEMPLOYER PLANS IN CRITICAL AND DECLINING STATUS.**—Section 305(e) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1085(e)) (as amended by section 109) is amended by inserting after paragraph (8) the following:

“(9) **BENEFIT SUSPENSIONS FOR MULTIEMPLOYER PLANS IN CRITICAL AND DECLINING STATUS.**—

“(A) **IN GENERAL.**—Notwithstanding section 204(g) and subject to subparagraphs (B) through (I), the plan sponsor of a plan in critical and declining status may, by plan amendment, suspend benefits which the sponsor deems appropriate.

“(B) **SUSPENSION OF BENEFITS.**—

“(i) **SUSPENSION OF BENEFITS DEFINED.**—For purposes of this subsection, the term ‘suspension of benefits’ means the temporary or permanent reduction of any current or future payment obligation of the plan to any participant or beneficiary under the plan, whether or not in pay status at the time of the suspension of benefits.

“(ii) **LENGTH OF SUSPENSIONS.**—Any suspension of benefits made under subparagraph (A) shall remain in effect until the earlier of when the plan sponsor provides benefit improvements in accordance with subparagraph (E) or the suspension of benefits expires by its own terms.

“(iii) **NO LIABILITY.**—The plan shall not be liable for any benefit payments not made as a result of a suspension of benefits under this paragraph.

“(iv) **APPLICABILITY.**—For purposes of this paragraph, all references to suspensions of benefits, increases in benefits, or resumption of suspended benefits with respect to participants shall also apply with respect to benefits of beneficiaries or alternative payees of participants.

“(v) **RETIREE REPRESENTATIVE.**—

“(I) **IN GENERAL.**—In the case of a plan with 10,000 or more participants, not later than 60 days prior to the plan sponsor submitting an application to suspend benefits, the plan sponsor shall select a participant of the plan in pay status to act as a retiree representative. The retiree representative shall advocate for the interests of the retired and deferred vested participants and beneficiaries of the plan throughout the suspension approval process.

“(II) **REASONABLE EXPENSES FROM PLAN.**—The plan shall provide for reasonable expenses by the retiree representative, including reasonable legal and actuarial support, commensurate with the plan’s size and funded status.

“(III) **SPECIAL RULE RELATING TO FIDUCIARY STATUS.**—Duties performed pursuant to subclause (I) shall not be subject to section 404(a). The preceding sentence shall not apply to those duties associated with an application to suspend benefits pursuant to subparagraph (G) that are performed by the retiree representative who is also a plan trustee.

“(C) **CONDITIONS FOR SUSPENSIONS.**—The plan sponsor of a plan in critical and declining status for a plan year may suspend benefits only if the following conditions are met:

“(i) Taking into account the proposed suspensions of benefits (and, if applicable, a proposed partition of the plan under section 4233), the plan actuary certifies that the plan is projected to avoid insolvency within the meaning of section 4245, assuming the suspensions of benefits continue until the suspensions of benefits expire by their own terms or if no such expiration date is set, indefinitely.

“(ii) The plan sponsor determines, in a written record to be maintained throughout the period of the benefit suspension, that the plan is still projected to become insolvent unless benefits are suspended under this paragraph, although all reasonable measures to avoid insolvency have been taken (and continue to be taken during the period of the benefit suspension). In its determination, the plan sponsor may take into account factors including the following:

“(I) Current and past contribution levels.

“(II) Levels of benefit accruals (including any prior reductions in the rate of benefit accruals).

“(III) Prior reductions (if any) of adjustable benefits.

“(IV) Prior suspensions (if any) of benefits under this subsection.

“(V) The impact on plan solvency of the subsidies and ancillary benefits available to active participants.

“(VI) Compensation levels of active participants relative to employees in the participants’ industry generally.



“(VII) Competitive and other economic factors facing contributing employers.

“(VIII) The impact of benefit and contribution levels on retaining active participants and bargaining groups under the plan.

“(IX) The impact of past and anticipated contribution increases under the plan on employer attrition and retention levels.

“(X) Measures undertaken by the plan sponsor to retain or attract contributing employers.

“(D) LIMITATIONS ON SUSPENSIONS.—Any suspensions of benefits made by a plan sponsor pursuant to this paragraph shall be subject to the following limitations:

“(i) The monthly benefit of any participant or beneficiary may not be reduced below 110 percent of the monthly benefit which is guaranteed by the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation under section 4022A on the date of the suspension.

“(ii)(I) In the case of a participant or beneficiary who has attained 75 years of age as of the effective date of the suspension, not more than the applicable percentage of the maximum suspendable benefits of such participant or beneficiary may be suspended under this paragraph.

“(II) For purposes of subclause (I), the maximum suspendable benefits of a participant or beneficiary is the portion of the benefits of such participant or beneficiary that would be suspended pursuant to this paragraph without regard to this clause;

“(III) For purposes of subclause (I), the applicable percentage is a percentage equal to the quotient obtained by dividing—

“(aa) the number of months during the period beginning with the month after the month in which occurs the effective date of the suspension and ending with the month during which the participant or beneficiary attains the age of 80, by

“(bb) 60 months.

“(iii) No benefits based on disability (as defined under the plan) may be suspended under this paragraph.

“(iv) Any suspensions of benefits, in the aggregate (and, if applicable, considered in combination with a partition of the plan under section 4233), shall be reasonably estimated to achieve, but not materially exceed, the level that is necessary to avoid insolvency.

“(v) In any case in which a suspension of benefits with respect to a plan is made in combination with a partition of the plan under section 4233, the suspension of benefits may not take effect prior to the effective date of such partition.

“(vi) Any suspensions of benefits shall be equitably distributed across the participant and beneficiary population, taking into account factors, with respect to participants and beneficiaries and their benefits, that may include one or more of the following:

“(I) Age and life expectancy.

“(II) Length of time in pay status.

“(III) Amount of benefit.

“(IV) Type of benefit: survivor, normal retirement, early retirement.

“(V) Extent to which participant or beneficiary is receiving a subsidized benefit.

“(VI) Extent to which participant or beneficiary has received post-retirement benefit increases.

“(VII) History of benefit increases and reductions.

“(VIII) Years to retirement for active employees.

“(IX) Any discrepancies between active and retiree benefits.

“(X) Extent to which active participants are reasonably likely to withdraw support

for the plan, accelerating employer withdrawals from the plan and increasing the risk of additional benefit reductions for participants in and out of pay status.

“(XI) Extent to which benefits are attributed to service with an employer that failed to pay its full withdrawal liability.

“(vii) In the case of a plan that includes the benefits described in clause (III), benefits suspended under this paragraph shall—

“(I) first, be applied to the maximum extent permissible to benefits attributable to a participant's service for an employer which withdrew from the plan and failed to pay (or is delinquent with respect to paying) the full amount of its withdrawal liability under section 4201(b)(1) or an agreement with the plan,

“(II) second, except as provided by subclause (III), be applied to all other benefits that may be suspended under this paragraph, and

“(III) third, be applied to benefits under a plan that are directly attributable to a participant's service with any employer which has, prior to the date of enactment of the Multiemployer Pension Reform Act of 2014—

“(aa) withdrawn from the plan in a complete withdrawal under section 4203 and has paid the full amount of the employer's withdrawal liability under section 4201(b)(1) or an agreement with the plan, and

“(bb) pursuant to a collective bargaining agreement, assumed liability for providing benefits to participants and beneficiaries of the plan under a separate, single-employer plan sponsored by the employer, in an amount equal to any amount of benefits for such participants and beneficiaries reduced as a result of the financial status of the plan.

“(E) BENEFIT IMPROVEMENTS.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—The plan sponsor may, in its sole discretion, provide benefit improvements while any suspension of benefits under the plan remains in effect, except that the plan sponsor may not increase the liabilities of the plan by reason of any benefit improvement for any participant or beneficiary not in pay status by the first day of the plan year for which the benefit improvement takes effect, unless—

“(I) such action is accompanied by equitable benefit improvements in accordance with clause (ii) for all participants and beneficiaries whose benefit commencement dates were before the first day of the plan year for which the benefit improvement for such participant or beneficiary not in pay status took effect; and

“(II) the plan actuary certifies that after taking into account such benefits improvements the plan is projected to avoid insolvency indefinitely under section 4245.

“(ii) EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF BENEFIT IMPROVEMENTS.—

“(I) LIMITATION.—The projected value of the total liabilities for benefit improvements for participants and beneficiaries not in pay status by the date of the first day of the plan year in which the benefit improvements are proposed to take effect, as determined as of such date, may not exceed the projected value of the liabilities arising from benefit improvements for participants and beneficiaries with benefit commencement dates prior to the first day of such plan year, as so determined.

“(II) EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF BENEFITS.—The plan sponsor shall equitably distribute any increase in total liabilities for benefit improvements in clause (i) to some or all of the participants and beneficiaries whose benefit commencement date is before the date of the first day of the plan year in which the benefit improvements are pro-

posed to take effect, taking into account the relevant factors described in subparagraph (D)(vi) and the extent to which the benefits of the participants and beneficiaries were suspended.

“(iii) SPECIAL RULE FOR RESUMPTIONS OF BENEFITS ONLY FOR PARTICIPANTS IN PAY STATUS.—The plan sponsor may increase liabilities of the plan through a resumption of benefits for participants and beneficiaries in pay status only if the plan sponsor equitably distributes the value of resumed benefits to some or all of the participants and beneficiaries in pay status, taking into account the relevant factors described in subparagraph (D)(vi).

“(iv) SPECIAL RULE FOR CERTAIN BENEFIT INCREASES.—This subparagraph shall not apply to a resumption of suspended benefits or plan amendment which increases liabilities with respect to participants and beneficiaries not in pay status by the first day of the plan year in which the benefit improvements took effect which—

“(I) the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation and the Secretary of Labor, determines to be reasonable and which provides for only de minimis increases in the liabilities of the plan, or

“(II) is required as a condition of qualification under part I of subchapter D of chapter 1 of subtitle A of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or to comply with other applicable law, as determined by the Secretary of the Treasury.

“(v) ADDITIONAL LIMITATIONS.—Except for resumptions of suspended benefits described in clause (iii), the limitations on benefit improvements while a suspension of benefits is in effect under this paragraph shall be in addition to any other applicable limitations on increases in benefits imposed on a plan.

“(vi) DEFINITION OF BENEFIT IMPROVEMENT.—For purposes of this subparagraph, the term ‘benefit improvement’ means, with respect to a plan, a resumption of suspended benefits, an increase in benefits, an increase in the rate at which benefits accrue, or an increase in the rate at which benefits become nonforfeitable under the plan.

“(F) NOTICE REQUIREMENTS.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—No suspension of benefits may be made pursuant to this paragraph unless notice of such proposed suspension has been given by the plan sponsor concurrently with an application for approval of such suspension submitted under subparagraph (G) to the Secretary of the Treasury to—

“(I) such plan participants and beneficiaries who may be contacted by reasonable efforts,

“(II) each employer who has an obligation to contribute (within the meaning of section 4212(a)) under the plan, and

“(III) each employee organization which, for purposes of collective bargaining, represents plan participants employed by such an employer.

“(ii) CONTENT OF NOTICE.—The notice under clause (i) shall contain—

“(I) sufficient information to enable participants and beneficiaries to understand the effect of any suspensions of benefits, including an individualized estimate (on an annual or monthly basis) of such effect on each participant or beneficiary,

“(II) a description of the factors considered by the plan sponsor in designing the benefit suspensions,

“(III) a statement that the application for approval of any suspension of benefits shall be available on the website of the Department of the Treasury and that comments on such application will be accepted,

“(IV) information as to the rights and remedies of plan participants and beneficiaries,

“(V) if applicable, a statement describing the appointment of a retiree representative, the date of appointment of such representative, identifying information about the retiree representative (including whether the representative is a plan trustee), and how to contact such representative, and

“(VI) information on how to contact the Department of the Treasury for further information and assistance where appropriate.

“(iii) FORM AND MANNER.—Any notice under clause (i)—

“(I) shall be provided in a form and manner prescribed in guidance by the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation and the Secretary of Labor, notwithstanding any other provision of law,

“(II) shall be written in a manner so as to be understood by the average plan participant, and

“(III) may be provided in written, electronic, or other appropriate form to the extent such form is reasonably accessible to persons to whom the notice is required to be provided.

“(iv) OTHER NOTICE REQUIREMENT.—Any notice provided under clause (i) shall fulfill the requirement for notice of a significant reduction in benefits described in section 204(h).

“(v) MODEL NOTICE.—The Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation and the Secretary of Labor, shall in the guidance prescribed under clause (iii)(I) establish a model notice that a plan sponsor may use to meet the requirements of this subparagraph.

“(G) APPROVAL PROCESS BY THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY IN CONSULTATION WITH THE PENSION BENEFIT GUARANTY CORPORATION AND THE SECRETARY OF LABOR.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—The plan sponsor of a plan in critical and declining status for a plan year that seeks to suspend benefits must submit an application to the Secretary of the Treasury for approval of the suspensions of benefits. If the plan sponsor submits an application for approval of the suspensions, the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation and the Secretary of Labor, shall approve the application upon finding that the plan is eligible for the suspensions and has satisfied the criteria of subparagraphs (C), (D), (E), and (F).

“(ii) SOLICITATION OF COMMENTS.—Not later than 30 days after receipt of the application under clause (i), the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation and the Secretary of Labor, shall publish a notice in the Federal Register soliciting comments from contributing employers, employee organizations, and participants and beneficiaries of the plan for which an application was made and other interested parties. The application for approval of the suspension of benefits shall be published on the website of the Secretary of the Treasury.

“(iii) REQUIRED ACTION; DEEMED APPROVAL.—The Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation and the Secretary of Labor, shall approve or deny any application for suspensions of benefits under this paragraph within 225 days after the submission of such application. An application for suspension of benefits shall be deemed approved unless, within such 225 days, the Secretary of the Treasury notifies the plan sponsor that it has failed to satisfy one or more of the criteria described in this paragraph. If the Sec-

retary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation and the Secretary of Labor, rejects a plan sponsor's application, the Secretary of the Treasury shall provide notice to the plan sponsor detailing the specific reasons for the rejection, including reference to the specific requirement not satisfied. Approval or denial by the Secretary of the Treasury of an application shall be treated as a final agency action for purposes of section 704 of title 5, United States Code.

“(iv) AGENCY REVIEW.—In evaluating whether the plan sponsor has met the criteria specified in clause (ii) of subparagraph (C), the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation and the Secretary of Labor, shall review the plan sponsor's consideration of factors under such clause.

“(v) STANDARD FOR ACCEPTING PLAN SPONSOR DETERMINATIONS.—In evaluating the plan sponsor's application, the Secretary of the Treasury shall accept the plan sponsor's determinations unless it concludes, in consultation with the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation and the Secretary of Labor, that the plan sponsor's determinations were clearly erroneous.

“(H) PARTICIPANT RATIFICATION PROCESS.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—No suspension of benefits may take effect pursuant to this paragraph prior to a vote of the participants of the plan with respect to the suspension.

“(ii) ADMINISTRATION OF VOTE.—Not later than 30 days after approval of the suspension by the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation and the Secretary of Labor, under subparagraph (G), the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation and the Secretary of Labor, shall administer a vote of participants and beneficiaries of the plan. Except as provided in clause (v), the suspension shall go into effect following the vote unless a majority of all participants and beneficiaries of the plan vote to reject the suspension. The plan sponsor may submit a new suspension application to the Secretary of the Treasury for approval in any case in which a suspension is prohibited from taking effect pursuant to a vote under this subparagraph.

“(iii) BALLOTS.—The plan sponsor shall provide a ballot for the vote (subject to approval by the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation and the Secretary of Labor) that includes the following:

“(I) A statement from the plan sponsor in support of the suspension.

“(II) A statement in opposition to the suspension compiled from comments received pursuant to subparagraph (G)(ii).

“(III) A statement that the suspension has been approved by the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation and the Secretary of Labor.

“(IV) A statement that the plan sponsor has determined that the plan will become insolvent unless the suspension takes effect.

“(V) A statement that insolvency of the plan could result in benefits lower than benefits paid under the suspension.

“(VI) A statement that insolvency of the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation would result in benefits lower than benefits paid in the case of plan insolvency.

“(iv) COMMUNICATION BY PLAN SPONSOR.—It is the sense of Congress that, depending on the size and resources of the plan and geographic distribution of the plan's partici-

pants, the plan sponsor should take such steps as may be necessary to inform participants about proposed benefit suspensions through in-person meetings, telephone or internet-based communications, mailed information, or by other means.

“(v) SYSTEMICALLY IMPORTANT PLANS.—

“(I) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 14 days after a vote under this subparagraph rejecting a suspension, the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation and the Secretary of Labor, shall determine whether the plan is a systemically important plan. If the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation and the Secretary of Labor, determines that the plan is a systemically important plan, not later than the end of the 90-day period beginning on the date the results of the vote are certified, the Secretary of the Treasury shall, notwithstanding such adverse vote—

“(aa) permit the implementation of the suspension proposed by the plan sponsor; or

“(bb) permit the implementation of a modification by the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation and the Secretary of Labor, of such suspension (so long as the plan is projected to avoid insolvency within the meaning of section 4245 under such modification).

“(II) RECOMMENDATIONS.—Not later than 30 days after a determination by the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation and the Secretary of Labor, that the plan is systemically important, the Participant and Plan Sponsor Advocate selected under section 4004 may submit recommendations to the Secretary of the Treasury with respect to the suspension or any revisions to the suspension.

“(III) SYSTEMICALLY IMPORTANT PLAN DEFINED.—

“(aa) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this subparagraph, a systemically important plan is a plan with respect to which the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation projects the present value of projected financial assistance payments exceeds \$1,000,000,000 if suspensions are not implemented.

“(bb) INDEXING.—For calendar years beginning after 2015, there shall be substituted for the dollar amount specified in item (aa) an amount equal to the product of such dollar amount and a fraction, the numerator of which is the contribution and benefit base (determined under section 230 of the Social Security Act) for the preceding calendar year and the denominator of which is such contribution and benefit base for calendar year 2014. If the amount otherwise determined under this item is not a multiple of \$1,000,000, such amount shall be rounded to the next lowest multiple of \$1,000,000.

“(vi) FINAL AUTHORIZATION TO SUSPEND.—In any case in which a suspension goes into effect following a vote pursuant to clause (ii) (or following a determination under clause (v) that the plan is a systemically important plan), the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation and the Secretary of Labor, shall issue a final authorization to suspend with respect to the suspension not later than 7 days after such vote (or, in the case of a suspension that goes into effect under clause (v), at a time sufficient to allow the implementation of the suspension prior to the end of the 90-day period described in clause (v)(I)).

“(I) JUDICIAL REVIEW.—

“(i) DENIAL OF APPLICATION.—An action by the plan sponsor challenging the denial of an

application for suspension of benefits by the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation and the Secretary of Labor, may only be brought following such denial.

“(ii) APPROVAL OF SUSPENSION OF BENEFITS.—

“(I) TIMING OF ACTION.—An action challenging a suspension of benefits under this paragraph may only be brought following a final authorization to suspend by the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation and the Secretary of Labor, under subparagraph (H)(vi).

“(II) STANDARDS OF REVIEW.—

“(aa) IN GENERAL.—A court shall review an action challenging a suspension of benefits under this paragraph in accordance with section 706 of title 5, United States Code.

“(bb) TEMPORARY INJUNCTION.—A court reviewing an action challenging a suspension of benefits under this paragraph may not grant a temporary injunction with respect to such suspension unless the court finds a clear and convincing likelihood that the plaintiff will prevail on the merits of the case.

“(iii) RESTRICTED CAUSE OF ACTION.—A participant or beneficiary affected by a benefit suspension under this paragraph shall not have a cause of action under this title.

“(iv) LIMITATION ON ACTION TO SUSPEND BENEFITS.—No action challenging a suspension of benefits following the final authorization to suspend or the denial of an application for suspension of benefits pursuant to this paragraph may be brought after one year after the earliest date on which the plaintiff acquired or should have acquired actual knowledge of the existence of such cause of action.

“(J) SPECIAL RULE FOR EMERGENCE FROM CRITICAL STATUS.—A plan certified to be in critical and declining status pursuant to projections made under subsection (b)(3) for which a suspension of benefits has been made by the plan sponsor pursuant to this paragraph shall not emerge from critical status under paragraph (4)(B), until such time as—

“(i) the plan is no longer certified to be in critical or endangered status under paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (b), and

“(ii) the plan is projected to avoid insolvency under section 4245.”

(7) RULES RELATING TO WITHDRAWAL LIABILITY.—

(A) BENEFIT SUSPENSIONS DISREGARDED.—Section 305(g)(1) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as added by section 109, is further amended by inserting “or benefit reductions or suspensions while in critical and declining status under subsection (e)(9)), unless the withdrawal occurs more than ten years after the effective date of a benefit suspension by a plan in critical and declining status,” after “benefit reductions under subsection (e)(8) or (f)”.

(B) AUTHORITY OF PLAN TO SUBORDINATE WITHDRAWAL LIABILITY CLAIMS.—Section 4219(d) of such Act (29 U.S.C. 1399(d)) is amended by striking the period at the end and inserting “or to any arrangement relating to withdrawal liability involving the plan.”

(C) CIVIL ACTIONS.—Section 4003(f)(1) of such Act (29 U.S.C. 1303(f)(1)) is amended by inserting “plan sponsor,” before “fiduciary”.

(8) GUIDANCE.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation and the Secretary of Labor, shall publish appropriate guidance to implement

section 305(e)(9) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1085(e)(9)).

(b) AMENDMENTS TO THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1986.—

(1) GENERAL RULE FOR PLAN IN CRITICAL AND DECLINING STATUS.—Section 432(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended—

(A) in paragraph (1)(B), by striking “and” at the end;

(B) in paragraph (2)(B), by striking the period at the end and inserting “, and”; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(3) if the plan is in critical and declining status—

“(A) the requirements of paragraph (2) shall apply to the plan; and

“(B) the plan sponsor may, by plan amendment, suspend benefits in accordance with the requirements of subsection (e)(9).”

(2) CRITICAL AND DECLINING STATUS DEFINED.—Section 432(b) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended by sections 102 and 104, is further amended by adding at the end the following:

“(6) CRITICAL AND DECLINING STATUS.—For purposes of this section, a plan in critical status shall be treated as in critical and declining status if the plan is described in one or more of subparagraphs (A), (B), (C), and (D) of paragraph (2) and the plan is projected to become insolvent within the meaning of section 418E during the current plan year or any of the 14 succeeding plan years (19 succeeding plan years if the plan has a ratio of inactive participants to active participants that exceeds 2 to 1 or if the funded percentage of the plan is less than 80 percent).”

(3) ANNUAL CERTIFICATION.—Section 432(b)(3)(A)(i) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended—

(A) by striking “and whether” and inserting “, whether”, and

(B) by inserting “, and whether or not the plan is or will be in critical and declining status for such plan year” before “, and” at the end.

(4) PROJECTIONS OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.—Section 432(b)(3)(B) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(iv) PROJECTIONS OF CRITICAL AND DECLINING STATUS.—In determining whether a plan is in critical and declining status as described in subsection (e)(9), clauses (i), (ii), and (iii) shall apply, except that—

“(I) if reasonable, the plan actuary shall assume that each contributing employer in compliance continues to comply through the end of the rehabilitation period or such later time as provided in subsection (e)(3)(A)(ii) with the terms of the rehabilitation plan that correspond to the schedule adopted or imposed under subsection (e), and

“(II) the plan actuary shall take into account any suspensions of benefits described in subsection (e)(9) adopted in a prior plan year that are still in effect.”

(5) BENEFIT SUSPENSIONS FOR MULTIEMPLOYER PLANS IN CRITICAL AND DECLINING STATUS.—Section 432(e) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (as amended by section 109) is amended by inserting after paragraph (8) the following:

“(9) BENEFIT SUSPENSIONS FOR MULTIEMPLOYER PLANS IN CRITICAL AND DECLINING STATUS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding section 411(d)(6) and subject to subparagraphs (B) through (I), the plan sponsor of a plan in critical and declining status may, by plan amendment, suspend benefits which the sponsor deems appropriate.

“(B) SUSPENSION OF BENEFITS.—

“(i) SUSPENSION OF BENEFITS DEFINED.—For purposes of this subsection, the term ‘suspension of benefits’ means the temporary or permanent reduction of any current or future payment obligation of the plan to any participant or beneficiary under the plan, whether or not in pay status at the time of the suspension of benefits.

“(ii) LENGTH OF SUSPENSIONS.—Any suspension of benefits made under subparagraph (A) shall remain in effect until the earlier of when the plan sponsor provides benefit improvements in accordance with subparagraph (E) or the suspension of benefits expires by its own terms.

“(iii) NO LIABILITY.—The plan shall not be liable for any benefit payments not made as a result of a suspension of benefits under this paragraph.

“(iv) APPLICABILITY.—For purposes of this paragraph, all references to suspensions of benefits, increases in benefits, or resumption of suspended benefits with respect to participants shall also apply with respect to benefits of beneficiaries or alternative payees of participants.

“(v) RETIREE REPRESENTATIVE.—

“(I) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a plan with 10,000 or more participants, not later than 60 days prior to the plan sponsor submitting an application to suspend benefits, the plan sponsor shall select a participant of the plan in pay status to act as a retiree representative. The retiree representative shall advocate for the interests of the retired and deferred vested participants and beneficiaries of the plan throughout the suspension approval process.

“(II) REASONABLE EXPENSES FROM PLAN.—The plan shall provide for reasonable expenses by the retiree representative, including reasonable legal and actuarial support, commensurate with the plan’s size and funded status.

“(III) SPECIAL RULE RELATING TO FIDUCIARY STATUS.—Duties performed pursuant to subclause (I) shall not be subject to section 4975. The preceding sentence shall not apply to those duties associated with an application to suspend benefits pursuant to subparagraph (G) that are performed by the retiree representative who is also a plan trustee.

“(C) CONDITIONS FOR SUSPENSIONS.—The plan sponsor of a plan in critical and declining status for a plan year may suspend benefits only if the following conditions are met:

“(i) Taking into account the proposed suspensions of benefits (and, if applicable, a proposed partition of the plan under section 4233 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974), the plan actuary certifies that the plan is projected to avoid insolvency within the meaning of section 418E, assuming the suspensions of benefits continue until the suspensions of benefits expire by their own terms or if no such expiration date is set, indefinitely.

“(ii) The plan sponsor determines, in a written record to be maintained throughout the period of the benefit suspension, that the plan is still projected to become insolvent unless benefits are suspended under this paragraph, although all reasonable measures to avoid insolvency have been taken (and continue to be taken during the period of the benefit suspension). In its determination, the plan sponsor may take into account factors including the following:

“(I) Current and past contribution levels.

“(II) Levels of benefit accruals (including any prior reductions in the rate of benefit accruals).

“(III) Prior reductions (if any) of adjustable benefits.

“(IV) Prior suspensions (if any) of benefits under this subsection.

“(V) The impact on plan solvency of the subsidies and ancillary benefits available to active participants.

“(VI) Compensation levels of active participants relative to employees in the participants’ industry generally.

“(VII) Competitive and other economic factors facing contributing employers.

“(VIII) The impact of benefit and contribution levels on retaining active participants and bargaining groups under the plan.

“(IX) The impact of past and anticipated contribution increases under the plan on employer attrition and retention levels.

“(X) Measures undertaken by the plan sponsor to retain or attract contributing employers.

“(D) LIMITATIONS ON SUSPENSIONS.—Any suspensions of benefits made by a plan sponsor pursuant to this paragraph shall be subject to the following limitations:

“(i) The monthly benefit of any participant or beneficiary may not be reduced below 110 percent of the monthly benefit which is guaranteed by the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation under section 4022A of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 on the date of the suspension.

“(ii)(I) In the case of a participant or beneficiary who has attained 75 years of age as of the effective date of the suspension, not more than the applicable percentage of the maximum suspendable benefits of such participant or beneficiary may be suspended under this paragraph.

“(II) For purposes of subclause (I), the maximum suspendable benefits of a participant or beneficiary is the portion of the benefits of such participant or beneficiary that would be suspended pursuant to this paragraph without regard to this clause;

“(III) For purposes of subclause (I), the applicable percentage is a percentage equal to the quotient obtained by dividing—

“(aa) the number of months during the period beginning with the month after the month in which occurs the effective date of the suspension and ending with the month during which the participant or beneficiary attains the age of 80, by

“(bb) 60 months.

“(iii) No benefits based on disability (as defined under the plan) may be suspended under this paragraph.

“(iv) Any suspensions of benefits, in the aggregate (and, if applicable, considered in combination with a partition of the plan under section 4233 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974), shall be reasonably estimated to achieve, but not materially exceed, the level that is necessary to avoid insolvency.

“(v) In any case in which a suspension of benefits with respect to a plan is made in combination with a partition of the plan under section 4233 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, the suspension of benefits may not take effect prior to the effective date of such partition.

“(vi) Any suspensions of benefits shall be equitably distributed across the participant and beneficiary population, taking into account factors, with respect to participants and beneficiaries and their benefits, that may include one or more of the following:

“(I) Age and life expectancy.

“(II) Length of time in pay status.

“(III) Amount of benefit.

“(IV) Type of benefit: survivor, normal retirement, early retirement.

“(V) Extent to which participant or beneficiary is receiving a subsidized benefit.

“(VI) Extent to which participant or beneficiary has received post-retirement benefit increases.

“(VII) History of benefit increases and reductions.

“(VIII) Years to retirement for active employees.

“(IX) Any discrepancies between active and retiree benefits.

“(X) Extent to which active participants are reasonably likely to withdraw support for the plan, accelerating employer withdrawals from the plan and increasing the risk of additional benefit reductions for participants in and out of pay status.

“(XI) Extent to which benefits are attributed to service with an employer that failed to pay its full withdrawal liability.

“(vii) In the case of a plan that includes the benefits described in clause (III), benefits suspended under this paragraph shall—

“(I) first, be applied to the maximum extent permissible to benefits attributable to a participant’s service for an employer which withdrew from the plan and failed to pay (or is delinquent with respect to paying) the full amount of its withdrawal liability under section 4201(b)(1) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 or an agreement with the plan,

“(II) second, except as provided by subclause (III), be applied to all other benefits that may be suspended under this paragraph, and

“(III) third, be applied to benefits under a plan that are directly attributable to a participant’s service with any employer which has, prior to the date of enactment of the Multiemployer Pension Reform Act of 2014—

“(aa) withdrawn from the plan in a complete withdrawal under section 4203 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 and has paid the full amount of the employer’s withdrawal liability under section 4201(b)(1) of such Act or an agreement with the plan, and

“(bb) pursuant to a collective bargaining agreement, assumed liability for providing benefits to participants and beneficiaries of the plan under a separate, single-employer plan sponsored by the employer, in an amount equal to any amount of benefits for such participants and beneficiaries reduced as a result of the financial status of the plan.

“(E) BENEFIT IMPROVEMENTS.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—The plan sponsor may, in its sole discretion, provide benefit improvements while any suspension of benefits under the plan remains in effect, except that the plan sponsor may not increase the liabilities of the plan by reason of any benefit improvement for any participant or beneficiary not in pay status by the first day of the plan year for which the benefit improvement takes effect, unless—

“(I) such action is accompanied by equitable benefit improvements in accordance with clause (ii) for all participants and beneficiaries whose benefit commencement dates were before the first day of the plan year for which the benefit improvement for such participant or beneficiary not in pay status took effect; and

“(II) the plan actuary certifies that after taking into account such benefits improvements the plan is projected to avoid insolvency indefinitely under section 418E.

“(ii) EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF BENEFIT IMPROVEMENTS.—

“(I) LIMITATION.—The projected value of the total liabilities for benefit improvements for participants and beneficiaries not in pay status by the date of the first day of the plan year in which the benefit improvements are

proposed to take effect, as determined as of such date, may not exceed the projected value of the liabilities arising from benefit improvements for participants and beneficiaries with benefit commencement dates prior to the first day of such plan year, as so determined.

“(II) EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF BENEFITS.—The plan sponsor shall equitably distribute any increase in total liabilities for benefit improvements in clause (i) to some or all of the participants and beneficiaries whose benefit commencement date is before the date of the first day of the plan year in which the benefit improvements are proposed to take effect, taking into account the relevant factors described in subparagraph (D)(vi) and the extent to which the benefits of the participants and beneficiaries were suspended.

“(iii) SPECIAL RULE FOR RESUMPTIONS OF BENEFITS ONLY FOR PARTICIPANTS IN PAY STATUS.—The plan sponsor may increase liabilities of the plan through a resumption of benefits for participants and beneficiaries in pay status only if the plan sponsor equitably distributes the value of resumed benefits to some or all of the participants and beneficiaries in pay status, taking into account the relevant factors described in subparagraph (D)(vi).

“(iv) SPECIAL RULE FOR CERTAIN BENEFIT INCREASES.—This subparagraph shall not apply to a resumption of suspended benefits or plan amendment which increases liabilities with respect to participants and beneficiaries not in pay status by the first day of the plan year in which the benefit improvements took effect which—

“(I) the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation and the Secretary of Labor, determines to be reasonable and which provides for only de minimis increases in the liabilities of the plan, or

“(II) is required as a condition of qualification under part I of subchapter D of chapter 1 of subtitle A or to comply with other applicable law, as determined by the Secretary of the Treasury.

“(v) ADDITIONAL LIMITATIONS.—Except for resumptions of suspended benefits described in clause (iii), the limitations on benefit improvements while a suspension of benefits is in effect under this paragraph shall be in addition to any other applicable limitations on increases in benefits imposed on a plan.

“(vi) DEFINITION OF BENEFIT IMPROVEMENT.—For purposes of this subparagraph, the term ‘benefit improvement’ means, with respect to a plan, a resumption of suspended benefits, an increase in benefits, an increase in the rate at which benefits accrue, or an increase in the rate at which benefits become nonforfeitable under the plan.

“(F) NOTICE REQUIREMENTS.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—No suspension of benefits may be made pursuant to this paragraph unless notice of such proposed suspension has been given by the plan sponsor concurrently with an application for approval of such suspension submitted under subparagraph (G) to the Secretary of the Treasury to—

“(I) such plan participants and beneficiaries who may be contacted by reasonable efforts,

“(II) each employer who has an obligation to contribute (within the meaning of section 4212(a) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974) under the plan, and

“(III) each employee organization which, for purposes of collective bargaining, represents plan participants employed by such an employer.

“(ii) CONTENT OF NOTICE.—The notice under clause (i) shall contain—

“(I) sufficient information to enable participants and beneficiaries to understand the effect of any suspensions of benefits, including an individualized estimate (on an annual or monthly basis) of such effect on each participant or beneficiary,

“(II) a description of the factors considered by the plan sponsor in designing the benefit suspensions,

“(III) a statement that the application for approval of any suspension of benefits shall be available on the website of the Department of the Treasury and that comments on such application will be accepted,

“(IV) information as to the rights and remedies of plan participants and beneficiaries,

“(V) if applicable, a statement describing the appointment of a retiree representative, the date of appointment of such representative, identifying information about the retiree representative (including whether the representative is a plan trustee), and how to contact such representative, and

“(VI) information on how to contact the Department of the Treasury for further information and assistance where appropriate.

“(iii) FORM AND MANNER.—Any notice under clause (i)—

“(I) shall be provided in a form and manner prescribed in guidance by the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation and the Secretary of Labor, notwithstanding any other provision of law,

“(II) shall be written in a manner so as to be understood by the average plan participant, and

“(III) may be provided in written, electronic, or other appropriate form to the extent such form is reasonably accessible to persons to whom the notice is required to be provided.

“(iv) OTHER NOTICE REQUIREMENT.—Any notice provided under clause (i) shall fulfill the requirement for notice of a significant reduction in benefits described in section 4980F.

“(v) MODEL NOTICE.—The Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation and the Secretary of Labor, shall in the guidance prescribed under clause (iii)(I) establish a model notice that a plan sponsor may use to meet the requirements of this subparagraph.

“(G) APPROVAL PROCESS BY THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY IN CONSULTATION WITH THE PENSION BENEFIT GUARANTY CORPORATION AND THE SECRETARY OF LABOR.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—The plan sponsor of a plan in critical and declining status for a plan year that seeks to suspend benefits must submit an application to the Secretary of the Treasury for approval of the suspensions of benefits. If the plan sponsor submits an application for approval of the suspensions, the Secretary of the Treasury shall approve, in consultation with the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation and the Secretary of Labor, the application upon finding that the plan is eligible for the suspensions and has satisfied the criteria of subparagraphs (C), (D), (E), and (F).

“(ii) SOLICITATION OF COMMENTS.—Not later than 30 days after receipt of the application under clause (i), the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation and the Secretary of Labor, shall publish a notice in the Federal Register soliciting comments from contributing employers, employee organizations, and participants and beneficiaries of the plan for which an application was made and other interested parties. The application

for approval of the suspension of benefits shall be published on the website of the Department of the Treasury.

“(iii) REQUIRED ACTION; DEEMED APPROVAL.—The Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation and the Secretary of Labor, shall approve or deny any application for suspensions of benefits under this paragraph within 225 days after the submission of such application. An application for suspension of benefits shall be deemed approved unless, within such 225 days, the Secretary of the Treasury notifies the plan sponsor that it has failed to satisfy one or more of the criteria described in this paragraph. If the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation and the Secretary of Labor, rejects a plan sponsor's application, the Secretary of the Treasury shall provide notice to the plan sponsor detailing the specific reasons for the rejection, including reference to the specific requirement not satisfied. Approval or denial by the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation and the Secretary of Labor, of an application shall be treated as final agency action for purposes of section 704 of title 5, United States Code.

“(iv) AGENCY REVIEW.—In evaluating whether the plan sponsor has met the criteria specified in clause (ii) of subparagraph (C), the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation and the Secretary of Labor, shall review the plan sponsor's consideration of factors under such clause.

“(v) STANDARD FOR ACCEPTING PLAN SPONSOR DETERMINATIONS.—In evaluating the plan sponsor's application, the Secretary of the Treasury shall accept the plan sponsor's determinations unless it concludes, in consultation with the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation and the Secretary of Labor, that the plan sponsor's determinations were clearly erroneous.

“(H) PARTICIPANT RATIFICATION PROCESS.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—No suspension of benefits may take effect pursuant to this paragraph prior to a vote of the participants of the plan with respect to the suspension.

“(ii) ADMINISTRATION OF VOTE.—Not later than 30 days after approval of the suspension by the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation and the Secretary of Labor, under subparagraph (G), the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation and the Secretary of Labor, shall administer a vote of participants and beneficiaries of the plan. Except as provided in clause (v), the suspension shall go into effect following the vote unless a majority of all participants and beneficiaries of the plan vote to reject the suspension. The plan sponsor may submit a new suspension application to the Secretary of the Treasury for approval in any case in which a suspension is prohibited from taking effect pursuant to a vote under this subparagraph.

“(iii) BALLOTS.—The plan sponsor shall provide a ballot for the vote (subject to approval by the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation and the Secretary of Labor) that includes the following:

“(I) A statement from the plan sponsor in support of the suspension.

“(II) A statement in opposition to the suspension compiled from comments received pursuant to subparagraph (G)(ii).

“(III) A statement that the suspension has been approved by the Secretary of the Treas-

ury, in consultation with the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation and the Secretary of Labor.

“(IV) A statement that the plan sponsor has determined that the plan will become insolvent unless the suspension takes effect.

“(V) A statement that insolvency of the plan could result in benefits lower than benefits paid under the suspension.

“(VI) A statement that insolvency of the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation would result in benefits lower than benefits paid in the case of plan insolvency.

“(iv) COMMUNICATION BY PLAN SPONSOR.—It is the sense of Congress that, depending on the size and resources of the plan and geographic distribution of the plan's participants, the plan sponsor should take such steps as may be necessary to inform participants about proposed benefit suspensions through in-person meetings, telephone or internet-based communications, mailed information, or by other means.

“(v) SYSTEMICALLY IMPORTANT PLANS.—

“(I) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 14 days after a vote under this subparagraph rejecting a suspension, the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation and the Secretary of Labor, shall determine whether the plan is a systemically important plan. If the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation and the Secretary of Labor, determines that the plan is a systemically important plan, not later than the end of the 90-day period beginning on the date the results of the vote are certified, the Secretary of the Treasury shall, notwithstanding such adverse vote—

“(aa) permit the implementation of the suspension proposed by the plan sponsor; or

“(bb) permit the implementation of a modification by the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation and the Secretary of Labor, of such suspension (so long as the plan is projected to avoid insolvency within the meaning of section 4245 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 under such modification).

“(II) RECOMMENDATIONS.—Not later than 30 days after a determination by the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation and the Secretary of Labor, that the plan is systemically important, the Participant and Plan Sponsor Advocate selected under section 4004 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 may submit recommendations to the Secretary of the Treasury with respect to the suspension or any revisions to the suspension.

“(III) SYSTEMICALLY IMPORTANT PLAN DEFINED.—

“(aa) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this subparagraph, a systemically important plan is a plan with respect to which the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation projects the present value of projected financial assistance payments exceeds \$1,000,000,000 if suspensions are not implemented.

“(bb) INDEXING.—For calendar years beginning after 2015, there shall be substituted for the dollar amount specified in item (aa) an amount equal to the product of such dollar amount and a fraction, the numerator of which is the contribution and benefit base (determined under section 230 of the Social Security Act) for the preceding calendar year and the denominator of which is such contribution and benefit base for calendar year 2014. If the amount otherwise determined under this item is not a multiple of \$1,000,000, such amount shall be rounded to the next lowest multiple of \$1,000,000.

“(vi) FINAL AUTHORIZATION TO SUSPEND.—In any case in which a suspension goes into effect following a vote pursuant to clause (ii) (or following a determination under clause (v) that the plan is a systemically important plan), the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation and the Secretary of Labor, shall issue a final authorization to suspend with respect to the suspension not later than 7 days after such vote (or, in the case of a suspension that goes into effect under clause (v), at a time sufficient to allow the implementation of the suspension prior to the end of the 90-day period described in clause (v)(I)).

“(I) JUDICIAL REVIEW.—

“(i) DENIAL OF APPLICATION.—An action by the plan sponsor challenging the denial of an application for suspension of benefits by the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation and the Secretary of Labor, may only be brought following such denial.

“(ii) APPROVAL OF SUSPENSION OF BENEFITS.—

“(I) TIMING OF ACTION.—An action challenging a suspension of benefits under this paragraph may only be brought following a final authorization to suspend by the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation and the Secretary of Labor, under subparagraph (H)(vi).

“(II) STANDARDS OF REVIEW.—

“(aa) IN GENERAL.—A court shall review an action challenging a suspension of benefits under this paragraph in accordance with section 706 of title 5, United States Code.

“(bb) TEMPORARY INJUNCTION.—A court reviewing an action challenging a suspension of benefits under this paragraph may not grant a temporary injunction with respect to such suspension unless the court finds a clear and convincing likelihood that the plaintiff will prevail on the merits of the case.

“(iii) RESTRICTED CAUSE OF ACTION.—A participant or beneficiary affected by a benefit suspension under this paragraph shall not have a cause of action under this title.

“(iv) LIMITATION ON ACTION TO SUSPEND BENEFITS.—No action challenging a suspension of benefits following the final authorization to suspend or the denial of an application for suspension of benefits pursuant to this paragraph may be brought after one year after the earliest date on which the plaintiff acquired or should have acquired actual knowledge of the existence of such cause of action.

“(J) SPECIAL RULE FOR EMERGENCE FROM CRITICAL STATUS.—A plan certified to be in critical and declining status pursuant to projections made under subsection (b)(3) for which a suspension of benefits has been made by the plan sponsor pursuant to this paragraph shall not emerge from critical status under paragraph (4)(B), until such time as—

“(i) the plan is no longer certified to be in critical or endangered status under paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (b), and

“(ii) the plan is projected to avoid insolvency under section 418E.”

(6) RULE RELATING TO WITHDRAWAL LIABILITY.—Section 432(g)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as added by section 109, is further amended by inserting “, or benefit reductions or suspensions while in critical and declining status under subsection (e)(9), unless the withdrawal occurs more than ten years after the effective date of a benefit suspension by a plan in critical and declining status,” after “benefit reductions under subsection (e)(8) or (f)”.

(7) GUIDANCE.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation and the Secretary of Labor, shall publish appropriate guidance to implement section 432(e)(9) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

#### **DIVISION P—OTHER RETIREMENT-RELATED MODIFICATIONS**

##### **SECTION 1. SUBSTANTIAL CESSATION OF OPERATIONS.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (e) of section 4062 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1362) is amended to read as follows:

“(e) TREATMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CESSATION OF OPERATIONS.—

“(1) GENERAL RULE.—Except as provided in paragraphs (3) and (4), if there is a substantial cessation of operations at a facility in any location, the employer shall be treated with respect to any single employer plan established and maintained by the employer covering participants at such facility as if the employer were a substantial employer under a plan under which more than one employer makes contributions and the provisions of sections 4063, 4064, and 4065 shall apply.

“(2) SUBSTANTIAL CESSATION OF OPERATIONS.—For purposes of this subsection:

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘substantial cessation of operations’ means a permanent cessation of operations at a facility which results in a workforce reduction of a number of eligible employees at the facility equivalent to more than 15 percent of the number of all eligible employees of the employer, determined immediately before the earlier of—

“(i) the date of the employer’s decision to implement such cessation, or

“(ii) in the case of a workforce reduction which includes 1 or more eligible employees described in paragraph (6)(B), the earliest date on which any such eligible employee was separated from employment.

“(B) WORKFORCE REDUCTION.—Subject to subparagraphs (C) and (D), the term ‘workforce reduction’ means the number of eligible employees at a facility who are separated from employment by reason of the permanent cessation of operations of the employer at the facility.

“(C) RELOCATION OF WORKFORCE.—An eligible employee separated from employment at a facility shall not be taken into account in computing a workforce reduction if, within a reasonable period of time, the employee is replaced by the employer, at the same or another facility located in the United States, by an employee who is a citizen or resident of the United States.

“(D) DISPOSITIONS.—If, whether by reason of a sale or other disposition of the assets or stock of a contributing sponsor (or any member of the same controlled group as such a sponsor) of the plan relating to operations at a facility or otherwise, an employer (the ‘transferee employer’) other than the employer which experiences the substantial cessation of operations (the ‘transferor employer’) conducts any portion of such operations, then—

“(i) an eligible employee separated from employment with the transferor employer at the facility shall not be taken into account in computing a workforce reduction if—

“(I) within a reasonable period of time, the employee is replaced by the transferee employer by an employee who is a citizen or resident of the United States; and

“(II) in the case of an eligible employee who is a participant in a single employer plan maintained by the transferor employer, the transferee employer, within a reasonable period of time, maintains a single employer plan which includes the assets and liabilities attributable to the accrued benefit of the eligible employee at the time of separation from employment with the transferor employer; and

“(ii) an eligible employee who continues to be employed at the facility by the transferee employer shall not be taken into account in computing a workforce reduction if—

“(I) the eligible employee is not a participant in a single employer plan maintained by the transferor employer, or

“(II) in any other case, the transferee employer, within a reasonable period of time, maintains a single employer plan which includes the assets and liabilities attributable to the accrued benefit of the eligible employee at the time of separation from employment with the transferor employer.

“(3) EXEMPTION FOR PLANS WITH LIMITED UNDERFUNDING.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply with respect to a single employer plan if, for the plan year preceding the plan year in which the cessation occurred—

“(A) there were fewer than 100 participants with accrued benefits under the plan as of the valuation date of the plan for the plan year (as determined under section 303(g)(2)); or

“(B) the ratio of the market value of the assets of the plan to the funding target of the plan for the plan year was 90 percent or greater.

“(4) ELECTION TO MAKE ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO SATISFY LIABILITY.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—An employer may elect to satisfy the employer’s liability with respect to a plan by reason of paragraph (1) by making additional contributions to the plan in the amount determined under subparagraph (B) for each plan year in the 7-plan-year period beginning with the plan year in which the cessation occurred. Any such additional contribution for a plan year shall be in addition to any minimum required contribution under section 303 for such plan year and shall be paid not later than the earlier of—

“(i) the due date for the minimum required contribution for such year under section 303(j); or

“(ii) in the case of the first such contribution, the date that is 1 year after the date on which the employer notifies the Corporation of the substantial cessation of operations or the date the Corporation determines a substantial cessation of operations has occurred, and in the case of subsequent contributions, the same date in each succeeding year.

“(B) AMOUNT DETERMINED.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in clause (iii), the amount determined under this subparagraph with respect to each plan year in the 7-plan-year period is the product of—

“(I)  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the unfunded vested benefits determined under section 4006(a)(3)(E) as of the valuation date of the plan (as determined under section 303(g)(2)) for the plan year preceding the plan year in which the cessation occurred; and

“(II) the reduction fraction.

“(ii) REDUCTION FRACTION.—For purposes of clause (i), the reduction fraction of a single employer plan is equal to—

“(I) the number of participants with accrued benefits in the plan who were included in computing the workforce reduction under

paragraph (2)(B) as a result of the cessation of operations at the facility; divided by

“(II) the number of eligible employees of the employer who are participants with accrued benefits in the plan, determined as of the same date the determination under paragraph (2)(A) is made.

“(iii) LIMITATION.—The additional contribution under this subparagraph for any plan year shall not exceed the excess, if any, of—

“(I) 25 percent of the difference between the market value of the assets of the plan and the funding target of the plan for the preceding plan year; over

“(II) the minimum required contribution under section 303 for the plan year.

“(C) PERMITTED CESSATION OF ANNUAL INSTALLMENTS WHEN PLAN BECOMES SUFFICIENTLY FUNDED.—An employer's obligation to make additional contributions under this paragraph shall not apply to—

“(i) the first plan year (beginning on or after the first day of the plan year in which the cessation occurs) for which the ratio of the market value of the assets of the plan to the funding target of the plan for the plan year is 90 percent or greater; or

“(ii) any plan year following such first plan year.

“(D) COORDINATION WITH FUNDING WAIVERS.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—If the Secretary of the Treasury issues a funding waiver under section 302(c) with respect to the plan for a plan year in the 7-plan-year period under subparagraph (A), the additional contribution with respect to such plan year shall be permanently waived.

“(ii) NOTICE.—An employer maintaining a plan with respect to which such a funding waiver has been issued or a request for such a funding waiver is pending shall provide notice to the Secretary of the Treasury, in such form and at such time as the Secretary of the Treasury shall provide, of a cessation of operations to which paragraph (1) applies.

“(E) ENFORCEMENT.—

“(i) NOTICE.—An employer making the election under this paragraph shall provide notice to the Corporation, in accordance with rules prescribed by the Corporation, of—

“(I) such election, not later than 30 days after the earlier of the date the employer notifies the Corporation of the substantial cessation of operations or the date the Corporation determines a substantial cessation of operations has occurred;

“(II) the payment of each additional contribution, not later than 10 days after such payment;

“(III) any failure to pay the additional contribution in the full amount for any year in the 7-plan-year period, not later than 10 days after the due date for such payment;

“(IV) the waiver under subparagraph (D)(i) of the obligation to make an additional contribution for any year, not later than 30 days after the funding waiver described in such subparagraph is granted; and

“(V) the cessation of any obligation to make additional contributions under subparagraph (C), not later than 10 days after the due date for payment of the additional contribution for the first plan year to which such cessation applies.

“(ii) ACCELERATION OF LIABILITY TO THE PLAN FOR FAILURE TO PAY.—If an employer fails to pay the additional contribution in the full amount for any year in the 7-plan-year period by the due date for such payment, the employer shall, as of such date, be liable to the plan in an amount equal to the

balance which remains unpaid as of such date of the aggregate amount of additional contributions required to be paid by the employer during such 7-year-plan period. The Corporation may waive or settle the liability described in the preceding sentence, at the discretion of the Corporation.

“(iii) CIVIL ACTION.—The Corporation may bring a civil action in the district courts of the United States in accordance with section 4003(e) to compel an employer making such election to pay the additional contributions required under this paragraph.

“(5) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this subsection:

“(A) ELIGIBLE EMPLOYEE.—The term ‘eligible employee’ means an employee who is eligible to participate in an employee pension benefit plan (as defined in section 3(2)) established and maintained by the employer.

“(B) FUNDING TARGET.—The term ‘funding target’ means, with respect to any plan year, the funding target as determined under section 4006(a)(3)(E)(iii)(I) for purposes of determining the premium paid to the Corporation under section 4007 for the plan year.

“(C) MARKET VALUE.—The market value of the assets of a plan shall be determined in the same manner as for purposes of section 4006(a)(3)(E).

“(6) SPECIAL RULES.—

“(A) CHANGE IN OPERATION OF CERTAIN FACILITIES AND PROPERTY.—For purposes of paragraphs (1) and (2), an employer shall not be treated as ceasing operations at a qualified lodging facility (as defined in section 856(d)(9)(D) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986) if such operations are continued by an eligible independent contractor (as defined in section 856(d)(9)(A) of such Code) pursuant to an agreement with the employer.

“(B) AGGREGATION OF PRIOR SEPARATIONS.—The workforce reduction under paragraph (2) with respect to any cessation of operations shall be determined by taking into account any separation from employment of any eligible employee at the facility (other than a separation which is not taken into account as workforce reduction by reason of subparagraph (C) or (D) of paragraph (2)) which—

“(i) is related to the permanent cessation of operations of the employer at the facility, and

“(ii) occurs during the 3-year period preceding such cessation.

“(C) NO ADDITION TO PREFUNDING BALANCE.—For purposes of section 303(f)(6)(B) and section 430(f)(6)(B) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, any additional contribution made under paragraph (4) shall be treated in the same manner as a contribution an employer is required to make in order to avoid a benefit reduction under paragraph (1), (2), or (4) of section 206(g) or subsection (b), (c), or (e) of section 436 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 for the plan year.”

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to a cessation of operations or other event at a facility occurring on or after the date of enactment of this Act.

(2) TRANSITION RULE.—An employer that had a cessation of operations before the date of enactment of this Act (as determined under subsection 4062(e) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 as in effect before the amendment made by this section), but did not enter into an arrangement with the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation to satisfy the requirements of such subsection (as so in effect) before such date of enactment, shall be permitted to make the election under section 4062(e)(4) of

such Act (as in effect after the amendment made by this section) as if such cessation had occurred on such date of enactment. Such election shall be made not later than 30 days after such Corporation issues, on or after such date of the enactment, a final administrative determination that a substantial cessation of operations has occurred.

(c) DIRECTION TO THE CORPORATION.—The Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation shall not take any enforcement, administrative, or other action pursuant to section 4062(e) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, or in connection with an agreement settling liability arising under such section, that is inconsistent with the amendment made by this section, without regard to whether the action relates to a cessation or other event that occurs before, on, or after the date of the enactment of this Act, unless such action is in connection with a settlement agreement that is in place before June 1, 2014. The Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation shall not initiate a new enforcement action with respect to section 4062(e) of such Act that is inconsistent with its enforcement policy in effect on June 1, 2014.

## SEC. 2. CLARIFICATION OF THE NORMAL RETIREMENT AGE.

(a) AMENDMENTS TO THE EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT INCOME SECURITY ACT OF 1974.—Section 204 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1054) is amended by redesignating subsection (k) as subsection (l) and by inserting after subsection (j) the following new subsection:

“(k) SPECIAL RULE FOR DETERMINING NORMAL RETIREMENT AGE FOR CERTAIN EXISTING DEFINED BENEFIT PLANS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding section 3(24), an applicable plan shall not be treated as failing to meet any requirement of this title, or as failing to have a uniform normal retirement age for purposes of this title, solely because the plan provides for a normal retirement age described in paragraph (2).

“(2) APPLICABLE PLAN.—For purposes of this subsection—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘applicable plan’ means a defined benefit plan the terms of which, on or before December 8, 2014, provided for a normal retirement age which is the earlier of—

“(i) an age otherwise permitted under section 3(24), or

“(ii) the age at which a participant completes the number of years (not less than 30 years) of benefit accrual service specified by the plan.

A plan shall not fail to be treated as an applicable plan solely because the normal retirement age described in the preceding sentence only applied to certain participants or only applied to employees of certain employers in the case of a plan maintained by more than 1 employer.

“(B) EXPANDED APPLICATION.—Subject to subparagraph (C), if, after December 8, 2014, an applicable plan is amended to expand the application of the normal retirement age described in subparagraph (A) to additional participants or to employees of additional employers maintaining the plan, such plan shall also be treated as an applicable plan with respect to such participants or employees.

“(C) LIMITATION ON EXPANDED APPLICATION.—A defined benefit plan shall be an applicable plan only with respect to an individual who—

“(i) is a participant in the plan on or before January 1, 2017, or



“(ii) is an employee at any time on or before January 1, 2017, of any employer maintaining the plan, and who becomes a participant in such plan after such date.”.

(b) AMENDMENT TO THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1986.—Section 411 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(f) SPECIAL RULE FOR DETERMINING NORMAL RETIREMENT AGE FOR CERTAIN EXISTING DEFINED BENEFIT PLANS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding subsection (a)(8), an applicable plan shall not be treated as failing to meet any requirement of this subchapter, or as failing to have a uniform normal retirement age for purposes of this subchapter, solely because the plan provides for a normal retirement age described in paragraph (2).

“(2) APPLICABLE PLAN.—For purposes of this subsection—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘applicable plan’ means a defined benefit plan the terms of which, on or before December 8, 2014, provided for a normal retirement age which is the earlier of—

“(i) an age otherwise permitted under subsection (a)(8), or

“(ii) the age at which a participant completes the number of years (not less than 30 years) of benefit accrual service specified by the plan.

A plan shall not fail to be treated as an applicable plan solely because the normal retirement age described in the preceding sentence only applied to certain participants or only applied to employees of certain employers in the case of a plan maintained by more than 1 employer.

“(B) EXPANDED APPLICATION.—Subject to subparagraph (C), if, after December 8, 2014, an applicable plan is amended to expand the application of the normal retirement age described in subparagraph (A) to additional participants or to employees of additional employers maintaining the plan, such plan shall also be treated as an applicable plan with respect to such participants or employees.

“(C) LIMITATION ON EXPANDED APPLICATION.—A defined benefit plan shall be an applicable plan only with respect to an individual who—

“(i) is a participant in the plan on or before January 1, 2017, or

“(ii) is an employee at any time on or before January 1, 2017, of any employer maintaining the plan, and who becomes a participant in such plan after such date.”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to all periods before, on, and after the date of enactment of this Act.

### SEC. 3. APPLICATION OF COOPERATIVE AND SMALL EMPLOYER CHARITY PENSION PLAN RULES TO CERTAIN CHARITABLE EMPLOYERS WHOSE PRIMARY EXEMPT PURPOSE IS PROVIDING SERVICES WITH RESPECT TO CHILDREN.

(a) EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT INCOME AND SECURITY ACT OF 1974.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 210(f)(1) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1060(f)(1)) is amended by striking “or” at the end of subparagraph (A), by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (B) and inserting “; or”, and by inserting after subparagraph (B) the following new subparagraph:

“(C) that, as of June 25, 2010, was maintained by an employer—

“(i) described in section 501(c)(3) of such Code,

“(ii) chartered under part B of subtitle II of title 36, United States Code,

“(iii) with employees in at least 40 States, and

“(iv) whose primary exempt purpose is to provide services with respect to children.”.

(2) AGGREGATION RULES.—Section 210(f)(2) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1060(f)(2)) is amended by striking “paragraph (1)(B)” and inserting “subparagraph (B) and (C) of paragraph (1)”.

(b) INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1986.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 414(y)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking “or” at the end of subparagraph (A), by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (B) and inserting “; or”, and by inserting after subparagraph (B) the following new subparagraph:

“(C) that, as of June 25, 2010, was maintained by an employer—

“(i) described in section 501(c)(3) of such Code,

“(ii) chartered under part B of subtitle II of title 36, United States Code,

“(iii) with employees in at least 40 States, and

“(iv) whose primary exempt purpose is to provide services with respect to children.”.

(2) AGGREGATION RULES.—Section 414(y)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking “paragraph (1)(B)” and inserting “subparagraph (B) and (C) of paragraph (1)”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect as if included in the amendments made by the Cooperative and Small Employer Charity Pension Flexibility Act (29 U.S.C. 401 note).

### DIVISION Q—BUDGETARY EFFECTS

#### SEC. 1. BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

(a) STATUTORY PAY-AS-YOU-GO SCORECARDS.—The budgetary effects of divisions O and P shall not be entered on either PAYGO scorecard maintained pursuant to section 4(d) of the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010.

(b) SENATE PAY-AS-YOU-GO SCORECARDS.—The budgetary effects of divisions O and P shall not be entered on any PAYGO scorecard maintained for purposes of section 201 of S. Con. Res. 21 (110th Congress).

(c) CLASSIFICATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.—Notwithstanding Rule 3 of the Budget Scorekeeping Guidelines set forth in the joint explanatory statement of the committee of conference accompanying Conference Report 105-217 and section 250(c)(8) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, the budgetary effects of divisions O and P shall not be estimated—

(1) for purposes of section 251 of the such Act; and

(2) for purposes of paragraph 4(C) of section 3 of the Statutory Pay-as-You-Go Act of 2010 as being included in an appropriation Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 776, the motion shall be debatable for 80 minutes, with 60 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations and 20 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

The gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. ROGERS) and the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. LOWEY) each will control 30 minutes. The gentleman from

Minnesota (Mr. KLINE) and the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER) each will control 10 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kentucky.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 83 and that I may include tabular material on the same.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Kentucky?

There was no objection.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today, as we face the expiration of the current continuing resolution, to present the House amendment to the Senate amendment on H.R. 83, legislation to fund the Federal Government for the rest of the current fiscal year.

This amendment prevents a costly and damaging government shutdown while making good government funding and policy decisions and reining in regulatory overreach. It is good for the continuity of vital Federal programs and services; it is good for our economy; and it is good for the American people. In total, this legislation provides \$1.013 trillion for the operations of the Federal Government. This total is in line with the terms of the Ryan-Murray budget agreement.

It includes full-year appropriations legislation for 11 of the 12 annual appropriations bills, reflecting the most up-to-date budgetary needs of each agency and department. The Appropriations Committees in both the House and Senate went line by line through all of these bills, prioritizing funding for effective and vital programs, making the tough decisions to cut funding for lower priority programs.

In addition, the measure includes short-term funding for the Department of Homeland Security, holding the funding levels for those programs at current levels. This will ensure that efforts to secure our home front are maintained until February 27 of next year.

This legislation is a compromise—the product of hard-fought negotiations between the House and Senate, with give-and-take from both sides; but at the end of the day, Mr. Speaker, it reflects conservative priorities, keeps our spending in line, and reins in the regulatory overreach that has been hampering our economy.

As such, national security is a top priority in this bill. We provide a total of \$554 billion for the Department of Defense, including \$64 billion in overseas contingency operations funding to support our troops in the field, to combat ISIL, to train and equip our Iraqi



allies, and to counter Russian aggression.

To further assist our economy, we include provisions that put the brakes on regulatory programs that are too intrusive and too burdensome on American businesses. For instance, the legislation prohibits funds for the Army Corps of Engineers to act on two potentially harmful regulations: changing the definition of “fill material” and regulating water in certain agricultural areas under the Clean Water Act.

The bill measure prevents the listing of the Sage Grouse on the endangered species list—a premature action that would have severe economic consequences on Western States, especially; and the bill protects job creators from onerous regulatory burdens by amending Dodd-Frank swaps push-out rules.

This bill also demonstrates, Mr. Speaker, fiscal restraint. It cuts \$60 million from the EPA. It provides no funding for high-speed rail, the President's Race to the Top initiative, or UNESCO or IMF. No new funding is included for ObamaCare, and the bill holds the line on funding for the agency most responsible for implementing that law at Health and Human Services.

For the IRS, the bill cuts the agency \$345 million below last year, and it includes language to put a stop to improper behavior by prohibiting the targeting of groups based on their political beliefs, prohibiting the White House from ordering the IRS to determine the tax-exempt status of an organization, and from funding inappropriate videos or conferences.

This legislation is the product of the bipartisan and bicameral cooperation that the American people called for at the voting booths last month. Passage of this bill will show our people that we can and will govern responsibly, rise above inaction, and work together on their behalf.

I would have preferred, as I am sure all of us would have, that we would be considering each of the 12 appropriations bills under regular order—the old-fashioned way. This is the way it should operate. In the House, as you know, our committee passed out 11 of the 12 bills. The floor passed seven of the bills, and it would have passed more, but we realized the Senate was not going to act on any of them and did not; so five of the bills were left in the lurch because the Senate would not consider any of the bills.

We face a very tight deadline now, and we have no choice but to try to put together an omnibus spending bill aggregating all 12 bills into one. I would have preferred separately, but the Senate blocked the way. If we do nothing, we will be turning our backs on our constitutional duty and on the American people.

Mr. Speaker, before I close, I want to take a moment to recognize some people who made today possible.

First of all, the staff. We have had about a month to put together this enormous bill—with thousands of items—in all 12 subcommittees. We had great negotiations then with the Senate, but it was the work of the staff, of course, that enables us to be here today. I want to thank the staff on both sides of the aisle, who worked so hard to make this happen. I would like to call names, but I am afraid I would leave out somebody important, so I want to thank the staff for all of their wonderful, laborious work.

I will single out Will Smith, the chief clerk of the committee, who has guided the staff through this enormous process, who, I think, did a wonderful, marvelous job. I want to thank Will Smith, especially, and all of the staff for their great work in leading up to today.

Now I want to thank the members of the committee. They have all had a part in making this bill up—each subcommittee, each chairman of the subcommittee, each of the members of the subcommittees, who fought long and hard to ensure that we had the best bill before us today that we could have.

Notably, the ranking member of the committee, Mrs. NITA LOWEY, with whom we share this responsibility, has been a tremendous asset to us in the procedure leading up to today. I want to thank her personally for the great work that she did.

I also want to acknowledge, Mr. Speaker, six members of the committee who are moving on to greener pastures, making new chapters in their lives. They have been enormous helpers on the committee. They have chaired subcommittees, and they have worked long and hard on every bill that we have produced. We certainly hate to see them go, but they are writing a new chapter. I want to recognize JACK KINGSTON for his service, FRANK WOLF, TOM LATHAM, JIM MORAN, ED PASTOR, and BILL OWENS. All of those six are moving on. I want to thank them for their service.

It is appropriate that their final vote on the House floor will be on an appropriate Appropriations Committee bill—funding the entire government. This Nation is a better place because of their service, and I want to thank all of them for their contributions to the committee and to the House and to the people of this country over their combined 120 years of service.

I now call on the Members of the House—Republicans and Democrats alike—to support this legislation. Keep the government open. It is a good bill. It is bipartisan; it is bicameral; it was negotiated in good faith on both sides of the Capitol and on both sides of the aisle. Most importantly, Mr. Speaker, this bill is necessary, so I urge the Members to vote “yes.”

I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1245

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

At the outset, I want to thank the gentleman from Kentucky, Chairman ROGERS, for the cooperative way he has guided this committee. It has truly been a pleasure for me to work with him and his staff.

As we all know, Mr. Speaker, funding to keep the government operating expires at midnight tonight. It is my sincere hope that we can avoid the antics of last year, when a vocal minority in this body was able to hold the entire government hostage for reasons they couldn't articulate. It wasn't fair to the American people, and I hope we never have to go through it again.

Throughout this process, my goal has been to avoid another costly shutdown and make adequate investments to grow the economy, enhance our security, and protect the most vulnerable among us.

I remain disappointed, Mr. Speaker, that the House majority decided to leave out the agreement reached on the Department of Homeland Security. The decision reflects their political calculation on immigration policy.

I believe my chairman was right when he rebuffed efforts to restrict the President's executive orders on immigration on a must-pass appropriations bill. But forcing these important agencies—Customs and Border Protection, the U.S. Secret Service, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Transportation Security Administration—into a 2-month continuing resolution was unnecessary and unfortunate. The short-term CR creates uncertainty and will limit the Department's ability to make important decisions on procurements, hiring, and on new initiatives we all support.

I will now enter into the RECORD a letter from Homeland Security Secretary Johnson outlining the problems with funding the Department through a CR.

U.S. DEPARTMENT  
OF HOMELAND SECURITY,

Washington, DC, December 5, 2014.

Hon. NITA LOWEY,  
Ranking Member, Committee on Appropriations,  
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE LOWEY: As the United States Congress addresses the FY 2015 appropriations for the Federal Government, I ask for your support for a full annual appropriation for the Department.

As you know, a Continuing Resolution is not the most effective way to fund the government. Short-term funding measures are disruptive, create uncertainty, and impede efficient resource planning and execution. They inherently slow down day-to-day operations, force leadership to make short-sighted versus long-term decisions, and adversely impact operations in a manner that is hard to overcome if full funding is provided later in the year. Additionally, the disruption to acquisitions, the slow-down of our business processes, such as contracting and hiring,

and the effect of many other elements driven by short-term funding have a direct impact on effectiveness of the Department.

While a short-term Continuing Resolution has impacts across the Department, I wanted to highlight some specific areas that are most concerning.

**Securing our Borders—Investments to strengthen border security with new border surveillance technology for the Rio Grande Valley would not be available.**

**Grants Funding—State and local municipalities would not receive key preparedness grant funding, such as the State Homeland Security Program and Urban Areas Security Initiative grants.**

**National Security Cutter—the U.S. Coast Guard will not have funding to award the contract for NSC #8, the centerpiece of the Coast Guard's Fleet, supporting the maritime homeland security and defense missions. This could result in the expiration of the agreed upon offer by the prime and subcontractors, subsequently leading to a delay of delivery of NSC #8 and most likely resulting in increased costs.**

**National Bio and Agro Defense Facility—Awarding the final segment of the construction contract for the National Bio and Agro Defense Facility could be problematic. Uncertainties in the appropriations process have introduced risks to Kansas providing the gift funds to support the May 2015 award date. Appropriation of the final \$300 million is necessary for Kansas to provide the \$202 million in gift funds.**

In closing, I would like to thank the Congress for the continued support provided to the Department. However, I must also stress the need for an annual appropriation based on the FY 2015 President's Budget and the Committee markups accomplished earlier this summer.

Identical letters have been sent to the Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, and to the Chairwoman and Ranking Member of the Senate Appropriations Committee. Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me or the Department's Chief Financial Officer, Chip Fulghum.

Sincerely,

JEH CHARLES JOHNSON.

Mrs. LOWEY. My colleague from North Carolina, DAVID PRICE, the ranking member of the Homeland Security Appropriations Subcommittee, was unsuccessful in his attempt at the Rules Committee to restore full-year funding for this bill. I authored an amendment to strike two very controversial provisions—one to strike a rider related to swaps under the Dodd-Frank law, the other to strike a provision raising contribution limits to political parties. These provisions are divisive and unnecessary. They should be removed.

The 11 other spending bills included in this package are a mix of wins and losses. I was very pleased that most of the worst riders were dropped, including those on the Affordable Care Act, the Clean Air Act, and those preventing full implementation of new reforms to the Federal school lunch program.

Statutory budget caps essentially kept all discretionary programs at a hard freeze, but I am pleased we were able to prioritize a few key items, such as the National Institutes of Health

and food safety at the Food and Drug Administration. Another very modest but very important increase is provided for afterschool programs, many of which suffered steep cuts under sequestration and have still not made up those shortfalls.

I am also pleased the final agreement provides \$500 million for the Department of Transportation's TIGER program to fund major surface transportation projects, including bridges, transit, and passenger rail.

To keep firearms out of the hands of those who shouldn't possess them, the National Instant Criminal Background Check System will receive an increase of \$14.5 million. This important investment was achieved because Members on both sides of the aisle recognize how crucial this money is for States to improve their submission of records into the background check system.

The appropriations package includes much of the administration's request to respond to the deadly Ebola crisis, \$5.4 billion. We must ensure that all of those tasked with being on the front lines fighting this disease, from local hospitals to Federal agencies, have what they need. We all recognize how the ease of international travel has changed the way we must respond to contagious diseases. I have confidence in our health care system, the Centers for Disease Control, and the fantastic hospitals that stepped up to take and treat the patients with Ebola. But we should do whatever we can to stop the disease where it is the most deadly. The funding provided will allow research to ramp up to treat and hopefully develop a vaccine for Ebola.

Before I close, I would like to thank the committee staff for their tireless work, particularly David Pomerantz and Lesley Turner, who worked closely with Will and the entire Appropriations staff.

I am very pleased the Appropriations Committee was able to come together on a package to fund 11 of the 12 spending bills. But, again, I wish it had been on all 12 bills and only dealt with issues related to appropriations.

I will reiterate that the funding contains many things I wish had had a different outcome. I fought throughout the conference, for example, to get rid of the swaps language. It does not belong on an appropriations bill. The Reid-Boehner provision to increase by tenfold the limits on contributions to political parties is excessive and also does not belong on this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN), the very distinguished and hardworking chairman of the Appropriations Defense Subcommittee.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman for yielding. I

thank him for his leadership, and I thank Ranking Member LOWEY as well. They both deserve credit for moving this bill.

As we begin consideration of this important legislation this afternoon, I want to pay tribute to the men and women of our Armed Forces, all volunteers. They deserve our heartfelt thanks for their dedicated service and sacrifice. That is also extended to the professionals in our intelligence community. These men and women—whether in uniform or not—deserve greater certainty, stability, and predictability in their lives, something that they have often lacked as a result of a flawed congressional budget process over the last several years, which we seek to reestablish today as regular order. And, frankly, so do the American people. They deserve better.

The centerpiece of this comprehensive package, the engine that drives this bill is our House defense bill, which passed in June with overwhelmingly bipartisan support. Like that bill, this measure assures a strong national defense posture against terrorist groups like ISIL and al Qaeda, and challenges from nation-states like Russia, China, and Iran, and it addresses the Ebola epidemic.

This bill provides \$554 billion in new spending authority for the Department of Defense and our intelligence community, and it includes \$64 billion for overseas contingency operations. The base funding in this measure is \$500 million below the President's fiscal year 2015 budget and is just \$3.3 billion above the fiscal year 2014-enacted level.

Overall, the defense title of the omnibus appropriations package assures our commitment to the U.S. military's dominance over air, land, and sea; our commitment to our allies and partners; our commitment to our servicemembers and their families. At the same time, our committee clearly recognizes our Nation's debt crisis, and we have found areas and programs where reductions were possible without adversely impacting our Armed Forces or our defense industrial base, which is so vital to maintaining our military edge.

We make every dollar count in our portion of this bill without harming readiness or increasing risk for our warfighters.

National security is the priority job of the Federal Government. Our Constitution grants Congress the full range of authorities for defense of our Nation.

With our Armed Forces facing formidable enemies around the world and standing watch everywhere to protect our freedom, this bill cannot wait, and I urge its passage today.

In closing, I would like to thank the gentleman from Indiana, Ranking Member PETE VISCLOSKEY. He has been a valuable partner and friend. And thanks to the incredible Defense Appropriations Subcommittee, members

of the committee, and our professional staff, led by Tim Prince. They have done an incredible job. We should be enormously proud of them.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to yield 4 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. PRICE), the ranking member of the Homeland Security Appropriations Subcommittee.

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to this misguided legislation.

First, however, I want to commend the bipartisan, bicameral leadership of our Appropriations Committee and its subcommittees for their efforts this year to restore the normal appropriations process, with careful scrutiny of executive budget requests and the cooperative crafting of bills that fund our agencies and chart their course for the coming year.

Their work is reflected in the 11 bills—out of 12—before us today: a significant achievement, despite the overall inadequacy of the underlying budget numbers. The budget allocations, unfortunately, still reflect the ill-advised Republican strategy of focusing deficit reduction almost exclusively on nondefense discretionary spending, on our critical domestic investments.

As ranking member of the Homeland Security Subcommittee, I particularly want to thank the gentleman from Texas, Chairman JOHN CARTER, for the collaborative process he has led throughout this year.

Our full-year Homeland Security appropriations bill has been finished for over a week now, making its exclusion from this omnibus all the more troubling.

So, Mr. Speaker, stitching together 11 of our appropriations bills is, indeed, a positive achievement, but it is greatly diminished by the subjection of Homeland Security funding to a short-term continuing resolution and by the inclusion of controversial legislative riders, of which two are particularly egregious.

The first amendment would blow a major hole in the Dodd-Frank bill, putting taxpayers on the hook for some of the riskiest behavior of Wall Street institutions.

The second amendment would blow another hole in our efforts to prevent big money from swamping our political system. The bill's campaign finance provisions are completely nongermane to appropriations and would provide outsized influence to the wealthiest Americans by allowing a couple to donate \$1.5 million annually to party organizations. To my knowledge, these provisions have never had a single hearing in either the House or the Senate, and they have no place in an appropriations bill.

On top of these troubling provisions is the shortsighted, abusive treatment of Homeland Security. The bill before

us would force the Department of Homeland Security to operate under a short-term continuing resolution until late February, creating a cloud of uncertainty, putting critical programs and acquisitions at risk, and raising the threat of a full agency shutdown early next year.

A short-term continuing resolution limits the Department's ability to make strategic decisions about carrying out its security missions and improving coordination among its components. It also limits the ability to move ahead with the Secretary's Southern Border and Approaches Campaign. It creates uncertainty regarding ICE's capability to detain and deport dangerous criminals and to transfer unaccompanied children to HHS for humane treatment. It could also delay needed procurements and necessary security upgrades at the White House complex to prevent fence-jumper intrusions.

Most confoundingly, the bill provides immigration enforcement agencies with hundreds of millions of dollars less than their known needs and what our bipartisan bill would have provided.

If the Republican majority is concerned about the effectiveness of our immigration policy, this is really a strange way to show it. To hold enforcement funding hostage is no way to bring about positive change. But we know this is all about political pique directed at the President.

□ 1300

This is an unfortunate end, Mr. Speaker, to what has been a cooperative, bipartisan Homeland Security appropriations cycle. It leaves me unable, in good conscience, to recommend a "yea" vote. We should reject this bill, put all of our 12 bills together, and proceed with an appropriations bill that can command wide agreement within this body.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Iowa, Mr. TOM LATHAM, who is retiring.

He chairs the Transportation-HUD Appropriations Subcommittee and has been a stalwart help over the years on this committee and in the Congress in service to the country, so I guess for the last time he will be giving us a great oration.

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman for the kind words.

I rise today in strong support of this omnibus appropriations bill. I am particularly proud of the Transportation-Housing and Urban Development division which makes critical investments in our Nation's infrastructure, our air traffic control system, and housing for our neediest citizens.

The bill requires some tough choices, but it advances our common priorities of responsible government and fiscal

restraint. We worked hard to ensure that this final bill includes funding and policy provisions that are a priority for this body.

We provide funds for the FAA to support the full operations of the air traffic control system and the FAA's investment in NextGen. We meet the MAP-21 extension authorized funding levels for highways and transit. We provide housing funds to assist families served by HUD's housing programs, plus 10,000 new veterans housing vouchers. We provide \$3 billion for the Community Development Block Grant program which is a priority for Members of both sides of the aisle.

Mr. Speaker, I have been honored to serve as chairman of the T-HUD committee for the last 4 years and on the committee for the full 18 years. It has been an amazing experience to see each and every year how the work of this committee works for the people of America.

I would like to thank my ranking member, Mr. ED PASTOR, with whom it has been a real honor to serve. I wish him well in his retirement, and I know that this body will miss him as much as I will.

I would also like to thank the staff of the committee who put in countless hours to draft this compromise. I would also like to recognize and thank Doug Bobbitt from my staff for the past 12 years and who has served this institution for nearly three decades.

Our chairman, HAL ROGERS, has demonstrated that you can stick to your principles and still come to a compromise that puts the American people first.

Mr. Chairman, it has been an honor to serve on this committee and under your leadership. I appreciate very, very much all the kindness and personal things that you and Cynthia have done for Kathy and me. I very much appreciate it.

I urge Members to support this bill.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. SERRANO), the distinguished ranking member of the Financial Services Subcommittee.

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I thank our ranking member for the time.

First, let me mention a few of the good things in the Financial Services bill. We were able to substantially increase funding for the Securities and Exchange Commission by \$150 million above last year's level.

We were also able to increase funding for the Community Development Financial Institutions fund and to authorize the CDFI's fund bond guarantee program for another year.

We also increased robust funding for the SBA to help our Nation's small businesses, and we added additional dollars to the Consumer Products Safety Commission and the Commodity Futures Trading Commission. We removed numerous troubling riders that

affected the Affordable Care Act, travel to Cuba, and the ability of the SEC to police our markets.

Unfortunately, several problems remain in the bill. The bill would essentially repeal an important provision of Dodd-Frank to prevent banks from engaging in risky swaps activities backed by their depositors and ultimately by the Federal Government.

The protections of Dodd-Frank were put in place to prevent a return to the risky transactions that led to the 2008 meltdown. We should not backtrack on those important reforms.

I am also very concerned about the cuts made to the IRS which will force the agency to operate at levels below that of sequestration. This would cause a serious strain on the agency.

There are several riders attached to the District of Columbia section of the bill, something that happens every year. Republicans have again limited the District's ability to use their own dollars to provide abortion services. This bill also seeks to stop the District from implementing a recent ballot initiative that legalizes recreational use of marijuana.

Thankfully, on this last provision, Republicans have simply missed the mark. The language of the rider only prevents the District from enacting laws, rules, or regulations regarding marijuana legalization, but it does not prevent already enacted efforts like the recent ballot initiative.

The President recently took executive action to end everyday tragedies that occur when families are separated and people are deported; unfortunately, rather than using this as a chance to finally engage in reform, we are now doing something to the DHS by putting them on a CR.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mrs. LOWEY. I yield the gentleman an additional 30 seconds.

Mr. SERRANO. I would like to yield momentarily to the ranking member.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished ranking member, and I want to make it clear that I agree with the gentleman from New York, the ranking member of the Financial Services Subcommittee, and our colleague, the Delegate from D.C., that the language in the bill does not block either decriminalization of marijuana or the referendum on legalization.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. SIMPSON), the distinguished chairman of the Energy and Water Subcommittee on Appropriations.

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman.

It should be noted also, Mr. Speaker, that this is the last time we expect to see you presiding before you retire also. You have done a marvelous job, and thank you for your service to this

institution. I hope this vote doesn't go on for 3 hours and 45 minutes, but if there is anybody that can handle that, I am certain you have that experience.

I am pleased that after months of work, the committee has been able to bring this package together before the full House. I would like to thank my ranking member, Ms. KAPTUR, for her close collaboration throughout the entire process of putting together the Energy and Water sections of the omnibus.

I would also like to thank the hard work of our Senate counterparts, Senator FEINSTEIN and Senator ALEXANDER, for their hard work in bringing this package together.

Now, I want to be clear: I didn't get everything I wanted in this bill; none of us did. But we have worked hard to ensure that the bill clearly reflects the will of the American people.

The bill makes critical investments and makes important policy changes that we will continue to build on in coming years. For instance, I am pleased with how strongly it invests in our national defense and water infrastructure. Weapons activities receives the largest increase in this bill, \$387 million over last year. Within this level is full funding for the critical warheads such as the B-61 and the long-range standoff.

Investment in naval reactor programs increases by \$144 million, including the full request for the Ohio class replacement reactor. Funding for the Army Corps of Engineers is modestly increased from last year, including not less than \$1.1 billion for the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund activities. Last year, we directed no less than \$1 billion.

We also include some policy changes critical to supporting our country's economic development in a responsible manner. New this year, we included provisions prohibiting the regulation of certain agricultural activities such as the construction and maintenance of farm ponds or irrigation ditches under the Clean Water Act.

This is a major victory for our country's farmers and ranchers who consistently tell many of us that they are concerned about the potential of the EPA and the Army Corps of Engineers' overreach into their operations.

We continue prohibitions from last year against changes to the definition of fill material under the Clean Water Act and the implementation of the new lightbulb efficiency standards. These are commonsense provisions that protect consumers' choice and responsible commercial operations.

I think every one of us in this body including myself can think of other things that they wanted to see in this package and things they would have liked taken out, but overall, this bill moves the country forward in a balanced way and allows the new Congress

to proceed with its most important obligation, that of governing this country.

I want to echo the words of my chairman, Mr. ROGERS, how important the staff is in putting these bills together. Most people that don't serve on the committee don't know the time that they put in. They are here on Thanksgiving Day, trying to put together this package so that it will be ready for the floor, and they do incredible work, not only of the subcommittee that I am lucky enough to be the chairman of, but the staff of all the subcommittees, and they do a tremendous job, and we owe them a great deal of gratitude.

Mr. Speaker, this deserves our support.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentlelady from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR), the ranking member of the Energy and Water Appropriations Subcommittee.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I thank the ranking member of the full committee, NITA LOWEY of New York, and the chairman, HAL ROGERS, for the perseverance they have shown throughout this process. I rise to address the bill before us to fund the departments of the government of the United States for the federal fiscal year 2015 which incidentally began over 2 months ago.

Though 2 months late and a Christmas tree bill at that, what is very troubling in this measure are dangerous and unwelcome nongermane riders—like opening the door to more Wall Street abuse and reckless behavior with swaps and derivatives. Haven't those megabanks hurt America enough? What is this doing in this bill? This underhanded inclusion of authorizing language does not belong in this bill. This subterfuge reminds me of a similar effort in 2000 to bury language in a Continuing Appropriations bill to not regulate derivatives at all. Look what that did to our economy.

I recognize that not passing this bill can severely hamper our economic recovery and job creation. Many of us view these as the top priorities our constituents have sent us here to achieve. Job growth this past month increased again by 321,000, as the unemployment rate dropped to 5.8 percent nationwide.

We have gained 10 million private sector jobs since President Obama took office amid the deepest recession in modern history, but still, 9.1 million Americans remain unemployed. This bill will promote future economic growth which is in America's interests.

There should never be a question whether the government of the United States will remain open for business and honor its commitments and contracts.

Further, this appropriations bill is within budget limits. Indeed, our deficit has been going down year after year as employment increases and revenues with it.

The annual deficit has dropped from \$1.3 trillion in 2010 to an estimated \$469 billion for 2015, an enormous improvement made possible by steady economic growth. Our pace needs to continue.

The Energy and Water portion of this bill assures America will continue its decathlon toward energy independence and energy diversification, a major strategic objective for our Nation—some would argue the highest.

An all-of-the-above energy strategy is strengthening our Nation here at home financially and militarily as fewer imports are required and new energy jobs are created within the borders of the United States.

The energy trade deficit, by the way, for our Nation has been on a downward path.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Mrs. LOWEY. I yield the gentlewoman an additional 15 seconds.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlelady.

The energy trade deficit for our Nation has been on a downward path from 4.7 billion barrels in 2008 to 3.6 billion barrels in 2013. That is real progress, and you can even see it in falling gasoline prices across this country.

Our bill will support thousands of jobs through the Army Corps of Engineers in developing infrastructure, and the bill provides \$922 million above the request to meet an unmet enormous backlog.

This bill as a whole is far from perfect, yet our Congress must work toward keeping our economy and jobs growing through giving certainty to the public that Congress can operate our ship of state.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 30 seconds.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that this package explicitly rejects attempts to prohibit clarifying the definition of navigable waters of the U.S.

However, the CR/Omnibus does contain language relating to core permitting for certain ranching, farming, and silviculture practices. To be clear, this provision does not change current law and preserves the current scope of agricultural exemptions.

If you needed a permit before, you will need to get a permit under this provision; if you didn't need one before, you won't under this provision. I am pleased again that as with most riders, this provision maintains status quo.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire the time remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Kentucky has 12 minutes remaining, and the gentlewoman from New York has 13½ minutes remaining.

□ 1315

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gen-

tleman from Georgia (Mr. KINGSTON), the distinguished chairman of the Labor-HHS Subcommittee on Appropriations who is retiring, leaving this body. He has done remarkable work on this subcommittee. He chaired a very difficult subcommittee with great distinction.

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Chairman, I thank you for all of your leadership and friendship over the years, and your very capable staff as well.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate you on your retirement as well and wish you the best.

You know, I came to Washington to cut spending and hold the line on spending, and that is why I am supporting this bill today. This spending level is below last year's. When you combine the emergency spending with outlays, this is lower than last year, and it is a lot lower than the year before. So if you want to hold the line on spending, this is a good vote for you.

But the second part is the cavalry is coming, and next year there may be more cuts, and there should be more cuts. This bill holds the line on ObamaCare, which is something that we all have fought for. Virtually all Republicans fought to repeal ObamaCare and to end the President's amnesty program. No one is backing away from those objectives. There may be a debate on the strategy, but this bill makes sure that those debates will happen and that those votes will happen, again, Mr. Speaker, when the cavalry arrives. This bill moves that debate forward. It is a good thing.

It stops risk orders, which keeps the Obama administration from raiding private insurance companies to subsidize ObamaCare. It really hits ObamaCare where it counts. If you do not like ObamaCare, this is a good bill for you to vote for.

This bill puts Dodd-Frank in check. If you are concerned about the overregulation of the financial services industry, this bill challenges Dodd-Frank.

This bill supports our troops. We still have troops in harm's way all over the world. This bill supports them and actually increases their pay along the way.

This bill puts the EPA in check. The EPA has tried a backdoor power grab on putting a ban on lead in ammunition and fishing tackle. That would increase the cost and make it tougher for the average person to enjoy the great outdoors. This bill puts that in check.

This is a good bill, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. FATTAH), the ranking member of the Commerce-Justice-Science Subcommittee.

Mr. FATTAH. Mr. Speaker, in each and every one of our districts through-

out the country, in every one of the families situated, there is a concern around neurological-based diseases and disorders—from Alzheimer's to autism, schizophrenia. We could go through the list of 600. But the point is that this work in our committee, on a completely bipartisan basis, we are moving aggressively on neuroscience initiatives. I thank Chairman ROGERS for his support, and the ranking member from New York, and I want to thank my partner, Chairman FRANK WOLF, for his support on this effort. We launched an initiative to map the brain and do so much more.

I want to just talk about what is in this bill today. We have the framework for a global fund on Alzheimer's. We have the effort now to bring, for the first time, the national labs into an effort to build a national brain observatory, which is going to bring the scientific arsenal of our country to bear on this war on disease and a better understanding of the human brain.

We have, in this bill, language that would have the United States create an international conference to bring together the global initiatives in the European Union and Israel and China and other countries, to come together and work on these issues. And we have a new initiative on imaging.

So I want to just say that there is a lot I could talk about in the CJS portion of the bill, but I want to just say that this effort on the human brain, with some 50 million Americans suffering from brain-related diseases and illnesses, a billion people worldwide, this is something that this Congress can feel is a major achievement, for us to move in a direction and deal with these issues, from addiction to Alzheimer's and everything in between.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. CRENSHAW), the chairman of the Financial Services Subcommittee on Appropriations.

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman ROGERS for yielding me this time, and I thank him for his leadership in this appropriations process.

As chairman of the Financial Services and General Government Subcommittee, let me highlight a few areas in our part of the bill.

Overall, we reduce spending by \$246 million in an effort to rein in the out-of-control spending. Some areas are increased, some are decreased. For instance, law enforcement receives an increase. Drug abuse prevention receives an increase. Small business receives an increase, as does women's business centers. They help grow our economy and create jobs.

On the other hand, there are some agencies that don't do so well. They waste taxpayer dollars and become ineffective. I think a lot of people agree that the Internal Revenue Service has

betrayed the trust of the American people. They have wasted taxpayer dollars. They have singled out individuals and groups of individuals based on their political philosophy, and they have not cooperated with congressional investigation. Therefore, their funding is reduced by \$346 million.

All in all, it is a balanced approach. We spend less money than we spent last year. It is a good portion of the bill.

Let me take a moment to say thank you to RODNEY FRELINGHUYSEN, chairman of the Defense Subcommittee upon which I sit. I want to thank him for his tireless work in this area, for allowing members like me to help draft legislation that clearly puts our men and women in uniform first, clearly helps save lives by making sure that we have the best qualified, the best trained, the best equipped military, and it makes all Americans safer.

All in all, it is a great bill. I urge my colleagues to support it.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Arizona (Mr. PASTOR), the ranking member of the Transportation-HUD Subcommittee.

Mr. PASTOR of Arizona. Mr. Speaker, first of all, congratulations on your retirement and the best of luck. I thank you for your friendship while I served in Congress.

I stand in support of this bill, and I want to congratulate both my dear friends, the ranking member, NITA LOWEY, and the chairman, HAROLD ROGERS, for working many hours on this bill. I am very happy that as we are about to close this session, that we are working on a bill that will keep our government funded and bring some tranquility to the economy of our country for the remainder of fiscal year 2015. I thank them for doing fine work.

Over the past 23 years that I have had the honor of being in Congress, for 21 of those years I served on the Appropriations Committee. It was a great opportunity for me and an honor for me to serve with various members on Appropriations to do the best we could to serve our country. Many of us would not have been able to produce the bills and provide for the services without the staff on both sides of the aisle that worked on these appropriations bills.

So today, I want to congratulate the current chairman, the ranking member, and thank Chairman TOM LATHAM for the work he did on the Transportation-HUD bill. And also, it is time for me to thank all of my colleagues for their help and service that they have given this country and the kindness they have shown to me.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. CALVERT), the distinguished chairman of the Interior Subcommittee on Appropriations.

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the fiscal year 2015 omnibus appropriations bill. The Interior provision of the omnibus is well balanced and reflects what can be achieved when all sides work together to find common ground. This bill provides for fiscal year 2015 funding for fire operations at the 10-year average and provides additional resources to conduct critical hazardous fuels reduction work on the ground.

The bill takes positive steps in promoting domestic energy and mineral development both onshore and offshore.

The bill provides essential funding for the National Park Service, which will enhance day-to-day maintenance, visitor services, and responsible stewardship of more than 400 national park units. The bill also provides investments to our national park system as it begins its centennial celebration and prepares for the next 100 years.

This bill continues our efforts in meeting our moral and legal obligations in Indian country and honors longstanding commitments to American Indians and Alaska Natives; the bill promotes voluntary, nonregulatory fish and wildlife conservation programs in partnership with States and tribes; and this bill provides grant funding to States to promote jobs and economic growth.

I want to take a moment to pay tribute to my good friend and our subcommittee's ranking member and former chairman, JIM MORAN. This is Mr. MORAN's last appropriations bill. I am happy to know that my friend will be leaving this body that he loves on a high note, enthusiastically supporting the work of the Interior Subcommittee.

JIM, we are grateful to you for your service, and we salute you.

I also want to thank Chairman ROGERS for his incredible support, leadership, and his role in bringing this omnibus bill forward.

Lastly, I want to thank the scores of Appropriations Committee staff who have been working day and night and weekends on this package for many weeks. They even worked through their Thanksgiving holiday to produce this legislation. The staff of the Appropriations Committee deserves our appreciation and gratitude.

This is a good bill, Mr. Speaker. I urge Members on both sides of the aisle to support it.

With that, Merry Christmas.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI), the minority leader of the House.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlelady for yielding, and I commend her for her tremendous leadership. With great pride, we point to her as our ranking member on the Appropriations Committee.

I thank you for yielding and for your leadership.

Thank you, Mr. ROGERS, for your leadership.

As an appropriator for many years, I know the hard work that goes into putting an appropriations bill together. There was a day when we did them individually. It seems lately we just keep putting them on a bus, an omnibus. That is too bad. But in any event, I appreciate the work you have done to bring this bill to the floor. That is why I was so really heartbroken. I don't think I have ever said that word on the floor of the House. I was heartbroken to see the taint that was placed on this valuable appropriations bill from on high.

I am sorry that we cannot have a full homeland security bill, that is for sure. We knew that was possible. The Speaker says in January we will vote on a full homeland security bill. I hope that that is the case.

But the taint I refer to is what the President described in his letter today as a rider that would amend the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act and weaken a critical component of financial system reform aimed at reducing taxpayer risk.

So when people are talking to you about what is in the bill and this or that, I am going to say to you what you are putting your name next to if you choose to vote for this bill. And why I am so appalled—well, I will tell you why.

It was September 2008. Things were happening in the financial services industry. Lehman Brothers, down; Merrill Lynch, down; AIG, whatever. It all happened within a matter of days. I called the Secretary of the Treasury and I said: "How can we be helpful? What is going on?"

He said: "It is terrible."

I said: "Well, is one of the major financial institutions going down?"

He said: "No, it is bigger than that. We are in a serious meltdown."

"Why am I calling you, Mr. Secretary Paulson?"

"Well, the White House wasn't ready for Congress to know about this. But you are the Speaker."

At the time I was.

"I am the Secretary of the Treasury. You are asking me; I am telling you. We are in a terrible situation."

So they came to my office that night, the Speaker's Office, House and Senate, Democrats and Republicans. We came together and we heard an appalling meltdown of our financial institutions.

And I said to the Chairman of the Fed, Mr. Ben Bernanke, who was there: "Mr. Bernanke, what do you think about what the Secretary said?"

He said: "If we do not act immediately, we will not have an economy by Monday."

We will not have an economy by Monday. By the policies that were in



place at that time, we were taken to a place where we wouldn't have an economy. No commercial paper, no economy by Monday.

□ 1330

Here we are, 2014, going down the same path.

Earlier today, the Republicans put a bill on the floor that would make certain tax incentives permanent and unpaid for. We should be doing revenue reform, but not that way, because the revenue policy of the Bush administration contributed to the Great Recession, taking us close to a depression. So their tax policy jeopardized our economy.

Then, their *laissez, laissez, laissez-faire* attitudes of no regulation, that took us to a meltdown of our financial institutions to the point where we, the taxpayers, had to rescue the financial institutions to the tune of \$700 billion. That is twice as much as in the domestic discretionary spending of the bills that will come before us—two-years' worth of non-defense discretionary domestic spending.

We put provisions in the bill that the American taxpayer would be paid back. But that wasn't enough for the Republicans to vote for it. They voted against it, by and large. It was the Democrats who voted for the TARP, the most difficult vote for Members to vote for and the most politically harmful to them.

So here we are in the House being blackmailed—being blackmailed—to vote for an appropriations bill. I am not asking anybody to vote one way or another. I am just telling you why I would not put the name of my constituents in my district next to a bill that does, as the President says, “weaken a critical component of financial system reform aimed at reducing taxpayer risk.”

At that time, they accused us of bailing out Wall Street at the expense of Main Street. The public still doesn't understand fully why everybody would benefit from what we had to do. But we shouldn't have had to do that, \$700 billion, because of *laissez-faire* attitudes and trickle-down tax policies of the Bush administration, which got us to that place. Because of initiatives taken by President Obama when he became President, working with the Democratic Congress, with our initial Recovery Act, we were able to reverse some of that, and pull ourselves out of the ditch Republicans took us in.

So here we are today. This should be a day where we say, isn't it too bad we can't do more for the American people, but in the interest of bipartisanship we have put together a bill on the Appropriations Committee that helps meet the needs of the American people. Wouldn't that have been just fine?

Except, popping out of the wilderness comes two things: one, this provision,

this provision, as I described, that the President described, and then another one, to make matters worse—to make matters worse—a bill that lifts political contributions to such a height that it is really unimaginable as to why those who put this in there thought that that was a good idea. They told me it was \$90,000 for the convention. It turned out to be millions of dollars from a donor or from a family in that regard. So they weren't even on the level of how it was portrayed.

But be that as it may, what is important is what is in the bill. As Congressman SARBANES said, it is “quid pro quo.” You have quid: give Wall Street what they want, relax the responsibility of that.

This is a moral hazard. We are being asked to vote for a moral hazard. Why is this in an appropriations bill? Because it was the price to pay to get an appropriations bill. I was told we couldn't get all these other things that have been described here so beautifully unless we gave Wall Street this gift. And, on top of that, that we gave their donors, high-end donors, all the opportunity in the world to pour money into the process.

Now, maybe the public is right about Washington, D.C. I heard this funny line about Lily Tomlin when she was Ernestine, the operator, when she said: “Am I communicating with the people that I am speaking to?” Are we communicating with the people we are speaking to when we say to them it is an important priority and we have to put it in our budget bill that we give donors the opportunity to spend endless money, undermining the confidence the American people have in our political system, at the same time—at the same time—as we say to Wall Street, you can engage in risky activity with your derivatives and the FDIC will ensure your action? That is just plain wrong.

Under the Dodd-Frank Act, if a bank wanted to engage in those risky activities they had to be pushed out to another entity, and that entity could engage in those activities, but they were not insured by the American taxpayer.

With this bill now we are saying the exposure, the recourse, is with the U.S. taxpayer. Just plain wrong—and what is it doing in an appropriations bill, except to have this bill be taken hostage? This is a ransom, this is blackmail. You don't get a bill unless Wall Street gets its taxpayer coverage.

So it is really so sad that something which I respect enormously, the appropriation process—because it is hard. There are so many competing calls on resources, so much that we have to try to invest in the American people, their health, their education, the economic stability of their families, the air they breathe, the water they drink, and how we fund all of that. I have some questions about some of that in this bill,

but the fact is it is all a compromise, and it could have been a good compromise. So whatever Members choose to do.

I am enormously disappointed that the White House feels that the only way they can get a bill is to go along with this, and that would be the only reason I think they would say they would sign such a bill that would “weaken a critical component of financial system reform aimed at reducing taxpayer risk.” Those are the words in the administration's statement.

I feel sad for the American people today, because we are saying in order for us to invest in the education of our children and all of the responsibilities we have to the American people, we have to pay off Wall Street in addition to that. And I don't begrudge Wall Street, and I don't paint everybody there with the same brush. But what I am saying is the taxpayer should not assume the risk. It is back to the same old Republican formula: prioritize the gain, nationalize the risk. You succeed, it is in your pocket; you fail, the taxpayer pays the bill. It is just not right.

So I think we have a missed opportunity today to have some strong bipartisan support for this bill. But the fact is, my colleagues, you are being asked to put your name next to privatizing the gain and nationalizing the risk. You are asked to put your name next to practically unlimited contributions to political campaigns just at a time when we are trying for reform to reduce the role of politics and money and increase the voice of the American people.

So, again, a missed opportunity. But I respect decisions that Members will make because there are equities to be weighed here. But the biggest equity we have is our responsibility to the American people to do the right thing. What was added to this bill, which may be a good bill, what was added to this bill is not the right thing. That is why it has bipartisanship, it has good things in it, but it will not have my support.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. FORTENBERRY), a member of our committee.

Mr. FORTENBERRY. Mr. Speaker, I thank our chairman, Mr. ROGERS, for his steadfast commitment and hard work on this important bill.

Mr. Speaker, as President Kennedy once said, “To govern is to choose,” and the key here is to try and choose wisely.

This bill is a result of a long and arduous and democratic process. It is a result of the extensive effort of the Appropriations Committee, with input from Members, to try and deliver effectively prioritized government services.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I don't agree with everything in the bill. I don't think

anyone here does. But the question is, are we going to move forward and govern a bit more towards something a bit better? And what is good in this bill? First of all, it continues to prioritize the right type of budgeting and reduce spending. The spending levels in the bill are \$176 billion below fiscal year 2010 funding levels. Although our deficit has come down significantly through a smarter budgeting process and some tax reform, nonetheless our deficit is still way too high. We have work to do in this regard, and this bill does make significant progress on that front.

There are also important reforms. Some big ones involve the IRS. Their problems that they imposed on the American people have begun to be curtailed here.

Second, the bill also addresses the sad and difficult issue of the emerging need to fight Ebola and its spread.

It positions the U.S. Congress, as well, to curtail the President's executive action on immigration moving forward, which represents a very serious overreach on the part of the administration and a threat to the separation of powers.

The bill provides a pay raise for our troops and important funding for our veterans programs.

Another fact, Mr. Speaker: I am on the agricultural subcommittee. We work very hard to continue our strong tradition of production agriculture while funding new emerging food systems that link the farmer to the family and help beginning and young farmers.

Mr. Speaker, I think we can do better in certain areas, such as providing the right type of development assistance, which truly protects women and children and doesn't entangle us with organizations such as the U.N. Population Fund.

But it is important to remember that in the volatile Middle East, the peace treaty between Israel and Egypt continues to hold with significant commitment from us, and that is an important part of this bill.

On balance, I will be supportive, and I want to thank Mr. ROGERS, our chairman, for his leadership.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to yield 2½ minutes to the distinguished gentlewoman from Connecticut (Ms. DELAURO), the ranking minority member of the Labor, Health and Human Services Appropriations Subcommittee.

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, as ranking member of the Labor, Health and Human Services Subcommittee, I worked hard on this portion of the legislation, and there are some real bright spots.

But our problem is simple. The resources provided in this bill are not adequate to tackle the challenges middle class families face every day. The bill does not keep pace with inflation.

It continues to underfund some of our Nation's highest priorities: education, health care, medical research, and job training.

However, there are many more troubling aspects of this bill. The Department of Homeland Security is only funded for 9 weeks. Why? Because the majority disagrees with the President on immigration. Holding up full-year funding for national security over an immigration disagreement is a game that poses a serious risk to our border, our Secret Service, and our ability to respond to natural disasters.

The bill gambles with our financial system. It would reverse Dodd-Frank safeguards, allow banks to engage in some of Wall Street's riskiest transactions, the same transactions that caused a crisis in which millions of hardworking Americans lost their jobs, their homes, and their savings. Why? Why would we want to put families at risk once again? Public funds should be used to protect our families, not to prop up casino banking.

This bill threatens injustice to millions of seniors. It allows pension funds to reduce benefits to current retirees.

□ 1345

They worked hard for their retirement. They earned it. Would we want to put their economic security in jeopardy?

Finally, the bill seeks to overturn some of the last remaining campaign finance laws, as if they were not generous enough. The American public is angry about a government that responds to the highest bidder.

The majority's dangerous games benefit big corporations and the wealthy at the expense of working families and seniors, and I urge my colleagues to vote against this bill.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. KLINE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 83, the omnibus appropriations bill for 2015. I want to commend the members of the House Appropriations Committee, all of them, especially the committee's distinguished chairman, HAL ROGERS, for their hard work in writing a responsible proposal that will fund our national priorities and prevent a government shutdown. I am also pleased that the bill includes critical reforms that will help our country avert a looming pension crisis.

Today, Mr. Speaker, roughly 10 million Americans participate in a multi-employer pension plan, men and women who have and continue to move our country forward: builders, truck drivers, carpenters, electricians, and store clerks, to name a few.

These people worked hard and earned the promise that a pension would pro-

vide financial security in retirement; yet for many, that promise is now in jeopardy. Pension plans are on the brink of bankruptcy. Employers, workers, and retirees are stretched thin, and a Federal insurance agency is on the path to insolvency.

The multiemployer pension system is a ticking time bomb. When the bomb goes off, businesses will close their doors, workers will be laid off, taxpayers will be on the hook for a multi-billion-dollar bailout, and retirees will have their benefits cut or wiped out entirely.

A crisis is staring us in the face, and the question we have to answer is: Will we act? Will we do what is right and necessary to help fix this problem? Or will we simply kick the can down the road? I believe we have a public duty and a moral responsibility to act.

My Democratic colleague, GEORGE MILLER, and I have worked hard to craft a bipartisan legislative response to this looming disaster. With the help of our friend, Dr. PHIL ROE, and the work of many employers and union leaders, we have reached agreement on a series of reforms that offer the best chance we have to protect taxpayers, working families, and retirees.

Our bipartisan proposal includes tough medicine for a pension system in critical condition. It requires higher premiums so the Federal backstop can meet its obligations without taxpayer assistance. It also provides new tools to trustees to help plans avoid insolvency, including the ability to adjust benefits.

Let me be clear: if we reject this bill and continue the status quo, benefits will be cut. It is only a matter of time.

As plans go under, the Federal Government inflicts maximum pain on the maximum number of people, but if we offer trustees more flexibility, they can avoid insolvency and provide retirees greater financial security. We have a choice between an axe in the hand of a first-year med student or a scalpel in the hand of a trusted surgeon.

This isn't easy. No matter what happens, retirees will face some difficult hardships. That is why the proposal includes numerous protections, but most importantly, it ensures all retirees are better off than if we did nothing.

This isn't a perfect solution. I am disappointed we couldn't do more to provide workers more options to plan for their retirement. Make no mistake, this is the first step in addressing a tough problem, and it won't be the last.

Despite its shortcomings, this is a strong proposal that deserves our support. We cannot let this opportunity pass by. This problem will be harder to solve after the bomb goes off. I urge my colleagues to do what is in the best interest of workers, employers, and retirees by supporting this bipartisan agreement.



Before I close, Mr. Speaker, I want to thank some members of the staff who worked day and night to make this happen, starting with my staff director, Julianne Sullivan, and workforce policy director, Ed Gilroy. I also want to thank Brian Kennedy, Megan O'Reilly, and Julia Krahe of Mr. MILLER's staff for all of their hard work.

Last, but certainly not least, I would like to offer my deep appreciation to a trusted member of my team, Andy Banducci. Andy has poured more time and energy into this effort than anyone else, and he has earned the right to a good night's sleep.

Finally, I would like to extend my sincere thanks to my colleague, GEORGE MILLER, who will leave this Chamber after 40 years of public service. Without his courage and determination to do what is right, this effort would not have been possible; through it all, he has been a trusted friend and ally.

GEORGE has long been a tireless advocate for working families from the start of his distinguished career down to these final moments in Congress. He will leave behind a lasting mark on the House and the Education and Workforce Committee.

We haven't agreed on every issue, but in the fine tradition of our committee, we have always found a way to disagree without being disagreeable. I have no doubt he will remain a powerful voice for students, teachers, and working families.

GEORGE, thank you for your service and your friendship. I wish you and your wife, Cynthia, and family all the best.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Chairman KLINE, I thank you so much for your very kind words, for your friendship, and for your willingness to work together.

You are right. We haven't always agreed, but we tried to honor that by not becoming disagreeable with one another. My service on the Education and Workforce Committee has been the joy of my life in the Congress of the United States. Thank you for steering the committee over these last several years.

I want to join you in thanking all of the hardworking staff not just on this piece of legislation, but year in and year out, hearing in and hearing out, amendments and changes, and all the things staff goes through. They have really acted in a very, very professional manner.

They too have been able to work back and forth across the aisle and across ideologies and all the rest of it and serve as a buffer every now and then when the Members get a little out of control. Thank you so very, very much.

This Kline-Miller multiemployer pension agreement that was added to the bill before us today is based upon a proposal developed nearly 2 years ago by labor unions and employers who wanted to find a path forward for severely distressed and failing pension plans.

This provision will give plan trustees—labor and management—the tools they need to avoid the impending collapse of many multiemployer plans. It will also provide new funds—with a premium increase—for the insurer charged with backing up these plans which is also facing bankruptcy.

The Kline-Miller provision is the only available option to save these failing plans, and it is the last chance that labor unions, their members, and employers have to gain some control over the future of their pensions.

Throughout my 40 years in Congress, I have worked to strengthen pension protections and to expand retirement security for all Americans. I have fought for workers, and I have fought for their benefits.

I have fought for their right to collectively bargain over retirement and from the hidden fees in their 401(k) plans. I fought to protect them from conflicted investment advice that could have put their retirement security at risk. It is my commitment to workers and their retirement security that brings me here today.

We have an obligation to reform the multiemployer system so that we can protect the retirement security of workers nationwide. The approach we have put forward, which is backed by business and labor leaders, will secure the multiemployer pension systems for millions of current and future retirees.

It includes important consumer safeguards that give participants in these plans a voice to protect the most vulnerable retirees. Most importantly, it gives employers and the employees the option—a choice, not a mandate. They get to choose. They get to decide that they want to design a plan that they think can rescue their currently failing pension system. That is an important right to grant them.

Many local unions have already made this decision with their members, but they can't do it. They can't cut their own benefits because they are prohibited from doing it by law.

Who are we to tell these workers that they can't take the opportunity to stretch their pool of pension money, their savings, so that it may cover more people for a longer period of time if they make these adjustments? They want to make these adjustments, but the law says they can't.

If we trust labor unions, if we trust the workers, if we believe in the dignity of the worker, we should give them the opportunity and the responsibility of trying to save their own pensions. This is all this bill does. It gives them the option. It gives them the opportunity.

It lets them take on the responsibility for trying to design a rescue plan that may increase the longevity of their plan. It may allow retirees a better pension than they would get if they just fell into the government rescue system. That is what they are asking us to let them do.

This is not a new idea. It has been here for 2 years of hearings. It has been under Chairman KLINE. We have had exhaustive hearings on this provision. We have heard from the employers. We have heard from a cross section of unions, some who agree with this plan and some who disagree.

That is why it is an option. For those who don't want to do it, those who have written you letters and said, "Don't do this," what about the guys that want to do this? So this is an option. They will have to talk to their members, they will have to talk to the employers, they will have to talk to their trustees, and they will have to make a decision. If they can come up with that rescue plan, they ought to be allowed to do that.

The time has come to let them do this. These plans are losing altitude every day that they can't make these adjustments. Hopefully, a pickup in the economy, an increase in employment, an increase in enrollment will help them, but they still need the option to be able to make these judgments.

I would hope that my colleagues here in the Congress would trust these workers enough to give them this opportunity and this responsibility to make these decisions about their retirement, not our wish list of how we would like it to be, but their retirement today that is in threat of collapse.

I urge my colleagues to support this provision and support this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. KLINE. Mr. Speaker, I am very, very pleased to yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Tennessee, Dr. ROE, chairman of the Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the multiemployer pension reform act contained in the underlying bill. This bipartisan legislation will strengthen and, in some cases, save retirement benefits for more than 10 million Americans who are enrolled in a multiemployer pension plan. Let's say that again: this legislation will save retirement benefits.

While many multiemployer plans are in strong financial shape, the number of financially-distressed plans is a cause for great concern. Among these troubled plans is the Central States Pension Fund, covering 410,000 participants, which PBGC projects will become insolvent in the next 10 years.

PBGC's own finances are in dire straits. A report released by the PBGC

just last month shows that its multi-employer program has a deficit of more than \$42 billion, an alltime high. The agency also believes that there is a 90 percent chance it becomes insolvent by 2025 without change.

Taken together, these financial challenges pose a clear and present danger to the retirement of those who receive those benefits from PBGC and those who expect the PBGC to serve as a backstop if their pension plan fails. It is not a question of if the worst will happen for some of these plans; it is only a question of when.

The proposal before us today is a product of six subcommittee hearings over 4 years, countless hours of discussion and debate between management and labor, and thoughtful negotiations between Republicans and Democrats.

This legislation will give pension plans the tools to save themselves without a taxpayer bailout. For those plans that are beyond repair, this proposal will strengthen the PBGC's finances to help ensure that retirees continue to receive a benefit.

What we are asking of these plans is hard. If there were some other way to resolve this problem without a taxpayer bailout, we would have pursued it, but there is not another way. We have to do what is necessary to protect the retirement benefits for those Americans who earned them.

Businesses and unions alike understand this. That is why the Kline-Miller proposal is supported by companies, including Kroger, Nestle USA, as well as labor unions, including the UFCW, SEIU, and North America's Building Trade Unions.

I commend Chairman KLINE and Ranking Member MILLER for their tireless efforts on this issue. They have shown all of us that bipartisan compromise for the greater good is possible.

□ 1400

I also want to thank Ed Gilroy and Andy Banducci and the rest of the staff on both sides of the aisle for the long, hard hours they have logged on this effort.

This desperately-needed pension reform is good for workers, it is good for retirees, it is good for business, and it is good for America.

I encourage my colleagues to strongly support this.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. NORCROSS).

Mr. NORCROSS. Mr. Speaker, it is ironic that we are having this discussion today.

First, I want to thank the ranking member for yielding me time.

I was sworn in just a few weeks ago. Prior to that, my entire career has been working in a system that supported a multiemployer plan.

I went home last night and opened my mail. I received my first pension check which happens to be from a multiemployer plan. I understand how it works, and I understand how it doesn't work, and that is what we are here to discuss today.

The fact of the matter is the multi-employer is a very different animal than what most people traditionally think of as a pension plan. Multiemployer is the employee groups, the unions working together with management to make these decisions.

In a perfect world—which I have been blessed with, with my plan—that check arrives on time, and it will be there, but there are other plans that are certainly not in that condition and have not been that way for a very long time.

We can continue to bury our heads in the sand and wait for that implosion—because it is going to happen—or we can do the right thing and give people their voice back.

Let those plans have the ability to ask their memberships what they want to do. They got there through that cooperation. It might not be their own fault that the plan is failing. There are many conditions that cause that.

But the way the rules are now, they have no voice. They are silent. I am just here to make sure that we have an absolute and clear understanding that this is about giving the employers and the employees their voice back.

Mr. KLINE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentlewoman from Indiana (Mrs. BROOKS), another member of the committee.

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, first of all, I want to thank Chairman KLINE, Ranking Member MILLER, and Dr. ROE for working tirelessly on this incredibly difficult piece of legislation that I know impacts so many people.

As you have heard, on the Health Subcommittee, we had over six different hearings on this matter examining the difficulties facing troubled multiemployer plans and the looming insolvency of the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation that is tasked with backstopping pension plans.

During those hearings, I heard from the president of North America's Building Trades Unions that said ultimately: "In order for individual pensioners to receive benefits from our plans, the plans themselves must be preserved."

Mr. Speaker, without this Kline-Miller pension reform, the insolvency of these plans is exactly what will happen, ultimately hurting those most in need.

Just last month, PBGC released its annual report which showed the deficit in this insurance program has increased from \$8.3 billion to \$42.4 billion in just 1 year. At this rate, the PBGC anticipates the plans will become insolvent in the next decade. That means

pensioners won't even be able to count on the minimum to backstop programs that are terminal.

We must act now to give the trustees of these plans the tools necessary to allow the unions and their members the opportunity to salvage the multi-employer pension model. The longer we wait, the more the problem grows, and the more painful it becomes for pensioners and employers alike.

Our constituents didn't send us here to take the easy path, but rather to do the hard work that must be done. That is why so much is at stake, and that is why this provision is so necessary.

I urge its passage.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I would just like, so my colleagues fully understand this, to read the list of some of the unions that are supporting this legislation: North America's Building Trades Unions, International Council of Employers of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers, International Union of Operating Engineers, International Union of Painters and Allied Trades, United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipefitting Industry, Service Employees International Union, the United Food and Commercial Workers International Union, United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, Actors' Equity Association, and the American Federation of Musicians—a very diverse group of American workers who are asking us to give them the option to make decisions about the future of their pension.

Some of these pensions are in better shape than others, but they are all asking for this right. For those who may be opposed to this legislation, don't like this legislation, they don't have to exercise their right; but we cannot deny these workers this opportunity to make this decision about their very hard-earned pensions.

As Mr. NORCROSS said, they made these decisions together where they are today, and they ought to be able to make the decisions together to change direction and to head off for an opportunity at greater solvency and longevity.

Mr. Speaker, I want to again thank Congressman KLINE and all of the staff and all of those who have cooperated and all of these organizations that have spent many years trying to investigate the best way to answer this nagging question of how to save these plans.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. KLINE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

In closing, again, I want to thank the staff and Republicans and Democrats for working on this.

We have talked a lot about what this does for employees, for retirees. It also

does an awful lot to strengthen the position of employers. You need strong employers. They need some relief from the crushing liability that is on them. You need strong employers and a strong plan in order to guarantee the pensions for all of these workers.

I have a long list here, which I will not read, of employers who are supporting this because they understand that they, like the employees and like the retirees, need relief from the broken system that we have today.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage all of my colleagues to support this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 1(c) of rule XIX, further consideration on this motion is postponed.

#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 7 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 2056

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. HASTINGS of Washington) at 8 o'clock and 56 minutes p.m.

#### INSULAR AREAS AND FREELY ASSOCIATED STATES ENERGY DEVELOPMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 1(c) of rule XIX, further consideration of the bill (H.R. 83) to require the Secretary of the Interior to assemble a team of technical, policy, and financial experts to address the energy needs of the insular areas of the United States and the Freely Associated States through the development of energy action plans aimed at promoting access to affordable, reliable energy, including increasing use of indigenous clean-energy resources, and for other purposes, will now resume.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. When proceedings were postponed earlier today, 10½ minutes of debate remained on the bill.

The gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. ROGERS) has 4 minutes remaining, and the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. LOWEY) has 6½ minutes remaining.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. ROGERS).

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. MORAN), a

very distinguished ranking member of the Appropriations Committee who is planning to retire. We will miss him greatly, and we wish him good luck in his future endeavors.

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, for roughly 200 years, this government has functioned on behalf of the American people. It has functioned through the art of compromise. Conservatives, liberals, Democrats, and Republicans have gotten together and decided what was in the best interest of this Nation.

Mr. Speaker, this appropriations bill is in the best interest of this Nation. It does reflect a compromise, but I would say to my colleagues on the Democratic side: this is a good bill, this reflects our priorities. It is our last chance to have those priorities reflected in an appropriations bill.

One of our staff told me that for 2½ weeks, she hasn't seen her children before they had to go to bed. The reason is that she has been working night after night, fighting for our priorities to be included in this bill, and she was successful. All of our staff was successful.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield the gentleman an additional 30 seconds.

Mr. MORAN. I want to give a shout-out to Dave Pomerantz, Lesley Turner, Will Smith, Jim Kulikowski, Rick Healy, Shalanda Young, and of all the people who made this a good bill on both sides of the aisle.

This is why our government functions: because we are willing to compromise and we are willing to look at what is in the best interest of all of our constituents, putting partisanship aside.

This is a bill we should vote for. This bill needs to pass. I thank the President and this body for supporting this bill because I trust we will, in the long run, do the right thing after we have exhausted all the other alternatives.

□ 2100

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS).

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker and Members, we are poised to vote on legislation to fund government. Nobody wants to shut down our government. Everybody here wants to have an answer, and we could have an answer. All the opposite side has to do is to stop supporting a bill that would allow the biggest banks in America to rip off the people one more time.

We bailed out the richest banks in America with the people's money. The people do not want that anymore, and so this provision that is in the bill that would allow them to basically put us

all at risk because they want to trade these derivatives and be protected with our FDIC cannot go on.

So there are a lot of things in this bill that are unacceptable. I am the ranking member of the Financial Services Committee and I worked on Dodd-Frank. They are trying to undermine Dodd-Frank. They have been trying to get rid of Dodd-Frank piece by piece. We have to fight it every day.

I am not going to let the people down. Democrats are not going to let the people down. We are not going to vote for anything that is going to give the store to the biggest banks in America one more time.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), the distinguished minority whip.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker and Members, ever since the conference report was reported out, Leader PELOSI and I have told everyone how objectionable the two provisions that have been discussed are on our side of the aisle. We think they should not be in an appropriations bill. We think that they should be considered on their merits or demerits. Unfortunately, they are in the bill.

I rise in support of the bill, notwithstanding my vigorous objection to these two provisions. I rise because I, frankly, think that pursuing CRs, continuing resolutions, on a continuing basis is harmful to our economy, harmful to the growth in jobs, harmful to our national security.

I regret that the Homeland Security bill has not been included for a year as well. We undermine national security by that limitation. But, nevertheless, in a world of alternatives, I have concluded that it is better for us to pass this CR/Omnibus, as it is euphemistically referred to, than it is to defeat it.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mrs. LOWEY. I yield the gentleman an additional 1 minute.

Mr. HOYER. So I urge my Members to vote for this CR/Omnibus tonight.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, may I ask how much time is remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman from New York has 3 minutes remaining, and the gentleman from Kentucky has 4 minutes remaining.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from California (Mr. FARR), a distinguished ranking member of the committee.

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Mr. ROGERS, the chair of the committee, for bringing a bill to the floor. I wish it was the full bill and not most of the bill.

But I also want the world to note that, even though there are some poison pills in this issue, this is a very progressive appropriations bill, and it

shows that when you do reach compromise—and I hope that the party that will be in the majority next year will understand that we wanted to do a full process. We want it to be vetted. We don't want poison pills. But in the end, get the bad language out, which you did, and you can have a bill that has bipartisan support. We don't want things to get worse in this country, we want it to get better, and a CR would be the worst thing that could happen.

But we also, as a body that believes in exposure and the public's right to know, we should never allow these poison pills to be in this bill. Hold your nose and make this a better world.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 30 seconds to the distinguished gentleman from Texas (Mr. DOGGETT).

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, this bill puts a big bow on a holiday gift for the Wall Street contributors who get special treatment in the provisions of this bill. Once again, here in the holiday season, it is all about stuffing the silk stockings.

These people want to gamble with our money. When these big banks win, they get to keep all the money; but when they lose, they look to the taxpayer to bail them out. It was wrong to do so before, and this bill removes key reforms that are vital to preserving our financial system and our economic security.

We ought not yield to the big bank contributors who, at the same time, this same bill frees up additional money for individuals to pour into campaigns and pollute our democracy.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, our most important responsibility is to fund government operations. This bill does that, but it also contains a number of objectionable items that have no place in a spending bill.

I would like to thank JIM MORAN, ED PASTOR, BILL OWENS, FRANK WOLF, TOM LATHAM, and JACK KINGSTON. Your friendship and expertise will be missed.

I am pleased that, after weeks of negotiations, we have a package that funds 11 of the 12 bills. I hope that in the next Congress we avoid such a contentious process and pass bills we are proud to support under regular order.

Mr. Speaker, I will insert the President's statement in support of this bill in the RECORD.

Mr. Speaker, I am voting for this bill, and I urge your support.

I yield back the balance of my time.

STATEMENT OF ADMINISTRATION POLICY

H.R. 83—CONSOLIDATED AND FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015

(Rep. Rogers, R-KY, Dec. 11, 2014)

The Administration supports House passage of H.R. 83, making appropriations for fiscal year (FY) 2015, and for other purposes. The Administration appreciates the bipartisan effort to include full-year appropriations legislation for most Government func-

tions that allows for planning and provides certainty, while making progress toward appropriately investing in economic growth and opportunity, and adequately funding national security requirements. The Administration also appreciates the authorities and funding provided to enhance the U.S. Government's response to the Ebola epidemic, and to implement the Administration's strategy to counter the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant, as well as investments for the President's early education agenda, Pell Grants, the bipartisan, Manufacturing Institutes initiative, and extension of the Trade Adjustment Assistance program.

However, the Administration objects to the inclusion of ideological and special interest riders in the House bill. In particular, the Administration is opposed to the inclusion of a rider that would amend the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act and weaken a critical component of financial system reform aimed at reducing taxpayer risk. Additionally, the Administration is opposed to inclusion of a rider that would amend the Federal Election Campaign Act to allow individual donors to contribute to national political party committee accounts for conventions, buildings and recounts in amounts that are dramatically higher than what the law currently permits.

Furthermore, the Administration is disappointed that the bill would fund the Department of Homeland Security through February 27, 2015, at last year's levels. Short-term continuing resolution funding measures are disruptive, create uncertainty, and impede efficient resource planning and execution.

The Administration urges the Congress to enact comprehensive full-year appropriations legislation for all Government functions free of provisions that have no place in annual appropriations bills.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I urge Members to vote for this bill and keep the government open. It is a good bill. Vote for it.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I applaud the work Chairman ROGERS, Ranking Member LOWEY and their staffs put towards drafting legislation to fund the federal government. Sadly, I cannot support the finished product due to extraneous provisions that have no business being in an appropriations bill. These riders, included at the last minute with no debate and no input from Democratic members, circumvent the will of American voters, harm retirees, put taxpayer dollars at risk, and allow a privileged few to have even more influence over our elections.

These extraneous provisions have nothing to do with funding the government. Instead, they will cut benefits to seniors and roll back critical Dodd-Frank provisions to protect taxpayer dollars. They will also increase the amount of money that special interests, private corporations, and wealthy donors can spend on political conventions and other election activities, when we know that more money in politics is not the solution, it's the problem.

Rhode Islanders are still recovering from the financial crisis of 2008, and I cannot vote for a return to the status quo, which helped bring about the crisis in the first place. The derivatives provision is a Christmas gift to big banks at the expense of American taxpayers. It

would remove restrictions included in Dodd-Frank that prevent these banks from gambling with our constituents' money by using taxpayer-insured bank deposits in risky derivatives transactions.

I am greatly disappointed that I am not able to support what is in many other ways a solid bill. This legislation includes funding for important investments to our infrastructure, the National Institutes of Health, Ebola response efforts, spinal cord injury research, the peerless Virginia-class submarines, and so many other initiatives and programs that are critical to our national defense and our future as a nation—not to mention that it provides for the brave men and women in our armed services and intelligence community who are in harm's way even as we speak. Regrettably, these priorities were eclipsed by poisonous provisions that could greatly undermine the important work voters elected us to do—restore the economic certainty we need to keep our economy growing and our businesses hiring.

Mr. Speaker. I have supported numerous bipartisan efforts in the past to fund the government, and I know what can be accomplished when Democrats and Republicans sit down and negotiate in good faith. But the price Republicans are trying to exact this time is simply too high, and I will not sacrifice my principles and the interests of my constituents.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I urge the majority to live up to its professed support for the principles of federalism, limited government, and local control of local affairs by not interfering in the local laws of the District of Columbia. The bill limits the District's authority over its local marijuana laws, and prohibits D.C. from spending its local funds on abortion services for low-income women.

I am here to put on the record that the Republican-led House Appropriations Committee's stated view that the bill's D.C. marijuana rider blocks the D.C. marijuana legalization initiative from taking effect is not the view of the entire House, as well as to preserve the ability of the District and its lawyers to review, analyze and interpret the rider's effect for themselves.

Based on a plain reading of the bill and principles of statutory interpretation, it is arguable that the rider does not block D.C. from carrying out its marijuana legalization initiative. The House-passed D.C. marijuana rider, introduced by Representative ANDY HARRIS, and this bill's D.C. marijuana rider are not identical. Unlike the Harris rider, this bill's rider does not block D.C. from "carrying out" enacted marijuana policies. D.C.'s Initiative 71, it can be argued, was enacted when it was approved overwhelmingly by voters in November and is self-executing—i.e., it did not require enactment of any rules for its implementation. Therefore, it can be argued that the legalization of small amounts of marijuana in D.C. can proceed.

The District legalized marijuana primarily to combat racial injustice, after two independent studies, one by the American Civil Liberties Union of the Nation's Capital and the other by the Washington Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights and Urban Affairs, found shocking racial disparities in the enforcement of marijuana laws in D.C. In D.C., Whites and Blacks use

marijuana at the same rates, and Blacks compromise slightly less than 50% of the population, but Blacks are eight times more likely to be arrested for marijuana possession than non-Blacks, and 91% of all marijuana arrests are of Blacks. These disparities exist in urban areas throughout the country.

Arrests and convictions for marijuana possession ruin lives, especially those of Black males. An arrest or conviction for marijuana possession often condemns Blacks, particularly those from low-income neighborhoods, to joblessness. Losing the ability to find legitimate work can lead a person to the underground economy, even to selling drugs, rather than mere possession. The Black community itself pays the price because men without the prospect of employment often do not form stable families.

There may be some misconceptions about the District's legalization law. The District has the narrowest and strictest marijuana legalization law in the country. D.C. will not become a regional or national haven for marijuana use or transactions. Unlike D.C., the four states that have legalized marijuana permit the sale and purchase of marijuana. Under D.C.'s marijuana legalization law, possession and home cultivation are permitted, but all the following are not permitted: sales or purchase, retail stores, smoking in public, and possession by those under 21 years of age.

The bill also blocks the District from spending its local funds to provide abortion services for low-income women. We are talking about 100% local D.C. funds, not federal funds. D.C. raises almost \$7 billion per year in local funds through taxes and fees. As with marijuana, the District is being singled out for unfair treatment. Seventeen states, including Arizona, Alaska, and West Virginia, spend their local funds on abortion services for low-income women. The bill does not block them from doing so. When the D.C. abortion rider was re-imposed in April 2011, many low-income D.C. women had to immediately cancel their scheduled appointments for reproductive health services, because, unlike wealthier D.C. women, they relied on D.C. to pay for their health care services.

I urge Congress to respect the local laws of the 650,000 American citizens who live in the District of Columbia.

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, the intent of Division N, Section 101 is to establish separate limits for funds raised into separate, segregated accounts established by national political party committees for certain specified purposes. All of these funds are "hard money" subject to all of the source limitations, prohibitions, and disclosure provisions of the Act.

The first account, described in section 315(a)(9)(A) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 ("FECA") (as amended), is intended to allow a national committee of a political party (other than a national congressional campaign committee) to defray expenses related to a presidential nominating convention using funds raised under separate, increased limits. Section 315(a)(9)(A) also caps the aggregate amount of expenditures a national political party committee may make from such account with respect to any convention at \$20,000,000. This section is intended to provide national political party committees

with a means of acquiring additional resources to be used specifically in connection with the funding of presidential nominating conventions because such conventions may no longer be paid for with public funds. It is the intent to allow these funds to be used in the same manner as the former public funds could have been used, as well as to pay for the costs of fundraising for this segregated account.

The second account, described in section 315(a)(9)(B) of FECA (as amended), is intended to permit a national committee of a political party (including a national congressional campaign committee of a political party) to defray expenses incurred with respect to the construction, purchase, renovation, operation and furnishing of party headquarters buildings located throughout the United States, including the cost of fundraising for this segregated account, using funds raised under separate, increased limits. Funds in these accounts also may be used to repay loans and other obligations incurred for the purpose of defraying such building expenses, including loans and obligations incurred two years before the date of the enactment of this Act.

The third account, described in section 315(a)(9)(C) of FECA (as amended), is intended to permit a national committee of a political party (including a national congressional campaign committee of a political party) to defray expenses incurred with respect to the preparation for and the conduct of election recounts and contests and other legal proceedings, including the costs of fundraising for this segregated account, using funds raised under a separate limit Section 101 of Division N is not intended to modify Federal Election Commission precedent permitting the raising and spending of funds by campaign or state or national party committees. See FEC Advisory Opinions 2006-24, 2009-4. Section 101 is also intended to permit the national parties to use such funds for costs, fees, and disbursements associated with other legal proceedings.

Finally, under current law coordinated limits do not apply even absent these provisions to the existing accounts as described in section 315 of FECA and therefore it is the intent of the amendments contained herein that expenditures made from the accounts described in section 315(a)(9) of FECA, many of which (such as recount and legal proceeding expenses) are not for the purpose of influencing federal elections, do not count against the coordinated party expenditure limits described in section 315(d) of FECA.

Mr. KING of New York. Mr. Speaker, I would like to first thank the Chairman and Ranking Democrat of the House Education and Workforce Committee, Rep. JOHN KLINE and Rep. GEORGE MILLER, for their efforts to seek a bipartisan solution for the problems facing the nation's multiemployer pension plans. I am very familiar with those problems, having constituents who are both active workers and retirees who are participants in those multiemployer plans.

The legislation being advanced today will allow Plan Trustees of these troubled plans to have additional tools to maintain the solvency of the plans. Specifically, the legislation will allow trustees to better align benefit levels to available resources; it will clarify that the

PBGC has the ability to assist plans well before they reach insolvency; and finally, to facilitate plan mergers. Taken together, these initiatives will assist troubled plans in avoiding insolvency.

However, I do have a concern regarding the timeline for implementation of the new legislation. Some of these troubled plans need to move on with the needed benefit adjustments, along with the authority to merger and receive financial assistance from the PBGC, sooner rather than later. I would strongly urge the Treasury Department, along with the Department of Labor and the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, to move quickly on implementation of this legislation. For some plans, time is not on their side.

Mr. JOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this important appropriations measure to keep our government funded and open, but I also rise to encourage my colleagues on our side of the aisle and address many of the concerns I have heard.

In July of this year, this House, our side of the aisle, passed a border security bill focused on protecting our borders from illegal entries, building facilities at the border to hold illegal entrants at the point of crossing, increasing the amount of immigration law judges and tele-courtrooms that allow undocumented individuals to be adjudicated close to the border instead of being provided travel to courts around the nation, and authorizing our National Guard to respond to the spike in illegal border crossings.

This House passed that measure. The Senate refused to consider it. The President would not sign it.

Last week, this House, our side of the aisle, passed legislation declaring null and void the President's recent Executive Order granting temporary amnesty to millions who have broken our laws. I was proud to be a cosponsor of that legislation.

This House passed that measure. The Senate refused to consider it. The President would not sign it.

After the President's Executive Order, dozens of us, including myself, sent a letter asking the leadership of the House Appropriations Committee to attach a provision to this bill declaring that none of the funds provided to the Administration may be used to implement the President's amnesty order. But the Senate refuses to consider it. The President will not sign it.

The numbers today are simply not on our side. And our only remaining recourse is to shut down the government—a tactic that I cannot support, that I said I would not support when I was elected, and I intend to keep my word. This is a tactic that I believe is terribly wrong for our country, for our economy and for private sector jobs throughout the country.

And so today we should say to the American people, "The President, the Senate, they must own their legacy. And this House must own ours."

So what is our legacy today on this side of this aisle? It is a legacy of fighting for Constitutional principles, adherence to the rule of law and separation of powers ordained by our founders, and it is a legacy that today includes a good appropriations bill that is right for the country, and frankly, right for conservatives.

The bill we pass today:

1. Prohibits any funding for the president's Race to the Top Education program, better known throughout the country as Common Core;

2. Slashes the budget of the Internal Revenue Service and prohibits the agency from targeting non-profit groups based on political or ideological affiliations;

3. Reins in the Environmental Protection Agency's plans to reach further into our local communities with regulations opposed by mayors, homeowners, businesses, and agriculture interests;

4. Maintains critical pro-life protections preventing tax dollars from being used for abortion related services;

5. Cuts Obamacare's Independent Payment Advisory Board which uses price controls to impact available care to patients;

6. Prohibits the transfer of Guantanamo Bay prisoners to prisons here in the United States; and,

7. It prohibits Department of Justice programs like Fast & Furious.

And most importantly, this bill represents a continued dramatic rollback of our federal budget. This bill spends approximately \$1.1 trillion on federal activities, down from approximately \$1.4 trillion just five years ago. This budget is lower than we have seen in years and represents a historic downturn in spending—all at the hands of Republicans in Congress. Recall that the President submitted his budget proposal at the beginning of this year and it was resoundingly rejected by both the House and the Senate, including rejection by many members of his own party. This is our budget now, and it is a budget we should support.

This budget prioritizes the right programs for federal spending. It funds our men and women in uniform with the tools and technology they need to safely combat threats around the globe. It provides increased funding to the Veterans Affairs Administration to decrease wait times for benefit applicants. It wisely invests in targeted medical research to address Alzheimer's, cancer, and pediatric sub-specialties.

Finally, and let's be very clear here, this legislation allows us to combat the President's Executive Order on amnesty from a much stronger position in a matter of weeks.

We don't have the votes today in the Senate to overturn the President's amnesty order. That is the reality. There is no means to get a measure even to the President's desk for him to veto. We simply don't have the votes in the Democrat-controlled chamber on the other side of this Capitol. It would be short-sighted for us to convince ourselves otherwise and proceed listlessly down a path to what would only lead to a government shutdown—a shutdown that would break the faith of the American people who have entrusted us with the responsibility to govern.

But we will, beginning January 6. In mere weeks, we will have a Senate controlled by conservatives who can join with this body, this side of the aisle, and continue our legacy of fighting for Constitutional convictions over Constitutional compromise.

Let us today embrace these critically important incremental conservative successes in

this appropriations bill—successes that reflect our view of government—and let us then return to this body in only a few weeks with our new Senate colleagues to continue the fight on behalf of the American people. We can then lay on the President's desk legislation that challenges his Executive Order and asks him to defend what we all believe is an intellectually dishonest interpretation of his authority under Article II of the Constitution.

Colleagues, I urge your support.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, it's inexcusable that the least productive Congress in history has waited until the final hour to produce an appropriations package this flawed. The bill fails to take advantage of opportunities to save money, ranging from defense to agricultural reforms, and has instead chosen to make indefensible reductions across critical programs.

In most areas, from health reform to education, the resources committed are insufficient to keep up with inflation let alone tackle the problems that confront America's families.

I have deep concerns regarding a policy rider snuck into the bill that would allow wealthy campaign donors to contribute ten times as much money as the current individual caps allow, further flooding our political system with dark money. Campaign finance provisions are completely non-germane to this bill, and the last thing America needs is to make it easier to spend more money on campaigns.

Instead of making difficult choices about how to fund the Department of Defense, and our sprawling nuclear arsenal, we've chosen an "all of the above" approach, providing the Pentagon with everything it wants, and then some. Managed to at once give it too much for wrong things and refuse to begin reforms the DOD knows it needs and wants to carry out.

The bill commits the U.S. to rebuilding our nuclear triad of ground-based missiles, bombers, and submarines, an effort that could cost over \$1 trillion dollars over the next 30 years and ensure nuclear weapons remain a foundation of U.S. defense planning.

Nothing epitomizes this self-destructive urge than the dramatic cuts to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). The \$10.9 billion in funding for the IRS represents a cut of \$350 million from last year. Since fiscal year 2010, Congress has cut IRS funding by almost \$1.2 billion—10 percent—forcing the agency to slash its full-time, permanent workforce by 13,000 employees. This occurred even as the country added approximately 7 million new taxpayers. As a result, the IRS's current staffing level is 26 percent below the number of employees it had 18 years ago.

Among these cuts, the IRS has lost 5,000 enforcement personnel, such as revenue agents and criminal investigators. This leaves billions of dollars in tax revenue uncollected. Every dollar that we invest in the IRS generates \$7 in return. Compliance with our tax code is largely voluntary and these cuts make it much harder for taxpayers to navigate the system. The IRS was already predicting that only 53 percent of taxpayers who call for help would get through to an IRS agent during the 2015 tax season. Even then, the caller would have an average wait of 34 minutes—while the other half would be left to fend for themselves. This is no way to run a government.

I've met with IRS employees reduced to tears by their frustration being unable to help taxpayers in a timely manner. If someone can get through, they then get a taxpayer who is frustrated, probably angry, as well as confused.

The Homeland Security appropriations bill was one of the most bipartisan this year. Holding up full-year funding for this agency, and in turn national security, in an effort to undermine the Administration's executive order on immigration reform is a reckless, maybe even dangerous game.

The bill includes a number of problematic environmental provisions.

Moving away from the scientific consensus, it continues to bar the Department of Energy from enforcing important standards for light bulb efficiency. It prohibits the EPA from regulating lead ammunition. It prohibits the Fish and Wildlife Service from issuing any Endangered Species Act listing rules for sage grouse species. It cuts important farm bill conservation programs. It also maintains ever lower funding for the EPA, while environmental challenges mount. Since 2010, that agency's budget has been cut by more than \$2 billion dollars, or 21 percent.

The bill also includes a very problematic rider that interferes with the direct will of the voters in the District of Columbia. The language is ambiguous, and I share the sentiments of Representatives NORTON and SERRANO that this amendment should not be interpreted as halting the DC measure entirely. Regardless of the interpretation, it is very troubling that Congress interferes with the DC Council's ability to govern to make the city safer and reflect the wishes of its citizens.

America cannot afford to roll the dice on financial reform. This bill rolls back Section 716 of Dodd-Frank, which attempts to deal with the dangerous liability stemming from derivatives trading in taxpayer-insured banks. America cannot afford to risk another taxpayer bailout for Wall Street, while we are still recovering from the last meltdown.

These and many other provisions are deeply concerning and more bad provisions will emerge as people finally have time to read the bill. Nonetheless, in more than 1,000 pages and over a trillion dollars of spending, there are some bright spots.

For more than a decade, I've worked to increase access to clean drinking water and sanitation for the world's poorest populations. The cornerstone of this effort has been through the implementation of my legislation, the Paul Simon Water for the Poor Act of 2005. This is funded in this bill at its highest level ever. This demonstrates a significant commitment from the U.S. to prioritize this type of development assistance and is an example of what is possible with bipartisan cooperation.

I am pleased the bill makes it clear that Congress believes the Department of Transportation should develop separate performance measures for non-motorized traffic injuries and fatalities. It's past time to put bicyclists and pedestrians on equal footing with motorists when it comes to distributing safety money.

This bill also includes two amendments that I cosponsored and worked closely on to create

a more rational drug policy. One amendment, led by Mr. ROHRBACHER, would stop DOJ and DEA from interfering with state medical marijuana laws. This represents a historic shift by the federal government in marijuana policy. This suggests that Congress may finally catch up with how most Americans think and behave.

Another amendment, led by Mr. MASSIE, would ensure that the DEA cannot intervene in legal hemp research by universities and state departments of agriculture. This is the final step in a process that we began almost two years ago, by first passing an amendment to the farm bill allowing the research. This additional language should finally protect those programs.

As the Co-Chair of the Congressional Animal Protection Caucus, I am pleased to see a few key provisions in this legislation that set the stage for future productive efforts, such as animal welfare enforcement funding and language restricting funding for horse slaughter.

These and other positive provisions, however, in no way offset the harm caused by the many destructive elements and the horrible precedent set for future action. A Republican House majority that campaigned on promises to reform and respect the process has instead abused it. A massive bill released too late to read, let alone understand, makes a mockery of their promises and I refuse to support it.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 83, Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2015, and to set forth my views on certain matters concerning or relating to the jurisdiction of the Committee on the Judiciary. While the bill does fund many agencies and programs within the Judiciary Committee's jurisdiction at the 2014 enacted level or higher through September 2015, H.R. 83 funds the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) only through February 27, 2015 because of the Republican Leadership's opposition to the President's actions on immigration. By restricting funding to DHS to a highly limited duration, this measure is not only short-sighted and irresponsible, but potentially harmful to all Americans.

H.R. 83, by providing short-term funding to DHS, makes it nearly impossible for the agency to pursue long-term strategies to ensure the safety and security of our Nation. The bill jeopardizes many critical functions of DHS, including developing technologies to prevent future terrorism attacks and securing the Internet to fight various cyber crimes such as identity theft and financial fraud. It also undermines the agency's Disaster Relief Fund that FEMA uses to fund response and recovery efforts associated with major disasters. Other affected DHS components include the Secret Service, which protects the President and the White House from attack, and the U.S. Coast Guard, which provides essential operations, training, and equipment to those who guard our Nation's waters.

Essentially, the Majority has bundled with must-pass year-end appropriations legislation a short-sighted measure intended to lash back at the President's humanitarian efforts to deal with a major immigration crisis. As a result, H.R. 83 now puts at risk the ability of the DHS and its thousands of dedicated employees to protect all Americans from terrorism, disaster, and crime.

With respect to other agencies and programs that fall within the Judiciary Committee's authorization jurisdiction, H.R. 83 appropriates funding in most instances above 2014 enacted levels. Nevertheless, I am disappointed that the bill reduces funding for the COPS Program—a very effective initiative to reduce crime by putting more police on the streets and promoting community policing—by \$6 million.

The bill also extends the Internet Tax Freedom Act till October 1, 2015, which is a moratorium on state and local taxation of Internet access and on multiple or discriminatory taxes on electronic commerce, and which includes grandfather protections.

In addition, the bill includes various riders, some of which are harmful. Fortunately, the final version of H.R. 83 does not include numerous House-proposed riders that would have impeded the Environmental Protection Agency's regulatory authority to ensure the safety of our Nation's air and water.

Further, H.R. 83 attempts to prevent the implementation of an initiative legalizing recreational use of marijuana in the District of Columbia by prohibiting the use of any funds to "enact any law, rule, or regulation" for such purpose. It is my understanding, however, that as this initiative has already been enacted, no further funds are needed for it to go into effect. Thus, the bill's restriction has no legal effect on the initiative.

The following summarizes the bill's principal provisions pertaining to the Judiciary Committee's jurisdiction:

#### JUDICIARY

Funding: \$6.7 billion for the Judiciary, which is \$182 million more than the 2014 enacted level; the \$182 million increase is \$1 million less than the Judiciary's request.

Riders: 10 temporary district judgeships were extended for 1 year; no funding for new courthouse construction until the General Services Administration completes a feasibility study.

#### U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Funding: \$3.5 billion for the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), which is equal to CBO's projection of USPTO's FY 2015 fee revenue collections, and \$434 million above the 2014 enacted level.

#### DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

##### Funding:

—\$8.44 billion for the Federal Bureau of Investigation, which is \$93.3 million more than the 2014 enacted level.

—\$2.03 billion for the Drug Enforcement Agency, which is \$15.3 million more than the 2014 enacted level.

—\$1.2 billion for the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, which is \$22 million more than the 2014 enacted level.

—\$6.82 billion for the Bureau of Prisons, Salaries and Expenses account, which is \$46 million more than the 2014 enacted level.

—\$376 million for Byrne-JAG grants, which is the same as the 2014 enacted level.

—\$208 million for the COPS program, which is \$6 million less than the 2014 enacted level.

—\$430 million for Violence Against Women Prevention and Prosecution Programs, which is \$13 million above the 2014 enacted level.

—\$125 million for the ongoing DNA Initiative program which funds the testing of sexual as-

sault kits, which is the same as the FY 2014 enacted level and \$25 million above the request. In addition, \$41 million is included for the new Community Sexual Assault Kit Backlog Reduction program.

—\$73 million for the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS), which is \$14.5 million more than the 2014 enacted level and \$18 million more than the request.

#### Riders:

—The agreement rejects House policy riders to: 1) block reporting requirements on multiple sales of rifles/shotguns to the same person, and 2) make permanent two annual riders related to firearms.

—The agreement rejects a House rider to defund grants to state or local law enforcement on the basis of local immigration policy.

—The agreement rejects a House rider prohibiting the Department of Justice from enforcing certain parts of the Fair Housing Act.

#### LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

Funding: \$375 million, which is \$10 million above the enacted 2014 level.

#### FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

Funding: \$293 million, which is \$5 million below the 2014 enacted level but reflects one-time moving expenses for 2014.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED STATES

Funding: \$3.1 million, which is \$.1 million above the 2014 enacted level.

#### OTHER MATTERS

##### Abortion

—The agreement does not include a House rider prohibiting funds to subsidize abortion services in connection with a multi-state plan offered under the Affordable Care Act exchanges negotiated by OPM.

##### SURVEILLANCE

—The agreement does not include significant House-passed reforms on government surveillance activities conducted by the National Security Agency, but instead retains current law.

##### HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATORY CONCERNS

—The agreement does not include a House policy rider prohibiting EPA's Clean Power Plan Proposed Rule.

—The agreement does not include a House policy rider prohibiting EPA's rule clarifying which waters are protected by the Clean Water Act.

—The agreement does not include a House policy rider prohibiting EPA from changing the way discharge of fill material is regulated.

—The agreement includes a House policy rider prohibiting regulation of lead in ammunition.

—The agreement includes a House policy rider prohibiting the issuance of final and proposed rules related to Sage Grouse under the Endangered Species Act.

—The agreement does not include a House policy rider prohibiting EPA from ensuring mining companies are financially capable of cleaning up pollution rather than taxpayers, but includes report language on the matter.

—The agreement does not include a House policy rider prohibiting EPA from enforcing a rule on safe removal and renovation of lead paint, but includes report language on the matter.

—The agreement does not include a House policy rider prohibiting funding for the development or revisions of regulations regarding imported ivory.



Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to oppose this omnibus. It is critical to avoid another unnecessary and wasteful government shutdown, and I strongly believe that we must do that without extraneous and harmful policy riders.

The bill before us holds government operations hostage to a number of highly partisan, noxious policy riders. By proposing to repeal the so-called “swaps push out rule” enacted under the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform law, it caters to the demands of big banks and puts taxpayers on the hook for their risky decisions. It allows special interests to funnel more money into Congressional political party committees, dramatically increasing the limit from \$129,600 to \$777,600 per year, or over \$1.5 million per election cycle. Putting these provisions together will simply breed additional public cynicism about Congress granting special favors to powerful special interests in exchange for increased political contributions.

I also continue to oppose riders related to Guantanamo and those that meddle in the local business of the District of Columbia.

The fact that this bill only funds the Department of Homeland Security through February is nothing more than a political stunt by my colleagues across the aisle. Instead of working to fix our broken immigration system, House Republicans have signaled that they are willing to shut down the Department of Homeland Security even though this will do nothing to prevent President Obama from expanding the deferred action program.

This bill also provides \$5 billion in funding for the deployment of an additional 1,500 American troops to Iraq and up to \$500 million to train and equip the so-called “moderate” Syrian rebels. As I outlined in my statement on the NDAA, Congress should have had the opportunity to amend those provisions. I do not want us to be dragged into Iraq War 2.0 or more deeply into the Syrian civil war.

Without the inclusion of these measures, I would have been pleased to support a number of provisions in this bill. As a representative of many federal employees, I appreciate the one percent COLA for our dedicated federal workforce and pay adjustments for wage grade employees.

I support the additional funding for the National Institutes of Health, although we must do much more to support medical research. The bill also increases funding the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and provides emergency funding to address the ongoing Ebola crisis. It includes important funding for scientific research at NIST and the National Science Foundation, and rejects the House-passed rider that would have defunded climate change research. I support the investments in education, including Title I and IDEA, although more funding for these programs is necessary to support our nation's students.

The bill also includes critical funding for infrastructure, including \$2.1 billion to build new transit lines, \$500 million for TIGER grants for projects of national significance, and \$150 million to allow the Washington area Metro system to make recommended safety and performance improvements.

This legislation also builds on efforts made in last year's MilCon-VA bill to end the claims backlog that continues to plague our VA re-

gional offices, including the VA's Baltimore Regional Office. It includes \$2.5 billion for the costs of processing disability claims—an increase of \$40 million over the President's request and \$69 million over last year's level.

I am pleased that this bill provides \$73 million in funding for the National Instant Criminal Background Check System. This will help provide Maryland with the necessary resources to implement the technology to automate criminal history and mental health records in our background check system. This legislation also fully funds many other important Department of Justice Programs, including \$376 million for Byrne Justice Assistance Grants and \$430 million for Violence Against Women programs.

Mr. Speaker, I recognize that no bill of this magnitude is perfect. However, I cannot in good conscience vote to roll back critical taxpayer protections and allow monied special interests to buy more influence in Congress. We should strip these damaging provisions from the bill and pass an omnibus that works on behalf of taxpayers and strengthens the middle class.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following for the RECORD:

#### OVERVIEW

The Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, (“Cromnibus”) is comprised of: 1. 11 FY2015 Appropriations bills; and 2. Continuing Resolution maintaining the current rate of Homeland Security funding until February 27, 2015.

Discretionary budget authority: \$1.014 Trillion.

Overseas Contingency Operations (Defense): \$64 billion.

Overseas Contingency Operations (State): \$9.258 billion.

Total OCO: \$73.258 billion.

Emergency Ebola funding: \$2.72 billion (L-HHS-Ed); \$2.530 billion (SFOPS); \$112 million (Defense).

Total emergency Ebola funding: \$5.484 billion.

1. Agriculture Division of 2015 Omnibus Appropriations Act

2014 Total enacted level: \$20.9 billion

2015 Committee mark: \$20.9 billion

2015 Omnibus: \$20.6 billion

#### HIGHLIGHTS AND KEY POINTS

\$6.6 billion for Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), which is sufficient to meet expected need in 2015.

\$1.47 billion for Food for Peace (P.L. 480) grants, which is the same as the 2014 enacted level and \$66 million above the request.

\$2.6 billion for the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), which is \$37 million more than the 2014 enacted level and \$4 million more than the request.

\$1.016 billion for the USDA food safety and inspection program, which is \$6 million more than the 2014 enacted level and \$15 million more than the request.

\$1.51 billion for the Farm Service Agency, which is \$22 million more than the 2014 enacted level and \$61 million over the request.

\$25 million for FDA in emergency spending, which fully funds the administration's Ebola request.

#### POLICY ISSUES

The agreement does not include a House policy rider allowing schools to receive waivers from complying with improved lunch and breakfast nutrition standards in the Healthy, Hunger-free Kids Act. The agree-

ment allows states to grant exemptions from whole grain standards to schools that demonstrate hardship in procuring specific products, and requires further study on reduced sodium standards, similar to the Senate provisions.

The agreement does not include a House policy rider making potatoes unconditionally available in the WIC program. The agreement, while making potatoes available, requires that the ultimate decision on their availability be based on review by the Institute of Medicine (IOM) and USDA.

The agreement includes Democratic amendments to ban horse slaughter for human consumption, and prohibit funding for processed poultry products imported from China in the school lunch, breakfast, summer food service, and child and adult care food programs.

2. COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE DIVISION OF 2015 OMNIBUS APPROPRIATIONS ACT

2014 enacted level: \$51.6 billion.

2015 budget request: \$51 billion.

2015 Omnibus: \$50.1 billion.

#### HIGHLIGHTS AND KEY POINTS

\$5.4 billion for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), which is \$126.4 million more than the 2014 enacted level.

\$954.2 million for National Weather Service operations, which is \$526,000 above the 2014 enacted level.

\$1.1 billion for the Census Bureau, which is \$143 million more than the FY 2014 enacted level and \$123.4 million less than the budget request.

\$3.5 billion for the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (PTO), which is equal to CBO's projection of PTO's FY 2015 fee revenue collections, and \$434 million above the 2014 enacted level.

\$863.9 million for the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), which is \$13.9 million more than the 2014 enacted level.

\$8.44 billion for the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), which is \$93.3 million more than the 2014 enacted level.

\$2.03 billion for the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA), which is \$15.3 million more than the 2014 enacted level.

\$1.2 billion for the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, which is \$22 million more than the 2014 enacted level.

\$6.82 billion for the Bureau of Prisons, Salaries and Expenses account, which is \$46 million more than the 2014 enacted level.

\$376 million for Byrne-JAG grants, which is the same as the 2014 enacted level.

\$208 million for the COPS program, which is \$6 million less than the 2014 enacted level.

\$430 million for Violence Against Women Prevention and Prosecution Programs, which is \$13 million above the 2014 enacted level.

\$18.01 billion for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), which is \$363.7 million more than the 2014 enacted level.

\$7.34 billion for the National Science Foundation, which is \$172.3 million above the 2014 enacted level.

\$125 million for the ongoing DNA Initiative program which funds the testing of sexual assault kits, the same the FY 2014 level and \$25 million above the request. In addition, \$41 million is included for the new Community Sexual Assault Kit Backlog Reduction program.

\$73 million for the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS), which is \$14.5 million more than the 2014 level and \$18 million more than the request.



\$375 million for the Legal Services Corporation, which is \$10 million above the 2014 level.

#### POLICY ISSUES

The agreement rejects House policy riders to: 1) block reporting requirements on multiple sales of rifles/shotguns to the same person, and 2) make permanent two annual riders related to firearms.

The agreement rejects a House rider to defund certain NSF research related to climate change.

The agreement rejects House riders to prohibit entering into trade agreements establishing limits on greenhouse gas emissions, and includes a provision prohibiting implementation of the Arms Trade Treaty absent its ratification by the Senate.

The agreement rejects a House rider to defund grants to state or local law enforcement on the basis of local immigration policy.

The agreement rejects a House rider prohibiting the Department of Justice from enforcing certain parts of the Fair Housing Act.

Extends the authorization of the nonprofit, public-private Corporation for Travel Promotion, commonly known as Brand USA, through 2020, including its ability to finance its efforts to promote tourist travel to the United States through the collection of a modest fee on tourists from Visa Waiver Program countries;

Extends the authorization of the Economic Development Administration (EDA)'s Trade Adjustment Assistance for Firms program for an additional year, allowing the program to service both existing and new client companies in the U.S. that have been negatively impacted by trade agreements; and

Includes the text of the Revitalize American Manufacturing and Innovation Act, which (1) directs the Secretary of Commerce to establish a Network for Manufacturing Innovation Program to help improve the competitiveness of U.S. manufacturing and stimulate U.S. leadership in advanced manufacturing, research, innovation, and technology, and (2) extends through 2019 the authorization of the EDA's Regional Innovation Program, designed to encourage and support the development of regional innovation strategies, including region innovation clusters.

3. Defense Division of 2015 Omnibus Appropriations Act:

2014 total enacted level: \$572 billion.

2015 total budget request: \$554.3 billion.

2015 Omnibus: \$554.1 billion.

#### HIGHLIGHTS AND KEY POINTS

\$64 billion for Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO), which is \$21.2 billion less than the 2014 enacted level.

\$490.1 billion for the base portion of Department of Defense funding, which is \$3.3 billion more than the 2014 enacted level.

\$128 billion for Military Personnel, which is \$800 million less than the 2014 enacted level.

\$161.7 billion for Operation and Maintenance, which is \$1.8 billion more than the 2014 enacted level.

\$93.8 billion for Procurement, which is \$1.0 billion more than the 2014 enacted level.

\$63.7 billion for Research and Development, which is \$700 million more than the 2014 enacted level.

Multiple provisions focused on eliminating sexual assault in the Department of Defense and supporting victims, including: Fully funds request of \$275 million for Sexual Assault and Prevention Office (SAPRO) services; and \$25 million above the request to

continue implementation of a Sexual Assault Special Victims Program.

Several important health programs receive increases above the President's request, including increases of \$281 million for cancer research, \$125 million for traumatic brain injury and psychological health research, and \$39 million for suicide prevention outreach programs.

To facilitate integration of electronic health records between DOD and VA the agreement restricts funding for the Defense Healthcare Management Systems Modernization (DHMSM) program pending a report on cost, schedule, and adherence to data standards and acquisition guidance.

Fully funds Peer Reviewed Medical Research Programs and includes \$125 million above the request for Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) and Psychological Health research and \$4 million above the request for alcohol and substance abuse research.

\$20 million above the request for suicide prevention and outreach.

\$172 million above the request for Israeli Cooperative Missile Defense programs, and \$175 million above the request for Iron Dome.

\$225 million above the request for the Defense Rapid Innovation Program to incorporate small business developments into DOD programs.

\$1.2 billion above the request to enhance National Guard and Reserve equipment.

\$1 billion above the request for a San Antonio Class Amphibious Transport Dock (LPD-17) and \$483.6 million for refueling overhaul for the USS *George Washington* (CVN-73) aircraft carrier.

The agreement supports the President's Budget Request for a 1% pay raise for military and civilian personnel.

The agreement also fully funds the Department of Defense portion of the emergency funding request for Ebola efforts at \$112 million.

The agreement includes \$810 million for the European Reassurance Initiative, of which \$175 million is for support to the Baltics and Ukraine for training, equipment and associated support.

The agreement includes a provision as proposed by the House and funding as proposed by the Senate to continue operations of the A-10.

The agreement includes \$3.4 billion for Department of Defense operations targeting ISIL, as well as funds to train and equip Iraqi security forces and the Syrian opposition.

The legislation prohibits funding for transfers of Guantanamo detainees to the U.S. or its territories, prohibits funding to modify any facility in the U.S. to house detainees, and places conditions on the release of detainees to other countries.

4. Energy & Water Division of 2015 Omnibus Appropriations Act

2014 Total enacted level: \$34.1 billion.

2015 Committee mark: \$34.0 billion.

2015 Omnibus: \$34.2 billion.

#### HIGHLIGHTS AND KEY POINTS

\$1.937 billion for Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy, which is \$25 million more than the 2014 enacted level.

\$5.071 billion for the Department of Energy Office of Science, which is the same as the 2014 enacted level.

\$280 million for the Advanced Research Projects Agency—Energy (ARPA-E), which is the same as the 2014 enacted level.

\$5.9 billion for environmental cleanup activities, which is \$51 million more than the 2014 enacted level.

\$8.2 billion for National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) Weapons Activities,

which is \$387 million more than the 2014 enacted level and \$83 million less than the President's budget request.

\$1.6 billion for Nuclear Nonproliferation, which is \$313 million less than the 2014 enacted level and \$86 million more than the President's budget request.

\$1.239 billion for Naval Reactors, which is \$144 million more than the 2014 enacted level and \$139 million less than the President's budget request.

\$5.455 billion for the Army Corps of Engineers, which is \$13 million less than the 2014 enacted level, and \$922 million more than the President's budget request.

\$1.14 billion for water resources projects within the Department of Interior, which is \$27 million more than the 2014 enacted level.

#### POLICY ISSUES

The agreement does not include a House policy rider prohibiting the Army Corps of Engineers from clarifying which waters are protected by the Clean Water Act.

The agreement does not include a House policy rider prohibiting restrictions against firearms on land owned by the Army Corps of Engineers.

The agreement does not include prohibitions on funding for loan guarantees for the Cape Wind offshore wind project, National Ocean Policy, Social Cost of Carbon and ceiling fan standards.

The agreement continues a House policy rider prohibiting the Army Corps of Engineers from changing regulations pertaining to the definitions of the terms "fill material" or "discharge of fill material" under the Clean Water Act for this fiscal year.

The agreement includes a House policy rider prohibiting funds to require permits for certain agricultural activities under the Clean Water Act for this fiscal year.

The agreement includes a policy rider requiring the withdrawal of the EPA and Corps of Engineers interpretive rule regarding regulation agricultural activities.

5. Financial Services Division of 2015 Appropriations Act:

2014 Total enacted level: \$22.07 billion.

2015 Committee mark: \$20.35 billion.

2015 Omnibus: \$21.82 billion.

#### HIGHLIGHTS AND KEY POINTS

\$11.5 billion for the Department of the Treasury, which is \$373 million less than the 2014 enacted level.

\$10.95 billion for the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), which is \$346 million less than the 2014 enacted level.

\$6.7 billion for the Judiciary, which is \$182 million more than the 2014 enacted level.

\$679.6 million for the District of Columbia, which is \$6.4 million more than the 2014 enacted level.

\$1.5 billion for the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), which is \$150 million more than the 2014 enacted level.

\$887.6 million for the Small Business Administration (SBA), which is \$41 million less than the 2014 enacted level as a result of reduced loan subsidy costs.

\$688.3 million for the Executive Office of the President, which is \$18.9 million more than the 2014 enacted level.

\$9.24 billion for the General Services Administration (GSA) Federal Buildings Fund (FBF), which is \$132 million less than the 2014 enacted level.

\$10 million for the Election Assistance Commission (EAC), which is the same level as the 2014 enacted level.

\$250 million for the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC), which is \$35 million more than the 2014 enacted level and \$30 million less than the request.

## POLICY ISSUES

The agreement *does not* include the following House policy riders:

1. Prohibiting funds to subsidize abortion services in connection with a multi-state plan offered under the Affordable Care Act exchanges negotiated by OPM.

2. Prohibiting transfers from HHS to IRS.

3. Prohibiting implementation of individual mandate.

4. Preventing IRS from clarifying standards for determining the tax exempt status of 501(c)(4) organizations; and preventing SEC from requiring disclosure of political contributions, contributions to tax-exempt organizations, or dues paid to trade associations.

5. Prohibiting travel to Cuba for educational exchanges not involving academic study pursuant to a degree program.

6. Prohibiting funds to implement guidance issued by the U.S. Department of the Treasury regarding coal-fired power plants.

7. Impeding the President from fulfilling executive functions.

8. Blocking the District of Columbia from enforcing its own firearms laws.

The agreement does not include a House policy rider prohibiting decriminalization of possession of small amounts of marijuana. The agreement prohibits use of federal and local funds from being used to implement the recent referendum legalizing recreational use of marijuana in DC.

The agreement includes a House provision amending Dodd-Frank with respect to the prohibition against certain federal assistance to swaps entities, namely the use of any advances from specified Federal Reserve credit facilities or discount windows, or Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) insurance or guarantees.

6. Homeland Security Continuing Resolution in 2015 Omnibus Appropriations Act: The agreement includes a Continuing Resolution until February 27th for agencies within the Homeland Security Subcommittee. The agreement maintains the Fiscal Year 2014 spend rate of \$39.270 billion.

Additional Provisions in the current CR and carried forward under the new CR:

Extends the authorization for the Chemical Facility Antiterrorism Standards (CFATS) program;

Extends the authority for the Science & Technology Directorate to enter into Other Transaction Agreements (OTA);

Provides authority for ICE and CBP to obligate funding at rates necessary to sustain staffing, border security and immigration enforcement operations, and Air and Marine operations, and requires compliance with the 34,000 detention bed mandate.

Additional provisions included under the new CR:

Provides authority for the Secret Service to obligate funding at a rate necessary for Presidential candidate nominee protection (hiring and training agents);

Directs DHS to continue preparations to award a construction contract for the National Bio- and Agro-Defense Facility by May 1, 2015.

7. Interior & Environment Division of 2015 Appropriations Act:

2014 enacted level: \$30.058 billion.

2015 budget request: \$30.620 billion.

2015 Omnibus: \$30.044 billion.

## HIGHLIGHTS AND KEY POINTS

\$3.554 billion for wildland fire, which fully funds the 10-year average for fire costs.

\$4.642 billion for the Indian Health Service, which is \$207 million more than the 2014 enacted level.

\$2.601 billion for the Bureau of Indian Affairs, which is \$70 million more than the 2014 enacted level.

\$8.140 billion for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), which is \$60 million less than the 2014 enacted level.

\$2.615 billion for the National Park Service, which is \$55 million more than the 2014 enacted level.

\$1.086 billion for the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), which is \$13 million more than the FY 2014 enacted level.

\$1.440 billion for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, which is \$13 million more than the 2014 enacted level.

\$2.402 billion for the U.S. Forest Service (non-fire), which is equal to the 2014 enacted level.

\$146 million each for the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities, which is equal to their 2014 enacted levels.

## POLICY ISSUES

The agreement does not include a House policy rider prohibiting EPA's Clean Power Plan Proposed Rule.

The agreement does not include a House policy rider prohibiting EPA's rule clarifying which waters are protected by the Clean Water Act.

The agreement does not include a House policy rider prohibiting EPA from changing the way discharge of fill material is regulated.

The agreement includes a House policy rider prohibiting regulation of lead in ammunition.

The agreement includes a House policy rider prohibiting the issuance of final and proposed rules related to Sage Grouse.

The agreement does not include a House policy rider prohibiting EPA from ensuring mining companies are financially capable of cleaning up pollution rather than taxpayers, but includes report language on the matter.

The agreement does not include a House policy rider prohibiting EPA from enforcing a rule on safe removal and renovation of lead paint, but includes report language on the matter.

The agreement does not include a House policy rider prohibiting funding for the development or revisions of regulations regarding imported ivory.

8. Labor, Health and Human Services, Education Division of 2015 Omnibus Appropriations Act:

2014 enacted level: \$156.8 billion.

2015 Request: \$158.1 billion.

2015 Omnibus: \$156.8 billion.

2015 emergency funding for Ebola: \$2.7 billion.

## HIGHLIGHTS AND KEY POINTS

\$2.7 billion for emergency funding related to the Ebola outbreak.

\$30.1 billion for the National Institutes of Health, which is \$150 million more than the 2014 enacted level.

\$6.9 billion for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), which is \$21 million more than the 2014 enacted level.

\$2.6 billion for job training through WIA Training and Employment Formula Grant program, which is \$36 million more than the 2014 enacted level, and boosts the Governor's set aside to ten percent.

\$1.6 billion for worker protection agencies at the Department of Labor, which is \$9 million more than the FY 2014 level.

\$2.4 billion for Child Care Block Grants, which is \$75 million more than the 2014 enacted level.

\$8.6 billion for Head Start, which is the same as the 2014 enacted level.

\$14.4 billion for Title I Grants to school districts, which is \$25 million more than the 2014 enacted level.

\$11.5 billion for Special Education state grants (IDEA), which is \$25 million more than the 2014 enacted level.

\$1.3 billion for Impact Aid, which is equal to the FY 2014 level and \$67 million more than the President's budget request.

\$250 million for Preschool Development Grants, which is equal to the FY 2014 enacted level.

\$445 million for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB), which is the same funding level as was provided in the FY 2014 bill.

\$815 million for Seniors' Nutrition programs, which is the same as the 2014 enacted level.

\$948 million for the Unaccompanied Minor Children program at HHS, which is \$80 million more than the FY 2014 enacted level.

\$3.4 billion for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), which is equal to the comparable FY 2014 operating level.

\$1.1 billion for Mental Health programs, which is \$10 million less than the 2014 enacted level and \$27 million more than the Administration's request.

\$672 million for program integrity efforts in the Medicare and Medicaid programs, which is \$378 million more than the FY 2014 level.

\$1.1 billion for the Corporation for National and Community Service, which is \$5 million more than the FY 2014 level.

The agreement maintains the discretionary portion of the maximum Pell grant award level at \$4,860 for the 2015–2016 school year. After addition of the mandatory supplement, the maximum award is projected to increase by \$100 to \$5,830.

The agreement maintains level-funding for the Affordable Care Act.

The agreement includes a new provision expanding the eligibility of students enrolled in career pathways programs to qualify for financial aid.

The agreement includes a new provision to exempt disaster claims adjusters from elements of the Fair Labor Standards Act following the response to a natural disaster.

The agreement extends Trade Adjustment Act (TAA) assistance to dislocated workers through fiscal year 2015, including workers who are certified for TAA after December 31, 2014.

9. Legislative Branch Division of 2015 Omnibus Appropriations Act:

2014 enacted level: \$4.26 billion.

2015 budget request: \$4.47 billion.

2015 Omnibus: \$4.30 billion.

## HIGHLIGHTS AND KEY POINTS

\$1.181 billion for the House of Representatives, which is equal to the 2014 enacted level and \$19.8 million less than the request.

\$10.1 million for the Joint Committee on Taxation, which is \$91,000 more than the 2014 enacted level but \$54,000 less than the request. Cost-of-living increases are provided for in order to maintain current services.

\$348 million for the Capitol Police, which is \$9.5 million more than the 2014 enacted level and \$7.7 million less than the request.

\$45.7 million for the Congressional Budget Office (CBO), which is equal to the 2014 enacted level and \$378,000 less than the request.

\$522.0 million for the Government Accountability Office (GAO), which is \$16.6 million more than the 2014 enacted level and \$3.12 million less than the request.

\$600.3 million for the Architect of the Capitol (AOC), which is \$1.8 million less than the 2014 enacted level and \$76.4 million less than the request.

\$590.9 million for the Library of Congress, which is \$11.9 million more than the 2014 enacted level and \$2.1 million less than the request.

\$120 million for the Government Printing Office (GPO), which is \$693,000 less than the 2014 enacted level and \$8.9 million less than the request.

#### POLICY ISSUES

The agreement changes the name of the Government Printing Office to the Government Publishing Office.

The agreement includes report language requiring the House Chief Administrative Officer develop and disseminate online sexual harassment training.

The agreement gives the Botanic Garden authority to work with nonprofits on special exhibits and programming.

The agreement establishes a Center for Audit Excellence at GAO.

The agreement allows the Office of Compliance to email, rather than mail, certain notifications to employees.

The agreement restricts incentives and award payments to AOC contractors if their work is behind schedule or over budget.

The agreement restricts participation in the Open World Leadership exchange program for Russian participants to allow only those who are engaging in free market development, humanitarian activities, and civic engagement. They also cannot be officials of the central government.

10. MILCON/VA Division of 2015 Omnibus Appropriations Act:

2014 enacted level: \$73.2 billion.

2015 base budget request: \$71.9 billion.

2015 Omnibus base: \$71.8 billion.

2015 OCO: \$221 million.

#### HIGHLIGHTS AND KEY POINTS

\$6.5 billion for Military Construction projects, which is \$3.2 billion less than the 2014 enacted level, including:

1. \$1.1 billion for Family Housing construction, which is \$325 million less than the 2014 enacted level.

2. \$315 million for the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) account, which is \$45 million more than the fiscal year 2015 budget request.

3. \$205.2 million in rescissions from prior Appropriations Acts due to savings on projects.

4. \$221 million for Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO) and the European Reassurance Initiative (ERI).

\$65 billion in discretionary funding for Veterans Affairs, which is \$1.7 billion more than the 2014 enacted level, including:

1. As authorized by Congress in 2009, VA medical services accounts are provided funding one year in advance. The agreement includes the budget request for fiscal year 2016 advance funding of \$58.6 billion.

2. The agreement includes an additional \$40 million, above the budget request, to hire additional claims and support personnel at the regional offices; to expand the Veterans Claims Intake Program records scanning system; and to implement the centralized mail initiative.

3. \$3.9 billion for information technology systems, which is \$200 million more than the 2014 enacted level.

4. \$588.9 million for prosthetic research, which is \$3.2 million above the 2014 enacted level.

#### POLICY ISSUES

The agreement creates the authority to provide advance appropriations for three mandatory VA programs within the Veterans Benefits Administration: (1) Com-

pensation and Pensions; (2) Readjustment Benefits; and (3) Veterans Insurance and Indemnities.

The agreement continues to provide tools and resources to address the backlog of veterans disability claims by increasing personnel, enhancing training and quality oversight, and strengthening accountability.

The agreement continues the requirement first enacted for fiscal year 2014 to provide rigorous, publicly available Web-based monthly reports to the Committees on performance measures for each regional office, including the number of backlogged claims, the average number of days to complete a claim, and error rates.

The agreement continues the practice of restricting VA's obligation of information technology funds until the VA reports detailed plans on budget, timeline, and testing to ensure reliable interoperability between current and future Electronic Health Records (EHR) systems between the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Department of Defense.

The agreement clarifies that the payment rates used by the VA for VA medical care in the State of Alaska and in those States with an all-payer model agreement under the Social Security Act that became effective on January 1, 2014, should also be used in implementation of the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014.

11. State and Foreign Operations Division of 2015 Omnibus Appropriations Act:

2014 Total enacted level: \$49.0 billion.

2015 Committee mark: \$48.29 billion.

2015 Omnibus: \$49.27 billion (not including \$2.526 billion in emergency funds for Ebola).

#### HIGHLIGHTS AND KEY POINTS

\$9.258 billion for Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO), which is \$2.738 billion more than the 2014 enacted level.

\$7.8 billion for Diplomatic and Consular Programs which is \$185 million less than the 2014 enacted level and the same as the Administration's request.

\$5.4 billion for the protection of diplomatic missions, embassies, and personnel, which is \$1 million more than the 2014 level and \$46 million more than the Administration's request.

\$2.32 billion for Embassy Security, Construction and Maintenance, which is \$46 million more than the Administration's request and \$350 million less than the 2014 enacted level.

\$8.45 billion for Global Health, which is \$15 million more than the 2014 enacted level and \$404 million more than the Administration's request.

\$2.51 billion for Development Assistance, which is the same as the 2014 enacted level but \$113 million less than the Administration's request.

\$4.75 billion for Economic Support Fund (ESF), which is \$108 million more than the 2014 enacted level and \$430 million less than the Administration's request.

\$5.9 billion for Foreign Military Financing (FMF), which is \$39 million less than the 2014 enacted level and \$92 million less than the Administration's request.

\$1.2 billion in base funding for USAID Operating Expenses, which is \$76 million more than the 2014 enacted level and \$168 million less than the Administration's request.

\$899.5 million for the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC), which is \$1.3 million more than the 2014 enacted level and \$110.5 million below the Administration's request.

\$5 billion in total funding for humanitarian assistance accounts, which is \$94 million more than the 2014 enacted level and \$1.52

billion more than the Administration's request.

\$575 million for bilateral family planning, which is equal to the 2014 enacted level.

\$379.5 million for Peace Corps, which is roughly equal to the 2014 enacted level and the Administration's request.

\$2.526 billion for emergency international response to fight Ebola, which is \$370 million less than the Administration's request.

#### POLICY ISSUES

The Omnibus does not include a House policy rider codifying the "Global Gag Rule," which prohibits non-governmental organizations (NGOs) receiving federal funds from providing women information about the full range of health services.

The Omnibus does not include a House policy rider prohibiting U.S. contributions to the UN Population Fund (UNFPA) and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).

The Omnibus includes health care equity for Peace Corps volunteers.

The Omnibus does not lift the cap on U.S. assessments for international peacekeeping missions, and does not include IMF quota reform.

The Omnibus includes prohibitions on OPIC and the Export-Import Bank from fully implementing their clean energy policies.

12. Transportation and Housing and Urban Development Division of 2015 Omnibus Appropriations Act:

2014 Omnibus: \$50.9 billion.

2015 Request: \$59.9 billion.

2015 Omnibus: \$53.8 billion.

#### HIGHLIGHTS AND KEY POINTS

\$9.74 billion for Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Operations, which is \$90 million more than the 2014 enacted level and \$9.3 million less than the President's budget request.

\$500 million for National Infrastructure Investments (TIGER), which is \$100 million less than the 2014 enacted level and \$750 million less than the President's budget request.

\$2.1 billion for Capital Investment Grants, which is \$177 million more than the 2014 enacted level and \$380 million less than the President's budget request.

\$1.39 billion for Amtrak capital and operating expenses, which freezes funding at the 2014 enacted level and \$1.06 billion less than the President's budget request.

\$830 million for the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), which is \$11 million more than the 2014 enacted level and \$21 million below the President's budget request.

\$30 million for initiatives to increase the safety and oversight of the transport of energy products, including \$10 million for grade crossing and track improvement grants on rail routes that carry energy products.

\$17.5 billion for Section 8 Tenant Based Rental Assistance renewals, which would meet projected need.

\$9.52 billion for Section 8 Project Based Rental Assistance renewals, which would meet projected need.

\$75 million for HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH), which is the same as the 2014 enacted level and the President's budget request.

\$4.44 billion for Public Housing Operating Fund, which is \$40 million more than the 2014 enacted level and \$160 million below the President's budget request.

\$1.9 billion for Public Housing Capital Fund, which is the same as the 2014 enacted level and \$50 million below the President's budget request.

\$3 billion for Community Development Block Grants (CDBG), which is \$30 million less than the 2014 enacted level but \$200 million more than the President's budget request.

\$900 million for HOME Investment Partnerships, which is \$100 million less than the 2014 enacted level and \$50 million less than the President's budget request.

\$330 million for Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS, which is the same as the 2014 enacted level and \$2 million less than the President's budget request.

\$110 million for Healthy Homes and Lead Hazard Control, which is the same as the 2014 enacted level and \$10 million less than the President's budget request.

The Omnibus includes provision (Section 166) inserted by Congressman Culberson (R-TX) providing that "None of the funds in this or any other Act 20 may be available to advance in any way a new light or heavy rail project towards a full funding grant agreement as defined by 49 U.S.C. 5309 for the Metropolitan Transit Authority of Harris County, Texas if the proposed capital project is constructed on or planned to be constructed on Richmond Avenue west of South Shepherd Drive or on Post Oak Boulevard north of Richmond Avenue in Houston, Texas.

The Omnibus does not include Jackson Lee Amendment negating provision (Section 166) inserted by Congressman Culberson (R-TX).

#### POLICY ISSUES

The Omnibus includes House policy riders to create exemptions from truck weight standards for Wisconsin, Kentucky, and Mississippi, but rejects an exemption for Idaho.

The Omnibus suspends a portion of regulations requiring a minimum number of hours of rest for truck drivers.

The Omnibus does not include House policy riders to prohibit funding for California high speed rail.

The Omnibus does not include a House policy rider prohibiting transit and passenger rail from eligibility for TIGER grants.

The Omnibus does not include a House policy rider prohibiting implementation, issuance, or enforcement of an "Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing" rule.

The Omnibus does not include a House policy rider prohibiting DOT from issuing rules to increase minimum insurance requirements for motor carriers.

The agreement expands HUD-VASH to Native Americans living on tribal lands.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All time for debate has expired.

Pursuant to House Resolution 776, the previous question is ordered.

The question is on the motion by the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. ROGERS).

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, this 15-minute vote on the motion to concur will be followed by a 5-minute vote on the motion to suspend the rules on H.R. 5699.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 219, nays 206, not voting 10, as follows:

[Roll No. 563]

#### YEAS—219

Aderholt	Goodlatte	Pearce
Amodel	Granger	Perlmutter
Bachus	Graves (GA)	Peters (CA)
Barber	Graves (MO)	Peters (MI)
Barletta	Griffin (AR)	Petri
Barr	Grimm	Pittenger
Barrow (GA)	Guthrie	Pitts
Benishek	Hanna	Price (GA)
Bera (CA)	Harper	Price (NC)
Bilirakis	Harris	Quigley
Bishop (GA)	Hartzler	Reed
Bishop (NY)	Hastings (WA)	Reichert
Bishop (UT)	Heck (NV)	Renacci
Black	Herrera Beutler	Ribble
Boehner	Himes	Richmond
Boustany	Holding	Rigell
Brady (PA)	Horsford	Roby
Brady (TX)	Hoyer	Roe (TN)
Brooks (IN)	Hudson	Rogers (KY)
Brownley (CA)	Huizenga (MI)	Rogers (MI)
Buchanan	Hultgren	Rokita
Bucshon	Hunter	Rooney
Bustos	Issa	Ros-Lehtinen
Byrne	Jenkins	Roskam
Calvert	Johnson (OH)	Ross
Camp	Jolly	Rothfus
Capito	Joyce	Royce
Carney	Kaptur	Ruiz
Carter	Kelly (PA)	Runyan
Cassidy	Kind	Ruppersberger
Chabot	King (NY)	Ryan (WI)
Chaffetz	Kingston	Scalise
Clay	Kinzinger (IL)	Schneider
Clyburn	Kline	Schock
Coble	Kuster	Schwartz
Coffman	Lance	Scott, David
Cole	Latham	Sessions
Collins (GA)	Latta	Sewell (AL)
Collins (NY)	Lipinski	Sherman
Connolly	LoBiondo	Shimkus
Cook	Long	Shuster
Costa	Lowey	Simpson
Cramer	Lucas	Sinema
Crenshaw	Luetkemeyer	Smith (MO)
Crowley	Maffei	Smith (NE)
Cuellar	Maloney, Sean	Southerland
Culberson	Marino	Stewart
Daines	Matheson	Stivers
Davis (CA)	McCarthy (CA)	Terry
Davis, Rodney	McCarthy (NY)	Thompson (PA)
Delaney	McCaull	Thornberry
Denham	McHenry	Tiberi
Dent	McKeon	Tipton
Diaz-Balart	McMorris	Turner
Dingell	Rodgers	Upton
Duffy	Meehan	Valadao
Ellmers	Meeks	Wagner
Farr	Messer	Walberg
Fattah	Mica	Walden
Fincher	Miller (MI)	Walorski
Fitzpatrick	Miller, George	Wasserman
Fleischmann	Moran	Schultz
Forbes	Mullin	Wenstrup
Fortenberry	Murphy (FL)	Westmoreland
Foster	Murphy (PA)	Whitfield
Fox	Noem	Wilson (SC)
Frelinghuysen	Norcross	Wolf
Gallego	Nugent	Womack
Garamendi	Nunes	Woodall
Gardner	Nunnelee	Yoder
Gerlach	Owens	Yoho
Gibbs	Palazzo	Young (AK)
Gibson	Pastor (AZ)	Young (IN)
Gingrey (GA)	Paulsen	

#### NAYS—206

Adams	Brown (FL)	Conyers
Amash	Burgess	Cooper
Bachmann	Butterfield	Cotton
Barton	Capps	Courtney
Bass	Cárdenas	Crawford
Beatty	Carson (IN)	Cummings
Becerra	Cartwright	Davis, Danny
Bentivolio	Castor (FL)	DeFazio
Blackburn	Castro (TX)	DeGette
Blumenauer	Chu	DeLauro
Bonamici	Cicilline	DelBene
Braley (IA)	Clark (MA)	DeSantis
Brat	Clarke (NY)	DesJarlais
Bridenstine	Clawson (FL)	Deutch
Brooks (AL)	Cohen	Doggett
Broun (GA)	Conaway	Doyle

Duncan (SC)	Lamborn	Posey
Duncan (TN)	Langevin	Rahall
Edwards	Lankford	Rangel
Ellison	Larsen (WA)	Rice (SC)
Engel	Larson (CT)	Rogers (AL)
Enyart	Lee (CA)	Rohrabacher
Eshoo	Levin	Royal-Allard
Esty	Lewis	Rush
Farenthold	Loeb sack	Ryan (OH)
Fleming	Lofgren	Salmon
Flores	Lowenthal	Sánchez, Linda
Frankel (FL)	Lujan Grisham	T.
Franks (AZ)	(NM)	Sanchez, Loretta
Fudge	Lujan, Ben Ray	Sanford
Gabbard	(NM)	Sarbanes
Garcia	Lummis	Schakowsky
Garrett	Lynch	Schiff
Gohmert	Maloney	Schrader
Gosar	Carolyn	Schweikert
Gowdy	Marchant	Scott (VA)
Grayson	Massie	Scott, Austin
Green, Al	Matsui	Sensenbrenner
Green, Gene	McAllister	Serrano
Griffith (VA)	McClintock	Shea-Porter
Grijalva	McCollum	Sires
Gutiérrez	McDermott	Slaughter
Hahn	McGovern	Smith (NJ)
Hanabusa	McIntyre	Smith (TX)
Hastings (FL)	McKinley	Speier
Heck (WA)	McNerney	Stutzman
Higgins	Meadows	Swalwell (CA)
Hinojosa	Meng	Takano
Holt	Michaud	Thompson (CA)
Honda	Miller (FL)	Thompson (MS)
Huelskamp	Moore	Tierney
Huffman	Mulvaney	Titus
Hurt	Nadler	Tonko
Israel	Napolitano	Tsongas
Jackson Lee	Neal	Van Hollen
Jeffries	Neugebauer	Vargas
Johnson (GA)	Nolan	Veasey
Johnson, E. B.	O'Rourke	Vela
Johnson, Sam	Olson	Velázquez
Jones	Pallone	Visclosky
Jordan	Pascrell	Walz
Keating	Payne	Waters
Kelly (IL)	Pelosi	Waxman
Kennedy	Perry	Weber (TX)
Kildee	Peterson	Webster (FL)
Kilmer	Pingree (ME)	Welch
King (IA)	Pocan	Williams
Kirkpatrick	Poe (TX)	Wilson (FL)
Labrador	Polis	Wittman
LaMalfa	Pompeo	Yarmuth

#### NOT VOTING—10

Campbell	Hall	Smith (WA)
Capuano	Hensarling	Stockman
Cleaver	Miller, Gary	
Duckworth	Negrete McLeod	

#### □ 2137

Messrs. LANKFORD and WAXMAN changed their vote from "aye" to "no." So the motion to concur was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### CONGRESSMAN JOHN DINGELL'S LAST VOTE IN THE HOUSE

(Mr. HOYER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, we have one more vote. That will be the last time that the gentleman from Michigan, JOHN DINGELL, votes in this House after 59 years. He is a great servant of our country.

I am pleased to yield to the gentleman from Ohio, Speaker BOEHNER.

Mr. BOEHNER. I thank my colleague for yielding.

Let me add my words of congratulations to our good friend from Michigan,

JOHN DINGELL, who has been a mentor to Members on both sides of the aisle and has carried more institutional history than anyone here. My job tonight is to say thank you and merry Christmas.

### JOHN MUIR NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE EXPANSION ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, 5-minute voting will continue.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5699) to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to acquire approximately 44 acres of land in Martinez, California, and for other purposes, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 361, nays 39, not voting 34, as follows:

[Roll No. 564]

YEAS—361

Aderholt	Clyburn	Fleischmann
Amodei	Coffman	Fleming
Bachmann	Cohen	Flores
Bachus	Cole	Forbes
Barber	Collins (GA)	Fortenberry
Barletta	Collins (NY)	Foster
Barr	Conaway	Fox
Barrow (GA)	Connolly	Frankel (FL)
Barton	Conyers	Franks (AZ)
Bass	Cook	Frelinghuysen
Becerra	Cooper	Fudge
Benishek	Costa	Gabbard
Bera (CA)	Cotton	Galleo
Bilirakis	Courtney	Garamendi
Bishop (GA)	Cramer	Garcia
Bishop (NY)	Crawford	Gardner
Bishop (UT)	Crenshaw	Garrett
Blumenauer	Crowley	Gerlach
Bonamici	Cuellar	Gibson
Boustany	Culberson	Gingrey (GA)
Brady (PA)	Cummings	Goodlatte
Brady (TX)	Daines	Gosar
Braley (IA)	Davis (CA)	Gowdy
Brooks (AL)	Davis, Danny	Graves (MO)
Brooks (IN)	DeFazio	Grayson
Brown (FL)	DeGette	Green, Al
Brownley (CA)	Delaney	Green, Gene
Bucshon	DeLauro	Griffin (AR)
Bustos	DelBene	Grijalva
Butterfield	Dent	Grimm
Byrne	Deutch	Guthrie
Calvert	Diaz-Balart	Hahn
Camp	Dingell	Hanabusa
Capito	Doggett	Hanna
Capps	Doyle	Harper
Cárdenas	Duffy	Hartzler
Carney	Duncan (SC)	Hastings (WA)
Carson (IN)	Duncan (TN)	Heck (NV)
Carter	Edwards	Heck (WA)
Cartwright	Ellison	Herrera Beutler
Cassidy	Ellmers	Higgins
Castor (FL)	Engel	Himes
Castro (TX)	Enyart	Hinojosa
Chabot	Eshoo	Holt
Chaffetz	Esty	Horsford
Chu	Farenthold	Hoyer
Ciulline	Farr	Huffman
Clark (MA)	Fattah	Huizenga (MI)
Clarke (NY)	Fincher	Hultgren
Clay	Fitzpatrick	Israel

Issa	Meng	Scalise	Hensarling	Miller, Gary	Smith (WA)
Jackson Lee	Messer	Schakowsky	Honda	Mullin	Stewart
Jenkins	Mica	Schiff	Hurt	Murphy (PA)	Stivers
Johnson (GA)	Michaud	Schneider	Jeffries	Negrete McLeod	Stockman
Johnson (OH)	Miller (FL)	Schock	Keating	Noem	Tiberi
Johnson, E. B.	Miller (MI)	Schwartz	Maloney, Sean	Rokita	
Johnson, Sam	Miller, George	Schweikert	Marchant	Schrader	
Jolly	Moore	Scott (VA)			
Jordan	Moran	Scott, Austin			
Joyce	Mulvaney	Scott, David			
Kaptur	Murphy (FL)	Sensenbrenner			
Kelly (IL)	Nadler	Serrano			
Kelly (PA)	Napolitano	Sessions			
Kennedy	Neal	Sewell (AL)			
Kildee	Nolan	Shea-Porter			
Kilmer	Norcross	Sherman			
Kind	Nunnelee	Shimkus			
King (IA)	O'Rourke	Shuster			
King (NY)	Olson	Simpson			
Kingston	Owens	Sinema			
Kinzinger (IL)	Pallone	Sires			
Kirkpatrick	Pascarella	Slaughter			
Kline	Pastor (AZ)	Smith (NE)			
Kuster	Paulsen	Smith (NJ)			
Lamborn	Payne	Smith (TX)			
Lance	Pearce	Southerland			
Langevin	Pelosi	Speier			
Lankford	Perlmutter	Stutzman			
Larsen (WA)	Perry	Swalwell (CA)			
Larson (CT)	Peters (CA)	Takano			
Latham	Peters (MI)	Terry			
Latta	Peterson	Thompson (CA)			
Lee (CA)	Petri	Thompson (MS)			
Levin	Pingree (ME)	Thompson (PA)			
Lewis	Pittenger	Thornberry			
Lipinski	Pitts	Tierney			
LoBiondo	Pocan	Tipton			
Loeb sack	Polis	Titus			
Lofgren	Pompeo	Tonko			
Long	Posey	Tsongas			
Lowenthal	Price (NC)	Turner			
Lowe y	Quigley	Upton			
Lucas	Rahall	Van Hollen			
Luetkemeyer	Rangel	Vargas			
Lujan Grisham	Reed	Veasey			
(NM)	Reichert	Vela			
Luján, Ben Ray	Renacci	Velázquez			
(NM)	Ribble	Visclosky			
Lynch	Richmond	Wagner			
Maffei	Rigell	Walberg			
Maloney,	Roby	Walden			
Carolyn	Roe (TN)	Walorski			
Marino	Rogers (AL)	Walz			
Matheson	Rogers (KY)	Wasserman			
Matsui	Rogers (MI)	Schultz			
McAllister	Rohrabacher	Waters			
McCarthy (CA)	Rooney	Waxman			
McCarthy (NY)	Ros-Lehtinen	Webster (FL)			
McCaul	Roskam	Welch			
McClintock	Rothfus	Westmoreland			
McCollum	Roybal-Allard	Whitfield			
McDermott	Royce	Wilson (FL)			
McGovern	Ruiz	Wilson (SC)			
McHenry	Runyan	Wittman			
McIntyre	Ruppersberger	Wolf			
McKeon	Ryan (OH)	Womack			
McKinley	Ryan (WI)	Yarmuth			
McMorris	Salmon	Yoder			
Rodgers	Sánchez, Linda	Yoho			
McNerney	T.	Young (AK)			
Meadows	Sanchez, Loretta	Young (IN)			
Meehan	Sanford				
Meeks	Sarbanes				

NAYS—39

Amash	Griffith (VA)	Nunes
Bentivolio	Harris	Palazzo
Bridenstine	Holding	Poe (TX)
Broun (GA)	Hudson	Price (GA)
Burgess	Huelskamp	Rice (SC)
Clawson (FL)	Hunter	Ross
Davis, Rodney	Jones	Rush
Denham	Labrador	Smith (MO)
DeSantis	LaMalfa	Valadao
Lummis	Lummi	Weber (TX)
Massie	Massie	Wenstrup
Neugebauer	Neugebauer	Williams
Nugent	Nugent	Woodall

NOT VOTING—34

Adams	Buchanan	Duckworth
Beatty	Campbell	Granger
Black	Capuano	Gutiérrez
Blackburn	Cleaver	Hall
Brat	Coble	Hastings (FL)

□ 2149

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

### PROVIDING FOR A CORRECTION IN THE ENROLLMENT OF H.R. 83

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 776, the House is considered to have adopted House Concurrent Resolution 122.

The text of House Concurrent Resolution 122 is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 122

*Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That in the enrollment of the bill H.R. 83, the Clerk of the House of Representatives shall amend the long title so as to read: "Making consolidated appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes."*

### MAKING FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS, 2015

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Appropriations be discharged from further consideration of the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 130) making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2015, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the joint resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. WAGNER). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Kentucky?

There was no objection.

The text of the joint resolution is as follows:

H.J. RES. 130

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Continuing Appropriations Resolution, 2015 (Public Law 113-164) is amended by striking the date specified in section 106(3) and inserting "December 13, 2014".*

The joint resolution was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

### COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, December 11, 2014.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,  
The Speaker, U.S. Capitol, House of Representatives,

WASHINGTON, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on December 11, 2014 at 2:53 p.m.:

That the Senate passed S. 2785.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 3044.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 3468.

That the Senate passed with an amendment H.R. 3329.

That the Senate passed S. 2828.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

#### COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, December 11, 2014.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,  
The Speaker, U.S. Capitol, House of Representatives,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on December 11, 2014 at 4:12 p.m.:

That the Senate passed with an amendment H.R. 2640.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

#### COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, December 11, 2014.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,  
The Speaker, House of Representatives,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on December 11, 2014 at 6:32 p.m.:

That the Senate passed S. 1535.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 676, the Chair

announces that a civil action was initiated on November 21, 2014, in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia relating to the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

#### STUDY OF ELECTRIC RATES IN THE INSULAR AREAS

Mr. WHITFIELD. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Commerce be discharged from further consideration of the bill (H.R. 5803) to require the Secretary of the Interior to assemble a team of technical, policy, and financial experts to address the energy needs of the insular areas of the United States and the Freely Associated States through the development of energy action plans aimed at promoting access to affordable, reliable energy, including increasing use of indigenous clean-energy resources, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Kentucky?

There was no objection.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5803

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. STUDY OF ELECTRIC RATES IN THE INSULAR AREAS.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) COMPREHENSIVE ENERGY PLAN.—The term “comprehensive energy plan” means a comprehensive energy plan prepared and updated under subsections (c) and (e) of section 604 of the Act entitled “An Act to authorize appropriations for certain insular areas of the United States, and for other purposes”, approved December 24, 1980 (48 U.S.C. 1492).

(2) ENERGY ACTION PLAN.—The term “energy action plan” means the plan required by subsection (d).

(3) FREELY ASSOCIATED STATES.—The term “Freely Associated States” means the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau.

(4) INSULAR AREAS.—The term “insular areas” means American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Virgin Islands.

(5) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior.

(6) TEAM.—The term “team” means the team established by the Secretary under subsection (b).

(b) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall, within the Empowering Insular Communities activity, establish a team of technical, policy, and financial experts—

(1) to develop an energy action plan addressing the energy needs of each of the insular areas and Freely Associated States; and

(2) to assist each of the insular areas and Freely Associated States in implementing such plan.

(c) PARTICIPATION OF REGIONAL UTILITY ORGANIZATIONS.—In establishing the team, the

Secretary shall consider including regional utility organizations.

(d) ENERGY ACTION PLAN.—In accordance with subsection (b), the energy action plan shall include—

(1) recommendations, based on the comprehensive energy plan where applicable, to—

(A) reduce reliance and expenditures on fuel shipped to the insular areas and Freely Associated States from ports outside the United States;

(B) develop and utilize domestic fuel energy sources; and

(C) improve performance of energy infrastructure and overall energy efficiency;

(2) a schedule for implementation of such recommendations and identification and prioritization of specific projects;

(3) a financial and engineering plan for implementing and sustaining projects; and

(4) benchmarks for measuring progress toward implementation.

(e) REPORTS TO SECRETARY.—Not later than 1 year after the date on which the Secretary establishes the team and annually thereafter, the team shall submit to the Secretary a report detailing progress made in fulfilling its charge and in implementing the energy action plan.

(f) ANNUAL REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 30 days after the date on which the Secretary receives a report submitted by the team under subsection (e), the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a summary of the report of the team.

(g) APPROVAL OF SECRETARY REQUIRED.—The energy action plan shall not be implemented until the Secretary approves the energy action plan.

#### SEC. 2. AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSOLIDATED NATURAL RESOURCES ACT.

Section 6 of Public Law 94-241 (90 Stat. 263; 122 Stat. 854) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(2), by striking “December 31, 2014, except as provided in subsections (b) and (d)” and inserting “December 31, 2019”; and

(2) in subsection (d)—

(A) in the third sentence of paragraph (2), by striking “not to extend beyond December 31, 2014, unless extended pursuant to paragraph 5 of this subsection” and inserting “ending on December 31, 2019”;

(B) by striking paragraph (5); and

(C) by redesignating paragraph (6) as paragraph (5).

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### FAA MODERNIZATION AND REFORM ACT OF 2012 AMENDMENT

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Ways and Means be discharged from further consideration of the bill (H.R. 2591) to amend certain provisions of the FAA Modernization and Reform Act of 2012, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2591

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

**SECTION 1. ROLLOVER OF AMOUNTS RECEIVED IN AIRLINE CARRIER BANKRUPTCY.**

(a) **EXTENSION OF TIME TO FILE CLAIM FOR REFUND.**—Section 1106(a)(3) of the FAA Modernization and Reform Act of 2012 (26 U.S.C. 408 note) is amended by striking “2013” and inserting “2015”.

(b) **DEFINITIONS AND SPECIAL RULES.**—Section 1106(c) of such Act is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)(A)(i) by inserting “or filed on November 29, 2011,” after “2007,”; and

(2) in paragraph (2)(B)—

(A) by striking “terminated or” and inserting “terminated,”; and

(B) by inserting “, or was frozen effective November 1, 2012” after “Pension Protection Act of 2006”.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

**CENTRAL OREGON JOBS AND WATER SECURITY ACT**

Mr. WALDEN. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 2640) to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to adjust the Crooked River boundary, to provide water certainty for the City of Prineville, Oregon, and for other purposes, with the Senate amendment thereto, and concur in the Senate amendment.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the Senate amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Senate amendment:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This Act may be cited as the “Crooked River Collaborative Water Security and Jobs Act of 2014”.

**SEC. 2. WILD AND SCENIC RIVER; CROOKED, OREGON.**

Section 3(a) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (16 U.S.C. 1274(a)) is amended by striking paragraph (72) and inserting the following:

“(72) CROOKED, OREGON.—

“(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The 14.75-mile segment from the National Grassland boundary to Dry Creek, to be administered by the Secretary of the Interior in the following classes:

“(i) The 7-mile segment from the National Grassland boundary to River Mile 8 south of Opal Spring, as a recreational river.

“(ii) The 7.75-mile segment from a point ¼-mile downstream from the center crest of Bowman Dam, as a recreational river.

“(B) **HYDROPOWER.**—In any license or lease of power privilege application relating to non-Federal hydropower development (including turbines and appurtenant facilities) at Bowman Dam, the applicant, in consultation with the Director of the Bureau of Land Management, shall—

“(i) analyze any impacts to the scenic, recreational, and fishery resource values of the Crooked River from the center crest of Bowman Dam to a point ¼-mile downstream that may be caused by the proposed hydropower develop-

ment, including the future need to undertake routine and emergency repairs;

“(ii) propose measures to minimize and mitigate any impacts analyzed under clause (i); and

“(iii) propose designs and measures to ensure that any access facilities associated with hydropower development at Bowman Dam shall not impede the free-flowing nature of the Crooked River below Bowman Dam.”.

**SEC. 3. CITY OF PRINEVILLE WATER SUPPLY.**

Section 4 of the Act of August 6, 1956 (70 Stat. 1058; 73 Stat. 554; 78 Stat. 954) is amended—

(1) by striking “**SEC. 4. In order**” and inserting the following:

**“SEC. 4. CITY OF PRINEVILLE WATER SUPPLY.**

“(a) **IN GENERAL.**—In order”;

(2) in subsection (a) (as so designated), by striking “during those months” and all that follows through “purpose of the project”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(b) **ANNUAL RELEASE.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Without further action by the Secretary of the Interior, beginning on the date of enactment of the Crooked River Collaborative Water Security and Jobs Act of 2014, 5,100 acre-feet of water shall be annually released from the project to serve as mitigation for City of Prineville groundwater pumping, pursuant to and in a manner consistent with Oregon State law, including any shaping of the release of the water.

“(2) **PAYMENTS.**—The City of Prineville shall make payments to the Secretary of the Interior for the water released under paragraph (1), in accordance with applicable Bureau of Reclamation policies, directives, and standards.

“(c) **ADDITIONAL QUANTITIES.**—Consistent with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.), the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.), and other applicable Federal laws, the Secretary of the Interior may contract exclusively with the City of Prineville for additional quantities of water, at the request of the City of Prineville.”.

**SEC. 4. ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS.**

The Act of August 6, 1956 (70 Stat. 1058; 73 Stat. 554; 78 Stat. 954), is amended by adding at the end the following:

**“SEC. 6. FIRST FILL STORAGE AND RELEASE.**

“(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Other than the 10 cubic feet per second release provided for in section 4, and subject to compliance with the flood curve requirements of the Corps of Engineers, the Secretary shall, on a ‘first fill’ priority basis, store in and when called for in any year release from Prineville Reservoir, whether from carryover, infill, or a combination of both, the following:

“(1) Not more than 68,273 acre-feet of water annually to fulfill all 16 Bureau of Reclamation contracts existing as of January 1, 2011.

“(2) Not more than 2,740 acre-feet of water annually to supply the McKay Creek land, in accordance with section 5 of the Crooked River Collaborative Water Security and Jobs Act of 2014.

“(3) Not more than 10,000 acre-feet of water annually, to be made available first to the North Unit Irrigation District, and subsequently to any other holders of Reclamation contracts existing as of January 1, 2011 (in that order) pursuant to Temporary Water Service Contracts, on the request of the North Unit Irrigation District or the contract holders, consistent with the same terms and conditions as prior such contracts between the Bureau of Reclamation and District or contract holders, as applicable.

“(4) Not more than 5,100 acre-feet of water annually to mitigate the City of Prineville groundwater pumping under section 4, with the release of this water to occur not based on an annual call, but instead pursuant to section 4 and the release schedule developed pursuant to section 7(b).

“(b) **CARRYOVER.**—Except for water that may be called for and released after the end of the irrigation season (either as City of Prineville groundwater pumping mitigation or as a voluntary release, in accordance with section 4 of this Act and section 6(c) of the Crooked River Collaborative Water Security and Jobs Act of 2014, respectively), any water stored under this section that is not called for and released by the end of the irrigation season in a given year shall be—

“(1) carried over to the subsequent water year, which, for accounting purposes, shall be considered to be the 1-year period beginning October 1 and ending September 30, consistent with Oregon State law; and

“(2) accounted for as part of the ‘first fill’ storage quantities of the subsequent water year, but not to exceed the maximum ‘first fill’ storage quantities described in subsection (a).

**“SEC. 7. STORAGE AND RELEASE OF REMAINING STORED WATER QUANTITIES.**

“(a) **AUTHORIZATION.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall store in and release from Prineville Reservoir sufficient quantities of remaining stored quantities to be released pursuant to the annual release schedule under subsection (b) and to provide instream flows consistent, to the maximum extent practicable, with the recommendations for in-channel strategies in the plan prepared by the Northwest Power and Conservation Council entitled ‘Deschutes Subbasin Plan’ and dated March 24, 2005, for flow between Bowman Dam and Lake Billy Chinook.

“(2) **REQUIREMENTS.**—In calculating the quantity of released water under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall—

“(A) comply with the flood curve requirements of the Corps of Engineers; and

“(B) credit toward the requirements of paragraph (1) the instream flow benefits provided by—

“(i) the quantities released under section 4;

“(ii) the ‘first fill’ quantities released under section 6; and

“(iii) any quantities released to comply with the flood curve requirements of the Corps of Engineers.

“(3) **USE OF UNCONTRACTED WATER.**—If a consultation conducted under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.) or an order of a court in a proceeding under that Act requires releases of stored water from Prineville Reservoir for fish and wildlife downstream of Bowman Dam, the Secretary shall use uncontracted water under paragraph (1).

“(4) **STATE WATER LAW.**—All releases and downstream uses authorized under paragraph (1) shall be in accordance with Oregon State water law.

“(b) **ANNUAL RELEASE SCHEDULE.**—The Commissioner of Reclamation, in consultation with the Assistant Administrator of Fisheries of the National Marine Fisheries Service and the Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, shall develop annual release schedules for the remaining stored water quantities (including the quantities described in subsection (a) and the water serving as mitigation for City of Prineville groundwater pumping pursuant to section 4) that maximizes, to the maximum extent practicable, benefits to downstream fish and wildlife.

“(c) **CARRYOVER.**—Any water stored under subsection (a) in 1 water year that is not released during the water year—

“(1) shall be carried over to the subsequent water year; and

“(2)(A) may be released for downstream fish and wildlife resources, consistent with subsection (b), until the reservoir reaches maximum capacity in the subsequent water year; and

“(B) once the reservoir reaches maximum capacity under subparagraph (A), shall be credited to the ‘first fill’ storage quantities, but not



to exceed the maximum 'first fill' storage quantities described in section 6(a).

"(d) EFFECT.—Nothing in this section affects the authority of the Commissioner of Reclamation to perform all other traditional and routine activities associated with the Crooked River Project.

**"SEC. 8. RESERVOIR LEVELS.**

"The Commissioner of Reclamation shall—

"(1) project reservoir water levels over the course of the year; and

"(2) make the projections under paragraph (1) available to—

"(A) the public (including fisheries groups, recreation interests, and municipal and irrigation stakeholders);

"(B) the Assistant Administrator of Fisheries of the National Marine Fisheries Service; and

"(C) the Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

**"SEC. 9. EFFECT.**

"Except as otherwise provided in this Act, nothing in this Act—

"(1) modifies contractual rights that may exist between contractors and the United States under Reclamation contracts;

"(2) amends or reopens contracts referred to in paragraph (1); or

"(3) modifies any rights, obligations, or requirements that may be provided or governed by Federal or Oregon State law."

**SEC. 5. OCHOCO IRRIGATION DISTRICT.**

(a) EARLY REPAYMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding section 213 of the Reclamation Reform Act of 1982 (43 U.S.C. 390mm), any landowner within Ochoco Irrigation District, Oregon (referred to in this section as the "district"), may repay, at any time, the construction costs of the project facilities allocated to the land of the landowner within the district.

(2) EXEMPTION FROM LIMITATIONS.—Upon discharge, in full, of the obligation for repayment of the construction costs allocated to all land of the landowner in the district, the land shall not be subject to the ownership and full-cost pricing limitations of Federal reclamation law (the Act of June 17, 1902 (32 Stat. 388, chapter 1093), and Acts supplemental to and amendatory of that Act (43 U.S.C. 371 et seq.)).

(b) CERTIFICATION.—Upon the request of a landowner who has repaid, in full, the construction costs of the project facilities allocated to the land of the landowner within the district, the Secretary of the Interior shall provide the certification described in section 213(b)(1) of the Reclamation Reform Act of 1982 (43 U.S.C. 390mm(b)(1)).

(c) CONTRACT AMENDMENT.—On approval of the district directors and notwithstanding project authorizing authority to the contrary, the Reclamation contracts of the district are modified, without further action by the Secretary of the Interior—

(1) to authorize the use of water for instream purposes, including fish or wildlife purposes, in order for the district to engage in, or take advantage of, conserved water projects and temporary instream leasing as authorized by Oregon State law;

(2) to include within the district boundary approximately 2,742 acres in the vicinity of McKay Creek, resulting in a total of approximately 44,937 acres within the district boundary;

(3) to classify as irrigable approximately 685 acres within the approximately 2,742 acres of included land in the vicinity of McKay Creek, with those approximately 685 acres authorized to receive irrigation water pursuant to water rights issued by the State of Oregon if the acres have in the past received water pursuant to State water rights; and

(4) to provide the district with stored water from Prineville Reservoir for purposes of sup-

plying up to the approximately 685 acres of land added within the district boundary and classified as irrigable under paragraphs (2) and (3), with the stored water to be supplied on an acre-per-acre basis contingent on the transfer of existing appurtenant McKay Creek water rights to instream use and the issuance of water rights by the State of Oregon for the use of stored water.

(d) LIMITATION.—Except as otherwise provided in subsections (a) and (c), nothing in this section—

(1) modifies contractual rights that may exist between the district and the United States under the Reclamation contracts of the district;

(2) amends or reopens the contracts referred to in paragraph (1); or

(3) modifies any rights, obligations, or relationships that may exist between the district and any owner of land within the district, as may be provided or governed by Federal or Oregon State law.

**SEC. 6. DRY-YEAR MANAGEMENT PLANNING AND VOLUNTARY RELEASES.**

(a) PARTICIPATION IN DRY-YEAR MANAGEMENT PLANNING MEETINGS.—The Bureau of Reclamation shall participate in dry-year management planning meetings with the State of Oregon, the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon, municipal, agricultural, conservation, recreation, and other interested stakeholders to plan for dry-year conditions.

(b) DRY-YEAR MANAGEMENT PLAN.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Bureau of Reclamation shall develop a dry-year management plan in coordination with the participants referred to in subsection (a).

(2) REQUIREMENTS.—The plan developed under paragraph (1) shall only recommend strategies, measures, and actions that the irrigation districts and other Bureau of Reclamation contract holders voluntarily agree to implement.

(3) LIMITATIONS.—Nothing in the plan developed under paragraph (1) shall be mandatory or self-implementing.

(c) VOLUNTARY RELEASE.—In any year, if North Unit Irrigation District or other eligible Bureau of Reclamation contract holders have not initiated contracting with the Bureau of Reclamation for any quantity of the 10,000 acre feet of water described in subsection (a)(3) of section 6 of the Act of August 6, 1956 (70 Stat. 1058) (as added by section 4), by June 1 of any calendar year, with the voluntary agreement of North Unit Irrigation District and other Bureau of Reclamation contract holders referred to in that paragraph, the Secretary may release that quantity of water for the benefit of downstream fish and wildlife as described in section 7 of that Act.

**SEC. 7. HYDROPOWER DECISION.**

Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commissioner of Reclamation shall determine the applicability of the jurisdiction of the Commissioner of Reclamation to non-Federal hydropower development pursuant to—

(1) the Memorandum of Understanding between the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and the Bureau of Reclamation, Department of the Interior, entitled "Establishment of Processes for the Early Resolution of Issues Related to the Timely Development of Non-Federal Hydroelectric power at the Bureau of Reclamation Facilities" and signed November 6, 1992 (58 Fed. Reg. 3269); or

(2) any memorandum of understanding that is subsequent or related to the memorandum of understanding described in paragraph (1).

**SEC. 8. RELATION TO EXISTING LAWS AND STATUTORY OBLIGATIONS.**

Nothing in this Act (or an amendment made by this Act)—

(1) provides to the Secretary the authority to store and release the "first fill" quantities pro-

vided for in section 6 of the Act of August 6, 1956 (70 Stat. 1058) (as added by section 4) for any purposes other than the purposes provided for in that section, except for—

(A) the potential instream use resulting from conserved water projects and temporary instream leasing as provided for in section 5(c)(1);

(B) the potential release of additional amounts that may result from voluntary actions agreed to through the dry-year management plan developed under section 6(b); and

(C) the potential release of the 10,000 acre feet for downstream fish and wildlife as provided for in section 6(c); or

(2) alters any responsibilities under Oregon State law or Federal law, including section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1536).

Mr. WALDEN (during the reading). Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the amendment be considered as read.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Oregon?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the original request of the gentleman from Oregon?

There was no objection.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

**FURTHER MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE**

A further message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, on of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed a bill of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 1353. An act to provide for an ongoing, voluntary public-private partnership to improve cybersecurity, and to strengthen cybersecurity research and development, workforce development and education, and public awareness and preparedness, and for other purposes.

□ 2200

**VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2013 AMENDMENT**

Mr. GOODLATTE. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill (S. 1474) to amend the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 to repeal a special rule for the State of Alaska, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Virginia?

There was no objection.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 1474

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

**REPEAL OF SPECIAL RULE FOR STATE OF ALASKA.**

Section 910 of the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 (18 U.S.C. 2265 note; Public Law 113-4) is repealed.



The bill was ordered to be read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

## CYBERSECURITY ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2014

Mr. McCAUL. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill (S. 1353) to provide for an ongoing, voluntary public-private partnership to improve cybersecurity, and to strengthen cybersecurity research and development, workforce development and education, and public awareness and preparedness, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 1353

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the “Cybersecurity Enhancement Act of 2014”.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents of this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
- Sec. 2. Definitions.
- Sec. 3. No regulatory authority.
- Sec. 4. No additional funds authorized.

### TITLE I—PUBLIC-PRIVATE COLLABORATION ON CYBERSECURITY

Sec. 101. Public-private collaboration on cybersecurity.

### TITLE II—CYBERSECURITY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

- Sec. 201. Federal cybersecurity research and development.
- Sec. 202. Computer and network security research centers.
- Sec. 203. Cybersecurity automation and checklists for government systems.
- Sec. 204. National Institute of Standards and Technology cybersecurity research and development.

### TITLE III—EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

- Sec. 301. Cybersecurity competitions and challenges.
- Sec. 302. Federal cyber scholarship-for-service program.

### TITLE IV—CYBERSECURITY AWARENESS AND PREPAREDNESS

- Sec. 401. National cybersecurity awareness and education program.

### TITLE V—ADVANCEMENT OF CYBERSECURITY TECHNICAL STANDARDS

- Sec. 501. Definitions.
- Sec. 502. International cybersecurity technical standards.
- Sec. 503. Cloud computing strategy.
- Sec. 504. Identity management research and development.

### SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) CYBERSECURITY MISSION.—The term “cybersecurity mission” means activities that

encompass the full range of threat reduction, vulnerability reduction, deterrence, international engagement, incident response, resiliency, and recovery policies and activities, including computer network operations, information assurance, law enforcement, diplomacy, military, and intelligence missions as such activities relate to the security and stability of cyberspace.

(2) INFORMATION SYSTEM.—The term “information system” has the meaning given that term in section 3502 of title 44, United States Code.

### SEC. 3. NO REGULATORY AUTHORITY.

Nothing in this Act shall be construed to confer any regulatory authority on any Federal, State, tribal, or local department or agency.

### SEC. 4. NO ADDITIONAL FUNDS AUTHORIZED.

No additional funds are authorized to carry out this Act, and the amendments made by this Act. This Act, and the amendments made by this Act, shall be carried out using amounts otherwise authorized or appropriated.

## TITLE I—PUBLIC-PRIVATE COLLABORATION ON CYBERSECURITY

### SEC. 101. PUBLIC-PRIVATE COLLABORATION ON CYBERSECURITY.

(a) CYBERSECURITY.—Section 2(c) of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act (15 U.S.C. 272(c)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (15) through (22) as paragraphs (16) through (23), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (14) the following:

“(15) on an ongoing basis, facilitate and support the development of a voluntary, consensus-based, industry-led set of standards, guidelines, best practices, methodologies, procedures, and processes to cost-effectively reduce cyber risks to critical infrastructure (as defined under subsection (e));”.

(b) SCOPE AND LIMITATIONS.—Section 2 of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act (15 U.S.C. 272) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(e) CYBER RISKS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out the activities under subsection (c)(15), the Director—

“(A) shall—

“(i) coordinate closely and regularly with relevant private sector personnel and entities, critical infrastructure owners and operators, and other relevant industry organizations, including Sector Coordinating Councils and Information Sharing and Analysis Centers, and incorporate industry expertise;

“(ii) consult with the heads of agencies with national security responsibilities, sector-specific agencies and other appropriate agencies, State and local governments, the governments of other nations, and international organizations;

“(iii) identify a prioritized, flexible, repeatable, performance-based, and cost-effective approach, including information security measures and controls, that may be voluntarily adopted by owners and operators of critical infrastructure to help them identify, assess, and manage cyber risks;

“(iv) include methodologies—

“(I) to identify and mitigate impacts of the cybersecurity measures or controls on business confidentiality; and

“(II) to protect individual privacy and civil liberties;

“(v) incorporate voluntary consensus standards and industry best practices;

“(vi) align with voluntary international standards to the fullest extent possible;

“(vii) prevent duplication of regulatory processes and prevent conflict with or superseding of regulatory requirements, mandatory standards, and related processes; and

“(viii) include such other similar and consistent elements as the Director considers necessary; and

“(B) shall not prescribe or otherwise require—

“(i) the use of specific solutions;

“(ii) the use of specific information or communications technology products or services; or

“(iii) that information or communications technology products or services be designed, developed, or manufactured in a particular manner.

“(2) LIMITATION.—Information shared with or provided to the Institute for the purpose of the activities described under subsection (c)(15) shall not be used by any Federal, State, tribal, or local department or agency to regulate the activity of any entity. Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to modify any regulatory requirement to report or submit information to a Federal, State, tribal, or local department or agency.

“(3) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

“(A) CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE.—The term ‘critical infrastructure’ has the meaning given the term in section 1016(e) of the USA PATRIOT Act of 2001 (42 U.S.C. 5195c(e)).

“(B) SECTOR-SPECIFIC AGENCY.—The term ‘sector-specific agency’ means the Federal department or agency responsible for providing institutional knowledge and specialized expertise as well as leading, facilitating, or supporting the security and resilience programs and associated activities of its designated critical infrastructure sector in the all-hazards environment.”.

(c) STUDY AND REPORTS.—

(1) STUDY.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study that assesses—

(A) the progress made by the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology in facilitating the development of standards and procedures to reduce cyber risks to critical infrastructure in accordance with section 2(c)(15) of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act, as added by this section;

(B) the extent to which the Director's facilitation efforts are consistent with the directive in such section that the development of such standards and procedures be voluntary and led by industry representatives;

(C) the extent to which other Federal agencies have promoted and sectors of critical infrastructure (as defined in section 1016(e) of the USA PATRIOT Act of 2001 (42 U.S.C. 5195c(e))) have adopted a voluntary, industry-led set of standards, guidelines, best practices, methodologies, procedures, and processes to reduce cyber risks to critical infrastructure in accordance with such section 2(c)(15);

(D) the reasons behind the decisions of sectors of critical infrastructure (as defined in subparagraph (C)) to adopt or to not adopt the voluntary standards described in subparagraph (C); and

(E) the extent to which such voluntary standards have proved successful in protecting critical infrastructure from cyber threats.

(2) REPORTS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, and every 2 years thereafter for the following 6 years, the Comptroller General shall submit a report, which summarizes the findings of the study conducted under paragraph (1), to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and

Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives.

## TITLE II—CYBERSECURITY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

### SEC. 201. FEDERAL CYBERSECURITY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.

(a) FUNDAMENTAL CYBERSECURITY RESEARCH.—

(1) FEDERAL CYBERSECURITY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIC PLAN.—The heads of the applicable agencies and departments, working through the National Science and Technology Council and the Networking and Information Technology Research and Development Program, shall develop and update every 4 years a Federal cybersecurity research and development strategic plan (referred to in this subsection as the “strategic plan”) based on an assessment of cybersecurity risk to guide the overall direction of Federal cybersecurity and information assurance research and development for information technology and networking systems. The heads of the applicable agencies and departments shall build upon existing programs and plans to develop the strategic plan to meet objectives in cybersecurity, such as—

(A) how to design and build complex software-intensive systems that are secure and reliable when first deployed;

(B) how to test and verify that software and hardware, whether developed locally or obtained from a third party, is free of significant known security flaws;

(C) how to test and verify that software and hardware obtained from a third party correctly implements stated functionality, and only that functionality;

(D) how to guarantee the privacy of an individual, including that individual’s identity, information, and lawful transactions when stored in distributed systems or transmitted over networks;

(E) how to build new protocols to enable the Internet to have robust security as one of the key capabilities of the Internet;

(F) how to determine the origin of a message transmitted over the Internet;

(G) how to support privacy in conjunction with improved security;

(H) how to address the problem of insider threats;

(I) how improved consumer education and digital literacy initiatives can address human factors that contribute to cybersecurity;

(J) how to protect information processed, transmitted, or stored using cloud computing or transmitted through wireless services; and

(K) any additional objectives the heads of the applicable agencies and departments, in coordination with the head of any relevant Federal agency and with input from stakeholders, including appropriate national laboratories, industry, and academia, determine appropriate.

(2) REQUIREMENTS.—

(A) CONTENTS OF PLAN.—The strategic plan shall—

(i) specify and prioritize near-term, mid-term, and long-term research objectives, including objectives associated with the research identified in section 4(a)(1) of the Cyber Security Research and Development Act (15 U.S.C. 7403(a)(1));

(ii) specify how the near-term objectives described in clause (i) complement research and development areas in which the private sector is actively engaged;

(iii) describe how the heads of the applicable agencies and departments will focus on

innovative, transformational technologies with the potential to enhance the security, reliability, resilience, and trustworthiness of the digital infrastructure, and to protect consumer privacy;

(iv) describe how the heads of the applicable agencies and departments will foster the rapid transfer of research and development results into new cybersecurity technologies and applications for the timely benefit of society and the national interest, including through the dissemination of best practices and other outreach activities;

(v) describe how the heads of the applicable agencies and departments will establish and maintain a national research infrastructure for creating, testing, and evaluating the next generation of secure networking and information technology systems; and

(vi) describe how the heads of the applicable agencies and departments will facilitate access by academic researchers to the infrastructure described in clause (v), as well as to relevant data, including event data.

(B) PRIVATE SECTOR EFFORTS.—In developing, implementing, and updating the strategic plan, the heads of the applicable agencies and departments, working through the National Science and Technology Council and Networking and Information Technology Research and Development Program, shall work in close cooperation with industry, academia, and other interested stakeholders to ensure, to the extent possible, that Federal cybersecurity research and development is not duplicative of private sector efforts.

(C) RECOMMENDATIONS.—In developing and updating the strategic plan the heads of the applicable agencies and departments shall solicit recommendations and advice from—

(i) the advisory committee established under section 101(b)(1) of the High-Performance Computing Act of 1991 (15 U.S.C. 5511(b)(1)); and

(ii) a wide range of stakeholders, including industry, academia, including representatives of minority serving institutions and community colleges, National Laboratories, and other relevant organizations and institutions.

(D) IMPLEMENTATION ROADMAP.—The heads of the applicable agencies and departments, working through the National Science and Technology Council and Networking and Information Technology Research and Development Program, shall develop and annually update an implementation roadmap for the strategic plan. The implementation roadmap shall—

(i) specify the role of each Federal agency in carrying out or sponsoring research and development to meet the research objectives of the strategic plan, including a description of how progress toward the research objectives will be evaluated;

(ii) specify the funding allocated to each major research objective of the strategic plan and the source of funding by agency for the current fiscal year;

(iii) estimate the funding required for each major research objective of the strategic plan for the following 3 fiscal years; and

(iv) track ongoing and completed Federal cybersecurity research and development projects.

(3) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—The heads of the applicable agencies and departments, working through the National Science and Technology Council and Networking and Information Technology Research and Development Program, shall submit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives—

(A) the strategic plan not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act;

(B) each quadrennial update to the strategic plan; and

(C) the implementation roadmap under subparagraph (D), and its annual updates, which shall be appended to the annual report required under section 101(a)(2)(D) of the High-Performance Computing Act of 1991 (15 U.S.C. 5511(a)(2)(D)).

(4) DEFINITION OF APPLICABLE AGENCIES AND DEPARTMENTS.—In this subsection, the term “applicable agencies and departments” means the agencies and departments identified in clauses (i) through (x) of section 101(a)(3)(B) of the High-Performance Computing Act of 1991 (15 U.S.C. 5511(a)(3)(B)) or designated under clause (xi) of that section.

(b) CYBERSECURITY PRACTICES RESEARCH.—The Director of the National Science Foundation shall support research that—

(1) develops, evaluates, disseminates, and integrates new cybersecurity practices and concepts into the core curriculum of computer science programs and of other programs where graduates of such programs have a substantial probability of developing software after graduation, including new practices and concepts relating to secure coding education and improvement programs; and

(2) develops new models for professional development of faculty in cybersecurity education, including secure coding development.

(c) CYBERSECURITY MODELING AND TEST BEDS.—

(1) REVIEW.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director of the National Science Foundation, in coordination with the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy, shall conduct a review of cybersecurity test beds in existence on the date of enactment of this Act to inform the grants under paragraph (2). The review shall include an assessment of whether a sufficient number of cybersecurity test beds are available to meet the research needs under the Federal cybersecurity research and development strategic plan. Upon completion, the Director shall submit the review to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives.

(2) ADDITIONAL CYBERSECURITY MODELING AND TEST BEDS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—If the Director of the National Science Foundation, after the review under paragraph (1), determines that the research needs under the Federal cybersecurity research and development strategic plan require the establishment of additional cybersecurity test beds, the Director of the National Science Foundation, in coordination with the Secretary of Commerce and the Secretary of Homeland Security, may award grants to institutions of higher education or research and development non-profit institutions to establish cybersecurity test beds.

(B) REQUIREMENT.—The cybersecurity test beds under subparagraph (A) shall be sufficiently robust in order to model the scale and complexity of real-time cyber attacks and defenses on real world networks and environments.

(C) ASSESSMENT REQUIRED.—The Director of the National Science Foundation, in coordination with the Secretary of Commerce and the Secretary of Homeland Security, shall evaluate the effectiveness of any grants awarded under this subsection in meeting the objectives of the Federal cybersecurity research and development strategic plan not later than 2 years after the review under

paragraph (1) of this subsection, and periodically thereafter.

(d) **COORDINATION WITH OTHER RESEARCH INITIATIVES.**—In accordance with the responsibilities under section 101 of the High-Performance Computing Act of 1991 (15 U.S.C. 5511), the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy shall coordinate, to the extent practicable, Federal research and development activities under this section with other ongoing research and development security-related initiatives, including research being conducted by—

- (1) the National Science Foundation;
- (2) the National Institute of Standards and Technology;
- (3) the Department of Homeland Security;
- (4) other Federal agencies;
- (5) other Federal and private research laboratories, research entities, and universities;
- (6) institutions of higher education;
- (7) relevant nonprofit organizations; and
- (8) international partners of the United States.

(e) **NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION COMPUTER AND NETWORK SECURITY RESEARCH GRANT AREAS.**—Section 4(a)(1) of the Cyber Security Research and Development Act (15 U.S.C. 7403(a)(1)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (H), by striking “and” at the end;

(2) in subparagraph (I), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(J) secure fundamental protocols that are integral to inter-network communications and data exchange;

“(K) secure software engineering and software assurance, including—

“(i) programming languages and systems that include fundamental security features;

“(ii) portable or reusable code that remains secure when deployed in various environments;

“(iii) verification and validation technologies to ensure that requirements and specifications have been implemented; and

“(iv) models for comparison and metrics to assure that required standards have been met;

“(L) holistic system security that—

“(i) addresses the building of secure systems from trusted and untrusted components;

“(ii) proactively reduces vulnerabilities;

“(iii) addresses insider threats; and

“(iv) supports privacy in conjunction with improved security;

“(M) monitoring and detection;

“(N) mitigation and rapid recovery methods;

“(O) security of wireless networks and mobile devices; and

“(P) security of cloud infrastructure and services.”.

(f) **RESEARCH ON THE SCIENCE OF CYBERSECURITY.**—The head of each agency and department identified under section 101(a)(3)(B) of the High-Performance Computing Act of 1991 (15 U.S.C. 5511(a)(3)(B)), through existing programs and activities, shall support research that will lead to the development of a scientific foundation for the field of cybersecurity, including research that increases understanding of the underlying principles of securing complex networked systems, enables repeatable experimentation, and creates quantifiable security metrics.

#### **SEC. 202. COMPUTER AND NETWORK SECURITY RESEARCH CENTERS.**

Section 4(b) of the Cyber Security Research and Development Act (15 U.S.C. 7403(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (3), by striking “the research areas” and inserting the following: “improving the security and resiliency of information technology, reducing cyber vulnerabilities, and anticipating and mitigating consequences of cyber attacks on critical infrastructure, by conducting research in the areas”;

(2) by striking “the center” in paragraph (4)(D) and inserting “the Center”; and

(3) in paragraph (5)—

(A) by striking “and” at the end of subparagraph (C);

(B) by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (D) and inserting a semicolon; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(E) the demonstrated capability of the applicant to conduct high performance computation integral to complex computer and network security research, through on-site or off-site computing;

“(F) the applicant’s affiliation with private sector entities involved with industrial research described in subsection (a)(1);

“(G) the capability of the applicant to conduct research in a secure environment;

“(H) the applicant’s affiliation with existing research programs of the Federal Government;

“(I) the applicant’s experience managing public-private partnerships to transition new technologies into a commercial setting or the government user community;

“(J) the capability of the applicant to conduct interdisciplinary cybersecurity research, basic and applied, such as in law, economics, or behavioral sciences; and

“(K) the capability of the applicant to conduct research in areas such as systems security, wireless security, networking and protocols, formal methods and high-performance computing, nanotechnology, or industrial control systems.”.

#### **SEC. 203. CYBERSECURITY AUTOMATION AND CHECKLISTS FOR GOVERNMENT SYSTEMS.**

Section 8(c) of the Cyber Security Research and Development Act (15 U.S.C. 7406(c)) is amended to read as follows:

“(c) **SECURITY AUTOMATION AND CHECKLISTS FOR GOVERNMENT SYSTEMS.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology shall, as necessary, develop and revise security automation standards, associated reference materials (including protocols), and checklists providing settings and option selections that minimize the security risks associated with each information technology hardware or software system and security tool that is, or is likely to become, widely used within the Federal Government, thereby enabling standardized and interoperable technologies, architectures, and frameworks for continuous monitoring of information security within the Federal Government.

“(2) **PRIORITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT.**—The Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology shall establish priorities for the development of standards, reference materials, and checklists under this subsection on the basis of—

“(A) the security risks associated with the use of the system;

“(B) the number of agencies that use a particular system or security tool;

“(C) the usefulness of the standards, reference materials, or checklists to Federal agencies that are users or potential users of the system;

“(D) the effectiveness of the associated standard, reference material, or checklist in creating or enabling continuous monitoring of information security; or

“(E) such other factors as the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology determines to be appropriate.

“(3) **EXCLUDED SYSTEMS.**—The Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology may exclude from the application of paragraph (1) any information technology hardware or software system or security tool for which such Director determines that the development of a standard, reference material, or checklist is inappropriate because of the infrequency of use of the system, the obsolescence of the system, or the lack of utility or impracticability of developing a standard, reference material, or checklist for the system.

“(4) **DISSEMINATION OF STANDARDS AND RELATED MATERIALS.**—The Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology shall ensure that Federal agencies are informed of the availability of any standard, reference material, checklist, or other item developed under this subsection.

“(5) **AGENCY USE REQUIREMENTS.**—The development of standards, reference materials, and checklists under paragraph (1) for an information technology hardware or software system or tool does not—

“(A) require any Federal agency to select the specific settings or options recommended by the standard, reference material, or checklist for the system;

“(B) establish conditions or prerequisites for Federal agency procurement or deployment of any such system;

“(C) imply an endorsement of any such system by the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology; or

“(D) preclude any Federal agency from procuring or deploying other information technology hardware or software systems for which no such standard, reference material, or checklist has been developed or identified under paragraph (1).”.

#### **SEC. 204. NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY CYBERSECURITY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.**

Section 20 of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act (15 U.S.C. 278g-3) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (e) as subsection (f); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (d) the following:

“(e) **INTRAMURAL SECURITY RESEARCH.**—As part of the research activities conducted in accordance with subsection (d)(3), the Institute shall, to the extent practicable and appropriate—

“(1) conduct a research program to develop a unifying and standardized identity, privilege, and access control management framework for the execution of a wide variety of resource protection policies and that is amenable to implementation within a wide variety of existing and emerging computing environments;

“(2) carry out research associated with improving the security of information systems and networks;

“(3) carry out research associated with improving the testing, measurement, usability, and assurance of information systems and networks;

“(4) carry out research associated with improving security of industrial control systems;

“(5) carry out research associated with improving the security and integrity of the information technology supply chain; and

“(6) carry out any additional research the Institute determines appropriate.”.

### TITLE III—EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

#### SEC. 301. CYBERSECURITY COMPETITIONS AND CHALLENGES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Commerce, Director of the National Science Foundation, and Secretary of Homeland Security, in consultation with the Director of the Office of Personnel Management, shall—

(1) support competitions and challenges under section 24 of the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3719) (as amended by section 105 of the America COMPETES Reauthorization Act of 2010 (124 Stat. 3989)) or any other provision of law, as appropriate—

(A) to identify, develop, and recruit talented individuals to perform duties relating to the security of information technology in Federal, State, local, and tribal government agencies, and the private sector; or

(B) to stimulate innovation in basic and applied cybersecurity research, technology development, and prototype demonstration that has the potential for application to the information technology activities of the Federal Government; and

(2) ensure the effective operation of the competitions and challenges under this section.

(b) PARTICIPATION.—Participants in the competitions and challenges under subsection (a)(1) may include—

(1) students enrolled in grades 9 through 12;

(2) students enrolled in a postsecondary program of study leading to a baccalaureate degree at an institution of higher education;

(3) students enrolled in a postbaccalaureate program of study at an institution of higher education;

(4) institutions of higher education and research institutions;

(5) veterans; and

(6) other groups or individuals that the Secretary of Commerce, Director of the National Science Foundation, and Secretary of Homeland Security determine appropriate.

(c) AFFILIATION AND COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—Competitions and challenges under this section may be carried out through affiliation and cooperative agreements with—

(1) Federal agencies;

(2) regional, State, or school programs supporting the development of cyber professionals;

(3) State, local, and tribal governments; or

(4) other private sector organizations.

(d) AREAS OF SKILL.—Competitions and challenges under subsection (a)(1)(A) shall be designed to identify, develop, and recruit exceptional talent relating to—

(1) ethical hacking;

(2) penetration testing;

(3) vulnerability assessment;

(4) continuity of system operations;

(5) security in design;

(6) cyber forensics;

(7) offensive and defensive cyber operations; and

(8) other areas the Secretary of Commerce, Director of the National Science Foundation, and Secretary of Homeland Security consider necessary to fulfill the cybersecurity mission.

(e) TOPICS.—In selecting topics for competitions and challenges under subsection (a)(1), the Secretary of Commerce, Director of the National Science Foundation, and Secretary of Homeland Security—

(1) shall consult widely both within and outside the Federal Government; and

(2) may empanel advisory committees.

(f) INTERNSHIPS.—The Director of the Office of Personnel Management may support, as

appropriate, internships or other work experience in the Federal Government to the winners of the competitions and challenges under this section.

#### SEC. 302. FEDERAL CYBER SCHOLARSHIP-FOR-SERVICE PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the National Science Foundation, in coordination with the Director of the Office of Personnel Management and Secretary of Homeland Security, shall continue a Federal cyber scholarship-for-service program to recruit and train the next generation of information technology professionals, industrial control system security professionals, and security managers to meet the needs of the cybersecurity mission for Federal, State, local, and tribal governments.

(b) PROGRAM DESCRIPTION AND COMPONENTS.—The Federal Cyber Scholarship-for-Service Program shall—

(1) provide scholarships through qualified institutions of higher education, including community colleges, to students who are enrolled in programs of study at institutions of higher education leading to degrees or specialized program certifications in the cybersecurity field;

(2) provide the scholarship recipients with summer internship opportunities or other meaningful temporary appointments in the Federal information technology workforce; and

(3) prioritize the employment placement of scholarship recipients in the Federal Government.

(c) SCHOLARSHIP AMOUNTS.—Each scholarship under subsection (b) shall be in an amount that covers the student's tuition and fees at the institution under subsection (b)(1) for not more than 3 years and provides the student with an additional stipend.

(d) POST-AWARD EMPLOYMENT OBLIGATIONS.—Each scholarship recipient, as a condition of receiving a scholarship under the program, shall enter into an agreement under which the recipient agrees to work in the cybersecurity mission of a Federal, State, local, or tribal agency for a period equal to the length of the scholarship following receipt of the student's degree.

(e) HIRING AUTHORITY.—

(1) APPOINTMENT IN EXCEPTED SERVICE.—Notwithstanding any provision of chapter 33 of title 5, United States Code, governing appointments in the competitive service, an agency shall appoint in the excepted service an individual who has completed the eligible degree program for which a scholarship was awarded.

(2) NONCOMPETITIVE CONVERSION.—Except as provided in paragraph (4), upon fulfillment of the service term, an employee appointed under paragraph (1) may be converted noncompetitively to term, career-conditional or career appointment.

(3) TIMING OF CONVERSION.—An agency may noncompetitively convert a term employee appointed under paragraph (2) to a career-conditional or career appointment before the term appointment expires.

(4) AUTHORITY TO DECLINE CONVERSION.—An agency may decline to make the noncompetitive conversion or appointment under paragraph (2) for cause.

(f) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to receive a scholarship under this section, an individual shall—

(1) be a citizen or lawful permanent resident of the United States;

(2) demonstrate a commitment to a career in improving the security of information technology;

(3) have demonstrated a high level of proficiency in mathematics, engineering, or computer sciences;

(4) be a full-time student in an eligible degree program at a qualified institution of higher education, as determined by the Director of the National Science Foundation; and

(5) accept the terms of a scholarship under this section.

(g) CONDITIONS OF SUPPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—As a condition of receiving a scholarship under this section, a recipient shall agree to provide the qualified institution of higher education with annual verifiable documentation of post-award employment and up-to-date contact information.

(2) TERMS.—A scholarship recipient under this section shall be liable to the United States as provided in subsection (i) if the individual—

(A) fails to maintain an acceptable level of academic standing at the applicable institution of higher education, as determined by the Director of the National Science Foundation;

(B) is dismissed from the applicable institution of higher education for disciplinary reasons;

(C) withdraws from the eligible degree program before completing the program;

(D) declares that the individual does not intend to fulfill the post-award employment obligation under this section; or

(E) fails to fulfill the post-award employment obligation of the individual under this section.

(h) MONITORING COMPLIANCE.—As a condition of participating in the program, a qualified institution of higher education shall—

(1) enter into an agreement with the Director of the National Science Foundation, to monitor the compliance of scholarship recipients with respect to their post-award employment obligations; and

(2) provide to the Director of the National Science Foundation, on an annual basis, the post-award employment documentation required under subsection (g)(1) for scholarship recipients through the completion of their post-award employment obligations.

(i) AMOUNT OF REPAYMENT.—

(1) LESS THAN 1 YEAR OF SERVICE.—If a circumstance described in subsection (g)(2) occurs before the completion of 1 year of a post-award employment obligation under this section, the total amount of scholarship awards received by the individual under this section shall—

(A) be repaid; or

(B) be treated as a loan to be repaid in accordance with subsection (j).

(2) 1 OR MORE YEARS OF SERVICE.—If a circumstance described in subparagraph (D) or (E) of subsection (g)(2) occurs after the completion of 1 or more years of a post-award employment obligation under this section, the total amount of scholarship awards received by the individual under this section, reduced by the ratio of the number of years of service completed divided by the number of years of service required, shall—

(A) be repaid; or

(B) be treated as a loan to be repaid in accordance with subsection (j).

(j) REPAYMENTS.—A loan described subsection (i) shall—

(1) be treated as a Federal Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan under part D of title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087a et seq.); and

(2) be subject to repayment, together with interest thereon accruing from the date of

For this I thank the Lord, my family, my extended family, staff, supporters.

constituents, and friends. I am thankful tonight that some of them are in the gallery: my wife, Libby; son, Jim; daughter, Ann; son, John; Betsy and Trey. I also have some staffers who stayed up late to be here: Chris, Mary, Alexandra, Brianna, and Natalie. I thank them for hanging in here with me.

Madam Speaker, in the words of the great philosopher Thomas Carlyle, who in his masterpiece "Sartor Resartus" said this:

*Sic vos non vobis.* Thus we labor, but not for ourselves.

That is what I have tried to do as a Member of Congress, and tried to make a difference doing it.

I have often wondered what it would be like to cast my last vote. Today I have done that, and I wonder no longer.

In a minute, I will walk off the floor for the last time as a Member of Congress. I look forward to the next chapter in my life and the great things that lie ahead for our beloved country.

Once more, I thank God, my family, my staff, friends, and constituents. It truly has been an honor of a lifetime.

And now I end with this, that statement that thousands of Members before me have used:

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Madam Speaker, I have had the privilege of serving in public office for 30 years, 22 of which have been in the United States Congress. I have met many wonderful people, cast some tough votes, and made some difficult decisions. It has been an honor, a challenge, a great responsibility, and I have enjoyed it immensely. For this I thank the Lord, my family, extended family, staff, supporters, constituents, and friends.

The job of serving in Congress is misunderstood, maligned, and widely criticized but public service is a noble calling if one remembers the key words "public" and "servant" he will be appreciated. "Public" meaning you are accessible, you are seen, approachable, and available. "Servant" meaning you have not forgotten for whom you work and have not forgotten your job is to help those who you represent. In the words of the great philosopher Thomas Carlyle stated in his masterpiece *Sartor Resartus*, "*sic vos non vobis.*" Thus we labor but not for ourselves.

Members of Congress have a lifestyle of airports, car rides, motel rooms, cell phones, laptops, and logistical houses of cards. Separation from family is routine. One cannot serve without a supportive spouse and family structure as well as a hardworking and dedicated staff. All must join together as a team. I have had great family support from Libby, Betsy and Trey, John, Ann, and Jim. My parents and all our staff has been there throughout my tenure.

I have often described congressional service as a three part job.

First there is Washington, D.C. work—committee hearings, legislation, debates, voting, interest groups, constituents, and dozens of others seeking your ear, favor, vote, attention, and attendance. The time passes quickly in the frenzy of the U.S. Capitol.

Second there are the home state demands. Primarily casework—fixing the problems people have with federal agencies. Helping the people who have been spun off of life's merry-go-round. For them we are their advocate—sometimes the first choice and sometimes that of last resort. Here again I have been blessed with a patient and sympathetic staff team as we work through thousands of VA claims, Social Security issues, passport emergencies, and all sorts of things from a goat in the post office to a nuclear bomb off the shores of Tybee Island.

Another part of home state work is plant tours, school visits, civic club speeches. From the coastal beaches to the Vidalia onion fields, the military bases to the Okefenokee Swamp, we have enjoyed our visits to the 41 Southeast Georgia counties that have been a part of Georgia's First Congressional District during my time in office.

Finally, the third part of serving in Congress is good old American politics. The campaign trail has elements of the above plus much, much more. No one is elected accidentally or reluctantly. To earn the right to represent 710,000 people, one must fully engage, shake all the hands, eat all the barbecue, and be sure your opponent has not made you look too bad on TV! It is spirited, emotional, and not for everyone, yet each year thousands of citizens run for office at the federal, state, and local level. I salute each of them for stepping forward and trying to make a difference.

During my time in Congress, I have seen many changes. The rise and demise of the fax machine, the daily delivery of ice, the arrival of email and the Internet. When digital photography replaced traditional film and drastically reduced the cost of photographs, visual recording of events—both still shots and video—exploded. I was elected when cell phones were rare. I leave with virtually every staffer having a smart phone which can do the functions of what rooms full of computers could not accomplish years ago.

I have participated in a number of high visibility, tough votes from impeachment to the use of force in Iraq and Afghanistan, the Contract with America, Obamacare, censuring, bailouts, and many cliff-hanger appropriations bills like the one we've debated today.

I served in Congress on September 11, 2001, when the world changed. I joined the masses as we exited the buildings, not realizing who the enemy was or the extent of the attacks. In our first chaotic briefing, we were told that 5 planes were involved and the fifth had crashed in Kentucky. Later that day when we returned to the Capitol steps to sing "God Bless America," I have never known a more unified moment as an American citizen.

In the sensitivities that followed, we evacuated two other times for false alarms and once left our offices for weeks because of an anthrax attack. Today we are much safer because of the invaluable training that takes place at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center in Brunswick.

We have been able to move legislation of great importance to Georgia and the nation. From the Savannah Harbor Expansion Project, the pond building program for our farmers, the Sidney Lanier Bridge, expanding access to Cumberland Island National Seashore, the fifth

runway at Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta Airport and the Southeast Poultry Lab in Athens to better training, equipment, and facilities for our troops, expanding E-Verify, getting planes back in the air after September 11th, welfare reform and making Congress, agriculture, nutrition, health, education, and labor programs more efficient, we made a difference across a number of fronts.

At home, we sent the best and brightest to the military academies, attended rosebud plantings at Fort Stewart for soldiers who paid the ultimate sacrifice, opened four VA clinics, bolstered the research and education at colleges and universities all across Georgia, helped communities adversely impacted by shifts in our military's footprint, and expedited assistance for areas ravaged by wildfires and floods.

Through it all, we have stuck to the principles on which I launched my first campaign: limited government, personal responsibility, the right to life, and an unabiding belief in the American Dream. I maintained a 100-percent pro-small business and 100-percent pro-life voting record, an A+ from the NRA, the support of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, and a 96-percent lifetime rating with the American Conservative Union.

To my successor, Buddy Carter, and the 114th Congress, I have lots of advice but will do my utmost to not give it unless asked! However, I promise to be around for Mr. Carter the way former First District Congressmen Lindsay Thomas and Bo Ginn have been there for me.

Until I do retire I do have some unsolicited advice:

1. Remember we are a republic not a democracy. You are not sent to Washington to be a weather vane of popular opinion. You are expected to learn all about an issue. You must consider all arguments and consequences when formulating your decision to support or oppose.

- Don't ever confuse your knowledge of an issue as being superior to your constituents' knowledge of life and experience. You must never tire of hearing his perspective.

2. Always be accessible for there is truly wisdom on the street. "Pressing the flesh" is not just being in parades, it's talking and listening to people. Do not let any well-intended friend, staffer, or volunteer get between you and a constituent who wants to take you to task. Hear him out.

3. Engage with Members of Congress from all parties, philosophies, and geographic regions. Never pass up an opportunity to work with anyone who wants to make the world and America a better place. I did not always agree with my Ranking Members but we always had the highest degree of respect. I thank JIM MORAN, SAM FARR, and ROSA DELAURO.

4. Respect the institution. Anyone can go back home, feign indignation and with a sigh denounce Congress. Yet as a Member, you can either be part of the problem or part of the solution. Choose wisely.

5. Be active—attend committee meetings, read testimonies and ask questions. Speak and participate on the House floor. Do one minute speeches, special orders, and preside in the chair if you're given the privilege. Run for leadership and caucus positions. Return



press calls and say yes to interviews. If you're a Democrat, go on with Sean Hannity. If you're a Republican, don't be afraid to spar with Chris Matthews or Bill Maher. Whoever you are, return Stephen Colbert's call. These will give you a full experience and make you a stronger Member.

6. It's in America's interest for you to know what is happening in the world. Visit our troops in the faraway and hostile countries in which they are preserving our freedom.

7. Control your time and schedule. Your first priority is family. That includes birthdays, anniversaries, graduations, and much more. Don't ever let your ambition get in the way of a school play.

8. Keep your mind in order and also your body and spirit. There are many Bible studies in Washington. Join one even before you get your committee assignments! Join the gym. The fellowship alone is worth it. Should you play on one of the sports teams, you can raise thousands upon thousands for charity. I would not trade my experiences on the baseball and football teams for anything I've done in Congress.

To sum it up, I will say this: as a teenager, I wanted a motorcycle. As I was trying to talk my parents into it a man gave me some good advice. He said motorcycles are all safer when you respect the bike. On the other hand, if you decide you are better than the bike, that's when you will have a wreck. To new Members of Congress, I say simply "those who fare the worst are those who think they are better than their constituents."

Let me conclude by thanking everyone who has been on the team with me. We had a great run, some wonderful experiences, some fun moments and helped a lot of people along the way.

Serving in Congress had always been a dream of mine. When I was in elementary school, my older sister Barbara was in junior high. Junior high was big time, almost grown up stuff. We were sitting at our kitchen table one night she pulled about two pieces of paper and said 'let's write down the names of everyone you know. You can't list mom or dad, Betty or Jean. They can't be family.' She won the contest but it was a life changing exercise. I became interested in knowing people and making friends. That along with my mother's activism in the Clarke County Republican Party started this journey. I first ran for class president in the 7th grade. I lost to Susan Sims but the hook was set.

I've often wondered what it would be like to cast my last vote. Today I've done that. I wonder no longer. In a minute, I will walk off the floor for the last time as a Member of Congress. I look forward to the next chapter of my life and the great things that lie ahead for our beloved country. Once more, I thank God, my family, my staff, friends and constituents. It has been the honor of a lifetime.

So now I end with the statement that thousands of Members before me have used: Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

#### CONGRATULATING BILL LOCKYER ON HIS RETIREMENT

(Mr. SWALWELL of California asked and was given permission to address

the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize California State Treasurer Bill Lockyer, who will be retiring in January after over 45 years of service.

Bill is an Oakland native and longtime resident of Hayward, California, in the 15th Congressional District. He served as California State treasurer for the past 8 years, and prior to that he served as California's attorney general, which I appreciated as a former prosecutor, especially the work he did on behalf of sexual assault victims. He also served 25 years in the State legislature and 4 years as Senate pro tem. He is known as a strong policymaker and a well-respected leader.

As treasurer, he served under two Governors and effectively managed California's budget through the recession. He kept the economy growing through tough economic times, while maintaining key investments and expanding California's 529 college savings program and expanding investments in renewable energy.

His leadership will be missed, but he leaves an incredible legacy for others to follow. Again, I want to thank Bill Lockyer for his remarkable career of public service and wish him; his wife, Nadia; and their children the best as he moves on to his next step in public service.

#### FAREWELL ADDRESS

(Mr. BENTIVOLIO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BENTIVOLIO. Madam Speaker, over the last 2 years, I have had an opportunity that is rare. I was given the task of representing my community in the House of Representatives. During that time, it has been a privilege to see our democracy in action up close. It has been an honor to serve with all of you.

In this, my last message on the floor of Congress, I want to remind all of you that we are here to serve the people, not special interests. If I have made any impact on any of you, I hope it is this: the job of a Member of Congress is to protect our rights, not take them away.

I want to thank each and every Member of the House of Representatives for their support and their work. I would like to ask them to strive valiantly and dare greatly, and offer this last this small piece of advice: Merry Christmas to all, and to all a good night.

#### FAREWELL ADDRESS

(Mr. TIERNEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TIERNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise on this particular occasion to thank my family, my friends, my colleagues, and the voters of the Sixth Congressional District of Massachusetts for giving me the unbelievably wonderful opportunity to represent that district here in this venerable body, the House of Representatives.

I have been privileged to witness history and to participate in its making. My focus has always been on social justice and opportunity for all. I know that we have worked assiduously to try to make that happen every day that I have served here.

I am also appreciative of the fantastic staff who have worked with me over the years, who have done so much to make sure that the work we did reflected those values, and worked every day to make sure the constituents of the Sixth District were well served.

I also want to say that the delegation from Massachusetts deserves particular recognition on that. I am always appreciative of their support. And having served with the unbelievable legend, Senator Edward Kennedy, for years was a particular privilege.

Madam Speaker, from making college more affordable and accessible to making sure that people had the opportunity in the workforce to get the skills they needed to perform and have a job that paid them well enough to support their family, to making sure we had oversight in foreign affairs and to making sure when people are contracting on contingent operations that they take care not to have waste, fraud, and abuse in the work that is done; from watching the taxpayers' dollars to making sure that people in this country got a fair shake and that somebody stood up not just for the banks and not just for the large corporations but for every single family in this country, making sure that their government worked for them, I have been proved, I have been honored, I have been privileged, and I thank, again, my constituents, my family, my friends, and all of my colleagues here in the House.

#### COMMUNITY FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND FOSTERING ECONOMIC GROWTH

Mrs. WAGNER. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 3329) to enhance the ability of community financial institutions to foster economic growth and serve their communities, boost small businesses, increase individual savings, and for other purposes, with the Senate amendment thereto, and concur in the Senate amendment.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the Senate amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:  
Senate amendment:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

**SECTION 1. CHANGES REQUIRED TO SMALL BANK HOLDING COMPANY POLICY STATEMENT ON ASSESSMENT OF FINANCIAL AND MANAGERIAL FACTORS.**

(a) *IN GENERAL.*—Before the end of the 6-month period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (hereafter in this Act referred to as the “Board”) shall publish in the Federal Register proposed revisions to the Small Bank Holding Company Policy Statement on Assessment of Financial and Managerial Factors (12 C.F.R. part 225 appendix C) that provide that the policy shall apply to bank holding companies and savings and loan holding companies which have pro forma consolidated assets of less than \$1,000,000,000 and that—

(1) are not engaged in significant nonbanking activities either directly or through a nonbank subsidiary;

(2) do not conduct significant off-balance sheet activities (including securitization and asset management or administration) either directly or through a nonbank subsidiary; and

(3) do not have a material amount of debt or equity securities outstanding (other than trust preferred securities) that are registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

(b) *EXCLUSIONS.*—The Board may exclude any bank holding company or savings and loan holding company, regardless of asset size, from the policy statement under subsection (a) if the Board determines that such action is warranted for supervisory purposes.

**SEC. 2. CONFORMING AMENDMENT.**

(a) *IN GENERAL.*—Subparagraph (C) of section 171(b)(5) of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (12 U.S.C. 5371(b)(5)) is amended to read as follows:

“(C) any bank holding company or savings and loan holding company having less than \$1,000,000,000 in total consolidated assets that complies with the requirements of the Small Bank Holding Company Policy Statement on Assessment of Financial and Managerial Factors of the Board of Governors (12 C.F.R. part 225 appendix C), as the requirements of such Policy Statement are amended pursuant to section 1 of an Act entitled ‘To enhance the ability of community financial institutions to foster economic growth and serve their communities, boost small businesses, increase individual savings, and for other purposes’.”

(b) *TRANSITION PERIOD.*—Any small bank holding company that was excepted from the provisions of section 171 of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act pursuant to subparagraph (C) of section 171(b)(5) (as such subparagraph was in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act), and any small savings and loan holding company that would have been excepted from the provisions of section 171 pursuant to subparagraph (C) (as such subparagraph was in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act) if it had been a small bank holding company, shall be excepted from the provisions of section 171 until the effective date of the Small Bank Holding Company Policy Statement issued by the Board as required by section 1 of this Act.

**SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

For the purposes of this Act:

(a) *BANK HOLDING COMPANY.*—The term “bank holding company” has the same meaning as in section 2 of the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956 (12 U.S.C. 1841).

(b) *SAVINGS AND LOAN HOLDING COMPANY.*—The term “savings and loan holding company”

has the same meaning as in section 10(a) of the Home Owners’ Loan Act (12 U.S.C. 1467a(a)).

Ms. WAGNER (during the reading). Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. FOXX). Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Missouri?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the original request of the gentlewoman from Missouri?

There was no objection.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

**CONGRATULATING ARNE AND ESTHER LARSEN**

(Mr. SMITH of Nebraska asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor my constituents Arne and Esther Larsen of Hebron, Nebraska, who will celebrate their 80th wedding anniversary on December 23 of this year. Fifty years of marriage is referred to as the golden anniversary, and 60 years as the diamond anniversary. However, there is no such reference for an 80-year anniversary because this accomplishment is so rare and unique.

Much has changed since 1934. A stamp cost 3 cents, and Franklin Roosevelt was in his first term as President when Arne and Esther were married. In all this time, the Larsens’ marriage has endured, a testament to their love, faith, and commitment to each other.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Arne and Esther Larsen on this remarkable occasion and congratulate them on 80 years of marriage.

**FUNDING THE NATION**

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, it has been a long day, and I believe the American people have seen the best of what America is in the vigorous debate and review of the future of this Nation. Yes, there were some positive aspects to the appropriations bill—the \$5 billion in funding for Ebola treatment and the \$2.2 billion for the rural development account which will help my constituents in Jacinto City, helping them rebuild a burned-down police station, which I hope to work on, and yes, the \$18.1 billion for NASA, \$363.7 million more than in 2014.

But I believe that out of good conscience, I would not want to stand in support of again going backwards in allowing banks to be engaged in derivatives and having American taxpayers pay for their actions. I believe in op-

portunities and banks and investment, but not the derivative work that causes them to be able to have the taxpayers pay for their mistakes.

Finally, I believe there is too much money in campaigns and politics; and now in this bill that will be signed by the President, \$300,000 will be allowed to be given by one individual as opposed to the \$97,000. Get money out of politics. Let’s get back to legislating for the people, and we can all join together united for good legislation.

**TRIBUTE TO ROBERT KOEHNEN**

(Mr. LAMALFA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, I rise tonight in sadness to acknowledge the loss of a dear friend from Ord Bend, California, Robert Koehnen.

Bob is a guy who loved life and loved sharing it with his family and his friends. He could be happiest out in one of his orchards or at his apiary forming new queen bees in their little queen cages, or on the back of a Harley-Davidson or under the hood of a Dodge or Ford hot rod. He loved sharing that with everybody.

He was a humble man, but he was a real innovator, with harvesting equipment, orchard practices, and beekeeping practices that really put him at the cutting edge, even the humble man he was. You could see how humble he was in some of the things he said. One of the funny ones was that he didn’t want to have a big birthday or big event on a weekend because, as he would say it, “I don’t want to screw up a guy’s weekend.” Indeed, in that humility, his family held his memorial service yesterday, on Wednesday at noon, maybe so it wouldn’t screw up a guy’s weekend.

Bob was a great man, a pillar of the community, a pillar in agriculture. He will be severely missed by his wife, Yvonne; his sons, Kalin and Kamron; brother, Bill; sister, Cleone; and a whole bunch of family and a whole bunch of friends who call him family, call him a dear friend.

God bless him.

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**THERE ARE TWO KINDS OF PEOPLE SERVING IN CONGRESS**

(Ms. GABBARD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. GABBARD. Madam Speaker, there are two kinds of people serving here in Congress—those who are here to serve the interests of the American people, and those who are here to serve the interests of the big banks and Wall Street speculators.

The big banks that forced the American people to bail them out in 2008 are



even bigger today than they were before. This bill that passed today sets the American taxpayer up to bail them out yet again.

The passage of this bill brings us ever closer to the precipice of an economic disaster that will make the 2008 meltdown seem like a picnic.

#### FAREWELL

(Mr. RAHALL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RAHALL. Madam Speaker, in good times and bad, one constant remains here on Capitol Hill. The Congress of the United States continues to attract some of the brightest minds and most eager spirits our country's colleges and universities can produce. They are our staff.

I want to acknowledge and express my deep gratitude to my staff members, especially Kent Keyser, my former chief of staff and now senior policy adviser, and Jim Zoia, my chief counsel, both of whom have been by my side every step of the way. They are outstanding and dedicated individuals who deserve the highest praise for their selfless sacrifice and service in behalf of the people of southern West Virginia. Through the years, many too numerous to mention have served on my staff and then have moved on, putting the lessons they learned serving on my staff to work for our State and Nation.

In addition to Kent and Jim, those serving on my Washington staff include: David McMaster, chief of staff; Kate Denman, deputy chief of staff; Diane Luensmann, communications director; Andy Mollohan and Rachel Meyer, legislative assistants; Carol Wallace, projects director; Josh Sutherland, legislative correspondent; and Megan Price, staff assistant.

In my West Virginia offices: Kelly Dyke, my district director; and Debrina Workman, Debbie Stevens, Teri Booth, and Kim McMillion represent over a century of service and experience to their fellow West Virginians. They are joined by Greg Crist, my district representative, and Larone Alexander, who serves on my staff through the House Wounded Warrior Program.

Those working on my Transportation and Infrastructure Committee staff are: Ann Adler, Ward McCarragher, Ed Gilman, Lisa James, and Luke Strimer.

Those who serve on my subcommittee staff include: Alex Burkett, Rachel Carr, Dave Jansen, Elliot Doomes, Janet Erickson, Alexa Old Crow, Helena Zyblikewycz, Jennifer Homendy, Ryan Seiger, and Chelsea Welch.

My own public service began as a staffer for the master of the United States Senate, Robert C. Byrd. I

learned of the institutional ups and downs firsthand, starting work as an elevator operator for the Senators only, so I know a little about laboring behind the scenes: answering the phones, responding to the mail, enduring the long hours of sometimes mundane, often utterly thankless tasks that keep this place running for the very people we were elected to serve.

My entire career in this body has been served on two committees: first, it was called the Public Works and Transportation Committee, then it changed to the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, where I now serve as ranking member. I served also on the House Interior and Insular Affairs that later changed to the House Resources Committee, where I had the honor of chairing on the Subcommittee on Mines and Mining, and, most importantly, serving as chairman of that House Resources Committee.

I do appreciate, Mr. Speaker, that all of us in this body are all bridge builders. We have tried—and I certainly have tried—hard to build bridges between our coal miners in my great State of West Virginia and our coal operators, between our disadvantaged and our advantaged, between our need to provide jobs and protect jobs in our coal fields and our need to protect our land and the air we breathe, and from all our middle class to the Middle East and beyond, we all seek a world of peace.

I am proud of my record, my 38-year record in this body of protecting and providing black lung benefits, health care and pensions, and, most importantly, safety for our coal miners. I have steadfastly sought relief from excessive regulations on our coal industry. I have defended and protected that vital safety net for our unemployed, our sick, elderly, and others disadvantaged through no fault of their own. My direct help in building our infrastructure in southern West Virginia, where the transportation, technology, or tourism is well-documented for generations to come. I have created vital additional wilderness areas in our State, white water rafting opportunities, and the largest Federally protected areas east of the Mississippi, which is called the New River Gorge National Recreation Area.

Mr. Speaker, my grandfathers came to this great land as pack peddlers from Lebanon. They worked hard, as all West Virginians do. They lived the American Dream.

I have traveled the Middle East extensively during my close to four decades in this body, including with President Clinton in that historic December 1998 codel to the Middle East when he became the first U.S. President to step foot on Palestinian soil. I have met with kings, queens, emirs, presidents, prime ministers, militia chiefs, warlords, you name it, in this region,

many times even when not in sync with our official U.S. policy. I have long advocated for Palestinian justice, human rights, dignity, and relief.

Madam Speaker, I do leave this body with a great sense of pride and a great sense of accomplishment in what we have been able to do together for the people of West Virginia.

I do appreciate my colleagues taking a moment to reflect with me on what truly has been a remarkable personal journey, a distinct honor, and a true privilege to serve the people. From elevator operator, mail carrier, assistant to the Democratic Whip Robert Byrd in the Democratic cloakroom in the other body through those Watergate years, all through my 38 years in this august body, it has been both exciting and frustrating, full of fast-paced days and long, drawn-out nights, such as we have just been through this evening. It has been full of sometimes tears, sometimes laughter, and, indeed, it has been an experience that I have truly appreciated and have loved every minute of it.

I want to say in conclusion that I thank, first and foremost, of course, God. I thank my family for their support. This very day, as I speak, is a 10th anniversary of my dear wife, Melinda, and I, and we celebrate this anniversary knowing that it has been a great ride in this institution. My late father stood behind me all the way. My 89-year-old mother, now living in my hometown of Beckley, and my brother Ed and my sisters Vickie and Tanya have always been there for me. My three children, Rebecca and her husband, Michael; Nick III and Laura; and Suzanne Nicole have always been behind my career. And all three of my grandchildren, Madison Kaylee, Nick Joe IV, and Ellianna, that is what it is all about, as we all know in this body, making this place a better place for our children and our grandchildren to live in.

My heartfelt thanks go out to the good people in West Virginia. I have been most proud to fight for our courageous coal miners, and I am very happy to see just this week that those WARN notices issued by the coal companies earlier this year will, fortunately, not be honored in most cases, and, fortunately, these coal miners will be able to keep holding their jobs.

I have been deeply proud to fight for our courageous coal miners. I have been deeply humble to serve and stand up for our American heroes, our veterans. West Virginia is a proud and patriotic State. I thank our working men and women, the backbone of our country, and our seniors who strengthen this Nation day after day with their continuing contributions. And may God bless our educators, our teachers who positively shape the future of our youth throughout eternity.

Madam Speaker, in concluding this chapter of my life, I offer my special

heartfelt thanks to you, each of you in this body, my colleagues, for all the experiences, for representing the immense diversity of our country, and for a lifetime of lessons through the many trials and tribulations that you have shared and taught me. I truly have had the high honor of serving with dedicated public servants and their staffs who will ensure this country remains forever the best in the world.

Thank you and God bless this House of Representatives, and God bless our country.

#### UKRAINE FREEDOM SUPPORT ACT OF 2014

Mr. GERLACH. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committees on Foreign Affairs, Financial Services, Oversight and Government Reform, and the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration of the bill (H.R. 5859) to impose sanctions with respect to the Russian Federation, to provide additional assistance to Ukraine, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. WAGNER). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Pennsylvania?

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, reserving the right to object, although I don't intend to object, this is a very important measure. We need to send this measure to the President's desk, and we need to do so tonight. I am delighted that we are doing so.

It is clear that Russia is not only fomenting separatism in Ukraine, it is actively supporting the uprising and sending troops to back it up. This is an invasion, plain and simple.

I am concerned that the Kremlin's designs don't stop with Ukraine. Putin is already putting substantial pressure on our NATO allies and our European friends. We must not bow to his aggression.

If we don't act now, where will we be in 6 months? Where will we be in 2 years? Where will we be in a decade?

Since the Cold War, a vision has emerged of a Europe whole, free, and at peace. That reality is within reach. Putin's aggression puts that future in dire jeopardy. We cannot let that hope die.

We need to let President Putin know loudly and clearly we will not stand for his blatant disregard of international law, we will not abandon our friends, and, as the United States, we remain the world's champion of freedom, democracy, and the dignity of all people.

Madam Speaker, I would like to commend the chairman and ranking member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee for sending the House this bill so that we can stand as one in the face of Russia's aggression. In the

House Foreign Affairs Committee, Chairman ROYCE and I, as ranking member, have worked together to say that we will not stand for Putin's aggression.

I think this is a very, very important thing to do, very important bill to pass.

With that, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Pennsylvania?

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, reserving the right to object, though I don't intend to object, I would like to stand this evening and say, as cochair of the Ukrainian Caucus, along with my dear colleagues, JIM GERLACH of Pennsylvania, and the ranking member of the full committee, Congressman ELIOT ENGEL of New York, I stand in strong support of H.R. 5859, a measure that allows America to shine the hope of liberty to the distant land of Ukraine, a measure that we hope to send to the President's desk very soon, and we need to move it tonight.

It is clear that Russia is actively fomenting upheaval and propagandizing in the West about its illegal invasion. It is an invasion, plain and simple, of a sovereign nation. The Kremlin's designs don't stop with Ukraine, and we see substantial pressure being placed on our NATO allies and other European friends. Liberty cannot bow to Putin's aggression.

Six months ago, when Russia invaded Ukraine, 4,000 more Ukrainian lives were existing and have been taken. Just according to the U.N. 1,000 additional lives have been lost since the cease-fire that was negotiated in September, and approximately 13 lives per day are being lost.

Since the cold war, a vision has emerged of a Europe whole, free, and at peace, and that reality is within reach. Putin's reckless aggression cannot stand. The United States cannot let the hope of liberty die, surely, in a land where its people have historically suffered more than any other place on Earth. The ravages of World War II still sting their memory and ours, and motivate our actions here tonight.

By approving H.R. 5859, America sends a clear signal to the world that we are the standard bearer of liberty at home and abroad. I am very pleased to join my colleagues this evening.

I thank the chairman and ranking member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee for sending the House this bill.

With that, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Pennsylvania?

There was no objection.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5859

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the “Ukraine Freedom Support Act of 2014”.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
- Sec. 2. Definitions.
- Sec. 3. Statement of policy regarding Ukraine.
- Sec. 4. Sanctions relating to the defense and energy sectors of the Russian Federation.
- Sec. 5. Sanctions on Russian and other foreign financial institutions.
- Sec. 6. Increased military assistance for the Government of Ukraine.
- Sec. 7. Expanded nonmilitary assistance for Ukraine.
- Sec. 8. Expanded broadcasting in countries of the former Soviet Union.
- Sec. 9. Support for Russian democracy and civil society organizations.
- Sec. 10. Report on non-compliance by the Russian Federation of its obligations under the INF Treaty.
- Sec. 11. Rule of construction.

#### SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) ACCOUNT; CORRESPONDENT ACCOUNT; PAYABLE-THROUGH ACCOUNT.—The terms “account”, “correspondent account”, and “payable-through account” have the meanings given those terms in section 5318A of title 31, United States Code.

(2) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term “appropriate congressional committees” means—

(A) the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives.

(3) DEFENSE ARTICLE; DEFENSE SERVICE; TRAINING.—The terms “defense article”, “defense service”, and “training” have the meanings given those terms in section 47 of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2794).

(4) FINANCIAL INSTITUTION.—The term “financial institution” means a financial institution specified in subparagraph (A), (B), (C), (D), (E), (F), (G), (H), (I), (J), (M), or (Y) of section 5312(a)(2) of title 31, United States Code.

(5) FOREIGN FINANCIAL INSTITUTION.—The term “foreign financial institution” has the meaning given that term in section 561.308 of title 31, Code of Federal Regulations (or any corresponding similar regulation or ruling).

(6) FOREIGN PERSON.—The term “foreign person” means any individual or entity that is not a United States citizen, a permanent resident alien, or an entity organized under the laws of the United States or any jurisdiction within the United States.

(7) KNOWINGLY.—The term “knowingly”, with respect to conduct, a circumstance, or a result, means that a person has actual knowledge, or should have known, of the conduct, the circumstance, or the result.

(8) RUSSIAN PERSON.—The term “Russian person” means—

(A) an individual who is a citizen or national of the Russian Federation; or

(B) an entity organized under the laws of the Russian Federation.

(9) SPECIAL RUSSIAN CRUDE OIL PROJECT.—The term “special Russian crude oil project” means a project intended to extract crude oil from—

(A) the exclusive economic zone of the Russian Federation in waters more than 500 feet deep;

(B) Russian Arctic offshore locations; or

(C) shale formations located in the Russian Federation.

### SEC. 3. STATEMENT OF POLICY REGARDING UKRAINE.

It is the policy of the United States to further assist the Government of Ukraine in restoring its sovereignty and territorial integrity to deter the Government of the Russian Federation from further destabilizing and invading Ukraine and other independent countries in Central and Eastern Europe, the Caucasus, and Central Asia. That policy shall be carried into effect, among other things, through a comprehensive effort, in coordination with allies and partners of the United States where appropriate, that includes economic sanctions, diplomacy, assistance for the people of Ukraine, and the provision of military capabilities to the Government of Ukraine that will enhance the ability of that Government to defend itself and to restore its sovereignty and territorial integrity in the face of unlawful actions by the Government of the Russian Federation.

### SEC. 4. SANCTIONS RELATING TO THE DEFENSE AND ENERGY SECTORS OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION.

(a) SANCTIONS RELATING TO THE DEFENSE SECTOR.—

(1) **ROSOBORONEXPORT.**—Except as provided in subsection (d), not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall impose 3 or more of the sanctions described in subsection (c) with respect to Rosoboronexport.

(2) **RUSSIAN PRODUCERS, TRANSFERORS, OR BROKERS OF DEFENSE ARTICLES.**—Except as provided in subsection (d), on and after the date that is 45 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall impose 3 or more of the sanctions described in subsection (c) with respect to a foreign person the President determines—

(A) is an entity—

(i) owned or controlled by the Government of the Russian Federation or owned or controlled by nationals of the Russian Federation; and

(ii) that—

(I) knowingly manufactures or sells defense articles transferred into Syria or into the territory of a specified country without the consent of the internationally recognized government of that country;

(II) transfers defense articles into Syria or into the territory of a specified country without the consent of the internationally recognized government of that country; or

(III) brokers or otherwise assists in the transfer of defense articles into Syria or into the territory of a specified country without the consent of the internationally recognized government of that country; or

(B) knowingly, on or after the date of the enactment of this Act, assists, sponsors, or provides financial, material, or technological support for, or goods or services to or in support of, an entity described in subparagraph (A) with respect to an activity described in clause (ii) of that subparagraph.

(3) **SPECIFIED COUNTRY DEFINED.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—In this subsection, the term “specified country” means—

(i) Ukraine, Georgia, and Moldova; and

(ii) any other country designated by the President as a country of significant concern for purposes of this subsection, such as Poland, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, and the Central Asia republics.

(B) **NOTICE TO CONGRESS.**—The President shall notify the appropriate congressional committees in writing not later than 15 days before—

(i) designating a country as a country of significant concern under subparagraph (A)(ii); or

(ii) terminating a designation under that subparagraph, including the termination of any such designation pursuant to subsection (h).

(b) **SANCTIONS RELATED TO THE ENERGY SECTOR.**—

(1) **DEVELOPMENT OF SPECIAL RUSSIAN CRUDE OIL PROJECTS.**—Except as provided in subsection (d), on and after the date that is 45 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President may impose 3 or more of the sanctions described in subsection (c) with respect to a foreign person if the President determines that the foreign person knowingly makes a significant investment in a special Russian crude oil project.

(2) **AUTHORIZATION FOR EXTENSION OF LICENSING LIMITATIONS ON CERTAIN EQUIPMENT.**—The President, through the Bureau of Industry and Security of the Department of Commerce or the Office of Foreign Assets Control of the Department of the Treasury, as appropriate, may impose additional licensing requirements for or other restrictions on the export or reexport of items for use in the energy sector of the Russian Federation, including equipment used for tertiary oil recovery.

(3) **CONTINGENT SANCTION RELATING TO GAZPROM.**—If the President determines that Gazprom is withholding significant natural gas supplies from member countries of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, or further withholds significant natural gas supplies from countries such as Ukraine, Georgia, or Moldova, the President shall, not later than 45 days after making that determination, impose the sanction described in subsection (c)(7) and at least one additional sanction described in subsection (c) with respect to Gazprom.

(c) **SANCTIONS DESCRIBED.**—The sanctions the President may impose with respect to a foreign person under subsection (a) or (b) are the following:

(1) **EXPORT-IMPORT BANK ASSISTANCE.**—The President may direct the Export-Import Bank of the United States not to approve the issuance of any guarantee, insurance, extension of credit, or participation in the extension of credit in connection with the export of any goods or services to the foreign person.

(2) **PROCUREMENT SANCTION.**—The President may prohibit the head of any executive agency (as defined in section 133 of title 41, United States Code) from entering into any contract for the procurement of any goods or services from the foreign person.

(3) **ARMS EXPORT PROHIBITION.**—The President may prohibit the exportation or provision by sale, lease or loan, grant, or other means, directly or indirectly, of any defense article or defense service to the foreign person and the issuance of any license or other approval to the foreign person under section 38 of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2778).

(4) **DUAL-USE EXPORT PROHIBITION.**—The President may prohibit the issuance of any license and suspend any license for the transfer to the foreign person of any item the export of which is controlled under the Export Administration Act of 1979 (50 U.S.C. App. 2401 et seq.) (as in effect pursuant to the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.)) or the Export Administration Regulations under subchapter C of chapter VII of title 15, Code of Federal Regulations.

(5) **PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS.**—The President may, pursuant to such regulations as

the President may prescribe, prohibit any person from—

(A) acquiring, holding, withholding, using, transferring, withdrawing, transporting, or exporting any property that is subject to the jurisdiction of the United States and with respect to which the foreign person has any interest;

(B) dealing in or exercising any right, power, or privilege with respect to such property; or

(C) conducting any transaction involving such property.

(6) **BANKING TRANSACTIONS.**—The President may, pursuant to such regulations as the President may prescribe, prohibit any transfers of credit or payments between financial institutions or by, through, or to any financial institution, to the extent that such transfers or payments are subject to the jurisdiction of the United States and involve any interest of the foreign person.

(7) **PROHIBITION ON INVESTMENT IN EQUITY OR DEBT OF SANCTIONED PERSON.**—The President may, pursuant to such regulations as the President may prescribe, prohibit any United States person from transacting in, providing financing for, or otherwise dealing in—

(A) debt—

(i) of longer than 30 days' maturity of a foreign person with respect to which sanctions are imposed under subsection (a) or of longer than 90 days' maturity of a foreign person with respect to which sanctions are imposed under subsection (b); and

(ii) issued on or after the date on which such sanctions are imposed with respect to the foreign person; or

(B) equity of the foreign person issued on or after that date.

(8) **EXCLUSION FROM THE UNITED STATES AND REVOCATION OF VISA OR OTHER DOCUMENTATION.**—In the case of a foreign person who is an individual, the President may direct the Secretary of State to deny a visa to, and the Secretary of Homeland Security to exclude from the United States, the foreign person, subject to regulatory exceptions to permit the United States to comply with the Agreement regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations, signed at Lake Success June 26, 1947, and entered into force November 21, 1947, between the United Nations and the United States, or other applicable international obligations.

(9) **SANCTIONS ON PRINCIPAL EXECUTIVE OFFICERS.**—In the case of a foreign person that is an entity, the President may impose on the principal executive officer or officers of the foreign person, or on individuals performing similar functions and with similar authorities as such officer or officers, any of the sanctions described in this subsection applicable to individuals.

(d) **EXCEPTIONS.**—

(1) **IMPORTATION OF GOODS.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The authority to block and prohibit all transactions in all property and interests in property under subsection (c)(5) shall not include the authority to impose sanctions on the importation of goods.

(B) **GOOD DEFINED.**—In this paragraph, the term “good” has the meaning given that term in section 16 of the Export Administration Act of 1979 (50 U.S.C. App. 2415) (as continued in effect pursuant to the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.)).

(2) **ADDITIONAL EXCEPTIONS.**—The President shall not be required to apply or maintain the sanctions under subsection (a) or (b)—

(A) in the case of procurement of defense articles or defense services under existing

contracts, subcontracts, or other business agreements, including ancillary or incidental contracts for goods, or for services or funding (including necessary financial services) associated with such goods, as necessary to give effect to such contracts, subcontracts, or other business agreements, and the exercise of options for production quantities to satisfy requirements essential to the national security of the United States—

(i) if the President determines in writing that—

(I) the foreign person to which the sanctions would otherwise be applied is a sole source supplier of the defense articles or services;

(II) the defense articles or services are essential;

(III) alternative sources are not readily or reasonably available; and

(IV) the national interests of the United States would be adversely affected by the application or maintenance of such sanctions; or

(ii) if the President determines in writing that—

(I) such articles or services are essential to the national security under defense co-production agreements; and

(II) the national interests of the United States would be adversely affected by the application or maintenance of such sanctions;

(B) in the case of procurement, to eligible products, as defined in section 308(4) of the Trade Agreements Act of 1979 (19 U.S.C. 2518(4)), of any foreign country or instrumentality designated under section 301(b)(1) of that Act (19 U.S.C. 2511(b)(1));

(C) to products, technology, or services provided under contracts, subcontracts, or other business agreements (including ancillary or incidental contracts for goods, or for services or funding (including necessary financial services) associated with such goods, as necessary to give effect to such contracts, subcontracts, or other business agreements) entered into before the date on which the President publishes in the Federal Register the name of the foreign person with respect to which the sanctions are to be imposed;

(D) to—

(i) spare parts that are essential to United States products or production;

(ii) component parts, but not finished products, essential to United States products or production; or

(iii) routine servicing and maintenance of United States products, to the extent that alternative sources are not readily or reasonably available;

(E) to information and technology essential to United States products or production; or

(F) to food, medicine, medical devices, or agricultural commodities (as those terms are defined in section 101 of the Comprehensive Iran Sanctions, Accountability, and Divestment Act of 2010 (22 U.S.C. 8511)).

(e) NATIONAL SECURITY WAIVER.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The President may waive the application of sanctions under subsection (a) or (b) with respect to a foreign person if the President—

(A) determines that the waiver is in the national security interest of the United States; and

(B) submits to the appropriate congressional committees a report on the determination and the reasons for the determination.

(2) FORM OF REPORT.—The report required by paragraph (1)(B) shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex.

(f) TRANSACTION-SPECIFIC NATIONAL SECURITY WAIVER.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The President may waive the application of sanctions under subsection (a) or (b) with respect to a specific transaction if the President—

(A) determines that the transaction is in the national security interest of the United States; and

(B) submits to the appropriate congressional committees a detailed report on the determination and the specific reasons for the determination that a waiver with respect to the transaction is necessary and appropriate.

(2) FORM OF REPORT.—The report required by paragraph (1)(B) shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex.

(g) IMPLEMENTATION; PENALTIES.—

(1) IMPLEMENTATION.—The President may exercise all authorities provided under sections 203 and 205 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1702 and 1704) to carry out the purposes of this section.

(2) PENALTIES.—The penalties provided for in subsections (b) and (c) of section 206 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1705) shall apply to a person that violates, attempts to violate, or conspires to violate, or causes a violation of, subsection (a) or (b) of this section, or an order or regulation prescribed under either such subsection, to the same extent that such penalties apply to a person that commits an unlawful act described in section 206(a) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act.

(h) TERMINATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), this section, and sanctions imposed under this section, shall terminate on the date on which the President submits to the appropriate congressional committees a certification that the Government of the Russian Federation has ceased ordering, controlling, or otherwise directing, supporting, or financing, significant acts intended to undermine the peace, security, stability, sovereignty, or territorial integrity of Ukraine, including through an agreement between the appropriate parties.

(2) APPLICABILITY WITH RESPECT TO SYRIA.—The termination date under paragraph (1) shall not apply with respect to the provisions of subsection (a) relating to the transfer of defense articles into Syria or sanctions imposed pursuant to such provisions.

#### SEC. 5. SANCTIONS ON RUSSIAN AND OTHER FOREIGN FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS.

(a) FACILITATION OF CERTAIN DEFENSE- AND ENERGY-RELATED TRANSACTIONS.—The President may impose the sanction described in subsection (c) with respect to a foreign financial institution that the President determines knowingly engages, on or after the date of the enactment of this Act, in significant transactions involving activities described in subparagraph (A)(ii) or (B) of section 4(a)(2) or paragraph (1) or (3) of section 4(b) for persons with respect to which sanctions are imposed under section 4.

(b) FACILITATION OF FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS ON BEHALF OF SPECIALLY DESIGNATED NATIONALS.—The President may impose the sanction described in subsection (c) with respect to a foreign financial institution if the President determines that the foreign financial institution has, on or after the date that is 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, knowingly facilitated a significant financial transaction on behalf of any Russian person included on the list of

specially designated nationals and blocked persons maintained by the Office of Foreign Assets Control of the Department of the Treasury, pursuant to—

(1) this Act;

(2) Executive Order 13660 (79 Fed. Reg. 13,493), 13661 (79 Fed. Reg. 15,535), or 13662 (79 Fed. Reg. 16,169); or

(3) any other executive order addressing the crisis in Ukraine.

(c) SANCTION DESCRIBED.—The sanction described in this subsection is, with respect to a foreign financial institution, a prohibition on the opening, and a prohibition or the imposition of strict conditions on the maintaining, in the United States of a correspondent account or a payable-through account by the foreign financial institution.

(d) NATIONAL SECURITY WAIVER.—The President may waive the application of sanctions under this section with respect to a foreign financial institution if the President—

(1) determines that the waiver is in the national security interest of the United States; and

(2) submits to the appropriate congressional committees a report on the determination and the reasons for the determination.

(e) IMPLEMENTATION; PENALTIES.—

(1) IMPLEMENTATION.—The President may exercise all authorities provided under sections 203 and 205 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1702 and 1704) to carry out the purposes of this section.

(2) PENALTIES.—The penalties provided for in subsections (b) and (c) of section 206 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1705) shall apply to a person that violates, attempts to violate, or conspires to violate, or causes a violation of, subsection (a) or (b) of this section, or an order or regulation prescribed under either such subsection, to the same extent that such penalties apply to a person that commits an unlawful act described in section 206(a) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act.

(f) TERMINATION.—This section, and sanctions imposed under this section, shall terminate on the date on which the President submits to the appropriate congressional committees the certification described in section 4(h).

#### SEC. 6. INCREASED MILITARY ASSISTANCE FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF UKRAINE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The President is authorized to provide defense articles, defense services, and training to the Government of Ukraine for the purpose of countering offensive weapons and reestablishing the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine, including anti-tank and anti-armor weapons, crew weapons and ammunition, counter-artillery radars to identify and target artillery batteries, fire control, range finder, and optical and guidance and control equipment, tactical troop-operated surveillance drones, and secure command and communications equipment, pursuant to the provisions of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2751 et seq.), the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2151 et seq.), and other relevant provisions of law.

(b) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall submit a report detailing the anticipated defense articles, defense services, and training to be provided pursuant to this section and a timeline for the provision of such defense articles, defense services, and training, to—

(1) the Committee on Foreign Relations, the Committee on Appropriations, and the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate; and

(2) the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Committee on Appropriations, and the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives.

(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of State \$100,000,000 for fiscal year 2015, \$125,000,000 for fiscal year 2016, and \$125,000,000 for fiscal year 2017 to carry out activities under this section.

(2) AVAILABILITY OF AMOUNTS.—Amounts authorized to be appropriated pursuant to paragraph (1) shall remain available for obligation and expenditure through the end of fiscal year 2018.

(d) AUTHORITY FOR THE USE OF FUNDS.—The funds made available pursuant to subsection (c) for provision of defense articles, defense services, and training may be used to procure such articles, services, and training from the United States Government or other appropriate sources.

(e) PROTECTION OF CIVILIANS.—It is the sense of Congress that the Government of Ukraine should take all appropriate steps to protect civilians.

**SEC. 7. EXPANDED NONMILITARY ASSISTANCE FOR UKRAINE.**

(a) ASSISTANCE TO INTERNALLY DISPLACED PEOPLE IN UKRAINE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit a plan, including actions by the United States Government, other governments, and international organizations, to meet the need for protection of and assistance for internally displaced persons in Ukraine, to—

(A) the Committee on Foreign Relations, the Committee on Appropriations, and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Committee on Appropriations, and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives.

(2) ELEMENTS.—The plan required by paragraph (1) should include, as appropriate, activities in support of—

(A) helping to establish a functional and adequately resourced central registration system in Ukraine that can ensure coordination of efforts to provide assistance to internally displaced persons in different regions;

(B) encouraging adoption of legislation in Ukraine that protects internally displaced persons from discrimination based on their status and provides simplified procedures for obtaining the new residency registration or other official documentation that is a prerequisite to receiving appropriate social payments under the laws of Ukraine, such as pensions and disability, child, and unemployment benefits; and

(C) helping to ensure that information is available to internally displaced persons about—

(i) government agencies and independent groups that can provide assistance to such persons in various regions; and

(ii) evacuation assistance available to persons seeking to flee armed conflict areas.

(3) ASSISTANCE THROUGH INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS.—The President shall instruct the United States permanent representative or executive director, as the case may be, to the relevant United Nations voluntary agencies, including the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the United Na-

tions Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, and other appropriate international organizations, to use the voice and vote of the United States to support appropriate assistance for internally displaced persons in Ukraine.

(b) ASSISTANCE TO THE DEFENSE SECTOR OF UKRAINE.—The Secretary of State and the Secretary of Defense should assist entities in the defense sector of Ukraine to reorient exports away from customers in the Russian Federation and to find appropriate alternative markets for those entities in the defense sector of Ukraine that have already significantly reduced exports to and cooperation with entities in the defense sector of the Russian Federation.

(c) ASSISTANCE TO ADDRESS THE ENERGY CRISIS IN UKRAINE.—

(1) EMERGENCY ENERGY ASSISTANCE.—

(A) PLAN REQUIRED.—The Secretary of State and the Secretary of Energy, in collaboration with the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development and the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, shall work with officials of the Government of Ukraine to develop a short-term emergency energy assistance plan designed to help Ukraine address the potentially severe short-term heating fuel and electricity shortages facing Ukraine in 2014 and 2015.

(B) ELEMENTS.—The plan required by subparagraph (A) should include strategies to address heating fuel and electricity shortages in Ukraine, including, as appropriate—

(i) the acquisition of short-term, emergency fuel supplies;

(ii) the repair or replacement of infrastructure that could impede the transmission of electricity or transportation of fuel;

(iii) the prioritization of the transportation of fuel supplies to the areas where such supplies are needed most;

(iv) streamlining emergency communications throughout national, regional, and local governments to manage the potential energy crisis resulting from heating fuel and electricity shortages;

(v) forming a crisis management team within the Government of Ukraine to specifically address the potential crisis, including ensuring coordination of the team's efforts with the efforts of outside governmental and nongovernmental entities providing assistance to address the potential crisis; and

(vi) developing a public outreach strategy to facilitate preparation by the population and communication with the population in the event of a crisis.

(C) ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary of State, the Secretary of Energy, and the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development are authorized to provide assistance in support of, and to invest in short-term solutions for, enabling Ukraine to secure the energy safety of the people of Ukraine during 2014 and 2015, including through—

(i) procurement and transport of emergency fuel supplies, including reverse pipeline flows from Europe;

(ii) provision of technical assistance for crisis planning, crisis response, and public outreach;

(iii) repair of infrastructure to enable the transport of fuel supplies;

(iv) repair of power generating or power transmission equipment or facilities;

(v) procurement and installation of compressors or other appropriate equipment to enhance short-term natural gas production;

(vi) procurement of mobile electricity generation units;

(vii) conversion of natural gas heating facilities to run on other fuels, including alternative energy sources; and

(viii) provision of emergency weatherization and winterization materials and supplies.

(2) REDUCTION OF UKRAINE'S RELIANCE ON ENERGY IMPORTS.—

(A) PLANS REQUIRED.—The Secretary of State, in collaboration with the Secretary of Energy and the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, shall work with officials of the Government of Ukraine to develop medium- and long-term plans to increase energy production and efficiency to increase energy security by helping Ukraine reduce its dependence on natural gas imported from the Russian Federation.

(B) ELEMENTS.—The medium- and long-term plans required by subparagraph (A) should include strategies, as appropriate, to—

(i) improve corporate governance and unbundling of state-owned oil and gas sector firms;

(ii) increase production from natural gas fields and from other sources, including renewable energy;

(iii) license new oil and gas blocks transparently and competitively;

(iv) modernize oil and gas upstream infrastructure; and

(v) improve energy efficiency.

(C) PRIORITIZATION.—The Secretary of State, the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, and the Secretary of Energy should, during fiscal years 2015 through 2018, work with other donors, including multilateral agencies and nongovernmental organizations, to prioritize, to the extent practicable and as appropriate, the provision of assistance from such donors to help Ukraine to improve energy efficiency, increase energy supplies produced in Ukraine, and reduce reliance on energy imports from the Russian Federation, including natural gas.

(D) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated \$50,000,000 in the aggregate for fiscal years 2016 through 2018 to carry out activities under this paragraph.

(3) SUPPORT FROM THE OVERSEAS PRIVATE INVESTMENT CORPORATION.—The Overseas Private Investment Corporation shall—

(A) prioritize, to the extent practicable, support for investments to help increase energy efficiency, develop domestic oil and natural gas reserves, improve and repair electricity infrastructure, and develop renewable and other sources of energy in Ukraine; and

(B) implement procedures for expedited review and, as appropriate, approval, of applications by eligible investors (as defined in section 238 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2198)) for loans, loan guarantees, and insurance for such investments.

(4) SUPPORT BY THE WORLD BANK GROUP AND THE EUROPEAN BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT.—The President shall, to the extent practicable and as appropriate, direct the United States Executive Directors of the World Bank Group and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development to use the voice, vote, and influence of the United States to encourage the World Bank Group and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development and other international financial institutions—

(A) to invest in, and increase their efforts to promote investment in, projects to improve energy efficiency, improve and repair

electricity infrastructure, develop domestic oil and natural gas reserves, and develop renewable and other sources of energy in Ukraine; and

(B) to stimulate private investment in such projects.

(d) ASSISTANCE TO CIVIL SOCIETY IN UKRAINE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State and the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development shall, directly or through nongovernmental or international organizations, such as the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, the National Endowment for Democracy, and related organizations—

(A) strengthen the organizational and operational capacity of democratic civil society in Ukraine;

(B) support the efforts of independent media outlets to broadcast, distribute, and share information in all regions of Ukraine;

(C) counter corruption and improve transparency and accountability of institutions that are part of the Government of Ukraine; and

(D) provide support for democratic organizing and election monitoring in Ukraine.

(2) STRATEGY REQUIRED.—Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall submit a strategy to carry out the activities described in paragraph (1) to—

(A) the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

(3) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of State \$20,000,000 for fiscal year 2016 to carry out this subsection.

(4) TRANSPARENCY REQUIREMENTS.—Any assistance provided pursuant to this subsection shall be conducted in as transparent of a manner as possible, consistent with the nature and goals of this subsection. The President shall provide a briefing on the activities funded by this subsection at the request of the committees specified in paragraph (2).

#### SEC. 8. EXPANDED BROADCASTING IN COUNTRIES OF THE FORMER SOVIET UNION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Chairman of the Broadcasting Board of Governors shall submit to Congress a plan, including a cost estimate, for immediately and substantially increasing, and maintaining through fiscal year 2017, the quantity of Russian-language broadcasting into the countries of the former Soviet Union funded by the United States in order to counter Russian Federation propaganda.

(b) PRIORITIZATION OF BROADCASTING INTO UKRAINE, GEORGIA, AND MOLDOVA.—The plan required by subsection (a) shall prioritize broadcasting into Ukraine, Georgia, and Moldova by the Voice of America and Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty.

(c) ADDITIONAL PRIORITIES.—In developing the plan required by subsection (a), the Chairman shall consider—

(1) near-term increases in Russian-language broadcasting for countries of the former Soviet Union (other than the countries specified in subsection (b)), including Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia; and

(2) increases in broadcasting in other critical languages, including Ukrainian and Romanian languages.

(d) BROADCASTING DEFINED.—In this section, the term “broadcasting” means the dis-

tribution of media content via radio broadcasting, television broadcasting, and Internet-based platforms, among other platforms.

(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Broadcasting Board of Governors \$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2016 through 2018 to carry out activities under this section.

(2) SUPPLEMENT NOT SUPPLANT.—Amounts authorized to be appropriated pursuant to paragraph (1) shall supplement and not supplant other amounts made available for activities described in this section.

#### SEC. 9. SUPPORT FOR RUSSIAN DEMOCRACY AND CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State shall, directly or through nongovernmental or international organizations, such as the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, the National Endowment for Democracy, and related organizations—

(1) improve democratic governance, transparency, accountability, rule of law, and anti-corruption efforts in the Russian Federation;

(2) strengthen democratic institutions and political and civil society organizations in the Russian Federation;

(3) expand uncensored Internet access in the Russian Federation; and

(4) expand free and unfettered access to independent media of all kinds in the Russian Federation, including through increasing United States Government-supported broadcasting activities, and assist with the protection of journalists and civil society activists who have been targeted for free speech activities.

(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of State \$20,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2016 through 2018 to carry out the activities set forth in subsection (a).

(c) STRATEGY REQUIREMENT.—Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall submit a strategy to carry out the activities set forth in subsection (a) to—

(1) the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate; and

(2) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

(d) TRANSPARENCY REQUIREMENTS.—Any assistance provided pursuant to this section shall be conducted in as transparent of a manner as possible, consistent with the nature and goals of this section. The President shall provide a briefing on the activities funded by this section at the request of the committees specified in subsection (c).

#### SEC. 10. REPORT ON NON-COMPLIANCE BY THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION OF ITS OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE INF TREATY.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following findings:

(1) The Russian Federation is in violation of its obligations under the Treaty between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on the Elimination of Their Intermediate-Range and Shorter-Range Missiles, signed at Washington December 8, 1987, and entered into force June 1, 1988 (commonly referred to as the “Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty” or “INF Treaty”).

(2) This behavior poses a threat to the United States, its deployed forces, and its allies.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the President should hold the Russian Federation accountable for being in viola-

tion of its obligations under the INF Treaty; and

(2) the President should demand the Russian Federation completely and verifiably eliminate the military systems that constitute the violation of its obligations under the INF Treaty.

(c) REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and every 90 days thereafter, the President shall submit to the committees specified in subsection (d) a report that includes the following elements:

(A) A description of the status of the President's efforts, in cooperation with United States allies, to hold the Russian Federation accountable for being in violation of its obligations under the INF Treaty and obtain the complete and verifiable elimination of its military systems that constitute the violation of its obligations under the INF Treaty.

(B) The President's assessment as to whether it remains in the national security interests of the United States to remain a party to the INF Treaty, and other related treaties and agreements, while the Russian Federation is in violation of its obligations under the INF Treaty.

(C) Notification of any deployment by the Russian Federation of a ground launched ballistic or cruise missile system with a range of between 500 and 5,500 kilometers.

(D) A plan developed by the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Director of National Intelligence and the Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA), to verify that the Russian Federation has fully and completely dismantled any ground launched cruise missiles or ballistic missiles with a range of between 500 and 5,500 kilometers, including details on facilities that inspectors need access to, people inspectors need to talk with, how often inspectors need the accesses for, and how much the verification regime would cost.

(2) FORM.—The report required under paragraph (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form but may contain a classified annex.

(d) COMMITTEES SPECIFIED.—The committees specified in this subsection are—

(1) the Committee on Foreign Relations, the Committee on Armed Services, and the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate; and

(2) the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Committee on Armed Services, and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives.

#### SEC. 11. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.

Nothing in this Act or an amendment made by this Act shall be construed as an authorization for the use of military force.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### PUBLICATION OF BUDGETARY MATERIAL

REVISIONS TO THE AGGREGATES AND ALLOCATIONS OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2015 BUDGET RESOLUTION

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET,

Washington, DC, December 11, 2014.

MR. RYAN OF WISCONSIN. Mr. Speaker, the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2013 revised the statutory spending limits for fiscal year 2015 base discretionary appropriations in the amount of \$521,272 million for defense programs and \$492,356 million for non-defense



programs. The levels of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2015 for the House were published in the Congressional Record on April 29, 2014. These levels set the base discretionary 302(a) allocation to the Committee on Appropriations at \$1,013,628 million, which is the sum of the fiscal year 2015 defense and non-defense base discretionary spending limits in statute. Section 251(b) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (BBEDCA) allows for adjustments to the base discretionary spending limits for certain purposes including overseas contingencies, disaster relief, and program integrity initiatives. On June 17, 2014, I issued an adjustment to the aggregates and allocations of the House concurrent resolution on the budget in the amount of \$6,438 million in additional budget authority to accommodate disaster relief funding contained in H.R. 4903, the Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2015.

H.R. 83, the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2015, contains \$1,484 million in budget authority for program integrity initiatives, which is within the allowable limits for this purpose as established in section 251(b)(2)(B) and (C) of BBEDCA. Program integrity funding provides for agency activities to increase efficiency and reduce fraud in federal programs. CBO estimates such funding reduces mandatory spending by more than the amount of discretionary funding provided. Accordingly, I am submitting this adjustment to the fiscal year 2015 House concurrent resolution on the budget for an additional \$1,484 million in budget authority to accommodate the program integrity funding included in H.R. 83. After making this adjustment, H.R. 83 is within the fiscal year 2015 statutory spending limits established by the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2013 and within the 302(a) allocation established by the fiscal year 2015 House concurrent resolution on the budget.

Pursuant to section 314(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, I hereby submit for printing in the Congressional Record revisions to the aggregates and allocations set forth in the Statement of Committee Allocations, Aggregates, and Other Budgetary Levels for Fiscal Year 2015 published in the Congressional Record on April 29, 2014, as adjusted, pursuant to the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2013, Public Law 113-67. These revisions are provided for bills, joint resolutions, and amendments thereto or conference reports thereon, considered by the House subsequent to this filing, as applicable. For fiscal year 2015, aggregate levels of budget authority and outlays and the allocation to the Committee on Appropriations, included in the levels of the budget resolution found in the Statement published in the Congressional Record on April 29, 2014, are revised. Associated tables are attached.

The provisions of H. Con. Res. 25 (113th Congress) have been deemed to be in force by section 115 of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2013. This revision represents an adjustment for purposes of enforcing sections 302 and 311 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974. For the purposes of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, these revised aggregates and allocations are to be considered as aggregates and allocations included in the concurrent resolution on the budget, pursuant to the Statement published in the Congressional Record on April 29, 2014, as adjusted.

Sincerely,

PAUL D. RYAN OF WISCONSIN,

*Chairman.*

Attachment.

#### BUDGET AGGREGATES

(On-budget amounts, in millions of dollars)

	Fiscal Year	
	2015	2015-2024
Current Aggregates:		
Budget Authority .....	3,031,744	1
Outlays .....	3,026,369	1
Revenues .....	2,535,978	31,202,135
Adjustment for H.R. 83, the Consolidated and Further Appropriations Act, 2015:		
Budget Authority .....	1,484	1
Outlays .....	1,277	1
Revenues .....	0	0
Revised Aggregates:		
Budget Authority .....	3,033,228	1
Outlays .....	3,027,646	1
Revenues .....	2,535,978	31,206,399

#### ALLOCATION OF SPENDING AUTHORITY TO HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

(In millions of dollars)

	2015
Base Discretionary Action:	
BA .....	1,020,066
OT .....	1,142,784
Adjustment for Program Integrity:	
BA .....	1,484
OT .....	1,277
Global War on Terrorism:	
BA .....	85,357
OT .....	39,981
Total Discretionary Action:	
BA .....	1,106,907
OT .....	1,184,042
Current Law Mandatory:	
BA .....	868,410
OT .....	861,637

#### ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled bills of the House of the following titles, which were thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 1067. An act to make revisions in title 36, United States Code, as necessary to keep the title current and make technical corrections and improvements.

H.R. 1204. An act to amend title 49, United States Code, to direct the Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security (Transportation Security Administration) to establish an Aviation Security Advisory Committee, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1281. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize programs under part A of the title XI of such Act.

H.R. 1447. An act to encourage States to report to the Attorney General certain information regarding the deaths of individuals in the custody of law enforcement agencies, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2719. An act to require the Transportation Security Administration to implement best practices and improve transparency with regard to technology acquisition programs, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2952. An act to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to assess the cybersecurity workforce of the Department of Homeland Security and develop a comprehensive workforce strategy, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3044. An act to approve the transfer of Yellow Creek Port properties in Iuka, Mississippi.

H.R. 3374. An act to provide for the use of savings promotion raffle products by financial institutions to encourage savings, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3468. An act to amend the Federal Credit Union Act to extend insurance coverage to amounts held in a member account on behalf of another person, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4007. An act to recodify and reauthorize the Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards Program.

H.R. 4193. An act to amend title 5, United States Code, to change the default investment fund under the Thrift Savings Plan, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4199. An act to name the Department of Veterans Affairs medical center in Waco, Texas, as the "Doris Miller Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center".

H.R. 4681. An act to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2014 and 2015 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4926. An act to designate a segment of Interstate Route 35 in the State of Minnesota as the "James L. Oberstar Memorial Highway".

H.R. 5705. An act to modify certain provisions relating to the Propane Education and Research Council.

#### SENATE ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

The Speaker announced his signature to enrolled bills of the Senate of the following titles:

S. 1000. An act to require the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to prepare a crosscut budget for restoration activities in the Chesapeake Bay watershed, and for other purposes.

S. 1683. An act to provide for the transfer of naval vessels to certain foreign recipients, and for other purposes.

S. 1691. An act to amend title 5, United States Code, to improve the security of the United States border and to provide for reforms and rates of pay for border patrol agents.

S. 2142. An Act to impose targeted sanctions on persons responsible for violations of human rights of antigovernment protesters in Venezuela, to strengthen civil society in Venezuela, and for other purposes.

S. 2270. An act to clarify the application of certain leverage and risk-based requirements under the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act.

S. 2444. An act to authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard for fiscal year 2015, and for other purposes.

S. 2519. An act to codify an existing operations center for cybersecurity.

S. 2521. An act to amend chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code, to provide for reform to Federal information security.

S. 2651. An act to repeal certain mandates of the Department of Homeland Security Office of Inspector General.

S. 2759. An act to release the City of St. Clair, Missouri, from all restrictions, conditions, and limitations on the use, encumbrance, conveyance, and closure of the St. Clair Regional Airport.

#### BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTION PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House, reported that on December 10, 2014, she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bills and joint resolution:

H.R. 5030. To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 13500 SW 250 Street in Princeton, Florida, as the "Corporal Christian A. Guzman Rivera Post Office Building."

H.R. 2678. To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 10360 Southwest 186th Street in Miami, Florida, as the “Larcenia J. Bullard Post Office Building.”

H.R. 3534. To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 113 West Michigan Avenue in Jackson, Michigan, as the “Officer James Bonneau Memorial Post Office.”

H.R. 4939. To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2551 Galena Avenue in Simi Valley, California, as the “Neil Havens Post Office.”

H.R. 2112. To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 787 State Route 17M in Monroe, New York, as the “National Clandestine Service of the Central Intelligence Agency NCS Officer Gregg David Wenzel Memorial Post Office.”

H.R. 2223. To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 220 Elm Avenue in Munising, Michigan, as the “Elizabeth L. Kinnunen Post Office Building.”

H.R. 78. To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4110 Alameda Road in Houston, Texas, as the “George Thomas ‘Mickey’ Leland Post Office Building.”

H.R. 1707. To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 302 East Green Street in Champaign, Illinois, as the “James R. Burgess Jr. Post Office Building.”

H.R. 5739. To amend the Social Security Act to provide for the termination of social security benefits for individuals who participated in Nazi persecution, and for other purposes.

H.J. Res. 105. Conferring honorary citizenship of the United States on Bernardo de Galvez y Madrid, Viscount of Galveston and Count of Galvez.

H.R. 2366. To require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the centennial of World War I.

## ADJOURNMENT

Mr. GERLACH. Madam Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 27 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Friday, December 12, 2014, at 3 p.m.

## EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

8233. A letter from the Associate Administrator, Fruit and Vegetable Program Promotion and Economics Division, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Mango Promotion, Research, and Information Order; Section 610 Review [Document Number: AMS-FV-14-0047] received December 3, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

8234. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — National Poultry Improvement Plan and Auxiliary Provisions; Technical Amendment [Docket No.: APHIS-2011-0101] (RIN: 0579-AD83) received December 4, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

8235. A letter from the Under Secretary, Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics, Department of Defense, transmitting the Report on Efficient Utilization of Department of Defense Real Property, pursuant to Public Law 113-66, section 2814(a); (127 Stat. 1014); to the Committee on Armed Services.

8236. A letter from the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Forward Pricing Rate Proposal Adequacy Checklist (DFARS Case 2012-D035) (RIN: 0750-AH86) received December 10, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Armed Services.

8237. A letter from the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Animal Welfare (DFARS Case 2013-D038) (RIN: 0750-A122) received December 10, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Armed Services.

8238. A letter from the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Elimination of Quarterly Reporting of Actual Performance Outside the United States (DFARS Case 2015-D001) (RIN: 0750-A147) received December 10, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Armed Services.

8239. A letter from the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Update Contractor and Government Entity (CAGE) Code Information (DFARS Case 2014-D013) (RIN: 0750-A144) received December 10, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Armed Services.

8240. A letter from the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: State Sponsors of Terrorism (DFARS Case 2014-D014) (RIN: 0750-A134) received December 10, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Armed Services.

8241. A letter from the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Foreign Commercial Satellite Services (DFARS Case 2014-D010) (RIN: 0750-A132) received December 10, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Armed Services.

8242. A letter from the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Deletion of Certification Requirement Regarding Separation of Duties of Senior Leaders (DFARS Case 2015-D003) (RIN: 0750-A148) received December 10, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Armed Services.

8243. A letter from the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Use of Military Construction Funds in Countries

Bordering the Arabian Sea (DFARS Case 2014-D016) (RIN: 0750-A133) received December 10, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Armed Services.

8244. A letter from the Chief Counsel, FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Suspension of Community Eligibility (City of Chesapeake, VA, et al.); [Docket ID: FEMA-2014-0002] [Internal Agency Docket No. FEMA-8359] received December 3, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

8245. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting a report entitled “Merger Decisions 2013”, in accordance with Section 18(c)(9) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act; to the Committee on Financial Services.

8246. A letter from the General Counsel, National Credit Union Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Unfair or Deceptive Acts or Practices; Technical Amendments (RIN: 3133-AE42) received December 10, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

8247. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Energy, transmitting the Strategic Petroleum Reserve Test Sale 2014 report to Congress, pursuant to Public Law 94-163, section 161(g)(2); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8248. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Content and Format of Labeling for Human Prescription Drug and Biological Products; Requirements for Pregnancy and Lactation Labeling [Docket No.: FDA-2006-N-0515 (formerly Docket No.: 2006N-0467)] (RIN: 0910-AF11) received December 8, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8249. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Pennsylvania; Redesignation of the Harrisburg-Lebanon-Carlisle-York Nonattainment Areas to Attainment for the 1997 Annual and the 2006 24-Hour Fine Particulate Matter Standard [EPA-R03-OAR-2014-0525; FRL-9920-17-Region 3] received December 3, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8250. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Washington; Update to Materials Incorporated by Reference [EPA-R10-OAR-2014-0790; FRL-9918-76-Region-10] received December 3, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8251. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Greenhouse Gas Reporting Program: Addition of Global Warming Potentials to the General Provisions and Amendments and Confidentiality Determinations for Fluorinated Gas Production [EPA-HQ-OAR-2009-0927; FRL-9919-70-OAR] (RIN: 2060-AR78) received December 3, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8252. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Oxirane, Phenyl, polymer



with oxirane, monoctyl ether; Tolerance Exemption [EPA-HQ-OPP-2014-0682; FRL-9918-41] received December 3, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8253. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Redesignation Request and Maintenance Plan for PM<sub>2.5</sub>; Yuba City-Marysville; California [EPA-R09-OAR-2012-0781; FRL-9920-18-Region 9] received December 3, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8254. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — 2,5-Furandione, polymer with methoxyethene, butyl ethyl ester, sodium salt; Tolerance Exemption [EPA-HQ-OPP-2014-0668; FRL-9918-42] received December 3, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8255. A letter from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Amendment of Section 73.202(b), Table of Allotments, FM Broadcast Stations. (Rough Rock, Arizona) [MB Docket No.: 14-46] (RM-11717) received December 4, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8256. A letter from the Senior Council, Wireless Telecommunications Commission, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — 2004 and 2006 Biennial Regulatory Reviews — Streamlining and Other Revisions of Parts 1 and 17 of the Commission's Rules Governing Construction, Marking and Lighting of Antenna Structures; Amendments to Modernize and Clarify Part 17 of the Commission's Rules Concerning Construction, Marking and Lighting of Antenna Structures [WT Docket No.: 10-88] (RM 11349) received December 8, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8257. A letter from the Secretary, Federal Trade Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Mail or Telephone Order Merchandise Rule (RIN: 3084-AB07) received December 3, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8258. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Commerce, transmitting a certification of export to the People's Republic of China, pursuant to Public Law 105-261, section 1512; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

8259. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Updated Statements of Legal Authority for the Export Administration Regulations [Docket No.: 141114962-4962-01] (RIN: 0694-AG39) received December 10, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

8260. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendments to Existing Validated End-User Authorization in the People's Republic of China: Lam Research Service Co., Ltd. [Docket No.: 141114969-4969-01] (RIN: 0694-AG36) received December 4, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

8261. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a letter regarding commit-

ments in the Joint Plan of Action; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

8262. A letter from the Assistant Legal Adviser, Office of Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a report prepared by the Department of State concerning international agreements, other than treaties entered into by the United States, to be transmitted to the Congress within the sixty-day period specified in the Case-Zablocki Act, pursuant to 1 U.S.C. 112b; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

8263. A letter from the Assistant Director, Senior Executive Management Office, Department of Defense, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

8264. A letter from the Assistant Director, Senior Executive Management Office, Department of Defense, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

8265. A letter from the Assistant Director, Senior Executive Management Office, Department of Defense, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

8266. A letter from the Assistant Director, Senior Executive Management Office, Department of Defense, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

8267. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Education, transmitting the Department's fifty-first Semiannual Report to Congress on Audit Follow-up, covering the six-month period ending September 30, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act) section 5(b); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

8268. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Labor, transmitting the Semiannual Report to Congress from the Office of Inspector General for the period April 1, 2014, through September 30, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act), section 5(b); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

8269. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Maritime Commission, transmitting the semiannual report to the Congress on the activities of the Office of Inspector General for the period April 1, 2014, through September 30, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act), section 5(b); Public Law 95-452, section 5(b); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

8270. A letter from the Chief Financial Officer, National Labor Relations Board, transmitting the Board's Performance and Accountability Report for Fiscal Year 2014; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

8271. A letter from the Deputy Assistant to the President and Director, Office of Administration, transmitting an accounting of the transactions from the Unanticipated Needs Account for fiscal year 2014, pursuant to 3 U.S.C. 108; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

8272. A letter from the Director, Office of Surface Mining, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — North Dakota Regulatory Program [SATS No.: ND-052-FOR; Docket ID No.: OSM-2012-0021] received December 10, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

8273. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs,

NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Department's final rule — Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources in the Gulf of Mexico and Atlantic Region; Framework Action [Docket No.: 130805680-4915-02] (RIN: 0648-BD58) received December 8, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

8274. A letter from the Attorney General, Department of Justice, transmitting the Department's decision not to seek any immediate appellate relief from the June 24, 2014, decision of the United States District Court for the District of Oregon in *Ayman Latif et al. v. Eric H. Holder, Jr., et al.*, No. 10-750 (D. Or.); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

8275. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Security Zone; USCGC Hamilton Commissioning Ceremony, Charleston Harbor, Charleston, SC [Docket No.: USCG-2014-0698] (RIN: 1625-AA87) received December 10, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8276. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Salvage Operations, Lake Michigan, Navy Pier, Chicago, IL [Docket No.: USCG-2014-0980] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received December 10, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8277. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Upper Mississippi River between mile 44 and 46; Thebes, IL [Docket No.: USCG-2014-0878] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received December 10, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8278. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Pier Removal, WI Central Railroad Bridge, Fox River, Green Bay, WI [Docket No.: USCG-2014-0902] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received December 10, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8279. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Safety Zone, Elizabeth River; Portsmouth, VA [Docket No.: USCG-2014-0693] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received December 10, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8280. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's interim rule — Safety Zones; Upper Mississippi River between mile 38.0 and 46.0, Thebes, IL; and between mile 78.0 and 81.0, Grand Tower, IL [Docket No.: USCG-2013-0907] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received December 10, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8281. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; University of Cincinnati Bearcats Football Fireworks; Ohio River, Mile 470.4 — 470.8; Cincinnati, OH [Docket No.: USCG-2014-0419] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received December 10, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8282. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone: Natchez Specialties New Year's Eve Firework Display, Lower Mississippi River, Mile Marker 363.5 to 364.5 [Docket No.: USCG-2014-0784] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received December 10, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8283. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone: Salvage Operations, Chicago River, Chicago, IL [Docket No.: USCG-2014-0951] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received December 10, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8284. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone: Carquinez Strait Cable Repair Operation, Martinez, CA [Docket No.: USCG-2014-0950] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received December 10, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8285. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Drawbridge Operation Regulation; Darby Creek, Essington, PA [Docket No.: USCG-2014-0367] (RIN: 1625-AA09) received December 10, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8286. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Regulated Navigation Area, Lake Michigan; Chicago Harbor Lock, Chicago, IL to Calumet Harbor, Chicago, IL [Docket No.: USCG-2014-0592] (RIN: 1625-AA11) received December 10, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8287. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Changes to the Inland Navigation Rules, Technical, Organizational, and Conforming Amendments [Docket No. USCG-2012-0102] (RIN: 1625-AB88) received December 10, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8288. A letter from the Assistant Secretary of the Army, Civil Works, Department of Defense, transmitting Lynnhaven River Basin Ecosystem Restoration Project Final Feasibility Report and Integrated Environmental Assessment; (H. Doc. No. 113-176); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and ordered to be printed.

8289. A letter from the Deputy General Counsel, Office of Investment and Innovation, Small Business Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Small Business Investment Companies — Investments in Passive Businesses (RIN: 3245-AG57) received December 3, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Small Business.

8290. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting a letter reporting the FY 2014 expenditures from the Pershing Hall Revolving Fund for projects, activities, and facilities that support the mission of the Department of Veterans Affairs, pursuant to Public Law 102-86, section 403(d)(6)(A)(B); to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

8291. A letter from the Senior Counsel, Bureau of the Fiscal Service, Department of the

Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule — Regulations Governing Retirement Savings Bonds received December 10, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

8292. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Bureau of the Fiscal Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule — Government Securities Act Regulations: Large Position Reporting Rules [Docket No.: Treas-DO-2014-0002] received December 11, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

8293. A letter from the Trade Representative, Executive Office of the President, transmitting a report on the pending accession to the World Trade Organization of the Republic of Seychelles, pursuant to Section 122 of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

8294. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Realignment of Technical Work between the TaxExempt and Government Entities Division and Office of Associate Chief Counsel (Tax Exempt and Government Entities) (Announcement 2014-34) received December 4, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

8295. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Publication of the Tier 2 Tax Rates received December 4, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

8296. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Rulings and determination letters (Rev. Proc. 2015-7) received December 4, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

8297. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Safe Harbor Explanations — Eligible Rollover Distributions [Notice 2014-74] received December 4, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

8298. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Special Rules for Certain Transactions Where Stated Principal Amount Does Not Exceed \$2,800,000 (Rev. Rul. 2014-30) received December 4, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

8299. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Application of One-Per-Year Limit on IRA Rollovers [Announcement 2014-32] received December 8, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

8300. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Eligibility for Minimum Essential Coverage Under Pregnancy-Based Medicaid and CHIP Programs [Notice 2014-71] received December 8, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

8301. A letter from the Administrator, TSA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Administration's certification that the level of screening services and protection provided at Sarasota-Bra-

denton International Airport (SRQ) will be equal to or greater than the level that would be provided at the airport by TSA Transportation Security Officers, pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 44920(d); to the Committee on Homeland Security.

## REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. SHUSTER: Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. H.R. 2612. A bill to amend title 40, United States Code, to improve the functioning and management of the Public Buildings Service (Rept. 113-656). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. GOODLATTE: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 5233. A bill to amend chapter 90 of title 18, United States Code, to provide Federal jurisdiction for the theft of trade secrets, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 113-657). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. GOODLATTE: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 5402. A bill to amend the Clayton Act and the Federal Trade Commission Act to provide that the Federal Trade Commission shall exercise authority with respect to mergers only under the Clayton Act and only in the same procedural manner as Attorney General exercises such authority (Rept. 113-658). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. MILLER of Florida: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Second Annual Report of the Activities of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the House of Representatives During the One Hundred Thirteenth Congress (Rept. 113-659). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri: Committee on Small Business. H.R. 2751. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to prohibit the use of reverse auctions for design and construction services procurements (Rept. 113-660). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri: Committee on Small Business. H.R. 2452. A bill to amend the Small Business Act with respect to the procurement program for women-owned small business concerns, and for other purposes (Rept. 113-661). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri: Committee on Small Business. H.R. 2882. A bill to amend the Small Business Act and title 38, United States Code to provide for a consolidated definition of a small business concern owned and controlled by veterans, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 113-662, Pt. 1). Ordered to be printed.

Mr. CONAWAY: Committee on Ethics. In the Matter of Allegations Relating to Representative Alcee L. Hastings (Rept. 113-663). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. CONAWAY: Committee on Ethics. In the Matter of Allegations Relating to Representative Phil Gingrey (Rept. 113-664). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. CONAWAY: Committee on Ethics. In the Matter of Allegations Relating to Representative Judy Chu (Rept. 113-665). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. CONAWAY: Committee on Ethics. In the Matter of Allegations Relating to Representative Tom Petri (Rept. 113-666). Referred to the House Calendar.

## DISCHARGE OF COMMITTEE

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the committee on Rules discharged from further consideration. H.R. 1869 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

## PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. CARTWRIGHT (for himself and Mr. NOLAN):

H.R. 5848. A bill to enhance the early warning reporting requirements for motor vehicle manufacturers; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. GRAYSON:

H.R. 5849. A bill to provide employees with 1 hour of paid sick leave for every 30 hours worked; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committees on Oversight and Government Reform, House Administration, and the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GRAYSON:

H.R. 5850. A bill to exclude Social Security benefits from taxable income; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. GRAYSON:

H.R. 5851. A bill to designate Veterans Day as the Tuesday after the first Monday in November; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. GRAYSON:

H.R. 5852. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to eliminate the \$117,000 cap on income subject to Social Security payroll taxes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. GRAYSON:

H.R. 5853. A bill to expand Medicare coverage to eyeglasses, hearing aids, and dental care; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GRAYSON:

H.R. 5854. A bill to allow the importation, distribution, and sale of investigational drugs and devices intended for use by terminally ill patients who execute an informed consent document; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. GRAYSON:

H.R. 5855. A bill to require a report on procurement supply chain vulnerabilities within the Department of Defense; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. GRAYSON:

H.R. 5856. A bill to prohibit the United States Department of Homeland Security from purchasing, operating, or maintaining armed unmanned aerial vehicles; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Mr. DELANEY:

H.R. 5857. A bill to eliminate the incentive for corporations to continue to hold accumulated earnings offshore, to invest in domestic infrastructure, to provide for international tax reform, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each

case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. JACKSON LEE:

H.R. 5858. A bill to provide for a reduction in the amount that may be awarded to a unit of local government under subpart 1 of part E of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3750 et seq.) for a unit of local government that funds an amount that is greater than 18 percent of its operating budget using revenue generated from collecting fines and other fees related to violations of traffic laws, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GERLACH (for himself and Ms. KAPTUR):

H.R. 5859. A bill to impose sanctions with respect to the Russian Federation, to provide additional assistance to Ukraine, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on Financial Services, Oversight and Government Reform, and the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned, considered and passed.

By Mr. BOUSTANY (for himself and Mr. THOMPSON of California):

H.R. 5860. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow small businesses to use pre-tax dollars for assistance to employees purchasing policies in the individual market and except certain health reimbursement arrangements from group health plan requirements, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. CAMP (for himself, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mrs. MILLER of Michigan, Mr. WALBERG, Mr. DINGELL, Mr. UPTON, Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan, Mr. BENISHEK, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. HIGGINS, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, and Mr. PETERS of Michigan):

H.R. 5861. A bill to control the spread of aquatic invasive species between the Great Lakes basin and the Mississippi River basin, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Natural Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. CAPPS:

H.R. 5862. A bill to provide assistance to improve maternal and newborn health in developing countries, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. CARSON of Indiana:

H.R. 5863. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to apply certain annuity benefits to Federal Protective Service law enforcement officers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. CARSON of Indiana:

H.R. 5864. A bill to protect Federal employees and visitors, improve the security of Federal facilities, authorize and modernize the Federal Protective Service, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. CLEAVER:

H.R. 5865. A bill to establish a grant program providing for the acquisition, operation, and maintenance of body-worn cameras for law enforcement officers; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, for a

period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. COHEN (for himself, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. POCAN, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. TAKANO, and Mr. GRAYSON):

H.R. 5866. A bill to require the Attorney General to issue rules pertaining to the collection and compilation of data on the use of deadly force by law enforcement officers; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. DAINES:

H.R. 5867. A bill to extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project involving the Gibson Dam; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. ELLISON:

H.R. 5868. A bill to provide for a study by the Transportation Research Board of the National Academies on the impact of diverting certain freight rail traffic to avoid urban areas, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. GRAYSON:

H.R. 5869. A bill to make an interstate act to conceal a homicide a federal offense; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GRAYSON:

H.R. 5870. A bill to prohibit the negotiation of trade agreements that include waivers of the "Buy American Act"; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. GRAYSON:

H.R. 5871. A bill to tax capital gains at the same rate as ordinary income; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. HARRIS:

H.R. 5872. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow an annual elective surcharge in lieu of estate tax, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. HUFFMAN:

H.R. 5873. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for repealing the gas tax and establishing a carbon tax on highway fuels, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. ISRAEL:

H.R. 5874. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to increase criminal penalties for the sale or trade of prescription drugs knowingly caused to be adulterated or misbranded, to establish recall authority regarding drugs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. KIND (for himself and Mr. REICHERT):

H.R. 5875. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to encourage retirement savings by modifying requirements with respect to employer-established IRAs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. MEEKS:

H.R. 5876. A bill to amend the FAA Modernization and Reform Act of 2012 to prohibit the flying of unmanned recreational aircraft near commercial airports; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. MEEKS (for himself and Ms. WATERS):

H.R. 5877. A bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 and title 5, United States Code, to require plans to establish policies addressing firm-specific risks in asset management services, greater diversification in investment strategies, and the inclusion of diverse asset managers and minority brokerage firms, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. PITTS (for himself and Ms. ESHOO):

H.R. 5878. A bill to amend the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 to further express United States foreign policy with respect to, and to strengthen United States advocacy on behalf of, freedom of religion or belief abroad and individuals persecuted in foreign countries on account of religion or belief, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on Financial Services, and Oversight and Government Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD:

H.R. 5879. A bill to provide protection for children affected by the immigration laws of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SHERMAN (for himself, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. NADLER, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. DINGELL, Ms. HAHN, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. RANGEL, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. FARR, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Ms. MOORE, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. GUTIÉRREZ, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Mr. POCAN, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. CHU, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Ms. BASS, Mr. TIERNEY, Mr. FATTAH, and Ms. JACKSON LEE):

H.R. 5880. A bill to repeal a limitation in the Labor-Management Relations Act regarding requirements for labor organization membership as a condition of employment; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. STIVERS (for himself and Ms. BASS):

H.R. 5881. A bill to require the Comptroller General of the United States to submit to the Congress a report on adoption disruption and dissolution in the United States; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. STOCKMAN:

H.R. 5882. A bill to make an Income Tax that is a flat 15 percent for all American citizens; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. STOCKMAN:

H.R. 5883. A bill to lower the federal tax on the earnings of American companies with foreign operations; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. STOCKMAN:

H.R. 5884. A bill to prohibit the replacement of the gasoline excise tax with a GPS, location or distance-based tax and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, and Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subse-

quently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. YOUNG of Alaska:

H.R. 5885. A bill to amend the Pribilof Islands Transition Act to require the Secretary of Commerce to provide notice of certification that no further corrective action is required at sites and operable units covered by the Pribilof Islands Environmental Restoration agreement, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. YOUNG of Alaska (for himself and Mr. PETERSON):

H.R. 5886. A bill to amend the African Elephant Conservation Act of 1988 to conserve elephants while appropriately regulating ivory in the United States; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. BENTIVOLIO:

H. Res. 779. A resolution to establish prospective standards effective January 20, 2017 defining impeachable "high crimes and misdemeanors" within the meaning of Article II, section 4 as applied to the President of the United States to provide fair warning and evenhandedness in the administration of the impeachment power of the House of Representatives; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CONYERS:

H. Res. 780. A resolution honoring the life, accomplishments, and legacy of Chokwe Lumumba; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. CROWLEY:

H. Res. 781. A resolution commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the World War I Christmas Truce of 1914; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

## MEMORIALS

Under clause 3 of rule XII, memorials were presented and referred as follows:

335. The SPEAKER presented a memorial of the Senate of the State of Michigan, relative to Senate Resolution No. 189, urging congressional intervention to stop the proposal to close or consolidate the Lansing mail processing and distribution center; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

336. Also, a memorial of the House of Representatives of the State of Michigan, relative to House Resolution No. 395, urging the Congress to direct the Comptroller General to complete a full audit of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and the Federal Reserve banks; jointly to the Committees on Oversight and Government Reform and Financial Services.

## CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. CARTWRIGHT:

H.R. 5848.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 (relating to the power of Congress to regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.)

By Mr. GRAYSON:

H.R. 5849.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:  
Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution.

By Mr. GRAYSON:

H.R. 5850.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:  
Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution.

By Mr. GRAYSON:

H.R. 5851.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:  
Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution.

By Mr. GRAYSON:

H.R. 5852.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:  
Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution.

By Mr. GRAYSON:

H.R. 5853.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:  
Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution.

By Mr. GRAYSON:

H.R. 5854.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:  
Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution.

By Mr. GRAYSON:

H.R. 5855.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:  
Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution.

By Mr. GRAYSON:

H.R. 5856.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:  
Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution.

By Mr. DELANEY:

H.R. 5857.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:  
Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. JACKSON LEE:

H.R. 5858.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clauses 1, 3, and 18 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. GERLACH:

H.R. 5859.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clause 3.

By Mr. BOUSTANY:

H.R. 5860.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3—Business/Labor Regulation—The Congress shall have Power \* \* \* To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.

By Mr. CAMP:

H.R. 5861.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

According to Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the Constitution: The Congress shall have the power to regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes

By Mrs. CAPPS:

H.R. 5862.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution, which reads: "The Congress shall have Power . . . To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by the Constitution in the Government of the United States or in any Department or Officer thereof"

By Mr. CARSON of Indiana:

H.R. 5863.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 1 of section 8 of Article I of the Constitution.

By Mr. CARSON of Indiana:

H.R. 5864.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 1 of section 8 of Article I of the Constitution.

By Mr. CLEAVER:

H.R. 5865.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. COHEN:

H.R. 5866.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clauses 1 and 3 of Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. DAINES:

H.R. 5867.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. ELLISON:

H.R. 5868.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts and excises, to pay the debts and provide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States; but all duties, imposts and excises shall be uniform throughout the United States . . . To regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states . . .

By Mr. GRAYSON:

H.R. 5869.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution.

By Mr. GRAYSON:

H.R. 5870.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution.

By Mr. GRAYSON:

H.R. 5871.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution.

By Mr. HARRIS:

H.R. 5872.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1 of the United States Constitution which reads: "The Congress shall have Power to lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts, and Excises, to pay the Debts, and provide for the common Defense and General Welfare of the United States; but all Duties and Imposts and Ex-

cises shall be uniform throughout the United States."

By Mr. HUFFMAN:

H.R. 5873.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1: The Congress shall have Power to lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States.

By Mr. ISRAEL:

H.R. 5874.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. KIND:

H.R. 5875.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8.

By Mr. MEEKS:

H.R. 5876.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8 of the Constitution

By Mr. MEEKS:

H.R. 5877.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article One Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution provides the legislative authority of Congress.

By Mr. PITTS:

H.R. 5878.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority on which this bill rests is the power of Congress "To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes:" as enumerated in Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD:

H.R. 5879.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

By Mr. SHERMAN:

H.R. 5880.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3

By Mr. STIVERS:

H.R. 5881.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 (General Welfare of the United States)

The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States;

By Mr. STOCKMAN:

H.R. 5882.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1.

"The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes"

By Mr. STOCKMAN:

H.R. 5883.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1.

"The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes"

By Mr. STOCKMAN:

H.R. 5884.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Amendment IV of the United States Constitution states "The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

By Mr. YOUNG of Alaska:

H.R. 5885.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 4, Section 3, Clause 2

By Mr. YOUNG of Alaska:

H.R. 5886.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3

#### ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 139: Mr. PETERS of California.  
H.R. 140: Mr. FLEMING.  
H.R. 292: Ms. ADAMS, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, and Mr. MORAN.  
H.R. 463: Mr. FLEMING.  
H.R. 1015: Mr. HARPER.  
H.R. 1070: Mr. TIPTON.  
H.R. 1074: Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. RUIZ, and Mr. ROTHFUS.  
H.R. 1102: Mr. PETERSON.  
H.R. 1141: Ms. WILSON of Florida.  
H.R. 1229: Ms. MENG.  
H.R. 1292: Mr. FLEMING.  
H.R. 1317: Mr. WELCH and Mr. ISRAEL.  
H.R. 1429: Ms. BROWNLEY of California.  
H.R. 1666: Mr. LEWIS.  
H.R. 1783: Mr. RYAN of Ohio.  
H.R. 1838: Mr. AMODEI.  
H.R. 2224: Mr. ISRAEL and Mrs. NAPOLITANO.  
H.R. 2368: Mr. ISRAEL.  
H.R. 2468: Mr. VAN HOLLEN.  
H.R. 2506: Mr. BUCSHON.  
H.R. 2509: Mr. McDERMOTT.  
H.R. 2602: Mr. FLEMING.  
H.R. 2682: Mr. CLAWSON of Florida and Mr. NUGENT.  
H.R. 2702: Mr. ISRAEL.  
H.R. 2750: Ms. WILSON of Florida.  
H.R. 2767: Mr. CLAWSON of Florida.  
H.R. 3039: Mr. ISRAEL.  
H.R. 3069: Ms. LEE of California.  
H.R. 3116: Mr. RUPPERSBERGER and Mr. CLAY.  
H.R. 3297: Ms. MENG.  
H.R. 3418: Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico.  
H.R. 3426: Mr. QUIGLEY.  
H.R. 3461: Mr. GUTIÉRREZ.  
H.R. 3465: Ms. WILSON of Florida.  
H.R. 3485: Mr. CLAWSON of Florida.  
H.R. 3620: Ms. WILSON of Florida.  
H.R. 3672: Mrs. KIRKPATRICK and Mr. O'ROURKE.  
H.R. 3708: Ms. NORTON.  
H.R. 3750: Mr. KILMER.  
H.R. 3782: Mr. HUFFMAN.  
H.R. 3877: Mr. ISRAEL, Mr. MARINO, and Mr. NEAL.  
H.R. 4124: Ms. MENG.  
H.R. 4227: Ms. MENG.  
H.R. 4351: Mr. VAN HOLLEN.  
H.R. 4525: Ms. DELAURO.  
H.R. 4577: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.  
H.R. 4628: Mrs. NAPOLITANO.  
H.R. 4665: Mr. GRIMM.

H.R. 4672: Ms. SEWELL of ALABAMA and Mr. LANGEVIN.  
 H.R. 4717: Mr. ISRAEL.  
 H.R. 4793: Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico, Mr. GARCIA, Ms. KUSTER, and Mr. CÁRDENAS.  
 H.R. 4816: Mr. POLIS.  
 H.R. 4837: Mr. YODER.  
 H.R. 4857: Mr. FLORES.  
 H.R. 4879: Ms. WATERS.  
 H.R. 4916: Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. PINGREE of MAINE, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, and Mr. KIND.  
 H.R. 4920: Mr. CICILLINE.  
 H.R. 4930: Mr. HUFFMAN AND Ms. TSONGAS.  
 H.R. 4960: Ms. BONAMICI and Ms. BASS.  
 H.R. 4966: Ms. LOFGREN.  
 H.R. 4969: Ms. MENG.  
 H.R. 5159: Mr. RUSH.  
 H.R. 5182: Ms. WILSON of Florida.  
 H.R. 5186: Ms. WILSON of Florida.  
 H.R. 5239: Mr. McDERMOTT.  
 H.R. 5264: Ms. FUDGE.  
 H.R. 5324: Mr. COHEN and Mr. LYNCH.  
 H.R. 5353: Mr. HASTINGS of Florida.  
 H.R. 5363: Mr. O'ROURKE.  
 H.R. 5391: Ms. TSONGAS, Ms. JACKSON LEE, and Mr. KING of New York.  
 H.R. 5403: Mr. PASCRELL.  
 H.R. 5474: Mr. BISHOP of New York.  
 H.R. 5478: Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.  
 H.R. 5484: Mr. QUIGLEY.  
 H.R. 5539: Mr. BENISHEK and Ms. CASTOR of Florida.  
 H.R. 5589: Mr. MCKINLEY, Mr. NUGENT, Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico, and Mr. BOUSTANY.

H.R. 5611: Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York.  
 H.R. 5615: Mr. TIBERI.  
 H.R. 5644: Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. FOSTER, and Mr. FLORES.  
 H.R. 5650: Ms. FRANKEL of Florida.  
 H.R. 5675: Mr. BISHOP of New York and Mrs. HARTZLER.  
 H.R. 5697: Ms. TSONGAS and Mr. POE of Texas.  
 H.R. 5762: Mr. LOWENTHAL, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PERLMUTTER, and Mr. WELCH.  
 H.R. 5766: Mr. BARBER and Mr. GRIJALVA.  
 H.R. 5782: Mr. ROSKAM.  
 H.R. 5789: Mr. SWALWELL of California.  
 H.R. 5791: Mr. SMITH of Missouri and Mrs. NOEM.  
 H.R. 5813: Ms. BROWN of Florida.  
 H.R. 5830: Ms. WATERS, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.  
 H.R. 5831: Ms. LEE of California.  
 H.R. 5832: Mr. NUGENT, Mr. WEBER of Texas, and Mrs. WALORSKI.  
 H.R. 5837: Mr. LEWIS and Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia.  
 H.R. 5838: Mr. SCOTT of Virginia and Mr. RUSH.  
 H.R. 5845: Mr. CHABOT.  
 H. Con. Res. 91: Ms. BASS.  
 H. Res. 208: Ms. DELAURO and Mr. CLEAVER.  
 H. Res. 326: Mr. FLEMING.  
 H. Res. 448: Ms. FOXX, Mr. WEBER of Texas, and Mr. YOHO.  
 H. Res. 688: Mr. PETERS of Michigan, Ms. MENG, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. HONDA, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Mr. O'ROURKE.

H. Res. 711: Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York.  
 H. Res. 749: Mr. BERA of California.  
 H. Res. 750: Mr. CONYERS.  
 H. Res. 768: Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York.  
 H. Res. 771: Mr. MEEHAN.  
 H. Res. 772: Mr. NUNNELEE.  
 H. Res. 777: Mr. HUFFMAN.

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#### PETITIONS, ETC.

Under clause 3 of rule XII, petitions and papers were laid on the clerk's desk and referred as follows:

114. The SPEAKER presented a petition of the City of Appleton, Wisconsin, relative to a resolution calling for the reclaiming of democracy from the expansion of corporate personhood rights and the corrupting influence of unregulated political contributions and spending; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

115. Also, a petition of the City of Ripon, Wisconsin, relative to Resolution No. 2014-12, calling for the reclaiming of democracy from the expansion of corporate personhood rights and the corrupting influence of unregulated political contributions and spending; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES—Friday, December 12, 2014

The House met at 3 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MESSER).

### DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,  
December 12, 2014.

I hereby appoint the Honorable LUKE MESSER to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

JOHN A. BOEHNER,  
*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

### PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer: Dear God, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

Bless the Members of the people's House as they depart the Nation's Capitol to return to their homes. May they find rest and renewal during their time with family and friends.

Bless our Nation as the holy days of the religious traditions for so many of our citizens approach, and as the year comes to a close. Help us to look to the future with hope, committed to a renewed effort to work together as citizens of a united America.

Help us all to be truly grateful for the blessings of this past year.

And, as always, we pray that whatever is done this day be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 3(a) of House Resolution 775, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CULBERSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. CULBERSON led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following commu-

nication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, December 11, 2014.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,  
*The Speaker, U.S. Capitol, U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on December 11, 2014 at 11:07 p.m.:

That the Senate passed without amendment H.J. Res. 130.

With best wishes, I am  
Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

### COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, December 12, 2014.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,  
*The Speaker, U.S. Capitol, U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on December 12, 2014 at 10:34 a.m.:

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 3096.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 4771.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 5057.

That the Senate passed S. 3008.

That the Senate passed S. 2338.

That the Senate passed S. 2983.

Appointments:

National Committee on Vital and Health Statistics.

Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor Review Board.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 4 of rule I, the following enrolled joint resolution was signed by the Speaker on Thursday, December 11, 2014:

H.J. Res. 130, making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2015, and for other purposes.

### MAKING FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Mr. CULBERSON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Appropriations be discharged from further consideration of H.J. Res. 131, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the joint resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

The text of the joint resolution is as follows:

H.J. RES. 131

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the Continuing Appropriations Resolution, 2015 (Public Law 113-164) is further amended by striking the date specified in section 106(3) and inserting "December 17, 2014".

The joint resolution was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

### UNITED STATES ANTI-DOPING AGENCY REAUTHORIZATION ACT

Mr. FLORES. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill (S. 2338) to reauthorize the United States Anti-Doping Agency, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 2338

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "United States Anti-Doping Agency Reauthorization Act".

#### SEC. 2. PROHIBIT PERFORMANCE-ENHANCING METHODS.

Section 701 of title VII of the Office of National Drug Control Policy Reauthorization Act of 2006 (21 U.S.C. 2001) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking paragraph (4); and

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by inserting "and be recognized worldwide as the independent national anti-doping organization for the United States" after "Committee";



(B) in paragraph (2), by striking “, or performance-enhancing genetic modifications accomplished through gene-doping” and inserting “or prohibited performance-enhancing methods adopted by the Agency”;

(C) in paragraph (3), by striking “, or performance-enhancing genetic modifications accomplished through gene-doping” and inserting “or prohibited performance-enhancing methods adopted by the Agency”;

(D) in paragraph (4), by striking “and the prevention of use of performance-enhancing drugs, or performance-enhancing genetic modifications accomplished through gene-doping by United States amateur athletes; and” and inserting “, and the prevention of use by United States amateur athletes of performance-enhancing drugs or prohibited performance-enhancing methods adopted by the Agency.”; and

(E) by striking paragraph (5).

### SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

Section 703 of title VII of the Office of National Drug Control Policy Reauthorization Act of 2006 (21 U.S.C. 2003) is amended to read as follows:

#### “SEC. 703. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

“There are authorized to be appropriated to the United States Anti-Doping Agency—

“(1) for fiscal year 2014, \$11,300,000;

“(2) for fiscal year 2015, \$11,700,000;

“(3) for fiscal year 2016, \$12,300,000;

“(4) for fiscal year 2017, \$12,900,000;

“(5) for fiscal year 2018, \$13,500,000;

“(6) for fiscal year 2019, \$14,100,000; and

“(7) for fiscal year 2020, \$14,800,000.”.

The bill was ordered to be read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

### FORECLOSURE RELIEF AND EXTENSION FOR SERVICEMEMBERS ACT OF 2014

Mr. FLORES. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill (S. 3008) to extend temporarily the extended period of protection for members of uniformed services relating to mortgages, mortgage foreclosure, and eviction, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 3008

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Foreclosure Relief and Extension for Servicemembers Act of 2014”.

#### SEC. 2. TEMPORARY EXTENSION OF EXTENDED PERIOD OF PROTECTIONS FOR MEMBERS OF UNIFORMED SERVICES RELATING TO MORTGAGES, MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE, AND EVICTION.

Section 710(d) of the Honoring America's Veterans and Caring for Camp Lejeune Families Act of 2012 (Public Law 112-154; 126 Stat. 1208) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking “December 31, 2014” and inserting “December 31, 2015”; and

(2) in paragraph (3), by striking “January 1, 2015” and inserting “January 1, 2016”.

The bill was ordered to be read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

### PROVIDING FOR THE SINE DIE ADJOURNMENT OF THE SECOND SESSION OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH CONGRESS

Mr. FLORES. Mr. Speaker, I send to the desk a privileged concurrent resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the concurrent resolution, as follows:

H. CON. RES. 125

*Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring),* That when the House adjourns on any legislative day from Friday, December 12, 2014, through Wednesday, December 31, 2014, on a motion offered pursuant to this concurrent resolution by its Majority Leader or his designee, it stand adjourned until 1 p.m. on Friday, January 2, 2015, or until the time of any reassembly pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first; and that when the House adjourns on the legislative day of Friday, January 2, 2015, on a motion offered pursuant to this concurrent resolution by its Majority Leader or his designee, it stand adjourned sine die, or until the time of any reassembly pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first; and that when the Senate recesses or adjourns on any day from Friday, December 12, 2014, through Friday, January 2, 2015, on a motion offered pursuant to this concurrent resolution by its Majority Leader or his designee, it stand adjourned sine die, or until the time of any reassembly pursuant to section 3 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first.

SEC. 2. (a) The Speaker or his designee, after consultation with the Minority Leader of the House, shall notify Members of the House to reassemble at such place and time as he may designate if, in his opinion, the public interest shall warrant it.

(b) After reassembling pursuant to subsection (a), when the House adjourns on a motion offered pursuant to this subsection by its Majority Leader or his designee, the House shall again stand adjourned pursuant to the first section of this concurrent resolution.

SEC. 3. (a) The Majority Leader of the Senate or his designee, after concurrence with the Minority Leader of the Senate, shall notify the Members of the Senate to reassemble at such place and time as he may designate if, in his opinion, the public interest shall warrant it.

(b) After reassembling pursuant to subsection (a), when the Senate adjourns on a motion offered pursuant to this subsection by its Majority Leader or his designee, the Senate shall again stand adjourned pursuant to the first section of this concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

The concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

### ADJOURNMENT TO TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2014

Mr. FLORES. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today on a motion offered pursuant to this order, it adjourn to meet at noon on Tuesday, December 16, 2014, unless it sooner has received a message from the Senate transmitting its concurrence in H. Con. Res. 125, in which case the House shall stand adjourned pursuant to that concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

### COMMUNICATION FROM THE DEMOCRATIC LEADER

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable NANCY PELOSI, Democratic Leader:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

Washington, DC, December 12, 2014.

Hon. JOHN BOEHNER,

*Speaker of the House, U.S. Capitol, Washington, DC.*

DEAR SPEAKER BOEHNER: Pursuant to section 1238(b)(3) of the Floyd D. Spence National Defense Authorization Act of Fiscal Year 2001 (22 U.S.C. 7002), amended by the Division P of the Consolidated Appropriations Resolution, 2003 (22 U.S.C. 6901), I am pleased to reappoint Mr. Michael Wessel of Falls Church, VA, to the United States-China Economic and Security Review Commission.

Thank you for your attention to this appointment.

Sincerely,

NANCY PELOSI,  
*Democratic Leader.*

### COMMUNICATION FROM THE DEMOCRATIC LEADER

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable NANCY PELOSI, Democratic Leader:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

Washington, DC, December 12, 2014.

Hon. JOHN BOEHNER,

*Speaker of the House, U.S. Capitol, Washington, DC.*

DEAR SPEAKER BOEHNER: Pursuant to section 3(b) of the Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor Act of 2001 (42 U.S.C. 15202), I am pleased to appoint Mr. Brian Fengel, Chief of Police, Bartonville, IL, to the Medal of Valor Review Board.

Thank you for your attention to this appointment.

Sincerely,

NANCY PELOSI,  
*House Democratic Leader.*

### HOUSE BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS APPROVED BY THE PRESIDENT

The President notified the Clerk of the House that on the following dates he had approved and signed bills and joint resolutions of the following titles:



September 19, 2014:

H.J. Res. 124. A joint resolution making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2015, and for other purposes.

September 26, 2014:

H.R. 120. A joint resolution approving the location of a memorial to commemorate the more than 5,000 slaves and free Black persons who fought for independence in the American Revolution.

H.R. 594. An Act to amend the Public Health Service Act relating to Federal research on muscular dystrophy, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2600. An Act to amend the Interstate Land Sales Full Disclosure Act to clarify how the Act applies to condominiums.

H.R. 3043. An Act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to clarify the treatment of general welfare benefits provided by Indian tribes.

H.R. 3716. An Act to ratify a water settlement agreement affecting the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4197. An Act to amend title 5, United States Code, to extend the period of certain authority with respect to judicial review of Merit Systems Protection Board decisions relating to whistleblowers, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4751. An Act to make technical corrections to Public Law 110-229 to reflect the renaming of the Bainbridge Island Japanese American Exclusion Memorial, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4809. An Act to reauthorize the Defense Production Act, to improve the Defense Production Act Committee, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5062. An Act to amend the Consumer Financial Protection Act of 2010 to specify that privilege and confidentiality are maintained when information is shared by certain nondepository covered persons with Federal and State financial regulators, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5134. An Act to extend the National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity and the Advisory Committee on Student Financial Assistance for one year.

H.R. 5404. An Act to amend title 38, United States Code, to extend certain expiring provisions of law administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

September 29, 2019:

H.R. 4323. An Act to reauthorize programs authorized under the Debbie Smith Act of 2004, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4980. An Act to prevent and address sex trafficking of children in foster care, to extend and improve adoption incentives, and to improve international child support recovery.

October 6, 2014:

H.R. 4994. An Act to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for standardized post-acute care assessment data for quality, payment, and discharge planning and for other purposes.

November 26, 2014:

H.R. 1233. An Act to amend chapter 22 of title 94, United States Code, popularly known as the Presidential Records Act, to establish procedures for the consideration of claims of constitutionally based privilege against disclosure of Presidential records, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4194. An Act to provide for the elimination or modification of Federal reporting requirements.

December 4, 2014:

H.J. Res. 129. A joint resolution appointing the day for the convening of the first session of the One Hundred Fourteenth Congress.

H.R. 4067. An Act to provide for the extension of the enforcement instruction on supervision requirements for outpatient therapeutic services in critical access and small rural hospitals through 2014.

H.R. 5441. An Act to amend the Federal charter of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States to reflect the service of women in the Armed Forces of the United States.

H.R. 5728. An Act to amend the Communications Act of 1949 and title 17, United States Code, to extend expiring provisions relating to the retransmission of signals of television broadcast stations, and for other purposes.

December 12, 2014:

H.J. Res. 130. A joint resolution making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2015, and for other purposes.

## SENATE BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS APPROVED BY THE PRESIDENT

The President notified the Clerk of the House that on the following dates he had approved and signed bills and joint resolutions of the Senate of the following titles:

September 19, 2014:

S. 231. An Act to reauthorize the Multi-national Species Conservation Funds Semipostal Stamp.

September 26, 2014:

S. 276. An Act to reinstate and extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project involving the American Falls Reservoir.

S. 476. An Act to amend the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Development Act to extend to the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park Commission.

S. 1603. An Act to reaffirm that certain land has been taken into trust for the benefit of the Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of Pottawatami Indians, and for other purposes.

S. 2154. An Act to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize the Emergency Medical Services for Children Program.

S. 2258. An Act to provide for an increase, effective December 1, 2014, in the rates of compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for the survivors of certain disabled veterans, and for other purposes.

September 29, 2014:

S.J. Res. 40. A joint resolution providing for the appointment of Michael Lynton as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

November 19, 2014:

S. 1086. An Act to reauthorize and improve the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990, and for other purposes.

November 26, 2014:

S. 885. An Act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 35 Park Street in Danville, Vermont, as the "Thaddeus Stevens Post Office".

S. 898. An Act to authorize the Administrator of General Services to convey a parcel of real property in Albuquerque, New Mexico, to the Amy Biehl High School Foundation.

S. 1093. An Act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 130 Caldwell Drive in Hazlehurst, Mississippi, as the "First Lieutenant Alvin Chester Cockrell, Jr. Post Office Building".

S. 1499. An Act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at

278 Main Street in Chadron, Nebraska, as the "Sergeant Cory Mracek Memorial Post Office".

S. 1512. An Act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1335 Jefferson Road in Rochester, New York, as the "Specialist Theodore Matthew Glende Post Office".

S. 1934. An Act to direct the Administrator of General Services to convey the Clifford P. Hansen Federal Courthouse to Teton County, Wyoming.

S. 2141. An Act to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to provide an alternative process for review of safety and effectiveness of nonprescription sunscreen active ingredients and for other purposes.

S. 2539. An Act to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize certain programs relating to traumatic brain injury and to trauma research.

S. 2583. An Act to promote the non-exclusive use of electronic labeling for devices licensed by the Federal Communications Commission.

## JOINT RESOLUTION SIGNED

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled a joint resolution of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker on December 11, 2014.

H.J. Res. 130. Joint resolution making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2015, and for other purposes.

## ADJOURNMENT

Mr. FLORES. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to the order of the House of today, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 3 o'clock and 10 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Tuesday, December 16, 2014, at noon, unless it sooner has received a message from the Senate transmitting its adoption of H. Con. Res. 125, in which case the House shall stand adjourned pursuant to that concurrent resolution.

## EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

8302. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Hexythiazox; Pesticide Tolerance for Emergency Exemptions [EPA-HQ-OPP-2014-0774; FRL-9919-69] received December 9, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

8303. A letter from the Under Secretary, Comptroller, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter reporting the views of the Department of Defense regarding the opinion of the Government Accountability Office, dated August 21, 2014, consistent with section 145.8 of OMB Circular A-11; to the Committee on Appropriations.

8304. A letter from the General Counsel, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting the Corporation's final rule —

Benefits Payable in Terminated Single-Employer Plans; Interest Assumptions for Paying Benefits received December 8, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

8305. A letter from the Director, National Cancer Institute, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Professional Judgment Budget for fiscal year 2016, in accordance with the National Cancer Act of 1971; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8306. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Greenhouse Gas Reporting Rule: 2014 Revisions and Confidentiality Determinations for Petroleum and Natural Gas Systems; Final Rule [EPA-HQ-OAR-2011-0512; FRL-9918-85-OAR] (RIN: 2060-AR96) received December 11, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8307. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Alpha-cypermethrin; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2014-0601; FRL-9918-88] received December 9, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8308. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Indiana; Open Burning Rule [EPA-R05-OAR-2011-0968; FRL-9920-15-Region 5] received December 9, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8309. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans and Designation of Areas for Air Quality Planning Purposes; Indiana; Redesignation of Lake and Porter Counties to Attainment of the 2008 Eight-Hour Ozone Standard [EPA-R05-OAR-2012-0989; FRL-9920-14-Region 5] received December 9, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8310. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Wisconsin; Nitrogen Oxide Combustion Turbine Alternative Control Requirements for the Milwaukee-Racine Former Nonattainment Area [EPA-R05-OAR-2014-0206; FRL-9920-20-Region 5] received December 9, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8311. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Texas; Repeal of Lead Emission Rules for Stationary Sources in El Paso and Dallas County [EPA-R06-OAR-2005-TX-0002; FRL-9920-34-Region 6] received December 11, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8312. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Illinois; Withdrawal of Direct Final Rule [EPA-R05-OAR-2014-0123; FRL-9920-13-Region 5] received December 11, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8313. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Maryland; Redesignation Request and Associated Maintenance Plan for the Baltimore, Maryland, Nonattainment Area for the 1997 Annual Fine Particulate Matter Standard [EPA-R03-OAR-2014-0387; FRL-9920-41-Region 3] received December 11, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8314. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — C.I. Pigment Yellow 1; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2014-0122; FRL-9919-40] received December 9, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8315. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Maryland; Redesignation Request and Associated Maintenance Plan for the Maryland Portion of the Martinsburg-Hagerstown, WV-MD Nonattainment Area for the 1997 Annual Fine Particulate Matter Standard [EPA-R03-OAR-2014-0281; FRL-9920-42-Region 3] received December 11, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8316. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Diisopropanolamine; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2013-0695; FRL-9919-34] received December 9, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8317. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Fluopyram; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2013-0662; FRL-9918-99] received December 11, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8318. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Ethylene Glycol Ethers; Significant New Use Rule [EPA-HQ-OPPT-2009-0767; FRL-9915-61] (RIN: 2070-AJ52) received December 11, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8319. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Revisions to the California State Implementation Plan, Antelope Valley Air Quality Management District and South Coast Air Quality Management District [EPA-R09-OAR-2014-0480; FRL-9919-76-Region 9] received December 9, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8320. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — National Priorities List [EPA-HQ-SFUND-2014-0318; FRL-9920-06-OSWER] received December 11, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8321. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agen-

cy's final rule — EPAAR Clause for Work Assignments [EPA-HQ-OARM-2012-0476; FRL 9920-48-OARM] received December 11, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8322. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Natamycin; Amendment to an Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2014-0352; FRL-9919-35] received December 11, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8323. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Revisions to the California State Implementation Plan, Feather River Air Quality Management District [EPA-R09-OAR-2014-0703; FRL-9919-52-Region 9] received December 11, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8324. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, transmitting Transmittal No. 14-59, Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer and Acceptance, pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

8325. A letter from the Director, Bureau of Economic Analysis, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Direct Investment Surveys: BE-13, Survey of New Foreign Direct Investment in the United States; Correction [Docket No.: 111201710-4701-01] (RIN: 0691-AA82) received October 7, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

8326. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Homeland Defense and Global Security, Department of Defense, transmitting a Report on Proposed Obligations for Cooperative Threat Reduction, in accordance with Pub. L. 104-106, Sec. 1205; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

8327. A letter from the Departmental Freedom of Information and Privacy Act Officer, Office of the Secretary, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Public Information, Freedom of Information Act and Privacy Act Regulations; Correction [Docket No.: 140127076-4935-03] (RIN: 0605-AA33) received December 11, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

8328. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — International Fisheries; Western and Central Pacific Fisheries for Highly Migratory Species; Fishing Effort Limits in Purse Seine Fisheries for 2014 [Docket No.: 140131088-4913-02] (RIN: 0648-BD94) received December 8, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

8329. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources in the Gulf of Mexico and Atlantic Region; Framework Amendment 1 [Docket No.: 140722613-4908-02] (RIN: 0648-BE31) received December 8, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

8330. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Greenland Turbot in the Bering Sea Subarea of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area [Docket No.: 131021878-4158-02] (RIN: 0648-XD557) received December 8, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

8331. A letter from the Federal Register Officer, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Consumer Price Index Adjustments of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 Limit of Liability for Offshore Facilities [Docket ID: BOEM-2012-0076] (RIN: 1010-AD87) received December 9, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8332. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Update for Weighted Average Interest Rates, Yield Curves, and Segment Rates [Notice 2014-78] received December 11, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

8333. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — 2014 Cumulative List of Changes in Plan Qualification Requirements [Notice 2014-77] received December 11, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

8334. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Extension for Deadline to Submit Opinion and Advisory Letter Applications for Pre-approved Defined Benefit Plans [Announcement 2014-41] received December 11, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

8335. A letter from the Chief, Border Security Regulations Branch, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Technical Amendment: Boarding of Vessels at CBP Ports [CBP Dec. 14-11] received November 20, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Homeland Security.

8336. A letter from the Chairman and Vice Chairman, U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission, transmitting the Commission's 2014 Annual Report to the Congress, as required by Pub. L. 106-398, as amended; jointly to the Committees on Ways and Means, Foreign Affairs, and Armed Services.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. SMITH of Texas: Committee on Science, Space, and Technology. H.R. 875. A bill to provide for a comprehensive assessment of the scientific and technical research on the implications of the use of mid-level ethanol blends, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 113-667, Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. ISSA: Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. H.R. 2750. A bill to amend title 41, United States Code, to re-

quire the use of two-phase selection procedures when design-build contracts are suitable for award to small business concerns, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 113-668). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. ISSA: Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. H.R. 3345. A bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to consolidate suspension and debarment offices, and for other purposes; with amendments (Rept. 113-669). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. UPTON: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 3674. A bill to amend the National Telecommunications and Information Administration Organization Act to provide incentives for the reallocation of Federal Government spectrum for commercial use, and for other purposes (Rept. 113-670, Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 4253. A bill to permanently withdraw, reserve, and transfer Bureau of Land Management lands used for military purposes in Alaska, Nevada, and New Mexico to the appropriate Secretary of the military department concerned (Rept. 113-671, Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. MILLER of Florida: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. H.R. 5094. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to recoup certain bonuses or awards paid to employees of the Department of Veterans Affairs; with amendments (Rept. 113-672, Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. GOODLATTE: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 5401. A bill to impose limitations on the immigration status and immigration benefits for Libyan and third country nationals acting on behalf of Libyan entities (Rept. 113-673). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. GOODLATTE: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 1773. A bill to create a non-immigrant H-2C work visa program for agricultural workers, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 113-674, Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. GOODLATTE: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 4874. A bill to provide for the establishment of a process for the review of rules and sets of rules, and for other purposes (Rept. 113-675, Pt. 1). Ordered to be printed.

#### DISCHARGE OF COMMITTEE

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII the Committee on Energy and Commerce discharged from further consideration. H.R. 875 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII the Committees on Education and the Workforce and Ways and Means discharged from further consideration. H.R. 1773 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII the Committee on Armed Services discharged from further consideration. H.R. 3674 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII the Committee on Armed Services dis-

charged from further consideration. H.R. 4253 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform discharged from further consideration. H.R. 5094 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

#### PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky:

H.J. Res. 131. A joint resolution making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2015, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Appropriations; considered and passed.

By Mr. CULBERSON:

H. Con. Res. 125. A concurrent resolution providing for the sine die adjournment of the second session of the One Hundred Thirtieth Congress; considered and agreed to.

By Ms. WILSON of Florida:

H. Res. 782. A resolution honoring Steve Sauls on his retirement as Florida International University's Vice President of Governmental Relations; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Ms. WILSON of Florida:

H. Res. 783. A resolution recognizing the 30th anniversary of Reverend Jesse L. Jackson, Sr.'s 1984 presidential campaign and honoring his heroism and extraordinary service to the United States and the international community; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

#### CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky:

H.J. Res. 131.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The principal constitutional authority for this legislation is clause 7 of section 9 of article I of the Constitution of the United States (the appropriation power), which states: "No Money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in Consequence of Appropriations made by Law . . . ." In addition, clause 1 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution (the spending power) provides: "The Congress shall have the Power . . . to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States . . . ." Together, these specific constitutional provisions establish the congressional power of the purse, granting Congress the authority to appropriate funds, to determine their purpose, amount, and period of availability, and to set forth terms and conditions governing their use.

#### ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 1761: Mr. LARSON of Connecticut and Ms. Wilson of Florida.

H.R. 2847: Mr. PASCRELL.

H.R. 3116: Mr. BENISHEK.

H.R. 3662: Mr. SCHIFF.

H.R. 4237: Mr. ISRAEL.

H.R. 4468: Ms. HAHN and Mr. VARGAS.

H.R. 5159: Ms. BONAMICI.

H.R. 5182: Mr. PETERS of California and Mr. SERRANO.

H.R. 5281: Mr. BLUMENAUER.

H.R. 5481: Mr. BENISHEK.

H.R. 5520: Mr. FLEMING.

H.R. 5675: Mr. GRIFFITH of Virginia.

H.R. 5782: Ms. DELAURO.

H.R. 5807: Mr. TAKANO.

H.R. 5830: Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas.

H.R. 5831: Mr. RANGEL.

H.J. Res. 108: Mr. BRAT.

H. Res. 688: Mr. LARSON of Connecticut.

H. Res. 730: Ms. BONAMICI.

H. Res. 781: Ms. BORDALLO.

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CONGRESSIONAL EARMARKS, LIMITED TAX BENEFITS, OR LIMITED TARIFF BENEFITS

Under clause 9 of rule XXI, lists or statements on congressional earmarks,

limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits were submitted as follows:

OFFERED BY MR. ROGERS OF KENTUCKY

H.J. Res. 131, making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2015, and for other purposes, does not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

**SENATE—Friday, December 12, 2014**

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

**PRAYER**

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Lord of life beneath the dome of the universe, Your home, gather us who seek Your face to the fold of Your embrace, for You are near.

We see Your divine image in the people around us. Help us to honor You by respecting them. Guide our lawmakers to seek great things for others. Radiate Your hope through them to our Nation and world, providing them, O God, with Your wisdom to join their plans with Your will. Give them a compassion that will compel them to labor for the eradication of injustice.

We pray in Your merciful Name. Amen.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The President pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

**RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER**

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

**SCHEDULE**

Mr. REID. Mr. President, following my remarks and those of the Republican leader, the Senate will resume consideration of the motion to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 3979, postcloture.

At noon today, the time will be controlled between Senators REID, 1 hour; COBURN, 1 hour; MURKOWSKI, 30 minutes; INHOFE, 30 minutes, or their designees.

Upon the use or yielding back of that time, at approximately 3 p.m., the Senate will have rollcall votes in relation to the defense authorization bill and the Saperstein nomination.

(Mr. KING assumed the Chair.)

**DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION BILL**

Mr. REID. Mr. President, as I have indicated, we are going to take up this important government funding bill today. Senator MIKULSKI, the Chair of

the Appropriations Committee, has performed an extraordinary service in negotiating this bill. And I think it is fair to give a nod to Senator SHELBY, of course, who has been involved in this. They get along extremely well and set a good standard for everyone in the Senate.

The bill achieves many of our important priorities. It gives the Affordable Care Act the secure financial footing it deserves, gives our military the tools it needs to combat ISIS, it addresses the rape kit backlog, helping police and prosecutors prevent sexual assault, it increases funding for students' loans, ensures that the President's Executive action in protecting families can move forward, and it provides funding to fight the Ebola epidemic.

There are lots of other things in it. I have just hit a few of the highlights from my perspective.

There are things in this bill that I wouldn't have included—the Democrats wouldn't have included had we written the bill alone. I don't support the weakening of Dodd-Frank and the restrictions on the District of Columbia and other things, but I didn't write this bill. Senate Democrats didn't write this bill alone. It is a compromise. That is what legislation is all about.

The Presiding Officer has been a Governor for the State of Maine. He is now a legislator and has been a legislator, and he knows that legislation is the art of compromise. Any chief executive who has to work with a legislature, as Presidents of the United States do, does not get everything he wants. Legislation is a compromise. And that is what this legislation is.

We are going to consider this legislation to keep our government open and funded, and we are going to do it today—I hope. There are Senators who are unhappy with this legislation, and they will have a chance to make their objections heard. I hope we can complete work on this bill as soon as we finish the Defense bill. That depends on everyone's cooperation here. But there isn't a lot of time. The government funding runs out at 12 o'clock midnight on Saturday.

When we started this Congress, the government was running on autopilot. Since 2011, we have lurched from crisis to crisis, with the country constantly under threat of a shutdown or financial catastrophe. It is a very bad habit, and one the American people are very, very tired of, as they should be.

This bill is, I repeat, far from perfect. But when we pass it, we will be able to end this Congress knowing we put our country on a more secure financial

footing than when this Congress started. We can then go home to our States, tell our constituents we passed legislation that keeps America safe, makes college more affordable, spurs the economy, and keeps our government operating.

Talk about a CR for 3 months should scare everyone. So we are not there. We are going to have a bill that funds this government for the next fiscal year. We can be satisfied that we left our priorities better funded and more secure, and our government on a more sound foundation than when this Congress began.

**TRIBUTE TO MARK PRYOR**

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I am going to take just a minute, because time is running out, to talk about a couple of Senators.

I rise to honor Senator MARK PRYOR of Arkansas upon his departure from this institution. I have been in the Senate 28 years, and there has been a Pryor here for 22 of those years. I first worked with MARK's dad, David Pryor. David Pryor left this institution because he had quite a significant heart attack. What a fine Senator. I have said before, and I will say again, he was the best legislator I ever served with, whether during my experience in the State legislature of Nevada or here: David Pryor. He was very, very good.

Six years after David left, MARK came. What a good legislator he is. He is just such a fine person. But it is no surprise to me that he followed in his dad's footsteps. After all, the Pryor family has worked as public servants in Arkansas for five generations. MARK's great-great-grandfather was a sheriff. MARK's great-grandfather was a sheriff. MARK's grandfather Edgar was a county sheriff also in Arkansas. In fact, just last year, an Arkansan said to MARK: "I'm for MARK PRYOR not because of his dad David but because of Edgar." That is how deep the Pryor roots run in Arkansas.

On MARK's desk is a plaque that reads: "Arkansas Comes First." This was a plaque that was on his dad's desk and that MARK put on his desk. This has been MARK's mission since he has been here—to put Arkansas first. The Senate and the entire country have benefited from the influence of the Pryors in the United States Senate—David and MARK.

MARK was born in Fayetteville, grew up in Little Rock, and attended the University of Arkansas as an undergraduate and later to law school. While working as an attorney in private practice, he began his public service in 1990,

when he ran for a seat in the House of Representatives. He was elected and served there for 4 years.

In 1996, MARK was faced with the fight of his life. He had a situation occur near his Achilles tendon on one of his legs. They tried physical therapy, but it didn't seem to get well, and they discovered he had a very rare form of cancer—clear-cell sarcoma—in his left leg. So it is an understatement to say it was a trying experience for MARK. He was faced with the prospect of dying or losing his leg.

MARK was buoyed in this difficult experience that he had by his family, his friends, and the people of Arkansas praying for him. It was quite a spiritual experience for MARK and his family. This experience deepened his compassion for those who suffer physically, financially, and emotionally, and he has translated that into his public service.

In 1998, he was elected attorney general of the State of Arkansas. In his 2002 Senatorial election he bucked the national trend to become the only Democrat to defeat a Republican incumbent. Bucking trends would quickly become one of his hallmarks here on Capitol Hill. As a Senator, he has shown courage in voting according to his conscience.

Key among his legislative accomplishments have been bills to extend tax benefits and improve medical services for men and women to make the products that people buy, especially children, safe. He has also been a strong advocate for honest and transparent business practices in order to preserve our American tradition of responsible free enterprise.

His respect for tradition extends to the Senate itself. I say this for a number of reasons, but once a reporter asked him what he would do if he had absolute power over Congress. In his characteristic fashion, he responded he would instill in his fellow Senators greater respect for each other and for the world's greatest deliberative body. That is what MARK PRYOR said.

While some may have disagreed with MARK, they never ever questioned his sincerity, his integrity. I admire his impeccable dedication to his conscience.

Mark Twain said:

The proper office of a friend is to side with you when you are in the wrong. Nearly anybody will side with you when you are in the right.

With apologies to Mark Twain, if eternal agreement were the price of friendship, we would all have fewer friends. Friendship can transcend policy preferences, as MARK's and mine do. We agree on most everything. There are a few things we don't agree on politically, but that doesn't matter. It doesn't matter because he is my friend.

He is a friend to my wife and me. It is no secret there are many people—the

Republican leader and his wife—who reached out to console me and Landra during her terrible accident, and then when the cancer was ravaging her body. But she pulled through that. And one reason she did, I am convinced, is MARK PRYOR. MARK PRYOR, who almost died from cancer, called my wife often—often—texted her often telling her: You are going to be OK; don't be afraid. So my wife loves MARK PRYOR.

We were talking about the elections not long ago, and I said: I have never prayed to win an election, and this election I didn't either. She said: Well, I did. That is how she feels about MARK PRYOR.

I am really honored to have served with MARK PRYOR, who is such a genuine person, so sincere. He has been an invaluable asset, his service here in the Senate. I congratulate MARK on his exemplary service here in the Senate.

MARK will always be my friend. There is a quote that bears directly on my feelings about Senator PRYOR: "A good friend is hard to find, hard to lose, and impossible to forget." I will never ever forget MARK PRYOR. He is a unique, one of a kind, kind, thoughtful, considerate man.

#### RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Republican leader is recognized.

#### TRIBUTE TO NANCY ERICKSON

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, this morning I would like to wish a fond farewell to a woman we are all going to miss: Nancy Erickson, the Secretary of the Senate.

It is her birthday today. Nancy is the kind of person you would expect to get cards from Democrats and Republicans on a day like this. And it is no secret why. She is fair, she is honest, she has always had a warm smile on her face. And that is no small matter, because Nancy has a really tough job. The title doesn't do it justice. Nancy admits she had to Google "Secretary of the Senate" when the position was offered to her.

Let me tell you a little more about what Nancy does. On the one hand, there is an administrative element to her position. That is true. We would run out of printer paper without her. But she is also the keeper of this institution.

Nancy respects the Senate. In fact, she loves the Senate. Her greatest joy is overseeing preservation of the Senate's storied art and history.

I am particularly grateful to her efforts to secure and repair an important painting of my personal hero, Henry Clay. I understand it was a painstaking process, but it was a credit to the Senate and to our common history as America.

Here is the point: Nancy may be a "Secretary," but only in the way you would think of John Kerry or Condoleezza Rice being a "Secretary." In other words, Nancy is pretty important.

She presides over the Chamber. She signs the bills we pass. And, importantly to the Senate staff, she signs the checks they receive. So, you see, Nancy is actually a minor celebrity around here on payday.

But she is something else entirely on game day. Nancy is one of the biggest Packers fans you will ever meet. There is no interrupting her when the green and gold take the field. Fortunately for Nancy, her home-State Senator JOHN THUNE feels the same way. So you often see the two South Dakotans—one a Democrat, the other a Republican—debating the finer points of last night's game.

There is a reason I say this. Nancy goes out of her way to build trust across the aisle, even in unconventional ways. The folks in my office who work closest with Nancy have nothing but kind words to say about her. Some call her a personal friend. In fact, the remarkable woman I nominated to replace Nancy, Julie Adams, is just such a person. I know Nancy couldn't be happier for Julie, and neither could I.

And while Nancy is going to miss the Senate, I know she is also looking forward to seeing more of her family. I know how important Nancy's parents are to her in particular. We are glad Nancy will be able to see more of them, even though we are going to miss her.

#### TRIBUTE TO SHEILA DWYER

The Senate is also going to miss Nancy's deputy. Sheila Dwyer is another Democrat my staff can't speak highly enough of. Sheila has had a long run here in the Senate. She has seen it from a lot of different angles. She has been a page, a scheduler, and now Assistant Secretary of the Senate. Along the way, she has worked for members such as Moynihan, Hollings, and Robb. It is an impressive career. It makes you understand why, as Leader REID mentioned earlier, Sheila is known around here as the "Mayor of Capitol Hill."

#### TRIBUTE TO ROBERT PAXTON AND MARK TRATOS

We also can't forget to wish a fond farewell to Robert Paxton and Mark Tratos.

Robert, Nancy's chief of staff, is a fellow Kentuckian who has worked in the Senate for more than a quarter century. And we understand that Mark, Robert's No. 2, is expecting his first child soon.

So we wish both Robert and Mark all the best, just as we offer Sheila well-deserved recognition for a job well done, just as we bid the fondest of farewells to Nancy—and a very happy birthday as well.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

## RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

## PROTECTING VOLUNTEER FIRE-FIGHTERS AND EMERGENCY RESPONDERS ACT OF 2014

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of the message to accompany H.R. 3979, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 3979, an act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to ensure that emergency services volunteers are not taken into account as employees under the shared responsibility requirements contained in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

Pending:

Reid motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to the bill.

Reid motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to the bill, with Reid amendment No. 3984 (to the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to the bill), to change the enactment date.

Reid amendment No. 3985 (to amendment No. 3984), of a perfecting nature.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Michigan.

## FAREWELL TO THE SENATE

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, after 36 years as a Member of the United States Senate, this is likely my last opportunity to address its Members as colleagues, and to address the people of my State as constituents, and to thank them for placing their trust in me.

The highest honor any citizen of a democracy can receive is to be elected to represent his or her fellow Americans to be their fiduciary.

To the Senate staff, including the floor staff, the Capitol Police, and those throughout the Capitol complex who work so hard to keep things here moving, thank you for your service and support for us through the long days and nights.

To my staff, thank you for your strong loyalty to the people of Michigan, to our Nation, and to me. And thank you for believing in public service. I am immensely proud of what the men and women who have worked on my staff for the last 36 years have helped to accomplish.

My staff back in Michigan has helped make communities across our State safer and more prosperous. Countless times they have helped individual constituents resolve an issue, making a real difference in thousands of lives.

The Armed Services Committee and Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations—PSI—staffs have worked tirelessly through long hours and complex issues, sacrificing nights and weekends and vacations to help address the pressing issues of our Nation.

My personal office staff has been instrumental in addressing a breathtaking range of issues—from preserving our American auto industry, to making our tax system fairer, to protecting our irreplaceable Great Lakes, to making medicine available to fight addiction, and much, much more.

As to my mentor, my big brother Sandy, Congress is keeping the better half of “Team Levin,” as I retire to Michigan while Sandy remains in Congress.

To Barbara, my wife of 53 years, to our three daughters Kate, Laura, and Erica; to their husbands Howard, Daniel, and Rick; and to our six grandchildren, Bess and Samantha, Mark, Noa, and Ben Levin, and Beatrice and Olivia Fernandez—thank you for your love and support, which has meant so much to me.

I have been asked many times if I am leaving the Senate out of frustration with gridlock. The answer is: No. My family and friends, and those of you with whom I serve, know how much I love the Senate and that I will love my work until the last day here, and that I will leave here with unabashed confidence in the Senate’s ability to weather storms and to meet the Nation’s needs.

I know firsthand the challenges before this Senate. I believe one of the greatest is the need to meet the fundamental economic challenge of this era: the growing gap in our society between a fortunate few and the vast majority of Americans whose fortunes have stagnated or fallen.

While I believe that the economists who tell us this inequality is holding back economic growth are right, this isn’t just about economic data. It is about our Nation’s heart and soul. This growing gulf between a fortunate few and a struggling many is a threat to the dream that has animated this Nation since its founding, the dream that hard work leads to a better life for us and for our children.

To restore the connection between hard work and greater opportunity, I hope the next Congress will act on many fronts, strengthening education and worker training programs, making greater investments in infrastructure and research that foster growth. And as I have said here many times, it should pay for these needed investments by closing egregious tax loopholes that serve no economic purpose, but enrich some of the wealthiest among us and our most profitable corporations.

Many foresee a continuation of polarization and partisanship in the Senate and say it is naive to suggest that the next Congress might come together, break out of gridlock, and accomplish great things. But I know the Senate can do better because I have seen it happen with my own eyes.

The Senate has indeed demonstrated, even in our own era, that bipartisan-

ship is not extinct. The Senate Armed Services Committee has upheld a more than 50-year tradition of bipartisan cooperation to produce an annual Defense Authorization Act that advances the security of our Nation. I am grateful to the members of the U.S. military and their families for their selfless sense of duty. But I am also grateful for the way they have inspired us, year after year, to come together across lines of party and ideology to support them. They not only protect us, they unite us. Congress has come together over the years to make improvements in pay, benefits, and health care for the men and women of the military; to reform the way in which we buy the weapons they use to carry out their missions; to adopt policies to protect them from sexual assault; and to provide improved education benefits through a modern GI bill, and reform the way in which we care for our wounded warriors. We are training and equipping the militaries of nations under assault by extremists and religious fanatics so that those nations can depend more on themselves for their own security and less on America’s sons and daughters.

We have passed a defense authorization bill to accomplish these things each year for more than half a century by laying aside partisan differences for the common good. We have never allowed disagreements over policy to interfere with our duty to our troops and their families, and I am deeply grateful to the many ranking Republican partners I have been fortunate to work with in that endeavor: people such as JOHN MCCAIN and John Warner and JIM INHOFE.

JOHN MCCAIN, my great friend, who has demonstrated extraordinary courage in war and in this Senate, will take the gavel of the Armed Services Committee, and my trusted wingman and friend JACK REED will become ranking member. At a pivotal moment for the Senate and for this Nation, the Armed Services Committee will be in strong hands.

I have seen firsthand additional powerful evidence that the Senate can work together to meet the Nation’s needs, and that is in the work of the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations—PSI—which I have been privileged to chair for 10 years, working with Republican partners—and I use the word partners advisedly—such as TOM COBURN, JOHN MCCAIN, and SUSAN COLLINS. Our subcommittee has exposed the tax avoidance schemes of some of the most powerful corporations and wealthiest individuals. We have shined a light on abusive credit card practices. We have investigated wasteful and ineffective government programs. We have confronted market manipulators and exposed conflicts of interest, mortgage fraud, and reckless schemes by some of the most powerful



banks, schemes aided by some of the largest accounting and law firms. We have demonstrated how those activities helped bring our economy to its knees, destroying jobs, reducing the value of our homes, and damaging our neighborhoods. The work of PSI has helped lead to reforms that have strengthened our financial system and reduced credit card abuses.

The power of PSI lies in the in-depth work of our staffs, and in the willingness to confront powerful and entrenched interests. Like the Senate Armed Services Committee, PSI is strengthened by a dedication to bipartisanship and a respect for the rights of the Senate minority. We have recognized the danger of using investigative power for partisan or political purposes, and we have ensured that our great staffs, majority and minority, participate together in every investigation.

Indeed it is protection of the minority that is the singular hallmark of the Senate. The majority cannot always have its way. The Senate is more than just a place where the hot tea is cooled in the deliberative saucer that President Washington famously spoke of. Protections for the minority make the Senate more than just a place to slow things down; those protections make it a place where we work things out. It is those protections that force compromise that is essential to unifying and governing our country. Making progress in the Senate requires solutions that while they may not provide everyone with everything they want, are broadly accepted as in the common interest. When compromise is thwarted by ideological rigidity or by abuse of the rights that our rules afford us, the Senate can become paralyzed, unable to achieve the lofty task that the Founders set forth before us.

Polarization is exacerbated by forces outside this Chamber. For instance, we seem to make news more often these days by our responses in the corridors outside this Chamber to reporters questioning us about the latest breaking story or rumor than we do by debating or legislating inside this Chamber. The viral nature of information and disinformation and the expectation that public officials will be immediately responsive to every news flash with but a few seconds to think through the implications or consequences or pros and cons has led too often to less thoughtful discourse, and that has helped drive rhetorical wedges between us.

The incoming Senate has an opportunity to restore a greater measure of bipartisan compromise by revisiting one of the most contentious issues we face, one that we struggled with at the beginning of this Congress; that is, the Senate rules.

I believe the excessive use of the filibuster to obstruct confirmation of

President Obama's nominees was damaging to the Senate and to the Nation. Any President—Democratic or Republican—should have the ability to choose his or her team. But the Senate majority eliminated obstructions to Presidential nominations through the use of the nuclear option, effectively accomplishing a rules change outside the rules, a method I could not support. In doing so, a precedent was established that the majority could effectively change the rules as it wished by overruling the Chair and the Parliamentarian. That precedent will not serve the country well in the future because it leaves the minority with no protection, diminishing the unique role of the Senate.

I hope the Senate next year considers reversing that precedent while simultaneously—and I emphasize simultaneously—amending the rules so as to assure the President's ability to fulfill his or her constitutional duties. Put simply, I believe the Senate should do the right thing in the right way. It should amend the Senate rules, as provided for in the rules, to adopt the substance of the changes we made last year. I know my good friend Senator LAMAR ALEXANDER, who was part of the bipartisan Group of 8 who worked closely and successfully together on this issue in 2012, has proposed something similar. Such action by the Senate next year would be a welcome victory for comity and for compromise, and it would I hope represent a step back from a precedent that leads to effective rules changes by simple majority. It would be a step toward a better functioning Senate.

No leader alone, no single Senator, neither party by itself, can determine the Senate's course, but together the Members of this body can move the Senate forward and in doing so help move forward the Nation we all love. I will enjoy reading about the Senate's progress in the years ahead as Barbara and I are sitting on a Lake Michigan beach or showing the world to our grandchildren.

I thank the Chair, I thank my dear friends, the leaders of this body, and I see my brother sitting here, and I am not allowed to refer to my family in the Gallery, so I will not do that.

(Applause, Senators rising.)

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maine.

TRIBUTES TO CARL LEVIN

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, during his 36 years representing Michigan in the Senate, Senator CARL LEVIN's character and expertise have been described in many ways. He has been named by Time magazine as one of the 10 best Senators. He has been hailed by our military as a leader on national security. He is recognized by families in Michigan and throughout our country as a dedicated champion for economic opportunity and fairness.

But perhaps the best description of Senator LEVIN's philosophy of public service is a word he himself used in an interview for the George Mitchell Oral History Project at Bowdoin College in Maine. That word is "fiduciary."

It is the word that embraces the concepts of trust and confidence, of ethics and responsibility. In that interview Senator LEVIN elaborated on what the word means to him as a public servant. He said it meant to be accessible and open, to listen to other points of view, and to be well informed. Then when it is time to decide, to use his best judgment and vote for what is best for his State and his country, even though it may not be the popular choice at the time.

"Fiduciary" may indeed be the best word to describe our colleague Senator LEVIN; but to me, based upon decades of firsthand experience, there is another phrase that also comes to mind. He is truly a Senator's Senator. My colleagues may be surprised to learn that I have known Senator LEVIN far longer than most of the Members of this Chamber. You see, when he was first elected to the Senate in 1978, the same year as Maine Senator Bill Cohen, for whom I was working at the time, both of them served on what was then known as a Senate Governmental Affairs Committee and also on the same subcommittee, Oversight of Government Management, for which I was first the minority staff director and then the majority staff director. So I have known and worked with Senator LEVIN for the entire time he has been a Member of this Chamber. From the very start, Senator LEVIN's diligence as a watchdog for the American people impressed me.

Ten years after I left the committee, I returned as Senator Cohen's successor and sought a seat on the Governmental Affairs Committee precisely because, thanks to the example of Senator LEVIN and Senator Cohen, I saw the importance of accountability in government and business practices. As the chairman of the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, it was my honor to begin my Senate service with Senator LEVIN as our ranking member, who was a far more experienced Senator than I was at the time.

So I have seen firsthand how deeply Senator LEVIN cares about the Senate as an institution and its unique place in our Constitution and in its role in our system of government. He is a person of extraordinary integrity and has a sense of purpose that sets a high standard for all of us in public service.

He works well with Senators across the aisle because he works hard. From the very first time I saw Senator LEVIN in action back in 1978, I saw the importance that he placed on extensive, exhaustive preparation for our committee investigations and hearings. As many evasive or ill-prepared witnesses



learned to their chagrin, the eyes behind those trademark reading glasses focused like a laser because he has always done his homework.

If Senator LEVIN were to be remembered for his contributions to just one area of policy, it would be our Nation's defense. He has been a member of the Armed Services Committee throughout his time in the Senate, including 10 years as both the chairman and the ranking member. During our work together on that committee, I saw his mastery of such complex matters as emerging global threats and advanced weapons systems. Above all, his focus has always been on the men and women in uniform and their families, from improving their standard of living to better caring for our wounded warriors.

As a fiduciary of the principles that are our Nation's foundation, CARL LEVIN has been a faithful trustee and truly a Senator's Senator. I cannot imagine this body without him, without his wisdom, his integrity, his insight. So I thank him for his years of extraordinary service, and I wish him all the best in the years to come.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Michigan.

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, Senator CARL LEVIN has been my Senator for 36 years, and it has been one of the great honors of my life to serve for the last 14 years as his partner, as well as his friend, representing Michigan.

The year he was elected, "Grease" was the year's highest grossing movie and "Staying Alive" was music's biggest hit, and you should see Senator LEVIN dance. So Senator LEVIN has outlasted disco, the Soviet Union, and all six of the people who challenged him in elections, including an astronaut. That is because integrity never goes out of style.

Senator LEVIN has never wavered in his devotion to Michigan and to his country. As we heard today and as we each know, he has brought that patriotism to the Armed Services Committee. No one has done more to ensure that our men and women in uniform are battle-ready, with the supplies and technology they need to be the best military in the world, than Senator CARL LEVIN, or to make sure they receive fair pay and full health benefits. CARL LEVIN puts his coalition together year after year to make that happen.

He has never lost faith in government's capacity to be a force for good, and we heard that again in his comments today. This was passed down to him from his parents, who saw how the New Deal rescued families from desperate poverty.

A young CARL LEVIN admired President Harry Truman—especially Truman, the Senator who drove cross-country, stopping in cities where defense contractors were committing fraud and waste at the expense of America's wartime economy.

Truman himself would be very proud to see Senator LEVIN leading the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations. As a former civil rights attorney, Senator LEVIN relished the chance to cross-examine those he suspected of dishonesty toward taxpayers and the American people. It is not literally a trial-by-fire, but that committee room has definitely become a sweat lodge for unscrupulous executives or anyone who has tried to get rich by getting one over on average Americans. They sweat because they know Senator LEVIN has done his homework—boy, has he done his homework. He digs so deep, he knows more about what they are going to say than they do.

David used a slingshot to bring down Goliath, but CARL LEVIN can topple a tycoon with nothing but a binder full of subpoenaed documents, and we have all seen him do it. In 2007 he shined a light on abusive practices of credit card companies, leading to laws that have brought about more transparency. Thanks to Senator CARL LEVIN, your credit card statement contains more disclosures so you know what is going on.

Those of us in Michigan also see a softer, gentler side. His heart is in Detroit, where he was born and raised and now lives with his wife Barbara. His soul is nourished by the tranquility he finds in northern Michigan in the Upper Peninsula—Isle Royale, a place to which he has made many trips.

If you have been to Detroit recently, you know the city is in the midst of a spectacular comeback. I believe it is the most spectacular comeback in modern history. Everywhere you look, you see evidence of Senator CARL LEVIN's hard work. He led the way on getting Federal funding for Detroit's International Riverfront, which is spectacular. He worked with me and others in leading the effort to secure critical funding for the M-1 Rail project, championing that every step of the way—a streetcar that will inject even more vibrancy to the historic Woodward Avenue, which is already attracting scores of entrepreneurs and small businesses.

Five years ago I was proud to stand with Senator LEVIN as we passionately worked to rescue our American automobile industry and give them a chance to grow and move forward, and I saw his commitment and fiery passion for making sure we did not let them down, the men and women who worked so hard in Michigan and across the country. That revival has done so much to lift the economy of greater Detroit and all of Michigan.

Senator LEVIN knows that manufacturing is the backbone of our State's economy, but he also knows that the landscapes, the soil, and the water are all part of who we are, including our Great Lakes. It is in our DNA, and I know it is in his. That is why he has

pushed for years to help Sleeping Bear Dunes be recognized as a national lakeshore, and we are seeing the outcome of his work as we look at this beautiful national resource. He fought for the Federal sanctuary at Thunder Bay and for the creation of the Keweenaw National Historic Park. It has been an honor for me to stand with him as he chaired our Great Lakes Task Force, our bipartisan task force, and fight for funding for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, which has had a miraculous effect on the quality of freshwater that is vital for Michigan and the Nation.

I could stand here for hours talking about his accomplishments, the footprints and handprints and marks he has made on Michigan and, most importantly, the people and communities of Michigan. But, as we heard this morning from colleagues and will continue to hear, they are small in comparison to the testament of his character, his compassion, his humor, and the unassailable strength of his convictions.

Senator LEVIN, you will be missed in Michigan and certainly by me and the Senate. I know you and Barbara and your daughters and grandchildren, including your one grandson—who is kind of outnumbered—will be grateful to have you so you can show them the world from your perspective and show them the continued beauty of Michigan. You have given so much, and we are grateful.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Missouri.

Mrs. MCCASKILL. Mr. President, I wish to talk about Senator LEVIN from a different perspective than my colleagues have. There is a seduction that goes on around here. You can get lulled into a false sense of security by excellent staff. CARL LEVIN is fortunate that he has excellent staff, but what many of us are tempted to do at times is to allow staff to do the arcane and tedious work of checking statutory language.

I have been blessed to have a front-row seat to watch CARL LEVIN work. From my seat on the Armed Services Committee and on the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, I have not only watched his excellent staff, I have watched CARL LEVIN. This is a man who understands every nook and cranny of statutory construction. He would never be lulled into a false sense of security that he understood the bill just because of what he was told.

I will think of CARL LEVIN fondly in one way: his shoulders slightly stooped, his hand grasping a piece of paper, not an electronic device, him walking quickly toward me with his head down, peering over those ubiquitous glasses, saying: CLAIRE, have you read the language? CLAIRE, have you read the language? Read the language. Read the language.

He understands the hazards of a misplaced comma. He understands the danger of using an "and" instead of an "or." He understands that the essence of our work is to make sure we craft language that lives up to our purpose and ideals.

CARL LEVIN is a Senator's Senator. There are no sharp elbows, no heated rhetoric, and, frankly, there is no star power on cable TV. No one is dying to get CARL in front of a camera because he will say something incendiary or pick a fight, which all of our friends are anxious for us to do—if we would only pick a fight.

CARL is methodically doing the grind-it-out work of legislating. He has the tools of a great Senator: intellect, integrity, good manners, and an unsurpassed work ethic. I will always call him my most important mentor in the Senate. He has taught me more than I can ever say. I will try desperately to live up to the ideal he has set for all of us.

I thank the Presiding Officer.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. SESSIONS. I thank Senator McCASKILL for her comments. We are talking about a Senator's Senator, a man who reads the language of the legislation and knows how to legislate.

I came here 18 years ago and have served on the Armed Services Committee that entire time, and my admiration and respect for CARL LEVIN has grown every year. It has grown because it is deserved. He is a remarkable leader. He never showboats and always wants to do the right thing. He serves his country first, and he runs a committee that is, in my mind, the best-run committee—according to the ideals of the Republic of which we are a part—that exists in either House today. It just works the way it is supposed to.

His subcommittees work. We have amendments in subcommittees that are disputed. If you don't like the result, you bring it to the full committee, and the full committee meets, and if it takes 2 full days, it takes 2 full days; everybody gets to bring up their amendments.

Senator LEVIN is always brilliantly able to solve differences through proper wording of the committee's legislation. As Claire suggested, he has an extraordinary lawyer's ability to get the right words and make the bill say what the committee wants it to say. I think that is special, and I am pleased to have been a part of it.

The Armed Services Committee authorizes one-half of the discretionary budget of the United States. It impacts the lives of men and women in harm's way right now. We need to get it right. It involves a lot of money and a lot of responsibility. It is a well-run committee that sets an example for what we ought to see more of in the Senate.

There is a fairness about his work. Somehow we have always passed an authorization bill, and somehow it is almost always unanimous or very close to unanimous. There may be one or two issues that maybe should not have been tacked on to the bill that causes someone not to vote for it, but when it is over, normally every Member—Republican and Democrat—is satisfied with the ability to have their voice heard and their ideas put into the bill, if possible. But if you lose in subcommittee and you lose on the floor and you have had your say in both places, it kind of makes you feel like, what more can I do? If the rest of the bill is OK, I will try to support it. These markups take time because we are dealing with a large portion of federal funding.

Finally, I would like to say how much I appreciated his wisdom he shared with us as we dealt with the nuclear option—the so-called nuclear option that changed the rules of the Senate. Senator LEVIN, who is a lawyer's lawyer, said something that was very profound, and it was reflected again in his remarks today, and that is, if a majority can change the rules, there are no rules. If a majority can change the rules of the Senate at a given moment to overcome objections from the minority, then there are virtually no minority rights—you have a pure majoritarian body. I think that is what CARL was sharing with us in his brilliant speech that all of us ought to read.

I thank our chairman for the leadership he has given and for the courtesy he has shown to me and all our Members. I wish him great success in his future endeavors, and I hope he will continue to contribute his wisdom to the body politic.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Florida.

Mr. NELSON. Mr. President, it has been summed up here, and I want the Senator from Michigan to hear what has been summarized so meaningfully by all of our colleagues, because this is the best of this institution in terms of how it performs. It has been embodied here in the public service of CARL LEVIN for 36 years. What we have heard from testimonies on both sides of the aisle is that because of how he has conducted himself as an individual and how he has conducted himself as a public servant and how he has conducted himself as a leader in this Senate is an example of exactly how this institution is supposed to function.

Isn't it rather symbolic that on the last couple of days of the session, the bill that will be passed is the bill Senator LEVIN has ushered through the Senate? He never broke tradition. He made sure the defense authorization bill was going to be passed by hammering out the differences with the

House and shepherding it through the parliamentary process. And it has happened every year because of his extraordinary leadership.

I will close simply by saying that because he is all of the things we have heard—the consummate gentleman, the humble public servant, his razor-sharp mind, and the best lawyer, by the way, in the entire Senate—because he is all of those things, he also is the embodiment of a Senator because when he gives someone his word, that is it. A person does not have to worry anymore.

The future Senate should take a lesson from the life and the leadership of CARL LEVIN from Michigan.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from West Virginia.

Mr. MANCHIN. Mr. President, I rise with honor and pleasure to be able to say thank you to my dear friend. I am the most junior Member, besides the Presiding Officer, in this body today. When I first came to the Senate, I asked to be on the Armed Services Committee. West Virginia has a proud heritage of an awful lot of people—percentage-wise probably more than most States—having served in all of the branches of the military. So that is very near and dear to me, and our National Guard is very near and dear to our State. So there were many reasons why I wanted to be on the Armed Services Committee.

When I got here, it was one of the most toxic times of the political arena, if you will. It was not what I expected, to say the least. And seeing the toxic atmosphere that I came into, people would say it didn't used to be this way; it used to work. The process worked. The whole aura of the Senate was there, and we are losing that. That was their excuse for telling me that is why it is not working today, but it used to work.

Then I became part of this committee called the Armed Services Committee with this unbelievable chairman whose name is CARL LEVIN. I watched and observed. I didn't say a whole lot at first because freshmen aren't supposed to, but I watched and I learned and I saw the system the way I imagined it probably was 20, 30, 40 years ago when it did work. I saw the Senate, and I was thinking, Why can't the rest of the Senate work the way the Armed Services Committee works? There is one reason. We don't have enough CARL LEVINS. We just don't have enough CARL LEVINS.

CARL LEVIN is practical, reasonable, and sensible. It made sense to me what he would say.

Just recently I have had difficulties on a piece of legislation that is very important. CARL spoke to me in terms that my father would have spoken to me, and I understood very well: State your opposition, record your opposition, and look at the whole situation as

the betterment and the good of the bill, which is better than basically this piece that you oppose. He said I could explain my opposition.

CARL LEVIN would say this, too. He would say: Listen, I can't tell you what to do. I can't tell you what to do. Really, you have to do what you think is right, but let me give you some points to think about. He has been an unbelievable mentor who will give us the ability to kind of process this whole system we are in.

Let me say this, CARL. I am sorry that I didn't have the honor and the opportunity and the pleasure to serve with you for many more years. I really am. Or I am sorry I didn't get here soon enough, whatever the case may be. But the Senator from Michigan has left an impression on me as to how this place should work.

Robert C. Byrd, my predecessor, felt as passionately as you do. There is a process here and there is a reason for the process, which is to make us talk to each other, to make this place work. There should never be a situation we would get into that is important to the American citizen or this country where we can't work it out and can't get at least 60 votes. There should never be a time that we cannot get 60 votes. If we do that, then basically just changing a rule is not going to change the attitude and the atmosphere we create. I believe very strongly in that. And I appreciate the Senator's fight.

In the hills of West Virginia, we have a saying: They are good people. You meet somebody and someone says, They are good people.

CARL, you are good people. Thank you.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland.

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, one of the great honors of serving in the U.S. Senate—and it is a great honor to serve in this body—is the fact that I have had the opportunity to serve with CARL LEVIN. I think Senator LEVIN represents the very best of our political system, the very best of the U.S. Senate, and why I am so proud to be a part of this institution.

I must tell my colleagues I came from the House of Representatives and I had the great pleasure to have as one of my closest friends in the House of Representatives CARL's brother, Sandy. Sandy is an incredibly talented person who believes in public service, as does his brother CARL, and the two of them have devoted their family reputation to public service and they have given so much back.

CARL, what you have done for our national security, for our national defense, the type of attention you have paid to make sure this country is as well prepared as it needs to be, you have done that in an exemplary way. I can tell you what you have done for the people in Michigan, the type of

Senator you have been. You have been a great U.S. Senator for your State, as well as a great U.S. Senator for the United States. That is not always an easy balance, but you have been able to do it.

As so many colleagues have said, when we seek advice, when we need a Senator to help us understand something, we go to CARL LEVIN. Some of my constituents have a hard time believing that we read the bills around here. CARL LEVIN reads the bills around here. He has found typographical errors in some of my legislation. He has found ways to correct us when we didn't express ourselves the way we should have. He writes me notes all the time. I thank him for that dedication.

As several of our colleagues have pointed out, there is no one here who has a greater love for the traditions—the best traditions—of the U.S. Senate, a Senate that debates and respects each other. One of the great opportunities I had was to sit in a room with LAMAR ALEXANDER and CARL LEVIN and others and talk about that, and how we could restore the best traditions of the U.S. Senate.

So, Senator LEVIN, I want you to know, I will always be indebted to serving in this body with you and learning from you and recognizing just what one person can do to carry out the honor and dignity of public service. You really define public service. For that, I am very grateful, the people of Michigan are grateful, and the people of America are grateful. Congratulations on your great service.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, it is no surprise to any of us that the first thing CARL LEVIN did when he spoke today was thank his staff. He thanked them, and then he thanked the police force and the groundskeepers and the food service people and the people who too many in this world ignore. That was the first thing he did.

The second thing CARL did in his address was to talk about the gulf between the fortunate few and the struggling many. That has been what I most admire about CARL LEVIN—that he is always aware of that and always fighting the fight for people who have a lot less privilege than those of us do who dress like this and get really great titles. And no one, frankly—no one in this body—has stood up against special interests for the most powerful interests in this town more effectively and more energetically than CARL LEVIN. For that, I am grateful, and I know so many in this country are grateful as well.

Thank you, Senator.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oregon.

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, when I came here in 2009, we were in the middle of an enormous meltdown due to

high-risk trading inside our major banks. I wondered whether we as an institution were capable of undertaking this challenge of changing the circumstances around that in order to not have another 2007, 2008 meltdown that would do so much damage to families across this country. So I put out an email to everyone that said, Is anyone interested in taking on this issue for the future stability of our financial system? The next day I came to the floor and Senator LEVIN said, the email you sent out, I want to talk to you about that. I want to partner in taking this on. Immediately, he basically said: "We will work together. I am not the senior Senator who wants to take over this effort," although I would have been glad for that to happen. There was not the ego in it; there was the intellect and the passion and the determination to fix a problem. To me, the Senate should be about people coming together to fix problems to make this Nation work better.

That event is deeply burned into my mind. The result, because of Senator LEVIN's efforts, was the Volcker rule that said high-risk trading should not be done on the banks' books, proprietary trading and high-risk instruments. It will make a significant difference in the years to come.

But what I want to thank my colleague for is the attitude of coming together to solve the important problems for America, even if that means taking on very powerful special interests. I hope we will see a lot more of that from this Senate in the years to come, but it will be a much bigger challenge without the Senator here. We will miss him greatly.

Thank you so much, Senator, for your service to our Nation.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Tennessee.

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, the Senate at its best has been said to be the one authentic piece of genius in the American political system. CARL LEVIN is the Senate at its best. I thank him for his courtesy, his decency, his scholarship, and his sense of public service. I thank him for his reminder that if we are going to have the trust of the American people to write rules for them, we should follow our own rules.

It has been a privilege to serve with Senator LEVIN.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I too want to spend a couple of moments reflecting upon my long friendship and association with Senator CARL LEVIN from Michigan.

Much has been said this morning about CARL the person and the Senator. Let me say this: I don't know of anyone in this body who has exhibited more of an intellectual honesty, a calm demeanor, and a sense of fierce loyalty

and perseverance. I don't know who exhibits those qualities more than CARL LEVIN.

CARL embodies the best of what I think it means to be both a citizen and a U.S. Senator. Barbara and CARL, Ruth and I have enjoyed many meals together over the years, having great conversations about everything. I want to say to my friend CARL, I hope that Michigan and Iowa are not so far apart, and that we can continue to get together in the future.

I will say, CARL, right now I hope you don't hold it against me for all of the times the Hawkeyes will beat the Wolverines in the future. Don't let that be a stumbling block.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BROWN). The Senator from Oklahoma.

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, I will be very brief because I know we have some other things coming up before going on to the NDAA, and I will be standing here with my good friend and brother CARL at that time. I recall when I was first elected to the House of Representatives—it is hard for me to believe that was 28 years ago—and I became good friends with a guy named Levin. It was not CARL. It was his brother. There was a real sincere, lovable attitude about him. I can remember talking over some of these sitting by him during some of the debate on very partisan things. I thought this guy is really neat. It is the kind of thing where you can't dislike him. Then I came over here 20 years ago, and there is another one. I have two major committees, Environment and Public Works and the Senate Armed Services Committee. I thought this is remarkable because while on occasion we will differ—I am talking about the chairman and me—and I am the ranking member of that committee—occasionally we will come up on an issue where we don't agree. On two occasions, last year and this year, we had to go into this process of the “big four.” That is where it gets contentious because at that point you have to come up with a bill. There was never a time that, yes, we have to give in. I don't know whether he gave in more than I gave in. But whatever it was, it all had to happen and it did happen and it happened because of CARL more than me.

Chairman LEVIN and I can both say the same thing, and people will hate me and they love him. I always wonder how you get by with doing that, but you do. He is a lovable guy whom I will sincerely miss and that relationship, and I hope you will be back often so you can be here to remind other people what a real statesman is.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. SANDERS. I want to take a moment to thank CARL LEVIN for his

friendship. It has been previously noted that CARL is recognized as having perhaps the greatest intellect in the Senate. CARL has been, for so many years, a forceful fighter against waste in the military, and in recent years he has led the Senate in telling us it is absurd that large multinational corporations are able to avoid hundreds of billions of dollars in taxes by storing their money in offshore tax savings.

He has been a leader on that and for those of us who are concerned about the needs of our kids and elderly and infrastructure, all of the terrible problems facing this country, this is an issue we have to focus on.

I think Senator CARL LEVIN has been a Senator's Senator. He has been a model of what a good Senator should be, and it is not surprising that people from all political persuasions will come to the floor to thank him for his service.

Senator LEVIN, thank you very much for your time.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arizona.

Mr. FRANKEN. I want to echo what everyone has said. I had the honor of traveling on a codel with Chairman LEVIN to Pakistan, Afghanistan, when I had been here just a few weeks. So I was traveling with the chairman of the Armed Services Committee. The respect he got from everyone—from the generals down to the privates, especially in Afghanistan—was remarkable. CARL fought to increase the ratio of our troops to contractors. When we took the majority back in 2006, CARL started doing the kind of oversight of the contracting that had led to a lot of waste, fraud, and abuse in Iraq. He has used PSI in the way it was intended by Harry Truman. I thank him especially for the work he did on the credit rating agencies, Wall Street credit rating agencies. Right now Standard & Poor's is being prosecuted by—or sued by the DOJ for about \$5 billion. Part of what they are using are emails the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations obtained, in which basically the credit rating agencies internally were saying we better give this a AAA rating; otherwise, we are going to lose our business. That in no small way led to the meltdown we had because all this junk was getting AAAs and those were bets on bets on bets and that is what led to the meltdown.

CARL always seems to go to where that kind of top-down fraud or malfeasance is going. When we talk about—as he opened, as SHERROD mentioned when he talked about the disparities and how this is rigged very often from the top down, talking about the offshoring and the work they did in PSI, the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations—that is, on tax havens on inversions—and I hope to take that up as CARL leaves.

CARL leaves a lot of unfinished business. Everything that has been said is who CARL is. Everyone should know that. One thing that has not been said is hamisha. CARL, you are one of the most hamish men I have ever known. Thank you.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maine is recognized.

Mr. KING. I wanted to speak very briefly, because as Senator MANCHIN pointed out, I am the most junior person in the place.

I want to say a couple of things about CARL LEVIN. As has been said here repeatedly, CARL is a man of immense intellect and character, and I wanted to explain how that came to be. I thought that would be important to lay on the RECORD.

It came to be because CARL LEVIN and his brother spent their boyhood summers in the State of Maine. That imparts character to anyone who is lucky enough to have that experience.

Secondly, I want to mention—because it has been mentioned several times—about the travel. I had the great good fortune to travel after having been here about 6 months. CARL and I—as members of the Armed Services Committee—went to Turkey and Jordan to try to get some insight into the situation in Syria. My only advice to anyone in this body is if you are ever invited to travel with CARL LEVIN, spend the prior 2 or 3 months in the gym. I have never been so exhausted in my life, and we would be at 10 p.m., after all-day meetings and touring of refugee sites, and CARL would say: Can't we have another meeting? Isn't there someone else we can talk to? His absolute passion for information and data upon which to make decisions is I think exemplary.

The final thing I want to note is—and it has been talked about how he is a Senator's Senator, which is certainly true. My observation and in fact my experience this year in the markup of the National Defense Authorization Act is the highlight of my experience in this body. The reason it is, is cause it worked like it is supposed to work. We had 2/2 days of markup. They were about 10-hour days, as I recall. There were over 200 amendments. Through CARL's leadership, most of those amendments were compromised and worked out between the parties and between the individuals who were moving the amendments, but we ended up with about 20 we couldn't resolve in that way. I was so struck by this. I went back and looked at the record of that markup. Of the 20 amendments that were voted on in the committee, not a single one of those amendments was decided on a party-line vote. There were votes of 13 to 12 or 16 to 4 or whatever the vote was but not a single party-line vote. I think that in itself is an extraordinary achievement in a

body that is often driven by partisan divisions. I think it is attributable in large measure to CARL LEVIN's leadership.

Everybody had their say. Everybody had their opportunity to put their thoughts forward. Everybody had an opportunity to get a vote if they felt that was necessary. Of course, in the end, the bill came out of the committee—I think it was 25 to 1—and that is what legislating is supposed to be all about. That is a lesson for us because people felt they got their amendments, they got their discussion, they got their ideas out. Even if they weren't successful, at the end, they voted for the bill because they were invested in the process. That is what I learned from this man who I think has been an inspiration for those of us who are coming along behind. Again, I am so honored. One of the great joys of my life has been to serve with you for 2 years. One of the great sadnesses of my life is it is only 2 years, but I deeply appreciate what you have done for this body and for the United States of America.

Mr. LEVIN. Thank you.

Mr. KING. Bless you.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The senior Senator from New York.

Mr. SCHUMER. My good friend from Iowa is waiting patiently, so I will curtail my remarks. I would like to say to my dear friend CARL—whom we will all miss—if we had to put a headline on what is happening today, it is: "Mr. Integrity Retires from the Senate."

There is no one in this body on either side of the aisle whose integrity is more respected than yours. At these times in America, where people have such distrust of government and elected officials, to have somebody who is so widely trusted by his constituency and by the Members of this body who have worked with him closely over the years on both sides of the aisle is a real tribute. You are Mr. Integrity. That is one of many reasons we will miss you.

Again, I have more to say, but in deference to my dear friend from Iowa, who I see is ready to roll, I will yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

Mr. PORTMAN. I will be brief as well and say that I am going to miss my colleague, and I told him that personally. I want to share a couple of reasons. One, as a new Member on the other side of the aisle, when I first got here, CARL—whom I had gotten to know a little bit through his brother, who I see is on the floor today, who has fought many fights with him on the squash court, but they remain dear friends. He came to me and said: You ought to join the Auto Caucus. I am not a big caucus guy. Most caucuses don't do much in this place, and then I saw what he was doing with the Auto Caucus and he agreed to allow me come

on as cochair. We had an then opportunity to help fight for the auto-workers in Michigan and Ohio and around the country make sure that the renaissance of the auto industry is sustained. As I am sure has been said by many here today, he went out of his way to make it not just by bipartisan but nonpartisan. He does his homework.

We share some committee assignments. We don't always agree. Sometimes we disagree on fundamental issues. He is always prepared and does his homework and has the best of intentions. That says a lot for him and the reason he is viewed as such a leader of the Senate. When I got here, I was honored to serve on the Armed Services Committee. There we were able to work together on a number of projects, including ones that frankly he may not have normally thought were priorities but because I was a new Member and interested in helping my State and on specific projects, he stood up for me. I will not forget that. We have done legislation together and had the opportunity to work together on important projects that have to do with the Great Lakes, including Great Lakes restoration, where he has been a nonpartisan partner. I join my colleagues on both sides of the aisle and say this is one of those giants of the Senate who will be missed.

Although I have only been here for 4 of his many years of service, I was privileged to serve with him.

I yield the floor.

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I wish to pay tribute to the senior Senator from Michigan, CARL LEVIN. I have known CARL for many years and am grateful for his friendship. Throughout his career, CARL has always put the needs of Michigan and this nation above his own.

Senator LEVIN was born in Detroit in 1934 and has called Michigan his home nearly his entire life. As a young man, he left only briefly to attend Swarthmore College and later Harvard Law School. After passing the Michigan Bar, CARL worked for five years in private practice in Detroit before beginning his career in public service. He first served as General Counsel for the Michigan Civil Rights Commission from 1964 to 1967. CARL then entered elected office, serving on the Detroit City Council from 1969 to 1977.

In 1978, Senator LEVIN successfully ran for a U.S. Senate seat and has never looked back. He has since won five more elections to become the longest-serving Senator in Michigan history. CARL chaired the Armed Services Committee from 2001 to 2003 and again from 2007 to the present. Whether it was pushing for higher pay or ensuring that our veterans received proper medical treatment, CARL has always made sure that our soldiers and their families were well taken care of.

Senator LEVIN has also served as chairman of the Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations. He has never had any patience for corruption or abuse, and so has been perfectly suited for this job. As chairman, CARL launched numerous investigations into high-profile issues, including the Enron scandal and abusive credit card practices. The findings of these investigations were crucial in helping us draft legislation to prevent future abuses.

Mr. President, Senator LEVIN has dedicated his life to public service, and his retirement is well deserved. He is an honest man who has served his country well. I wish him, his wife Barbara, and their family the very best.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KING). The Senator from Michigan.

Mr. LEVIN. I know that Senator HARKIN is waiting to speak. Senator HARKIN is truly one of the greatest Senators I have ever served with and Senator HARKIN is one of the greatest people I have ever known. He, Ruth, Barb, and I have spent quality time, which is not always true for many of us in the Senate to have that opportunity.

I thank everyone. The words have meant so much to me and my family today.

I am going to join my family now. I know TOM will forgive me for not listening, but I will be reading what you say. You, Ruth, Barb, and I will have some more quality time together—perhaps not as much fun as being in the Senate, but we will make the best of it.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

#### FAREWELL TO THE SENATE

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, almost 2 years ago I announced I was not going to seek a sixth term in the Senate. That decision and that announcement didn't seem all that difficult or hard at that time. After all, 2 years was a long time off. Since then, I have been busy with hearings, meeting constituents, getting legislation through the HELP Committee, and working on appropriations.

But now, knowing this will be my final formal speech on the floor of the Senate; knowing that in a few days a semitruck is going to pull up to the Hart Senate Office Building and load hundreds of boxes of my records of 40 years—30 in the Senate and 10 in the House—and haul all of that off to Drake University and the Harkin Institute on Public Policy and Civic Engagement in Des Moines, IA; seeing my office at 731 Hart Senate Office Building stripped almost bare and the shelves cleaned; when I will soon cast my last vote; when I will no longer be engaged in legislative battle; when I will no longer be summoned by the Senate bells; and when I will soon just be No. 1,763 of all of the Senators who have ever served in the Senate—now

the leaving becomes hard and wrenching and emotional. That is because I love the Senate. I love my work here.

It has been said by a lot of pundits that the Senate is broken. No, it is not. The Senate is not broken. Oh, maybe there are a few dents, a couple of scrapes here and there—banged up a little bit—but there is still no other place in America where one person can do big things—for good or for ill—for our people and our nation.

I love the people with whom I work. This is a deaf sign. “I-L-Y” means “I love you.”

To the Senators, staff, clerks, Congressional Research Service, doorkeepers, cloakroom, police, restaurant employees, and, yes, the pages—and especially to those who labor outside the lights, the cameras, and the news stories—who make this Senate function on a daily basis, I thank you.

I particularly thank my wonderful, dedicated, hard-working staff, both present and past, both personal and committee staff. When I say committee staff, I mean the Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies, which I have been privileged to chair or be ranking member of since 1989; also the Committee on Agriculture, on which I have served since 1985 and which I chaired twice for two farm bills, once in 2001 and 2002 and the second one in 2007 and 2009; and the Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions, which I have chaired since the untimely death of Senator Ted Kennedy in 2009.

I first heard PAT LEAHY say this, so I always attribute it to him: We Senators are just a constitutional impediment to the smooth functioning of staff. This is truer than most of us would probably like to admit.

Also in thanking my staff, I don't just mean those who work in Washington. I would never have been re-elected four times without the hands-on, day in, day out constituent service of my Iowa staff. The casework they have done in helping people with problems is every bit as important as any legislative work done in Washington.

In 2012 our office marked a real milestone—100,000 constituent service cases that we processed since 1985. I cannot count the number of times Iowans have personally thanked me for something my staff has done to help me.

There is a story out our way that I have heard for a long time. It is a little story. If you are driving down a country road and see a turtle—see that image of a turtle—sitting on a fence post, you can be sure of one thing: It didn't get there by itself.

I can relate to that turtle. I didn't get here by myself. My staff helped. I thank my staff, both past and present, who so strongly supported me when I was right and so diplomatically corrected me when I was wrong and who

all labored in a shared commitment to provide a hand up, a ladder of opportunity to those who had been dealt a bad hand in the lottery of life.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD a list of the names of my staff so they will be forever enshrined in the history of the Senate.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

My Personal Office Staff: Brian Ahlberg, Elizabeth Stein, Lindsay Jones, Lilly Hunt, Sonja Hoover, Mandy McClure, Kate Waters, Susannah Cernojevich, Jim Whitmire, Richard Vickers, Katharine Jones, Jayme Wiebold, Joseph Petrzela, Eric Jones, Elizabeth Messerly, Lauren Scott, Mark Halverson, Eldon Boes, Tom Buttry, Michele Reilly Hall, and Richard Bender. Those staffers serving me in Iowa: Robert Barron, Amy Beller, Alexander Lynch, Pamela Ringleb, John Moreland, Jule Reynolds, Omar Padilla, Robert Hamill, Ryan Helling, Kimberly Taylor, Tamara Milton, Tom Larkin, Alison Hart, Jessica Gordon, Suellen Flynn, and Sandi O'Brien. My LHHS Sub Committee on Appropriations staff: Adrienne Hallett, Kelly Brown, Lisa Bernhardt, Mark Laisch, Mike Gentile, Robin Juliano, and Teri Curtin. Lastly my HELP Committee Staff: Derek Miller, Lauren McFerran, Molly Click, Abraham White, Jenelle Krishnamoorthy, Wade Ackerman, Andi Fristedt, Brian Massa, Colin Goldfinch, Caitlin Boon, Mildred Otero, Aissa Canchola, Amanda Beaumont, Brit Moller, Leanne Hotek, Libby Masiuk, Mario Cardona, Liz Weiss, Michael Kreps, Sarah Cupp, Zachary Schechter Steinberg, Kia Hamadanchy, and Lee Perselay.

Mr. HARKIN. Most of all, I thank my wife, Ruth, the love of my life, my wife of 46 years. You have been my constant companion, my soul mate, my strongest supporter, and my most honest critic. You have been my joy in happy times and my solace when things just didn't go right. So I am looking forward to more adventures, love, and excitement with her in the years ahead.

To our two beautiful, smart, caring, and compassionate daughters, Amy and Jenny, I thank you for always being there for your dad, for giving me such wondrous joy in being a part of your growing up. I am so proud of both of you.

To my son-in-law Steve and to my grandkids, McQuaid, Daisy, and Luke: Look out, because here comes Grandpa.

There is so much I want to say, but I want to be respectful of those who have come to share this moment with me—my staff, here and there, my family, friends, and fellow Senators.

But I want to state as briefly as I can why I am here, what has propelled me, and what has been my guiding philosophy for all these years.

It has to do with that ladder of opportunity I just mentioned. You see, there is nothing wrong in America with being a success. There is nothing wrong with having more money, a nicer home, a nicer car, sending your kids to good schools, having nice vacations, and a great retirement. That is a big part of the American dream.

But I believe when you make it to the top, and you make it to the top, and you make it to the top, and I make it to the top, one of the primary responsibilities of our free government is to make sure we leave the ladder down for others to climb. Now, mind you, I said a ladder. I didn't say an escalator. An escalator is a free ride. Don't believe in that.

If you follow my analogy a little bit more, with a ladder you still have to exert energy, effort, and initiative to get up. But, in order to do that, there must be rungs on that ladder. That is where government comes in, to put some rungs there—the bottom rungs—everything from maternal and child health care programs, Head Start, the best public schools, the best teachers, affordable and accessible college, job training.

Sometimes people fall off that ladder. Sometimes, through no fault of their own, they have an illness, they have an accident. That is why we have a safety net, to catch them—programs like disability insurance, workers' compensation, and job retraining programs to get them back up on that ladder once again.

Thirty-five years ago we looked around America and we saw millions of people who, no matter how hard they tried, could never climb that ladder of success. No matter how hard they tried, they could never do it.

These were our fellow Americans, our brothers and sisters with disabilities. So what did government do? We built them a ramp and we called it the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Again, we didn't build a moving walkway, did we? See, with a ramp, people still had to show energy and initiative to get up. I have often said there is not one dime, not one nickel in the Americans with Disabilities Act given to a person with a disability.

What we did is we broke down the barriers. We opened the doors of accessibility and accommodation, and we said to people with disabilities: Now, go on, follow your dreams, and in the words of the Army motto, be all you can be.

I can remember standing on the floor and leading the charge on the Americans with Disabilities Act. Once again, I felt a lot like that turtle, with a lot of people helping. When I think of the Americans with Disabilities Act, I think of people in the Senate such as Senator Lowell Weicker, Senator Bob Dole, and Senator Ted Kennedy; in the House, Tony Coelho, Steve Bartlett, and STENY HOYER; and in the executive branch, at the head of it all, President George Herbert Walker Bush, Attorney General Dick Thornburgh, and Boyden Gray. On the outside, there are people like Ed Roberts, Marca Bristo, Bob Kafka, and the indomitable Justin Dart.

Here the one person who worked his heart out to bring it together—it is



that staff again I tell you about—is Bobby Silverstein. It would have never happened without him.

So I believe government must not be just an observant bystander to life. It must be a force for good, for lifting people up, for giving hope to the hopeless.

I have never had an “I love me” wall in the office. What I did have were two items by my door when I walk out to vote or go to a committee meeting or whatever. One is a drawing of a house in which my mother was born and lived in until she was 25 years of age when she immigrated to America. That little house was in Suha, Yugoslavia, and is now Suha, Slovenia. That little house had a dirt floor and no running water. That was my mother’s house.

The second item on my wall is my father’s WPA card. It says: Notice to Report for Work on Project, WPA Form 402, to Patrick F. Harkin, Cumming, IA. You are asked to report for work at once on a project as a laborer for \$40.30 per month. There is a signature by a supervisor. It is dated 7/1939, 4 months to the day before I was born.

My father was then 53 years old. He had worked most of the time in a coal mine in southern Iowa, was not in the best of health. There were no jobs—no jobs. Life looked pretty bleak. Things looked hopeless. And then my father, who only had a sixth-grade education—as he told me later—got a letter from Franklin Roosevelt. He always thought Franklin Roosevelt sent this to him personally. He always said: I got that letter from Franklin Roosevelt, and I got a job.

That was important for a lot of reasons, not only for the money and the dignity of work, but it gave my father hope—hope that tomorrow would be better than today and that our family would stay together. You see, there were five kids and a sixth one on the way—me. It gave him hope that his kids would have a better future.

The project he worked on is called Lake Ahquabi. My friend Senator GRASSLEY knows about Lake Ahquabi. It is right south of Des Moines. It is a State park now, with a lake and recreation, and people still use it today.

Every Federal judge who is sworn in takes an oath to “do equal right to the poor and to the rich.” Let me repeat that: to “do equal right to the poor and to the rich.” Can we here in Congress say we do that, that we provide equal right to the poor and the rich alike? Our growing inequality proves we are not. Maybe we should be taking that oath.

There are four overriding issues I hope this Senate will address in this coming session and in the years ahead:

No. 1, as I mentioned, the growing economic inequality in America. It is destructive of lives, it slows our progress as a nation, and it will doom broad support for representative gov-

ernment. When people at the bottom of the economic ladder feel the government is not helping them and, in fact, may be stacked against them, they will cease to vote or they will turn to the siren song of extreme elements in our society. History proves this to be true.

I don’t have a cookie-cutter answer or a solution, but it must include more fair tax laws and trade laws, more job training and retraining, rebuilding our physical infrastructure, and manufacturing. I believe it must include some things seemingly unrelated, such as quality, free early education for every child in America.

The answer to closing the inequality gap must include rebuilding labor unions and collective bargaining. If you traced the line over the last 40 years of the growing economic inequality in America and also put that over another line showing the loss in the number of union workers, they are almost identical. I do not believe it is a stretch to say that organized labor—unions—built the middle class in America, and they are a part of the answer in strengthening and rebuilding our middle class.

I believe another part of the answer is raising the minimum wage to above the poverty line and indexing it for inflation in the future.

We need more flex-time laws, especially for women in our workforce.

We need to strengthen Social Security, as in Senator BROWN’s bill—not cutting, not raising the retirement age, but strengthening Social Security.

We need a new retirement system for all workers in America—not another 401(k) but a system in which employers and employees contribute and which can only be withdrawn as an annuity for life after one retires. I ask you to look at what the Netherlands has, that type of retirement system. Lack of a reliable retirement is one of the most underreported, unexamined crises on our national horizon, and it is a big part of our growing inequality.

Finally, we must continue to build on the Affordable Care Act. The cost and availability of good health care has in the past widened that inequality gap, and we are now starting to close that element of the inequality. I believe we need to add a public option to the exchange as another choice for people. We must continue support for prevention and public health, moving us more and more from sick care to real health care.

I believe that the second overriding issue confronting us is the destruction of the family of man’s only home—our planet Earth—through the continued use of fossil fuels. We know what is happening. The science is irrefutable, the data is clear, and the warning signs are flashing in neon bright red: Stop what you are doing with fossil fuels. We must shift massively and quickly to renewable energy, a new smart electric

grid, retrofitting our buildings for energy efficiency, and moving rapidly to a hydrogen-based energy cycle.

The third issue I commend to the Senate for further development and changes in existing laws is the underemployment of people with disabilities. As you all know, ensuring the equal rights and opportunities for people with disabilities has been a major part of my work in the Senate for the past 30 years.

We have made significant strides forward in changing America to fulfill two of the four goals of the American with Disabilities Act; those two are full participation and equal opportunity. We have done all right on those. The other two goals—independent living and economic self-sufficiency—need more development.

I ask you all in the next Congress to do two things to advance these two goals of independent living and economic self-sufficiency: First, help States implement the Supreme Court’s decision in the Olmstead case to more rapidly deinstitutionalize people with disabilities and provide true independent living with support services. This will save money, and the lives of people with disabilities will be better and more truly independent. Second, we must do more on employment of people with disabilities in competitive integrated employment.

We all get the monthly unemployment figures every month. Last month unemployment held steady at 5.8 percent officially. My friend Leo Hindery has better calculations to show the real rate is probably about twice that figure. Also, we know the unemployment rate among African Americans is about twice that—11.1 percent. How many of us know, though, that the unemployment rate among adult Americans with disabilities who can work and want to work is over 60 percent? Yes, you heard me right, almost two out of every three Americans with a disability who want to work and who can work cannot find a job. That is a blot on our national character.

Thankfully, some enlightened employers have affirmative action plans to hire more people with disabilities. Employers are finding many times that these become their best employees; they are more productive, and they are the hardest working, most reliable workers.

I ask you to meet with Greg Wasson, the CEO of Walgreens, and Randy Lewis, who was the senior vice president there and is now retired. Walgreens has hired many people with disabilities in their distribution centers, and now Mr. Wasson has set a goal of 10 percent of all of their store employees will be people with disabilities. This needs to be emulated by businesses all over America. There are others making strides in this area. I will mention a few: Best Buy, Lowe’s, Home

Depot, IBM, Marriott. These are some of the other large companies that are moving forward, hiring people with disabilities. We need to learn from them what we, the Federal and, yes, maybe the State government can do to help in this area. We also need to implement policies to help small businesses employ more people with disabilities.

I dwell on this perhaps because I feel I haven't done enough on this issue of employment for people with disabilities, and we have to do better. I will say, however, that our HELP Committee passed this year and President Obama signed into law a new reauthorization of the old Workforce Investment Act, now named the Workforce Investment and Opportunity Act. In this law there is a new provision I worked on with others to get more intervention in high school for kids with disabilities to prepare them for the workplace through things such as summer jobs, job coaching, internships. However, this is just starting and funding is tight, but it will do much for young people with disabilities to enter competitive integrated employment. I thank all members of the HELP Committee for their support of this bill but especially Senator MURRAY and Senator ISAKSON for taking the lead to get this bill done, along with Senator ENZI, Senator ALEXANDER, and me.

While I am mentioning the HELP Committee, let me thank all members of the HELP Committee for a very productive last 2 years, during which we passed 24 bills signed into law by the President. These are important bills dealing with things such as drug track and tracing, compounding drugs, the Workforce Investment Act that I just mentioned, the Child Care and Development Block Grant Newborn Screening Act, and many more.

I would like to publicly again thank Senator LAMAR ALEXANDER for being such a great partner in all these efforts. Senator ALEXANDER will be taking the helm of this great committee in the next Congress. Senator ALEXANDER certainly has the background to lead this committee, but he also combines that background with a keen mind and a good heart, and I wish him continued success as the new chairman of the HELP Committee.

The fourth issue I hope future Senates will take care of concerns the U.N. Convention on the Rights of Persons With Disabilities. I don't think anything has saddened me more in my 30 years here in the Senate than the failure of this body to ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons With Disabilities, or the CRPD, as it is known. It has been ratified by 150 nations. It is modeled after our own Americans with Disabilities Act. It has broad and deep support throughout our country—supported by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the Business Roundtable, veterans groups, every disability organiza-

tion, every former living President, every former Republican leader of this Senate: Senator Dole, Senator Lott, Senator Frist. In November we received a letter from the National Association of Evangelicals supporting it.

I would also point out that Senator Dole has worked his heart out on this. If you remember, he was here on the floor 2 years ago this month, right before we brought it up. I thought we had the votes for it. Under our Constitution it takes two-thirds, and we failed by six votes. But Bob Dole has never given up on this—never.

Well, I hope the next Senate will take this up and join with the rest of the world in helping to make changes globally for people with disabilities.

I came to Congress—the House—in 1974 as one of the Watergate babies. But with my retirement and the retirement in the House of Congressman GEORGE MILLER and Congressman HENRY WAXMAN, we are the last of the so-called Watergate babies, with two exceptions. Among all of the Democrats elected in that landslide year of 1974, there were a few Republicans, and one is left—my senior colleague from the State of Iowa, Senator CHUCK GRASSLEY.

I have the greatest respect for and friendship with CHUCK. Several weeks ago, here on the floor, he said some very gracious things about me, and I thank him for that. I especially appreciated his observation that even though he and I are like night and day when it comes to political views, there is no light between us when it comes to Iowa. We have collaborated on so many important initiatives for the people of Iowa, and I think we made a heck of a good tag team on behalf of our State. So, again, I salute and thank my friend and colleague of nearly 40 years, CHUCK GRASSLEY. Carry on, CHUCK.

The other exception I mentioned is again my lifelong dear friend, RICK NOLAN, who was in the 1974 class who voluntarily left Congress after three terms, returned to the House in 2012, and was recently reelected.

So 40 years later, this Watergate baby has grown up, gray.

I came to the Senate 30 years ago as a proud progressive, determined to get things done. As I depart the Senate, I can say in good conscience that I have remained true to my progressiveness.

I have worked faithfully to leave behind a more vibrant Iowa, a more just and inclusive America, and a stronger ladder and ramp of opportunity for the disadvantaged in our communities.

You might say that my career in Congress is the story of a poor kid from Cumming, IA—population 150—trying his best to pay it forward, saying thank you for the opportunities I was given by leaving that ladder and ramp of opportunity stronger for those who follow.

If I have accomplished this in any small way—if any Americans are able

to lead better lives because of my work, I leave office a satisfied person.

So I am retiring from the Senate, but I am not retiring from the fight. I will never retire from the fight to ensure equal opportunity, full participation, independent living, and economic self-sufficiency for every disabled person in America. I will never retire from the fight to give a hand up and hope to those who have experienced disadvantage and adversity. And I will never retire from the fight to make this a land of social and economic justice for all Americans.

Let me close with a single word from American Sign Language.

On July 13 of 1990, I stood here and gave an entire speech in sign language. It confused Senator Kerry who was sitting in the Chair. He didn't know what to do. And the recording clerks didn't know what to do, either. But then I had to give it verbally. Well, I didn't want to do that today.

But there is one sign I want to leave with you. It says something powerful—powerful. One of the most beautiful signs in American Sign Language. And might I teach it to you?

Take your hands and put them together like this, put your fingers together, put your hands together like that. You kind of close them, and it looks like an A when you do that. Now move it in a circle in front of your body.

That is it, pages, you have got it.

This is the sign for America.

Think about it. Think about it. All of us interconnected, bound together in a single circle of inclusion—no one left out. This is the ideal America toward which we must always aspire.

With that, Mr. President, for the last time, I yield the floor.

(Applause, Senators rising.)

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KAINE). The Senator from Iowa.

TRIBUTES TO TOM HARKIN

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, my colleagues who are waiting to speak to honor Senator HARKIN, I am not going to take the amount of time I did on his birthday. I want to tell my colleagues that what I said on his birthday, on November 19, I probably should have waited and said today.

But I want to speak about our working relationship, and I want Senator HARKIN to know that I have enjoyed my working relationship with him, together working for Iowa. I compliment him on the many accomplishments he has made. I consider him a friend. And as he goes back to Iowa, we will maintain that friendship, I am sure.

I would ask my colleagues if they would think about looking at what I said before on his birthday, because I am not going to repeat that here. But I think we ought to recognize that Senator HARKIN worked hard up to his last day in the United States Senate, because one of his works over the last 25



years was on inhumane labor issues around the world, and he traveled to Oslo very recently to honor a person who received the Nobel Peace Prize for that crusade, as well as all the good work that Senator HARKIN has done on it. And probably that person received the award because of Senator HARKIN so long suggesting that the individual deserved that attention.

I am going to be very brief today, since my prior remarks outlined our friendship and his record in some detail. It is in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD for posterity.

Senator HARKIN and I have been a duo from our home State of Iowa for a long period of time. His voice is familiar. So is his point of view, so is his work ethic for the people of Iowa.

He has been a champion for individuals with disability, for the elderly, for early childhood education, nutrition, and wellness; for conservation, renewable energy, and the environment. We could go on and on about his passion for these causes, and many others.

Senator HARKIN's legislative accomplishments are numerous. He leaves a lasting body of work that improves the quality of life for people who don't always have a high profile in the Halls of Congress.

One of Senator HARKIN's greatest legacies is his ability to translate his drive and passion into legislative accomplishments. As the saying goes: He doesn't just talk the talk, he walks the walk.

Senator TOM HARKIN lives and breathes the causes important to him, and the United States and Americans have a better quality of life because of it.

It will be a new era when the Senate doesn't see him rising to speak in his characteristic fiery delivery. And it may not have been so fiery today, but he did speak with emotion about the things he believes in.

I am grateful for his friendship and his long service to the people of Iowa and the Nation. While I will miss him around the Capitol, I am confident I will see him at home in Iowa. Senator HARKIN is not one to turn off his enthusiasm for important issues, and I feel sure—and he has already told us today—he will continue his contribution to public service wherever and whenever the spirit moves him. And we know by his statement today it is already moving him. He has plans for the future to continue these crusades.

With that in mind, I will say so long rather than goodbye. Thank you.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Michigan.

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I start by saying that as Senator HARKIN was so eloquently speaking today, it reminded me of a story of those going by the casket of President Roosevelt.

A reporter stopped someone and said: Did you know President Roosevelt?

And he said: No, but he knew me.

There are people across this country—people with disabilities, workers, folks trying hard to get up that ladder—who want to know there are rungs on it, or want to be able to stay in the middle class, who may not be able to say they know Senator TOM HARKIN personally, but he knows them.

We are so grateful, and I am personally grateful, for your friendship and your leadership and mentorship.

I want to speak for a moment as Chair of the Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee, where I had to follow the tough act of Senator TOM HARKIN writing the previous two farm bills.

He has shaped agriculture and food and nutrition policy in the House and Senate for 40 years, having a tremendous impact, more than we can even imagine, in terms of not only advocating for Iowa farmers—and I knew every day what Iowa needed; that is for sure—and having both Senator HARKIN and Senator GRASSLEY on the committee gave the one-two punch for Iowa. But I have to remind all of my colleagues that Senator HARKIN really is the father of modern conservation, of protecting our water and our soil and our air, our wildlife habitat, our forests.

Senator HARKIN is the father of modern conservation. He wrote the conservation stewardship program that he created in 2002 and expanded on in 2008, and we protected it in the last farm bill.

Mr. HARKIN. Thank you.

Ms. STABENOW. And he gave new strength to the farm safety net for all of our growers. He has been at the forefront of an energy future that he talked about today, driven by renewable energy and moving forward to get us to cleaner sources of energy. That creates jobs, as I know has happened in Iowa because of his leadership. So we thank you.

There are so many things—the fresh fruit and vegetable program in schools where children in low-income schools have an opportunity to eat an apple rather than something out of the vending machine that isn't good for them, the opportunities for children to have healthier choices. Senator HARKIN has led over and over and over again. I can go over every part of our agriculture and food policy improvements that have been made that have been led by Senator TOM HARKIN, and we are so grateful.

Senator TOM HARKIN has been a personal mentor for me. In the toughest times of getting this last farm bill done, Senator HARKIN gave me words of advice and wisdom—and many times encouragement—and for that I am very grateful, and have learned so much.

I secondly want to thank Senator HARKIN for being a hero for generations of people with disabilities, including

people in my own family, who have had doors opened because of what he has done. The Americans with Disabilities Act revolutionized the possibilities and the opportunities for people. And it is about opportunity; it is not about giving people something for free, but opening doors which they still have to walk through. Senator HARKIN has done that in a way that will be with us forever, when we look at building structures and opportunities in workplaces for people who want to work but just need a little different kind of opportunity and now have that available.

It was clear when Senator HARKIN spoke about his family how it shaped his sensibilities and passions. I remember his speaking about growing up in a two-bedroom house in Cumming, IA, that he shared with his parents and five siblings. That is pretty challenging. Growing up with his brother Frank who was born deaf gave him an understanding of the obstacles to those with disabilities and a commitment came from his heart and soul about making life better—and he has. You have.

I recall also when he talked about his father losing his 40-acre farm, and the New Deal giving him a chance to support you and to support your family despite the fact that he had a sixth grade education. He had the opportunity to move ahead and work hard because somebody out there, who didn't know his name, gave him an opportunity to do so, which is what is our job to do.

I know Senator HARKIN's crusades to protect workers on the job was influenced by witnessing his father struggle with black lung disease, looking at him as a coal miner and what he went through.

I believe Senator HARKIN is the definition of a self-made man. He grew up taking advantage of opportunities as well as enduring the challenges and the circumstances of his life, transforming and using that experience to create better opportunities for everyone across the country.

He is a patriot, having served in the Navy. He gained his education through the GI bill and understands that is an important part of creating opportunity and giving back to people who serve for us and lay their lives on the line for us.

I know you are totally committed in your heart and soul to education starting at birth right on through for the rest of our lives.

So I want to thank you, finally, for your leadership on the HELP Committee, your hard work and your passion in health care, your support working with me on mental health care, your efforts on education, your efforts in pensions—which, by the way, are promises we need to keep. All of the things you have done through the HELP Committee are things that will last for a long time to come.

I know in Iowa, thanks to you, there are 8 times more community health centers than there were 25 years ago—wow—so somebody can see a doctor and they can take their children to a doctor, which will live on in their lives.

I want to thank you for being someone who knows how to make laws, somebody who wants to solve problems, who in his heart and soul is passionately, lovingly concerned about our country. I know that you and Ruth and your daughters and your grandchildren will have many more opportunities to enjoy each other's lives but know there are people in this country who are enjoying opportunities because of you, and we salute you.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Tennessee.

Mr. ALEXANDER. Senator HARKIN's legacy is he stands as a champion of Americans with disabilities. It will be a long time before there is a greater champion of Americans with disabilities in this body and I salute him for that.

I salute him secondly for his leadership and style of leadership. I had the privilege of the last 2 years as ranking member of the HELP Committee. Senator Kennedy used to say that we have 30 percent of the jurisdiction of the Senate, and it seems like it sometimes. If you know our committee, down one row is the murderers' row of liberals or progressives who are of the Democratic persuasion; and down the other side is a pretty good row of conservatives of the Republican persuasion—12 on this side, 10 on this side. So we have plenty of differences of opinions and we don't hesitate to express them. Yet during these 2 years, Senator HARKIN and his leadership style have found a way for there to be 24 pieces of legislation, signed by the President of the United States, many of them very significant, some of which took several years to do, whether it was the compounding pharmacy, which was so important in our State, the tragedy of meningitis from unsterile products; whether it was the track-and-trace legislation or the changes in workforce development that gave more discretion to Governors and the citizens in their communities. His style of leadership permitted that to happen and I am grateful to him for that. I would suggest to the Senate as we look forward to a time when the Senate might be more functional and more productive that one way to earn the respect of the people of this country for this body, which is supposed to be the one authentic piece of genius of the American political system, is to look at the way the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee has operated over the last 3 years under the leadership of Senator HARKIN. I salute him for his service and I thank him for that.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Minnesota.

Mr. FRANKEN. I rise to talk about Senator HARKIN. As the soon-to-be Chairman of the HELP Committee, Senator ALEXANDER is right about the HELP Committee, it is an important committee. Sometimes I say it is not that important unless you care about your health, your kids' health, your parents' health, your kids' education or your education, if you want to work sometime in your life, and you plan to retire. Other than that, it is not very important.

But I want to talk a little bit about TOM HARKIN, not as a Senator but as a staffer. We have seen today when the Senators give their final speeches, they talk about their staff. TOM came in 1969 as a staffer for Neal Smith from Iowa. The staffers, as much as we treasure our staffers, they love this work for their Member and they love working in this institution, and they love working in Congress—at that point he was in the House. So at this point he is, I believe, 29 or 30 years old. This was during the Vietnam war, and there was something called Vietnamization. President Nixon asked a congressional delegation to go to Vietnam to look at how Vietnamization was working and what was going on. While TOM HARKIN was there as a staffer, a couple of Congressmen were told about some conditions on an island called Con Son where there were prisoners that the South Vietnamese Government was abusing very badly. The Congressmen requisitioned a plane to go to Con Son, about 100 miles off the coast of the mainland of Vietnam, and I believe the supervisor of the group who was there to talk about the Vietnam prison system said this was sort of like a Boy Scout recreational camp—that is exactly what he said.

So when they landed there, TOM took a couple staffers and Members, got a map from someone who had told him about this secret prison, and found it, where there were people being horribly abused. TOM took pictures. TOM was told to turn over the film. TOM didn't turn over the film. TOM was then told that his employment in the Congress depended on him turning over that film—a 30-year-old staffer at the beginning of what most staffers hope is a career. That film showed up in "Life" magazine and had a profound effect, and TOM's career was over.

That takes a lot of guts. That takes courage. That takes the courage of your convictions, and that is what I have seen in TOM HARKIN. I learned about this when Franni and I went with Ruth and TOM on a codel to Vietnam. I just spoke about CARL LEVIN and talked about a codel with him, and I talked about this codel with TOM. I have got to go on more codels, I just figured out.

This is what I observed, because this was the Chairman of the HELP Committee, and I got to watch that courage

and that courage of his convictions, as well as what LAMAR talked about, working well across party lines.

I hold the seat that Paul Wellstone formerly held. I would say that TOM was Paul's best friend. TOM every once in a while talks about his brother and the experiences behind TOM's signature achievement, the Americans with Disabilities Act. Paul Wellstone led on mental health and mental health parity, and that was because of his brother. And that is the legacy I want to carry on. I have not had Paul here to be a role model, but I have had TOM HARKIN, and it has been a privilege.

I thank the Senator.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Minnesota.

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, we are going to continue with the Minnesota theme, and I think Senator HARKIN knows that our two States, Minnesota and Iowa, share more than just a border. We share a lot of people with relatives on either side of the border. I cannot tell you how many of my friends have their roots in Iowa and how many people in Iowa have their kids in Minnesota.

We also share citizens who have a strong sense of involvement. We have some of the highest voter turnouts in the country. We both have notorious caucus systems where people like to turn out and make their views known, and our States have produced politicians such as TOM HARKIN and Hubert Humphrey, who came up through that tradition and understand that you are there to represent the people of your State because when you go home, they actually come up to you in grocery stores, on the street, call you by your first name, and understand that you are there to represent them.

We also share farming and we share this enormous belief in science. We actually share Norman Borlaug. There is a new statute—the Presiding Officer must go see it—of Norman Borlaug in Statutory Hall. He was born in Iowa and studied in Iowa, but also studied at the University of Minnesota. He created the Green Revolution, which has helped so many impoverished people in countries all over the world by reducing hunger.

TOM HARKIN has followed in that tradition. He believes in science, believes in investing in agriculture research, and believes in investing NIH.

The other thing about TOM and me that I knew no other Senator would address is our Slovenian heritage. When TOM leaves—and I see Senator BROWN is here—and with the former Senator from Ohio, Senator Voinovich, no longer here, I will remain, I think, as the only Slovenian Senator here. I am hoping someone will come forward and tell me they have Slovenian blood. For a while 3 percent of the U.S. Senate had roots in Slovenia, which is very interesting given how infinitesimal the

population of the country is compared to the rest of the world.

TOM loves his Slovenian roots. Like TOM, my ancestors came from Slovenia to America to work in the mines. It is a big part of our lives and what we believe in.

One time TOM came to my Minnesota Morning breakfast and saw that every Thursday I serve potica to my constituents, and that is unique to Slovenians. It is a rolled dough with either apples or walnuts in it. My grandma used to make it. She would literally borrow card tables and roll the dough throughout her entire kitchen.

I found a number of places on the Iron Range of northern Minnesota, where my dad grew up, that make this potica, and we bring it in.

TOM came and tried it and decided that for Christmas he would send a potica to every Member of the Senate for Christmas. He called my office and said they don't make it in Iowa. I said, let me give you the name of a baker on the Iron Range. He personally called this woman and said: This is TOM Harkin. I am the Senator from Iowa. I am calling to order 100 poticas from you, one for every Member of the Senate for Christmas. And in very gruff Slovenian fashion, she said: I am sorry, it is Christmas, and we are booked. We do not have the poticas to send to Washington, DC. Then he said: I don't know if you know who I am. I chair the Agriculture and Forestry Committee—big forestry area—of the Senate. And she said: I know exactly who you are, but we do not have the poticas to send to Washington.

So at that moment, he called me. I gave him the names of a number of other bakers, he found one, and every Senator got a potica for Christmas.

The last thing I will say about TOM that we share in common—we both represent States that believe in helping people who are the most vulnerable. He did that with his support for small farmers with the farm bill, and he did that in his support for the disability community.

I was at the House this week talking about the ABLE Act with some of the Members, and to a tee, every Republican brought up—because TOM could not be there—TOM's work on the ABLE Act. They knew we would not have the bill that Senator CASEY worked on without TOM Harkin, and, as you know, this is just the next step for the disability community. It will allow parents and grandparents and friends and neighbors to set up funds so that if they are not there when this young person grows up, there will be money set aside for them.

TOM Harkin was Paul Wellstone's best friend in the Senate. Paul would say: Politics is about improving people's lives. That is what TOM has done every day in the Senate.

Thank you, TOM.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Connecticut.

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. President, in January of last year, I walked onto the Senate floor for the second time in my life. The first time that I got to be on the Senate floor was in 1995 when I was an intern for my Senator, Chris Dodd. Back then it was a little bit easier for interns to come here, and he brought me down to the Senate floor one afternoon.

I knew what I wanted to do. I had a small handful of people I wanted to meet. I don't know if I ever told this to TOM, but I wanted to meet TOM HARKIN, and I got to do that. Twenty years ago he was a giant in the Senate. The one point I wish to make is this—I had the chance to serve with TOM on the HELP Committee and I have seen his legislative ability and the respect he commands here, but I have only known him for 2 years.

Anyway, the point I want to make is that the effect he has had on the legislative process stands as an achievement in and of itself. I would argue that I am one of tens of thousands of public servants who decided to go into this line of work, decided to care about the kind of things I care about because I watched TOM HARKIN on TV growing up.

I came from a family that was non-political. My parents were both registered Republicans. There is no genetic reason why I do this other than seeing people like TOM fight on behalf of the disabled and the disenfranchised and the dispossessed. He gave me the idea that there was some worth to being in this line of work. If you grew up after Vietnam, you were taught this was crooked or not worth being a part of, and then there was a handful of people like TOM HARKIN who told you it was worth being a part of.

The legacy that Senator HARKIN will have—whether it is the farm bill, the Americans with Disabilities Act, or the Workforce and Investment Act, that is all you need to leave this place fulfilled. But to think there are tens of thousands of people who, like me, are doing this kind of work and trying to keep up the legacy you are going to leave is something to be proud of as well. I feel lucky to be a Member of this body in part because I got to meet TOM HARKIN 20 years ago, I was able to follow his lead, and I was able to be inspired by him.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

Mr. BROWN. TOM HARKIN is my hero. TOM HARKIN has never shied away from a fight when it comes to workers rights not only for Iowa but for workers all across the country and workers around the world.

He has come to many of us repeatedly and said: Don't forget what our obligation is to the community of men

and women around the world who labor with their hands, who fight challenges every day, who are abused in the workplace, who are abused as children in the workplace, and TOM HARKIN has been the single strongest voice for as long as I can remember for those workers.

TOM comes from a right-to-work State. It is not always easy to stand up for labor unions and organized labor. We have a press and media in this country which is consistently anti-labor.

We have a political class in this country at every opportunity that tries to undermine organized labor and undermine the rights of human beings to organize and bargain collectively, and TOM recognized that is one of most important rights that human beings have.

TOM HARKIN, being from a right-to-work State, knows he will face a difficult election darn near every 6 years. One of the little-noted historical facts about TOM HARKIN—and I have not heard anyone else mention—is that Senator HARKIN has defeated more incumbent Members of Congress than any elected official in United States history, and that is not because of the luck of the draw or some lottery in Des Moines or Iowa City or Davenport. It is because TOM HARKIN doesn't shy away from his strong beliefs in the rights of humanity—organizing and collective bargaining rights. When you are willing to stand up day after day—not just in quiet groups in the Democratic Caucus—on this floor and you are willing to stand up in Dubuque and the more conservative parts of southwest Iowa and argue for labor rights, you are saying to the other side: Bring them on. Bring on big money, bring on anti-labor forces. He expected to have tough elections, and that is why TOM HARKIN is my hero and always will be.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oregon.

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, I too rise to share a few comments about my friend TOM HARKIN who has contributed so much to this fight and to put rungs on the ladder so ordinary people across America have a fair shot to thrive.

When I first came out here as an intern in 1976, you were already over on the House side—no, not yet. It was about 1974, and I was working away, so I didn't get to meet you then. But there were a series of speeches by Senators when I was an intern here on the Senate side, and one of them was by Hubert Humphrey.

Hubert Humphrey was well known for saying that a society should be judged by how they treat those in the dawn of their lives, children, the twilight of their lives, seniors, and those who are in the shadow, the sick and disabled. When I think of that vision, I see TOM HARKIN. I see TOM HARKIN fighting for children who are oppressively working around the world under

unacceptable circumstances. TOM HARKIN carries out the fight for those children and for children's health care.

I have seen him fight for our seniors, and just this week he was speaking passionately about the obligations we have to honor the retirement strategy so people can serve their senior years in dignity. He fights for those who are disabled, which we have heard about so much today.

I thank TOM HARKIN for taking his years on this planet and dedicating them to this battle for those in the dawn of their life, for those in the twilight of their life, and for those in the shadows. No one has done a better job.

I also wish to thank TOM for the recent battles I have had a chance to be a part of—the fight to end discrimination in the workplace for our LGBT community, which you shepherded through your committee and got to the floor for the first time in which this bill has been enforced since 1996, and proceeded to pass by a 2-to-1 bipartisan majority because of that firm foundation laid out in the committee.

I wish to thank you for your minimum wage bill and for saying to America: Here is a vision: No one who works full time should live in poverty. That is absolutely right. We didn't win the battle over minimum wage, but we advanced the conversation—you advanced the conversation. I thank you for doing so, and for carrying out battle after battle, and in so many cases, succeeding. And in those cases when the circumstances weren't yet all lined up, you continued the fight, carried the voice so we would find that moment in the future when we could secure a victory for ordinary working people, for those who are disabled, for our children, and for our seniors.

I thank you for your service in the Senate. Well done.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Delaware.

Mr. CARPER. The Senator from Oregon has thanked TOM for his service in the Senate. I wish to thank him for his service before he was in the Senate when he and I were kids—well, not exactly—but when we served in the United States services. We spent some time in airplanes—not in the same airplane, but roughly at the same time. A lot of times people come up to me and thank me for my service in the Navy—and I am sure they do that with you—and I tell them that I loved it. I loved the men and women I served with, I loved the missions, and it was an honor to do that. I wanted to start off by thanking you for that, and to say that is one of the bonds which has drawn us together as friends right from the start.

The Senator from Oregon mentioned your strong effort to raise the minimum wage, which ultimately was not successful. I want to mention a couple of issues I have had the privilege of

working on with you that I think have been very successful. There is a battle that needs to continue to be fought, and I plan to continue to do that, and my hope is that you and others will do it too.

As veterans, I know how important the GI bill was for me and for you as well. I think we got about \$250 a month on the GI bill, and I was happy to have every dime of it. I moved from California to the University of Delaware when I got out of the Navy, got an MBA, and I still flew for the Navy and the Reserves, and it was a huge help for me.

The folks who get the GI bill today come back from Afghanistan and Iraq or wherever, and if they have served for 3 years they get the GI bill, as you know, and that means they get full tuition. If they go to the University of Iowa, Delaware State, Iowa State, they get free tuition. They get free books, fees, tutoring. In my State they get a \$1,500-a-month housing allowance. That is the GI bill today.

There are a bunch of colleges around the country that—just as they did when my dad came back from World War II or when my Uncle Ed came back from the Korean war, others have come back from Vietnam and so forth—there are scam artists involved with postsecondary training schools, sometimes colleges, and they see the GI with that benefit, and they see it as if it were a dollar sign on their back, and they want to go after the dollar sign and separate the value from the benefit.

The Senator from Iowa has worked on this so hard, trying to make sure—there are plenty of for-profit postsecondary schools and such that do a good job, and there are some that don't. Nobody has been as active in trying to make sure that we clean this up as you have been, my friend, and my friend from Illinois, DICK DURBIN, and I am pleased to be the wingman on this. I promise that Senator DURBIN and I aren't going away. The folks who do this job right, the for-profits that are doing a good job by veterans and taxpayers, we salute them; and those who do not, we are going after them. So I thank you and your staff for standing up for veterans consistently.

The other thing I wanted to mention is that many people are having lunch right now across the eastern part of our country, maybe getting ready, over in Iowa, to have some lunch. If people go into a chain restaurant where there are 15 or more restaurants in that chain across the country—I think it is 15 or 20—they look at the menu to order, and right there they see the calories. If they want more information about the fats, trans fats, the amount of sodium in the food—all kinds of information—they get it.

We are a nation where obesity is a huge problem, a huge cost driver in health care. I thank the Senator for

leading the charge on menu labeling, which is the reality in our country, and you should feel good about that. I feel very good about that.

It has been a blessing knowing you and serving with you, TOM. There is an old saying: Flattery won't hurt you if you don't inhale. You are having a lot of flattery thrown at you here today, so don't breathe too deeply and you should be OK.

We thank and salute you and your wife Ruth and your family. In the Navy, when people have done a really good job, we say words like "bravo zulu," and I say bravo zulu to you. When people are ready to weigh anchor and sail off into the sunrise, we say things like "fair winds and following seas," and I say that to you as well. God bless you.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Illinois.

Mr. DURBIN. I will speak briefly because I put a statement in the RECORD, but I just want to say, TOM, that next to the State of Illinois, I spend more time campaigning in your State of Iowa than any other State. Obviously the Presidential caucus brought me over there, and I have come to know your home State of Iowa and to appreciate that even though there is an extraordinary Iowa-Illinois democratic organization, it is a tough State and there are elections that are hotly contested.

I recall that when I was running for the Senate in 1996, you called into our headquarters and spoke to my campaign manager, who said: How is it going, Senator HARKIN?

And you said: I am besieged.

It was a tough campaign, but you survived it and many others. I think it is because of two things: No. 1 is your dogged determination, and No. 2 is your commitment to values that you have never given up on.

I think there is an authenticity to TOM HARKIN that has saved him in tough years. People who disagreed with you respected you because you stood up for what you believed in. Some of the ideals you and I believe in may not be as fashionable politically as they once were. There was once a time when I worked for a man named Paul Douglas who called himself in the Senate "a good liberal." You don't hear that word much anymore, do you? But the fact is, those of us who believe there are moments in our Nation's history and in the lives of ordinary people where the American family, through our government, needs to step in and help—and you have done it. You have done it so many times. I won't repeat all that has been said, but whether you were fighting for working families, fighting for the poor, fighting for the disabled, fighting to make sure every family had peace of mind when it came to food safety—I am not sure that has been mentioned, but the Senator from Iowa

worked on that, and I thank him for that leadership and inspiration.

Finally, let me say I have been happy to team up with you on this issue involving for-profit schools.

I will tell my colleagues that the Senator's hearings set a standard in terms of asking the right questions and hard questions of an industry that by and large exploits young people and their families, sinking these kids deep in debt at the expense of American taxpayers and doing it many times with the promise of nothing but a worthless diploma when it is all over.

I know, because I have tried, that the industry—the for-profit colleges have friends in high places in Washington, DC. I can promise you this: As long as I can do it physically, I will continue to wage this battle in your name and in your memory because of all your leadership in this area.

Thank you for being a friend. Thank you for being a neighbor. And thank you for really standing up for the right causes over the course of your public service.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, I am going to be brief. The truth is that the Senator we are honoring right now, TOM HARKIN, will go down in history as one of the great Senators of this particular period in American history. Not many Senators, if any, have a list of enormous accomplishments anywhere close to what Senator HARKIN has accomplished.

I would like to tell my colleagues a little story. It turns out that coincidentally, really, I have traveled with Senator HARKIN to a number of places around the world as part of congressional delegations. Like most congressional delegations, we meet with the leadership of the country, the President and so forth. But what was interesting in traveling with Senator HARKIN is wherever you go, he gets honored by ordinary people in those countries.

We went to Vietnam a number of years ago. Many people will not remember, but the truth is that one of the very first people ever to expose the terrible prison conditions that the South Vietnam Government had established was TOM HARKIN. So we go there and we meet people who had been imprisoned in tiger cages, and they said: Senator HARKIN, thank you very much for exposing those conditions and improving our lives.

There was a very emotional response.

Then I go with him to Ghana, and it turns out that in Ghana and in countries in Africa, TOM HARKIN had been a leader in fighting against child labor. There were kids 8 or 9 years of age who should be in school who were out picking crops. And TOM HARKIN, working with people all over the world, had a real impact on getting those kids into school.

We went to a school, a beautiful school which is partially funded by the U.S. Government. We have bright kids who are in school, and they were so proud of the assistance we had given them, where they were in school and not working in fields.

Then we go to Chile. We go to Chile and we meet with the President of Chile, all the dignitaries of Chile. Who knew this? We go to Chile, and TOM HARKIN gets an award from the government.

In the very dark days of the Pinochet government, when the democratically elected President of Chile, Salvador Allende, was overthrown in a violent coup by Pinochet—with, unfortunately, the assistance of the U.S. Government—and people were rounded up and put into prison camps and tortured and killed, TOM HARKIN goes knocking on the door to one of the prison camps. He goes knocking on the door—pretty crazy, but that is what he did. He was met with soldiers with guns. But he exposed that particular prison camp and played a role in facilitating the ending of some of the more barbaric actions of the Pinochet government.

Those are three trips I made with him. That is about all. I am sure he has gone on other trips. That is a pretty good record, internationally.

Then, back home, in terms of disability issues, I can remember and others can remember that 30, 40, 50 years ago, families had kids born with disabilities, and often those kids were institutionalized, they were hidden, they were an embarrassment to the family. Something bad happened; there was a child with a disability—Down syndrome, whatever it may be. Think about the revolution that has taken place, the mainstreaming of those kids. I know in Vermont and all over this country, kids with disabilities who are sitting in classrooms right now, loved and respected by their fellow students, educating their fellow students, making them more human, more compassionate. I think many of us have been to high school graduations where people with disabilities get their diploma and people stand up and applaud those kids.

There has been a transformation of the culture in terms of how we deal with people with disabilities through the Americans with Disabilities Act. That didn't happen by accident. TOM HARKIN wasn't the only person who did it, but he helped lead the effort here in the U.S. Congress to say that people with disabilities are part of the human community and we are going to treat them with the dignity they deserve.

Then we have all the other issues that people have talked about. Probably nobody in the Congress has been a stronger fighter for working people and organized labor than TOM HARKIN.

I think people come here, regardless of political persuasion, to try to make

a difference and do what they think is right. We disagree about what is right, but I think when we look at the list of accomplishments and the enormously hard work that has gone into those accomplishments, this man, TOM HARKIN, will go down as one of the great Senators of our period.

TOM, thank you so much for all you have done.

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I wish to recognize a dear friend, Senator TOM HARKIN. Senator HARKIN will be retiring at the end of the month, but his influence will be felt long after he leaves this Chamber. I speak for all of my colleagues when I say he will be sorely missed.

I consider myself lucky to have worked with TOM, and even luckier to call him a friend. TOM has devoted his life to public service.

Like any good statesman, TOM is humble about his achievements. Humility is a trait so often lacking in accomplished men, but TOM is an exception. The allure and glamor of Beltway life never held sway over TOM, and his years spent in the Nation's capital have only shown that he is an Iowa man through and through.

The only thing that runs deeper than TOM's Iowa roots is the corn that grows there. TOM still lives in the very same house in the very same town where he was born—Cumming, IA, population: 383—a far cry from this bustling metropolis. His family still keeps a farm in Cumming, and I am sure he looks forward to spending many peaceful days there in his retirement.

TOM grew up in a family of modest means. His father was a coal miner and his mother a Slovenian immigrant who passed away when TOM was just 10 years old. From an early age, TOM developed his signature work ethic by taking various odd jobs on farms, at construction sites, and even in a bottling plant.

TOM's service to our Nation began long before he came to Congress. He attended Iowa State University on a Navy ROTC scholarship and served as an active-duty Navy pilot for 5 years after graduation. Even after his full-time military service, he continued to serve as a pilot in the Naval Reserve. TOM is a man who always has and always will put our country first. Even though he and I often disagreed on matters of policy, I always knew that TOM had the best interests of our Nation and those of his constituents in mind.

TOM and I first became good friends when I joined him in sponsoring the Americans with Disabilities Act in 1989. At the time, TOM was a first-term Senator approaching reelection, and to support the ADA was politically risky. But true to form, TOM bucked political expediency to champion a law that the

late Senator Ted Kennedy would describe as the “emancipation proclamation” for those with disabilities. Although the ADA faced serious opposition, passing this legislation was personal for TOM, whose brother, Frank, grew up deaf, and whose nephew was quadriplegic. In the lives of these loved ones, TOM saw how lack of opportunities for persons with disabilities could make their lives all the more challenging.

My friendship with TOM was forged in the battles we fought to move the ADA through both chambers of Congress. I will never forget the day the Senate passed the bill in 1989. After the vote, TOM and I left the floor and walked into the anteroom, where there were hundreds of persons with disabilities in wheelchairs, on crutches, and with various other disabilities waiting to receive us. Overcome with emotion, both of us broke down and cried. It was a moment I will never forget.

I am not exaggerating when I say that TOM’s work on this hallmark legislation will have resounding effects for generations to come. Because of the ADA, millions of Americans with disabilities can now pursue the American Dream.

Throughout his Senate career, TOM has always been there to help those who could not help themselves. His work has affected the lives of millions. Senator HARKIN deserves not only our recognition, but also our gratitude. I want to wish him, his wife Ruth, and their family all the best.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma.

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, I have a parliamentary inquiry. It is my understanding that we were to begin at 12 o’clock for 3 hours until the first motion on the NDAA, and that would begin now, it looks like, about an hour late; is that correct?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will now be 3 hours of debate, with 1 hour each for the Senator from Oklahoma, Mr. COBURN, and the Senator from Nevada, Mr. REID, and with 30 minutes each for the Senator from Alaska, Ms. MURKOWSKI, and the Senator from Oklahoma, Mr. INHOFE, or their designees.

Mr. INHOFE. Thank you, Mr. President. Before the Senator from Iowa leaves, let me make one comment. I look at him and all of those who are saying nice things about the Senator from Iowa—and I am from Iowa, so I can say this. My colleagues need to remember that even conservatives can love TOM HARKIN. I think it is important for people to understand that.

I have to say that I have been to I think at least 10 of the airshows, and spending 90 percent of my time—my wife and his wife, the four of us together, because we are both pilots—sitting around and lying about airplanes, we got real close to each other.

I can say the same thing about my good friend Senator SANDERS, and I have said this on the floor before: The two of you are two of my favorite in-the-heart liberals because you are not ashamed of it. You stand up—exactly what the Senator from Vermont just said. The things that I have seen you do, you have a big heart. You have your own philosophy. You are not a demagogue. You live your philosophy.

So I just want you to know there are a lot of Republicans who love Senator HARKIN just as much as the liberals do. All right. Thank you.

We should have started with Senator LEVIN and myself kicking this off. I think we were a little bit late in starting, so Senator LEVIN is not here now. He will be here in about 30 minutes.

Let me make one comment about Senator LEVIN. I did so this morning. This person chairing these committees—and he has been through 16 of the NDAs in the past, and no one else can say that. No other Member has ever done that. Over his 36 years of service, he has concentrated on his concern for the defense of America. This is interesting because as the ranking member on the Senate Armed Services Committee, he and I have worked together. We even participated in two of the events called the Big 4.

The Chair knows this, but some of my colleagues may not. When it comes time and the committees are unable to pass a bill, then the ranking member and the chairman of the House and the ranking member and the chairman of the Senate—the Big 4—get together and they draft a bill. That is what happened this year and last year.

Last year I was getting panicky because we didn’t pass that bill until December 26. What would happen if we didn’t, then it would be a crisis on December 31. So I want to say, Senator LEVIN, I have enjoyed—I regret we won’t be able to have the same positions because, of course, Senator LEVIN is—such as our friend from Iowa—retiring after this term.

Let me mention the NDAA bill is the most important bill we do every year. I don’t think anyone is ever going to debate that. We had the 52 consecutive years—and this is going to be the 53rd consecutive year we have been able to pass it. It seems as though each year it is always hard to do, because at the last minute there are other people who want to get things in the bill that were not there. But we have to keep in mind, in defense of the big-four approach to this, we passed this bill. We passed it out of the Senate Armed Services Committee on May 23. We have been wanting to get it on floor since May 23.

Senator LEVIN and I have come down countless times and begged our colleagues on the Democratic side and the Republican side to get their amendments down so we could consider their

amendments. We had a lot of amendments that did come down. Of the amendments that came down, I am very proud to say that we incorporated almost all of them. Forty-seven of those amendments are a part of this bill. So it is not as if the amendments were considered.

I know some people who are opposed to this bill may come along later and say we didn’t consider all the amendments. We considered almost all of them but adopted 47 of the amendments which is a record. In spite of the pushing for months on the NDAA—I don’t know what the reasons were and I am not going to point the fingers, but we didn’t get it on the floor—we have to do it at the last minute. I want to just say, in my heart I believe—I know the House wound up most of their business—but if we don’t pass this bill, there is no other train leaving this station. There is no other way to do it, because in this bill, when people stop and think about it, there are some things I don’t like about the bill. I have to admit that, but there are so many good things. If we go through December 31, and this is the reminder we have to have in our own minds, we have right now 1,779,343 enlisted personnel who are in service right now. They will lose their benefits if we don’t pass this bill. I am talking about reenlistment bonuses.

I asked the chair, do you realize—I think he does but not many people do—just flight pay. There is a huge pilot shortage right now because the private sector is hiring them up and we are having a hard time keeping them. We have a flight pay incentive. That incentive would go way.

Does it mean anything? Yes. It is a \$25,000 incentive, and it lasts for—it goes for 10 years each year. But if they wake up on January 1 and find out they don’t have their flight pay incentive, how many of these existing warriors in the sky are going to drop out and go to work for one of the airlines? I don’t know. But a lot of them will, I can assure you of that.

I think we need to remind people how much it costs to train a new one. Instead of a \$25,000 bonus to reach the standards of the level of an F-22 pilot, it costs \$17 million. Stop and think about the millions and millions of dollars that would be lost just from the flight pay. These things are happening.

A lot of good things are in this bill and some are controversial. The housing starts are in this bill—none of the housing starts. I am talking about military construction for our kids that are out there. One of the controversial areas is in Gitmo. This is one of the very few areas where Chairman LEVIN and I disagreed with each other. Gitmo is a resource that can’t be replaced. He would be for closing it.

We are now keeping the restrictions we have right now and keeping it open

for another year so we can look at it next year and spend more time on it.

We have the counterterrorism partnership funds, and so many of these things are in this bill that I think are very significant. We are supporting the needed Aircraft Modernization Program. You hear a lot about the F-35. The F-22 was terminated by the President and terminated 6 years ago. So what we have in the fifth-generation aircraft, that is it, the F-35.

What we are doing is continuing with that modernization program, a controversial area. The support for ground support is the A-10. The A-10 is probably the ugliest airplane in the sky, but you ask any of our troops on the ground what they want to see coming when they are in danger, it is the A-10. That is going to continue. There is not going to be one reduction in that.

I know the Armed Services Committee next year will look at that freshly and maybe make changes. AWACS, the President wanted to take seven of the AWACS planes out, and that would be 25 percent of the AWACS fleets. That is a great big plane that has a circle on the top that goes out and brings back information to save lives. That is there.

The authorizing the military construction of family housing projects that has been started, they would come to a stop without this bill. That means we would have paid the contractors. There are going to be breach-of-contract lawsuits and everything else.

I will only mention one other thing—the Russian-made rocket engines. A lot of people hear about that and they say: Why in the world, with all the problems with Putin, with what is going on in the Ukraine, around the world—I just got back from Lithuania, and I also went over to Ukraine. I am seeing things with our allies over there that they would ask the question: Why are you buying Russian-made rocket engines? We are, but those are being fazed out. We have directed the Secretary of Defense to develop a U.S. rocket to replace that rocket. That is going on right now.

By the way, I have to say this. I mentioned Ukraine. I can't tell you, when we look and see what is happening over there—I had a great experience. I was over there just 3 days before our elections. It happened to be 3 days after their elections. In the Ukraine, President Poroshenko was so proud, and he sat there and told me: In Ukraine, we have to get 5 percent of the vote to have a seat in Parliament. The Communists, for the first time in 96 years, didn't get 5 percent. So there will not be one Communist in Parliament in Ukraine. That is incredible. Those are our friends over there. They are the ones we need to keep our defense strong, and we directly address that in this bill.

I will only say one thing about the lands package. It is the most con-

troversial part of this bill because it is something which has nothing to do with Defense. On the other hand, when we are in negotiations and there are some things that should not perhaps come in, in this forum, and I thought—I even characterized it as outrageous at the time that that was made part of this bill. I have to say this—any changes in the bill, by the way, are going to result in not having a bill, and all the things I just mentioned would happen. But I started reading some of these provisions from a conservative Republican's perspective, getting in and being able to produce and drill in some of the public lands, let some of our public lands rejoice in this revolution that we are having out there with shale. The ranchers in Oklahoma tell me the grazing rights issues that are in these land packages are good. I hear some people saying, well, there is something to do with a women's committee starting or something like that.

Let's keep in mind, I say to my fellow conservatives, that if MARSHA BLACKBURN's bill that became a part of this bill—now, it shouldn't have happened, but nonetheless it did. It is so overriding we pass a bill and not allow something like that to actually kill the bill.

I would say we are still a nation at war right now. We will be back to discuss this further, and I do want to have an opportunity to respond to some of the critics of this bill. Keep in mind. This is the last opportunity we have before December 31—before January when we come back in—and on December 31 it would be a crisis. I say to my good friends on the left and on the right, we have to have the bill. This is the last bill we can pass.

I would like to recognize Senator AYOTTE, the very courageous Senator who has been a major part of the provisions to this bill, and I will go so far as to say as the most active member of the Senate Armed Services Committee. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Hampshire.

Ms. AYOTTE. Mr. President, I want to thank the senior Senator from Oklahoma, Mr. INHOFE, for his leadership, along with Senator LEVIN, working hand in hand to get the Defense authorization done this year. This is so important. I know all of us would like to have a process where we can have an open amendment process here, but I know that Senator LEVIN and Senator INHOFE worked very hard. We had this ready to go a long time ago. I thank you for your work and your commitment on this, and I thank you for the way you and Senator LEVIN have run this committee in a respectful bipartisan manner.

As we look at the importance of the Defense authorization, making sure that we get this done before we go home, we have to understand with the

threats we are facing around the world right now, now would not be the time for the first time in over 50-plus years not to pass the Defense authorization, given what it means to support for our men and women in uniform, their readiness, their equipment, the training, the support for their families, military construction, investment in technology that they need to keep us safe.

So I want to thank Senator INHOFE for his work on this. I also want to take the opportunity to thank Senator LEVIN, who is retiring this year, for being an incredible chairman of this committee. I have to say this has been one of the best experiences I have had since I have gotten to the Senate. I have been here for 4 years, and Senator LEVIN has conducted this committee and treated everyone with respect. He has gotten us all to work together, where almost every year we passed out the Defense authorization almost unanimously—how often does that happen—and most times unanimously in a divided Congress.

I wish Senator LEVIN the best, because he has been so knowledgeable and so committed to ensuring that our Nation is safe and committed to our men and women in uniform.

On a personal note, he has been so respectful to me and someone who I think has run the committee so very well and has served our country with such dignity and such dedication. I wish he and his wife Barbara the best in the future.

He is someone whom this body will miss. Certainly as the chairman of the Armed Services Committee, he has treated everyone on both sides of the aisle with incredible respect and given us opportunities to raise issues that are important to us. I think he is a model of how we should conduct ourselves. We can disagree with each other but still find ways in common ground where we can work together to get things done for the American people.

I come to the floor to discuss the Defense authorization and the provisions in it that are so important to not only my home State of New Hampshire but to the country and also to address some of the provisions I want us to keep an eye on as we go forward. With skill and courage, our men and women in uniform are doing their job. It is essential we do our job as well. In a time of war, we cannot neglect our constitutional duty to provide for the common defense.

As a member of the Armed Services Committee I have been privy to many briefings, as the Presiding Officer has, as a member of the committee about the threats facing our country and the needs of our men and women in uniform, the concerns we have of ensuring our troops are ready and that we are prepared to address potential threats to the country.

In this bill, my home State of New Hampshire, we are a State that is very



dedicated to serving, just as the Presiding Officer's State of Virginia is very dedicated to serving. There are many provisions in this bill that I have introduced and supported that I am proud of that will make a difference to our national security and to our men and women in uniform.

I would like to talk about some of those provisions. In terms of supporting our troops and our families, it is very important that we pass this bill every year because it authorizes expiring benefits for our troops that if we don't reauthorize, they would expire, including dozens of specific special incentive pays for our troops and their families, particularly those who are serving us overseas and facing great danger as we stand here today.

The Defense bill also authorizes more than one dozen provisions to enhance protections for victims of sexual assault and extends to the Secretary of the VA the authority to provide rehabilitation and vocational benefits to servicemembers with severe illnesses and injuries.

It also strengthens the Department of Defense's suicide prevention efforts. Unfortunately, suicide is happening to too many of those who have served our Nation and is an issue that we are so concerned about on a bipartisan basis.

The bill also authorizes \$6.3 billion for needed military construction and family housing projects. Included among that authorization are military construction projects at Pease Air National Guard Base in New Hampshire to prepare for the arrival of the KC-46A, not to mention a very important energy conservation project at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. The shipyard has continued to invest in energy conservation and to save taxpayer dollars while doing so, and I am pleased it is included in this bill.

The Defense bill also maintains critical close air support capability in the Air Force, which our troops need, in that it ensures that the Air Force cannot prematurely retire the A-10 aircraft in fiscal year 2015.

Having traveled to Afghanistan and hearing directly from the men on the ground, I know how important it is they have the very best air support to keep them safe.

The bill also authorizes continued funding for the *Virginia* Class 10-boat multiyear procurement program, including two in fiscal year 2015, which is very important because keeping the 10 boat multi-year production and procurement program on track—and I know the President shares this concern—will help achieve savings in excess of 15 percent, compared to purchasing only one per year. It makes cost sense, and we need to continue to invest in our attack submarine program.

With the help of the skilled workers at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard,

these submarines will protect vital shipping lanes and U.S. national security interests around the world for decades to come. With the administration's discussion of a shift to the Asia-Pacific and the importance of that area of the world to our economy and our interests, our attack submarine fleet is so critical in meeting our needs around the world.

These measures, which are included in this bill, will help ensure that Portsmouth and Pease will remain valuable national security assets. I am so proud of the members of our National Guard, everyone who serves at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, and the incredible workers there who do the maintenance of our attack submarine fleet.

The bill also includes provisions of "never contracting with the enemy" legislation. This is legislation which I have previously introduced which has allowed our military to ensure that dollars don't flow to our enemies. So when we are contracting in places such as Afghanistan, we have given them tools to cut off contracts sooner to make sure the contracts aren't going to the wrong people.

This legislation will extend those authorities across the Federal Government, to USAID, and to the State Department to ensure that our taxpayer dollars don't go to people who are acting against our interests. So I appreciate USAID and the State Department working with me on this legislation, and I am very pleased it is included in these provisions.

These are a few of the positive examples of the importance of this Defense authorization bill. There are many other important provisions in this bill. That is why it is important that we get this done today or tomorrow.

There are two areas of issues that I want to address briefly which I am a little concerned about on this bill. As a Member of the Senate Armed Services Committee—and I am also married to a veteran—I plan to vote for this bill because of the positive components. But one of the areas with which I am concerned is that we are again looking at compensation and we are looking at housing allowances of our men and women in uniform. It reminds me a little bit—it is not an exact analogy—of when we had the budget agreement over 1 year ago. There was an adjustment made to the cost-of-living increases. It was a cut, really, in the military retirement of some of those who have served our country.

I was someone who came to the floor to reverse this reduction to the cost-of-living increases, which for some of our men and women in uniform, who had served so admirably, would have cost them up to \$80,000 a year in their retirement. We are talking about enlisted people who worked so hard, and it would make such a big difference for them.

One of the reasons I came in that regard to fight against what was included in the budget agreement was because there seemed to be a disconnect.

That budget agreement made changes to civilian retirement but only prospectively to those who were just joining the retirement program. When it came to making the cuts to the military retirement and to their cost of living, it was affecting current recipients. So there seemed to be a disconnect. How could we ask those who have given the most—have sacrificed so much to defend us—to make a sacrifice when we were treating other civilian employees differently. I am pleased Congress reversed that.

What came out of that is that we need to have a greater understanding of the unique sacrifices our men and women in uniform make. The sacrifices they make are different than that of other workers—the traveling they do, the danger they face. Often their spouses can't have second careers because they are constantly moving.

Since 2000, collectively as a Congress, we worked hard to correct the pay-and-benefit structure for those who wear the uniform to close what was a 13.5-percent gap between the private sector and what our men and women in uniform were getting. We eliminated out-of-pocket housing expenses—that used to be 20 percent—and expanded health care for retired military personnel over the age of 65.

But as I look at the provisions of this bill, I don't want us to erode the work we have done to recognize our men and women in uniform and the positions and the danger they face. In this bill, generally, the dollar amounts associated with the provisions about which I am concerned are much smaller than those involved with the COLA debate earlier this year. Again, we are back looking toward our men and women in uniform in several areas.

These problematic provisions relate to the compensation and health benefits for our servicemembers and their families. More specifically, they relate to the basic allowance for housing or BAH, TRICARE pharmacy copays, and basic pay for our servicemembers.

BAH is currently designed to cover 100 percent of servicemembers' monthly housing costs. The BAH provision in this NDAA will allow the Secretary of Defense to reduce BAH payments so they only cover 99 percent of a servicemember's monthly housing costs.

Obviously, that is a small reduction. But it is the significance of the reduction I am concerned about. We can't keep going down this road, where we are trying to choose between military readiness and making sure our men and women in uniform have the compensation they need in terms of compensation and support for their families. That is why I am concerned about this provision.



In terms of pharmacy copays, while the Pentagon's budget request is important to understand, they requested a much greater increase in future years in copays than this body would accept—than the Armed Services committees would accept. The negotiated NDAA would still permit a \$3 pharmacy copay increase for non-Active-Duty TRICARE beneficiaries who fill prescriptions outside of military treatment facilities.

Congress has worked hard to close the military-civilian pay gap, but this year's NDAA is once again only set to give our military a 1-percent pay raise for the second straight year.

I believe our military servicemembers deserve a higher pay raise. I will continue to push for that in the future, and I hope it is something we can work together on because we have to keep up with inflation for our men and women in uniform. It is very important.

One of the reasons it is important is that they are our greatest treasure. The reason we have such a wonderful military—we can have the very best equipment, we can have the greatest technology—but the reason we have the best military in the world is because of our great men and women in uniform.

We can never lose sight of that. We can never lose sight of the importance of our all-volunteer force. As we look at where we are with defense spending, one thing that very much concerns me is the incoming impact of sequester again in 2016 and 2017. It is my hope this body will understand and work together in addressing sequester for our defense because I see us continuing to be in a situation where our military leaders come to us and ask us to take from the men and women in a way that is unacceptable because they are worried about sequester, they are worried about the readiness of our troops, and they are concerned they won't be able to provide the training and equipment our troops need to meet and face the threats around the world and to ensure that our men and women in uniform never become part of a hollow force.

The Presiding Officer serves on the Armed Services Committee with me. It is my hope as we look at this NDAA that we don't set a precedent where we are continuing to take from our military, that we continue to look to how we can work together to address sequester in the coming years, because there is a big disconnect of where we are now. If we impose the sequester in 2016 and 2017 with the threats we face around the world, with what our men and women need to address those threats to keep this country safe, what they deserve in terms of our support, given what we are asking them to do—they are the very best, and they go out and do it on our behalf every single day. It is my hope we can work together.

I have addressed these issues in my additional views to the 2015 Defense authorization, and it is my hope we will recognize the treasure that is our men and women in uniform going forward, that we will cut through the partisan politics, that we will address sequester, and that our men and women in uniform will know that we will continue to stand by them.

This Defense authorization is important, but it also prefaces the challenges we face coming forward in 2016 and 2017, which I believe we will not be able to fully meet unless we come together and address sequester.

We do need to get the Defense authorization done today. There are provisions that are very important for our national security. The issues I have addressed as concerns today I hope we aren't addressing them again next year. I hope we can correct them and make sure that we are giving the men and women in uniform a pay raise that is better than this year. I hope that together we can continue to work on a bipartisan basis in the Armed Services Committee, as Chairman LEVIN has championed, as Senator INHOFE, as the ranking member has done as well, and I look forward to doing that in the future.

I yield the floor.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

#### OMNIBUS SPENDING BILL

Mr. SANDERS. Later today or tomorrow, we are going to be dealing with the \$1 trillion omnibus bill, and I will explain why I will be firmly voting against that bill.

But before I do, I think it is important to put the budget in the broader context of what is happening in America. We can't look at a budget in the abstract; we have to see it in the context. The context is that right now most Americans understand the middle class of this country is disappearing.

Median family income has gone down by \$5,000 since 1999. Today the median male worker is making \$700 less in inflation-adjusted dollars than he made 41 years ago. The median female worker is making \$1,300 less than she made 7 years ago. Meanwhile, while the middle class disappears and we have more people living in poverty than at almost any time in modern American history, the gap between the very rich and everybody else is growing wider. We have massive wealth inequality in America. One family, the Walton family, owns more wealth than the bottom 40 percent of the American people. The top one-tenth of 1 percent owns more wealth than the bottom 90 percent of the American people. Today, unbelievably, 95 percent of all new income is going to the top 1 percent and corporate profits are at an all-time high. That is the overall reality of what is going on with the American economy today. And in the midst of that, we

have the budget. So let's talk a little about this \$1 trillion budget and how it addresses or doesn't address the problems facing our country.

Are there good things in this budget? The answer is: Absolutely. I am chairman of the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee, and I want to thank Chairman MIKULSKI and others for making sure that our VA gets the kind of budget they need. Included in that budget, by the way, is also a provision called advanced appropriations for the VA, which will mean that in the event of a government shutdown, veterans will still be able to get the disability benefits they desperately need. And there are other provisions in there that are very good.

But overall, if you look at the budget in the context of contemporary American society, this is simply not a good budget. Let me pick up three points where I have strong disagreements.

I think the vast majority of the American people understand that we have huge unmet needs in this country. I expect in the Chair's State of Virginia, in Vermont, and all over this country we all know our infrastructure is crumbling—our roads, bridges, water systems, wastewater plants. Our rail system is falling behind Europe, Japan, China. We have enormous work to be done. The American Society of Civil Engineers tells us we have to invest \$3 trillion into rebuilding our infrastructure.

In terms of college, we know there are hundreds of thousands of bright young people who can't afford to go to college. Others are graduating school saddled forever with these terrible debts from college or graduate school.

This budget doesn't address those problems. It doesn't address the crisis of childcare, and the fact that in Vermont and around the country it is very hard for working-class families to get quality, affordable childcare.

But what this budget does do—people don't know it—roughly 60 percent of the budget goes to defense spending. It goes to defense spending. Sixty percent of the discretionary budget goes not to our kids, not to our elderly, not to students, not to working people, not to the infrastructure, not to all of the huge unmet needs we face as a country, but it goes to the military.

Does anyone here deny we need a strong military, a strong National Guard? I don't. We do. But sometimes, in tough times, you have to make tough decisions. And I think spending \$554 billion on the military is too much.

I would point out, Mr. President, what I am sure you know; that it is clear—it has been admitted—that the military can't even audit itself. We don't even know effectively and appropriately how the military is spending its money. They do not even have the computer technology to tell us where they are spending.

What we also know is that cost overruns in the military are extraordinary. Time after time after time an agreement is reached about how much a weapons system will cost, and it turns out the contractor was just joking because there is a huge overrun. And then we have fraud. Fraud. Virtually every major military contractor has been involved in fraud resulting in either convictions or settlements with the government.

So we have folks here who last year were talking about cuts in nutrition programs, education, health care—you name it, programs that are life and death for working families—yet when it comes to the military, we can spend \$554 billion. I think that is too much.

Second of all, when you look at the global economy and you look at our international partners, I find it interesting that every other major country on Earth provides health care for all of their people as a right except the United States; yet in terms of their defense spending, they are spending a heck of a lot less than we are. We are spending now almost—almost—as much as the entire rest of the world combined.

So I object in this bill to the significant amount of money being spent on the military, and I would have hoped there would be more opposition to this large military expenditure.

The second point I want to make, and it has not gotten a whole lot of attention, is the impact this legislation will have on working people in terms of cuts in pensions. There are provisions in this bill, written in secret, which allow significant cuts in benefits for retirees who are members of multiemployer pension plans.

Let me quote from a recent Washington Post article regarding the change in this bill:

The change would alter 40 years of federal law and could affect millions of workers, many of them part of a shrinking corps of middle-income employees in businesses such as trucking, construction and supermarkets.

Reuters mentions this:

The centerpiece is a provision that would open the door to cutting current beneficiaries' benefits, a retirement policy taboo and a potential disaster for retirees on fixed incomes.

What does that mean? When you go to work for a company, you get wages, you get benefits, but you also, in some cases, get a promise in terms of a pension—what you will get when you retire after 20 years, 30 years, 40 years of work. What this bill does is allow companies to renege on that promise. It is my understanding that, in some cases, the cuts in pensions could be draconian. I am talking about a 50-percent cut.

Imagine somebody who has worked his or her entire life, expects to retire with a certain level of income, and suddenly, after 20, 30, 40 years of work,

wakes up in the morning and finds out that promise has been cut in half. Wow. That is awful. That is totally awful.

I remember back, as the American people do, that Wall Street—the CEOs of Wall Street—engaged in illegal and reckless behavior, which drove this economy into the worst recession in modern history, impacting millions and millions of people's lives. And what happened to Wall Street? Well, Congress bailed them out. Congress bailed out the folks on Wall Street whose criminal action caused the recession. Yet now we have working people who have done nothing wrong except work their entire lives—10, 20, 30 years—and through no fault of their own, they are not getting bailed out. They are going to see a 50-percent reduction in their pensions.

That is unacceptable and that opens—it just opens up a future in terms of pensions which I think is very frightening for the American people. So I can't support that provision as well.

The last point I want to make is getting back to Wall Street. In my very strong opinion, we have reached the stage with Wall Street where the major financial institutions are just too big, they are just too powerful. Anyone who thinks that Congress regulates Wall Street has got it backwards. The reality is that Wall Street, with their incredible wealth and lobbying capabilities and campaign contributions, regulates the United States Congress. You cannot see a better example of that than what is in this legislation.

This is the headline from a recent article in the New York Times: "Banks' Lobbyists Help in Drafting Financial Bills."

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD this article.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the New York Times, May 23, 2013]

**BANK'S LOBBYISTS HELP IN DRAFTING FINANCIAL BILLS**

(By Eric Lipton and Ben Protess)

WASHINGTON.—Bank lobbyists are not leaving it to lawmakers to draft legislation that softens financial regulations. Instead, the lobbyists are helping to write it themselves.

One bill that sailed through the House Financial Services Committee this month—over the objections of the Treasury Department—was essentially Citigroup's, according to e-mails reviewed by The New York Times. The bill would exempt broad swathes of trades from new regulation.

In a sign of Wall Street's resurgent influence in Washington, Citigroup's recommendations were reflected in more than 70 lines of the House committee's 85-line bill. Two crucial paragraphs, prepared by Citigroup in conjunction with other Wall Street banks, were copied nearly word for word. (Lawmakers changed two words to make them plural.)

The lobbying campaign shows how, three years after Congress passed the most com-

prehensive overhaul of regulation since the Depression, Wall Street is finding Washington a friendlier place.

The cordial relations now include a growing number of Democrats in both the House and the Senate, whose support the banks need if they want to roll back parts of the 2010 financial overhaul, known as Dodd-Frank.

This legislative push is a second front, with Wall Street's other battle being waged against regulators who are drafting detailed rules allowing them to enforce the law.

And as its lobbying campaign steps up, the financial industry has doubled its already considerable giving to political causes. The lawmakers who this month supported the bills championed by Wall Street received twice as much in contributions from financial institutions compared with those who opposed them, according to an analysis of campaign finance records performed by MapLight, a nonprofit group.

In recent weeks, Wall Street groups also held fund-raisers for lawmakers who co-sponsored the bills. At one dinner Wednesday night, corporate executives and lobbyists paid up to \$2,500 to dine in a private room of a Greek restaurant just blocks from the Capitol with Representative Sean Patrick Maloney, Democrat of New York, a co-sponsor of the bill championed by Citigroup.

Industry officials acknowledged that they played a role in drafting the legislation, but argued that the practice was common in Washington. Some of the changes, they say, have gained wide support, including from Ben S. Bernanke, the Federal Reserve chairman. The changes, they added, were in an effort to reach a compromise over the bills, not to undermine Dodd-Frank.

"We will provide input if we see a bill and it is something we have interest in," said Kenneth E. Bentsen Jr., a former lawmaker turned Wall Street lobbyist, who now serves as president of the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association, or Sifma.

The close ties hardly surprise Wall Street critics, who have long warned that the banks—whose small armies of lobbyists include dozens of former Capitol Hill aides—possess outsized influence in Washington.

"The huge machinery of Wall Street information and analysis skews the thinking of Congress," said Jeff Connaughton, who has been both a lobbyist and Congressional staff member.

Lawmakers who supported the industry-backed bills said they did so because the effort was in the public interest. Yet some agreed that the relationship with corporate groups was at times uncomfortable.

"I won't dispute for one second the problems of a system that demands immense amount of fund-raisers by its legislators," said Representative Jim Himes, a third-term Democrat of Connecticut, who supported the recent industry-backed bills and leads the party's fund-raising effort in the House. A member of the Financial Services Committee and a former banker at Goldman Sachs, he is one of the top recipients of Wall Street donations. "It's appalling, it's disgusting, it's wasteful and it opens the possibility of conflicts of interest and corruption. It's unfortunately the world we live in."

The passage of the Dodd-Frank Act, which took aim at culprits of the financial crisis like lax mortgage lending and the \$700 trillion derivatives market, ushered in a new phase of Wall Street lobbying. Over the last three years, bank lobbyists have blitzed the regulatory agencies writing rules under Dodd-Frank, chipping away at some regulations.

But the industry lobbyists also realized that Congress can play a critical role in the campaign to mute Dodd-Frank.

The House Financial Services Committee has been a natural target. Not only is it controlled by Republicans, who had opposed Dodd-Frank, but freshmen lawmakers are often appointed to the unusually large committee because it is seen as a helpful base from which they can raise campaign funds.

For Wall Street, the committee is a place to push back against Dodd-Frank. When banks and other corporations, for example, feared that regulators would demand new scrutiny of derivatives trades, they appealed to the committee. At the time, regulators were completing Dodd-Frank's overhaul of derivatives, contracts that allow companies to either speculate in the markets or protect against risk. Derivatives had pushed the insurance giant American International Group to the brink of collapse in 2008. The question was whether regulators would exempt certain in-house derivatives trades between affiliates of big banks.

As the House committee was drafting a bill that would force regulators to exempt many such trades, corporate lawyers like Michael Bopp weighed in with their suggested changes, according to e-mails reviewed by *The Times*. At one point, when a House aide sent a potential compromise to Mr. Bopp, he replied with additional tweaks.

In an interview, Mr. Bopp explained that he drafted the proposal at the request of Congressional aides, who expressed broad support for the change. The proposal, he explained, was a "compromise" that was actually designed to "limit the scope" of the exemption.

"Everyone on the Hill wanted this bill, but they wanted to make sure it wasn't subject to abuse," said Mr. Bopp, a partner at the law firm Gibson, Dunn who was representing a coalition of nonfinancial corporations that use derivatives to hedge their risk.

Ultimately, the committee inserted every word of Mr. Bopp's suggestion into a 2012 version of the bill that passed the House, save for a slight change in phrasing. A later iteration of the bill, passed by the House committee earlier this month, also included some of the same wording.

And when federal regulators in April released a rule governing such trades, it was significantly less demanding than the industry had feared, a decision that the industry partly attributed to pressure stemming from Capitol Hill.

Citigroup and other major banks used a similar approach on another derivatives bill. Under Dodd-Frank, banks must push some derivatives trading into separate units that are not backed by the government's insurance fund. The goal was to isolate this risky trading.

The provision exempted many derivatives from the requirement, but some Republicans proposed striking the so-called push out provision altogether. After objections were raised about the Republican plan, Citigroup lobbyists sent around the bank's own compromise proposal that simply exempted a wider array of derivatives. That recommendation, put forth in late 2011, was largely part of the bill approved by the House committee on May 7 and is now pending before both the Senate and the House.

Citigroup executives said the change they advocated was good for the financial system, not just the bank.

"This view is shared not just by the industry but from leaders such as Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke," said Molly

Millerwise Meiners, a Citigroup spokeswoman.

Industry executives said that the changes—which were drafted in consultation with other major industry banks—will make the financial system more secure, as the derivatives trading that takes place inside the bank is subject to much greater scrutiny.

Representative Maxine Waters, the ranking Democrat on the Financial Services Committee, was among the few Democrats opposing the change, echoing the concerns of consumer groups.

"The bill restores the public subsidy to exotic Wall Street activities," said Marcus Stanley, the policy director of Americans for Financial Reform, a nonprofit group.

But most of the Democrats on the committee, along with 31 Republicans, came to the industry's defense, including the seven freshmen Democrats—most of whom have started to receive donations this year from political action committees of Goldman Sachs, Wells Fargo and other financial institutions, records show.

Six days after the vote, several freshmen Democrats were in New York to meet with bank executives, a tour organized by Representative Joe Crowley, who helps lead the House Democrats' fund-raising committee. The trip was planned before the votes, and was not a fund-raiser, but it gave the lawmakers a chance to meet with Wall Street's elite.

In addition to a tour of Goldman's Lower Manhattan headquarters, and a meeting with Lloyd C. Blankfein, the bank's chief executive, the lawmakers went to JPMorgan's Park Avenue office. There, they chatted with Jamie Dimon, the bank's chief, about Dodd-Frank and immigration reform.

The bank chief also delivered something of a pep talk.

America has the widest, deepest and most transparent capital markets in the world," he said. "Washington has been dealt a good hand."

Mr. SANDERS. And let me quote from that article:

In a sign of Wall Street's resurgent influence in Washington, Citigroup's recommendations were reflected in more than 70 lines of the House committee's 85-line bill. Two crucial paragraphs, prepared by Citigroup in conjunction with other Wall Street banks, were copied nearly word for word.

In other words, it is not even Members of Congress writing these bills, it is Wall Street writing the bills and getting them into this legislation.

Now what does this legislation do? Well, we suffered the worst economic crisis since the 1930s because of the greed, recklessness, and illegal behavior on Wall Street. What Wall Street did is engage in absolutely reckless speculation, and then the chickens came home to roost. People could not pay back the debts they incurred on subprime mortgages, and the entire financial system of the United States of America and the world was on the verge of collapse. So Congress, a few years ago, passed Dodd-Frank. It didn't go anywhere near as far as I would go. I believe we should break up these major financial institutions. I don't believe you can control them. I don't believe you can regulate them. They regulate the Congress. But Dodd-Frank

took some steps toward that, and there was one provision I will quote—section 716.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD this section I am going to quote from.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

**SEC. 716. PROHIBITION AGAINST FEDERAL GOVERNMENT BAILOUTS OF SWAPS ENTITIES.**

(a) PROHIBITION ON FEDERAL ASSISTANCE.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law (including regulations), no Federal assistance may be provided to any swaps entity with respect to any swap, security-based swap, or other activity of the swaps entity.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) FEDERAL ASSISTANCE.—The term "Federal assistance" means the use of any advances from any Federal Reserve credit facility or discount window that is not part of a program or facility with broad-based eligibility under section 13(3)(A) of the Federal Reserve Act, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation insurance or guarantees for the purpose of—

(A) making any loan to, or purchasing any stock, equity interest, or debt obligation of, any swaps entity;

(B) purchasing the assets of any swaps entity;

(C) guaranteeing any loan or debt issuance of any swaps entity; or

(D) entering into any assistance arrangement (including tax breaks), loss sharing, or profit sharing with any swaps entity.

(2) SWAPS ENTITY.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term "swaps entity" means any swap dealer, security-based swap dealer, major swap participant, major security-based swap participant, that is registered under—

(i) the Commodity Exchange Act (7 U.S.C. 1 et seq.); or

(ii) the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78a et seq.).

(B) EXCLUSION.—The term "swaps entity" does not include any major swap participant or major security-based swap participant that is an insured depository institution.

(c) AFFILIATES OF INSURED DEPOSITORY INSTITUTIONS.—The prohibition on Federal assistance contained in subsection (a) does not apply to and shall not prevent an insured depository institution from having or establishing an affiliate which is a swaps entity, as long as such insured depository institution is part of a bank holding company, or savings and loan holding company, that is supervised by the Federal Reserve and such swaps entity affiliate complies with sections 23A and 23B of the Federal Reserve Act and such other requirements as the Commodity Futures Trading Commission or the Securities Exchange Commission, as appropriate, and the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, may determine to be necessary and appropriate.

(d) ONLY BONA FIDE HEDGING AND TRADITIONAL BANK ACTIVITIES PERMITTED.—The prohibition in subsection (a) shall apply to any insured depository institution unless the insured depository institution limits its swap or security-based swap activities to:

(1) Hedging and other similar risk mitigating activities directly related to the insured depository institution's activities.

(2) Acting as a swaps entity for swaps or security-based swaps involving rates or reference assets that are permissible for investment by a national bank under the paragraph designated as "Seventh." of section

5136 of the Revised Statutes of the United States (12 U.S.C. 24), other than as described in paragraph (3).

(3) **LIMITATION ON CREDIT DEFAULT SWAPS.**—Acting as a swaps entity for credit default swaps, including swaps or security-based swaps referencing the credit risk of asset-backed securities as defined in section 3(a)(77) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78c(a)(77)) (as amended by this Act) shall not be considered a bank permissible activity for purposes of subsection (d)(2) unless such swaps or security-based swaps are cleared by a derivatives clearing organization (as such term is defined in section 1a of the Commodity Exchange Act (7 U.S.C. 1a)) or a clearing agency (as such term is defined in section 3 of the Securities Exchange Act (15 U.S.C. 78c)) that is registered, or exempt from registration, as a derivatives clearing organization under the Commodity Exchange Act or as a clearing agency under the Securities Exchange Act, respectively.

(e) **EXISTING SWAPS AND SECURITY-BASED SWAPS.**—The prohibition in subsection (a) shall only apply to swaps or security-based swaps entered into by an insured depository institution after the end of the transition period described in subsection (f).

(f) **TRANSITION PERIOD.**—To the extent an insured depository institution qualifies as a “swaps entity” and would be subject to the Federal assistance prohibition in subsection (a), the appropriate Federal banking agency, after consulting with and considering the views of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission or the Securities Exchange Commission, as appropriate, shall permit the insured depository institution up to 24 months to divest the swaps entity or cease the activities that require registration as a swaps entity. In establishing the appropriate transition period to effect such divestiture or cessation of activities, which may include making the swaps entity an affiliate of the insured depository institution, the appropriate Federal banking agency shall take into account and make written findings regarding the potential impact of such divestiture or cessation of activities on the insured depository institution’s (1) mortgage lending, (2) small business lending, (3) job creation, and (4) capital formation versus the potential negative impact on insured depositors and the Deposit Insurance Fund of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. The appropriate Federal banking agency may consider such other factors as may be appropriate. The appropriate Federal banking agency may place such conditions on the insured depository institution’s divestiture or ceasing of activities of the swaps entity as it deems necessary and appropriate. The transition period under this subsection may be extended by the appropriate Federal banking agency, after consultation with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission and the Securities and Exchange Commission, for a period of up to 1 additional year.

(g) **EXCLUDED ENTITIES.**—For purposes of this section, the term “swaps entity” shall not include any insured depository institution under the Federal Deposit Insurance Act or a covered financial company under title II which is in a conservatorship, receivership, or a bridge bank operated by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

(h) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The prohibition in subsection (a) shall be effective 2 years following the date on which this Act is effective.

(i) **LIQUIDATION REQUIRED.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—

(A) **FDIC INSURED INSTITUTIONS.**—All swaps entities that are FDIC insured institutions

that are put into receivership or declared insolvent as a result of swap or security-based swap activity of the swaps entities shall be subject to the termination or transfer of that swap or security-based swap activity in accordance with applicable law prescribing the treatment of those contracts. No taxpayer funds shall be used to prevent the receivership of any swap entity resulting from swap or security-based swap activity of the swaps entity.

(B) **INSTITUTIONS THAT POSE A SYSTEMIC RISK AND ARE SUBJECT TO HEIGHTENED PRUDENTIAL SUPERVISION AS REGULATED UNDER SECTION 113.**—All swaps entities that are institutions that pose a systemic risk and are subject to heightened prudential supervision as regulated under section 113, that are put into receivership or declared insolvent as a result of swap or security-based swap activity of the swaps entities shall be subject to the termination or transfer of that swap or security-based swap activity in accordance with applicable law prescribing the treatment of those contracts. No taxpayer funds shall be used to prevent the receivership of any swap entity resulting from swap or security-based swap activity of the swaps entity.

(C) **NON-FDIC INSURED, NON-SYSTEMICALLY SIGNIFICANT INSTITUTIONS NOT SUBJECT TO HEIGHTENED PRUDENTIAL SUPERVISION AS REGULATED UNDER SECTION 113.**—No taxpayer resources shall be used for the orderly liquidation of any swaps entities that are non-FDIC insured, non-systemically significant institutions not subject to heightened prudential supervision as regulated under section 113.

(2) **RECOVERY OF FUNDS.**—All funds expended on the termination or transfer of the swap or security-based swap activity of the swaps entity shall be recovered in accordance with applicable law from the disposition of assets of such swap entity or through assessments, including on the financial sector as provided under applicable law.

(3) **NO LOSSES TO TAXPAYERS.**—Taxpayers shall bear no losses from the exercise of any authority under this title.

(j) **PROHIBITION ON UNREGULATED COMBINATION OF SWAPS ENTITIES AND BANKING.**—At no time following adoption of the rules in subsection (k) may a bank or bank holding company be permitted to be or become a swap entity unless it conducts its swap or security-based swap activity in compliance with such minimum standards set by its prudential regulator as are reasonably calculated to permit the swaps entity to conduct its swap or security-based swap activities in a safe and sound manner and mitigate systemic risk.

(k) **RULES.**—In prescribing rules, the prudential regulator for a swaps entity shall consider the following factors:

(1) The expertise and managerial strength of the swaps entity, including systems for effective oversight.

(2) The financial strength of the swaps entity.

(3) Systems for identifying, measuring and controlling risks arising from the swaps entity’s operations.

(4) Systems for identifying, measuring and controlling the swaps entity’s participation in existing markets.

(5) Systems for controlling the swaps entity’s participation or entry into in new markets and products.

(l) **AUTHORITY OF THE FINANCIAL STABILITY OVERSIGHT COUNCIL.**—The Financial Stability Oversight Council may determine that, when other provisions established by this Act are insufficient to effectively mitigate systemic risk and protect taxpayers,

that swaps entities may no longer access Federal assistance with respect to any swap, security-based swap, or other activity of the swaps entity. Any such determination by the Financial Stability Oversight Council of a prohibition of federal assistance shall be made on an institution-by-institution basis, and shall require the vote of not fewer than two-thirds of the members of the Financial Stability Oversight Council, which must include the vote by the Chairman of the Council, the Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, and the Chairperson of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. Notice and hearing requirements for such determinations shall be consistent with the standards provided in title I.

(m) **BAN ON PROPRIETARY TRADING IN DERIVATIVES.**—An insured depository institution shall comply with the prohibition on proprietary trading in derivatives as required by section 619 of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act.

**SEC. 717. NEW PRODUCT APPROVAL CFTC—SEC PROCESS.**

(a) **AMENDMENTS TO THE COMMODITY EXCHANGE ACT.**—Section 2(a)(1)(C) of the Commodity Exchange Act (7 U.S.C. 2(a)(1)(C)) is amended—

(1) in clause (i) by striking “This” and inserting “(I) Except as provided in subclause (II), this”; and

(2) by adding at the end of clause (i) the following:

“(II) This Act shall apply to and the Commission shall have jurisdiction with respect to accounts, agreements, and transactions involving, and may permit the listing for trading pursuant to section 5c(c) of, a put, call, or other option on 1 or more securities (as defined in section 2(a)(1) of the Securities Act of 1933 or section 3(a)(10) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 on the date of enactment of the Futures Trading Act of 1982), including any group or index of such securities, or any interest therein or based on the value thereof, that is exempted by the Securities and Exchange Commission pursuant to section 36(a)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 with the condition that the Commission exercise concurrent jurisdiction over such put, call, or other option; provided, however, that nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to affect the jurisdiction and authority of the Securities and Exchange Commission over such put, call, or other option.”.

(b) **AMENDMENTS TO THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934.**—The Securities Exchange Act of 1934 is amended by adding the following section after section 3A (15 U.S.C. 78c-1):

**“SEC. 3B. SECURITIES-RELATED DERIVATIVES.**

“(a) Any agreement, contract, or transaction (or class thereof) that is exempted by the Commodity Futures Trading Commission

Mr. SANDERS. This is the title of the provision, 716, that this bill repeals: “Prohibition Against Federal Government Bailouts of Swaps Entities.”

Now to quote from that section:

(A) Prohibition on Federal Assistance— notwithstanding any other provision of law (including regulations), no Federal assistance may be provided to any swaps entity with respect to any swap, security-based swap, or other activity of the swaps entity.

That is what is being repealed. So Wall Street, as a result of the work of Citigroup and the other Wall Street

companies, can now continue to engage in reckless derivatives speculation. And when they make a whole lot of money, they get richer. But when they lose money, because of the repeal of this provision, it is the taxpayers of this country who have to bail them out.

Does anybody—anybody—think that makes any sense at all? That is in this bill.

So for those reasons and more, I would hope very much that the Senate rejects this agreement and that we renegotiate. No one wants to see the government shut down, but we must negotiate an agreement that is much fairer to the American people and to the working families of our country.

With that, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma.

Mr. COBURN. Mr. President, I inquire of the Senator from Wisconsin how much time she is going to need to take.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wisconsin.

Ms. BALDWIN. Senator, less than 10 minutes.

Mr. COBURN. I would prefer she go ahead and I will do all mine in consequence, if I may.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Wisconsin.

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. President, I thank the Senator from Oklahoma for his courtesy, and I am delighted to rise today to mark the passage of the Fiscal Year 2015 National Defense Authorization Act. This bill is a product of bipartisan negotiations between the House and Senate Armed Services Committees, and I thank Chairman LEVIN and Ranking Member INHOFE, Chairman McKEON and Ranking Member ADAM SMITH in the House for their hard work.

This critical bill establishes our national security policy and supports our dedicated men and women in uniform and their families. I am particularly pleased that the legislation supports Wisconsin manufacturers and workers who build ships and engines and military vehicles that help our Nation meet its national security needs.

On the eve of his retirement from the Senate, I want to offer a special thank you to Senator CARL LEVIN for his magnificent work as chairman of the committee on this bill and for working with me to include a military land transfer in Wisconsin at the site of the former Badger Army Ammunition Plant. I have been working on this project since my election to the House of Representatives 16 years ago, and I am extremely grateful to Chairman LEVIN and his staff for helping me push this legislation across the finish line.

The extraordinary piece of land I am talking about consists of some 7,500 acres. It is bordered by the rolling

Baraboo Hills, which hosts the largest flock of upland forest of oak and maple and basswood still standing in southern Wisconsin. It is bounded also by Wisconsin's beautiful Devils Lake State Park and a segment of the Ice Age Trail, which is part of the National Trails System. To its east it is skirted by the mighty Wisconsin River that flows toward the Mississippi.

For the better part of the past century, it has been the site of a bustling manufacturing plant, once the largest munitions plant in the world which produced munitions for American troops that they used from World War II through Vietnam. We can see a historic aerial photograph to my left of what that property looked like with the Baraboo Bluffs and the Wisconsin River. Before that, the site was home to 90 landowners who farmed the land, and well before that, the land was cherished ground for the Ho-Chunk Nation, whose people grew traditional crops and gathered medicinal plants from the land. This land is revered by the Ho-Chunk Nation and is connected to their ancestral history, with oral history of the land dating back hundreds of years.

In 1997 discussions began on the future of this land after the Army closed the plant, declaring it to be surplus to its needs, and began the process of remediation of the contaminated soil at the site. Some thought it should be sold for commercial development, but the local community opposed that option, understanding that the land's unique attributes needed to be preserved and wishing to see it restored to its natural beauty.

I always felt that the community—and not bureaucrats in Washington—should be empowered to make decisions about the future of this site. I regarded this as a once-in-a-generation and maybe a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for this community. So as a freshman Member of Congress, I secured a Federal grant to establish a community consensus process to recommend a reuse plan. This process brought every stakeholder to the table.

In 2001, after nearly 2 years of hard work, the Badger Reuse Committee issued a report supported by all the participating parties—including State and Federal and tribal entities—outlining agreement on future uses. Some said that consensus would be nearly impossible, but we proved that local stakeholders, working together, could achieve a visionary future for this incredible property. What was that consensus? The consensus was that the property should be co-managed in perpetuity as one property for agricultural, recreational, educational, and conservation purposes.

The photo to my left shows a stark contrast to the photo you just saw of the Badger Army Ammunition Plant, as the property has been gradually restored over time. Since that time, most

of the parcels at this site have been transferred—one parcel to the U.S. Department of Agriculture for dairy forage research, another to the State of Wisconsin to provide opportunities for low-impact recreation. But one major parcel essential to the community's vision at this site has been caught in bureaucratic disagreement for nearly a decade.

This legislation will finally allow that parcel to be transferred from the Army to the Department of the Interior, which will hold the land in trust for the Ho-Chunk Nation. This transfer has been stalled by an interagency dispute over which Federal agency would have responsibility for future environmental cleanup at the site. The legislative intent of this provision follows the legislative intent of our environmental superfund laws: The polluter must pay for contamination they caused.

As to future uses, the Ho-Chunk Nation participated in the consensus process that culminated in the Badger Reuse Plan, where they expressed interest in holding the lands in trust in order to preserve native prairie habitat and graze bison. Since that time, the Ho-Chunk Nation has reaffirmed their interest in receiving this land for prairie restoration—a reuse that reaffirms the vision of the Badger Reuse Committee that all the new holders of these lands—the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the State of Wisconsin, and the Ho-Chunk Nation—would manage the property in coordination with one another, reflecting the site as a whole.

In October of this year the tribe updated its land use plan for the parcel in this transfer. I ask unanimous consent to have that document and a technical description of this transfer printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From Ho-Chunk Nation, Oct. 2014]

LAND MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR FORMER  
BADGER ARMY AMMUNITION PLANT PARCELS  
1.0 MASTER PLAN

1.1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Ho-Chunk Nation (HCN) has requested the transfer of an estimated 1552.71 acres of the Badger Army Ammunition Plant (BAAP) declared as surplus pursuant to 25 U.S.C. §450j(f)(3). This transfer would be for the use and benefit of the Ho-Chunk Nation and their people. The BAAP land has very important historic and cultural significance to the Ho-Chunk people, as it lies within their aboriginal territory and includes a number of historic and pre-historic sites of significance to the tribe.

The transfer of a portion of the BAAP land to the Nation would allow for the restoration of the natural habitats including prairie, wetlands and oak savanna. Habitat restoration activities would complement the reintroduction of a bison herd onto the BAAP property. The bison program will be vital to combating diabetes and other health problems which are common among the Ho-Chunk People. Lastly, the transfer would allow for an increased level of protection and

preservation of the historical and cultural elements found on the property.

The purpose of acquiring the BAAP parcel is, as reflected in the mission statement of the United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs "to enhance the quality of life, to promote economic opportunity, and to carry out the responsibility to protect and improve the trust assets of American Indians, Indian Tribes and Alaska Natives." In accord with those objectives and the Indian Self-Determination Act, acquisition of this property for the benefit of the Ho-Chunk Nation would provide, promote and enhance the Ho-Chunk Nation programs for historic and cultural resource protection, natural resource enhancement, education, employment and economic development. The property would be used to strengthen and expand these programs that are supported, in significant part, by contracts between the Nation and the Department pursuant to the Self-Determination Act, and will primarily benefit the Nation's 7,415 enrolled tribal members.

#### 1.2 INTRODUCTION

The Badger Army Ammunition Plant occupies 7,354 acres in the predominantly rural countryside of Sauk County, Wisconsin. The Badger Plant was constructed in 1942 following the United States entry into World War II. The Plant provided ammunition propellant for the duration of the war effort, and was again operative during the Korean and Vietnam Wars. In late 1997 the U.S. Army determined that the BAAP facility was no longer needed to meet the United States defense needs.

Subsequent efforts to define a future for the Badger property have proved challenging due to the site's unusually rich natural and cultural history, the wide range of potential reuse options, and the complexity of local, state, national, and tribal interests involved. The current scenario would result in the Ho-Chunk Nation acquiring 1552.71 acres with the remaining acreage being divided amongst several landowners including the WI Dept. of Natural Resources, U.S. Dept. of Agriculture-Dairy Forage Research Center, Bluffview Sanitary District, WI Dept. of Transportation and the Town of Sumpter.

#### 1.3 GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The resources of BAAP will be managed by the Ho-Chunk Nation to promote, preserve, and enhance its unique natural, scenic, and cultural features. Management activities are intended to:

Protect the aesthetic, cultural, scenic, and wild qualities as well as the native wildlife and plant communities. Special emphasis will be placed on designated federal and state-listed species, species of special concern, and other unique biotic features.

Protect, conserve, and maintain all significant cultural sites.

Provide for and manage the use and enjoyment by visitors and maintain a diversity of low-impact recreational opportunities for people of all abilities.

Utilize sound natural resource and agriculture management practices to improve water quality, maintain soil productivity, and protect wildlife habitat.

Develop a bison program to support HCN nutritional programs and provide educational opportunities.

Strive to operate a self-supporting project through grants, donations, bequests, and possibly fee-based recreation that is consistent with the overriding commitment to preserve Badger's natural, historical and cultural features.

Ultimately establish and maintain a visitor's center that includes information and exhibits on Badger's geologic and natural uniqueness, bison management, cultural significance and history of the ammunition plant. The center would also provide information and exhibits on the history of Native Americans and Euro-American habitation of the Sauk Prairie, as well as an educational classroom.

#### 2.0 LAND MANAGEMENT PLAN

##### 2.1 OVERALL ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT

Ecosystem is a term that has crept into the nation's collective vocabulary and is commonly used in regard to environmental issues; but what does it really mean, and how is it relevant to the management of the Badger Army Ammunition Plant? Ecosystem is derived from ecology, the branch of biology that studies the relationships between living organisms and their environment, and their dependency upon each other for survival. When the organisms and the environment interact, an ecosystem is formed. The exploitation or neglect of any organism can upset the delicate balance such that the system is forever changed.

An ecosystem not only encompasses water, land, air and wildlife, it also includes people. Of all the organisms in an ecosystem, Homo sapiens have the most impact and the greatest influence in preventing the loss and exploitation of other species. The demise of species and their habitat is all too often the unfortunate consequence of humans trying to conquer their environment for the sake of development and economic gain. Natural and cultural resources, and the environmental processes that affect them, are fundamentally influenced by society and vice versa.

Understanding the complex interrelationships within an ecosystem and a commitment to their maintenance are essential in ensuring a vital ecosystem—a high quality of life, healthy environment, and a productive, sustainable economy. The National Park Service states that "The long-term sustainability of the environmental, societal, and economic systems on which public lands and their surrounding human communities depend, requires a collaborative approach that integrates scientific knowledge and maintains flexibility in order to make adjustments over time." (Sustainability can be defined as a contract among the people, the land, and future generations which maintains and renews resources for the long-term.) Therefore, the knowledge and skills of natural resource professionals will be used to preserve the Badger Army Ammunition Plant as a distinct resource, rather than relying on nostalgia and politics to make management-related decisions.

The primary goals of ecosystem management are to conserve, restore, and maintain the ecological integrity, productivity, and biological diversity of natural landscapes. The overriding objective is to ensure the ecological sustainability of the land. The Ho-Chunk Nation will adapt an ecosystem management approach that will encompass the natural environment, society, and economy—the entire system. This vision is based on the awareness that the resources protected within Badger are not isolated from the surrounding communities and environment but are inextricably linked to them. Any upcoming strategies that the Ho-Chunk Nation embarks upon to preserve and protect the property will work towards providing a balance between human needs and long-term environmental protection.

Ecosystem management will strive to restore and sustain the health, productivity,

and biological diversity of ecosystems and the overall quality of life through a natural resource management approach that is fully integrated with social and economic goals. Although the ecosystem management approach is more effective than species-by-species management, the needs of certain key species must receive priority attention as part of ecosystem management.

For every action there is an equal or greater reaction. The activities of the visitors, though they may be low-impact, will inevitably affect the ecosystems of Badger, adjacent land, and local communities. It will be the Ho-Chunk Nation's primary responsibility to balance the repercussions of all activities with the health of the ecosystems while contributing to the local economy. Education and information are the keys to the preservation and protection of the Badger property and its resources. In addition to providing ecosystem management, the Ho-Chunk Nation will strive to include education in all management activities. The more visitors and the local community understand the dynamics of the ecosystem of which they are a part, the greater their respect will be for the many elements comprising the system. Providing a deeper understanding of the web of life will be beneficial to the visitors of today, as well as to the future generations who will be the ultimate caretakers of the land.

#### 2.2 LAND MANAGEMENT

##### 2.2.1 MISSION

Land Management will ensure protection of the soils, waters, flora, and fauna that comprise the Badger property through sound management techniques and consideration of the human influence.

##### 2.2.2 MANAGEMENT GOALS

Provide resource-based research opportunities for educational purposes.

Explore both traditional and innovative land and water management practices.

Improve and maintain wildlife habitat.

Preserve and protect biological diversity.

Restore and develop the native ecosystems.

Improve aesthetic views.

Improve and maintain the health of the natural ecosystems, especially where recreation activities are likely to be most intense.

Develop monitoring programs for wildlife, vegetation, and water quality.

Control and eradicate invasive species, such as garlic mustard, buckthorn, reed canary grass, olives and honeysuckle.

Monitor management and visitor impacts on the natural features of the Badger property and use gathered information to modify management actions when necessary.

#### STATEMENT FOR THE RECORD

[Senator Tammy Baldwin, Dec. 11, 2014]

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION OF SECTION 3078 OF H.R. 3979, THE CARL LEVIN AND HOWARD P. "BUCK" MCKEON NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015

I am offering this statement to clarify the legislative intent of Section 3078 of H.R. 3979 and to detail the intended use of the land which will be transferred as a result of Section 3078.

Earlier this year, when Congress first began its consideration of the National Defense Authorization Act for FY 2015, I drafted this provision for inclusion as an amendment to S. 2410, the Senate Armed Services Committee-reported version of the bill. I then successfully worked with numerous Congressional committees of jurisdiction to



ensure that my amendment—numbered 3393 and filed on June 26, 2014—would be considered in scope for an eventual conference committee between the Senate and House. That amendment text served as the framework for the ultimate transfer language included as Section 3078 in H.R. 3979, the final conference committee reported defense bill.

Section 3078 of H.R. 3979 transfers approximately 1,553 acres of land located within the former Badger Army Ammunition Plant to the Department of Interior in trust for the Ho-Chunk Nation.

The transfer has been stalled by an inter-agency dispute over the federal government's responsibility for environmental cleanup at the site. The legislative intent of this provision follows the legislative intent of our environmental superfund laws—the polluter must pay for contamination they caused. For many decades, the Department of Defense operated the Badger Army Ammunition Plant on this property. Among other things, this legislation makes clear that the Army retains responsibility for environmental contamination from Department of Defense conduct or activities prior to transfer and is responsible for taking any necessary remedial actions related to environmental contamination in the future.

This responsibility for environmental remediation applies to activities of the Department of Defense, which includes activities conducted by contractors on behalf of the Department of Defense. Most of the activities conducted on the 1553 acres of land to be transferred to the Ho-Chunk Nation were performed by independent contractors or other contractors for the U.S. Army, the Department of Defense, or both. Section 3078(c)(2) of H.R. 3979 is intended to ensure that the Secretary of the Army remains responsible for remediating hazardous substances resulting from the activities of the Department of Defense, and that the “activities of the Department of Defense” includes activities undertaken by the officers and agents employed or contracted by the Department of Defense; but nothing in this section is intended to diminish or increase the liability of any third party or otherwise affect the liability of any third party as established under any other provision of law.

While this legislation transfers the land to Interior in trust for the Nation, it also makes clear that Interior does not take on liability or responsibility for certain conduct or activities that took place on the land before the transfer. The Department of Interior's Indian Affairs budget should not, now or in the future, be tapped to remediate environmental contamination on the property that was caused by the Department of Defense. Those funds are intended for the benefit of all federally recognized Indian tribes. Therefore, this legislation seeks to clarify that the Department of Defense, not the Department of Interior, is responsible or liable for any environmental contamination that occurred from the activities of the Department of Defense prior to the transfer.

This legislation will quickly transfer the lands and allow the Ho-Chunk Nation to quickly make use of them. This acquisition will be expedited by a number of things, including that the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) is not required to conduct any additional processing before the land is placed in trust. Instead, the acquisition of the land in trust by the Bureau of Indian Affairs is effectuated by this legislation. The structures on the property will be transferred to the Ho-Chunk Nation in fee as soon as the Nation provides the Secretary of Interior with a tribal resolution authorizing the transfer.

I would also like to explain the intended use of the land following the transfer. In 1997, the Army declared they would no longer use this site and stakeholders gathered together to recommend future uses for the property. The Ho-Chunk Nation was one of multiple stakeholders, including representatives of local governments, the State, the federal government, and citizen groups that participated in this process. In 2001, these stakeholders issued their recommendations in the Badger Reuse Plan, which set forth a vision that the land would be co-managed by three main property owners, and that those property owners would manage them in coordination that reflects the site as a whole. During the reuse process, the Ho-Chunk expressed interest in holding lands at the site in trust in order to preserve native prairie habitat and graze bison, and the Badger Reuse Plan recommended they receive the land accordingly. Since that time, the Ho-Chunk Nation has reaffirmed their interest in receiving the land for prairie restoration. In October of this year, the tribe updated its Land Use Plan for the parcel in this transfer, further affirming their prairie restoration goals for the site—goals that will be able to turn to actions now that this long-stalled transfer is finally resolved.

Ms. BALDWIN. These 1,553 acres represent the last major parcel at the Badger Army Ammunition Plant site to leave Army management. The resolution this transfer will bring is long overdue, and I am proud to have played a role in defining the community's vision and bringing it to a reality.

The action we take this week—hopefully later today—will benefit many generations to come.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma.

Mr. COBURN. Mr. President, I first congratulate my colleague from Wisconsin. There is a lot of controversy over lands packages, and her very pleasant example is what isn't controversial.

The reason we have a discussion about what is going on is the very mundane—the very things we can get done have never been brought forward on the floor without being brought forward with a very controversial land project. So I agree with her 100 percent that what is happening for her and the people of Wisconsin and her tribal nation is absolutely appropriate.

The question we ought to ask and the question that causes all the trouble is, Why in the world does the Federal Government own 640 million acres of our land and have all sorts of rules—of our land—that say we can't utilize it in a way that is best for our citizens, best for our States, best for our region, best for the ecology, and best for preservation of history? Until Congress solves that problem, we are going to continue to have these battles.

What is disappointing to me is we spent 1½ years looking at the National Park Service—which nobody in this body read. It is quality scholarship. It is scholarship that the Park Service agrees with. It is scholarship that the

historians of the Park Service agree with. It is scholarship that the people who write about the parks agree with.

So today we have before us a bill that has 68 separate land items in it, of which 40 are totally noncontroversial, which could have been run across the floor 2 years ago, I would tell my colleague from Wisconsin, but they were chosen not to because the desire is to get recognition at home and expand the National Park Service.

If we were to happen to just take the couple hours to read this, we would see right now why expanding the National Park Service is a disastrous idea. The reason it is a disastrous idea is our parks are falling apart—a \$12 billion backlog on our most pristine, greatest national monuments and parks with which we have set the pace for the rest of the world in terms of recognizing and valuing such wonderful natural landscape and creation. But we have ignored that because the desire to please a parochial benefit at the expense of harming these most precious resources cannot be resisted by most of our colleagues.

So I find myself on the floor today. I know I won't win this battle, but I won't quit fighting. We should fight for what we have already invested in. We should preserve what we have already invested in. We are falling behind \$250 million a year.

It is ludicrous to say this bill doesn't cost anything. It costs \$320 million a year, the “no cost park program” that we are putting out and saying it doesn't cost anything.

I was born in Wyoming. I love Yellowstone. I love the Great Rocky Mountains national forest. I love our wonderful programs. But the vast majority of the parks we have created in the last 20 years are nothing but drains on the National Park Service. We have the data—this has the data to show that. We are going to do the largest expansion of national parks since 1978 in this bill, and we don't have the money for it.

So what will happen as this goes through? And I say to my colleague from Wisconsin, you are absolutely right—yours should fly through here. It is not a significant cost. You are absolutely right. But fixing the real problem is restoring the right to the States to the lands that are there, taking it out of the hands of the Federal Government, and letting the States make the decisions about what happens to the land within their confines.

So it is disappointing to me that when great scholarship is done and is recognized, parochialism trumps even the reading of the information with which to make good decisions. And it is a blight on the Senate. We don't have to agree with everything in this, but we can't deny the facts that are totally documented in this. We can't deny the

statements of the National Park Service. We can't deny the people we are actually charging to do this—we can't deny their concerns about what we are getting ready to do.

Let me read for a moment what Harry Butowski, a historian who recently retired from the National Park Service, said about this bill. He summed up how Congress is out of touch with National Park Service needs and priorities when he was expressing his opposition to the lands package in the national defense authorization bill, of all places.

He said:

I think it is irresponsible for Congress to create so many new parks, heritage areas and expansions of existing units and not provide the funding and manpower necessary to manage what we now have.

I think the National Park System should not be added to or expanded until we can fund and staff all of our parks and programs. To add more units at this time is just not responsible. It is the opposite of good management.

Here is the historian for the Park Service telling us as Members of the Senate: You are irresponsible in what you are doing.

I know we will blow that off. That doesn't mean anything. But this is somebody who has had his eye on the Park Service for years.

... Perhaps what Congress should do is an analysis of the entire National Park System and start getting rid of marginal units that cost many dollars and have few visitors.

That is exactly what this report recommends. But nobody read it, studied it, considered it, to try to solve the problem. And it doesn't mean we cannot have new national parks—we can—but we ought to have a plan to take care of the ones we have now before we add additional national parks and put at risk the most fantastic National Park System in the world.

Here is what the first National Park Director stated—the first one—and we ought to pay attention to him.

The national park system as now constituted should not be allowed to be lowered in standard, dignity, and prestige by the inclusion of areas which express in less than the highest terms the particular class or kind of exhibit which they represent.

Let me tell you, this is exactly what he is talking about.

Hinchcliff Stadium in Patterson, NJ, is going to add \$100,000 to the Park System. Does it have historical significance? Yes. Should it be part of the Park System? Absolutely not. Does it look good for those who sponsored it back home? Yes. Get the attaboys back home. But what damage do you do to Yellowstone, Yosemite, Rocky Mountain National Park, Grand Mesa, Grand Canyon? What pain, what lack of maintenance, comes across from that?

I have stated before, I have no problem with land swaps and conveyances. I think we ought to make them easy, and the best way to make them easy is

to get the Federal Government out of them, and return the land that is in Wisconsin that the Federal Government owns to the people of Wisconsin. They will be the best stewards of that land. Same thing in Oklahoma, in Colorado, in California, in Washington State, and Arizona, and in Nevada, where it has the largest percentage ownership by the Federal Government. We have to kowtow to a bunch of bureaucrats in Washington for the people in the State of Nevada to do what is in the best interests in the State of Nevada of the land that is there? That makes no sense.

I have mentioned the bill is not deficit neutral—\$310 million, including more than \$200 million in cost to the National Park System, is going to come through with this bill, and unless you assume that nothing is going to happen that is authorized in this, there is no way you can deny this doesn't cost another half a billion dollars a year. As a matter of fact, I found it interesting listening to the chairwoman of the energy committee this past week when she was excited about this land package because we are clearing all the old land pieces of legislation.

So we are taking care of the politicians, but are we taking care of the parks? Are we doing what is in the best long-term interest of preserving the pristine, unique aspects of our country as we add ballfields or the old Colt manufacturing facility in Connecticut? Really, a national park? Does it meet the requirements as set out in parks? No, it doesn't come close to meeting requirements for a national park, but it is in there, because it is going to look good to a politician back home.

I kind of used the commonsense test. The country is broke. We had a \$460 billion deficit last year. We are going to add a half a billion dollars on to a park system that has a \$12 billion deficit in terms of backlog of repairs of what we already have. Most people with any semblance of common sense would say that is really stupid. It is really destructive of the whole goal of the National Park System in the first place.

The final point I would make is the NDAA. Even though it is a necessary bill, I want it to pass, I want us to have what we need for our military, this bill represents the worst of Washington; because what we have added to a must-pass bill are measures that are very low priority in terms of the long-term priorities of the country and fiscal soundness of the country, but are really high priorities for the politicians in this body. It is amazing how we can take something as important as the Defense authorization bill—the measure that is going to give our military leaders what they need to make the decisions to defend this country in this very dangerous world today, and lard it up with things that don't need to be happening right now—shouldn't be hap-

pening right now, and can be happening in other ways.

The reason I will assuredly lose this vote is because it has already been bought and paid for, because 35 States have something in title XXX, and most politicians up here don't have the courage to vote against their State interests when it harms the national interest. It is just not there.

Alaska: Two provisions, \$3 million; backlog on Alaska parks, \$121 million. Arizona: Two provisions worth \$2 million; backlog, \$592 million in terms of their national parks. California: Four provisions that reduce the deficit by \$225,000, but a backlog of \$1.6 billion at Yosemite and other parks throughout California. Colorado: A provision worth \$500,000, backlog, a quarter of a billion dollars. Connecticut: One provision, \$9 million, backlog, \$6.2 million. This is the Coltsville National Historic Park.

But none of that—none of that—meets the requirements as set out by the National Park Service of meeting the requirements for a park. So we just violate the rules—to heck with the rules—because we are going to do it.

Georgia: \$400,000—they have a \$100 million backlog. Idaho: \$17 million backlog. Kentucky: \$112 million backlog. Maryland: One provision worth \$12 million, and a \$363 million backlog on our parks in Maryland. Massachusetts: Quarter of a billion dollars in backlog. Maine: \$72 million in backlogs. Mississippi: A \$26 million provision—a quarter of a billion dollars in backlog in our battlefield parks in Mississippi. Montana: Five provisions—great parks out there—\$348.8 million in backlogs. But we are going to spend this money. North Carolina: One little small provision—6 million bucks, but a backlog of a half a billion dollars in our pristine parks.

I won't continue.

I understand the frustration of my colleagues in terms of trying to get land conveyances. We can do them, but not if we always hijack them with something that is of better parochial and political benefit for the Member, and that is why they don't go through. The land conveyances aren't hard to get through. We always add them with something that is controversial that shouldn't be there, to the benefit of a politician.

#### MOTION TO REFER

Mr. President, I send a motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. HIRONO). The clerk will report the motion.

The assistant bill clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Oklahoma [Mr. COBURN] moves to refer the House message to accompany H.R. 3979 to the Committee on Armed Services with instructions to report back forthwith with changes to strike title XXX, the nondefense related lands portion of the bill.



Mr. COBURN. Madam President, I will be asking for a vote on this motion. I am sure it will be tabled, and I understand that, but I hope the American public has gotten a flavor of what we are doing.

Here in the end of December, we are trying to get one of the most important pieces of legislation out, which is the Defense authorization bill. We are trying to get the appropriations bill through December 30 of next year, and what we do is put the politicians' interests first.

Maybe that is too harsh. Let me take that back. Maybe we put the Park Service's best interests last, which is even worse.

I have asked direction from the Chair. I have three other areas that I need to speak on today. I will hold those or follow the direction of the Chair in terms of bringing forth both motions and discussions.

I would also ask unanimous consent to have an article by Kurt Repanshek, dated December 9, 2014, entered into the RECORD, the "Traveler's View."

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the National Parks Traveler, Dec. 9, 2014]

TRAVELER'S VIEW: SENATE SHOULD EITHER FUND NEW PARKS IN DEFENSE BILL, OR STRIP THEM OUT

(By Kurt Repanshek)

There are at least 75 million reasons why the U.S. Senate should either fully fund the national park projects contained within the defense authorization bill, or strip them out.

For the National Park Service, already billions of dollars in the red with its maintenance and operations budget, and cutting staff in crucial areas such as cultural resources, to be asked to add seven new national park units, adjust the boundaries of nine units, and redesignate two of those units, without any new funding, is incredibly poor legislating by Congress and will not enhance, but rather degrade the overall system.

This is not to judge the worthiness of the prospective units as part of the National Park System, but rather to point out the fiscal absurdity in play. Congressional Budget Office figures show it would cost the Park Service at least \$75 million over a five-year period to get these units up and running, and millions more to operate them on an annual basis. At the same time, the Park Service's maintenance backlog has crept up to \$11.3 billion, and some of those needs are critical.

According to the Park Service, 90 percent of the roads in the system are considered to be in "fair" or "poor" condition; "28 publicly accessible bridges within the parks' transportation system are "structurally deficient" and in need of rehabilitation or reconstruction;" "approximately 36 percent of all trails throughout the National Park Service (6,700 miles out of a total of 18,600) are in a "poor" or "seriously deficient" condition" and; "since 2005, the number of national parks in regional air quality non-attainment areas has more than doubled; 128 parks now are in non-attainment areas, where air pollution levels regularly exceed the national ambient air quality standards."

We like to view the national parks as "America's best idea," and members of Con-

gress certainly like to point to a unit in their home districts. But if we can't afford the 401-unit park system we have today, how can we possibly justify new units?

There's no urgent need to add the sites listed in the defense bill at this time. The Blackstone River Valley has been part of the park system as a heritage corridor since 1986; Valles Caldera National Preserve currently is under the U.S. Forest Service; the Coltsville Historic District in Connecticut is under the aegis of the Hartford Preservation District; the proposed Lower East Side Tenement National Historic Site is currently a museum; the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad National Historical Park actually exists today as a national monument President Obama designated in 2013; the Atomic Heritage Foundation currently is preserving sites that would fall into a Manhattan Project National Historical Park, and; public and private efforts currently are at work to protect the fossil-rich landscape of Tule Springs near Las Vegas.

Congress would be much wiser, and the National Park Service much better off, if it simply added \$100 million to the agency's budget in an effort to chip away at the maintenance backlog. While \$100 million would barely dent that staggering sum, it'd be money better spent at this time than forcing the Park Service to decide where to further cut its existing budget to manage these additions.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma.

Mr. COBURN. I thank Senator REID for coming to the floor. Since we last asked this unanimous consent on the Taxpayers Right to Know, I have had a conversation with the administration and Shaun Donovan, the head of OMB. When Shaun came to see me in our committee of jurisdiction over his nomination, one of the things he assured me is that he would try with all due haste to move forward on the things for transparency for the Federal Government, one of President Obama's key projects. He assured me he had the capability to lead that organization, even when things are hard and difficult.

So I would like to describe for a minute what the Taxpayers Right to Know is. President Obama, myself, JOHN MCCAIN, and TOM CARPER passed a bill when President Obama was in the Senate, which was the Federal Transparency and Accountability Act. It made it so that Americans could start seeing where their money was spent. We have since then passed the DATA Act which would be an improvement on that, and the third and final step in that is the Taxpayers Right to Know.

Now what does that mean? That means the taxpayer has the right to know where their money is being spent. The taxpayer has the right to know what programs are out there. The taxpayer has the right to know what is working and what isn't.

So we hear from the administration in a long conversation that this is too hard. You know, we didn't tell that to our troops in Afghanistan or Iraq, that this is too hard. And their real complaint is under the definition of a pro-

gram. Well, most of us know what a program is. We know it when we see it. But the fact is, we will never control spending nor will we accentuate what is working well until the Taxpayers Right to Know Act is implemented.

What I told the Director of OMB is there is one agency already totally compliant with this. It is called the Department of Education. If they can do it, why can't everybody else? They know what the definition of a program is. They figured it out. I see this as an excuse not to be transparent with the American public. This has 38 bipartisan cosponsors in the Senate, and it passed the House unanimously. There is only one objection in the Senate, and that is from the OMB. Everybody else recognizes this is commonsense, good-government transparency.

I recognize the important role the majority leader has in terms of representing the administration's views. I just happen to say he ought to tell them to take a hike this time because the American people will benefit greatly, and it really is not that much more work.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—S. 2113

I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 531, S. 2113. I ask that the committee-reported substitute be agreed to, the bill, as amended, be read a third time and passed, and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

I wish to also note that this bill is going to pass next year. The President is going to get it anyway. Either he is going to veto it or he is going to make Shaun Donovan implement it. Why don't we get after good government now rather than wait 3 or 4 months?

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. REID. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. COBURN. I reserve the remainder of my time and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Madam President, earlier there was a lot of discussion about the NDAA—the Defense authorization bill—and the very important provisions which are contained in that which will provide for our men and women who serve us so honorably. I concur with all who have spoken today about the importance and significance of this bill and why we should pass it and why we should pass it today.

An area of controversy that has certainly come up—and my colleague

from Oklahoma has pointed it out very clearly—is the public lands package that has been attached to the NDAA. I will speak a little bit about where we are today and why we are dealing with this issue and why it is important that the Senate and Congress advance these public lands provisions for our country.

I had an opportunity to speak in greater detail yesterday, but I felt it was important to let colleagues know why we deal with public lands bills traditionally in a package.

The Presiding Officer comes from a Western State, but Hawaii does not have large portions of land held by the Federal Government.

In the 12 Western States, which includes Alaska—93 percent of the Federal lands that are held by this country are contained in these 12 Western States. What does it mean when you are a State like Alaska where some 68 percent of your lands are Federally held? What does it mean when you are a State like Nevada, where our majority leader is from, where 85 percent of your State is held in public lands? It means that when you want to do a conveyance, a conveyance doesn't come about just because you are able to get a real estate attorney and you have a transaction; it literally requires an act of Congress.

We are dealing with one provision in this public lands bill that Senator FRANKEN, from Minnesota, has been working on. It is a conveyance of one acre of land that is currently held by USGS, and it is a conveyance to a school district. Most people around this country—or certainly on this end of the country—would say: Wow, that really requires congressional action? That really requires a vote? That really requires the President to sign it into law? The answer is in the affirmative.

We have been processing, as a committee—on the Energy Committee and committees on the House side—public lands bills throughout this Congress. We have been working on some of these public lands measures not for months, not for years, but in several instances a decade. It has taken a decade to bring about some of these conveyances and these exchanges.

I believe it is important to set the record straight—for those who are suggesting that somehow or other this was conjured up in the dark of the night or that there has been no process for these bills—and let colleagues know about the procedural process that has led to its inclusion in the NDAA.

For the record, I will note that the process included not only the committees of jurisdiction for the lands bills but the committees who crafted the NDAA bill, leadership from both sides, and individual Members who all agreed to cobble together a package that was fair and balanced, bipartisan, bicameral, revenue neutral—which is exceptionally important—and also ad-

resses the need for conservation on one end and economic development and jobs and prosperity on the other end. With this package of bills, one can see that compromise come together.

It has been noted that these public lands bills have nothing to do with defense authorization, but I will say that this is not without precedent. Adding lands to an NDAA bill has been done in the past. We have seen it in the past several NDAA's. What we did here was to amend the existing lands package within the House-passed NDAA—which is hardly out of balance or unusual.

As I said before, I would much rather have us move individual bills through the floor as we process them, but many Members have said to me: Well, your small lands transaction is important, but does it really rise to the level of occupying floor time? It is tough to win the undivided attention of the Senate on some of these measures.

Just because this issue doesn't rise to a level of keen interest in this body doesn't mean these issues are not critically important for individuals, communities, and States around our country, and so it is hard to put that together. But just because it is small or more localized or perhaps more parochial—like this one acre of land we are trying to convey to this school district—doesn't mean we should disregard it or overlook it or not try to enact it because somehow or other it is not as important as the other things we do around here.

So knowing how valuable and precious floor time is around here, we worked together. We have been working together for months—again, in a bicameral and bipartisan way—to combine many of the bills that are in the package. The result of what we have in front of us is provisions that will help boost natural resources and community development while we are also advancing conservation. We are moving toward economic development in certain areas, creating jobs. We have opportunities in both Nevada and Arizona to create thousands of good-paying jobs and will increase our resources and our minerals security.

Other aspects of the bill focus on conservation. There are additional wilderness provisions that are in there, but again, as we attempt to achieve that balance, what we have in front of us is a good structure.

I want to make sure colleagues recognize that when we are discussing the concern my colleague from Oklahoma has raised, the concern he has so well articulated that within our National Park System we have a maintenance backlog that is awful—and in many cases it is overwhelming. To his credit, he has given keen attention to this maintenance backlog we have and has pressed us to do more to improve that situation. He put together a very considerable report that we are using in

the energy committee to help build a series of necessary reforms that will be required to deal with our issues within the National Park Service. Thanks to Senator COBURN's good work on this issue, we will be able to see some true reforms.

I met yesterday afternoon with Director Jarvis in my office, and I made it clear to him as the head of Park Service that this is going to be an area on which we must be focused. Our national parks are a national treasure, but when we can't attend to their needs and ensure that they are maintained to the level that, as Americans, we all want, then we are failing on that.

He has a very good point when he says we need to be doing something about maintenance and backlog. I agree. We actually have a couple of provisions in this public lands bill that will help us with that, and one of them is the bill Senator COBURN has sponsored which will allow for donors to have discreet recognition within our parks. So if you want to give a private donation, there is a way for recognition. We also have a provision in here that will allow for minting of a coin, which again will help with private dollars. Those private pieces are very important, but we need to do more, we will do more, and my commitment is to help do that.

One of the things that I think are important to recognize with the park provisions that are included in title XXX is that it is critically important to recognize the local support these park provisions have that will encourage economic development, tourism, and recreation. The agreement includes five new national historic parks, and it transfers management of two existing Federal areas to the Park Service. All of the new historical parks have been formally studied and have been recommended for inclusion in the National Park System. They focus on specific historic sites of national significance.

Studies have also been done—and my colleague has referenced that—on potential additions to the National Park System. These study authorizations have previously passed the House under suspension or gone through the Senate by unanimous consent. Again, we are not trying to go through the backdoor. The study that has been conducted and the process that has taken place in both the House and Senate is to ensure that there is that local support and that this is not just something a Member wants to attach his or her name to, that this has local support, and that in turn will help us with some of the funding issues we are going to need to address for our park systems.

I wish to conclude my remarks quickly because Senator FLAKE was asked for a few minutes and I would like to defer to him. First, the issue

has also come up about existing national heritage areas. I think it is important for colleagues to know that we do provide for limited extensions for existing heritage areas, but there are no new heritage areas that are created. I think it is important to recognize that when we talk about extensions, it is extensions of existing heritage sites.

So with that, if I may, I wish to yield to my colleague from Arizona, Senator FLAKE. We have been working not only with Senator FLAKE but with Senator MCCAIN on a provision that will certainly not only benefit his State, but it will benefit the United States in terms of jobs, economic opportunity, and a mineral resource; namely, copper, that is extraordinarily important to us.

With that, I turn to Senator FLAKE.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arizona.

Mr. FLAKE. Madam President, I thank the Senator from Alaska for yielding, and I wish to thank her also for her hard work on this lands package. These are difficult pieces of legislation to put together. It is particularly living the West, when we have States such as Arizona that are about 87 percent publicly owned by either the Federal Government, State government or tribal governments. To have access and to have rural communities have access to economic development when we are dealing with resources that are often on these lands, and when land exchanges need to be done, it is extremely difficult to do that because it is often seen as a parochial interest, and it is difficult to get support from around the country for something that is needed in Arizona without putting a package together that has other items that are needed in other States, particularly in the West. So I wish to compliment the Senator from Alaska and others who worked so hard to put this complex package together that has many beneficiaries and also to put it together in a way where we are not contributing or increasing the size of the Federal or State, that we are promoting economic development in States such as Arizona.

As the Senator mentioned with regard to Arizona and what this does, it allows land exchange to happen that will allow a copper mine to be developed that will ultimately produce, likely—or can produce—about 25 percent of the copper needed for manufacturing, for use in this country. That is not just an economic development issue; that is a national security issue as well, to make sure we are more independent with regard to our source minerals.

In terms of economic development of the State, it is huge. We are talking about thousands of jobs over the next several decades that will be produced and will continue economic development for rural communities in Superior, Globe, and Miami, that have had a

tough time and that will be good for those communities and for the entire State.

So I commend again those who have put this together. It is never good to see a big package with so many things in it; that is what we want to get away from, and hopefully we can in the new Congress. But it has been very difficult to move individual pieces of legislation over the past couple of years. So unfortunately we are often saddled with trying to put together a package and attaching it to a larger bill, which is the case here. But again, kudos to those who worked so hard to put it together. I appreciate the indulgence of this body to have a package such as this in the NDAA bill. I plan to vote for it and I encourage my colleagues to do the same.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. I thank my colleague from Arizona. As he has pointed out, not only is this measure important to the State of Arizona, but the State of Nevada will also gain the benefit of being able to access copper resources in that region as well, bringing jobs and bringing a resource.

So contained in this package—and again a balanced package—we are talking about the Federal land conveyances for economic and community development. We have mentioned the opportunity for mineral production with two copper mines, one in Arizona, one in Nevada; an opportunity for increased timber production in my State. We will finally realize the obligation to settle the land claims with the Native people of the southeastern part of the State in the Sealaska region, 40-some years after the promise for their lands conveyance. They are still awaiting their conveyance. This measure we have in front of us will not only fulfill that decades-old promise, but it will allow for a continuation of timber within their region, albeit very, very, very reduced.

But in order to move to that second growth transition the Forest Service is always talking about, we have to have an industry that is just staying alive, and this Sealaska lands provision will help with that. But it was also crafted in a way that took into account the concerns of the fisheries, the stewardship for other lands, placing additional lands in a conservation area—so again a key balance.

The other provisions that relate to our Federal lands and our ability to access them I think are important, making them productive. The provision allows for land management agencies with the needed authority to renew and process grazing permits and leases. This is a measure that my colleague from Wyoming and my colleague from New Mexico have been working on, and in terms of something that provides

certainty to America's ranching community, this is so key, this is so important.

We also worked to expand the successful BLM permit streamlining program to boost oil and gas production from the Federal lands. So it is kind of the economic development piece, but the conservation piece I think is equally important. It does designate wilderness. It designates approximately 245,000 acres of wilderness in total. But I think what is important for colleagues to recognize is that just about half of those acres are already managed as if it were wilderness. In other words, they are in wilderness study areas or roadless areas. So again we looked at those measures where there was support at the local level, at the State level, represented by the Members of Congress who had worked over the years to gain the level of support for these provisions. There is no cram-down. There is no designation from the executive as to monument status. This is how the process is designed to work.

We also returned 26,000 total wilderness study areas to multiple use, again for greater activity on those lands.

We protect private property rights in all of our special land designations. There is no private property that can be condemned or acquisitions through eminent domain. Private activities taking place outside of the special land designation are not going to be precluded by such designations, and we have insured that there are no buffer zones or protective perimeters that would encroach on personal and public rights.

I have been asked about the impact on hunting and fishing on our public lands, because that is something that particularly those of us in the West care a great deal about. I have heard some concerns that there may be negative impacts. But I want to be clear that the wilderness bills in this agreement actually affirm the responsibility and the authority of the States for the management of fish and wildlife.

In the wilderness bills that we have in New Mexico and in Nevada, they have incorporated restating the law—this is section 302 of FLPMA—to provide assurances that the wilderness designations do not give the Secretaries any new authorities to close Federal lands to hunting, fishing or trapping that they don't already have.

So we have put in place protections again trying to find the balance between the conservation and the development, providing for access, ensuring that private rights are respected, ensuring that our opportunities for use and enjoyment as well as economic activity are preserved; trying to find a package that is balanced from the bicameral, bipartisan perspective, making sure we are not imposing costs; again, a revenue-neutral proposal. I think that is also worth stressing.

I have seen something out there that suggests there is an impact on direct spending from title XXX. The fact is it is revenue neutral over these next 10 years. We do not take anything from the Defense authorization perspective within this bill with this lands package. That was never the intent. It was not the design, and it will not impact that.

With that, I yield the floor and reserve the remainder of my time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Jersey.

Mr. MENENDEZ. Madam President, I rise in strong support of the lands package. I wish to congratulate the Senator from Alaska as well as the Senator from Louisiana for their work, and particularly in support of adding Hinchliffe Stadium to Great Falls National Park in Paterson, NJ. It has a special place in the hearts of many New Jerseyans, and it has played a vital role in the story of America's fight against institutionalized segregation.

Critics of this legislation are using a mixture of the stadium showing overgrown shrubs and graffiti on the walls—asking, What does a stadium such as this have to do with this and should it be in with our national park system?

Unfortunately, the picture being circulated only shows a side of the story at a different time. What it fails to show is the dedicated work of the surrounding community to clean up Hinchliffe Stadium. So I brought three photographs that I think illustrate the work being done in Patterson and to put to rest this notion that the stadium is an abandoned place that the community doesn't care about.

The first is a picture of dozens of local residents working together to clean up the stands, paint the walls, and begin the process of restoring this vital community center. The second is a closeup picture of just a handful of these volunteers. These are young people taking the time to improve their community and honor the history that was behind the stadium. The third shows the final product—much different than what my colleague showed—of their hard work. These pictures were taken earlier this year at an event where 700 volunteers worked to clean up Hinchliffe Stadium.

The argument that we are dumping this land on the National Park Service is simply false. The legislation specifically prohibits the Park Service from directly purchasing this land, meaning that the community of Paterson will continue to be intricately involved in the management and preservation of the stadium.

I think these photographs illustrate the dedication of the residents that Paterson and the surrounding area have to protecting Hinchliffe Stadium. There is a reason for this dedication.

Hinchliffe Stadium has the designation of being one of the few remaining sites that hosted the Negro League Baseball. In the 1930s and 1940s, Hinchliffe was the home of the Black Yankees, and in 1933 the stadium hosted what was called the Colored Championship. In 1936, the field was home to the New York Cubans, a team made up of players from Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Mexico, and Puerto Rico.

Some of baseball's greatest stars, including Satchel Paige, Josh Gibson, and Larry Doby all took the field at Hinchliffe Stadium. Doby went on to become the first African-American player joining the American League, helping Jackie Robinson break down the color barrier.

Contrary to the negativism and misrepresentations we are hearing today, Hinchliffe Stadium should be part of the Paterson Great Falls National Park. I know it, everyone who knows about its history knows it, and America should know it as well.

I am proud to be a sponsor of the legislation adding Hinchliffe boundaries to the national park. This bill has been championed by Congressman PASCRELL in the House of Representatives, where it was passed by a House vote earlier this year.

I want to read briefly from a guest columnist editorial Congressman PASCRELL wrote with another individual. He said that Hinchliffe Stadium in Paterson is one of the last remaining stadiums associated with the Negro League Baseball.

It is where sports and racial history coalesce. Hinchliffe Stadium is the only National Historic Landmark in baseball and only one of two professional Negro League venues considered nationally significant.

Cal Ripken, 2007 Hall of Famer, when he talked about Hinchliffe, said:

Not only does it deserve recognition for its place in history, but it deserves the opportunity to be restored into a place where tomorrow's youth will be able to walk in the footsteps of yesterday's legends and experience the history of this community firsthand.

I am also pleased with this legislation that is cosponsored by Senator BOOKER and formerly by Senator Jeff Chiesa, a Republican who served in the Senate for a period of time after the passing of Senator Lautenberg. And speaking of Senator Lautenberg, he was one of Hinchliffe's greatest champions, and he was proud to count Paterson as his hometown.

The version of the legislation that we consider today includes amendments suggested both by the Parks Service and by House Republicans. That is why it passed by voice.

Some critics cited the previous National Park Service study opposing the inclusion of the stadium in the national park. The study was discredited by 25 distinguished scholars at the time. Since then, the Park Service has completed an additional study and des-

ignated the stadium as a national historic landmark.

I believe strongly that the story of our fight against institutionalized segregation is a story worth telling.

Critics of this legislation may look at Hinchliffe Stadium and see a rundown sports field. Not me. When I look at Hinchliffe Stadium, I see a field of dreams, an enduring reminder of how far we have come since the days of separate but equal, when institutional segregation marginalized the works, the dreams, and the achievements of African Americans. I see a community coming together decades after Hinchliffe first earned a place in the canon of American history to preserve the legacy it represents. I urge my colleagues to join me in standing up for this legacy and supporting the inclusion of Hinchliffe Stadium in the Great Falls National Park as part of the national lands package.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland.

Mr. CARDIN. Madam President, first, let me thank Senators LANDRIEU and MURKOWSKI for their work on this legislation. I was listening to Senator MURKOWSKI go through how this process came together. I also listened to Senator COBURN's concerns about the process that has been used.

Let me share with my colleagues why I strongly support the inclusion of the lands package in the National Defense Authorize Act and encourage my colleagues to support the vote later today. I reference specifically the Harriet Tubman National Historic Park. Talk about frustration. This park, although approved through studies and it went through all the appropriate ways for its designation, was held by one Senator on a hold for 3½ years, and that is despite the fact that since 2012 there was an offset to make sure it did not cost any additional resources—a requirement that I was told I needed to satisfy to remove the hold.

There is a lot of frustration here. I appreciate what Senator MURKOWSKI did and the history she went through. She is absolutely right. If we tried to bring these bills to the floor on an individual basis, we would never get done the work of the Senate. These land issues have been vetted, and I can tell you in regard to the Harriet Tubman National Historic Park, it is very much needed.

This Senate did pass this particular designation earlier this year, so this has already been passed by the Senate. In the House, I worked with Congressman HARRIS and Congressman Moffett dealing with some of the same issues that Senator MURKOWSKI mentioned a few moments ago, and that is to make sure we have the right balance between the lands that are designated as part of the historic park and the landowners' rights in the community. The balance

that Senator MURKOWSKI said generally in regard to the provisions applies in regard to the Harriet Tubman park. I thank Congressman HARRIS and Congressman Moffett for their help.

I also want to acknowledge the work of my colleagues—Senator MIKULSKI, Senator GILLIBRAND, and Senator SCHUMER—and thank them for their help in bringing about this package and bringing about the ability today to finally pass the designation of the Harriet Tubman National Historic Park. This will be the first woman, the first African-American woman to have such a recognition under our National Park System. This is an appropriate person for this historic moment. I think most people know that Harriet Tubman was considered the Moses of her people. She was born into slavery in Dorchester County, MD, the Eastern Shore of Maryland. For the first 30 years of her life, she lived in slavery, and then on her own, by herself, she escaped slavery and made her way to liberty in 1849. She did this alone. The courage of this woman—she didn't stop there; she then came back and rescued others slaves and brought them to freedom through the Underground Railroad, which took slaves from slavery to freedom.

I am proud of the historic significance of the State of Maryland in that regard, with the birthplace of Harriet Tubman and where the Underground Railroad operated.

The Eastern Shore is on the eastern part of our State. I could take you to the western part of the State, Cumberland, where you can see the church in which the slaves on their way to freedom were sheltered before they went through a tunnel to the railroad and literally went to Pennsylvania and freedom.

This is an incredible opportunity. We have the landscape, we have the property on the Eastern Shore of Maryland.

In Auburn, NY, we have where Harriet Tubman lived the later years of her life. After escaping and becoming free, she was a spy for the North, for the Union during the Civil War. She then went on to help with women's suffrage. She set up a home for the aged African Americans in New York. A lot of those properties still exist today up in New York and will be part of the Harriet Tubman National Historic Park.

This is an appropriate way to honor a real hero of our country but also to provide a way for young people and all the people in this country to learn more about Harriet Tubman. It will help the local economies of New York and Pennsylvania. It is part of the National Park System's dedication to African-American history. I think it is very appropriate to at long last be able to get this done.

For those who express frustration, we had this paid for a long time ago, we worked out all the balances a long time

ago, and we thought this would be done a long time ago. But today we have a chance to get it done, and I urge my colleagues to support the package and support the NDAA bill.

With that, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Mexico.

Mr. HEINRICH. Madam President, I rise in strong opposition to the motion to refer, which would remove the public lands title from the Defense authorization bill.

Like some of my colleagues, I think an appropriate place to start today is to thank Chair LANDRIEU and Ranking Member MURKOWSKI for their efforts on the Energy and Natural Resources Committee. They worked so hard to come up with a package that could actually move in this divided Congress.

The bills in this package have been the subject of incredibly long debate. Many of them, such as the bill we just heard about from my colleague in Maryland, have been under consideration for years. Almost all the bills included in the public lands package have received hearings in either the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee or the House Natural Resources Committee, and almost all of the bills were favorably reported by these committees. For example, every provision in the lands package relating to a national park designation or expansion and every provision designating Federal land as wilderness in this package was closely considered by the Energy and Natural Resources Committee and cleared the committee with bipartisan support.

I should note that many of these provisions were not only the subject of committee hearings in this Congress and markups in this Congress but in previous years as well.

The public lands title is the product of lengthy negotiations with the House, with both Republican and Democratic priorities included. Some Senate provisions were modified to address concerns raised by the House of Representatives, and other House provisions were modified to address Senate concerns. This package is a compromise. There is a lot in it that I love but a few things that I absolutely don't support. There are also things that I had hoped would be in this package that will not be in this package. But that is the nature of compromise and governance. Frankly, that is something we need a lot more of around here.

This package conserves our Nation's resources, our water resources, and our wildlife habitat. It preserves our Nation's culture and history and allows for the smart and responsible development of our public lands as well. We have a responsibility to future generations to be good stewards of our shared culture and the natural world.

Madam President, it will come as no surprise to you or to many of my col-

leagues that as I travel across New Mexico, what I hear time and again from people is that they are frustrated with Washington, that Congress can't get anything done, and that "compromise" sounds like a dirty word to some of our colleagues. We have an opportunity to change that today. Let's work together and be willing to compromise in order to get things done for our constituents and for the American people. Our constituents across this great Nation deserve no less.

I would urge my colleagues' support of the package and opposition to the motion to refer.

I yield back the remainder of my time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Who yields time?

The Senator from Alaska.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Madam President, I understand there is still 5 or 6 minutes remaining of my time. If there are other colleagues who would care to speak on the significance of title XXX of NDAA, natural resources, and the related provisions, I am certainly happy to yield to them.

I thank my colleagues who have come to the floor on both sides of the aisle to speak to some of the specifics that are contained within this bill because I think it helps to understand why we are at this late point in the calendar with a package of different bills focusing in different areas, whether it is a small land conveyance, whether it is the creation of a wilderness area that has come about through a great deal of compromise and collaboration, or whether it is a collaboration that will allow for economic opportunity through mineral development, timber harvest, or grazing opportunities. I think it does speak to the diversity of what we are dealing with, with so many of our public lands and the reality that they are different all over. It is very different in Alaska from what my friend in New Mexico experiences. The similarity we have is that we don't have the ability to do it on our own; we have to come to the Federal Government.

What will happen is, whether you are in New Mexico or whether you are in Alaska or points in between, you have local consensus emerge around an issue. They bring it to the State, and the State works with us at the Federal level, Members of the House and Members of the Senate. We continue to work this process. It usually is a very collaborative process.

Just because it is collaborative does not mean we agree on every issue. There is a great deal of give and take that goes on, because when you are talking about your public lands, every acre is precious to somebody. I know that full well in the legislation we have been working on, the See Alaska bill, for almost a decade now.

The fishermen have certain interests, those who harvest timber have certain

interests, the conservationists have certain interests, the school district has certain interests. So how we build this takes time. But it seems as though the only place we do not get time is here on the Senate floor. We do not have the time allocated to us, nor do—I would be happy to spend hours and perhaps days discussing issues such as we have raised in this public lands bill. But I do not think most of my colleagues are interested in debating a reversionary clause for a parcel of land in downtown Anchorage that can be sold so they can have an opportunity, in Anchorage, to build something new there. It just does not rise to that level of immediacy and concern.

So, again, we do the best we can to try to be balanced, to try to put together something that works for all. It is a balancing act. It requires a level of finesse. If we were to have put together a package that was overly weighted towards new wilderness or new parks, not only would my constituents back home not support it, I could not support it. We have to work together on bill packages of this nature.

I want to recognize the good work of those on the energy committee who have worked with us to construct something that is good, balanced and fair. I will acknowledge my chairman of the energy committee, Senator LANDRIEU, who has worked with us to find that level of balance.

I do hope that as we look at a new Congress, we will be working together as colleagues to try to figure out a better path for the endgame for these smaller bills. I have been part of way too many lands packages now where we have the same debate: Why is it attached to this? Why are we doing this now? I would like to get us to a place where there was a more certain process so that Members knew their small conveyance bill, their small study, did not get caught up in end-of-session kind of madness, or caught up in things that distract from what it is that delegation has been attempting to do for that State, for that part of the country.

I would ask my colleagues—I have spoken with many on this side of the aisle as well as the Democratic side of the aisle—let's be working together to figure out how we can relieve this bottleneck, because I sincerely want to do that. But what we have in front of us today is our opportunity to bring some finality, to bring some conclusion, to bring some resolve to issues that have been outstanding for a considerable amount of time, as I mentioned, in several instances almost a full decade.

Let's clear the deck. Let's move this lands package on this NDAA bill so that next Congress we can begin with the many public lands bills that are still in the queue, that are still waiting for a process. But you can count on me to be working with my colleagues to ensure that we have a way forward that

will be more expeditious than we have seen historically.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. COBURN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. COBURN. Madam President, later today I will be offering a motion to attempt to undo a precedent set in 2011 that took away the right of all Senators, a right that was provided by Senate rules for Senators to suspend the rules in a postcloture environment to offer an amendment.

It is a very high bar. It requires 67 votes to ever pass an amendment under that. This right allowed the minority or individual Senators to circumvent parliamentary obstacles, namely the filling of the tree to receive votes. History now shows us that the filling of the tree has occurred two times more under the leadership of Senator REID than all of the leaders in the past—91 times.

The question will essentially be, Do we want to keep the Reid motion to suspend the precedent prohibiting motions to suspend the rules postcloture by sustaining that precedent? This is not a nuclear option, does not have anything to do with that.

As I thought about bringing this forward, I thought about how important it is for the new minority. I am not going to be with you. But it is my valid opinion, I believe, that you are not going to see the limitations on your amendments that we have seen in the last 6 years under the new leadership of the Senate. But if we were to see that, this is a particularly good way to have the Senate vote on a topic of interest to the American public.

So when this is offered, voting yes keeps the Reid precedent which says even postcloture you cannot offer to suspend the rules, even with a 67-vote margin and have a vote. Voting no will reverse the Reid precedent. If the precedent is overturned by a majority of Senators voting against the ruling of the Chair, the rights of all Senators, as written in the Senate rules to suspend the rules postcloture, would be returned—Democrats, Republicans, all.

If I am successful in overturning this precedent, I am not planning on following up with another motion allowing me to offer an amendment at this time. The whole goal is to try to restore the Senate. So I have no ulterior motive with another amendment if I were to win this attempt.

The distinguishing characteristics of the Senate are the right to offer amendments and the right to debate. That is what makes it unique. That is

what forces consensus. Throughout his tenure, my colleague, the Senator from Nevada, has aggressively deployed a tactic to block other Senators from offering amendments to legislation. This tactic is known as filling the tree. It fills all available slots for all amendments with shell legislation, preventing all other Senators from offering amendments, both of his party and the opposition party.

He has done this 91 times during his tenure as the majority leader. From 1985 to 2006, it only occurred 40 times. What this tactic effectively does is shut down every other individual Member of the Senate from even input into legislation and carrying on the responsibility they were granted by the citizens of their State to offer amendments to pieces of legislation coming through the Senate.

Starting in 2010, as Senator REID continued to use the filling-of-the-tree maneuver, Senators in both parties resorted to other procedural options to assert their rights as Senators. Under rule V of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the other rules may be suspended, including blocking amendments by filling the tree.

From 2010 until October 6, 2011, Senators filed more than 30 notices and the Senate held 15 separate votes to suspend the rules and allow amendments to be offered during postcloture debate, as was the history of the Senate for its entire history.

On October 6, the majority leader interpreted Senate rules with a simple majority, ending the right of Senators to suspend the rules postcloture. He called up a motion to suspend the rules that had been filed on the previous day by myself. He made a point of order that a single motion to suspend the rules was dilatory. A single motion to suspend the rules was dilatory under rule XXII.

Never before had the Senate ruled that a single motion to suspend the rules was dilatory. In fact, the Senate Parliamentarian had previously upheld the maneuver. As such, the Presiding Officer correctly ruled that the postcloture amendment was not dilatory under rule XXII. A single motion to suspend the rules cannot be considered a delaying tactic.

Senator REID's point of order was, therefore, not sustained. He then appealed the ruling of the Chair and held a vote to overturn it by a simple majority of 51 to 48. The Chair's decision was overturned. Every Republican and one Democrat voted against this appeal, instead voting to uphold the Presiding Officer's decision which reflected the written rules of the Senate.

This vote established a new precedent to interpret the meaning of the word "dilatory." Only it did so in the most heavyhanded way, fully intended to block the ability of Senators to offer amendments. From that point forward,



it was considered out of order to offer postcloture motions to suspend the rules, despite such right being explicitly provided for under Senate rules.

In order to overturn this precedent, a Senator must offer another postcloture motion to suspend the rules for the purpose of considering an amendment.

The Presiding Officer most likely will rule that the motion is not in order based on the 2011 precedent.

At that point, the Senator offering the motion will appeal the ruling of the Chair on the basis that a single motion to suspend the rules postcloture is not dilatory. The Senator would then ask for the yeas and nays.

If a simple majority of Senators vote to overturn the decision of the Chair, the precedent will be reversed, restoring the right explicitly provided in the rules that allows Senators to offer motions to suspend the rules postcloture as before.

This issue is unrelated to the nuclear option and will have no impact on the outcome of that debate.

Senators who support or oppose changing that issue can both support this effort.

At the appropriate time, I will be offering that motion. I came to the floor today to put my colleagues on notice of my intent.

I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

Mr. LEE. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. LEE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to temporarily set aside the pending amendment so that I may call up my amendment, amendment No. 3996, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. LEVIN. Reserving the right to object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Michigan.

Mr. LEVIN. I will not support the unanimous consent proposal of Senator LEE for several reasons. He may want to state his motion first before I give the reasons for objecting to it, but I will object and, if necessary at this point, I do object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. LEVIN. I have no objection to the Senator stating his purpose.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Utah.

Mr. LEE. I thank my distinguished colleague, the senior Senator from Michigan, whose presence we will miss and whose leadership we have appreciated over the years.

Madam President, I have offered this amendment today, which is an amendment that was crafted several years

ago by me and Senator FEINSTEIN. We created this as a document that we originally called the Due Process Guarantee Act. Senator FEINSTEIN and I had one objective with the Due Process Guarantee Act, which was to guarantee the right of the American people that while they exist, while they live from day to day on U.S. soil, they will be free from indefinite detention without trial, without their rights that are protected by our Constitution, without the rights we have come to associate with our habeas corpus guarantees and our other constitutional protections.

These are rights that we understand are inseparably connected with liberty and they long predated the existence of our Constitution and our Republic. They were so fundamental, in fact, that not only were they incorporated into our Constitution—this right to be free from a chance of being locked up by government indefinitely in prison, without trial, without counsel and so forth—they were discussed at length at our Constitutional Convention. They were discussed at length by members of our founding generation as they debated and discussed the merits of our Constitution.

Notably, in Federalist No. 84, James Madison referred to these rights, and he quoted a great luminary of that time—a luminary who is still a legal force to this day—Judge William Blackstone. He quoted a very meaningful excerpt from volume 1 of William Blackstone's "Commentaries on the Laws of England," published in 1765.

I want to read briefly some of what he said there that is relevant to this day. He says these rights are very important; they are the right to be free from detention, from arbitrary indefinite detention. He says:

To bereave a man of life, or by violence to confiscate his estate, without accusation or trial, would be so gross and notorious an act of despotism, as must at once convey the alarm of tyranny throughout the whole kingdom. But confinement of the person, by secretly hurrying him to gaol, where his sufferings are unknown or forgotten; is a less public, a less striking, and therefore a more dangerous engine of arbitrary government. And yet sometimes, when the state is in real danger, even this may be a necessary measure. But the happiness of our constitution is—

And here he is referring, of course, to the British constitution at the time

—that it is not left to the executive power to determine when the danger of the state is so great, as to render this measure expedient. For the parliament only, or legislative power, whenever it sees proper, can authorize the crown, by suspending the habeas corpus act for a short and limited time, to imprison suspected persons without giving any reason for so doing.

So in other words, he was referring to something contemplated and built into our constitutional structure as well, which is that, sure, there may be times of invasion, there may be times of national emergency, of an exigency so

great, so threatening to the safety of the people that this kind of action might be warranted. But where that does happen, it has to happen by an express declaration by the legislative body—that the right to habeas corpus is, in fact, being suspended.

I will conclude with this quote, where he says:

... this experiment ought only to be tried in cases of extreme emergency; and in these the nation parts with its liberty for a while, in order to preserve it for ever.

What was true in William Blackstone's time remains true today. What was true during the founding era, remains true today. What was true at the time of the drafting and the ratification of our other constitutional protections, including those in the Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Amendments to the Constitution, remain true today. That is that we are a free people, and as a free people, we have come to expect certain rights that we have. By virtue of being Americans—Americans living on U.S. soil—we have the right to be free and to be free from this risk of indefinite detention without trial.

When those very rare circumstances might arise, as arose, for example, during the Civil War, where they cannot be allowed to stand, they may be suspended only by an act of Congress expressly suspending the habeas corpus protections we have come to rely on.

For this reason, Senator FEINSTEIN and I put this bill together. I offer it up now as an amendment. I understand this motion has already been objected to, and I state my concerns with the objection.

I thank the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Michigan.

Mr. LEVIN. Madam President, the reasons that I object to the offering of the amendment at this time are several.

First, the amendment which Senator LEE asks consent to offer is not germane to the bill, it is not in order postcloture, and it would amend a statute of jurisdiction of the Judiciary Committee relative to a subject not addressed in this bill.

Second, when we included a similar provision in our bill several years ago, the House objected and insisted the provision be dropped. So the inclusion of this provision would require, at the least, difficult discussions with the House when there is no time for such discussions.

When I voted for a similar provision which was offered several years ago, the language was somewhat different than it is now.

The bottom line is there is simply not enough time left before we adjourn to debate even a single amendment, and surely not a single amendment of this complexity, to vote on it, and to reconcile the provision, if it were adopted, with the House of Representatives and to pass the bill again in both Houses.

And those are the reasons for my objection.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. LEVIN). Without objection, it is so ordered.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—H.R. 4329

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, I intend to call up H.R. 4329, the Native American Housing and Self-Determination Reauthorization Act, but I would like to say a few words about the bill before I do. This bill reauthorizes programs that support housing for Native Hawaiians, Alaska Natives, and American Indians.

Earlier this week, the senior Senator from Montana asked unanimous consent that the Senate take up and pass S. 1352, the Native American Housing and Self-Determination Reauthorization Act of 2013. The bill would reauthorize programs that promote and support affordable housing for Native Americans, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians. My good friend, Mr. LEE, the Senator from Utah, who is on the floor this afternoon, objected to passing this important Senate bill, noting his objections to the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act.

I am here on the floor today to offer an alternative—H.R. 4329. Like the Senate bill which was objected to earlier this week, this bill is a bipartisan bill. H.R. 4329 reauthorizes the Native Hawaiian Housing Block Grant, the Section 184 Indian Home Loan Guarantee Program, and programs that provide support for housing funding for Native American veterans.

Let me note here that we know that Native Americans enlist in the military at a higher rate than other segments of this country. Of course, the House bill I am referring to supports many other good programs and, yes, including the Native Hawaiian Housing Block Grant and the Section 184A Native Hawaiian Home Loan Guarantee Program.

We know the housing need in Indian country is staggering. Congress knew and recognized this fact when it created the broader Indian housing programs earlier to help address those needs and when it reauthorized these programs again and again.

Is the House bill perfect? I would say no. But I must applaud my good friend, Congressman DON YOUNG of Alaska, my colleagues, Congresswomen COLLEEN HANABUSA and TULSI GABBARD, and of course the bill's sponsor, Congressman STEVE PEARCE, for their work in crafting a bill that passed the House by voice vote. There were no Republican objections. There were no Democratic

objections. To rely on an old adage, let us not allow perfection to be the enemy of the good. And this is a good bill.

Should we forget our promises and responsibilities to our indigenous population? I freely admit that we have not always been good stewards of our responsibilities, and we have not always been good friends with Indian Country. But we try, and with this bill we again are trying.

Let me now turn to address Senator LEE's specific early objections to the Senate bill. The Senator stated that he believes the blood quantum requirement in the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act is unconstitutional. I would say to my friend from Utah that in the context of Federal Indian law, which is applicable here, blood quantum requirements are not viewed as unconstitutional racial classifications. Instead, they demonstrate connectivity to an indigenous political entity which Congress can treat under the Indian commerce clause. It is why Congress set a blood quantum requirement of 50 percent or more for the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, a blood quantum requirement of 50 percent or more for the Indian Reorganization Act, and 25 percent or more for the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act. Native Hawaiians, Native Americans, and Alaska Natives are indigenous people all, which my colleague Senator LEE acknowledges.

My colleague might argue that in the Supreme Court's decision in *Rice v. Cayetano*, the Court held that "ancestry . . . is a proxy for race." I would respond to my colleague by saying that I was the Lieutenant Governor of Hawaii at the time, serving under Ben Cayetano, who is named in the *Rice v. Cayetano* suit, and I had the opportunity to sit in the Supreme Court while the *Rice* case was being argued. That case is broadly, but often incorrectly, cited because it was quite narrow in its applicability. The Supreme Court in that case held that a State—a State—could not restrict who could vote for members of a quasi-State agency. In contrast to such State action, Congress has given wide latitude and broad deference in dealing with America's indigenous people.

So Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Indian Affairs Committee be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 4329 and that the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration; that the bill be read a third time and passed; and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Utah.

Mr. LEE. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, I ask unanimous consent that the request be modified and that the Lee amendment to strike

section 801 of this legislation be agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Does the Senator so modify her request?

Ms. HIRONO. I object to the request for a modification.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the original request?

Mr. LEE. In that case, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Who seeks time?

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. INHOFE. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. HIRONO). Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I want to express my appreciation to Chairman LEVIN and Ranking Member INHOFE for their work on the defense authorization bill being considered in the Senate this week. It is officially titled the CARL LEVIN and HOWARD P. 'BUCK' McKEON National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015. It couldn't be more appropriate.

This will be the 54th year in a row that Congress has passed the Defense Authorization. It has never been an easy task. Senator LEVIN has had a great deal to do with that annual labor of love. He has served as the highest ranking Democratic member on the committee since January 1997, and he has served as its Chairman for eleven of the last 14 years. Every year, he has kept the needs of our service members and their families front and center.

It isn't an easy job. The Committee provides congressional oversight for more than half of all domestic discretionary spending . . . it analyzes every program line by line . . . and in this case worked with Members of both parties and both chambers to craft a consensus product. But the result is that our service members who are on the front lines will have what they need to protect our national security.

In that spirit, this bill sustains in responsible ways the active duty, National Guard, and reserve forces our nation relies on every day. Even in this tough fiscal environment, the bill authorizes a 1 percent pay raise for military personnel below the general officer level. It increases access to mental health care in a number of ways, including lifting the limits on inpatient mental health services, and requiring annual person-to-person mental health assessments. Finally, it reauthorizes the family support programs our military families so richly deserve.

The agreement also deals with a topic I have cared passionately about for many years: tobacco. This is a serious subject. Smoking rates among



service members are 20 percent higher than the rest of America and the use of chewing tobacco is 450 percent higher. Tobacco-related medical treatment and lost work time costs the Pentagon \$1.6 billion every. Yet, military stores have been selling tobacco products at steep discounts for years. On paper the discount is 5 percent. But an independent review found discounts as high as 25 percent because of lax enforcement and ill-defined community comparisons.

So I appreciate that this defense authorization carries a provision similar to one I authored earlier this year in the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee to end this harmful subsidy. This is a commonsense reform that will protect the health of our Nation's troops. It will literally save lives. I look forward to continuing to work with the Department to tackle this culture of tobacco use head on.

This bill also contains several provisions to reform the way the military prevents and responds to sexual assault in the military. The Department's most recent report outlines how pervasive and insidious this problem continues to be. The prevalence of sexual assault has decreased slightly, and we see more victims coming forward. But it remains one of the most complex and damaging threats to our armed services today. More than 6 in 10 female service members continue to report that they have been retaliated against for reporting the perpetrators of these criminal acts.

Congress has instituted many reforms, including Special Victims Counsels. This year's defense bill contains several additional policy changes. But we must continue to hold the Department's leadership accountable for significant progress on this issue.

In addition to these national priorities, the Defense authorization bill includes several provisions that will strengthen military assets in Illinois. Rock Island Arsenal on the border of Illinois and Iowa is a remarkable place. For example, at the height of the Iraq war, the Arsenal was the single largest source of Humvee armor kits to protect our troops against IED blasts. Its factory is one of the few places in the country where our military, on short notice, can quite literally turn raw metal into critical equipment for our troops.

The Armed Services Committee has worked with me each year to ensure that the Arsenal can compete for workload and partner with the private sector. This year's bill builds on this history by updating the Civil War-era Arsenal Act to ensure that the Army manages arsenals with wartime needs in mind.

The bill also extends the joint pilot program in North Chicago at the Lovell Federal Health Care Facility. This is the first national effort to integrate health care across the Defense

Department and the Department of Veterans Affairs. It is the future of health care for service members and veterans. The Lovell Health Care Facility is working to advance integration of everything from electronic medical records to pharmacy programs.

Finally, the bill also authorizes \$26 million for an Army Reserve Center in Arlington Heights, IL, and \$19.5 million for Family Housing at Rock Island, IL.

Chairman LEVIN and Senator INHOFE have brought to the floor a thoughtful and balanced bill for our men and women in uniform, and I urge members to support this compromise.

Mr. WYDEN. Madam President, I want to take a few minutes today to speak on the National Defense Authorization Act, the annual policy bill for the Department of Defense. Let me start by noting that Senator CARL LEVIN, who is Chairman of the committee that put this agreement together, will be retiring after this year. This bill carries Senator LEVIN's name on it in what I think will be a fitting tribute to his legacy here. I have appreciated his wisdom on so many issues over the years, and I know I am in good company when I say to Senator LEVIN that his leadership will be missed in the United States Senate.

Passing a defense authorization bill is one of Congress' most important annual tasks, and it has been for decades. I have supported some of these bills throughout my time here and given the number of security concerns facing this country—the continued presence of ISIL in Iraq and Syria, Russia's ongoing efforts to destabilize Ukraine, the Ebola outbreak in West Africa—I hoped to be able to support this bill as well. Regrettably, however, I am forced to vote against this defense bill.

Most Americans may not know this, but the United States is still spending as much on defense as it spent at the height of the Cold War. This bill before us today would authorize nearly \$600 billion in total defense spending—including more than \$60 billion in war funding. That really ought to raise more questions about how that money is being spent and whether the American people are getting their money's worth for each dollar they spend on defense. But what I find most concerning is that my Senate colleagues and I are being asked to approve this mammoth bill without being given the opportunity to vote on any substantive amendments. I am sure that if Senators were given that chance, we could consider amendments regarding sexual assault in the military or greater transparency within the intelligence community, for example.

One issue in particular that would have benefitted from more debate is the Guantanamo Bay detention center. When the Senate Armed Services Committee passed its version of this defense bill in June, it included provi-

sions allowing the Department of Defense to transfer detainees from Guantanamo Bay to the United States "for detention, trial and incarceration." My position on the Guantanamo Bay detention center has long been to shut it down and prosecute as many detainees as possible in the federal court system—where the United States has a strong record of winning convictions. I felt that the earlier Armed Services Committee language would have made progress toward these goals, and I am disappointed that the agreement before us today maintains the prohibition on transferring any detainees to the United States to stand trial.

I also want to take a few minutes to express my deep concerns about the lands package included in this defense authorization agreement. This package contains some laudable bills for our Nation's environment like wilderness and new parks supported by many members of Congress. This lands package also includes, however, a number of extraordinarily controversial provisions that will do serious and long-lasting environmental damage.

Take the provision that represents an unprecedented giveaway of public lands to benefit a foreign corporation. It will destroy a recreational oasis, disturb a sacred Indian site, and cast aside recreational, environmental, and cultural concerns in favor of big mining and big money. Neither the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee nor the House of Representatives has approved that provision this Congress, yet it is being jammed into this defense bill today without debate.

In addition several important pieces of legislation with bipartisan support were simply left out of this lands package. I am disappointed that this package does not include legislation to modernize and increase forest management on the Oregon and California Grant Lands, better known as the O&C Lands, for example. This lands package also does not include legislation that would resolve long-standing issues regarding water resources in the Klamath Basin.

Additionally, I am disappointed that the lands package does virtually nothing to help rural counties: it fails to renew the bipartisan Secure Rural Schools program that funds critical services in more than 700 counties in over forty States. The assistance it provides to fund the another significant rural aid program known as Payments in Lieu of Taxes is not enough to fully fund the program in the absence of Secure Rural Schools funding. These programs are lifelines for cash-strapped rural counties that struggle to fund basic law enforcement, infrastructure improvements, and other public services.

Finally, I am extremely disappointed that the lands package did not include reauthorization of the Land and Water

Conservation Fund, a program that opens up our Nation's public lands and wilderness areas for recreation and enjoyment, while providing tremendous economic benefits to rural communities.

This lands package is unbalanced. It does not reflect bipartisan compromises reached in the committees of jurisdiction. Lastly, in the crucial days, when decisions were being made about the public lands bills that did not make it into this package, most Senators were kept in the dark about issues of great importance to their constituents.

So, I return to the notion that Senators and the people they represent must be heard on legislation this consequential. It is unfortunate that after a full Congress of hard work, a number of good proposals will simply be left on the cutting room floor.

I want to repeat that this bill before us today authorizes more than half of the discretionary budget for the U.S. Government, almost \$600 billion in defense spending, including more than \$60 billion in war funding.

Because of that, I regret that I must oppose this defense authorization bill.

Ms. COLLINS. Madam President, today I rise in support of the Fiscal Year 2015 National Defense Authorization Act.

First, let me express my sincere thanks to both Chairman LEVIN and Ranking Member INHOFE for their hard work in putting together a bipartisan bill that addresses the needs of our military and contains provisions that are important to Maine and to our national security.

This legislation fully funds both the vital DDG-1000 and DDG-51 Programs. These ships must be part of the fleet to maintain the robust forward presence our Nation requires. The U.S. Navy protects trade routes, projects power, acts as a stabilizing force, and assists when tragedy strikes. These missions are especially important in the increasingly dangerous and unpredictable world in which we live.

When tensions flared in Syria, it was Navy destroyers that were positioned off the coast. Following the devastation of Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines, two U.S. Navy destroyers were among the first ships to respond.

This bill also provides the resources necessary to help our allies and partners around the globe. When Hamas, a designated foreign terrorist organization, launched more than 3,000 rockets into Israel this summer, it was the Iron Dome missile defense system—developed with assistance from the United States—that saved countless civilian lives.

I am also pleased that this bill takes further steps to address the problem of sexual assault in the military, which remains a significant challenge facing the Department of Defense. While

progress has been made, we must remain focused on our goal of ensuring that the military has a zero tolerance culture when it comes to sexual assault.

I first raised my concern about sexual assaults in the military with Gen George Casey in 2004. To say his response was disappointing would be an understatement. I am convinced that if the military had heeded the concerns I raised then, this terrible problem would have been addressed much sooner, saving many individuals the trauma, pain, and injustice they endured.

I am encouraged that as a result of an amendment I offered to the Senate version of this bill, DOD is already taking formal steps to modify the rules of evidence to ensure confidentiality between the users and the personnel manning its Safe Helpline and HelpRoom systems. The bill includes a provision which mandates a study by DOD's Judicial Proceedings Board on how best to effectuate the rule change.

I also support eliminating the so-called good soldier defense, which this bill does. This defense has allowed the general military character of an individual to be used as evidence of their innocence.

To further support our men and women in uniform, this bill includes necessary provisions to take care of our troops and rejects many of the administration's proposed changes to compensation and benefits.

The bill wisely rejects the President's proposal to authorize a new base realignment and closure round in 2015.

This is the right way to proceed because the GAO has found that the previous BRAC round never produced the amount of savings that were promised when it was originally sold to Congress.

Finally, I would like to thank the chairman and ranking member for including in the bill a provision I authored that reauthorizes the authority for Federal agencies to hire Federal retirees to come back to work part time and still retain their annuitant status. This means that individuals with years of accumulated experience in their jobs can help train and transition in their replacement or fill staffing gaps.

Let me close on a less optimistic note. As we look ahead to next year, the specter of sequestration looms increasingly large. DOD has already made significant reductions, and unless we act soon, the effects of these indiscriminate, senseless cuts will be devastating to our national security and defense industrial base.

Further cuts will compromise the size, readiness, and technical superiority of our military. I stand ready to work closely with all of my colleagues in the next Congress on a sensible solution.

Mr. VITTER. Madam President, I speak today about an important provi-

sion in the defense bill. As you know, the maritime and shipbuilding industries are significant contributors to the economy in Louisiana and are important to our national security. In Louisiana alone, these industries employ thousands of hard-working Americans. I am pleased that the managers of this bill were able to include section 3502, dealing with floating drydocks that are owned or contracted for purchase by eligible United States shipyards or their affiliates prior to this bill's enactment. The term "shipyard" in section 3502 will apply to any facility owned by an eligible company in the United States that constructs or repairs commercial or government vessels, including, but not limited to, facilities that undertake alterations, conversions, installations, cleaning, painting, or maintenance work to such vessels. This provision will clear confusion regarding drydocks and will benefit American shipbuilders. I commend the managers for including this provision in the bill.

Mr. TESTER. Madam President, it has come to my attention that a provision of the Northern Cheyenne Lands Act, which was included in the recently passed NDAA and public lands package, contains a ministerial error. Section 3077(c)(1)(A) of the NDAA describes a mineral estate transfer between the United States and a private landowner. Both subparagraphs of that section should reference the same map, titled "Northern Cheyenne Land Act—Coal Tracts" and dated April 22, 2014. However, subparagraph (ii) as just passed contains an error by indicating a map with an incorrect title. Section 3077(c)(1)(A)(ii) should therefore be read to reference the "Northern Cheyenne Land Act—Coal Tracts" map dated April 22, 2014, which is the same map correctly referenced in subparagraph (i) of the same section.

The committee report for the underlying Northern Cheyenne Lands Act bill, S. 2442, will also acknowledge and address this error. I hope this drafting error does not delay the Department of the Interior's implementation of these provisions, which is of great importance to the Northern Cheyenne Tribe in Montana. This conveyance, once completed, will correct a mistake made by the United States over a century ago, when the United States failed to convey this property to the Tribe as originally directed by Congress.

Mr. MANCHIN. Madam President, I rise to address American military involvement in the Syrian civil war and our strategy for protecting America and our interests in the region.

I would first like to say that I am adamantly opposed to extending authority to provide funding to train and arm Syrian rebels. That authority is provided in the defense authorization bill that we are considering today. I voted against it in committee, spoke against it on the floor in September, and raise my objections to it now.

I do not know where the Syrian rebels' allegiances truly lie or if they will remain our allies once the Syrian civil war comes to an end. What I do know is that once our military begins to train and equip Syrian rebels of uncertain provenance, we will have put ourselves on a path that leads inevitably to regime change and nation-building in Syria. Such a course defies the lessons of American-led Middle Eastern nation-building over the last twelve years. And I cannot in good conscience justify to the people of West Virginia why we should continue down this path.

Before we commit more of our country's blood and treasure, we should acknowledge that after more than a decade of war, trillions of taxpayer dollars spent, and over 7,000 American lives lost in that part of the world, we have not established the pro-western representative democracies that were once envisioned. But that doesn't mean we can't protect ourselves.

While I caution against repeating the mistake of Middle Eastern nation-building, I reiterate my strongest support for our military, intelligence, and law enforcement professionals who are today defending Americans at home and abroad from the kind of vile atrocities perpetrated by ISIS. These professionals demonstrate every day that we have the means to identify terrorists and prevent them from doing harm to America.

If I thought that sending military trainers and weapons into Syria would further that end or would make Americans safer, I would support doing so. I do not. I reiterate what every Member of this body certainly believes, which is that we can and should take any necessary action to prevent a direct threat to the United States. But I firmly believe that protecting America does not require nation building in Syria.

Yet our military involvement in Syria and Iraq continues to grow, though to what end no one is certain. Because Congress has not had a robust public debate about our strategy in the Middle East, nor made hard decisions about what our military response should be.

We know that ISIS is a threat to Americans in the Middle East as well as to friendly nations and our allies there. But we have not debated whether entering another war is in our national interest.

One of the reasons this debate has not yet happened is that the President has not submitted to Congress a request for authority to use military force against ISIS. Instead, what is happening in Syria is basically this: the White House is relying on a decade-old congressional authorization that allows military force against al-Qaeda and is using that as its legal justification for attacking ISIS. Well, the world is changing, and we ought to be adapting our policies with it.

My colleague BOB MENENDEZ is pushing forward with an AUMF of his own. This week the Senate Foreign Relations Committee passed out of committee an AUMF that gives the President authority to go to war with ISIS, but which prohibits ground troops. This is a first step, and I look forward to debating the AUMF on the floor of the Senate.

But we should be debating this military authorization in the context of the President's Middle East strategy, which we have not yet seen because I believe we have a moral duty to have a full debate before we send any more Americans into harm's way.

Two important things are going on here. The first is that Congress is moving closer to give legal authorization for the President to conduct strikes against ISIS. The second is that the President is also pursuing a scheme to arm and train Syrians, which will certainly lead to regime change and nation building. It is therefore critically important that the President tells us clearly and plainly not just what the objectives of the military mission are—to degrade and destroy ISIS—but how he plans on doing so without putting us back into an open-ended war.

I support, as all my colleagues do, any action that prevents attacks on American property or persons. But before we commit more of our Nation's blood and treasure to political reform and religious settlement in the Middle East, we should consider the lessons of our decade of war there.

History has taught us that militarily training and arming Syrian rebels of uncertain provenance will put the United States on a path that leads inevitably to regime change and nation-building in Syria. Such a course defies the lessons of the American-led military operations of the last twelve years.

For these reasons I am adamantly opposed to sending American troops into Syria to further escalate a ground war that I do not believe is in the best interest of America or the region.

I ask the President and my colleagues in the Senate to allow us to give the American people the public debate they deserve, before we find ourselves again in an open-ended war in the Middle East.

Mrs. FISCHER. Madam President, I wish to speak on a provision in the appropriations measure. I am pleased to see that this legislation includes a provision in Division D-Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 2015, which addresses a concern raised by farmers and ranchers around the country.

Section 111 of the General Provisions relating to the Corps of Engineers Civil Works Program states that: "None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to require a permit for the discharge of dredged or fill material

under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act for the activities identified in subparagraphs (A) and (C) of section 404(f)(1) of the Act."

In section 404(f)(1) of the Clean Water Act, Congress provided a permitting exemption for certain activities including normal farming, forestry, and ranching activities, upland soil and water conservation practices, and the construction and maintenance of farm or stock ponds or irrigation ditches and the maintenance of drainage ditches.

One would think that with this clear exemption, our farmers and ranchers could go about their business without worrying about whether EPA or the Corps of Engineers would try to regulate plowing, seeding, and harvesting, or their farm ponds and ditches. Unfortunately, in recent years EPA and the Corps of Engineers have been trying to circumvent the 404(f)(1) permitting exemptions by interpreting the limited "recapture" provision in section 404(f)(2) in such an expansive way as to virtually swallow up the exemptions in 404(f)(1).

A farmer's field is not a water of the U.S. A farm pond is not a water of the U.S. An irrigation ditch is not a water of the U.S. But, there are overzealous regulators out there who disagree. We have seen the Corps try to regulate a family farm when the farmer tried to change from a ditch irrigation system to a piped irrigation system to improve water efficiency. The Corps argued that there would be runoff from the work and that runoff somehow made the work subject to permitting under section 404.

Section 111 stops that regulatory overreach and preserves the protections Congress has provided to ranchers and farmers by making it clear that the recapture provisions of section 404(f)(2) do not apply to normal farming, forestry, and ranching activities, upland soil and water conservation practices, and the construction and maintenance of farm or stock ponds or irrigation ditches and the maintenance of drainage ditches.

Of course, the greatest abuse of the Clean Water Act is the Obama Administration's proposed "waters of the United States" rule, and this section does not alleviate the concerns that farmers, small businesses, and local communities have with the proposed rule. This section will, however, ensure that the will of Congress to protect farmers and ranchers from burdensome 404 permitting requirements is carried out, and I will continue to do everything in my power to stop EPA from finalizing the proposed "waters of the United States" rule next year.

Mr. INHOFE. Madam President, we are getting close to having votes on amendments and final passage tonight, the most significant vote of the year each year.

For 52 consecutive years, we have passed the National Defense Authorization Act. In almost every year there has been a last-minute misunderstanding as to how these different provisions might affect something that has nothing to do with the defense of America.

In this case, there was—and procedurally I have disagreed with it. I have said several times that a land package was included on the bill. I have felt that once we have gone through the process of what has been referred to as the big four, we have ironed out the differences. There are a lot of things that I don't like, but there are more things that I do like. I daresay to Chairman LEVIN, he is in the same situation.

I have to say one more time that this chairman has been so incredibly fair to everyone.

We have to keep in mind that we passed this bill. After working on it for 4 months, we passed it to the floor from the Senate Armed Services Committee on May 23. There are a lot of things on here that we had. Of course, it went over and the House then passed their bill. They passed their bill actually on May 22; we passed it out of committee on May 23. The problem is, they were able to pass theirs on the floor; we were not. It is something we should have done a long time ago, and I am hoping that we learned a lesson from last year to this year, and we are not going to let this happen again.

So we have now before us a bill that does the necessary things in this most difficult time. I think most people would agree there has not been a time in our history where we have had more opposition from different parts of the world. I refer to the good old days of the Cold War with two superpowers—we are one, and the Soviet Union was the other one—and they were predictable. Mutually assured destruction meant something. If something happened, we could bomb them and they would do the same to us, and it is now all over. That is not the way it is anymore.

We have forces out there from North Korea and Iraq, and all these things are taking place at a time when—and I don't want to make people angry about what this President has done to the military, but we have virtually disarmed America. Our generals now are facing the possibility of sequestration. So the most important bill is now even more than just most important. It is a must-pass bill. It has to pass. If this doesn't pass, there is no other time we can take it up. Should December 31 get here, it would be an absolute disaster.

We right now have 1,779,343 enlisted personnel in the military. If we didn't pass a reauthorization bill, they would lose their benefits on December 31. I have talked about the benefit of that. I think everyone understands it, and it

would be redundant to repeat it. But we can't have people making career decisions predicated on assumptions that they would have hazard pay, the assumption if they are pilots that they would have pilot pay; that critical skills like the SEALs would have bonuses, and then all of a sudden on December 31 we take them away.

We are not going to let that happen. We are going to pass this bill today. The concern I have is that any amendments on it would cause a problem that I think would be insurmountable. It would have to go back. They would have to recall the House and then come back, and timewise it can't happen.

So this is the last train leaving town. We have to have this for the sake of our men and women in uniform. If there is time remaining after the chairman makes his remarks, I will even comment on some specific parts of this bill in terms of how good this bill is and why it is necessary to pass. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Michigan.

Mr. LEVIN. Madam President, I first thank my friend from Oklahoma, my partner as well in the Armed Services Committee. I have enjoyed the presence of the Presiding Officer on our committee, and I think she knows how well that committee works together, and Senator INHOFE and I guess both sides—both parties have worked very closely together for our troops. That is what this is all about is pulling together for our troops. They inspire us, they unify us, they protect us, and the least we owe them is a Defense authorization bill.

We haven't missed in 52 years. This would be the 53rd straight year that there would be a Defense authorization bill—coincidentally, the same number of years I have been married. So this may be the gift to my wife for our anniversary if we are done with this bill, if we finish it today.

This bill takes provisions critical to our national security, to the well-being of our men and women in uniform, to our retirees and their families. If we fail to enact this bill, the Department of Defense's statutory authority to pay combat pay, hardship duty pay, enlistment and reenlistment bonuses, incentive pays for critical specialties, assignment incentive pay, accession and retention bonuses for critical specialties, will expire on December 31. We cannot let that happen.

After that date, the statutory authority to provide combat pay to our troops in Afghanistan and Iraq will lapse. We cannot let that happen. We would lose some of our most highly skilled men and women with specialties that we vitally need. We cannot let that happen.

Not only would we be shortchanging our soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines, we would be denying our mili-

tary services critical authorities they need to recruit and retain high-quality servicemembers, and to achieve their force-shaping objectives as they draw down their end strengths.

And there is more. If we fail to enact this bill, school districts all over the United States that rely on supplemental impact aid to help them educate military children would no longer receive that money. If we fail to enact this bill, the Department of Defense will not be able to begin construction on important new military construction projects in the coming year. That would mean our troops don't get the barracks, the ranges, the hospitals, the laboratories, and the other support facilities they need to support operational requirements, conduct training, and to maintain their equipment.

It would mean that military family housing will not receive needed upgrades, and that schools to educate the children of our servicemembers will not be built or modernized.

If we fail to enact this bill, we will not enact provisions that strengthen survivor benefits for disabled children of servicemembers and retirees. We would not then enact provisions addressing the employment of military spouses, job placement of veterans. That is an issue which the Presiding Officer knows an awful lot about, because she has been so directly involved in that and so many other issues.

We would then not be enacting provisions relative to military hazing, military suicides, post-traumatic stress disorder, and mental health problems in the military.

If we do not enact this bill, we would then enact none of the 20 provisions in this bill addressing the scourge of sexual assault in the military. We will not eliminate the good soldier defense which is eliminated in this bill, as it should be. We would not give victims of sexual assault a voice in whether their case is prosecuted in military or civilian courts. They should have that voice. We would not give survivors of sexual assault the right to challenge court-martial rulings that violate their rights and to challenge them in the Court of Criminal Appeals. They should have that right.

If we don't pass this bill, we would not be strengthening the psychotherapist-patient privilege.

So this bill includes critical authorities for the Department of Defense. It provides essential support to our men and women in uniform, military retirees, and their families.

If either of the motions we are going to be voting on is adopted, this bill then will not pass and not become law, because it would then in one instance be open to amendments, and that could be endless because there are so many amendments that people would like to offer. I have gone into the reasons why we are in a position where that simply is not practical or possible.

We are asking our colleagues to allow this bill to come to a final passage today and become the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015.

Again, with thanks to all of our colleagues on the Armed Services Committee, thanks to my partner Senator INHOFE who has worked so closely, he and his staff, with myself and our staff.

I hope this would have an overwhelming vote and that we would not adopt any motion which would lead then to our not adopting this critically needed bill.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma.

Mr. INHOFE. Madam President, it is just about time for the vote. I want to mention something which hasn't been mentioned.

We have two really great Americans, one serving in the House and one serving in the Senate. We have been talking about Chairman LEVIN and how fair and open he has been. I think there is not a person of the 100 Members of the Senate who doesn't agree with that.

At the same time, we have BUCK McKEON over in the House of Representatives. He is the chairman of the House committee that CARL LEVIN is the chair of over here. He also is retiring, and he has served for quite some time—not as long as Senator LEVIN.

Against their objections, we have named this bill the CARL LEVIN-BUCK McKEON bill, so I want to make sure everyone recognizes that proper tribute has been made to the long hours and years and the hard work they have contributed.

This guy over here to my left has been through 16 of these. He has been working about 36 years, and I want to say he is deserving of that recognition.

I also want to mention two other people. One is the guy sitting next to me to my right, John Bonsell; the other is Pete Levine, sitting next to the chairman. Their job is to make us look good and make all this a reality, because it is a very complicated thing. It is a 24-hour-a-day work project. So I thank them for their effort. I know we are just talking about amendments right now and we will have a chance to maybe expand later on, but I think it needs to be said, and it needs to be said more than once.

I yield the floor. The hour is here.

#### VOTE ON MOTION TO REFER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion to refer the House message on H.R. 3979 to the Committee on Armed Services with instructions.

Mr. LEVIN. Madam President, before asking for the yeas and nays, I want to thank my friend again, Senator INHOFE, for mentioning our staff. John Peter has done such good work with all of our staffs. We put the names of our staffs in the RECORD a day or two ago and they deserve that and a lot more.

I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. WALSH). Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

The result was announced—yeas 18, nays 82, as follows:

#### [Rollcall Vote No. 323 Leg.]

##### YEAS—18

Blunt	Cruz	Paul
Boozman	Grassley	Rubio
Chambliss	Johnson (WI)	Scott
Coats	Lee	Sessions
Coburn	McConnell	Thune
Corker	Moran	Vitter

##### NAYS—82

Alexander	Graham	Murphy
Ayotte	Hagan	Murray
Baldwin	Harkin	Nelson
Barrasso	Hatch	Portman
Begich	Heinrich	Pryor
Bennet	Heitkamp	Reed
Blumenthal	Heller	Reid
Booker	Hirono	Risch
Boxer	Hoeven	Roberts
Brown	Inhofe	Rockefeller
Burr	Isakson	Sanders
Cantwell	Johanns	Schatz
Cardin	Johnson (SD)	Schumer
Carper	Kaine	Shaheen
Casey	King	Shelby
Cochran	Kirk	Stabenow
Collins	Klobuchar	Tester
Coons	Landrieu	Toomey
Cornyn	Leahy	Udall (CO)
Crapo	Levin	Udall (NM)
Donnelly	Manchin	Walsh
Durbin	Markey	Warner
Enzi	McCain	Warren
Feinstein	McCaskill	Whitehouse
Fischer	Menendez	Wicker
Flake	Merkley	Wyden
Franken	Mikulski	
Gillibrand	Murkowski	

The motion was rejected.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore.

The Senator from Oklahoma.

#### MOTION TO SUSPEND RULE XXII

Mr. COBURN. Mr. President, I move to suspend rule XXII for the purposes of proposing and considering amendment No. 4098, and I ask for the yeas and nays.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Pursuant to the precedent set by the Senate on October 6, 2011, such a motion is dilatory postcloture, and is not in order.

#### APPEAL OF THE DECISION OF THE CHAIR

Mr. COBURN. Mr. President, a motion to suspend the rules postcloture is not dilatory, and on those grounds I respectfully appeal the decision of the Chair, and I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The question is, Shall the decision of the Chair stand as the judgment of the Senate?

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk called the roll.

The result was announced—yeas 55, nays 45, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 324 Leg.]

##### YEAS—55

Baldwin	Heinrich	Pryor
Begich	Heitkamp	Reed
Bennet	Hirono	Reid
Blumenthal	Johnson (SD)	Rockefeller
Booker	Kaine	Sanders
Boxer	King	Schatz
Brown	Klobuchar	Schumer
Cantwell	Landrieu	Shaheen
Cardin	Leahy	Stabenow
Carper	Levin	Tester
Casey	Manchin	Udall (CO)
Coons	Markey	Udall (NM)
Donnelly	McCaskill	Walsh
Durbin	Menendez	Warner
Feinstein	Merkley	Warren
Franken	Mikulski	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Murphy	Wyden
Hagan	Murray	
Harkin	Nelson	

##### NAYS—45

Alexander	Enzi	McConnell
Ayotte	Fischer	Moran
Barrasso	Flake	Murkowski
Blunt	Graham	Paul
Boozman	Grassley	Portman
Burr	Hatch	Risch
Chambliss	Heller	Roberts
Coats	Hoeven	Rubio
Coburn	Inhofe	Scott
Cochran	Isakson	Sessions
Collins	Johanns	Shelby
Corker	Johnson (WI)	Thune
Cornyn	Kirk	Toomey
Crapo	Lee	Vitter
Cruz	McCain	Wicker

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. WALSH). On this vote, the yeas are 55, the nays are 45.

The Senate sustains the decision of the Chair.

The majority leader is recognized.

#### ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. REID. For the information of all Members, we have two more votes based on the prior order that was entered last night. I alert all Members they better not leave here right now for the weekend because we have matters we need to dispose of. I have spoken to Senator MCCONNELL recently, and we are going to try to work something out so that we may be able to get off tomorrow and Sunday. We are going to have to work on Monday morning unless something comes up in the meantime. Everybody should just take it easy until we get something worked out; otherwise, the Government will run out of money tomorrow night at midnight. We have to complete this omnibus bill prior to that time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the motion to concur with an amendment is withdrawn.

The question is on agreeing to the motion to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 3979.

Mr. BEGICH. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

The result was announced—yeas 89, nays 11, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 325 Leg.]

## YEAS—89

Alexander	Franken	Murkowski
Ayotte	Graham	Murphy
Baldwin	Grassley	Murray
Barrasso	Hagan	Nelson
Begich	Harkin	Portman
Bennet	Hatch	Pryor
Blumenthal	Heinrich	Reed
Blunt	Heitkamp	Reid
Booker	Heller	Roberts
Boozman	Hirono	Rockefeller
Boxer	Hoeben	Rubio
Burr	Inhofe	Schatz
Cantwell	Isakson	Schumer
Cardin	Johanns	Scott
Carper	Johnson (SD)	Sessions
Casey	Johnson (WI)	Shaheen
Chambliss	Kaine	Shelby
Coats	King	Stabenow
Coburn	Kirk	Tester
Cochran	Klobuchar	Thune
Collins	Landrieu	Toomey
Coons	Leahy	Udall (CO)
Corker	Levin	Udall (NM)
Cornyn	Manchin	Vitter
Donnelly	Markey	Walsh
Durbin	McCain	Warner
Enzi	McCaskill	Warren
Feinstein	McConnell	Whitehouse
Fischer	Menendez	Wicker
Flake	Mikulski	

## NAYS—11

Brown	Lee	Risch
Crapo	Merkley	Sanders
Cruz	Moran	Wyden
Gillibrand	Paul	

The motion was agreed to.

#### PROVIDING FOR A CORRECTION IN THE ENROLLMENT OF H.R. 3979

#### DIRECTING THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO MAKE A CORRECTION IN THE ENROLLMENT OF H.R. 3979

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. BALDWIN). Under the previous order, H. Con. Res. 121 and H. Con. Res. 123 are considered and agreed to en bloc and the motions to reconsider are considered made and laid upon the table en bloc.

The Republican leader.

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, I wish to take a moment to speak on something that I think there is an overwhelming bipartisan desire to achieve, and that is to finish tonight. There is no good reason not to.

We are working to clear an agreement on our side to process the CR/omnibus, the extenders bill, and TRIA tonight—tonight.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—H.R. 5771.

As for right now, I can tell you we are prepared to go forward on the extenders bill. Therefore, I ask unanimous consent that at a time to be determined by the majority leader, after consultation with the Republican leader, the Senate proceed to consideration of H.R. 5771, the Tax Increase Prevention Act; that there be up to 1 hour of debate equally divided between the two leaders or their designees prior to the vote on passage of the bill; further, that the vote on passage be subject to a 60-vote affirmative threshold.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. REID. Reserving the right to object, we have had bipartisan conversations about having a more than 1-year extension of the tax extenders, bipartisan conversations about moving to a 2-year bill or maybe doing what we did in the Senate and passing the extend bill.

So I respect my friend, who is trying to get us out of here as quickly as possible, but we have to have a path forward to make sure we understand what is happening with the extenders.

The Senator mentioned TRIA. We also have some problems with that. So I believe we need a path forward on the omnibus and a way forward on the nominations before we start dealing with whether there should be a 2-year extension or a 1-year extension and what amendments, if any, we would have on TRIA, so I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. McCONNELL. I would briefly make the point that we are very close to being cleared on this side to finish. I want everybody to understand that it is possible to finish tonight. Very shortly, we will be able to announce that there are no impediments toward getting to that goal on our side of the aisle.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. REID. We have the omnibus we have to do, we have to do the tax extenders, we have to do TRIA, and we have some nominations that we have an obligation to the American people to do, so we are not going to finish tonight. I think we could finish the omnibus tonight, but we are not finishing tonight.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

NOMINATION OF MARK GILBERT TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO NEW ZEALAND, AND TO SERVE CONCURRENTLY AND WITHOUT ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION AS AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE INDEPENDENT STATE OF SAMOA

NOMINATION OF ROBERT C. BARBER TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF ICELAND

NOMINATION OF DAVID NATHAN SAPERSTEIN TO BE AMBASSADOR AT LARGE FOR INTERNATIONAL RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

NOMINATION OF AMY JANE HYATT, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF PALAU

NOMINATION OF ARNOLD A. CHACON, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE

NOMINATION OF VIRGINIA E. PALMER, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF MALAWI

NOMINATION OF DONALD L. HEFLIN, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF CABO VERDE

NOMINATION OF MICHAEL W. KEMPNER TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BROADCASTING BOARD OF GOVERNORS

NOMINATION OF LEON ARON TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BROADCASTING BOARD OF GOVERNORS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session to consider the following nominations, which the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read the nominations of Mark Gilbert, of Florida, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to New Zealand, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of

America to the Independent State of Samoa; Robert C. Barber, of Massachusetts, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Iceland; David Nathan Saperstein, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador at Large for International Religious Freedom; Amy Jane Hyatt, of California, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Palau; Arnold A. Chacon, of Virginia, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Director General of the Foreign Service; Virginia E. Palmer, of Virginia, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Malawi; Donald L. Heflin, of Virginia, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Cabo Verde; Michael W. Kempner, of New Jersey, to be a Member of the Broadcasting Board of Governors; and Leon Aron, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Broadcasting Board of Governors.

## VOTE ON GILBERT NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There is 2 minutes of debate equally divided prior to a vote on the Gilbert nomination.

Mr. REID. Madam President, I yield back all time on all of these nominations.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. All time is yielded back on all nominations.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Mark Gilbert, of Florida, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to New Zealand, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Independent State of Samoa?

The nomination was confirmed.

## VOTE ON BARBER NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Robert C. Barber, of Massachusetts, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Iceland?

The nomination was confirmed.

## VOTE ON SAPERSTEIN NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of David Nathan Saperstein, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador at Large for International Religious Freedom?

Mr. WICKER. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), and the Senator from Colorado (Mr. UDALL) are necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 62, nays 35, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 326 Ex.]

## YEAS—62

Alexander	Hagan	Murray
Baldwin	Harkin	Nelson
Bennet	Heinrich	Paul
Blumenthal	Heitkamp	Pryor
Blunt	Heller	Reed
Booker	Hirono	Reid
Boxer	Johnson (SD)	Rockefeller
Brown	Kaine	Rubio
Cantwell	King	Schatz
Cardin	Kirk	Schumer
Carper	Klobuchar	Scott
Casey	Landrieu	Shaheen
Collins	Leahy	Stabenow
Coons	Levin	Tester
Corker	Markey	Udall (NM)
Cruz	McCaskill	Walsh
Donnelly	Menendez	Warner
Durbin	Merkley	Warren
Feinstein	Mikulski	Whitehouse
Franken	Murkowski	Wyden
Gillibrand	Murphy	

## NAYS—35

Ayotte	Flake	McConnell
Barrasso	Graham	Moran
Boozman	Grassley	Portman
Burr	Hatch	Risch
Chambliss	Hoeven	Roberts
Coats	Inhofe	Sessions
Coburn	Isakson	Shelby
Cochran	Johanns	Thune
Cornyn	Johnson (WI)	Toomey
Crapo	Lee	Vitter
Enzi	Manchin	Wicker
Fischer	McCain	

## NOT VOTING—3

Begich	Sanders	Udall (CO)
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The nomination was confirmed.

## VOTE ON HYATT NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Amy Jane Hyatt, of California, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Palau?

The nomination was confirmed.

## VOTE ON CHACON NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Arnold A. Chacon, of Virginia, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Director General of the Foreign Service?

The nomination was confirmed.

## VOTE ON PALMER NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and

consent to the nomination of Virginia E. Palmer, of Virginia, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Malawi?

The nomination was confirmed.

## VOTE ON HEFLIN NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Donald L. Heflin, of Virginia, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Cabo Verde?

The nomination was confirmed.

## VOTE ON KEMPNER NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Michael W. Kempner, of New Jersey, to be a Member of the Broadcasting Board of Governors?

The nomination was confirmed.

## VOTE ON ARON NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Leon Aron, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Broadcasting Board of Governors?

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the motions to reconsider are considered made and laid upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

## LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will resume legislative session.

The majority leader.

## INSULAR AREAS AND FREELY ASSOCIATED STATES ENERGY DEVELOPMENT

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask the Chair to lay before the Senate a message from the House with respect to H.R. 83.

The Presiding Officer laid before the Senate the following message from the House of Representatives:

*Resolved*, That the House agree to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 83) entitled "An Act to require the Secretary of the Interior to assemble a team of technical, policy, and financial experts to address the energy needs of the insular areas of the United States and the Freely Associated States through the development of energy action plans aimed at promoting access to affordable, reliable energy, including increasing use of indigenous clean-energy resources, and for other purposes," with an amendment.

## MOTION TO CONCUR

Mr. REID. Madam President, I move to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 83.



The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The bill clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Nevada [Mr. REID] moves to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 83.

#### CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. REID. Madam President, there is a cloture motion at the desk. I ask the Chair to order it reported.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The bill clerk read as follows:

#### CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 83.

Harry Reid, Barbara A. Mikulski, Brian Schatz, Benjamin L. Cardin, Martin Heinrich, John E. Walsh, Richard J. Durbin, Thomas R. Carper, Patty Murray, Tim Johnson, Angus S. King, Jr., Mark R. Warner, Tom Udall, Dianne Feinstein, Bill Nelson, Mark L. Pryor, Tammy Baldwin.

#### MOTION TO CONCUR WITH AMENDMENT NO. 4100

Mr. REID. Madam President, I move to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 83, with a further amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The bill clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Nevada [Mr. REID] moves to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 83 with an amendment numbered 4100.

The amendment is as follows:

At the end, add the following:

This Act shall become effective 1 day after enactment.

Mr. REID. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

#### AMENDMENT NO. 4101 TO AMENDMENT NO. 4100

Mr. REID. I have an amendment at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the amendment.

The bill clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Nevada [Mr. REID] proposes an amendment numbered 4101 to amendment No. 4100.

The amendment is as follows:

In the amendment, strike "1 day" and insert "2 days".

#### MOTION TO REFER WITH AMENDMENT NO. 4102

Mr. REID. I have a motion to refer the House message with respect to H.R. 83 with instructions.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The bill clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Nevada [Mr. REID] moves to refer the House message on H.R. 83 to the Committee on Appropriations with instruc-

tions to report back forthwith with an amendment numbered 4102.

The amendment is as follows:

At the end, add the following:

This Act shall become effective 3 days after enactment.

Mr. REID. I ask for the yeas and nays on that amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

#### AMENDMENT NO. 4103

Mr. REID. Madam President, I have an amendment to the instructions which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The bill clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Nevada [Mr. REID] proposes an amendment numbered 4103 to the instructions of the motion to refer.

The amendment is as follows:

In the amendment, strike "3 days" and insert "4 days".

Mr. REID. I ask for the yeas and nays on that amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

#### AMENDMENT NO. 4104 TO AMENDMENT NO. 4103

Mr. REID. I now have a second-degree amendment at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The bill clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Nevada [Mr. REID] proposes an amendment numbered 4104 to amendment No. 4103.

The amendment is as follows:

In the amendment, strike "4" and insert "5".

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum required under rule XXII be waived.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. Madam President, we now are waiting for a vote to occur. Under the rules, this will occur 2 days from now, 1 hour after we come into session. So I would hope we can work something out to get this done tonight. Remember, midnight on Saturday the government is out of money.

I hope that cooler heads would prevail and we can move forward and get this done. There is just no sense in our waiting around. This bill has been talked about for days now. It has been very good work to get it where we are.

The two managers of this bill, the distinguished Senator from Maryland and, of course, the senior Senator from Alabama, have worked hard to get this bill done. I hope we can move forward on this as quickly as possible. There is no reason we have to wait until Sunday to do this.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland.

Mr. CARDIN. Madam President, I just wish to underscore the point that it is urgent we take up this Omnibus appropriations bill; that we do this in order to have a budget for our country and that we don't threaten another government shutdown—we know how damaging that is to this country; and that we don't have another continuing resolution.

Another continuing resolution provides uncertainty to our agencies. They can't do the critical work they need to do. It establishes last year's priorities rather than trying to establish the priorities for this year and represents a failure of the Congress.

So I start by first thanking and congratulating my colleague from Maryland, Senator MIKULSKI, for her incredible leadership through this process, working with Senator SHELBY and their counterparts in the House of Representatives.

This is not easy. We have sharply different views in this Congress, and we have seen over and over again gridlock where we are unable to make decisions. I congratulate Senator MIKULSKI for bringing the negotiations of the omnibus to a successful conclusion. When we look at the work she did in the appropriations part of this Omnibus appropriations bill, I am very proud, and I think we all should be very proud and very supportive of the work she has done.

As I pointed out earlier, if we don't pass an Omnibus appropriations bill, we are either going to have a government shutdown or we are going to resort to a short-term continuing resolution. In either case, it is very damaging to our country and to our economy.

The Omnibus appropriations bill we have before us allows us to set certain priorities. I know Senator MIKULSKI has gone through many of those priorities. I just wish to outline a few: the fact that we give additional resources for missing and exploited children; the fact that we provide law enforcement with rape kits to help in law enforcement against those who have perpetrated violence against women; the fact that we provide an additional \$5 billion-plus to fight the Ebola crisis globally. This has a direct impact on the world economy, on world health, and directly affects the United States; the appropriations for our Department of Defense to be able to combat the extremist ISIL in its fear that it has invoked not just in that region but globally.

This Omnibus appropriations bill provides the resources in order to carry out these important responsibilities of government. The alternative is a continuing resolution, at best. How do we fight a war on a continuing resolution? How do we fight Ebola on a continuing resolution? We will not have the ability to be able to do it.

I thank Senator MIKULSKI. She has provided funds in here for our Farm



Service Agencies, which is particularly important to keep open the 250 threatened closures of farm services offices. I mention that because in Maryland these offices are very important to our agricultural community. Maryland farmers in their conservation efforts to help us on the Chesapeake Bay work in conjunction with the service agencies. The closing of these agencies would be devastating.

The omnibus provides a modest pay adjustment for our Federal workforce, our Federal workforce which has been asked to do more with less people—less people, more responsibilities. They are on the front lines of public service. This omnibus recognizes their service by giving them a modest adjustment to their pay.

The transportation program, which is critically important for economic growth—I can go over the differences here if we don't get the omnibus. For example, the funds for our transit projects—I know in Maryland there is \$100 billion here for the Purple Line in Prince George's County and Montgomery County. For those who travel in this region, we know firsthand the gridlock problems on our roads. The only good thing about being here tonight is that I don't have to fight the traffic going home to Baltimore. We need the transit funding, and thank you, Senator MIKULSKI, for providing that. If we have a continuing resolution, we lose it. The funds for Baltimore—lost, if we don't have the omnibus appropriations bill.

There are funds for dredging of the Baltimore Harbor. I particularly appreciate the Appropriations Committee continuing the commitment we made in 2008, the legislation that I authored for the full funding of the Federal contributions to the WMATA system.

The funds that are here for our contract air traffic control towers. You know, not too long ago there was a threat of a shutdown. We were going to have to close the contract offices that worked the air traffic control towers in our small airports, including in Maryland. Well, we are protected by the omnibus so that will not occur. Go to a continuing resolution, and there is no such protection.

The Appalachian Regional Commission gets a bump-up in this appropriations bill, for good reason. The work they do is critically important to the rural part of Maryland, the western part. They need that. If you go to a continuing resolution and those initiatives are gone, we don't get that.

We can go on and on and on. There is \$1.4 billion of additional money for community health centers—community health centers. Thank you. In Maryland we have used those funds to expand community health centers, to expand prenatal care, increasing infant survival in our State. We have used it for community mental health services,

we have used it for pediatric dental services, and in the omnibus bill we will be able to continue to make that progress. If we don't get the omnibus, all bets are off. On a continuing resolution we cannot move forward in those programs.

I would thank you on behalf of the veterans of this country. What you have done requiring advanced funding is that you have protected our veterans and the benefits that we promised them regardless of the problems we have had getting our appropriations bills done. It is the right thing to do. They fought to preserve the liberties of our country, so they should at least know we are going to live up to the commitments we made to protect our veterans.

I also appreciate that in this omnibus you have extended the TAA's benefits that help our workers in transition who otherwise would not have jobs due to the international trade issues. My colleague Senator BROWN has been very instrumental in this. We extend that through fiscal year 2015.

Military construction. Military construction is critically important. We have gone through a BRAC process. We have gone through ways in which we have consolidated our military, but we also have to modernize our facilities and the military construction budgets would come to a standstill if we don't have a budget in Maryland, and we will have projects that move forward in Havre de Grace, Annapolis, Indian Head, Pax River, and Andrews. All of that is very important.

Money has been provided in this omnibus to help in regard to the problems of Central America. We saw what happened on our borders. I think we all agree we want children to be safe. It must be a horrible choice for a parent to put their child on a transit to come to the United States because of what is happening in their Central American country. We begin on this omnibus bill to say, hey, let's try to work for safer conditions in Central America which will give us more stability in regard to what is happening on our own borders. That makes sense. That is in there.

I also thank Senator MIKULSKI for an initiative I requested that deals with Holocaust survivors. For the first time we have a direct appropriation to help Holocaust survivors. These are individuals who have a great fear of ending up in an institution. You can understand why. So access to fundamental services in the community is particularly important. This omnibus is sensitive to make sure that we provide that. Again, if we don't have the omnibus, that initiative is gone.

You are protecting our Pell grant recipients so they can continue to receive their Pell grants at current levels. All of this is so important in the omnibus if we don't get it.

There are some things in this omnibus I don't like at all. As I said earlier,

this is a compromise. I know that we have seen the bills come over from the House of Representatives. We have seen the antienvironmental, antifinancial consumer protection bills. So many bills have come over. And we know there were efforts made on numerous of these policy riders to the appropriations to the omnibus bill. Unfortunately, some got on, and I certainly understand the political process. I am not naive to understand that we could win on every issue; but I feel compelled to point out the policy riders that are on this omnibus bill that I hope we will work together to remove the harmful impacts that they could possibly have on policy in this country.

On the environmental front, there is a policy rider that restricts EPA's authority to deal with tackle and ammunition as it relates to lead content. Our policy should be based to allow EPA, based upon best science for how they protect public health. I think that is compromised by that rider.

There is a rider that could compromise how the agriculture community works on our clean water bills. All stakeholders have to be in together to deal with clean water. We do that with the Chesapeake Bay in Maryland. I think that rider could have some very negative impact. We have heard a lot of talk about the sage grouse which is a species that could become endangered. The Environmental Protection Agency should be able to do what is right in establishing the right conservation efforts, but instead there were restrictions placed on EPA, and I regret that. I hope we can work around that.

The definition of fill in mining regulations could open up more mountaintop removal for coal mining, the most obscene way to obtain coal, to blow up mountains and pollute streams. There are better ways. We shouldn't put these arbitrary restrictions on the Environmental Protection Agency.

There is a provision here you have heard a lot of comment on the floor on dealing with financial consumer protection which would repeal the Dodd-Frank provision where banks had to push out some of the derivative trading into separate accounts so they weren't subject to the FDIC, the government insurance program. That provision could be used for risky trading and could result in government bailout. That is bad. Let's work to make sure that doesn't happen. Let's work together to restore that type of protection in our financial services.

The IMF doesn't receive funds over this omnibus bill. I think that is a mistake. I think our responsibilities internationally require us to cooperate in that.

There are provisions in here that interfere with the District of Columbia home rule. That won't be the first time we have done that, and I regret that.

So it is not unusual to see those provisions in an appropriations bill. It still doesn't make it right. It is not right.

There are some missed opportunities here. I am sorry we are not participating in the Green Climate Fund. This is an international effort to deal with the realities of climate change. The United States needs to be a leader. We are missing an opportunity by not participating in the Green Climate Fund.

I regret that this is an omnibus appropriations bill for all agencies except one: Homeland Security. That is wrong. Our Homeland Security needs the protection of a budget, not a continuing resolution. We may have very different views on what we should do on immigration policy, but that shouldn't stop us from allowing those who serve in Homeland Security to have the confidence that we will support their budget for a year, and that they can go forward with an initiative. I regret that. That is a missed opportunity that is in the omnibus bill.

Lastly, let me mention the two extraneous issues that made their way into the omnibus appropriations bill. That was a mystery, I think, to Senator MIKULSKI and others who worked so hard in negotiating back and forth in good faith only to find that the Rules Committee in the House of Representatives added two extraneous provisions to an omnibus appropriations bill. The process is wrong. They shouldn't do that. That is an abuse of power. They are also, by the way, wrong on the policy.

One, it is a very serious issue, how to deal with multi-employer plans. I have been working on pension issues ever since I came to the Congress. We have a problem with the multi-employer plans, there is no question about that. But we should have a bill on the floor of the Senate and debate that. We shouldn't be passing a bill that could very well have some very stark consequences on individuals who are currently retired. That could very easily happen under this provision.

The second, which adds new categories of giving in our political system to political party conventions and to the building funds, and to recount, we don't need more money in politics in this country and we shouldn't be taking up that bill on an omnibus appropriations bill.

Let me conclude my remarks as I began. To me, this is an easy decision to make. It is an easy decision because the public does not want to see more gridlock in Washington. They know the House of Representatives has gone home. They know that our leaders have negotiated an omnibus budget for the next fiscal year, and they are saying at long last could we at least get this done, or are we going to have another threatened shutdown? Are we going to put the government on autopilot for a 3-month period?

I think we have a responsibility to see issues to conclusion, and on the appropriation issues that are in this bill, you should be very proud to support the work of Senator MIKULSKI and the entire group behind the negotiations of this omnibus bill, Senator SHELBY and others. We should support that and recognize that what we need to do next year—I know my colleague from Maryland has been the champion of this. I heard her speak so eloquently in our caucus about this and on the floor of the Senate, but what we need to do is get a budget done in regular order so the appropriators know what their budget limits are and they can work on the individual appropriation bills. We can bring them to the floor, we can debate them, have amendment votes, and then we won't be as frustrated as we are tonight, in the eleventh hour dealing with issues for the very first time that we see on the omnibus appropriations bill.

I know Senator MIKULSKI has been the great champion of saying let's get back to regular order. She did that in her committee. We are not surprised. We saw the work of her committee. It was done very openly. We had a chance for input, and that is why a lot of what is in this omnibus appropriations bill represents the work of each Member of this body. But we can do this in a more open and transparent way by considering individual appropriation bills on the floor of the Senate, reconciling those differences at the House, and really doing the people's business and not just confront ourselves with another omnibus appropriations bill.

I encourage my colleagues to support the good work that has been done and I hope we can approve the omnibus appropriations bill this evening well in advance of the hour of midnight, which will be here sooner than we think, in order to avoid a government shutdown and let the people of this Nation know we are doing our very best.

With that, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland.

Ms. MIKULSKI. Madam President, I rise to speak on the consolidated and further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2015.

Every year we have a particular responsibility that is mandated by the Constitution, which is that the Congress of the United States shall pass an annual revenue bill to fund the government. The power of the purse is vested in the Congress. It is not vested in the executive branch. Our subcommittee on appropriations is a constitutionally mandated committee. The reason for that is, if one reads the Federalist Papers, it says that if the leader of a country controls the purse, they tend to be kings. But if the executive branch has to share power with the legislative branch controlling the purse, you have checks and balances.

Tonight is the night we talk about what is in our annual bill. It had been the hope of myself and my vice chairman, Senator SHELBY, that we could file something here called regular order, where the 12 subcommittees in Appropriations would have brought up one bill at a time. For a variety of reasons—mostly deep partisan politics—we were not able to bring up 12 individual bills, and I regret that.

As a new party takes over, I hope we listen to the message of the voters—end gridlock, end deadlock, end the partisanship that is crippling our country. One way to correct that is to return to regular order. I look forward to continuing to work with both sides of the aisle to do that.

Tonight we are where we are. We are bringing the consolidated bill to the Senate floor which represents the work of 12 subcommittees: Defense, Interior, Labor, Education, Health, Foreign Operations, the State Department, and Homeland Security will be on a continuing resolution. I could call all their names. We will be looking at a \$1 trillion expenditure, which is the discretionary funding of the United States of America; \$550 billion of that is in defense—DOD only. The remaining amount is in domestic agencies which is also considered the State Department.

We need to pass this bill tonight so we can show that there is no government shutdown. The funding for the Government of the United States of America expires at midnight. We want to be sure there is no government shutdown, but we also don't want to be on a continuing resolution. A continuing resolution simply says take what you have done in 2014 and put it on autopilot.

If we pass the continuing appropriations, which I hope we do, the government will be able to show that we have exercised thought and set national priorities and worked on this. I hope today we will be able to do our job.

The House passed the bill on Thursday night by a vote of 219 to 206. We will now take up that bill.

It is remarkable in today's era of slam-down politics, that those of us who have been working on this committee have been able to set aside our differences, work across the aisle, and work across the dome to find a way to compromise without capitulation on principles. The American people said they wanted us to do that, and that is the job we have done.

My wonderful colleague from Maryland, Senator BEN CARDIN, explained a good part of the bill. We are so close and we think so much alike, we could have given each other's speech. He kind of gave my speech.

I will reiterate what is in this bill. This agreement provides for our national security. It ensures readiness for our troops. It funds training for the

troops, as well as our maintenance facilities, so that our military assets, such as aircraft carriers and ships, are ready to go and our soldiers receive the training they need.

Military leaders say readiness is our top priority, and the bill will provide \$162.5 billion for readiness.

It also includes important funds for our National Guard and Reserve so our units are ready for the job we ask them to do, and we have included \$200 million more for our national. We also included a 1-percent pay raise—a 1-percent COLA, cost of living for the Defense Department's 3 million employees.

We worked very hard on a variety of issues, one of which of course has been the way we serve our veterans. One of our greatest accomplishments is this bill is what we do for them.

Veterans service organizations came to me and many of the members this evening and said: We not only need funding to implement the reforms that were passed by the Congress, but we also want you to do it for this year and a year in advance. We said: We don't do that. And they said: You have to do that because we are concerned that often with the dysfunction and delay as a strategy in Washington, it creates chaos for veterans and their survivors. Guess what. We were able to do it.

For the first time ever, we provide funding for this year and 1 year in advance. It means that no matter what happens to the government, veterans can count on their disability check, their pension check, a check to help fund the GI bill, and their health care will be paid for. We also deal with the incredible problem of veterans backlog, and we put in the money to be able to do that. For the VA backlog process, over \$2.5 billion, adding another \$40 million to do that.

I have been horrified—in my own home State of Maryland—that the claims backlog at one point took more than 125 days. We are doing our reform.

I also wish to talk about compelling human needs. We know that one of the most able Members of the Senate, Senator TOM HARKIN, is retiring. But during the years he has served, he has never let up in championing the little guy and the little gal to make sure we had access to health care, access to education, and truly looking out for our constituents. I am so proud that—working with him—we were able to fund the child care development block grant, which passed the Senate overwhelmingly, by adding over \$75 million. That means they will be able to ensure that thousands more children will be able to qualify for daycare, and it will be safe and affordable.

I wish to talk about college affordability as well—a great passion of Senator HARKIN, myself, and I know many Members of the Senate. We increased the maximum Pell grant by \$100, we re-

formed the Pell grants to give students a chance to be able to go to college and get their GED. This has been a tremendous problem for many single mothers and they would drop out.

They now know they have to earn, and they are ready to learn. But in order to be eligible to go to community college, they had to have their GED, and they are now able to do both. It also restores the community colleges' efforts to be able to fund scholarships from their own endowments.

I will take a moment to speak about jobs. We need to create jobs in the United States of America, and what we did when we focused in on jobs was to fund the infrastructure. Guess what. We put in money in the Federal checkbook for the highway trust fund and the harbor maintenance fund so our harbors could be dredged, our roads and bridges would be safe, and also included more money for dam safety.

In my own home State, we funded the Metro and made a big downpayment on the Purple and Red Lines. These are jobs to improve our infrastructure and are absolutely crucial.

I know there are others who wish to speak, and I am going to show that we looked at trying to fund jobs and infrastructure. I will talk about what we did in the commerce committee and how we came up with a way to end the backlog on patents in the area of intellectual infrastructure. There were over 400,000 patents pending. We wanted to make sure in this America, that if you invent something, you get to protect your idea so you can move it into the marketplace.

We also funded these regional innovation centers in manufacturing. We promoted 3D manufacturing and made it local. In many of our States where we lost it, we had major advances. I will talk more about it, but I see my colleague, Senator UDALL, is on the floor. I will yield the time and allow him to speak.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BLUMENTHAL). The Senator from New Mexico.

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. I thank Chairwoman MIKULSKI and the Presiding Officer.

I will say a few words about Chairwoman MIKULSKI.

First of all, I am honored to serve on the Appropriations Committee. For the last couple of years I served as the chairman of the Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government, and with her guidance and work, it has been a truly fulfilling task.

I thank Senator MIKULSKI for the last 2 years since she has taken over and putting us on track in terms of having a good, solid appropriations process, where we make every attempt to get the appropriations bills through the Senate and in place at the beginning of the budget year. That could make a

real difference, as she has indicated, for veterans, for jobs, and for all of the agencies that are funded throughout government, and particularly in my State where we have two premier national laboratories—Los Alamos and Sandia National Laboratories. We have three Air Force bases, national parks, and national monuments. There is so much that is a part of this appropriations bill that is very important to my State.

We have a lot of work to do today, and I will speak for a few minutes on some of the issues that are important to my State and our country.

First, I will start out on a positive note. The Senate just recently passed the Defense authorization bill. That bill is critical to our Nation's security and for our troops at home and abroad who deserve our support and respect.

In addition, this year it also includes landmark conservation measures to protect some of the most beloved landscapes in New Mexico. These are measures we have worked on for many years—since Senator Bingaman was in office—and they are the result of many years of dogged hard work by a diverse group of sportsmen, conservationists, local businesspeople, and others.

With this bill, we are designating Columbine Hondo Wilderness, giving permanent congressional protection to this special area. We are increasing public access to the Valles Caldera by transferring management to the National Park Service. This will ensure financial stability for one of the best places in New Mexico for hiking, hunting, and fishing.

We are dedicating a historical Manhattan Project a national park that will include Los Alamos, NM, where Americans can learn about and remember our complicated Cold War history.

This bill protects the special and important places, increases tourism, and creates jobs. We also renewed a BLM pilot program to improve the permitting process for the oil and gas industry. This is critical to energy development in New Mexico and other Western States.

It ensures that BLM has the resources to do all parts of its job—managing land for conservation, grazing, and permitting for oil and gas development.

I thank my colleague Senator HEINRICH, who serves on the Energy and Natural Resources Committee, for being a strong partner in getting these measures passed.

Now the Senate has another important duty pending before us—passing an appropriations bill to fund the Federal Government, including many vital programs in my home State of New Mexico. We have not had regular spending bills in recent years, and here we are at the eleventh hour with an omnibus bill at the last minute.

The fact that we have a bill is due, in great part, to the leadership of Chairwoman MIKULSKI, and I am glad to be

part of her team on the Appropriations Committee.

The alternative to this bill is a short-term CR or a couple of short-term CRs for the whole year. I think that is an unacceptable way to do business, and it would cost jobs and hurt our economy in New Mexico. New Mexico's labs and bases need certainty in their critical jobs to keep our Nation safe. Communities in my home State rely on funding through the Payments in Lieu of Taxes Program to provide basic services, such as schools and public safety.

I know Chairwoman MIKULSKI understands the PILT Program, has worked hard to make sure that PILT is funded in this bill, and it is greatly appreciated in the rural parts of the West.

Let me say again that continuing resolutions are disruptive. They are inefficient. They lock in place programs that prevent us from evaluating what is working and what isn't and keep us from rooting out wasteful spending. But trying to put this omnibus bill at the end of the year is far from ideal.

There was a time not long ago when having to pass an omnibus bill was a sign that work had broken down. Today it is the best possible option. I am extremely happy to have it. Again, I credit our chairwoman with fighting hard to get us to this point. It has not been easy. But the American people deserve better than this broken process. They deserve a Congress that works, that is open and deliberate, not last-minute deals and gimmicks for special interests. Our duty is to the American people, not Wall Street billionaires and bankers.

I will continue to do all I can as a member of the Appropriations Committee to get back to the regular order. We cannot keep getting in just under the wire.

In that respect, our colleagues in the House have to stop sending over all of these riders. We had more than 100 riders sent over from the House. As Chairwoman MIKULSKI knows, this isn't the way to legislate on an appropriations bill. We are not supposed to be putting riders in there. So they sent more than 100 of these over from the House of Representatives. It is disruptive. Senator MIKULSKI took them off and was able to work through them and get a decent, good final product. I am going to continue to do all I can to make sure we get back to the regular order.

Now I wish to speak about why this bill is important and why it is important to pass this omnibus bill.

First of all, this bill is critical to my State of New Mexico. New Mexico has two fine national laboratories—Sandia and Los Alamos; three Air Force bases; White Sands testing range; and a number of other Federal institutions, national parks, and national monuments. They are all funded, and when they are funded on a regular basis at the beginning of a fiscal year, it is a much better situation for everyone.

For PILT funds, which our counties depend on for schools, roads, law enforcement, and anything they feel is important in their county, they can rely on these PILT funds.

At this point my State is in severe drought. We have water projects such as the Navajo Gallup project that can't keep waiting. There is money in this bill to keep that project going. Communities can't just put their needs on hold because Congress is broken. Navajo communities in New Mexico still need clean water. In fact, every day we delay, their situation gets worse. That is true of so many projects that are funded by the Federal Government. Communities and businesses have to plan, and they need certainty. The needs don't go away. So let's get this done.

Finally, I wish to speak a little bit about the authorization, of course, that we just produced out of the Foreign Relations Committee. I urge Congress to address another important issue—this issue of the authorization of force. We need to update the authorization of force for our military in light of our changing involvement in a variety of Middle Eastern conflicts—most notably, ISIS. If we leave without doing this, we are failing the American people, our troops, and shirking our constitutional duty.

ISIS is a brutal terrorist group, and it must be stopped. We must continue to work with our allies, including those in the region, to use strategic force to stop ISIS. I am proud of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee for recognizing our essential duty in defining the parameters of this fight. This is the first step, but our Constitution requires the full Congress to authorize war. This is a matter that deserves debate. It should not be taken lightly. The last 13 years of conflict in Afghanistan and in Iraq illustrate this—why it is so important to be thoughtful and deliberate about war.

I urge my colleagues to stay until the work is done and we give the AUMF consideration by the full Senate. This is not easy work, but this is not a normal situation. ISIS is a rapidly growing terrorist group recruiting young people from the West. It spans two countries, with very expansive ambitions.

We must defeat ISIS, but at the same time we cannot allow another open-ended war. That will yet again strain communities in my State and across the country and put us in a situation we cannot pay for.

Since July I have received over 1,100 letters and hundreds of phone calls from my constituents. They are clear, and I want to be equally clear: Congress should rise to its constitutional oversight of the Nation's war powers. This is a solemn responsibility, one I have taken very seriously throughout my time in Congress. I voted for the

2001 authorization for the war in Afghanistan. I voted against the 2002 authorization for war in Iraq.

I believe the new AUMF is strong in that it prohibits ground operations except in limited circumstances. Those circumstances, such as rescuing servicemembers or U.S. citizens, are specified in the text of the resolution. It also repeals the 2002 Iraq AUMF and sets a 3-year timeline for the 2001 AUMF, which is currently supporting military engagements around the world that we never intended when we originally passed them. But I would still caution that we must be watchful so that this engagement doesn't vastly change in scope without the approval of Congress or the support from our constituents.

I fought to provide Congress with an even stronger role. I proposed an amendment to limit authorization to 1 year. I also cosponsored a proposal with Senator PAUL to require a new authorization with Congress if U.S. forces were to be deployed outside of Iraq and Syria. We need this authorization to pass now, as the conflict has been ongoing for months, but we also must continue to be watchful. Costs should not just be charged to a credit card. Let's make sure we have a real conversation on how the generation that has decided to go to war will pay for it.

Again, I urge Congress to honor its responsibility to stay and finish this critical duty.

Just to wrap up, I once again want to say to my chairwoman Senator MIKULSKI that she has taken on a very difficult task in terms of looking at what was sent to us by the House of Representatives—more than 100 riders on all sorts of things, trying to dismantle the Affordable Care Act, trying to tackle and get into the IRS and diminish its ability to carry out its responsibilities, and on and on. The Senator from Maryland has worked through these amendments diligently and come up with a good product. This is much better than struggling through continuing resolutions 2, 3 months at a time and then coming back again. This gives certainty to government, gives certainty to businesses, and it shows that we are trying to react responsibly to the situation that is before us.

Again, I applaud Senator MIKULSKI. It is a real honor to work with her on the Appropriations Committee.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I am delighted to be on the floor this evening to take, first of all, a minute to thank my good friend and mentor Chairwoman MIKULSKI for her tremendous work on the product that is before us tonight. We want to get something done when we come here. In order to get anything done in Congress, we have to be willing to compromise. We have

to fight hard for our principles and what we believe in. But at the end of the day it is a give-and-take. It is never easy, and no one never ends up with a bill they have written on their own.

Chairwoman MIKULSKI deserves so much credit for what is in this bill that puts our country on a better track. Putting jobs and economic growth first is a principle she always speaks to, and she fought for them in this bill.

She fought off so many policies and riders that were thrown at her. I know because I have spoken with her time and time again as she has tried to say: What can I absolutely draw a line in the sand on, and what can I put in here in order to make sure I am doing what is right for my country? It is not easy to do that.

She fought off many riders that all of us on this side of the aisle would have found extremely difficult to ever vote for. She took those out.

She maintained the budget levels Chairman RYAN and I agreed on last year. That was very hard to do. She is trying to put together a bill to fund our government across the board, from defense, to agriculture, to transportation, to so many areas that people take for granted every day until our government shuts down. Then they remember how much they rely on our national parks or our research and our investment or the protection that is so important in our Homeland Security bills. She worked hard under very strict requirements that we all supported in another compromise a year ago and maintained that in this bill.

Critically, her work on this bill avoids another government shutdown. Running this place by crisis we know doesn't work. It hurts our economy. It hurts our families. Certainly, it hurts the stature of the Senate.

So her work to put this together and have this bill before us tonight is truly a remarkable accomplishment and really is proof of the stateswoman she is. I commend her for that.

I am especially grateful that she put so much into this legislation that really helps our everyday, average, middle-class families who are struggling so hard in this country and really lays down a strong foundation for long-term and broad-based economic growth. She did not forget that principle at all in what she fought for, and that is embedded within the legislation.

There are, of course, provisions in this bill that any one of us can pull out and oppose, and there are certainly some provisions with which I do not agree. I am really disheartened that the House Republicans put Wall Street interests ahead of middle-class families and demanded a provision in this bill. I am very concerned that some of the provisions could increase health care premiums for our families and our businesses. And I strongly oppose the

policy change that was slipped into the bill that could lead to a reduction in pensions for many of our retirees. I share the concerns of many of us on this side that that is in this legislation.

This is a compromise piece of legislation, and we had to swallow and the other side had to swallow. Why? It is because at the end of the day, we do not want to run our country in continuing resolutions, in this economic upturn, in crisis management every 30 days or 60 days for the next 2 years. That is why we had to look to the greater good of this bill, and I am very pleased with some really significant pieces of legislation in this bill.

I worked very hard with my good friend and colleague on the other side of the aisle, Senator COLLINS, who is my partner on the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Subcommittee. Senator COLLINS and I worked very hard to find a compromise that makes significant investments in our transportation infrastructure to help our commuters and our families and our businesses and our economy.

I want my colleagues on this side of the aisle to know that the investments in this bill that are in Amtrak, in public transit, in air traffic control modernization, and in airport improvements are very critical for all of our communities. I am going to vote yes for those tonight. The bill makes it possible for the FAA to keep sufficient numbers of air traffic controllers and inspectors on the job. This is a key safety issue that I will be supporting in this bill. And our bill puts to work new, targeted investments to help the Department of Transportation to do everything possible to keep our communities safe as the number of oil shipments by rail continue to increase in the country.

I am especially proud of our part of this legislation that continues to support a very successful TIGER program, and so many Members have come to me and said they really appreciated that in this bill because it allows investments in critical pieces of transportation infrastructure in their home States that helps create jobs and boosts their regional economy. I know this has been important in my State. I know the demand is very high. We were not able to have the number we liked, we did have to reduce it, but it remains in this bill as a very strong investment in our communities, and I would be proud to be supporting that in this bill.

On the housing side of our bill, we maintain the housing assistance for low-income families that is so important today that they have the support while they get back on their feet.

To not pass this bill tonight means we put a lot of people who are struggling today at risk in their communities to not have the home that is so important to their family's stability.

I am especially proud we are going to continue funding the HUD-VASH Program. It is a program so many Members have told me is important to them and takes the important steps of expanding HUD-VASH to Native Americans who are at risk of homelessness living on reservations. We increased the number of public housing units that can be part of the public assistance demonstration that allows public housing authorities to leverage private capital and to make capital improvements to more than 100,000 additional units of affordable housing. We worked hard to make sure this bill continues to support public housing and economic development projects in communities across the country through the CDBG Program. I will say that virtually every Member of the Senate has said we need to maintain the CDBG Program on how important it is. There are local communities to make decisions about the local communities, and the funding is absolutely critical. This isn't just about spending. Our legislation contains a number of reforms that are going to improve government and save taxpayer dollars. Let me repeat that. We are voting to save taxpayer dollars because we approved the process for administering emergency preparedness grants, and we make sure property owners are held accountable if they fail to take care of housing funded with taxpayer resources.

We included a provision that supports efforts to improve the coordination between domestic violence service and housing systems to make sure our domestic violence survivors are getting the care and support they deserve. I know much has been made of the provisions that people don't like, and I share that angst.

But I think it is so important that we, as adults, stand up to the responsibility we have, as the Senate and as Congress, to pass a funding bill through the next year that makes sure we don't have gridlock and dysfunction running this economy again.

The alternative to a bipartisan compromise spending bill is just another short-term continuing resolution and another short-term continuing resolution. We cannot run this government by crisis or short-term resolutions. That is an irresponsible autopilot approach and would cut off our ability as Senators to make decisions about how our government operates.

I again want to thank my colleague and my mentor, the amazing Senator from Maryland, the chairwoman of this committee, BARBARA MIKULSKI, for the work she has done and for the drive she has. She never lost sight of what her goal is, despite some very difficult negotiations, and I want to remind all of us that tonight hopefully we will be voting on a compromise.

I know personally that in this country what everybody says to me constantly is: We are tired of the partisan

bickering. We want you to compromise. That is what this is. We want our country to work again. That is what this bill does. I urge our colleagues to support this legislation.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Utah.

Mr. LEE. Mr. President, I rise in opposition to the spending bill before us. I rise in opposition to the cynical substance of the legislation. I rise in opposition to the un-Republican and undemocratic process by which a small collection of political and economic insiders crafted it to benefit each other at everyone else's expense.

Finally, I rise in particular opposition to the signals that this so-called CROmnibus sends, the signal it sends to political insiders on both ends of Pennsylvania Avenue in Washington, the signal it sends to special interest cronies on Wall Street and K Street, and the signal it sends to working families struggling on Main Streets across this country who have been waiting for a decade for someone in this city to start putting them first.

Those problems with this bill—each one alone enough to merit opposition—do not even speak to its greatest weakness, its failure to correct the President's lawless Executive amnesty. Since last night when it was taken up in the House of Representatives, supporters of the CROmnibus have couched their support in the language of compromise: "This isn't a perfect bill," they say.

But on the contrary, it is perfect. As a representation of everything wrong with Washington, DC, as an example of exactly the kind of unfair, unrepresentative legislating that triggered successive electoral waves of bipartisan condemnation in 2006, 2008, 2010, and again in 2014—the CROmnibus is perfect.

Members of my party do not have the luxury of blaming this latest failure on the outgoing Senate majority. No. This one is on us.

Americans just last month thought they went to the polls and voted for change to stop this kind of thing: unread, 1,000-plus page bills written in secret, filled with hidden favors for special interests while funding the lawlessness of an out-of-control President.

Americans looking for that change will not find it in this bill. Rather, they will find what the discarded revolutionaries of "Animal Farm" found at the end of George Orwell's classic:

The creatures outside looked from pig to man, and from man to pig, and from pig to man again; but already it was impossible to say which was which.

Americans across our country are facing a new and unnatural kind of squeeze, an opportunity deficit that is warping our free enterprise economy and our voluntary civil society. This opportunity deficit is not simply the

result of globalization or technology or free trade. No. It is the result of politicians creating a welfare system that traps poor families in poverty—sometimes for generations at a time—and locks lower skilled workers out of potential jobs, an education system that traps poor kids in bad schools and college students into a lifetime of debt, a health care system that locks the poor in second-class care and erases what few wage gains the middle-class families ever see, a tax system that unfairly discourages work, saving, investment, marriage, and children.

Government policy unfairly protects the privileges of those who have already climbed the ladder of success, while putting that ladder out of the reach of those who have not yet grasped its very bottom rungs.

On Wall Street, corporate profits continue to soar. In Washington the influence economy booms and booms on. Almost everywhere else, take-home pay is flat. Jobs remain scarce. Small businesses are struggling to grow, while new businesses are struggling even to get off the ground.

More and more today in America, the people who work hard and play by the rules are being forced to subsidize political and economic elites who don't. It is not big business or big special interests who created this toxic environment. All they can do is ask. Only government—big government—can rig the system. Only government can carve out a regulatory exception for certain big banks while intensifying its regulatory squeeze on smaller banks or tweak accounting rules to line the pockets of certain big insurance companies or create new taxpayer subsidies for certain industries and cynically present all of the above as unamendable—take it or leave it, take it or shut down the government propositions, as this bill does.

We wonder why the American people distrust their government, distrust this government. We wonder why the principled grassroots of both political parties—conservatives and progressives—are up in arms against their Washington establishments over this bill. The American people do not trust Congress because, as we are proving once again today, Congress is not trustworthy.

Yet as rotten as the CROmnibus before us is, I want to state for the record that this week leaves me with nothing but optimism about the prospects we have for real reform and revival in the coming years.

The miserable process we witnessed this week represents the last gasping throes of a discredited Washington status quo. Ten years ago this bill would not have been controversial. Five years ago an easy majority would have been purchased with earmarks. This week, with the full weight of both party's leaderships, it barely made it over the

finish line. Change comes slowly, as we know, and it comes most slowly to those institutions that make the rules, but change is coming. The era of passing 1,600-page bills, written in secret, via a process that includes lobbyists but excludes the American people is coming to an end. The era of big government rigging the rules for special interests while leaving everyone else behind is coming to an end. A new era is coming in which Washington will once again be forced to work for the American people instead of the other way around. To those Americans who have watched with dismay what Congress did—and did not do—this week, who made their voices heard by flooding both sides of the aisle with phone calls and emails, my message is simple. Take heart. It may not look like it today, but you are winning. America is winning.

The beltway establishments of both parties are exhausted, out of ideas, and running out of time. Next year a new unified Congress has an opportunity, a real open opportunity, to reshape the national debate, to challenge Washington's failing status quo and its failed champion in the Oval Office.

We can finally begin the hard, overdue work of rescuing our economy from the grips of government dysfunction and political privilege, of rescuing our health care system from ObamaCare, of reviving our education system and modernizing our transportation system, of ending special interest manipulation of our tax system and reforming regulations to level the playing field for small and new businesses, of fixing our broken immigration system.

Next year, just next month, we can begin to craft a new reform agenda, to increase access to and opportunity within America's middle class, an agenda that grows the economy and increases take-home pay, an agenda that restores mobility and opportunity to working families and communities while putting political and corporate elites back to work for everyone else. We can look to our own House of Congress to reform the way Congress conducts the people's business, the way we budget and spend the people's money, so embarrassments such as this CROmnibus might become relics of the past. We can do this. We must do this and we will.

For too long the working families of and aspiring to America's middle class have been fighting an all-too-lonely battle to keep up and to get ahead. For too long, Washington has been an obstacle, even an opponent, in that fight. That fight will remain uphill, but the first time in a long time there is hope. There is a real chance that fight may get a little less steep, and it might get a little less lonely. Help is on the way.

I know it is hard to see right now. It is hard to see it in Washington, and it must be even harder to see out in the

country, but change is coming. A new Congress is on the way, with new ideas and a new renewed reform sense of purpose.

Temporary setbacks such as this bill should not discourage us, and they will not deter us, for the only way to keep winning is to keep fighting. Washington may still be broken, but America is ready to fix it, no matter how long it takes and no matter how much Washington resists it. Our opportunity to finally begin that work is almost here. We just need to know where to look for it, for:

. . . not by eastern windows only  
When daylight comes, comes in the light;  
In front the sun climbs slow, how slowly!  
But westward, look, the land is bright!

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I commend the distinguished senior Senator from Connecticut. I realize when presiding he cannot respond. But I just want to say what a pleasure it is, as a fellow New Englander, to serve with him in the Senate. Sometimes you feel like you are on a graveyard shift on a Friday night presiding over the Senate. But I must tell him, after decades here, it is extremely important. To have someone of his integrity, his ability, his competence, and his experience presiding over the Senate should make every Senator, both Republican and Democratic, proud.

After late night theatrics in the House yesterday, I hope the Senate will soon vote on the fiscal year 2015 omnibus appropriations bill. I support this comprehensive spending package.

Chairwoman MIKULSKI has done an outstanding job. She has been a giant of the appropriations process. She should be congratulated for her perseverance in getting us to this point.

I spoke yesterday about the funds included in the bill for the State Department and foreign operations. I commended members of my staff, Senator GRAHAM's staff, and the editorial and printing staff who worked so hard on that.

We included important funding for the environment, for AIDS prevention and treatment, for United Nations peacekeeping, and for emergency funding for Ebola. This bill protects U.S. security, humanitarian, and economic interests around the world.

But it also funds many of the domestic priorities that face budget cuts, that the people of our States depend upon, from law enforcement to transportation, health care, and protecting our national parks. This Congress and a past Congress, in what I believe was a terrible mistake, voted to spend \$1 to \$2 trillion for the war in Iraq that we should never have been involved in. As a result, we did not have the funds for our police, health care, national parks, or to fix our decaying bridges and roads in America.

I think most Americans think we should take care of those things. This omnibus spending bill does that. It includes critical investments in our rivers and lakes, including an increase in funding for one very near and dear to my heart—Lake Champlain. That is done through the EPA's geographic program.

Lake Champlain is a great treasure to this country. It is the largest body of fresh water outside of the Great Lakes. It borders Vermont, New York, and Canada in the Province of Quebec. Some parts of it are hundreds of feet deep. It is special to me as a Vermonter, and because my wife Marcelle and I first met on the shores of Lake Champlain.

I want to thank Senator JACK REED, the chairman of the Appropriations Subcommittee on the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, for his assistance in protecting the funding for all of the geographic programs receiving funding in this bill—not just Lake Champlain but all of them.

We fund critical investments that address the heroin crisis. Some may think of rural States as being some kind of an enclave that are immune from what happens in the rest of the country. Well, those of us who live in rural America know differently. The heroin crisis has had a devastating impact on communities in small, rural States like Vermont.

It does not make any difference if they are a red State or blue State; they have been hurt. With Senator MIKULSKI's support, I was pleased to include funding for anti-heroin task forces, to provide Federal assistance to law enforcement efforts to investigate and combat the distribution of heroin. Ensuring our local agencies have the tools they need is just one portion of our effort to deal with this crisis.

But it is also unacceptable that Americans face a waiting list when seeking help to recover from their addictions. This legislation provides crucial funding to expand treatment services for those with heroin dependence.

The omnibus makes important investments in our students by providing funding to increase access to a college education through the Pell Grant Program. It increases funding for the TRIO Program, which helps low-income first-generation students get a college education. They are the future of this country.

The bill provides \$30.3 billion for the National Institutes of Health—that is a treasure in this country—and funding for the development of a vaccine against Ebola. Can anyone be against that?

It raises the cap in the Crime Victims Fund to a historic \$2.3 billion. It means more money for victims assistance grants at the State and local levels. This is a program I have supported from my early days in the Senate. I

compliment the Presiding Officer who always also voted, in the Judiciary Committee, to help victims of crimes. Like me, he knows from his own past experience as a prosecutor that we have money to go after those who break the law, but we also have to help the people who are the victims of crime.

The compromise package invests in housing for veterans and seniors. It supports grants to help schools purchase critical equipment for their school lunch programs. It provides funding for a new food safety outreach program, helping the Food and Drug Administration work with farmers and small businesses to understand complex new food safety laws.

The bill protects our Nation's forests through a strong investment in the Forest Legacy Program. Coming from a State that values its forests I know how important this is. The list goes on.

So obviously, as I have praised the chair of the committee, Senator MIKULSKI and what she has done, I do intend to support this appropriations bill. She knows that I am disappointed with some last-minute negotiations that forced the inclusion of several controversial riders. It would have been a lot worse if she had not stood her ground. They had nothing to do with funding the operations of the Federal Government. She knew those provisions forced us into a choice between shutting down the government or enacting this omnibus bill.

There is no doubt Congress has to do something to address vulnerable pension plans. We all agree on that. The 11th-hour provision that we were forced to accept by the Republicans in the House of Representatives to reduce hard-earned benefits for retirees is shameful. For decades these retirees have worked hard. They have contributed to pension plans. They assumed those benefits would be there when they needed them the most.

Now the game is being changed. I cannot help but wonder how the Republicans in the House who are responsible for this provision would react if it affected their pensions?

This legislation includes a particularly offensive rider that rolls back an important provision of the Dodd-Frank Act that protects taxpayers from another Wall Street bailout.

We know that elections have consequences. I worry this is the start of a pattern we can expect to see over the next 2 years of protecting the rich on Wall Street at the expense of hard-working Americans on Main Street. Frankly, like Senator MIKULSKI, I stand with the hard-working people on Main Street. They are the people I feel comfortable with. Those are the people I know. When I walk down the streets of Montpelier or Burlington or Brattleboro, those are the people who call me by my first name. Those are



the people paying the bills. Those are the people representing businesses like the one my mother and father ran, the Leahy Press.

I am also dismayed that this spending package includes another body blow to what little remains of campaign finance law. By increasing the amount of money wealthy donors can contribute to political parties, we further roll back long-held campaign finance limitations that protected the voice of every voter at the ballot box—not just those who paid to have their voices heard.

It is unfortunate that pressure groups and special interests prevailed in making this happen. It is also unfortunate that when we had a chance in this Senate to do something, to restore part of what has been called McCain-Feingold, after Citizens United, we failed by one vote. Every Democrat in this Senate voted to restore many of the provisions of McCain-Feingold. Every single Republican voted to gut McCain-Feingold. It was gutted by a one-vote margin.

Finally, while I am pleased this omnibus bill will fund most of our government through fiscal year 2015, I am disappointed that programs and agencies funded through the Department of Homeland Security will only be funded through February 2015. Yet, for months—for nearly 18 months—House Republican leaders refused to bring to a vote the bipartisan Senate-passed immigration reform bill.

We had hundreds of hours of mark-ups, hearings, and a debate on this floor. Two-thirds of Senate Republicans and Democrats joined together to pass the immigration bill that came out of the Senate Judiciary Committee. It is political hypocrisy on the other side when they say: Oh, look what President Obama is doing on immigration. We have to stop him. They had the chance to pass a bill that would have trumped whatever the President might do. They refused to even vote on it because they were afraid that it would pass.

They wanted to talk about it. They wanted to talk about immigration. They want to talk about what they wanted to do, but they never wanted to vote one way or the other. We stood up here in the Senate, Democrats and Republicans together, and we passed an immigration bill. They refused to even vote on it so they could talk about what is wrong with immigration. It is political hypocrisy at its worst. The bill would have passed, and we would not be where we are today.

No bill is perfect, especially one of this size. There are certainly provisions in here that I wish were not, as I have said. But this bill moves us away from governing by autopilot and takes off the table the threat in 1, 2 or 3 months of yet another government shutdown. If we fail to pass this bill,

under Republican majorities in the House and Senate next year it will only get worse.

Senator MIKULSKI and Chairman ROGERS in the House have kept us from a government shutdown. It is easy to criticize, but waiting until next year is not an option. This bill provides essential funding for this country, for programs the American people depend on. And I would say from a parochial point of view, it will do a great deal to help Vermont.

Any Senator opposing this bill because of the riders it includes should remember that a continuing resolution or omnibus spending bill next year will contain many more, and some far worse.

Chairwoman MIKULSKI has done a heroic job in getting us to this point. I hope we can do as well next year.

I know Senator COCHRAN of Mississippi, one of the closest friends I have had in this body since coming to the Senate, and the incoming Appropriations Committee chairman, agrees that we should return to the regular order of debating and passing individual appropriations bill.

We will be well off with Senator COCHRAN and Senator MIKULSKI. These are the people who know the difference between rhetoric and reality. They are legislators. They believe in solving problems. The American people do too. They are tired of partisanship, drama, and the harmful consequences of shutting down the government.

Is this bill everything I wanted? No. Is it everything the chairwoman would like? No. Is it everything that any one of us would like? No. But it is a lot better than shutting down the government, or leaving it to the next Congress. I will support it.

I yield the floor.

Ms. MIKULSKI. I note the Senator from Massachusetts wishes to speak and I will yield to her.

But before the Senator from Vermont leaves, first I thank him for his leadership in chairing the Subcommittee on the State Department and Foreign Operations.

What he has done is make sure that we continue to be able to conduct public diplomacy, to ensure money for embassy security.

There are many here who pound their chests and call for investigations, but he actually puts money in the Federal checkbook, meets with the State Department and the embassy security people so that if you work for the U.S. Government, and you are in the embassies, at least you will have the security you need.

The other is his work on foreign operations, making sure the poor, dispossessed, and the marginalized of the world have the assistance of the United States as a partner—whether it is curing malaria, fighting AIDS in Africa, fighting Ebola.

Also at the same time I remember the great honor and how touched I was to visit Madagascar with him when we looked at the children who were the victims of land mines. This man has done heroic work, not only to prevent the ghastly consequences of the land mines, but to make sure that the children who have been injured by this ghastly weapon had the means to recover their limbs and in that way their livelihood. Really, we owe you a debt of gratitude and it is an honor to serve with you.

Mr. LEAHY. I thank my dear friend from Maryland.

Ms. MIKULSKI. I yield to the Senator from Massachusetts.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BOOKER). The Senator from Massachusetts.

Ms. WARREN. I thank the Senator from Maryland and the senior Senator of Vermont. They both show extraordinary leadership and we learn from them every day.

I am back on the floor to talk about a dangerous provision slapped in a must-pass spending bill at the last minute solely to benefit Wall Street. This provision would repeal a rule called prohibition against Federal Government bailouts of swaps entities.

On Wednesday I came to the floor and talked to the Senate Democrats to ask them to strip this provision out of the omnibus bill and to protect taxpayers.

On Thursday I came to the floor to talk to Republicans. Republicans said they don't like bailouts either, so I asked them to vote the way they talk. If they don't like bailouts, then they could take out this provision that puts taxpayers right back on the hook for bailing out big banks.

Today I come to the floor to talk about not Democrats or Republicans, but to talk about a third group that also wields tremendous power in Washington—Citigroup.

In recent years many Wall Street institutions have exerted extraordinary influence in Washington's corridors of power, but Citigroup has risen above the others. Its grip over economic policymaking in the executive branch is unprecedented.

Consider just a few examples. Three of the last four Treasury Secretaries under Democratic Presidents have had close Citigroup ties. The fourth was offered the CEO position at Citigroup but turned it down.

The vice chair of the Federal Reserve system is a Citigroup alum.

The Under Secretary for International Affairs at Treasury is a Citigroup alum.

The U.S. Trade Representative and the person nominated to be his deputy, who is currently an assistant secretary of Treasury, are Citigroup alums.

A recent chairman of the National Economic Council at the White House was a Citigroup alum.



Another recent chairman of the Office of Management and Budget went to Citigroup immediately after leaving the White House.

And another recent chairman of the Office of Management and Budget is also a Citigroup alum—but I am double-counting because he is now Secretary of the Treasury.

That is a lot of powerful people all from one bank, but they aren't the only way that Citigroup exercises power. Over the years, the company has spent millions of dollars on lobbying Congress and funding the political campaigns of its friends in the House and Senate.

Citigroup has also spent millions trying to influence the political process in ways that are far more subtle and hidden from public view. Last year, I wrote Citigroup and other big banks asking them to disclose the amount of shareholder money they have been diverting to think tanks to influence public policy.

Citigroup's response to my letter? Stonewalling. A year has gone by and Citigroup didn't even acknowledge receiving my letter.

Citigroup has a lot of money. It spends a lot of money, and it uses that money to grow and consolidate power—and it pays off.

Consider a couple of facts.

Fact 1: During the financial crisis, when all the support through TARP, FDIC, and the Fed is added up, Citi received nearly half a trillion dollars in bank loans. That is half a trillion with a t. That is almost \$140 billion more than the next biggest bank received.

Fact 2: During Dodd-Frank, there was an amendment introduced by my colleagues Senator BROWN and Senator Kaufman that would have broken up Citigroup and the other largest banks. That amendment had bipartisan support and it might have passed, but it ran into powerful opposition from an alliance between Wall Streeters on Wall Street and Wall Streeters who held powerful government jobs. They teamed up and they blocked the move to break up the banks, and now Citi is larger than ever.

The role that senior officials from the Treasury Department played in killing the amendment wasn't subtle. A senior Treasury official acknowledged it at the time in a background interview with "New York" magazine and said:

If we'd been for it, it probably would have happened. But we weren't, so it didn't.

That is power.

Democrats don't like Wall Street bailouts. Republicans don't like Wall Street bailouts. The American people are disgusted by Wall Street bailouts. Yet here we are, 5 years after Dodd-Frank, with Congress on the verge of ramming through a provision that would do nothing for the middle class, do nothing for community banks, do

nothing but raise the risk that taxpayers will have to bail out the biggest banks once again.

There is a lot of talk lately about how Dodd-Frank isn't perfect. There is a lot of talk coming from Citigroup about how Dodd-Frank isn't perfect.

So let me say this to anyone who is listening at Citi. I agree with you, Dodd-Frank isn't perfect. It should have broken you into pieces.

If this Congress is going to open Dodd-Frank in the months ahead, then let's open it to get tougher, not to create more bailout opportunities. If we are going to open Dodd-Frank, let's open it up so that once and for all we end too big to fail—and I mean really end it, not just say that we did. Instead of passing laws that create new bailout opportunities for too-big-to-fail banks, let's pass Brown-Kaufman. Let's pass the 21st Century Glass-Steagall Act, a bill I have sponsored with JOHN MCCAIN, ANGUS KING, and MARIA CANTWELL. Let's pass something, anything, that would help break up these giant banks.

A century ago, Teddy Roosevelt was America's trust buster. He went after the giant trusts and monopolies in this country. A lot of people talk about how those trusts deserve to be broken up because they have too much economic power. But Teddy Roosevelt said we should break them up because they had too much political power. Teddy Roosevelt said break them up because all that concentrated power threatens the very foundations of our democratic system.

Now we are watching as Congress passes yet another provision that was written by lobbyists for the biggest recipient of bailout money in the history of this country, and it is attached to a bill that needs to pass or else the entire Federal Government will grind to a halt. Think about that kind of power. If a financial institution has become so big and so powerful that it can hold the entire country hostage, that alone is reason enough to break them up.

Enough is enough. Enough is enough with Wall Street insiders getting key position after key position and the kind of cronyism that we have seen in the executive branch.

Enough is enough—with Citigroup passing eleventh hour deregulatory provisions that nobody takes ownership over, but everybody will come to regret.

Enough is enough.

Washington already works very well for the billionaires, the big corporations, the lawyers, and the lobbyists, but what about the families who lost their homes or their jobs or their retirement savings the last time Citi bet big on derivatives and lost? What about the families who are living paycheck to paycheck and saw their tax dollars go to bail out Citi only 6 years ago?

We were sent to the Senate to fight for those families. And it is time, it is

past time, for Washington to start working for them.

I yield the floor.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from South Carolina.

Mr. GRAHAM. I will be supporting their bill. I will gladly support the bill. I am not pleased with every aspect of it, but let me respond to my good friend from Massachusetts.

You are tired, you are frustrated, you are upset about a provision in the bill that you don't like and think the country is going down the wrong road. You have every right to be upset. You have every right to vote no and to argue to bring the bill down.

Do you know what a lot of people on our side are tired of? The President changing the law whenever he would like. Taking ObamaCare and changing it unilaterally to fit the political needs of the President and his party, by Executive action, turning the ObamaCare statute upside down.

Do you know what people on my side are tired of? A President who feels like he is more of a King than a President. Unilaterally reaching out and conferring legal status on 4 million to 5 million people without coming to the Congress because he is frustrated.

I have been working on immigration since 2006. I will put my frustration up against yours, Mr. President, but democracy is democracy. You can be frustrated all you like, but there are rules to play by that keep us all safe.

So there are people on my side who want me to bring this bill down because they have had enough. They have had enough of President Obama going it on his own, taking the laws that we pass, ignoring some, rewriting others, and the Executive action is the straw that broke the camel's back. It is one thing to defer prosecution on people in terms of your discretion, it is another thing to reach out to 4 to 5 million people and say: You now have a legal status, without going through the Congress. That should scare every Democrat, Republican, Libertarian, and vegetarian.

So people on my side—and we will hear from some of them, saying that this is an outrage and we should shut the government down and defund all the parts of the government that would be used to implement this illegal executive amnesty. I understand where they are coming from, and I understood a year ago when people in my party said ObamaCare is bad for the country, we need to stop it, and I am willing to shut the entire government down or at least that part of the government that depends on funding of ObamaCare, because I am upset with this law. I have been on the side of listening to this on my side and understanding the frustrations but always rejecting that temptation because we do have a country to run.

As much as I am upset about the Executive action, I am not going to heed

the call of not passing this bill because I am mad because within this bill we have money to fight ISIL, and God knows we need to fight them. In this bill we have money to contain and fight Ebola, and God knows we need to do that. In this bill we have infrastructure improvements that God knows are long overdue.

So to my good friend from Massachusetts, there is something in here you don't like? Welcome to democracy. You have absolutely the same right as people over here on my side to blow up the whole place, but I hope most of us will listen to your concerns and not follow your lead.

And listen to what the Senator from Massachusetts said when the shoe was on the other foot, when people on my side were willing to take it all down because they were mad. I was one of a handful who said no. I would like to repeal and replace ObamaCare, but I don't believe defunding the government is going to make the President repeal his signature issue, and we don't have enough votes to override a veto. It takes a long time to say that, and the people I was responding to were mad and emotional because they thought they were wronged. I understood they were mad. I understood they were emotional. But I thought I had a duty beyond just worrying about me.

If you follow the lead of the Senator from Massachusetts and bring this bill down and do a CR—which is the worst possible way to run the government—I will tell you what will come your way. It is what came our way. People are not going to believe you are mature enough to run the place. Seventy percent of the Democrats in the House voted against this bill, and three out of four Republicans voted to get it over here—a level of maturity and judgment I haven't seen in my party in quite a while. Speaker BOEHNER and your team: Well done.

To the Democrats, I am sure on MSNBC and on the liberal version of talk radio you are a hero and you will have your moment with that crowd. I can promise you this: There are people on our side who are having their moment on other channels. But almost one-third of the Democratic Party resisted that temptation, and I know how they feel. Some of them will get a primary. I had six primary opponents. I am glad I did not follow the lead of people who were trying to get me to shut down the government because I felt I was wronged. That is not the way to run a country.

So here is what the Senator said: For this rightwing minority, hostage taking is all they have left—a last gasp for those who can not cope with the realities of our democracy. The time has come for those legislators who cannot cope with the reality of our democracy to get out of the way.

Those were good words then, and you should read them now and apply them to yourself.

What you are offering, there are plenty of people on our side who would serve it up too. What you are offering is to take one part of a complicated bill and try to convince people throughout the country that some horrible wrong is being done and the rest of us who want to get on with governing are the problem.

My advice: Don't follow her lead. She is the problem. There are people on my side who are the problem.

We will address the Executive amnesty action in a responsible way next year, attack it on every front, but we will not deny our troops the money they need to fight the war to protect us all. We will not deny those who are working to contain Ebola and doing heroic things the money they need to protect us all. We will not deny the infrastructure improvements that have long been overdue.

So to my Democratic colleagues, welcome to my world. It may seem tempting to go the road of least resistance, but you will regret it. It hurt our party, and it will hurt yours. If you do what is best for the country, over time it will work out for you.

To my colleagues on this side, remember last year? Did we learn anything? I hope so. I will make a prediction. To the voices on my side that say "Burn it down, blow it up, start all over again" because they are mad at President Obama's Executive amnesty and the voices coming from the Democratic side, mainly through the Senator from Massachusetts, saying "Blow it up because we have done something for Wall Street we shouldn't have done," I think most of us will put this in context. Most of us will understand there are things in this bill we don't like, but we do have an overriding duty to our country to govern.

I hope that next year we can do our appropriations process in the normal course of business, that we don't find ourselves in these messes. But all I can say about democracy is that it is messy, it is emotional, it requires give and take, it requires some people not to follow the hottest person in the room, and there will always be somebody running hot.

And something else about democracy: As bad as it is, I can't think of a better idea. I have seen the other way of doing business in the Mideast and throughout the world. I certainly don't want any part of that.

So tonight, tomorrow, or whenever that day comes—and to my Democratic colleagues who have put this bill together with my Republican colleagues on appropriations, I applaud you. I will vote for your effort and for the product you created, knowing it is not perfect. To the people on my side who want us to tear this down because you are mad

at President Obama, that is not the way to do business. To the people on the other side who want to have the same result for a different reason, don't follow their lead.

#### TRIBUTES TO DEPARTING SENATORS

Mr. President, I will now speak very briefly about my retiring colleagues and then turn it over to the Senator from Florida. I promise I will be brief.

Everybody will face retirement, voluntarily or involuntarily. There will be a last vote to cast and a last speech to make. Only God knows when that day comes because we are all just one car wreck away from ending our careers.

To the retiring Members, I have had the pleasure of serving with you, and I know you all. You did what you thought was best for our country and your State, and what more could anyone ask? My good friend MARK PRYOR, who tried to find common ground at a time when it is hard to find. MARY LANDRIEU, who is—MARY would drill under the Capitol if she thought it would help American energy independence. We have good friends on the other side, and I will miss you, and I wish you well. But I would like very briefly to speak about four.

#### SAXBY CHAMBLISS

SAXBY CHAMBLISS and Julianne and the Chambliss family have become my family. If you are lucky in politics, you will make a few friends. I have been very lucky, and I have made lifelong friends with the Chambliss family, not just SAXBY.

SAXBY represents the best in being a Senator. He looks the part, and he acts the part. And I would say to the people of Georgia that he worked very hard on your behalf. He protected our country against terrorism. He helped the farmer. He did everything he knew how to do to serve the people of Georgia, and I will miss my friend.

#### MIKE JOHANNIS

MIKE JOHANNIS—he introduced me to Bono. I said: Who is Bono? I don't follow that music that much, but I actually did know Bono.

MIKE introduced me to Africa. He was the Secretary of Agriculture for the Bush administration, and he had a passion for the developing world, particularly Africa. And through MIKE I got to know The One Foundation and the Gates Foundation. Through MIKE and Stephanie I have been to Africa many times, and you represent the best in our country. You are absolutely wonderful people. You will be missed. And my way to repay you is to stay involved in the developing world.

#### TOM COBURN

To TOM COBURN, when I grow up, I want to be like TOM. I don't see that happening anytime soon, me growing up. TOM COBURN has been at this for 20 years. We came in together. He was one of the first people I met in the freshman class of 1995—the 1994 Contract

with America class. He was full of ideas and determination from the first day I met him until the very last day he leaves.

I cannot tell you, TOM, how proud I am to call you my friend. You and Carolyn have become dear friends, and you, my friend, have changed this body for the better. You had an awesome staff, and you will be missed, but what you contributed to the Senate will last long after I am gone, and we will all be the better.

CARL LEVIN

The last person is CARL LEVIN. If I had to describe to somebody from a foreign country what a good Senator was like, I would pick CARL. CARL understands the details of the government—very studious. He was the chairman of the Armed Services Committee and ran it very evenhandedly. He had a disposition that I don't know how he held on to in these fractious times, but he was a gentleman.

I can promise you, working with CARL LEVIN, we both resisted the temptation to go down some very dangerous roads on this detainee contentious issue. All I can tell the men and women in uniform and the people of Michigan is that you never had a better friend.

To all of you, Godspeed. I wish you nothing but the best.

I am fortunate enough to go into my third term. To my colleagues, as we go into the next Congress, let's try to do better. I know we can. And if we do, all boats will rise.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Florida.

Mr. NELSON. Mr. President, one of the great things about America is that two Senators with different outlooks, from different States, can come to the same conclusion, as we have on this legislation.

What the Senator from South Carolina has just said is not only my hope and my prayer, but I hope it will be the hope of the whole of the Senate as we embark on the Nation's business next year. And let's see if we can get along. Let's see if we can work together in a civil way. Let's see if we can find that elusive consensus that has been so elusive in the course of these past very contentious and highly partisan and highly ideological years. Let's see if we can get it done.

There is a lot to be done. I am going to have the privilege of serving with the new chairman of the Commerce Committee, JOHN THUNE of South Dakota. I will be the ranking Democrat on that committee. JOHN and I have already started having personal and private conversations about working together and getting things done, and I am looking forward to it.

So in the words of the Senator from South Carolina—of which he is very sincere—I want to echo those words, and I am not only sincere, I am very

determined. Now, we will see if it works, but this we know: The people of this country want it to work, and they want us to work together. They are tired of this nonsense they see.

So we come here late on a Friday night and we have in front of us our responsibility to spend taxpayer money, hopefully wisely and responsibly. It is one of our chief duties.

So the appropriations bill is in front of us. I will vote for it. There are a lot of good things in it. Previous speakers have mentioned those things.

We have to be prepared to take on the Nation's enemies, those whom we identify and those whom we don't identify. They are all lurking out there in many different ways.

We have to help the health of this country by continuing to try to give the appropriate amounts to institutions such as the National Institutes of Health. There was a time a few years ago that they were being cut. That didn't make sense. The head of NIH, Dr. Francis Collins, came to us and said: I have to stop dead in the tracks 700 research grants going out the door to universities and hospitals across this country, research grants for trying to find cures for diseases.

That doesn't make sense. So we are beginning to correct that in this bill, and this bill across the spectrum of government will be able to fund the needs of government. But we have before us what is nothing more than a blatantly partisan attempt to undermine the legislative process and ram through a number of provisions that have no business being in there.

We can hear the note of sadness in my voice that in the process of making legislative sausage, some odiferous ingredients got in the sausage because tucked into this spending bill is a provision to once again bail out big banks and undo some of the reforms we made after the financial crisis of 2008.

Have we forgotten that just 6 years ago our economy was on the verge of collapse? Do we remember when the Republican Secretary of the Treasury got on his knees in front of the congressional leadership and begged them to pass the Troubled Assets Relief Program to try to buoy up the financial institutions so that the entire country would not go into a financial death spiral? Have we forgotten the lessons we learned from that crisis? Have we forgotten what happens when we allow banks to make extremely risky bets and tell them that if they win they can keep the profits, but if they lose the U.S. Government will bail them out?

In this case, this bill would undo part of the financial reforms that say the government isn't going to cover or subsidize the banks' so-called credit default swaps. This is no way to legislate.

There is also a provision in here that would let truckdrivers drive even longer hours without having to stop to

rest overnight. Eliminating this rule—this rule that simply requires truckdrivers to stop for some rest once in a while—is a direct threat to public safety. It endangers motorists on America's highways.

What we have seen is that what happens when truckdrivers make a mistake because of the lack of sleep, that lack of sleep increases risk. We enacted these rest requirements to protect folks, to make traveling on our highways just a bit safer. They are common sense. But this safety provision is reversed in a spending bill, of all places.

I intend to raise this issue in the commerce committee next year and hope to have the support—and I know I will—of the Senator who is now presiding in the Senate.

It doesn't stop there. Look what they are trying to do to health care. There is a provision in here that would gut part of the new health care law that helps to keep insurance premiums stable. Why would we want to make people pay more for health care? Do you want to score some political points with your base? Do you want to do it on the backs of millions of hard-working Americans who are already struggling to make ends meet? Well, the American people deserve better. If we want to change policy, let's have an open and honest debate on the issues, not some backroom deals tucked into a spending bill.

But we are down to the moment of truth, and it is either this spending bill—which in large part is very good. The alternative is uncertainty and a stop-start kind of appropriations process that will do no one any good.

It is essential for there to be financial fiscal certainty in the funding of the government for the remainder of this fiscal year. So I am going to vote for the bill.

As I conclude, I, too, want to say a word about the Senators who are retiring, and I will make this very short.

I am glad the chairman of the Appropriations Committee is coming back to the floor, and I will happily yield to her very wise stewardship. Having already spoken about the extraordinary measures, I would just mention one thing while she is here. I have told this to her privately.

Today I spoke to former Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison of Texas. Kay Bailey and I had the privilege of being in the right place at the right time when this Nation's human space program was at a crossroads. There was no direction. There was uncertainty and debate in the administration as to what direction it would take, and the task fell to Senator Hutchison and me to try to give that direction with passage of the NASA Authorization Act of 2010.

That act has served as the template for the direction of NASA. It needs to be updated with other authorization bills because that was 4 years ago. Yet

there are Senators in this Senate who have prevented us, when there is no other objection, from getting unanimous consent to pass the NASA authorization update.

But there is a safety valve, and the safety valve is the Senator from Maryland and the Senator from Alabama, as they have taken the template of the 2010 NASA authorization bill and fleshed it out and put flesh on the bones of the structure each year, including this bill.

I will speak at length at another time about our colleagues who are all such personal friends of mine who are departing: Senator HAGAN; Senator PRYOR—one of my best friends in the Senate, someone with whom I have met in private prayer sessions each week we were in session; Senator BEGICH; Senator UDALL; and that mighty fighting force known as LANDRIEU of Louisiana as well.

Some of our other retiring Senators I have had the privilege of speaking to at the time they gave their farewell speeches on the floor. I look forward to further comments.

Mr. President, I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. NELSON). Without objection, it is so ordered.

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, I wish to give an update. The leadership on both sides of the aisle is negotiating the time and method by which we will continue to proceed with this bill, the omnibus spending bill for fiscal year 2015. But what I have been happy about is that people have actually come to the floor to make presentations on the substance of the bill, both pro and con and sometimes in the same speech. I think that has been both enlightening and informative. I thank all of my colleagues, including the Presiding Officer, for coming.

I would like to make a comment about my Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government. This is a subcommittee that has been chaired by the very able Senator from New Mexico, Mr. TOM UDALL. He has done an outstanding job.

Much is being discussed about Dodd-Frank and Wall Street bailouts. Are we throwing our soul into the fires of greed? I can appreciate the passion and the concern because I, too, remember, as the Presiding Officer said, that grim day when the leadership in the Bush Administration kept telling us that fundamentally we are OK, fundamentally we are OK. Well, there was nothing fundamental about our American values being thrown under the bus, and

more than that, really we were very concerned that the entire economy of the United States America could be at risk.

Now, I come from a family who are Roosevelt Democrats. My dear father and mother opened a small neighborhood grocery store the year they were married in Baltimore. That year was 1935. It was the height of the depression, and this young couple—second generation immigrants—opened a business. Years later when I had the opportunity to have conversations with my father about the decisions made, what he did and why, I said: Dad, why did you open a business in the middle of the depression? We lived in a neighborhood where there were all these working class people, men who—it was at that time primarily men—worked at General Motors, worked at Bethlehem Steel, making steel or at least hoping they would have jobs to make steel. The shipyards—we were a blue-collar manufacturing town, and all those jobs were at risk with high unemployment and the travesty of the Great Depression.

So I said: Dad, why did you do it? How could you have the nerve to do it? He said: I did it because I believed in Roosevelt. I believed Roosevelt was going to lead us forward, and Roosevelt was doing things with the banks where if you put a dollar in you could get a dollar back out—the famous FDIC. Roosevelt was leading the way, and I believed in Roosevelt, and Roosevelt believed in me. They believed then that a President believed in them. I went for it.

Well, that wonderful grocery store was open to lots of people in good times and bad. When there were good times, we were there. When there were rough times in the community, my father dealt on credit. When my father passed away from the ravages of Alzheimer's, over 700 people came to his funeral. They all had a story for my two great sisters and me.

So we are Roosevelt people. We do believe in the public institutions and the safeguards that were created so many years ago to protect the little guy and the little gal against gouging.

I believe in this bill. By and large and far from perfect we have continued to do this.

This bill does protect the public and consumers by focusing on five priority areas. It protects investors from fraud and manipulation of financial markets. I will elaborate on that. It safeguards the financial system from abuse and illegal practices, such as money laundering and deciphering complex Tax Code provisions so taxpayers can accurately file returns. It promotes a fair, safe, and robust marketplace by preventing fraud and enforcing against it and other unfair business practices. It works with small business by making sure that our agencies that are in

charge of enforcing the rules to protect against abuse are funded.

Let's go to the Securities and Exchange Commission. Without enforcement, you could have every law on the books, you could have every good intention on the books, you can say that we are going to stop it, but unless you fund the Securities and Exchange Commission and the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, and unless you also make sure that the now Consumer Financial Protection Bureau is protected against being defunded, you don't have a law.

So what did we do? We actually worked on a bipartisan basis. It took a little shove from some of us Democrats, but both sides of the aisle want to look out for the little guy. So, guess what. This legislation that is being so scrutinized needs also to take a look at the fact that it includes \$1.5 billion so that the Securities and Exchange Commission can actually do its job. This funding level is \$150 million more than it was in fiscal 2014. This will help protect investors, promote capital formation, and maintain fair, honest, and efficient stocks and securities. We funded the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Then there is the Commodity Futures Trading Commission. Farmers and businesses use the futures market to manage risk as well as pensions and endowments. They rely on the CFTC to properly monitor markets to guard against fraud, manipulation, and systemic risk. They work to bring more transparency and accountability into the futures and into that derivative market that everybody has been talking about for several days. So I don't want the derivative market to go wild. This is not the wild West. So we made sure we put money in the Federal checkbook so that the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, the CFTC, would have the money it needs for enforcement. The funding level is actually \$35 million more than in fiscal year 2014. It is more money than 2014 to make sure the needed staffing and sophisticated technologies are in place to foster open competitive and financially sound futures and the swap markets.

A lot has been said about that swap market, right? We are worried about it, too. We are absolutely worried about derivatives. We are worried about the exploitation and manipulation of derivatives. But you can have section 716, whatever that number is—and I am not trivializing it; people worked very hard to create that legislation—but unless you fund the enforcement agency, what does it mean?

Now, for whatever we did or didn't do, we actually put money in to keep these agencies functioning. I am really proud of that. I am absolutely proud of that.

A lot has been said about backroom deals and secret negotiations: Why

can't we do this out in the open? Guess what. Every single rider that we faced—98 riders that came over for us to deal with in our conference report—all passed the House of Representatives. They all passed the House of Representatives. They had mark-ups in full committee. They had debate on the floor. They passed them.

The so-called 716 problem that has everyone concerned—and it has me concerned—passed the House of Representatives. They supported it by passing it 292 to 122. There was nothing secret about it when they passed it in the House. Seventy Democrats voted for it. It was dumped in our lap. It was also dumped in our lap with several other riders in that area, but we had a total of 98. So when people say in middle of the night, every rider that came over that was so controversial had come over from the House—very few came from the Senate, very few—and we had to deal with them.

In the financial services subcommittee alone, where Mr. UDALL was the subcommittee chairman, we had six of these—six. They were tough. But you know what. We were able to deal with them. There was a whole rider to make the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau weaker by taking away its mandatory funding. We stopped the weakening of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau that the wonderful Senator from Massachusetts had stood up for. We protected it. We protected the agency, and we protected its money.

Also there was this whole attempt on a rider from the House to stop the IRS from implementing the Affordable Care Act. We were able to deal with that and eliminate that. Then there was the SEC. There was an attempt to make sure that legislation would have affected the investors by making sure we prevented the securities exchange with the fiduciary standard of care for brokers. We also prevented the Treasury from a rider that would have stopped the Treasury from designating certain insurance companies as too big to fail. So it was not like we were asleep at the switch here. It is not like we were all sitting around saying, oh, Wall Street, our dear friends—these were hard fights.

So, what did we do? This is the Appropriations Committee. We would have preferred to do an individual bill, open a debate. But guess what. It wasn't meant to be. We had to fund it. We had to deal with all 11 committees and with Homeland Security on a continuing resolution, and we worked, we debated, we argued, we fought. We won some, and we lost some. One we did lose. This is the subject of great controversy and debate here. But I want everybody to know it was one out of six. It is a big one, but it is one out of six. And I want everyone to know we added 11 percent more for the Securi-

ties and Exchange Commission to do their job in enforcement. We added 15 percent more to the Commodity Futures Trading Commission to do their job. Every one of those poison pill riders to shrink the effectiveness of Dodd-Frank was voted on in the House and came over, just like the controversial one on gutting section 716. I will repeat: That passed the House 292 to 122, with 70 Democrats voting for it. That doesn't make it right. That doesn't make it right, but it is not like we invented it. It is not like we brought this up in a secret backroom deal.

So I want everybody to know, when they look at what we did in the financial services, we did what I think my father would have wanted me to do: Make sure that these institutions that were created to enforce the law against fraud and gouging investors, taking advantage of the taxpayers—I think we have done our job by making sure they were funded adequately to do the enforcement job we asked them to do. Second, out of six riders that would have really limited or handicapped the enforcement to protect investors or to implement other laws such as the Affordable Care Act, we were able to achieve, I think, some significant victories.

So, I want the record to show this. Are we a quiet committee? Yes. Did we work? Oh, yes, we did work. You know the secret meetings everybody likes to talk about over the next several days, do you know when they occurred? They occurred this summer when we were trying to get the bill ready to come to the floor and we were stopped in September, when everybody worked on weekends, when we went out at Thanksgiving, when both that Senate Republican staff and the Senate Democratic staff worked through the weekend. So while everybody else was having a good time eating pumpkin pie, they worked all the way up to Thursday night and were back on the job Friday so we would not have a government shutdown and so the government would not be on autopilot.

If you don't like what we did and the way we did it, then let me and Senator COCHRAN—for whom I have so much respect—get back to regular order. I need everybody who is cranky about this—and I don't dispute the validity of their concerns because I share them myself, but I have won some, I lost some, but I sure fought for them all—and don't like the process, then why did they stand for this process? I wanted to bring up individual bills. The vice chairman—the gentleman from Alabama, Senator SHELBY—wanted to bring up individual bills. We were bringing them up.

We held 60 hearings in 60 days on these topics so that we could have regular order and the Senate could consider them one at a time. So for everyone who is concerned, I am ready for a

new process. I have been trying to do this for a couple of years now. Now we will be under Senator COCHRAN's watch, and I will talk more about the process later.

I know there are other Senators waiting to talk, but I would like to say a word to Senator COCHRAN. I have been informed that his beloved and dear wife of so many years, Rose, has passed away. I personally want to express my condolences, and I want to do it for several reasons: one, just as a Member of the Senate, we should be concerned about one another and what other Members are going through.

I also wish to express my gratitude to Rose herself. When I came to the Senate—now many years ago—there were only two women in the Senate, Senator Nancy Kassebaum, a wonderful Republican Senator from Kansas, and myself. When I came, I was welcomed in the Senate. As the Democratic woman, I often said although I was by myself, I was never alone. I had Senator Paul Sarbanes, Senator Ted Kennedy, and Senator Bob Byrd, who helped me learn the ropes of the Appropriations Committee that I now chair.

I also had some other special help from the women of the Senate—the spouses of the Senate. There were only Senator Nancy and myself in those days, but the spouses of the guys in the Senate really reached out to me, and the Southern women were particularly gracious to help me learn the ropes—even learn about the building and how to maneuver here in so many ways.

Senator Howell Heflin's wife, Mike; Sam Nunn's wife, Colleen; and then there was Rose. She was vivacious, charming, fun, and savvy. We often took trips together. Thad and I were on the NATO Committee, and it was always Rose who said, come on, Barb, come with us. Not only did she make sure I was included, she made sure that I was welcomed.

It was the sense of hospitality that made me think, my gosh, what a wonderful institution. We are not Democrats or Republicans, we are working together. The Senators were working together, the spouses were welcoming. It was not so much a club as it was a family. I wish we could get back to that.

Rose died from Alzheimer's. I spoke earlier about my father. My father died from Alzheimer's, so I know what Senator COCHRAN went through. Even when an illness is so ravaging, so cruel, where you hope that death is either anticipated, or part of your heart even hopes for it, when it comes, you just can't believe it.

I know he is going through his own grief, but I want him to know that in his grief. I not only want to express my condolences, but I want to express my gratitude to Rose, who made me feel so welcome and made me feel like the Senate was a family. I hope we can get

back and honor her memory and act more that way.

Mr. President, as chairwoman of the Commerce, Justice, Science, CJS, Appropriations Subcommittee to discuss funding in the 2015 omnibus bill, I am pleased to have worked with Senator SHELBY on this bill. He is a true partner.

The CJS bill totals \$50.1 billion in discretionary spending. That is \$1.5 billion below the 2014 level of \$51.5 billion. Our bill focuses on two priorities: jobs and the Economy and keeping communities safe. We used those priorities to guide all our funding decisions, from Federal law enforcement to space exploration.

The bill provides \$8.5 billion for the Department of Commerce, which is \$286 million more than 2014 level of \$8.4 billion. The Commerce Department keeps America open for business—helping businesses to keep the jobs they have, and helping entire industries to create new jobs. The department works with business to promote business. Protecting patents, promoting trade, and providing economic development projects in every state.

The bill includes strong support for manufacturing. The National Institute of Standards and Technology is funded at \$864 million, creating the standards that drive new technologies and new industries and make household products safer and more reliable. The Omnibus also includes the “Revitalize American Manufacturing and Innovation Act”, which creates public-private partnerships that revitalize U.S. manufacturing in areas such as nanotechnology, photonics, microelectronics.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is funded at \$3.4 billion in this bill, which is \$434 million more than last year’s level of \$3 billion. This funding means the USPTO will hire 1,000 new patent examiners, reducing the patent backlog, resulting in shorter wait times for companies seeking patents and sending new ideas out to markets. USPTO protects American ideas.

The Economic Development Administration is funded at \$250 million, providing funding for local projects like, water infrastructure for new hospitals which support thousands of local workers. Funding for EDA also provides grants for projects, such as those through the Trade Adjustment Assistance for Firms, that promote infrastructure and innovation, setting our small businesses up for success. Every \$1 issued in EDA grants leverages \$10 in local investment and creates jobs in our home States, not in DC.

Commerce Department also promotes American goods and services around the world, supporting more than 11 million jobs in the U.S. I support President’s pivot to Asia, but I believe that if we can put guns in Southeast Asia, we can put Commercial Service Officers there too to create new markets

for American products and create American jobs. So this bill puts more Commercial Service Officers on the front lines getting products from American small businesses into the hands of buyers around the world, including markets like Asia and Africa where it’s difficult for new companies to do business.

Commerce doesn’t just promote American business, it also protects communities. The National Weather Service warns Americans to get out of the way when hurricanes, tornadoes and other severe storms threaten our communities. Accurate weather information is important to every mom trying to get a kid to school, every school superintendent trying to decide whether to close school, and every state emergency coordinator trying to decide when to deploy snow plows. Deploy too early and communities waste money. Deploy too late and roads and highways become commuting catastrophes.

However, reliable weather data doesn’t come from an App. That is why our CJS bill includes more than \$3 billion for keeping flagship weather satellites on-track and on-budget, and keeps our weather forecasting offices fully staffed and ready to make sure it gives citizens the weather predictions they need.

The Omnibus provides \$28 billion for the Justice Department. That is \$393 million more than 2014 level of \$27.7 billion, and \$156 million more than the President’s request. The Justice Department’s mission is to keep America safe from crime and terrorism, to protect communities and families, and to administer justice fairly. The bill funds key law enforcement and prosecution agencies including: FBI; Drug Enforcement Administration; Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives; U.S. Marshals Service and the U.S. Attorneys.

We can’t have strong, vibrant communities unless they are safe. I have heard from Senators from every state about the rise of heroin. Heroin is relatively inexpensive—\$10 a hit. It is readily available and highly addictive. The Department of Health and Human Services reported that heroin use rose 79 percent nationwide between 2007 and 2012. We need to take action now so the bill funds several programs that tackle the heroin problem.

That is why the bill funds a new anti-heroin task forces with \$7 million of grants for State and local law enforcement to investigate distribution of heroin in an effort to keep these drug dealers off of our streets. The bill also funds residential drug treatment with \$10 million so that when drug offenders are released from jail, they don’t relapse. Finally, the bill provides \$11 million for Prescription Drug Monitoring that helps States monitor and prevent those who “doctor shop”, getting real

time info to police and doctors to prevent overdoses and showing where overdoses are occurring so police can see patterns and stop drug rings.

I am proud to include \$430 million in this Omnibus for Violence Against Women Act programs. This is a record funding level for VAWA grants to prevent and prosecute rape, and help women escape their abusers.

Too many women are being doubly assaulted, first by a predator, then by a broken system that fails to test DNA evidence. A Justice Department investigation found 400,000 rape test kits sitting on shelves and in police lockers. This bill tries to break the back of the backlog by funding proven grants to test DNA in crime labs, such as \$125 million for programs like Debbie Smith DNA Grants, and \$41 million for new grants to test rape kit in police storage. These new grants will not only test kits but also reform the system so rape victims aren’t victimized twice.

The bill also triples funding for the Crime Victims Fund to \$2.36 billion, which will go to help victims of violent crime. This is an increase of \$1.5 billion over the fiscal year 2014 level of \$745 million. States can help more victims pay their medical bills and get counseling and legal assistance

The Science portion of the CJS bill supports jobs and the economy by driving innovation. The bill provides \$25 billion for science agencies: NASA and the National Science Foundation. This funding for innovation, research and discoveries creates American ideas, American products, and American jobs in the private sector.

The National Science Foundation is funded at \$7.3 billion in this bill, \$172 million more than the 2014 level. NSF will be able to fund 290 more competitive grants in 2015, supporting 4,100 more technicians, scientists, and students. NSF research and education programs provide scholarships to the next generation of Cyber warriors, bridge and building engineers, and chemistry laboratory technicians. STEM education builds jobs and builds an opportunity ladder for students.

NASA is funded at \$18 billion. This will provide for a balanced space agency with reliable space transportation, cutting-edge aeronautics, and strong Space science. This funding directly supports NASA’s high tech workforce at Goddard Space Flight Center, Wallops Flight Facility and other NASA facilities around the country: machinists grinding precision parts for spacecraft exploring the galaxy; computer operators compiling data used to make forecasts or understand the big bang; engineers designing rockets that expand our reach to other planets; and scientists rewriting the textbooks and inspiring our next generation of explorers.

NASA funding also supports NASA’s Turbo Contractors who build rockets

and satellites and design computer systems, providing jobs.

The Omnibus is not just a spending bill, it is also a reform bill. Appropriators are shrewd stewards of federal funds, getting value for every taxpayer. The CJS Subcommittee puts a premium on oversight, inviting Inspectors General to testify at every hearing. The CJS bill includes robust funding for IGs who help us root out waste, fraud, abuse, and mismanagement. IGs give us good ideas for how to save money in areas like addressing growth in the prison population and improving management of the Census. CJS has dealt with its share of techno-boondoggles, such as 2010 Census handhelds, satellite costs, and IT systems that never worked. To prevent techno-boondoggles, the bill includes early warning systems when costs begin to escalate, audits of grants and contracts, specific IG and GAO oversight of costly items like the 2020 Census, weather satellites, the James Webb Space Telescope, the patent backlog, and Crime Victim Fund spending.

This Omnibus is a good bill, with balanced spending. It protects community safety, keeping the thin blue line from getting thinner and making our weather forecasts better. The bill invests in jobs and the economy, generating new ideas through research and discoveries and creating markets for more American products throughout the world.

I urge my colleagues to support the omnibus.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. DONNELLY). The Senator from Delaware.

Mr. COONS. Mr. President, I rise to speak tonight in support of the omnibus appropriations package that Senator MIKULSKI, the Chair of our Appropriations Committee, has spoken at great length about, and that Senator COCHRAN has also dedicated so much of his time and effort and energy to, and that so many Members of this Chamber have contributed to. There are questions on the minds of my constituents from the home State of Delaware and questions on the minds of colleagues of mine who have spoken earlier this evening about this very large package—this \$1.014 trillion spending bill—appropriations package.

There have been questions raised about some specific provisions—an issue here about pensions, an issue there about Dodd-Frank and swaps, an issue about an environmental concern. There are a few issues that have Members—particularly of my caucus—who are very concerned. I have messages coming in to me in my office from social media and email saying: Why on Earth would you support this? My Senator, CHRIS COONS from Delaware, why would you support this?

We are going into the holiday season and I want us to take a few minutes and look at what is actually in this

package, to unwrap it a little bit and to better understand why on Earth I would stand on this floor and speak in favor of this package.

You have heard of the hard work of our Appropriations Committee Chair. What you don't know is the tireless and determined and dedicated work of all of the Appropriations Committee members and staff who, across 12 different subcommittees, held more than 60 different hearings to hammer out provision after provision, department after department, and it is difficult sometimes to know what that means. Let me put this in some context.

First, in terms of bad avoided and good invested. In terms of bad avoided, the version of this that came over from the House—11 full appropriations bills out of 12 that had within it all sorts of provisions. We call them riders because they are provisions that ride on top of the underlying appropriations bill.

You have heard about some of these riders that have been defeated and beaten back. It is not one or two or three. They cover all the same areas where concerns have been raised by colleagues in my caucus—the environment, protections for organized labor and labor concerns, protections for the safety of our communities related to firearms, protections for the safety and soundness and transparency of our financial system through preserving the Dodd-Frank act, preserving a woman's right to choose and protecting the implementation of the Affordable Care Act.

Dozens and dozens of riders came over in the bill from the House, which our committee Chair and her dedicated staff worked tirelessly to remove from this bill, and you have heard about some of them in the speech just concluded by Chair MIKULSKI.

There was everything from fish and wildlife rules to fiduciary rulemaking, from issues around union elections to concerns about the strength and ability of the ATF to keep our community safe, strengthening and supporting the CFPB and SEC and their ability to enforce Dodd-Frank or ensuring a woman's right to choose. The actions of our committee Chair ensure that these dozens and dozens of bad—from our perspective—riders were removed from the bill.

Now we stand here on the verge of the end of the authority of the government to continue to function, and we have a package in front of us, and we have two choices. The choices are simple and clear. If we do not pass this omnibus, we will continue government by crisis, government by continuing resolution, government by chip shot down the lane, and we will fund the government for a temporary 3-month extension, and then this entire package will be put back together, not by a Democratic Senate and a Republican House, but by Republicans on both sides of

this Capitol. We won't have one or two or three riders from the perspective of my caucus to be concerned about, we will have dozens and dozens. All of this that has been removed and taken out of the package by the hard work of our committee Chair and her staff will be right back in the mix.

If we turn away from enacting this package, we will do two things: We will fail to give the certainty and clarity and predictability to our government agencies and entities that they will have authorization and funding through next September, and we will face a package toxic—far more difficult for us to accept. It will have dozens and dozens of problems riddled throughout it, and frankly, everyone in my caucus, I expect, will vote against it and perhaps the President will even veto it. We cannot let the perfect or the ideal be the enemy of the good.

I will take a few minutes and talk about what there is in this package that is good because you only heard speeches tonight that have highlighted concerns and focused in on the three or four provisions that cause great alarm or concern to all of us who are on my side of the aisle. I don't think there has been quite as much exposition as there should be about what there is in this package that I hope to unwrap for you that is actually good.

Why would I be standing here, as the Senator from Delaware, defending this hard-crafted, hard-wrought, hard-won package if it were not full of things that are important for the working families of Delaware, for our community and our country, and that didn't advance our core values?

Well, I will take a few minutes and touch on a couple of things that I think bear your consideration.

Infrastructure. The bridges, the roads, the rails, the ports that from the very founding of our Nation have been the work of the Federal Government and that are woefully behind to the point where we are not competitive globally and where we could put people to work right away by infusing more responsible investment and upgrading our infrastructure.

As far as rebuilding American infrastructure, this package includes \$54 billion for transportation and housing programs that communities and States such as Delaware care deeply about. It is \$1.8 billion more than what passed in the House package.

This covers things from the TIGER grants program that encourages and incentivizes and leverages cutting-edge investments in infrastructure to funding for Amtrak. For the east coast of the United States, Amtrak is such a vital means of transportation. It also includes funds for harbor maintenance and dredging, which are so vital to our maritime industries. This is just one of dozens of areas we could talk about this evening.



It will put Americans back to work, it will make our country more competitive, and it will give us more resources in these areas than we would ever get from renegotiating this package from the ground up.

Second, there was an unfortunate story about my hometown of Wilmington in the past week that drew real alarms about the murder rate and violent crime rate. This is a pressing issue in my hometown of Wilmington. There is real concern because we have a record murder rate and a record gun violence rate in my town.

This omnibus package includes financial resources that will help communities large and small all over this country keep themselves safe with these sorts of targeted and wise Federal investments in State and local law enforcement that we have come to rely on and that we need. There is something called the Byrne Justice Assistance grant. When I was a county executive, my county police department relied on that critical program. There is \$2.3 billion, which is \$55 million more than last year, for the Byrne Justice Assistance grants and will affect States and localities all over the country.

Something that I fought hard for on this floor and I care about—the bullet-proof vest program that has saved the lives of law enforcement officers in the small towns of Delaware and in our biggest cities. That grant made it possible to fund for state-of-the-art vests that are correct and appropriate and current and save officers' lives.

There is a regional information system called RISK that provides current intelligence and data so that law enforcement can be more effective regionally.

There is the implementation of Violence Against Women Act programs—all of these are at least sustained or increased over previous years and make the sort of investments that are vital for our communities and their safety.

There is \$1.1 billion in this omnibus package to help the ATF, FBI, and DOJ fight gun violence, and that matters to my hometown. That matters to the families who wonder whether what we are doing here is relevant to them. To turn back from this omnibus and turn away from those investments in keeping our community safe, I think is unwise.

There is more money for criminal enforcement by the ATF to fund straw gun purchases and their investigation and their prosecution, to fund keeping guns away from traffickers and criminals, to improve interstate background checks, to train law enforcement for the responsible carrying out of their public responsibility, to intervene and stop active shooter situations in schools or in public facilities, and, last, the sort of resources we need for the victims of crime.

There is \$2.3 billion in this omnibus for helping the victims of violent crime and their families to get access to badly needed services. I could go on, but in the area of law enforcement and criminal justice, there are investments that matter to me and that matter to my hometown as we work together to fight violent crime.

Let me lastly take on two other areas. No. 1, I am on the Foreign Relations Committee. I am concerned that if we turn away from this package, the vital investment in our central ally, Israel, and in the Iron Dome program, which has been shown to keep Israel safe, will not be made; and the multi-billion dollar investment in fighting the scourge of Ebola in West Africa, at this moment when the tide is turning and we have a chance to heal three nations and contain this plague, which otherwise may get out, get loose, and become a global pandemic, will not be made. We need to make these investments. To not do so now is to put our children's future at risk. Imagine if we could go back in time to where HIV/AIDS was just beginning to spread around the globe and for a modest investment, with an international effort, we could have contained it to just two or three countries, instead of the hundreds—the thousands of communities across dozens of countries that have suffered through HIV/AIDS now for nearly 25 years. If we fail to invest in turning the tide in the fight against Ebola now, we put at risk the future public safety of not just a continent, but the world.

We also have to be mindful of what this omnibus makes possible for our health and our safety and our future. Entities most Americans don't think about or haven't heard of that perform basic science research or advanced research, from the National Science Foundation to the National Institutes of Health—institutions that are doing cutting-edge, world-class science and developing the cures and the treatments for everything from Alzheimer's to cancer—we continue to sustain and support investment with billions of dollars in these areas in this bill. Again, to walk away from this package means to wrap back up and put away the potential for enormous progress.

There is \$172 million more for basic science research programs in this bill over last year. It raises up to \$7.3 billion the level of NSF funding. That may sound abstract and disconnected from our lives at home, but in my State of Delaware, that funds education, training, and research at the University of Delaware, Delaware State University, and in public schools across our State. At a time when we need science education and when we need the outcomes, the fruits of our labors and research more than ever, I think that is vital funding.

Last, there is an area that I have spoken about on this floor many times in

this Congress and that I am passionate about because it is how I came up. I spent years in the manufacturing sector. As a young man working in the private sector for a family manufacturing business, I saw its power to create good, high-wage, high-skill jobs. Manufacturing is an area where most of the research and development in this country that is privately funded is done, and manufacturing is an area that many mistakenly think we have lost our edge in and can never regain. But the truth is quite different. Over the last 3 years, we have grown more than 750,000 new manufacturing jobs in this economy, and those are great jobs—jobs people can raise their families on, jobs that provide a renewed growth back to the middle class. If we fail to invest in the things that will make manufacturing grow in this country, we miss a vital opportunity.

There is an entity called the Manufacturing Extension Partnership. In the scope of all of this, it is a tiny little program. But for the dozens of small and medium manufacturers in Delaware that I have visited and that the Delaware Manufacturing Extension Partnership has helped, it makes an amazing difference. It helps them understand how to compete internationally. It helps them with upgrading the skills of their workforce. It helps them with deciding what capital equipment to buy.

I have stood on manufacturing floors from Bridgeville to Lewes, from Dover to Claymont, and heard stories of companies transformed by this powerful investment of Federal services—a public-private partnership that really, genuinely makes a difference.

Lastly, in this provision of the bill, there isn't just renewed funding for the National Institutes of Standards and Technology, or NIST—a provision that includes the Manufacturing Extension Partnership and the Advanced Manufacturing Technology Program—there is also renewed opportunity for the funding and sustainment of manufacturing hubs, a strategy that our competitor, Germany, has used very well and very wisely to have doubled their GDP in manufacturing—a strategy that this administration has led on and that we hope to emulate, and where I think the investments made in this bill are wise and lay the foundation for middle-class job growth and prosperity.

There are a dozen other areas I could speak to this evening, where throughout this bill the investments made have been cut in some areas that needed to be reduced and increased in others that are wise for our States and our communities.

Some from my home State, watching the speeches on this floor earlier this evening, have contacted me and said, Why on Earth would you vote for a bill with this or this or this provision that concerns me? It is a fair question. I



hope in these few minutes I have helped my people hear that our choice is not between a perfect bill from the perspective of Democrats in the Senate or the country and a terrible bill, but a choice between a great bill and no bill at all—a choice between returning to regular order and ending what has been a nearly 4-year pattern of government by crisis, by short-term extension, by chip shot, and by near default, and instead respect and honor the very hard work of the dozen subcommittees of this great Appropriations Committee, and move forward a package that strengthens our country, that honors our veterans, that invests in our future, that lifts manufacturing, that makes us safer and healthier, and that does the job of bringing America into the future.

That is why I will be voting for this package, and that is why I hope all of my colleagues will consider doing the same.

Thank you, Mr. President.

With that, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I will not be voting for the bill.

I am frustrated that we have gone through now 8 years of domination by the majority leader in the Senate, denying votes on even simple amendments as part of the entire funding of the discretionary accounts of the United States of America. There is over \$1 trillion in spending, not one amendment, refusing to bring up the bills individually as they should have been, refusing to pass the bill by September 30 when the fiscal year ends, and appropriations should be done before that date to fund the next fiscal year.

So what do we do? Well, they didn't want to vote because an election was coming up. They didn't want to vote the previous year when an election was coming up, I guess 18 months later, so there is always some excuse. But the fundamental thing that has occurred in this Senate is the majority leader, through the device of filling the tree, places himself in control, places himself in a position to block amendments to any bill. That is what he has done, to a degree that has never before been done in the U.S. Senate.

Chairman MIKULSKI says she looks forward to getting on a better path next year under Republican leadership, so we will have a more regular process. Maybe the Republicans will allow the minority Democratic Party next time to have rights that have been denied us for all of these years. This is a fact. People can spin it any way they want to. I have been here for 18 years, and I know what is happening. We have demolished the collegiality in the Senate. It has caused the kind of frustration and tension that has resulted in these failures to pass bills.

So what do they do? They cobble the entire funding of the United States together in one omnibus bill, bring it up at the last minute, and say, If you don't agree to vote it out without getting any amendments, we will accuse you of shutting the government down. We will accuse you of shutting the government down. It is all your fault. For some reason, our friends in the media seem to think that is true. And if anybody has the gumption to stand up and object to this abusive process, they are shutting the government down. What planet are we on? Don't we know what really has happened?

So I have an amendment and I wanted to offer it to this bill. It would simply say that Congress is going to fund the United States government; we are going to fund the entire discretionary account in this country, but we are not going to provide money to allow the President of the United States to execute an unlawful, illegal amnesty. He has already established a building across the river in Crystal City, and they have ads out to hire 1,000 people, salaries up to \$150,000. And they are going to process people who are here unlawfully, give them a photo ID, a Social Security number, and a work authorization, and allow them to participate in Social Security and Medicare. They will allow them, if their incomes are low—and statistics tell us their incomes are lower—they are entitled to child tax credits of \$1,000 per child and they are entitled to the earned income tax credit. Combined, according to the recent article by David Frum in "The Atlantic", that is almost \$5,000 if you are a working person with a family of four earning up to \$40,000 a year—you will be entitled to a direct check. A tax credit is not a tax deduction. It is a direct check from the Treasury for an average of nearly \$5,000. It is a stunning situation that should not be happening.

So I just wanted to have an amendment that funds the government, allows the country to go forward, but just say to the President: Mr. President, we don't authorize any funding for this project. It can easily be done. It has been done hundreds of times. In fact, that is why Guantanamo prison in Guantanamo, Cuba, where the terrorists are being held—that is why it has not been closed, because Congress has told the President, who wants to close it, we are not going to allow you to spend a dime to close that prison. It has been successful. Because Presidents can't spend money not authorized by Congress, not appropriated by Congress. He cannot spend that money. It is wrong. It is actually a criminal offense to spend money. The Antideficiency Act says that anyone who pretends to represent the U.S. Government and spends money not appropriated by the Congress of the United States—not authorized by the Congress to be spent—violates a law,

because the Congress has the power of the purse.

We don't have to fund everything the President asks for. We don't have to fund programs we think are bad, that are unworthy of funding. What is Congress for? Otherwise, it is a rubberstamp that cannot make an independent judgment. We absolutely have a duty, a responsibility to not fund a program that violates the law, violates the Constitution; to allow the President to eviscerate and fail to enforce huge chunks of our immigration law and, at the same time, allow him to create an entirely new scheme of immigration law.

So the President's Executive amnesty say: I am not going to enforce the law with regard to 5 million people. And not only that, the law says if a person is here unlawfully, they can't work; and the law says if a person is a businessperson, they can't hire somebody who is here unlawfully—I am not going to enforce that, either. In fact, I am going to go even further. I am going to get an office in Crystal City and I am going to bring in 1,000 people and we are going to give the people who are here unlawfully, as defined by the American people through their Congress—I am going to give them a certificate, a photo ID that says they are here lawfully. And I am going to say despite the fact that a person is not supposed to work here if they are here unlawfully, I am going to give them the right to work. And, by the way, they are not entitled to Social Security or Medicare, and I am going to give that to them, too. By the way, when they filed their tax return using that Social Security number, if their income falls in this range—up to \$40,000—they can get a tax credit and a child tax credit. And for people making, say—a typical family making \$40,000 and with 2 children will not owe any income tax.

They are not going to owe any income tax. What they are going to do is file their return and wait for their \$5,000 check from Uncle Sam. At this time I am on the Budget Committee, ranking Republican, and I can tell you: we are going broke. The last thing we need to do is put Social Security and Medicare in a worse condition. The last thing we need the country to do is for our Treasury Department to be sending out billions of dollars in tax credits to people who have come to the country unlawfully. We have to borrow money. Do we not know?

We borrow money every day in huge amounts to keep this government afloat, and all this is going to do is add more. I am not happy about it. I don't think the American people are happy about it. Poll after poll, election after election—in November people said they were going to come to Washington and do better. People who have been complicit in this kind of activity are

not going to be here next year, many of them.

I think Congress needs to listen to the American people. What is wrong with what they are telling us? What is wrong with them saying we want a lawful system of immigration? We don't care what Big Business wants. We don't care what the special activist groups want. We want a lawful system of immigration that is fairly applied and we can be proud of and that serves our interests; that helps my child, my husband, and me have a job. We would like to see wages rise. We expect the people in Congress to look after us, not people who violate our laws.

Let me share some further thoughts that I believe are important. A lot of people are ignoring this. They don't want to hear about it. They don't believe it. They have taken the view they are going to dismiss it. I want my colleagues to be aware of this, and I intend to continue to press this issue:

The U.S. Department of Commerce informs us that "today's typical 18- to 34-year-old earns about \$2,000 less per year, (adjusted for inflation), than their counterpart in 1980."

It is a painful and a sharp decline for young Americans.

What has happened to the labor markets since 1980? Data from the U.S. Census Bureau offers this insight:

From 1930 to 1950, the foreign-born population of the United States declined from 14.2 million to 10.3 million . . . [but] Since 1970, the foreign-born population of the United States has increased rapidly due to large-scale immigration.

Let me just stop here and say America has been generous in this immigration policy. We have the largest number of people entering our country on a lawful immigrant status than any country in the world by far.

What I want us to do is to understand that we need to ask ourselves how many people the United States can absorb without damaging the wages and job prospects of unemployed, underemployed Americans.

The U.S. Census Bureau statistics report that in 1980, the foreign-born population stood at 14.1 million. But from 1980 through 2013, the immigrant population tripled from 14 million to more than 41 million. The large increase in the size of the immigrant population is the direct product of policies in Washington, creating both an expanded lawful system and an expanded unlawful system.

Legal immigration during the 1980s averaged around 600,000 people a year. But since 1990 through today, it has averaged about 1 million annually—meaning the annual rate almost doubled. The sustained large-scale flow of legal immigration—overwhelmingly, this group are lower-wage and lower-skilled—has placed a substantial downward pressure on wages.

I don't think there is any doubt about that. Some try to ignore it and

talk around it, but I think the facts are clear. We have right now a very slack labor market with more jobseekers than jobs. The White House has itself estimated that there are three unemployed Americans today for each one job opening. We don't have a shortage of workers. We have a shortage of jobs. The Economic Policy Institute estimates that in the construction industry there are seven unemployed persons for each available job opening.

This is huge. Some in the construction industry said they need more foreign workers, even as these statistics shows large numbers of unemployed American construction workers.

This large-scale immigration flow, paired with the forces of globalization and automation and robotics, has made it ever more difficult for American workers to earn a wage that can actually support a family.

Consider this report just published in *The New York Times*.

Working, in America, is in decline. The share of prime-age men—those 25 to 54 years old—who are not working has more than tripled since the late 1960s, to 16 percent. More recently, since the turn of the century, the share of women without paying jobs has been rising, too. The United States, which had one of the highest employment rates among developed nations as recently as 2000, has fallen toward the bottom of the list.

Continuing the quote from the *New York Times*—

At the same time, it has become harder for men to find higher-paying jobs. Foreign competition and technological advances have eliminated many of the jobs in which high school graduates . . . once could earn \$40 an hour, or more.

That is what the *New York Times* is telling us. It is not just a recent development. It is a development of some years. Since the end of the 1960s—the timeframe identified by the article, during this period we have seen this decline in employment—the share of the U.S. population that is foreign born increased from less than 5 percent to more than 13 percent. As a total number, the size of the foreign-born population has quadrupled over the last four decades.

Due to current Washington policy, these figures are only going to rise. The nonpartisan Congressional Research Service estimates that the foreign-born population could reach as high as 58 million within a decade based on recent trends.

Again, let's be frank and talk honestly. Prime Minister David Cameron of the United Kingdom recently said it is not wrong to talk about this. Our Nation needs to talk about the wages of its people, the financial status of its people, and it is all right and proper to ask the question of whether immigration can impact that in an adverse way.

I just want to say I am not being anti-immigrant. There are many good people who want to come be a part of

America. I am not denying that. What I am saying is that we are hurting, not helping, those who come to America when we bring in more people than there are jobs. We also don't have jobs for those who are American-born. Now we are bringing in millions more. We need to ask ourselves honestly: Is this a good policy for the Republic which we are supposed to serve? Only an adjustment in policy, I suggest, will change this trajectory—just as policy has changed early in the 20th century to allow labor markets to be tightened and wages go up. This is an issue that affects all residents, our foreign born who are here wanting to work and the U.S. born. Among those most affected by the size of these large immigrant flows are the new immigrants themselves who want to get a good job that pays a good salary.

By continuing to admit these large numbers over such a sustained period of time, many immigrants themselves are unable to find jobs. For instance, less than half of the immigrants who entered California since 2010 are participating in the labor force. They are not finding jobs. There are not enough jobs for them. Half the entire number of immigrants who entered California since 2010 are not working. In Los Angeles, where 4 in 10 residents are immigrants, one-third of those who recently arrived are living in poverty.

We have an obligation to those whom we lawfully admit not to create a circumstance where, by admitting continuing to admit many more, we are diminishing their job prospects. A sound immigration policy must serve the needs of people who are lawfully here and who are native-born. That has to be the primary focus of what we are doing. This discussion has to be had. We can't ignore this. We can't make like we can absorb an unlimited number of workers; we don't have jobs for the workers we have.

Immigrants and native-born workers are also competing with a large flow of temporary guest workers. Temporary guest workers are brought into the United States from abroad for the explicit purpose of taking a job, not on a path to green card and citizenship. They come just to work for a limited period of time. Each year the United States admits roughly 700,000 guest workers. They fill jobs that otherwise might go to people here. Of those 700,000 guest workers, roughly about 10 percent are in agricultural work. A lot of people think the guest workers are working on a farm somewhere. That is not so. Only about 10 percent are. Ninety percent take jobs in almost every industry in America, from good-paying construction jobs to coveted positions at technology firms in Silicon Valley.

The pressures on the middle-class are great. We have a large flow of permanent immigration and temporary workers. The elimination of many good-paying jobs at factories and plants due to

advances in robotics, the shedding of manufacturing jobs due to overseas competition, a sluggish and overregulated economy that is growing too slow to keep pace with the population growth and the high costs of energy, health care, income and household goods. Policymakers in Washington need to be reducing the burdens on working families, not making their lives more difficult—but that is exactly what we have been doing.

Professor George Borjas—an top expert on these matters who has worked on them for decades—estimates that high immigration flows from 1980 to 2000 reduced the wages of lower skilled American workers by 7.4 percent—about \$260 per month—as a direct result of the size and flow of immigration from 1980 to 2000. I don't think it is defensible for colleagues to say it will help wages to bring in more people. That's why the Congressional Budget office said the Senate immigration bill, rejected by the House, would have reduced wages for the next dozen years.

Professor Borjas estimates a current net loss of \$402 billion for American workers who compete with foreign labor.

Mr. President, \$402 billion. Furthermore, as documented for the Center for Immigration Studies, relying exclusively on government data, all net employment gains among the working-age since the year 2000 have gone to immigrant workers—net gains.

This remarkable trend occurred even as the number of working-age native-born Americans increased by nearly 17 million. So the 17 million is a dramatic figure. There is not a decline in native workers, as some businesses try to say. Oh, we have a demographic decline. We have to deal with it. The figures show we are still growing in the working-ages, a nearly 17 million increase in the age group since 2000.

Here are a few more statistics. There are not temporary trends but prolonged trends. Nearly one in four Americans in their prime working years—25 to 54—is not working. This includes 10 million American men and 18 million American women.

Real, median weekly earnings are lower today than in the year 2000. Median family income is down \$4,000 since November of 2007. Our wages and earnings for families have declined dramatically—\$4,000 is almost 350 a month.

So it is in this context that we must consider the economic fallout from the President's unconstitutional Executive amnesty.

In plain violation of law and the express will of the American people, the President has ordered 5 million work permits to be issued to those illegally here. Those illegal workers will now be able to compete for any job in America. They can now compete for jobs with the power company, the county com-

mission, city hall, working at construction companies—good-paying jobs for which they are not now eligible to compete.

The President's order will give illegal immigrants unfettered access to compete for any job in America. If they are not hired at city hall because the mayor thinks he should not hire someone who entered the country illegally, they can file a lawsuit and demand to be hired. They have been given lawful status ordered by the President of the United States, an ID card with a Social Security number and a worker authorization. They will be participating in Social Security and Medicare, weakening those programs which are already in deep financial trouble.

So this illegal amnesty is part of a broader immigration vision from the President, legislation he endlessly champions, a bill written behind closed doors with billionaire activists and open-borders enthusiasts and immigration lobbyists. This legislation surges immigration levels every year. That is his vision.

After four decades of record immigration, the President's bill, supported unanimously by Senate Democrats, stopped in the Republican House, tripled the issuance of permanent residency cards over 10 years. In the next 10 years, had that bill passed, it would have tripled the number of people given permanent legal status in America.

The Center For Immigration Studies explains that this legislation would, in a mere 6 years from today, increase the percentage of the U.S. population born abroad to a level never before reached in American history. And by 2033 nearly one in six residents, under this plan, would be foreign-born. This is a dramatic and historic change in our immigration policy. Unsurprisingly, the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office projected that the results of such legislation would be lower wages, higher unemployment, and reduced per capita GNP.

All of this begs a simple question: Who is looking out for Americans? Who is looking out for their interests, fighting to help them get a better job and better pay, or working to help their communities climb out of poverty? Who is looking out for their interests?

The immigration debate in our Nation's Capital is always centered, it seems to me, on the needs of illegal immigrants, foreign workers, or large employers. Is it not time, after decades of open immigration, that we focus on what we can do to help Americans? Is not time to focus on how we can grow their wages and improve their job prospects?

We have seen declining wages and higher unemployment. Is it not the sensible and rational thing to just slow down a little bit, allow wages to begin to rise some, assimilation to occur

more effectively, and help those who are already here today, including foreign immigrants who have come to America, who are struggling to rise into the middle class? Will this not help them be more successful, more prosperous, and flourish better in America?

The American people have begged and pleaded for a lawful system of immigration that serves the national interest—not special interests. But the politicians have refused, refused, refused. This summer alone the White House met 20 times, it was reported, with business executives, amnesty lobbyists, and immigration activists to craft their executive orders legalize people who are here unlawfully. They have been meeting for years with those groups. They have spent \$1.5 billion, according to one independent group, to promote their rejected amnesty legislation since 2007. But you know who was not invited into that room? You were not invited into that room. You, the American citizen, were not there. Do you not get a say in these secret meetings?

We just had a meeting 2 days ago with sheriffs from all over America. They said: Do not allow this unlawful amnesty to occur. They weren't invited to these secret meetings either.

So the super-elites in Washington and on Wall Street dream of a world without borders, a paradise, I guess, where little things like law and rules and national boundaries are not a problem. Do not get in the way of their wild chimera, their vision.

The only challenge these great global citizens face are these pesky people called the voters who cling to the old-fashioned idea of a nation as a home and a border as something real and worth protecting. These elites, you see, know better.

If you are worried about your jobs or wages; if you are concerned that the pace of immigration into your community is too fast and too large; if you feel as though your needs are not being considered, well, you are just a nativist, you see. You are selfish.

So when an election happens and the people rebel against this open-borders agenda, there is really one thing for these wise elites to do: They just impose their own law.

How Congress answers this challenge will shape the future of this Republic. Will we defend and protect the people who sent us here, their laws duly passed, their Constitution, and their communities, or do we once again abandon them, give them lip service but no real action? I pose that question to the body.

I suggest there is no purpose to our being here if it is not to serve and protect and defend the loyal people who sent us here on their behalf.

It is time for us to get busy.

I am deeply disappointed that the majority leader is blocking an amendment that would deal with this matter.

In the Senate, a Senator from any State should be able to have an amendment that deals with the crises of our time. We are being blocked once again. It denies accountability. It is wrong. It is improper. The American people are tired of it. And those who facilitate this conduct in the future will hear that message clearly from the American people.

I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MURPHY). The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### THE AMERICAN DREAM

Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, I appreciate this opportunity to speak on the floor tonight. People watching at home—to the extent there is anyone watching at home tonight—but to those who have gathered here and are still in the gallery watching the Senate, the Senate is debating a budget. It is a massive budget. It is the largest in the world in terms of any entity—I was about to say any government but of any entity on the planet.

As of right now, if that budget is not passed I believe by tomorrow night, the Federal Government will not have authority to keep operating beyond the bare minimum. That is what the debate is about that you are watching. We will see what is going to happen over the next few hours in terms of ultimately getting a vote and what the leaders of the respective parties have agreed on.

But what I wanted to talk about is related to the budget but goes much deeper than that; that is, the state of America and the state of our economy.

Last night I had the opportunity to come here and speak a little bit about foreign relations and an international situation we were facing. But I wanted to speak for a moment because that is what the budget is about—it is about our domestic affairs. I think the budget is a reflection of that.

You have heard a lot of different speeches here tonight—to the extent you are watching—about different things that are happening in our country. The Senator from Alabama spoke a moment ago about immigration, but in talking about immigration, he talked about the constraints that are upon the middle class. Before that, we have seen others speak about issues. So at the end of the day, as we talk about the budget, increasingly the debate is through the lens of those factors that people are facing in their daily lives throughout this country.

I always tell the story of my parents because, for me, it puts a different framework to my vision of this coun-

try. My parents were very poor. They grew up in another country. My father lost his mother when he was 9 years old. He had to go to work literally the next day. He would work for the next 70 years in Havana, Cuba.

My mother was one of seven girls who remembers that she never went hungry, but she is pretty sure her parents did so that their children would have enough to eat. She was raised by her father, my grandfather, who was disabled as a young man. He had polio and struggled his whole life to provide for his girls.

They came to America in 1956 in search of a better life. They came here with nothing more than the dream of a better life and the hope of a better life. They did not know anyone. They barely had any money. They barely had any formal education. They arrived in this country in 1956. They never made a lot of money here. My father ended up settling into a job as a bartender, at a hotel primarily. My mother was a cashier. She was a stock clerk at Kmart. She worked as a maid at a casino in Las Vegas. My parents never became rich, but my parents achieved the American dream because the American dream is never about how much money you make.

The American dream has always been about achieving happiness as you define it. And while they weren't rich, my parents were able to afford and own a home in a safe neighborhood—a neighborhood safe enough that they would allow us, my sister and me, to walk to school when we lived in Las Vegas.

My parents were able to retire with dignity. My parents—just a generation removed from poverty and a lack of any formal education—lived to see all four of their children go to college and have a life much better than their own. They fully lived the American dream.

It is the American dream that has been possible because this Nation was founded on the powerful idea that all people are created equal and that all people deserve an equal opportunity to achieve happiness as they define it.

That American dream isn't just a talking point. It defines us as a nation and as a people. It makes us different, special, and, in my opinion, better than any other nation that has ever existed.

But today something that troubles us is that American dream seems to be eroding in the minds of way too many people, and we understand why. There are people, when they open the newspaper every day and they read—today is a perfect example. The Dow Jones closed over 300 points. Wall Street is setting record profits.

They keep reading about how the economy is rebounding and unemployment is down, but they don't feel any of this. They are working as hard as they ever have, but their paychecks haven't gone up in more than a decade.

In the meantime, everything in life costs more.

Think about that. You are working hard, making less than ever relative to how much things cost, and you are frustrated to read that all these other people seem to be doing so great. Everybody keeps telling you about how the economy is doing fantastically, and meanwhile you are being squeezed in your own life. You can't get a pay raise, there is nothing you can do about it, and everything costs more: your rent payment, your health care, your children's education. This squeeze is real and the middle class is feeling it.

We ask ourselves, but why is this happening? This is not just because of a downturn. We had a very serious financial crisis in this country. We had a very serious downturn.

But what I describe to you is not just a feature of that, because if this were just a cyclical downturn, it would go up, down, and back up again.

We have had a very dramatic change in the structure of our economy. Our policies have not reacted to that, have not changed with those structural changes that have happened in our economy.

Even in this debate about the budget, you will see evidence of that. I didn't come to the floor to be critical of people who worked on it, I know they have worked hard, but our policies do not reflect these structural changes. They are very real.

In the 20th century, practically anybody who wanted a job in America could find one. There were plenty of blue-collar jobs for people such as my parents and there seemed to be plenty of white-collar jobs for people such as their children. But in the 21st century many of those jobs are gone. They have been sent overseas or they have been replaced because of technology or innovation. New jobs have been created, but they require skills that too many of our people still don't have.

In the 20th century, ours was a national economy. Your clients and your competitors were halfway across town, maybe halfway across the country.

In the 21st century, we operate in a global economy where your customers, your clients, your investors, your competitors, and your partners are just as likely to be halfway around the world as they are halfway down the street. That has made a dramatic structural change to our economy.

Last but not least, everything costs more. In the 20th century a bartender and a maid could afford to own a home, own a car, take a vacation once a year with their kids. If my parents tried to do today what they did in 1956, they couldn't. Those jobs just don't pay enough and all those things I just described cost so much more money.

We have to respond to these structural changes. We have to turn the

page on these old ideas and, quite frankly, on the leaders who have those old ideas. We cannot continue to confront 21st century challenges with 20th century strategies.

We need new leaders, and we need new ideas that respond to these deep structural changes. For 4 straight years that I have been talking about this in the Senate, the progress in that regard unfortunately has been slower.

I didn't come here today to be overly partisan, but I know in 2008 a lot of people thought that our current President would be that kind of new leader, but that is not what we have gotten. They thought he would be that kind of new leader because he talked about being a champion for the middle class. He talked about a modern agenda of hope and change.

But that is not what we have received. Instead of focusing on working families, he focused on things such as the liberal dream of government-run health care.

He focused on radical environmental policies instead of focusing on the middle class.

Instead of modern ideas, what we got was just old-fashioned big government and crony corporatism. A startling example of it is how the insurance companies have gamed ObamaCare.

Imagine for a moment if you were in a business and the government came in with a law that said: We are going to make the people buy the product that you sell. We are going to give them the money to buy the product that you sell. By the way, if you lose money selling the products, we are going to bail you out with taxpayer dollars.

That is what big insurance companies were able to get out of ObamaCare. People are required to buy insurance, they get a subsidy to buy that insurance, and if they lose that money, they get a bailout with taxpayer dollars. That is outrageous, and it is not surprising that the stock prices of big insurance companies have doubled since ObamaCare passed.

Meanwhile, working Americans are paying more, higher deductibles, higher copayments, higher premiums, and they are getting less coverage. That is an example of corporatism.

Despite all this rhetoric that they are fighting on behalf of the middle class, the past few years have been a bonanza for big business, a bonanza for people who can hire the lawyers and the lobbyists to navigate the complexities of government.

So it is very simple. If you can hire an army of lawyers and lobbyists in Washington, DC, you get your priorities and bills like the one that is before us today, or others, for that matter. But if you are trying to start a business out of the spare bedroom of your home, if you are a small businessperson who works 7 days a week, 16 hours a day just to stay afloat, you

can't hire the best law firm in Washington, DC, to navigate those regulations. And you sure can't afford to hire a lobbying firm to come here to write those laws to your advantage.

In fact, I would go farther and say that big government is a competitive advantage for big businesses, because they know that the bigger and more complicated the rules are, the harder it is for someone new to come along and compete with them for that same business.

We have seen that time and again. I saw it during my time as a State official, as the speaker of the State house in Florida, and I see it in Washington, DC.

This is corporatism and both parties are guilty of it.

That is why it shouldn't surprise us that under the past 6 years of this presidency, 95 percent of the income gains in this country have gone to the top 1 percent of earners and 93 percent of Americans have seen virtually no income growth in the past 6 years. Yet we continue to see an effort to push policies from this administration that keeps us on the same course. Here is the course that we are on—radical environmental groups are going to get their way, their policies, and their Executive orders written. Meanwhile, people who work at factories, people who are dependent on energy jobs, they get nothing.

Public employee unions that are well represented and spend a lot of money influencing government, they get all the rules they want from the NLRB and the government. They get their help.

Do you know who doesn't? The UPS truckers, the plumbers, the pipefitters, the electricians, and the construction workers. All these elites who are going around begging for more government spending, they are going to get their way in this bill from this administration—and middle-class Americans who are working as hard as they ever had, they get stuck with the tax bill to pay for it.

We can't keep doing this. If we keep doing this, we are going to lose the American dream. We are going to lose what makes us different, and we are going to lose what makes us special.

But I believe with all my heart that if we can turn the page on these policies, not only can we save the American dream but we can have another American century. To do that, there are three key things we have to do, and I wish more of this was reflected in the bill before us.

The first thing we need is we need better jobs. Jobs that don't just pay more—and that is important, but jobs that provide enough flexibility as well so that you do have time if you need to take time off to go take your kids to a field trip or a doctor's appointment.

Do you know how many Americans out there can't take their kids to a

dental appointment because that requires them to take 2 hours off of work? Do you know how many Americans don't have the flexibility to be able to watch their son or their daughter at the Christmas pageant this year in school because their job doesn't have flexibility?

These better jobs that I am talking about are jobs that pay more but ultimately provide the flexibility so you have the time to be a better spouse, a member of your community, and a better parent—and jobs that won't disappear with the next advancement in technology, jobs that give you an opportunity for promotion and upward mobility. These are the kinds of jobs we need.

In order to have those jobs in America in the 21st century, we need to become globally competitive. We are engaged in a global competition with the rest of the world for these jobs. It is the economic olympics every single day.

We can win that competition. We can win it if we had a Tax Code that no longer made America one of the most expensive places in the world to create those jobs. We could win it if we reformed our regulatory code so that we are no longer such a burdensome place to create those jobs. We could win it if we got our national debt under control, which scares people from creating those jobs here because they believe we are headed for a debt crisis in the future.

We can win that competition if we fully utilize our energy resources in a safe and responsible way. We have already seen the benefits of American energy exploration, the jobs it creates, not only in energy but in manufacturing.

You have already seen the benefits of American energy production in the falling price of gasoline at the pump, and that has real-world implications. Being from Florida, we expect that many more people are going to take the drive to Disney World this winter because getting there is a lot cheaper than it was a year ago. Ticket price is another matter, but getting there is a lot cheaper than it was before. This has real implications.

The other thing is we can win that competition, but we have to keep our edge on innovation. We are the world's greatest innovators. We can't lose that edge. By the way, winning that global competition requires us to be globally engaged.

We must remain involved in global affairs. Strong American leadership on this planet is a factor in allowing the world to have the prosperity and the stability it needs for a rising middle class—people who can afford to buy the things we sell, the products we offer, the services we offer. We will benefit from that.

But creating more of those jobs is not enough. The second thing we have

to do is to make sure people have the skills for those new jobs because these new jobs in the 21st century are going to require a higher level of skill than ever before. The problem is we have an archaic 20th century education model.

We tell kids in high school that the only way you will ever be successful is you all have to get a 4-year degree. There is nothing wrong with getting a 4-year degree, but it is wrong to tell children and students in this country that is the only way to get ahead when we know in the 21st century there are going to be millions of quality middle-skilled, quality-paying jobs that require more than high school but less than 4 years of college.

We have a system that does nothing, absolutely nothing, about that. We don't offer nearly enough vocational problems in high school.

Why have we stigmatized jobs where people work with their hands, when we know that we need airplane mechanics, electricians, plumbers, and pipefitters? We need high-tech welders and people who know how to do 21st century welding and machinists for 21st century factories and manufacturing.

We can teach these people skills while they are still in high school so they can graduate ready to go to work. We also need more apprenticeship programs, and that is something we can partner with labor unions so we can train and retrain Americans in these higher skilled jobs. We also need to help people who have to work full time.

Imagine for a moment a single mother raising two kids on her own and she is a receptionist at a law firm. She is never going to get a significant raise working as a receptionist. The only way she is ever going to get ahead is if she can become a paralegal. But to become a paralegal, she has to go to school. How is she going to go to school under this current system?

She wakes up at 6 o'clock in the morning, makes her kids breakfast, drops them off at school, drives to work, works 8 or 9 hours, rushes to the daycare center or the afterschool program before it closes, picks them up and brings them home. She is already tired, but she is not done. She has to make them dinner and make sure they finish their homework.

By 11 o'clock she hits that bed and she is exhausted. When is she going to go to school—4 o'clock in the morning?

We need to have an education system that is flexible enough so that she can acquire the skills to become a paralegal while she works full time and she raises that family, allowing her to package learning from online courses and work experience.

If someone is a receptionist at a law firm and has worked there for 8 or 9 years, there are some skills they have picked up working there that should count for credit hours, instead of forcing you to sit through a 2-year program

so the college they are going to can make the money off of them. We need to create programs so that people like her can acquire those skills for 21st century jobs.

We also need to create alternatives to traditional college. It doesn't matter where you acquire the learning. You should be able to package all of your learning. Take, for example, someone who has worked 10 years, served in the military, has extensive experience at volunteering, has taken a number of courses at a community college, and wants to get a degree in something. We should be able to package all of that lifelong learning, all of those sources of learning, into the equivalent of a degree program.

Do you know how many Americans out there are sitting on 30 or 40 credit hours from a community college? But having 30 hours of college credit is the same as having zero because you don't get any degree certificate for it. So the private sector looks at you and says: We are glad you went to class, but where is your degree or your associate's degree?

I wish we had a more concerted effort in helping people who are halfway there to get all the way there by using things such as online coursework and giving them credit for life and work experience.

We need to think outside the box on these issues because if we don't empower people with these skills, they won't be able to take advantage of the opportunities of the 21st century. This is what a 21st-century educational system looks like.

I would make one more point when talking about schools. The most important school a child will ever attend is their home. We cannot ignore the fact that the breakdown of American families is having a dramatic impact on our economy and the quality of life of our people. There is a reality here about this. A growing number of children are born into single-parent homes or are born into broken families. We have to help them because we know that, statistically speaking, children being raised in broken families and single-parent homes with low incomes will struggle to succeed. They will not have an equal opportunity unless someone does something to help them out.

We can help. We can help by helping their parents acquire the skills they need for better jobs, such as the single mother I talked about earlier, but also by giving their parents the opportunity to send them to the school of their choice. It is immoral, it is un-American that the only people in this country who cannot choose where their children go to school are poor people. It is outrageous. Rich people can send their kids to any school they want, and that is their right. The middle class will move to a better neighborhood or struggle to put together just enough

money to put their kids into a better school. But if you are poor and the school in your neighborhood is a dangerous school and you are not learning, there is nothing you can do. That is outrageous. The answer to that is, well, improve that school. I agree. But in the 5 years it takes to improve that school, that child has gone from first grade to sixth grade, and you are never getting those years back. Every parent in America—especially low-income parents—deserves the opportunity to put their children in the school of their choice.

There are other ways we can help families. Primarily that is our responsibility as individuals and communities. But we should have a promarriage Tax Code, a promarriage government program. We shouldn't have marriage penalties. We shouldn't tell people "If you get married your taxes are going to go up" or "If you get married you will lose Medicare, Medicaid." We have to get rid of those things. We have to remove those marriage penalties in our Tax Code and in our programs.

By the way, we should also protect our faith communities. They are an important part of instilling values because you can have all the diplomas on the wall you want, but if you don't have the values of hard work and discipline and self-control and respect for others and respect for the dignity of the life of all people, you will struggle to succeed. No one is born with those values; those values have to be taught by strong families in a strong home, and they have to be reinforced by strong communities. One of the pillars of a strong community is our faith community, whatever faith you choose. That is why protecting religious liberty is so important.

Last but not least, restoring the American dream isn't just about better jobs and better training and better skills; it is also about dealing with the cost of living. That is why I think in the coming year we desperately need a profamily Tax Code. Instead of all these loopholes that are designed to help big business or the cronies of the people who serve here in Washington, we need a profamily Tax Code. For example, let's increase the child tax credit because it costs money to raise children in the 21st century and these working families are struggling to provide for their children. Let's have a profamily Tax Code like the one Senator LEE of Utah and I have proposed. Let's increase the child tax credit.

We also have to deal with the cost of higher education. It is completely out of control. Do you know who is getting destroyed by that? The middle class.

I had the honor of teaching a course at Florida International University. There are many working-class students there. And here is their frustration, and they are right: Their parents make

too much money for financial aid, but they do not make enough money to be able to afford the school. So do you know what they do? They take out loans in the tens of thousands of dollars.

I know about this firsthand because when I was sworn into the Senate here 4 years ago, I owed over \$100,000 in student loans. My parents could never afford to pay for my school. I was blessed to be able to receive Pell grants and other assistance, but I still had to use loans.

When we first got married, it was our single largest expenditure. I used to joke with my wife: You didn't just get married to me; you got married to Sallie Mae. Every month Sallie sent us a \$1,300 or \$1,400 bill.

There are tens of thousands, hundreds of thousands of young people across America who are stuck with big loan debt and degrees that don't lead to jobs. I hope we will tackle that this year, and there are a couple of proposals that I think will help. The first is we should make income-based repayment the repayment method for everyone unless you opt out of it.

Second, I think people deserve the right to know before they take out a loan how much they can expect to make. Before you take out a loan to pay the tuition of the school, that school should be required to tell you: This is how much people who graduate from our school make when they graduate with this degree. So you can decide whether it is worth borrowing \$100,000 to be a Greek philosophy major because the market for Greek philosophers is very tight these days.

Last but not least, I think we need alternatives to traditional student loans. One of the things I have proposed is something called the student investment plan, which allows people to invest in your future. Basically, it is a venture fund in you. Someone will come forward and say: We will give you the money to go to college. In exchange, you will pay us back 1 or 2 percent of your income for your first 10 years.

They are investing in you. It is a student investment plan. It is not for everyone. It is not a panacea, but it is an alternative to student loans.

One of the things that would help, by the way, that would be an alternative to student loans, is what I mentioned earlier—if you were able to package learning and turn self-directed learning into the equivalent of a degree.

There are other big items contributing to the cost of living. Health care I don't need to tell you about. How many people out there today, particularly in the middle class, are starting to find out they have higher deductibles, higher copayments, higher premiums, and are getting less coverage than they used to have. This is not a myth. It is not a rumor. This is

happening to millions of people. We get the calls, and so do you in your office about all these things.

One last point on the cost of living is dealing with poverty. Our antipoverty programs don't work. There are antipoverty programs in this *Cromnibus*—a term, by the way, none of us have ever used before. I don't know who makes these things up. But anyway, there are antipoverty programs in this bill. Our antipoverty programs alleviate poverty, but they don't cure it.

Imagine if you broke your arm and you went to the hospital and they said: Here is a lifetime supply of pain killers. I am not saying you shouldn't help people with the pain from the broken arm, but you have to fix that broken arm.

Our programs don't fix poverty. They do not cure poverty. We need programs that will cure poverty. That is why I believe we need what is called the flex fund, where we take all of our existing antipoverty dollars—I am not saying cut it; I am saying take our existing antipoverty dollars and put them in a flex fund and allow States and local communities to design specific plans that work in their communities.

I can tell you that in the State of Florida, urban poverty and rural poverty have different elements to them. A program that might work very well in the inner city of Miami doesn't work at all with the rural poverty in South Dade. We should allow States and local communities to design programs that help cure poverty.

The ultimate cure for poverty is a good job. That means everyone who is on these assistance programs should either be in school acquiring the skills they need for a better job or they should be working, improving their skills through experience.

Let me just say this about that, and I have talked about one of the aspects of the reforms we want—a wage enhancement. If the only job you can find pays \$8 or \$9 an hour but you need \$15 an hour to provide for yourself, I would rather come up with government money and make up the difference through a wage enhancement than give you \$9 or \$10 an hour or the equivalent of \$7 or \$8 an hour in a welfare check. Because while you are working, you are gaining experience, and we are also helping supplement your paycheck so you can pay your bills.

That condition isn't forever. It can't become a way of life. But if you have been unemployed for 5 or 6 years and you show up somewhere to get a job and they ask you what you have been doing for the last 6 years and you say you haven't been doing anything, your chances of getting that job have just diminished dramatically. It is not good for people to be unemployed long term in terms of their long-term job prospects. That is why I have talked about a wage enhancement program as well.

I think if we do all these things I have talked about—make ourselves a globally competitive economy so the jobs are created here, give our people 21st-century skills, help people deal with the cost of living—I think we have every reason in the world to be optimistic about our future.

I will close by saying that I think sometimes we get confused here about how we measure the greatness of our country or the progress we are making. We look to facts and figures, such as the unemployment rate, and we look at the GDP of the country, and these are important figures. We shouldn't ignore them. But let me tell you how I measure the progress of this country.

I mentioned earlier that my father was a bartender. At many of the events I have been involved in through public service over the years, I give a speech somewhere, and there is a bartender standing behind a bar in the back of the room. Almost every time I see that, it reminds me of my father, who stood for so many years behind a bar. He was happy for the work he had, but that is not the life he wanted for us. He wanted something more for us. My father stood behind that bar all those years so that one day I could have the chance to stand here on the floor of the United States Senate and talk about things like the American dream. That journey from behind that bar to where I am standing here tonight is the American dream. That is the American dream.

A few years ago someone heard me give that speech in New York City, and after I was done speaking the employees there came up to me and handed me this name tag. It said "Rubio, Banquet Bartender." It was one of the most touching gifts I ever got from anyone, but it was also a reminder that whether we remain a special nation will be determined by whether people today can do what my parents did; by whether people today can still make that journey my father made from behind that bar to where I stand today. Can the single mother provide her children the life she always wanted but never had? Can that worker at that hotel open doors for their children that were closed for him? That is how we will know we are still special. If they can, then this new century is also going to be an American century.

We do have real challenges, but we also have real opportunities. And there is no time in history that I would rather be in than right here, right now. I believe technology will allow us to collaborate and reach more people than ever before. I believe innovation will solve problems we once thought were insurmountable. I believe a rising global middle class will provide more prosperity to more people everywhere than we have ever seen. That is what I believe the 21st century can be about.

I believe you and I live on the eve of another American century. All we have



to do now is to reach for it and grab it. All we have to do now is do what our parents did for us—whatever it took to leave for their children a better life and a better future. If we do that, then we will leave behind for our children what every generation of Americans before us has left behind: the single greatest nation in the history of all mankind.

With that, Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

Mr. CRUZ. Mr. President, anyone watching Congress right now would have little reason to think that an historic election occurred only a few weeks ago.

Washington, DC, sadly, continues to remain deaf to the American people. Washington, DC, continues to refuse to listen to the American people.

Even though millions of voters rose up just 1 month ago to protest how President Obama and the Senate Democrats were running Washington, business as usual is continuing inside the marble halls of the Congress. What is happening here?

Last night we saw chaos in the U.S. House of Representatives as they were there until late in the night, voting on a bill that the vast majority of the Members had never even sat down to read. Yet somehow, at the last minute, just in the nick of time, with an arm twisted here and a nudge there, it passed the House. Now it is here in the Senate.

Before the Senate today is a \$1.1 trillion bill full of Christmas presents for the lobbyists and special interests here in Washington. I know it is Christmas-time, but it is not our job to be playing Santa to K Street.

This bill is not designed to help working Americans. It is designed to pay off all the promises made to lobbyists who funded campaigns over the past year. It is designed to make sure that a whole lot of folks can fly home and ensure that more campaign dollars will be coming in the coming weeks.

Before the Senate is a bill that continues to fund the train wreck that is ObamaCare, and does nothing to provide relief to the millions of men and women who are hurting, who are suffering, who lost their jobs, who lost their health care because of this disaster.

And before the Senate is a bill that does nothing—absolutely nothing—to stop President Obama's illegal and unconstitutional amnesty. That is why I rise to speak here today.

The President's Executive amnesty is lawless and unconstitutional. To be clear, the dispute over Executive amnesty is not a dispute between President Obama and Republicans in Congress. It is a dispute between President Obama and the American people.

In this last election President Obama said something that was absolutely

correct. He said his policies were on the ballot all across this country. The President was right. This election was a referendum on amnesty.

I spent roughly 2 months on the road campaigning for Senate candidates all over the country, one after the other, in race after race. Front and center was: If you elect Republicans, we will stop President Obama's amnesty.

The American people's verdict on that referendum was not ambiguous. Over and over again voters in States across this country decided not to send back the incumbent Democrats, but to elect a new Republican.

I recall 2 years ago when the Presiding Officer and I were freshmen. There were nine Democratic freshmen that year and just three Republicans. Today there are 12 Republican freshmen—12 new Senators, a quarter of the Republican conference—elected as the result of a referendum on amnesty. The people have spoken loudly. Yet, sadly, President Obama has reacted to the voters in a way that, frankly, is unprecedented in American history.

Previous Presidents, particularly second-term Presidents, have been repudiated by the voters, and there is a way Presidents typically responded: They react with humility. They react acknowledging the American people, trying to course correct. Sadly, President Obama didn't do that.

Instead, he came out angry and defiant. He came out and declared to the American people: It doesn't matter, in his view, what the American people say. And it doesn't matter, in his view, what the Congress, elected by the American people, says. He is instead going to unilaterally decree amnesty for some 5 million people who are here illegally.

We are going to have a vote in time on this omnibus bill. But critical in that vote should be a vote on President Obama's illegal amnesty.

We should consider the constitutionality of his actions. Every Senator in this body should be put on record whether he or she believes it is constitutional for a President to disregard—to ignore—Federal immigration laws, and grant blanket amnesty to millions in defiance of both the laws on the books and the voters.

This President believes he can unilaterally alter laws he disagrees with. There is a form of governance where one man or one woman can make the laws, can change the laws, can enforce the laws. It is called a monarchy. There are countries on Earth right now that have monarchies that vest the legislative and executive power in one person.

I would note Americans historically are not unfamiliar with monarchy. We fought a bloody revolution to free ourselves from a tyrannical monarch. And when our Framers drafted our Constitution, it was designed, as Thomas

Jefferson put it, to serve as chains to bind the mischief of government.

The danger we are facing here right now is profound insofar as it concerns amnesty, and is even greater as it concerns the checks and balances in our government and the protection of individual liberty. Because a President who can set aside the law, who can pick and choose which law to follow and which law to ignore, is no longer a President. That should concern all 100 Senators here.

If President Obama can decide I don't agree with the immigration laws, so I will not enforce them, I will unilaterally change them—I promise you there is going to come another President—another President with different policy views. And the next time it may not be immigration laws that he or she is changing, it may be tax laws or environmental laws or labor laws.

I fervently believe we need tax reform, labor reform, and environmental reform, but there is a proper way to do it. The proper way to do it is this body debating and making legislative changes to the laws, not one President by dicta setting aside the law. A Presidential temper tantrum is not an acceptable means of discourse.

One of the characteristics of a monarch is he or she need not compromise. The President has justified this illegal amnesty by saying he told Congress what he wanted, and Congress refused to give it to him. Well, the relationship in our constitutional Republic between the President and the Congress is not the relationship between a parent and a child. The President does not get to demand of Congress: Here is the policy I want. Either give me what I want, or I will decree it to be so and ignore the law. That is the President's bargaining position.

The President wants to reform immigration. And let me be clear: We need commonsense immigration reform. I support commonsense immigration reform. But the way it works in our constitutional system is if you want to change the laws, you have to work with the other branches. And that means you have to compromise. It means the President doesn't get everything he wants. And this is a President who is barely willing even to talk to Congress, much less to compromise on anything.

As Alexander Hamilton explained in Federalist 69: A monarch decrees, dictates, and rules through fiat—which is what President Obama is attempting to do right now.

When the President embraces the tactics of a monarch, it becomes incumbent on Congress to wield the constitutional power this body has as the elected people's representatives to stop it.

The Congress representing the voice of the people who just spoke resoundingly in an election should use every



constitutional tool available to prevent the President from subverting the rule of law.

When the President usurps the legislative powers and defies the limits of his authority, it becomes all the more imperative for Congress to act. And Congress should use those powers given to it by the Constitution to counter a lawless executive branch, or this body will lose its authority. If the President will not respect the people, Congress must.

Second, let me ask a question. Why are we here today in a lameduck? Why is there a session of Congress the second week of December with so many Members voting who the American people just said they no longer want to be represented by? Why are there so many Members getting ready to land at cushy law firms and lobby jobs in industry and trade associations? All of our colleagues, a whole bunch of them, we are going to see them again—except they will have more expensive suits, more finely tailored, and come with an army of lobbyist aides with them.

Both the House and the Senate are filled with people who won't be here next year. And that is not of accident, because these bodies are voting to fund a \$1 trillion spending bill, and those Members who were defeated or retiring aren't accountable to anybody. They won't have to answer for this.

But it is even worse. I mention this omnibus is a payoff to K Street. That is where a lot of these retiring Members are going to go. So what a perfect way to start your job is to ensure that you come with goodies for the rich and powerful.

Look, the American people are disgusted by the way Washington works. Washington under the Obama administration takes care of the rich and powerful, those who walk the corridors of power, and ordinary working men and women are left in the dark.

People who have been hurt the most under the Obama economy have been the most vulnerable among us. They have been young people, they have been Hispanics, they have been African Americans, they have been single moms. And yet, I am sorry to say, in this current Senate there are very few advocates for the people who are really hurting.

Let me give one example. One of the elements of this bill is the so-called expatriate health insurance plan fix that this omnibus exempts from ObamaCare.

Now what is this about? Well, American insurance companies that sell insurance policies to expatriates—Americans living abroad—are subject to all of the oppressive mandates of ObamaCare. All of the mandated coverage mandating things—like maternity care for women who are no longer in childbearing years—all sorts of mandates that drive up the costs. And they are

also subject to the crushing impunity taxes.

So what has happened? Insurance companies have come to Congress and said: It is not fair. It is hurting our business, it is hurting our jobs. It is amazing. Get enough lobbyists together, and suddenly you get bipartisan agreement.

This provision has Republicans and Democrats together saying we should carve a special exemption for the big insurance companies.

There are a lot of things about this body that they don't teach in civics class. There are a lot of things in this body that would horrify the typical junior high or high school student learning about how government operates.

One of them is something called the hotline. An awful lot of legislation gets passed on the hotline. That is, someone introduces legislation, sends around an email and says, unless you object, this will be treated as automatically passed. All sorts of items get done on the hotline without this body ever debating it, ever considering amendments, ever taking it to the floor.

Well, this ex-patriot insurance amendment was hotlined. Senators, both Democrats and Republicans, want to shoot it through in the lame duck in the quiet of night. Now listen, I think there are some good arguments on its merits for this ex-patriot bill. It is not unreasonable to recognize that ObamaCare is costing jobs, and it is hurting. But I will tell you the way a hotline works is any single Senator can object. So I objected. Let me tell you why. I said listen, this may make sense, but we shouldn't do it with no amendments, no debate, in the dark of the night. We should do this on the floor of the Senate, with a debate and with amendments. In particular, I want to take the opportunity to ask my friends and colleagues who are Democrats, who are supporting this exemption, if you think these provisions of ObamaCare are so onerous, so damaging, are killing so many jobs, why won't you provide an exemption for the people that live in your State? If it is right that these are harmful, why discriminate against the people living in your State? I want to take it up on the floor in a context where you could offer amendments to say, listen, it is all fine to take care of the big insurance companies, but how about somebody stand up for single moms—single moms who are in vast numbers being forced into part-time work, forced to work 28, 29 hours a week because in ObamaCare the threshold that kicks in is 30 hours a week? How about somebody stand up for the average working men and women.

But I will tell you what. The single moms, the African-American teenagers, the legal immigrants—they don't have fancy lobbyists. There is no

provision in the past several months that I have been more heavily lobbied over than this ex-patriot bill. I had an insurance company CEO on the phone with me. I had Senators on the phone and lobbyists on the phone all saying, look, take care of this provision. I responded very reasonably. I said look, we could take it up in just a couple of weeks. In January, with a new Congress, we could take this up, we can debate it, we can consider it. But if we are going to be making exemptions for ObamaCare, how about if we not start with the richest and most powerful corporations? How about instead we start with working men and women, put working men and women first because they are the ones paying the biggest price. Yet I am sorry to tell you this is a great illustration of how Washington works. When it couldn't get hotlined in its own bill, what happened? It magically appeared on the omnibus, tacked on at the last minute because they knew it would go just right through Congress in the dark of night—how profoundly corrupt.

Listen, if you are a Fortune 100 company, you should feel thrilled because you can marshal armies of lobbyists to get special carve-outs for you. But if you are a steelworker out of work, if you are a single mom, if you are a Hispanic teenager trying to get her first job to start climbing the economic ladder and moving towards the American dream, you know what; you don't have a high-paid lobbyist, and unfortunately, this Senate is not listening to you.

We need to change that. We need to change that. Another provision of this omnibus is a special carve-out for Blue Cross Blue Shield. Blue Cross Blue Shield is a very fine company. Blue Cross Blue Shield spent more than \$15 million on lobbyists this year. Now it is all fine and dandy that Blue Cross Blue Shield gets a carve-out. What about working men and women? Under the Harry Reid Senate, do you know how many bills we have debated on the floor to provide meaningful relief to the millions of Americans who have lost their jobs, lost their health care, have been forced into part-time work, who face skyrocketing insurance premiums and lost their doctors? Zero, not a single one, because working men and women don't have \$15 million to hire fancy lobbyists. And the corrupt culture of Washington listens to the lobbyists and not the people.

Let me be clear on this. This is a bipartisan bill. HARRY REID, the Democratic Senate, has shut this institution down and has ceased working for working Americans. But Republicans share in that sin, share in that embrace of corporate welfare. Enough with the corporate welfare. God bless big companies that provide jobs. We don't need to be providing corporate welfare. How about instead we have fundamental

economic reform that brings back growth, that helps small companies start and grow and create jobs. How about we stop playing favorites and picking winners and losers, and instead how about Washington listening to the American people?

Another provision in this bill—another bit of corporate welfare—is Brand USA, a travel promotion company. That is one of the current majority leader's pet projects because it helps promote casinos in his home State. Last I checked, casinos were very profitable endeavors that didn't need the taxpayers helping them out, didn't need the Congress serving your hard-earned dollars and handing it out to promote casinos.

Another example is the Overseas Private Investment Corporation. It is also reauthorized in this bill. Most people haven't heard about it, but let me tell you what it does. Over the past few years, OPIC has approved a \$20 million loan to help luxury cars be built in Eastern Europe. Coincidentally, the man who owns the company is a donor to President Obama and Vice-President Biden. OPIC has also backed hundreds of millions of dollars for solar farms in South Africa. It has also helped finance the Ritz Carlton in Istanbul. It has backed \$150 million in insurance for Citibank to open branches in Pakistan, Jordan, and Egypt. How is it that one of the largest banks in the world cannot get its own insurance? Why should taxpayers take on that risk? They shouldn't.

Also spread throughout this bill are all kinds of provisions mandating what kind of vehicles the U.S. Government may buy for use, limits on how much the car can weigh, rules on how it must be powered, where the corporation is based and put together. They all together work to give U.S. corporations that produce expensive electric cars an advantage. Instead of saving the taxpayer money, this bill is pushing the government to purchase Chevy Volts and Teslas, instead of other more affordable cars.

Yet another problem in the lameduck was seen in a bill we considered earlier today, the National Defense Authorization Act. The NDAA had a lot of good provisions in it. I serve on the Armed Services Committee. I introduced amendments that were accepted and included in the bill, including one that is near and dear to my heart, a provision that finally, finally, finally, allows the 14 innocent souls who were murdered by Nidal Hassan of Fort Hood to be eligible for the Purple Heart. It has been far too long that this administration has declared that terrorist attack to be workplace violence. That was a good provision. There are other good provisions in that bill. Yet in the last minute, a giant chunk of legislation got added to the Defense authorization that had nothing to do with de-

fense. Instead it was a giant land grab. Once again it was bipartisan—Democrats and Republicans coming together and saying, let's have the Federal Government seize a bunch of land. So the Defense authorization bill added 250,000 acres of new wilderness designation.

The Defense authorization bill resulted in 400,000 acres being withdrawn from productive use. It added three new wild and scenic river designations, three new studies for additional designations. Some of these provisions may have been sound on their own, but there was a reason they weren't brought up on their own. There is a reason they weren't debated on the floor of the Senate—because they couldn't withstand the scrutiny. So instead, the way corrupt Washington works, they were stuck on to a Defense authorization that was deemed must-pass, and suddenly the Federal Government takes roughly one-half million acres of land out of productive use, out of use by the citizenry.

You know that is disrespectful to the men and women in the military. It is a disservice. We shouldn't be using the Defense authorization as a tool for congressional pork.

I will make an additional point about President Obama's amnesty. In all likelihood, in a matter of hours or a matter of days, the Senate is going to pass this massive pork-filled mess of a bill, a \$1 trillion-plus amnesty that is paying off lobbyists throughout this land.

Yet leadership from both parties—Republican leadership in both the House and Senate have promised this bill is designed for Congress to stand up to President Obama's illegal amnesty. They have said repeatedly that in just a few weeks help is on the way. In just a few weeks Republicans will be the majority in this body and in just a few weeks we will have a new majority leader.

The new majority leader, my friend the senior Senator from Kentucky has said:

If President Obama acts in defiance of the people and imposes his will on the country, Congress will act. We're considering a variety of options. But make no mistake. When the newly elected representatives of the American people take their seats, they will act.

I take the soon-to-be majority leader at his word.

The Speaker of the House has said: "Come January, we'll have a Republican House and a Republican Senate, and we'll be in a stronger position to take action." The Speaker went on to say that the current plan is "the most practical way to fight the President's action."

Again, I take him at his word. When the Republican leaders promise this bill is all designed so that come January and February—just a few weeks from now—we will see both Houses

stand together and make clear that when the continuing resolution expires for the Department of Homeland Security, this body will not appropriate money to DHS to carry out President Obama's illegal and unconstitutional executive action, I take them at their word, because the alternative would be that elected leaders are saying something to the American people they don't believe and they don't intend to follow through with. And I very much hope that is not the case.

Indeed, I am reminded of Reagan's famous admonition: Trust but verify.

So I take them at their word, but I would note that a whole lot of citizens across this country feel a little bit like Charlie Brown with Lucy and the football. Where in fight after fight, leadership in Congress says: We will fight next time. Not this time—no, no, no—the wise thing to do is fight in a month, fight in 2 months, fight in 3 months—not now. It always seems to be when the month or 2 months or 3 months happens, the same statement is made: No, no, no—not January, maybe March. No, no, no—not that. How about June? No, no, no. How about September?

There has been a time when Charlie Brown has kicked the football and fallen on his rear end one too many times. So when our leaders in both Chambers say as a commitment, we will fight, and we will stop President Obama's illegal amnesty, I take them at their word. But I am confident that the American people will hold them to their word. The American people may not be quite so trusting, as am I, because they have seen far too many Members of Congress say one thing and do another.

We will learn soon enough if those statements are genuine and sincere. We will learn in just a few weeks if leadership intends to follow through on the promises they have made over and over again.

I would note that over the course of this election, Republican Members of the House, Republican Members of the Senate campaigned all over this country and they said two things repeatedly. They said No. 1, if you elect us we are going to do everything humanly possible to stop the train wreck that is ObamaCare, and they said, No. 2, if you elect us, if you give us a Republican majority in the Senate, we will stop President Obama's illegal action.

All over the country, that is what Republican candidates said, and it is the reason they told the American people to elect a Republican majority.

My admonition to my friends—especially to the newly elected Republicans—is very simple: Do what you said. Simply do what you said.

Virtually every Republican on this side of the Chamber told the men and women in his or her State: If you elect us, we will stop President Obama's amnesty.

We must do what we said because it is profoundly unfair. This amnesty is unfair to millions of legal immigrants who followed the rules and waited years in line yet see those who came illegally being rewarded nonetheless by the Obama administration. This Executive amnesty is profoundly unfair to the 92 million Americans who are not working right now and to all the working men and women struggling to just put food on the table to feed their kids. This Executive amnesty is profoundly unfair, especially to the African-American community, which is facing historic unemployment.

If Congress acquiesces and does not stand up and assert the prerogative of this institution to legislate, to pass laws, and prevent the President from ignoring the laws on the books, then we will have ceded our authority not just on immigration but across the field.

It is incumbent on all of us to defend the Constitution, and it is my hope that the Senators who take an oath to uphold the Constitution will honor that oath more than party allegiances.

I will note that in recent weeks no fewer than a dozen Democratic Senators have publicly criticized President Obama's illegal Executive amnesty. I welcome that criticism. It is nice to see that sort of candor coming from Democratic Senators, but, as my wife is fond of telling me, talk is cheap. If those dozen Democratic Senators who criticized President Obama's Executive amnesty as illegal and unconstitutional mean what they say, then the only responsible action is to use our legislative authority to stop it.

I hope my Democratic colleagues will put partisan politics aside—even those who may agree with President Obama's amnesty—and say that the way to change the immigration laws is to work with Congress and compromise. You may not get everything you want, but we have a system of checks and balances.

It is striking—in many ways the simplest and best explanation of what the President has done came from “Saturday Night Live.” The week after the President's illegal amnesty, “Saturday Night Live” reprised the classic “Schoolhouse Rock—How a Bill Becomes a Law.” They had a giant dancing, singing bill come out and say: “First I go to the House, then I go to the Senate, and if I'm lucky, the President will sign me and I become a law.” Then on “Saturday Night Live,” President Obama walked out onto the steps of the Capitol and pushed the bill down the steps of the Capitol. He pushed the bill down the steps of the Capitol four separate times, and then out walked an Executive order smoking a cigarette, as it so happens, and it simply said: “I'm an Executive order. I pretty much just happen.”

Do you know what? “Saturday Night Live” is exactly right. The President is

ignoring the basic checks and balances of our Constitution and trying instead to decree the law. That is unconstitutional, and a portion of this bill that has been sent over from the House of Representatives funds the Department of Homeland Security to carry out that unconstitutional action.

Therefore, Madam President, I am now offering and raising a constitutional point of order against division L of this bill on the grounds that it violates the following provisions of the Constitution: the separation of powers embodied in the vesting clauses of article I, section 1 and article II, section 1; the enumerated powers of Congress stated in article I, section 8; and the requirement that the President take care that the laws be faithfully executed, as stated in article II, section 3.

It is incumbent on this body to resolve those constitutional questions and to honor and protect the constitutional authority of the United States Congress.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. WARREN). Is the Senator raising the point of order at this time?

Mr. CRUZ. I am.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. At this time, a motion to refer is pending barring other actions on the measure.

Mr. CRUZ. Madam President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. I appreciate everyone's patience. You have all been waiting.

I ask unanimous consent that at 5 p.m., Monday, December 15, the Senate proceed to vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 83; that if cloture is invoked, there be 30 minutes postcloture debate time remaining on the motion to concur.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. LEE. Madam President, reserving the right to object. The American people have grave concerns with the President's decision to take action unilaterally with regard to Executive amnesty. This is an action that is rather unprecedented and rather unsupported by law, notwithstanding the President's insistence to the contrary. It is an issue that is of concern to a great many people.

Right now we are being asked to punt all of our activity until Monday at 5 p.m. I don't see any reason to do this. I don't see any reason why the Senate should suspend its operations while the American people are waiting for us to act. I don't see any reason why we

should wait until Monday at 5 p.m. I certainly don't see any reason why we should agree to move forward then and not have any assurance that we would at least have an opportunity to vote on an amendment that would impose a spending limitation on the President's ability to implement his Executive amnesty action.

I would respectfully request that the majority leader modify his request and that he modify his request to assure us that we would receive a vote on a spending limitation amendment that we could have in connection with the CR/omnibus when we reconvene.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. REID. I am unable to do that.

Mr. LEE. In that case, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

## MORNING BUSINESS

### FOIA IMPROVEMENT ACT

Mr. LEAHY. Madam President, I am deeply disappointed that last night the House failed to pass the FOIA Improvement Act. This bipartisan bill was reported unanimously by the Senate Judiciary Committee last month, and it was the product of months of hard work by Senator CORNYN and me. Our bill is supported by more than 70 public interest groups that advocate for government transparency, and it passed out of the Senate unanimously. I would think that Members of the House Republican leadership, who have spent so much time on oversight of the Obama administration, would support the goal of making government more accountable and transparent, but instead of supporting this bill, they have chosen secrecy over sunlight.

The FOIA Improvement Act would codify what the President laid out in his historic Executive order in 2009 by requiring Federal agencies to adopt a “presumption of openness” when considering the release of government information under FOIA. This bill would require agencies to find a foreseeable harm if they want to withhold information from the public. Prioritizing the people's interest in what their government is doing, our bill will reduce the overuse of exemptions to withhold information. Federal agencies have been required to apply this standard since 2009. They also used this same standard during President Clinton's terms in office. It was only during President George W. Bush's term of secrecy that this standard was rolled back. It appears the House leadership wants to return to that era. It should not matter who is in the White House, information about what their government is doing belongs to the people.

In a political climate as divided as this, I had hoped that we could come

together in favor of something as fundamental to our democracy as the public's right to know, that government transparency and openness would not just be the standard applied to the Obama administration but what is applied to every future administration. The FOIA Improvement Act would have done just that.

#### SUCCESSFUL EFFORTS TO ADDRESS CYBER BULLYING

Mr. LEAHY. Madam President, I want to take a moment to share with the Senate one successful story coming out of Vermont.

In this digital age, our children have the opportunity to communicate, to collaborate, and to connect at all times over their cell phones, tablets, social media pages and blogs. But with this limitless connectivity also comes a responsibility to make use of these technologies maturely and respectfully. In Vermont, students and their school community have boldly fought back against cyber bullying. I want to praise their efforts and call the Senate's attention to their achievement.

Cyber bullying has become one of the most troubling threats to the safety and security of our children in this time of unprecedented digital access. Last week, students at Rutland High School were targeted online, as negative posts on an anonymous school news app were discovered. Together, students and school leaders gathered to address this negativity and to recommit themselves to building a more positive school environment. These students organized a "Positive Post-It" event to change the climate and then called on one another to delete the application.

Rutland High students went further still and banded together to issue a petition to persuade Apple to take down the app so that other students would not be victimized by anonymous posts. After the gathering, Rutland High School principal Bill Olsen said on Monday "kids left school on that day feeling very good about how they could help each other overcome such adversity." Governor Peter Shumlin has also touted their accomplishment.

According to the 2013 Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance Survey, more than 15 percent of high school students were electronically bullied in the past year. Rutland High School has gained international attention, as a wonderful example of how students have acted bravely to stand up against this trend and to hold one another accountable for a safe school space. Other States are following this trend as well. In Michigan, school leaders have also recently spoken out against the use of apps that promote anonymous, negative online behavior. The petition to remove the app has been successful, and Apple has since removed it from its online store.

The leadership that these students have displayed is admirable, heroic, and an example to others. In recognition of their efforts, I ask unanimous consent to have an article from The Rutland Herald printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Rutland Herald, Dec. 6, 2014]

#### RHS RALLIES AGAINST CONTROVERSIAL APP

(By Erin Mansfield)

Students and faculty at Rutland High School organized this week against a controversial iPhone app they say is being used to bully students via their cellphones.

Principal Bill Olsen said Friday he found out about the After School app Wednesday morning, when many students ended up crying in their guidance counselors' offices because of the things other students wrote about them on the Internet.

An app, short for application, is a computer program often used on smartphones and mobile devices that can access the Internet. After School, according to the iTunes Store, works as a virtual bulletin board for posting "funny, anonymous school news for confessions and compliments."

But Olsen said most of the things being posted are harming students' self-esteem at school, so the administration immediately sent out a letter to parents and began asking student leaders to speak out against the app.

Catherine DiPalma, a senior, said anyone can download the app for free through iTunes. Students log in using a Facebook account, confirm the school they attend, and begin posting anonymously.

A cheerleader, DiPalma said she and about 25 other students involved in clubs or sports teams went on the school's video announcements Thursday morning to ask their peers to delete the app from their phones and support the kids who had their feelings hurt.

"Nobody wants to walk down the hall and see their friends crying," she said. "Even if you're not friends with someone, we said 'stand up.'"

Olsen and the student leaders then asked kids to respond by writing positive messages on colorful Post-It notes and sticking them on windows in many of the school's hallways.

Some of the messages on the windows Friday were directed specifically to cheer up kids who had been criticized on the app, and some were compliments for their favorite teachers. Others told their peers to "please go gay for me" and "nice butt."

"I thought it was awesome," said Logan Boyle, another senior who spoke with the group on the morning announcements.

"I think it's cool that you can walk down the hall and see all the awesome things people say rather than all the nasty things people say," she said.

"A lot of us had the app, and we were just reading it," she said. "We told everyone that just by having the app and reading it, you're giving power to the people who are saying the mean things."

Kate Herling, a RHS guidance counselor who advises a student group against cyber bullying, said bringing student leaders into their advocacy was effective.

"Kids were supporting one another," Herling said. "Now we walk down the hall and see people smiling because maybe they found their name."

She said, "I felt that everyone kind of came together to really stop this and make

a positive thing about such a nasty thing that really happened."

Olsen said he and Superintendent Mary Moran have sent out letters to get the state's Agency of Education and the Vermont Superintendents Association to organize around the issue.

They said they want local schools to gather together and pressure the app's creator to delete the software, and get Apple to take down the app from the iTunes Store. As of Friday, the store labeled the app for "frequent/intense mature/suggestive themes," and for ages 17 and up.

Rebecca Holcombe, the state's secretary of education, said Rutland City Public Schools "is quite rightly going after it." She said the Agency of Education just received the district's letter and will address the concern next week.

"There is free speech," Holcombe said. "There's also bullying, and bullying is not protected speech in school. Parents send us their children as a public trust, and one of those things is protecting them from bullying and harassment."

"We do honestly find it extremely troubling, and we do think it shows extremely poor judgment on the part of the company," she said.

A Michigan student's petition against the app says Massachusetts-based Ambient Corporation is the developer of After School. But a company representative said Friday they have nothing to do with the app.

The iTunes Store says ONE, Inc. holds the copyright, but that company was unable to be reached for comment.

The After School app website says: "We believe in free speech and the ability for people to express themselves. If you find the majority of the content too offensive, consider using your phone to instead look at cat pictures or browse a less cutting-edge social network like Facebook."

Olsen pointed to news articles from Michigan and Minnesota, where he said schools are warning parents about the effects of the After School app on their children and encouraging them to remove it from their smartphones.

"Apps like this and companies that make them really should be held accountable," Olsen said. "The kids set an example for the adults (on Thursday). We should do the same thing and try to fight this."

#### NET NEUTRALITY

Mr. LEAHY. Madam President, the principle of "net neutrality" to protect an open Internet has found its way into the public consciousness like few other regulatory issues that I have seen in my time in the Senate. Over 3.5 million Americans have submitted comments to the Federal Communications Commission, FCC, during its consideration of replacement net neutrality rules this year. The reason for this record-setting level of public engagement is simple: The net neutrality debate is fundamentally about how we want the Internet to operate. Millions of Americans have made their voices heard because they want an open and free Internet that works for everyone, not simply those with deep pockets. I could not agree more.

An Internet that is split into the haves and have-nots is unacceptable.

That is why the FCC should enact clear and enforceable rules to prevent “paid prioritization” agreements that would allow some content providers to outbid smaller competitors to gain fast-lane service to customers online. At the same time, the country’s leading broadband providers should unequivocally commit that they will not engage in this type of detrimental deal. We need meaningful pledges from our Nation’s broadband providers that they share the American public’s commitment to an Internet that remains open and equally accessible to all.

In October, I wrote to the major Internet service providers, ISPs—Comcast, Time Warner Cable, Charter, Verizon, and AT&T—asking them to make exactly that commitment. They all maintained that they do not currently plan to engage in paid prioritization—an assertion I welcome. What they did not do was answer my call for a firm commitment that they will never engage in that behavior in the absence of clear rules prohibiting such deals.

This is disappointing. As Comcast noted in its letter, voluntary commitments from individual companies would not serve as a substitute for rules applicable to all broadband providers. Such pledges would, however, send a strong signal to the American people that broadband providers share their commitment to an open and equal Internet. It is unfortunate that these companies were unwilling to make that commitment—presumably because they know that if fast lanes are allowed in the future, market forces may drive them and other ISPs to consider such deals to maximize profits at the expense of competition online. This “race to the bottom” scenario is exactly why we need clear rules in place prohibiting such agreements. I appreciate that Comcast went further than the other ISPs by expressing support for my legislation with Representative DORIS MATSUI of California, which would require the FCC to ban paid prioritization agreements so that all ISPs are subject to such a rule.

The concern over a pay-to-play Internet that advantages the largest corporations over smaller players is very real. I was disappointed that some Internet service providers in their responses brushed aside these concerns dismissively. It is not “demagoguery,” as Verizon suggested in its response, when small business owners like Cabot Orton of the Vermont Country Store say that they simply want to see an Internet that continues to treat all businesses equally. It is not a “phantasm” when independent content creators like actress Ruth Livier acknowledge that they would not have been able to start their Web sites if they had to pay for priority access to reach viewers online or compete against players who did. These are real con-

cerns, shared by millions of Americans. Their voices should not be casually and callously dismissed because they cannot afford to pay lobbyists to advocate on their behalf at the FCC.

The FCC is continuing its important work to craft new open Internet rules. For months, I have been clear that I will not support any rules that do not ban Internet fast lanes. I have spent much of this year listening to Vermonters and others to hear firsthand about how a pay-to-play world would harm the Internet ecosystem.

The responses to my letter highlight one element that unites all of those involved in the net neutrality debate—the need for certainty. Broadband providers understandably want to know the rules by which their actions will be governed, and consumers want certainty that their Internet service will continue to provide them unfettered access to lawful content online. Recently, some broadband providers like AT&T have threatened to stop investing in further innovation and deployment of broadband in the name of uncertainty. Of course, they could decide to provide certainty on issues like paid prioritization at any time regardless of the FCC’s actions by making the pledge to consumers I have called on them to make.

I will continue my call for broadband providers to listen to their customers and pledge to never engage in paid prioritization. While they did not do so in response to my letters, it is never too late for them to make that commitment to the American people.

#### TRIBUTE TO JIM FRANSEN

Mr. LEAHY. Madam President, there is no shortage of attorneys here in Washington, DC, but some of the most talented lawyers work in the Office of Legislative Counsel here in the Senate. Drafting legislation is often a complicated exercise. It takes years under the mentorship and tutelage of others to grasp the difficult process of drafting complicated bills. At the end of this Congress, after nearly 40 years of service, legislative counsel Jim Fransen will retire. His family’s gain will be the Senate’s loss.

Jim first joined the Office of Legislative Counsel in 1975—the same year Vermonters elected me to the Senate. He served as an assistant counsel and a senior counsel, rising to become the finance and tax team leader. For the last 15 years, he has served as legislative counsel. He is the second longest serving legislative counsel, and his career has seen many accomplishments.

Jim has been one of the key drafters of Federal tax legislation since joining the office in 1975. He has had a hand in drafting such monumental bills as the Tax Reform Acts of 1976 and 1986, the Economic Recovery Act of 1981, the American Jobs Creation Act of 2004,

and the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. He helped to draft the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 and the Energy Policy Act of 2005, and he was a key drafter of the most sweeping health reform legislation in generations, the Affordable Care Act.

Through Republican and Democratic administrations, Republican and Democratic Senate majorities, Jim has been a true public servant. I know in his retirement, he will enjoy spending time with his family: his wife Margaret, his three daughters and his two grandsons. Wherever his retirement travels may take him, Marcelle and I wish him the best.

#### TRIBUTE TO BRIAN SEARLES

Mr. LEAHY. Madam President, one of Vermont’s most dedicated public employees, Brian Searles, is retiring after 45 years of service to both State and local government. As a police chief, city manager, airport director, and two tenures as the Vermont secretary of transportation, Brian is a model of commitment both to his work and to his State.

For the past 4 years Brian and his team at the Vermont Agency of Transportation have overseen vast improvements in the State’s infrastructure. In 2008 nearly 20 percent of Vermont’s bridges were structurally deficient. By 2013 that number was reduced to just 8 percent. Additionally, in 2008, 36 percent of Vermont’s pavement was rated in “very poor” condition, but through his work and the support of Governor Shumlin, Brian and his team were able to improve that number to 21 percent. Brian has also remained committed to supporting Vermont’s rail infrastructure, spending the time necessary to apply for and win Federal grants. This necessary funding allowed Vermont to realize the final stages of completing the Western Rail Corridor project designed to connect Rutland to Burlington, as well as upgrade track to complete high speed rail service between Saint Albans and Montreal. The success of these projects could not have happened without Brian’s leadership.

Brian and I have tackled many projects together, always working to accomplish big goals for Vermont’s transportation and infrastructure needs. In August of 2011, Tropical Storm Irene hit the State, wiping out 500 miles of roadway and forcing 33 bridges to close in Vermont’s worst natural disaster in recent history. Brian helped to bring our rural devastation to a national stage by testifying before the Senate’s Committee on Environment and Public Works and then led his team to successful rebuilding efforts. For this, Vermonters will always be grateful.

About a year ago, Brian approached Governor Shumlin with a resignation letter in his pocket. Looking at the

wealth of knowledge and historic improvements in the agency's work during Brian's tenure, the Governor prevailed upon him to remain at the helm until the end of the Governor's second term. Brian accepted the call, finished the year, and is now leaving the Vermont Agency of Transportation as a well-respected arm of Vermont's State government.

Marcelle and I join all Vermonters in thanking Brian for his years of service to the State and wish him and his family the very best as they begin a new chapter of their lives.

#### RECOGNIZING MARY POWELL

Mr. LEAHY. Madam President, Vermont is a national leader in sustainable energy. Green Mountain Power, with its CEO and President Mary Powell at the helm, is the perfect example of the progress our State has made and should serve as an example for the rest of the Nation.

Mary was recently named the 2014 Power-Gen Woman of the Year. Mary is a leader and trailblazer in the power industry. She took the reins of Green Mountain Power, GMP, in 2008 and has transformed it into Vermont's "energy company of the future." Mary is truly committed to the idea that energy can spur socioeconomic change for Vermonters and strives to help people save money and move toward more renewable sources. Under her leadership, GMP has launched successful initiatives to improve the company's quality of service, through providing low carbon, low cost, and reliable power to Vermonters.

Recently, Mary led Green Mountain Power in becoming the first utility in the world to receive B corporation certification. B corporations use the power of business to solve social and environmental problems. Mary wants Green Mountain Power to not only be the best utility in the world but the best for the world.

Mary is among the very few women who have achieved this level of success in the utility industry. I am grateful for the work she has done for the State of Vermont. She is redefining success in the energy industry, and I congratulate her on receiving the 2014 Power-Gen Woman of the Year Award.

I ask unanimous consent that the Burlington Free Press article "Mary Powell Named Woman of the Year" recognizing Mary for her achievements be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Burlington Free Press, Dec. 10, 2014]

MARY POWELL NAMED WOMAN OF THE YEAR  
POWER GENERATION INDUSTRY GROUP CITES  
HER ADVANCEMENTS, OUTREACH

The leader of Vermont's largest utility was named woman of the year at her industry's largest trade show this week.

Mary Powell, president and CEO of Green Mountain Power in Colchester, was named Power-Gen 2014 Woman of the Year. Powell was selected because of how she has advanced the power generation industry and for her community involvement.

Powell received the award at the 2014 Power-Gen Woman of the Year Awards Dinner Monday in Florida as part of Power-Gen International, the largest trade show in the world for the power generation industry. She is scheduled to give the keynote address today during the Women in Power Luncheon.

In a statement, Powell called the award an "incredible honor."

"Energy can be transformational in moving customers and society to a more secure and environmentally sound future, and we are determined to lead the way," Powell said. "GMP is partnering with customers to accelerate the pace of change as Vermont's energy company of the future."

Jennifer Runyon, chairwoman of the Women in Power Committee, called Powell a "trailblazer."

"We hope that our award will inspire young women to not only consider careers in the power industry, but also show them that dedication and hard work can lead to brilliant results," Runyon said in a statement.

David Crane, president and CEO of NRG, a large utility with headquarters in Princeton, New Jersey, and Houston, said in a statement that Powell "starts with the heretical notion of giving the modern-day energy consumer what they want—which is affordable, convenient, clean and storm-resistant energy—and then uses her native intelligence, charm and drive to make sure it happens."

GMP said it is collaborating with NRG to make Vermont a "leader" in sustainable energy. Beginning early next year, the partnership will bring "innovative, cost-effective clean energy products and services to Vermont," according to a statement from the Vermont utility.

#### TRIBUTE TO GEORGE MARCUS

Mr. REID. Madam President, I rise today to honor the work of my friend George M. Marcus, an accomplished businessman and philanthropist.

Born in Euboea, Greece, George Marcus and his family immigrated to the San Francisco Bay area in 1945. George was raised in California and attended college at San Francisco State University. After graduating with an economics degree in 1965, George began working in real estate. Always with an emphasis on client satisfaction, analysis, and evaluation, he founded Marcus & Millichap Real Estate Investment Services in 1971. His business acumen and willingness to innovate have spawned a variety of subsidiaries that have expanded his company to include 35 states.

George's successes are not limited to the real estate industry. A noted entrepreneur, Mr. Marcus has been called "a modern day Midas with an uncanny ability to create successful companies" by one news outlet. Indeed, his ventures range from SummerHill Homes, a bay area homebuilder, to a partnership in two enormously popular Greek restaurants: Evvia Estiatorio in Palo Alto and Kokkari Estiatorio in downtown San Francisco.

Mr. Marcus' legacy extends far beyond shareholders and profits into the heart of his own community. He has served on the California State Universities Foundation Board of Governors and the Board of Regents of the University of California. On the board he worked to preserve the financial viability of higher education for residents. He has also supported San Francisco's de Young Museum since its foundation and established San Francisco State University's International Center for the Arts.

Remembering his heritage, George has contributed generously to the Greek-American community and its institutions. In 2008, he was instrumental in organizing the National Hellenic Society to provide resources to promote Hellenic ideals. For his numerous services, he has been awarded the AXION Award, the Ellis Island Medal of Honor, the Elios Cultural Achievement Award, the Patriarch Athenagoras I Humanities Award, and the Aristeio Award of the American Hellenic Council of California.

This past month George was honored by the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of San Francisco with the Theofanis Economidis Award for his work on behalf of the Greek Orthodox Church in the United States. I congratulate George on this much-deserved recognition.

But for all of the awards and accolades from the private and public sectors, George Marcus' greatest accomplishment is his family. George and his wife Judy are the proud parents of four children—Mary Jane, John, Demetra, and Alexandria.

In 2011, George gave the commencement address at San Francisco State University. In his remarks he quoted Aristotle, urging the graduates to remember that "excellence is a habit. . . . For your success in whatever you pursue, you must take to heart and be the best you can . . . and don't forget to give back." George Marcus has made excellence his habit at home, in his community and in the corporate world. He has achieved unparalleled success in nearly every walk of life. Yet he has never forgotten to give back. He has never stopped being the best he can.

Today, I, along with the Senate, congratulate him on his well-deserved award from the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of San Francisco, but more importantly, we thank George Marcus for all he has done for the people of this nation.

On a personal note, George Marcus has been my friend for three decades. It is a friendship I will always cherish.

#### REGARDING THE EXCISE TAX LEVIED ON LIQUEFIED NATURAL GAS

Mr. BENNET. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to engage in a colloquy with my colleagues.



The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. BENNET. Madam President, I rise to discuss an amendment regarding natural gas that was adopted earlier this year by the Senate Finance Committee and was included in the Senate-passed highway bill. I wish it were included in one of the year-end measures this body is passing in the next few days. This is a bipartisan proposal that passed the Senate overwhelmingly and deserves to be enacted before we conclude this Congress.

The measure—a bill we worked on with Senator BURR from North Carolina—would equalize the tax treatment of liquefied natural gas, LNG, and diesel fuel. The federal highway excise tax on both diesel and LNG is set at 24.3 cents per gallon. However, because LNG contains less energy per gallon than diesel fuel, on an energy equivalent basis, LNG effectively pays 170 percent of the diesel tax rate. The current highway excise tax treatment of LNG is a disincentive to investment in new LNG trucks and fueling stations, and should be corrected to encourage capital investments and help diversify transportation fuel choices.

LNG is a transportation fuel used for large trucks and some marine and rail vessels. The fuel has attracted the attention of fleet operators due to its low cost at the pump and reduced environmental impact. LNG produces significantly lower levels of toxic emissions than diesel fuel, including lower levels of carbon dioxide, nitrogen oxide and sulfur dioxide. Using LNG instead of diesel fuel also reduces pollution from so-called “black carbon,” also known as soot. Black carbon is a major contributor to climate change, second only to carbon dioxide in the amount of heat it traps in the atmosphere once emitted.

This amendment would change the highway excise tax and the Inland Waterways Financing rate on LNG so that the tax is imposed on the energy content of a diesel gallon, known as a diesel gallon equivalent, rather than strictly on a per-gallon basis. LNG has huge potential as a cheaper, cleaner, domestic energy source and we need to ensure our tax system is not putting it at a disadvantage.

Mr. BURR. Madam President, I rise as a cosponsor of the amendment from the Senator from Colorado. This amendment would correct a mistake and level the transportation fuel tax playing field by taxing LNG on an energy equivalent basis rather than a volumetric basis.

It would also put this cleaner and cheaper source of energy on an even playing field with diesel fuel. It would help a new industry get off the ground and become commercially viable simply by leveling the playing field.

When Congress first established the transportation fuel tax on LNG, it was

not yet a fuel that had entered the commercial marketplace. There were no LNG trucks on the road. There was no one to educate us on the technical or marketing differences of these two fuels. Now that the LNG market is emerging, however, this unfortunate drafting error has shown its real world consequences.

The current tax system can result in thousands of dollars of additional tax for those who choose to utilize LNG. For example, if a diesel truck travels 100,000 miles at 5 miles per gallon it consumes 20,000 gallons of diesel fuel, however, an identical LNG truck would require 34,000 gallons of LNG to travel the same distance. Both trucks would consume the same amount of energy, measured in BTUs, but the current tax system would result in the LNG truck paying an additional \$3,402 in taxes because of the 14,000 more gallons of liquid fuel consumed.

In addition, although we do not yet have any marine vessels operating in the U.S. on LNG, this too is an emerging market with great potential. High horsepower manufacturers are still developing the engines that will be needed to power vessels on LNG and we do not yet have a marine fuel sales infrastructure, but some ship owners are planning ship conversions or new orders that will allow them to utilize cleaner and cheaper natural gas fuel. We should not be raising a new obstacle for the marine industry by perpetuating this differential tax treatment on marine diesel fuel. Furthermore, there should be no scoring penalty from CBO or Joint Tax when we eventually get around to fixing the tax treatment of LNG versus diesel.

This is a commonsense proposal that allows diesel fuel and LNG to compete in the market fairly, opening doors for companies interested in switching to this environmentally friendly domestic energy source. We really need to find a way to fix this issue so that we can realize the economic and environmental benefits of the increased use of domestic natural gas.

Mr. WYDEN. Madam President, I support the amendment from the Senators from Colorado and North Carolina and I especially want to thank Senator BENNET for his leadership on this issue. I was proud to help them by including it in the highway legislation mentioned by the Senator from Colorado and I regret that the measure is not included in any of the bills we are considering as we wind down this Congress. I would like to commit to working with my colleagues to find an appropriate vehicle for moving this proposal early next year.

Mr. HATCH. Madam President, I was a cosponsor of this amendment to the highway bill in the Finance Committee and understand the importance of equalizing the tax rate between LNG and propane and diesel fuel. Unfortu-

nately, we cannot add this amendment that I support to this time-sensitive legislation. Senator BURR and Senator BENNET, I hope to find an opportunity to include this important provision regarding LNG and propane in legislation next year. This inequitable treatment of LNG and propane deserves a better fate than what exists under current law. I especially want to thank Senator BURR for his tireless efforts on this issue.

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#### SUPPORT OF DIVISION M OF THE CONSOLIDATED AND FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015, THE EXPATRIATE HEALTH COVERAGE CLARIFICATION ACT

Mr. CARPER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to engage in a colloquy with my colleague, Senator COONS.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. CARPER. Madam President, along with my colleague Senator COONS, I rise today in support of Division M of the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2015, the Expatriate Health Coverage Clarification Act. I would also like to clarify the intent of this bipartisan and technical bill, which was necessary to clearly explain how the Affordable Care Act, ACA, should apply to U.S.-issued expatriate health insurance plans and to ensure that U.S. health insurers who provide expatriate health insurance plans encounter the same legal requirements and expectations as foreign expatriate health insurers.

Expatriate health insurance plans are high-quality and comprehensive health insurance plans intended for a globally mobile, highly skilled and sought-after workforce. Expatriate workers can be found in diverse industries and sectors, including corporations such as airlines and oil and gas exploration companies, nonprofit organizations, foreign aid groups, and contractors in conflict zones supporting or protecting U.S. troops and citizens. Expatriate workers often travel between multiple countries several times within 1 year or live in foreign countries for prolonged periods of time. These expatriate workers and their families typically require and depend on comprehensive health care services and other supporting services in multiple countries in the course of one year. U.S.-issued expatriate plans cover fewer than 500,000 individuals, which primarily include Americans working overseas.

My understanding and intent is that the Expatriate Health Coverage Clarification Act should make only limited and technical modifications to the ACA that apply to U.S. health insurers providing health insurance coverage to “qualified expatriates” as defined by

this legislation. These modifications are necessary to ensure that U.S. insurance companies offering expatriate health plans can remain competitive in the global marketplace for these plans, alongside foreign insurers who are not subject to the same ACA requirements. This legislation should not affect current labor or immigration laws or regulations. I have worked hand-in-hand with Senators COONS, TOOMEY, RUBIO, HARKIN, WYDEN, ALEXANDER, HATCH, and a bipartisan group of our House colleagues to ensure that the Expatriate Health Coverage Clarification Act is narrowly written to respect, and leave undisturbed, our existing immigration laws and regulations.

Mr. COONS. Madam President, as Senator CARPER noted, the Expatriate Health Coverage Clarification Act should not reduce the Affordable Care Act's health insurance coverage protections based on U.S. workers' immigration status, including those employed with nonimmigrant work visas. We intend that the definition of "qualified expatriate" be closely adhered to in the implementation of this legislation by the administration, the health insurance companies that seek to offer expatriate health plans, and the employers who utilize these plans on behalf of their workers who are transferred or assigned both within or outside the United States.

It is my expectation that expatriate health plan enrollment should remain relatively constant, accounting for the normal ebbs and flows of the demand of and supply for expatriate workers. The provisions of this bill apply to the two Federal laws that it seeks to modify—the Affordable Care Act and the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act. It is not Congress's intent to affect other Federal law. As Senator CARPER stated, the legislation would not change existing immigration law or regulations—including those that govern benefit equivalency between nonimmigrant visa holders and their U.S. counterparts. It is also not Congress's intent to impact or diminish in any way an employee's rights under title VII of the Civil Rights Act or any other antidiscrimination protections or to preempt any relevant State law governing employees' rights.

The Expatriate Health Coverage Clarification Act is a bipartisan, technical clarification of health insurance law, intended to place U.S. expatriate health insurers on equal footing with their foreign counterparts. We look forward to the passage of this bill and are grateful for the bipartisan coalition that has worked so constructively to find a path forward on this issue.

#### STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF DIVISION M OF THE CONSOLIDATED AND FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015, THE EXPATRIATE HEALTH COVERAGE CLARIFICATION ACT

Mr. WYDEN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that a statement in support of Division M of the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2015, the Expatriate Health Coverage Clarification Act be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

#### STATEMENT OF SENATORS WYDEN, HATCH, HARKIN, ALEXANDER, SESSIONS, CARPER, TOOMEY, COONS, AND RUBIO IN SUPPORT OF DIVISION M OF THE CONSOLIDATED AND FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015, THE EXPATRIATE HEALTH COVERAGE CLARIFICATION ACT

The undersigned submit the following Statement for the Record in support of Division M of the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2015, the Expatriate Health Coverage Clarification Act, as amended by Senators Carper, Toomey, Coons, and Rubio.

The Expatriate Health Coverage Clarification Act is a bipartisan, technical clarification of health insurance law, intended to place U.S. expatriate health insurers on equal footing with their foreign counterparts. We look forward to the passage of Division M and are grateful for the bipartisan coalition that has worked so constructively to find a path forward.

The purpose of this bipartisan and technical bill is to ensure that U.S. health insurers who provide expatriate health insurance plans encounter the same legal requirements and expectations as foreign expatriate health insurers. Further, it is important to clarify that the intent of the language regarding the application of section 4980I of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to "qualified expatriates" who are "assigned" to work in the United States means that, notwithstanding other provisions in the Expatriate Health Coverage Clarification Act, the excise tax continues to apply in the case of highly skilled qualified expatriates, as defined by this legislation, who are newly assigned to work within the United States in a specialty occupation and should not apply with respect to qualified expatriates working in the United States with L, E, O, and R visa classifications. Furthermore, this legislation is not intended to expand the universe of eligible employer-sponsored coverage to which section 4980I applies.

The Department of the Treasury will be drafting regulations to implement the portions of Expatriate Health Coverage Clarification Act that fall within its responsibility. It is important to highlight the definition of "qualified expatriates" who are "assigned" to work in the United States because it is the intent of Congress that the Treasury regulation relating to Expatriate Health Coverage Clarification Act, and code section 4980I, in particular be promulgated and implemented in a timely and workable manner.

#### NOMINATION OF DR. VIVEK MURTHY

Ms. MIKULSKI. Madam President, I urge the Senate to schedule an immediate vote on the nomination of Dr. Vivek Murthy to serve as the next Surgeon General of the United States. One year ago, President Obama nominated Dr. Murthy to serve as our next Surgeon General. Ten months ago, Dr. Murthy's nomination was approved by the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, HELP, Committee. Since then, his nomination has stalled. I, along with many of my colleagues, have written to Senate leadership, requesting an immediate floor vote. Yet—here we are—still no vote.

The Surgeon General serves as "America's Doctor." He ensures Americans are receiving the very best scientific information available in order to improve their health and reduce risk of injury or illness. The Surgeon General also oversees the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps, a group of 7,000 men and women who are uniformed public health professionals working throughout the federal government to protect, promote, and advance our Nation's health. Finally, the Surgeon General is responsible for chairing the National Prevention Council.

The urgent need to have a Surgeon General in place and at-the-ready is never more evident than when we are confronted with a public health crisis, as we are now. Over the past many months, our global community has struggled to respond to the Ebola epidemic plaguing West Africa and threatening communities nationwide. The United States has been rightly focused on dealing with the epidemic at its epicenter in West Africa, protecting our ports of entry, and protecting America's public health. Yet, our response has been hindered because we do not have a confirmed U.S. Surgeon General in place.

Households across our nation were flooded with misinformation and confusion when Ebola was first diagnosed in the United States. If Dr. Murthy had been in place as Surgeon General, he would have been responsible for increasing public understanding about Ebola; providing accurate, important, and timely medical information; and helping to ease fears. As "America's Doctor" he would have provided an additional trusted voice that could have communicated with the public and helped address their concerns. Instead, "America's Doctor" was sitting on the sidelines awaiting a Senate vote on his nomination.

Like so many of us, Dr. Murthy is the son of immigrant parents. He completed his early education in Miami, FL, and attended college at Harvard University where he received a bachelor's degree in biochemical sciences. He went on to receive an MD from the



Yale School of Medicine and an MBA in Health Care Management from the Yale School of Management. He completed his residency in Internal Medicine at Brigham and Women's Hospital.

As a physician at Brigham and Women's Hospital, Dr. Murthy has cared for patients with a range of illnesses from diabetes and cardiovascular disease to cancer and infections. As a researcher, he has worked on vaccine development and he has studied the inclusion of women and minorities in clinical trials. As a teacher at Harvard Medical School, he knows what issues face our next generation of doctors. As a public health educator, Dr. Murthy created HIV/AIDS education programs for thousands of young people through an organization he cofounded. He built a rural community health partnership in India to train young women to be health care educators and leaders. As an organizational leader, Dr. Murthy cofounded a national medical organization, Doctors for America, to improve communication between physicians, patients, and policy makers. Finally, as a leader in prevention, he served on the Advisory Group to the National Prevention Council and helped develop the nation's first National Prevention Strategy. I think it is pretty clear that Dr. Murthy has the background and the boots on the ground expertise to serve as our Nation's 19th Surgeon General.

Doubts about his ability to serve as Surgeon General are not the problem holding up his nomination. I fear that policy matters outside the scope of this position are actually to blame. I hope that my colleagues do not let public policy debates unrelated to the position in which he would serve stall his nomination any longer.

Dr. Murthy's nomination has received widespread support from local, State, and national public health organizations including the American Academy of Pediatrics, American Cancer Society, American Diabetes Association, American Heart Association, and American Public Health Association.

It is time to confirm Dr. Murthy as our Nation's 19th Surgeon General. It is time to take "America's Doctor" off the sidelines and put him into the game. Thank you.

#### ENACTMENT OF THE HARRIET TUBMAN NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARKS ACT

Mr. CARDIN. Madam President, I wish to celebrate the long awaited enactment of the Harriet Tubman National Historical Parks Act, a bill to establish the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad National Historical Park on the Eastern Shore of Maryland and the Harriet Tubman National Historical Park in Auburn, NY. This is an effort that I have worked closely with Senators MIKULSKI, SCHUMER and

GILLIBRAND as well as Secretary Clinton, when she represented New York in this body, and mark the culmination of the legislative work on this effort started by my predecessor, Senator Sarbanes when he passed legislation commissioning the National Service to conduct a Special Resource Study on Harriet Tubman. We all share a deep appreciation for how important establishing these parks is to preserving the legacy of this remarkable historical figure in American History but also to how important these parks will be to the communities where they will be located.

In my career, I have spoken on the Senate Floor, at events in Maryland, in meetings with constituents and with my colleagues about Harriet Tubman's legacy. While I hope each opportunity I have taken to discuss the life of this remarkable woman helps raise awareness about her importance to the history of our great nation, my ultimate goal has always been to properly commemorate her life and her work by establishing the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad National Historical Park on the Eastern Shore of Maryland and, to establish the Harriet Tubman National Historical Park in Auburn, NY.

For the last 7 years I have championed the legislation that was enacted today as part of the National Defense Authorization Act.

I also greatly appreciate the support this legislation received in the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee and the Senate as a whole. In both this Congress and the 112 Congress, the Harriet Tubman National Historical Parks Act was reported out of committee with bipartisan support including the support of Chairwoman LANDRIEU and Ranking Member MURKOWSKI. I am incredibly grateful for the work of the Chair and Ranking Member, and their staffs, to maintain progress on the bill which has led to its passage today.

The establishment of the Harriet Tubman Historical Parks has been years in the making and is long overdue. The mission of the National Park Service has evolved over time from not only preserving natural wonders across the U.S. for recreational purposes but also commemorating unique places of significance to historical events and extraordinary Americans that have shaped our nation.

The woman, who is known to us as Harriet Tubman, was born in approximately 1822 in Dorchester County, MD, and given the name Araminta, Minty, Ross. She spent nearly 30 years of her life in slavery on Maryland's Eastern Shore. She worked on a number of different plantations on Maryland's Eastern Shore and as a teenager was trained to be a seamstress. As an adult she took the first name Harriet, and when she was 25 years-old married John Tubman.

In her late twenties, Harriet Tubman escaped from slavery in 1849. She fled in the dead of night, navigating the maze of tidal streams and wetlands that, to this day, comprise the Eastern Shore's landscape. She did so alone, demonstrating courage, strength and fortitude that became her hallmarks. Not satisfied with attaining her own freedom, she returned repeatedly for more than 10 years to the places of her enslavement in Dorchester and Caroline counties where, under the most adverse conditions, she led away many family members and other slaves to freedom in the Northeastern United States. She helped develop a complex network of safe houses and recruited abolitionist sympathizers residing along secret routes connecting the Southern slave states and Northern Free States. No one knows exactly how many people she led to freedom or the number of trips between the North and South she led, but the legend of her work was an inspiration to the multitude of slaves seeking freedom and to abolitionists fighting to end slavery. Tubman became known as "the Moses of her people" by African-Americans and white abolitionists alike. Tubman once proudly told Frederick Douglass that in all of her journeys she "never lost a single passenger." She was so effective that in 1856 there was a \$40,000 reward offered for her capture in the South. She is the most famous and most important conductor of the network of resistance known as the Underground Railroad.

During the Civil War, Tubman served the Union forces as a spy, a scout and a nurse. She served in Virginia, Florida, and South Carolina. She is credited with leading slaves from those slave states to freedom during those years as well.

Following the Civil War, and the emancipation of all black slaves, Tubman settled in Auburn, NY. There she was active in the women's suffrage movement, and she also established one of the first incorporated African-American homes for aged to care for the elderly. In 1903 she bequeathed the Tubman Home to the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church in Auburn where it stands to this day. Harriet Tubman died in Auburn in 1913 and she is buried in the Fort Hill Cemetery. Fortunately many of the structures and landmarks in New York remain intact and in relatively good condition.

Only recently has the Park Service begun establishing units dedicated to the lives of African-Americans. Places like Booker T. Washington National Monument on the campus of the Tuskegee University in Alabama, the George Washington Carver National Monument in Missouri, The Buffalo Soldiers at Guadalupe Mountains National Park, the National Historical Trail commemorating the March for Voting Rights from Selma to Montgomery Alabama, and most recently

the Martin Luther King Jr. memorial on the National Mall are all important monuments and places of historical significance that help tell the story of the African-American experience.

As the National Park Service continues its important work to recognize and preserve African-American history by providing greater public access and information about the places and people that have shaped the African-American experience, there are very few units dedicated to the lives of African-American women, and there are no National Historical Parks commemorating African-American women.

I cannot think of a more fitting hero than Harriet Tubman to be the first African-American woman to be memorialized with National Historical Parks that tell both her personal story and her lifelong fight for justice and freedom starting with her fight against the cruel institution of slavery and work of the Underground Railroad she led to her work in the women's suffrage movement.

I am grateful for the support of my colleagues. These parks will hopefully pave the way for the Park Service to develop more National Historical Parks commemorating the lives of many other important African-American women in our history.

The vision for the Tubman National Historical Parks is to preserve the places significant to the life of Harriet Tubman and tell her story through interpretative activities and continue to discover aspects of her life and the experience of passage along the Underground Railroad through archaeological research and discovery.

The buildings and structures in Maryland have mostly disappeared. Slaves were forced to live in primitive buildings even though many slaves were skilled tradesmen who constructed the substantial homes of their owners. Not surprisingly, few of the structures associated with the early years of Tubman's life remain standing today. The landscape of the Eastern Shore of Maryland, however, is still evocative of the time that Tubman lived there. Farm fields and loblolly pine forests dot the lowland landscape, which is also notable for its extensive network of tidal rivers and wetlands that Tubman, and the people she guided to freedom, under the cover of night. In particular, a number of properties including the homestead of Ben Ross, her father, Stewart's Canal, where he worked, the Brodess Farm, where she worked as a slave, and others are within the master plan boundaries of the Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge.

Similarly, Poplar Neck, the plantation from which she escaped to freedom, is still largely intact in Caroline County. The properties in Talbot County, immediately across the Choptank River from the plantation, are currently protected by various conserva-

tion easements. Were she alive today, Tubman would recognize much of the landscape that she knew intimately as she secretly led black men, women and children to freedom.

There has never been any doubt that Tubman led an extraordinary life. Her contributions to American history are surpassed by few. Determining the most appropriate way to recognize that life and her contributions, however, has been exceedingly difficult. The National Park Service determined that designating a Historical Park that would include two geographically separate units would be an appropriate tribute to the life of this extraordinary American. The New York unit would include the tightly clustered Tubman buildings in the town of Auburn. The Maryland portion would include large sections of landscapes that are evocative of Tubman's time and are historically relevant.

Harriet Tubman was a true American patriot. She was someone for whom liberty and freedom were not just concepts but values she fought tirelessly for. She lived those principles and so selflessly helped others attain freedom. In doing so, she has earned a Nation's respect and honor.

Harriet Tubman is one of many great Americans that we honor and celebrate every February during Black History Month. In schools across the country, American History curriculums teach our children about Tubman's courage, conviction, her fight for freedom and her contributions to the greatness of our Nation during a contentious time in U.S. history. Now it is time to add to Tubman's legacy by preserving and commemorating the places evocative of Harriet Tubman's extraordinary life.

Every year, millions of school children, as well as millions of adults, visit our National Historical Parks gain the experience and knowledge about our Nation's history that simply cannot be found in history books or on the Internet. Our Nation's strength and character comes from the actions of the Americans who came before us and the significant events that shaped our Nation. The National Park Service is engaged in the important work of preserving the places where American history was made and providing a tangible experience for current and future generations to experience and understand. It is one thing to learn about Harriet Tubman from a book, and it is yet a completely different and fulfilling experience to explore, see, listen to and feel the places where she worked as a slave, where she escaped from and where she lived out her life as a free American.

The National Park Service is uniquely suited to honor and preserve these places of historical significance and I urge my colleagues to join me in preserving and growing the legacy of Harriet Tubman by establishing the Har-

riet Tubman National Historical Parks in her honor.

#### BROWNS CANYON NATIONAL MONUMENT BILL

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Madam President, I submit this statement for the RECORD to clarify several provisions in my Browns Canyon national monument and wilderness bill, S. 1794. I have asked President Obama to use this bill as the model for a designation of 22,000 acres of Browns Canyon as a national monument under the Antiquities Act because it contains many specific provisions that were developed in careful consultation with the community.

I introduced my bill over a year ago after 18 months of working side-by-side with Chaffee County residents and other stakeholders. I held public listening sessions, received thousands of written comments, and my staff and I conducted over 50 meetings. The resulting bill was emblematic of how public lands bills should be done: from the bottom up and based on what the community wants.

Browns Canyon is a unique natural resource. Hundreds of thousands of visitors come to Browns Canyon year after year to raft or kayak the canyon's exciting whitewater rapids or to fish the Gold Medal trout waters of the Arkansas River. But there is a lot more to this landscape than just the river. The rugged and remote lands to the east feature quiet canyons and rock formations, outstanding habitat for bighorn sheep and elk, and sweeping views of the Collegiate Peaks and Arkansas Valley.

Protecting Browns Canyon has a wide base of support, including more than 200 local businesses and sportsmen who welcome the area's Gold Medal trout waters and big game hunting opportunities. Both the town of Buena Vista and the city of Salida passed resolutions of support, and a majority of the Chaffee County commissioners support the proposal with its carefully crafted conditions. The Denver Post and local Salida Mountain Mail have editorialized in favor of an Executive action. Indeed, I hosted a public meeting in Salida last week-end—attended by senior State and Federal officials, including U.S. Senator MICHAEL BENNET, U.S. Forest Service Chief Tom Tidwell and Bureau of Land Management Deputy Director Steve Ellis—to gauge public support for protecting this nationally significant landmark. The more than 500 attendees at the standing-room-only meeting overwhelmingly endorsed the idea, noting how a national monument designation would boost the local economy, support Main Street businesses and help protect Colorado's special way of life.

The intent of my Browns Canyon national monument bill is to preserve

this special place just as it is now—for us and future generations. Therefore, I submit this statement to clarify the intent behind several key passages related to the role of the State of Colorado, water rights, and livestock grazing.

First, I want to recognize the model partnership between the Bureau of Land Management and the State of Colorado that has been in place since 1989 to manage the 148 miles of the Arkansas River corridor. This partnership is known as the Arkansas Headwaters Recreation Area, AHRA, and includes Browns Canyon. The intent is that the Browns Canyon National Monument will have no impact on this partnership. However, it is also the intent that the Federal agencies will closely consult with the State of Colorado on the development of a comprehensive management plan for the national monument, and that the State could be a cosignatory to the plan. The State of Colorado has interests beyond just the AHRA because it will manage the wildlife in the National Monument and has a stake in maintaining the economic viability of associated industries, such as outdoor recreation and agriculture.

Second, the intent is that the Browns Canyon National Monument shall not have any impact on the existing water rights of any party. It is also the intent that the national monument will not have any effect on how river flows are managed and administered, such as the current Voluntary Flow Management Program in place for the Arkansas River.

Finally, as I have stated previously before the National Parks Subcommittee, it is critical that local ranchers maintain flexibility to run livestock in the national monument and transfer their grazing allotments to future generations. To address this, I included legislative language that all existing laws continue to apply just as they did before the monument was designated. Colorado's farms and ranches are an important part of my State's economy and identity—and produce food and fiber for the world. In particular, cattlemen and women play a critical role in the economy, culture, and heritage of the Arkansas River Valley. Therefore, Browns Canyon National Monument must support that industry and educate visitors about its role.

Browns Canyon National Monument is an idea whose time has come, and I am proud to have led this most recent effort in a 20-year campaign to protect this spectacular and nationally significant resource.

#### FAREWELL TO THE SENATE

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Madam President, it is humbling to stand here to speak one final time with my colleagues as a United States Senator.

As a lifelong mountain climber, I have learned far more from the mountains I did not summit, than those I did. Every climb, I have found, offers a chance to look back and reflect, and standing here today gives me a unique opportunity to appreciate just how far we have come.

For the past 18 years, my most rewarding challenge has been exercising the power lent to me by the people of Colorado to fight on their behalf, first in the State House and then in the U.S. Congress. Throughout my career in public service—my 6 years in the U.S. Senate being but one chapter—I have always been guided by the rugged independence, strength and cooperative spirit that defines who we are as Coloradans and as Westerners.

That spirit helped me craft solutions to long-standing problems in my home State of Colorado. From my very first week in the U.S. Senate, I worked at resolving the decades-long impasse between southern Colorado ranchers and the U.S. Army, which uses the land surrounding Piñon Canyon to train soldiers for deployment into war zones. After 5 years of listening and lots of hard work, we reached a deal that protects the property rights of landowners while ensuring our troops are prepared to defend our Nation. It was a teamwork-oriented approach that reflected Colorado's best problem-solving traditions.

I have said for years that Coloradans pull together come hell or high water. Little did I know that this saying would prove itself to be true during my time in the U.S. Senate, from wildfires that left thousands homeless to a biblical flood in 2013 that swept over much of the Front Range. Despite the partisan Federal Government shutdown of 2013, we delivered more than \$770 million in emergency flood support and marshalled nearly \$2.5 billion in additional Federal assistance so that Colorado could rebuild better and stronger than before. This disaster relief work includes conservation easements and watershed protection funds to ward off future floods and a series of next-generation air tankers to help us fight fires for decades to come. This is in addition to the more immediate support needed to rebuild roads, bridges, and the infrastructure that our communities depend on.

Our uniquely Western perspective holds that compromise is not capitulation, and that we are stronger when every member of the community has a seat at the table—not just the privileged. This is a cause that my family has championed for generations and it is a creed that should continue to drive all Coloradans who answer the call to serve.

At this point in our politics, Americans are rightly impatient with the willful, partisan gridlock and dysfunction in Washington. Yet, in Colorado,

we know that by working together we have been able to keep our State moving forward and do our part to overcome Washington silliness for the good of the Nation.

But even as we keep our eyes on the horizon and the work we still have to do, it is also important that we protect our special way of life—and safeguard our land, water and air for future generations. I strongly believe that we do not inherit the earth from our parents—we borrow it from our children. That is why I have championed efforts to preserve our public lands and the special places and natural wonders that define Colorado. Those efforts include creating new wilderness areas around James Peak, ensuring that future generations can experience the beauty of the Great Sand Dunes and Chimney Rock, and turning Rocky Flats—a former nuclear weapons facility—into a wildlife refuge. I will continue working hard to protect Brown's Canyon, which I hope to see designated as a national monument in the days ahead.

Protecting these special places along with our clean air and water is just part of the larger fight to confront the challenges and opportunities posed by climate change. Colorado has long led the Nation's pursuit of a balanced, forward-thinking energy strategy. Much of the progress Colorado has made came after I fought alongside Republican Speaker of the Colorado House Lola Spradley in 2004 to pass our State's first renewable electricity standard. This was the Nation's first democratically-passed renewable energy policy, and one which has actually been strengthened and added to since it was created. Since then, Colorado's renewable electricity standard has increased from its start at 10 percent to the 30 percent it is today. It has become a model for the Nation in how to create good-paying clean energy jobs while fighting the causes of climate change.

I built on this effort in the U.S. Senate by successfully pushing to extend the Production Tax Credit for wind energy. This has been a years-long, bipartisan effort that I am proud to have led alongside Senator GRASSLEY from Iowa. From coming to the floor more than two-dozen times to explain the importance of wind State-by-State and to demand an extension in 2012, to fighting to extend the wind tax credit again this year, I have never given up on Colorado's thriving wind-energy industry and the more than 5,000 jobs it supports across the State. This is the sort of common-sense, bipartisan policy that helps hardworking American families today but is also part of implementing a clean energy future for generations to come.

As a Nation, over the past few years, we have persevered through difficult times to continue building toward a more perfect union. When our country

was faced with the possibility of another Great Depression, we took decisive action—avoiding financial collapse, supporting 6 straight years of job growth in private industry, and making smart investments in everything from repairing our crumbling roads to re-invigorating Denver's historic Union Station. That is something to be proud of. There's a lot more to be done—but it is important to pause and note the successful milestones we have already reached on the road to recovery.

Despite a flawed roll-out, the Nation's healthcare law has increased access to quality health coverage for more than 400,000 Coloradans, helped families lower expenses and plan their future with free contraceptive care, and kept costs down for the first time in decades. This is helping to keep families out of bankruptcy and making sure that all Americans—not just the wealthiest among us—receive the care they and their families deserve.

Thomas Jefferson once said that a true patriot loves her country not just for what it is . . . but for what it can be. I think a country where every family can rest easy knowing that they will never be left in the cold again when it comes to accessing health care is a cause worth fighting for, and I could not be more grateful to those who have fought alongside me to make that a reality. At the same time, we must also continue to monitor closely its implementation to ensure we identify and correct any unexpected and uneven impacts on Coloradans and Americans.

While protecting Americans from the abuses of an out-of-control healthcare system is an achievement we should all celebrate, I have been equally as passionate about upholding the Bill of Rights and protecting our freedom and right to equality. We still have a ways to go, but I am proud to have followed in the footsteps of so many great leaders, including many in my own family, who fought to make sure America lives up to the values enshrined in our Constitution.

Many of you may recall that my father, Mo, helped to integrate the University of Arizona, when it was beset by racial divisions. My grandfather, Levi, issued a famous court decision that recognized Native Americans' constitutionally protected right to vote in our elections. My uncle Stewart challenged discrimination in our Nation's capital when he confronted the Washington football team to demand they allow black athletes to play alongside white athletes. It has been these examples among so many others that inspired me to take action when I felt we were not living up to our constitutional ideals.

That includes leading the successful fight to repeal the military's discriminatory "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy that had so shamefully kept gay and

lesbian Americans from openly serving their country in the Armed Forces. It includes passing landmark hate crimes prevention legislation and a law to make it easier for women to fight wage discrimination.

While there is much work left to be done to protect our constitutional rights, I am proud to have led the effort to reconcile the enormous power of our Nation's intelligence agencies with the bedrock principles of our democracy. We have proven that the choice between ensuring our security and protecting our privacy is a false choice, and that we can keep faith with our Nation's founding principles while also safeguarding our communities. So when the CIA tortured people in the name of the Americans it was supposed to serve, we were strong enough as a Nation to admit our mistakes and commit to learning from this dark period in our Nation's history. That is why I led the fight on the Intelligence Committee to declassify the findings of our landmark report on the CIA's Detention and Interrogation Program, to make sure that future presidents and intelligence community leaders do not violate the principles that make America so exceptional.

These are all important accomplishments—but I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge that true leadership is a team sport. I have been fortunate to be surrounded by many people whose insights, counsel and contributions have made me a stronger and more effective advocate for Colorado. In particular, I want to point out that former Colorado U.S. Senator Gary Hart has been a key, trusted advisor and a dear friend throughout my 18 years of public service. I want to thank my Chief of Staff, Michael Sozan, who has guided my Senate office with a steady hand for the last 6 years . . . and my State Director, Jen Rokala, who I have had the pleasure of working with over the past 15 years as we served the people of Colorado. I also want to thank Joe Britton, my Deputy Chief of Staff; Jake Swanton, my Legislative Director; John Fossum, my administrative director; and Mike Saccone, my Communications Director, for ably guiding me and my office.

Even before coming to the Senate, I had the pleasure of working with many dedicated people who put everything on the line to better serve Colorado. I want to thank Alan Salazar, my former Chief of Staff, along with Laura Davis, Lisa Carpenter, Stan Sloss, Doug Young, Cookab Hashemi, and Tara Trujillo for their guidance, patience, and good humor. I also want to thank two staffers who have been with me from the start: Jennifer Barrett, one of my most trusted advisers, and Carter Ellison, my constituent services director. The list of talented and driven people who have worked with me over the years is too long to read but their com-

mitment to serving Colorado and our Nation fills me with awe. I will miss my team greatly.

It also has been my honor to serve as a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee for the last 6 years—and on the House Armed Services Committee before that. During that time, I had the privilege of working on behalf of the tremendous men and women who defend our Nation. I have witnessed their great courage, professionalism and commitment in performing dangerous missions in Iraq, Afghanistan, Djibouti and other places around the world. I have been humbled by the indomitable spirit of our wounded warriors recovering at Walter Reed, Bethesda and in Colorado. I have mourned our fallen. Their sacrifice, and the loss that is borne by their families and a grateful Nation, is never far from my mind. To all those who have served, and to all their loved ones, I offer my deepest thanks and my never ending gratitude.

When I first came to the U.S. Senate, I told my colleagues that we were not elected to solve Democratic or Republican problems, but to find uniquely American solutions to our toughest challenges. Just like mountain climbers who are all on the same rope, we know that we are all in this together—and that we are only truly successful when we all succeed together.

The great writer Wallace Stegner challenged us to build communities to match our scenery. In a narrow sense, that means that we should strive to make our society as beautiful and thriving as the natural landscape that surrounds us. But in a broader sense, it also means that our communities should bring out the best in us, and that we should never stop building on the uniquely independent yet cooperative spirit that makes Colorado great.

That is the spirit that has guided me throughout my time in public service, and it is the spirit that will continue to guide me as I find new ways to keep Colorado and our country moving forward.

It has been the greatest privilege of my life to be a United States Senator from Colorado and I will be forever grateful for having had the challenge and the opportunity to serve our great country.

#### TRIBUTES TO DEPARTING SENATORS

SAXBY CHAMBLISS

Mr. HATCH. Madam President, I rise today to honor my good friend Senator SAXBY CHAMBLISS on the occasion of his retirement. For 20 years, he has served his fellow Georgians in Congress with honor and distinction. He will be sorely missed.

A preacher's son, SAXBY was born in Warrenton, NC. He graduated from the University of Georgia and the University of Tennessee College of Law. As a

lawyer in south Georgia, he built a successful law practice representing the farmers that are the lifeblood of his state.

He put his expertise on farm issues to good use here in Congress and became a key player in negotiations for each of the farm bills considered during his tenure. And just 2 years after he was elected to the Senate, he assumed the chairmanship of the Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee, the fastest any new Senator has risen to chair a standing committee since 1947.

SAXBY and I served together for many years on the Select Committee on Intelligence, where I came to appreciate his wisdom, his sound judgment, and his unyielding commitment to keeping this nation safe. He has been an enormously effective vice chairman over the past 4 years. And even as his tenure here draws to a close, he has once again demonstrated his superb leadership in setting the record straight on the Intelligence Committee's investigation of the CIA's detention and interrogation program.

Above all else, SAXBY is a proud husband, father of two, and grandfather of six. I know that his lovely wife Julianne and the rest of his family are eager to spend more time together in the coming years.

Mr. President, SAXBY and the entire Chambliss family should know that his colleagues, his fellow Georgians, and his fellow Americans are truly grateful for SAXBY's service and his family's sacrifices. I wish them all the best.

TOM COBURN

Madam President, I also pay tribute to my friend TOM COBURN as he prepares to leave the Senate. For 10 years, TOM has served the people of Oklahoma as their junior Senator. He is a man of principle and fierce determination. He has shown himself willing time and again to stand up to special interests and to fight for what he believes in. He will be missed.

Senator COBURN was born in Casper, Wyoming, in 1948 and was raised in Muskogee, OK. His father Orin was a prominent optician and the founder of Coburn Optical Industries. TOM attended college at Oklahoma State University, where he graduated with a degree in accounting. From 1970 to 1978 he was a manufacturing manager at his family's company. After a bout with cancer, TOM returned to school to become a physician, graduating in 1983 from the University of Oklahoma Medical School. Following his residency, TOM moved back to Muskogee to practice family medicine and obstetrics. He has personally delivered more than 4,000 babies.

Senator COBURN began his career in public service in 1994, when he was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Oklahoma. He served in the House for 6 years, then went back to Muskogee to resume his medical prac-

tice. Three years later, in 2004, TOM was elected to the U.S. Senate to fill the seat being vacated by retiring Senator Don Nickles. Here in the Senate he has served with distinction on a number of important committees, including the Committee on Homeland Security and Government Affairs, of which he is the Ranking Member.

Since first arriving in Congress, Senator COBURN has been a strong proponent of fiscal restraint. His efforts to fight deficit spending, pork barrel projects, and earmarks earned him the nickname "Dr. No." I have always thought this nickname was a compliment to TOM. It shows he is willing to stand up against powerful interests in defense of his principles, and that he takes seriously the problems of unnecessary spending and long-term debt. Passing a balanced budget amendment has been a priority of mine for many years, and I have been glad to count TOM as a strong ally in that effort.

I have also been fortunate to work with Senator COBURN on a number of other issues during his time in the Senate. Earlier this year, TOM and I, along with Senator RICHARD BURR, introduced the Patient CARE Act, a market-based alternative to Obamacare. TOM and I have also worked together to fight waste and corruption at the Department of Health and Human Services and to reinvigorate the States' roles in meeting transportation, safety, and other needs.

Madam President, Senator COBURN is an honorable and steadfast man. He has served his country well. I wish him, his wife Carolyn, and their family the very best.

MIKE JOHANNIS

Madam President, as well I honor my colleague and friend MIKE JOHANNIS. For many years, Senator JOHANNIS has worked tirelessly for the people of Nebraska, first at the local level, then at the state level as Governor, and most recently as senior Senator from Nebraska. MIKE is a kind and thoughtful man, and I have been grateful to serve with him these past 6 years.

Senator JOHANNIS was born and raised in Osage, IA, where he grew up working on his family's farm. After high school, he attended Saint Mary's University of Minnesota and Creighton University School of Law. Following law school MIKE clerked on the Nebraska Supreme Court and then practiced law in Lincoln, NE, where he was a founding partner at the firm Nelson, Johanns, Morris, Holdeman, and Titus.

In 1983, Senator JOHANNIS was elected to the Lancaster County Board. Five years later he won election to the Lincoln City Council, and then, 3 years after that, became Mayor of Lincoln. MIKE followed his success in local politics with success in state politics. In 1998, he won his first term as Governor of Nebraska, and was reelected by a landslide 4 years later.

Senator JOHANNIS entered national politics in 2004 when President George W. Bush asked him to serve as Secretary of Agriculture. Four years later he won election to the U.S. Senate from Nebraska, where he has served with distinction ever since.

When he retires later this month, Senator JOHANNIS will have spent more than 25 years as a public servant. I commend him for his service to the state of Nebraska and to the people of this Nation.

Although his tenure in the Senate was brief, Senator JOHANNIS wasted no time. His previous experience as Secretary of Agriculture proved indispensable as a member of the Senate Committee on Agriculture. To this committee, he brought an expertise on farming issues unrivaled by other freshman senators. He also served actively on the Banking Committee and was a member of the Senate's Gang of Eight during budget negotiations in 2011. Throughout his service, Senator JOHANNIS always had the best interests of the Nation at heart.

Madam President, Senator JOHANNIS is a good man who has served his country well. His retirement is well deserved. I wish him, his wife Stephanie, and their children the best going forward.

JAY ROCKEFELLER

Madam President, in addition I pay tribute to my friend and colleague JAY ROCKEFELLER, who will soon retire from the Senate. I have known JAY for many years. He is a man of principle who has dedicated his life to serving the citizens of West Virginia. He is a serious legislator and an honorable man. I will miss him.

Senator ROCKEFELLER is a member of a prominent and distinguished American family. He is the great-grandson of John D. Rockefeller, the founder of Standard Oil. JAY was born in New York City and attended school at Phillips Exeter Academy and Harvard College, from which he earned an A.B. After college JAY worked for the Peace Corps and the Department of Far Eastern Affairs. He then went to work for the Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA) program, during which time he moved to West Virginia.

Senator ROCKEFELLER began his political career in 1966, when he was elected to the West Virginia House of Delegates. Two years he later became the West Virginia Secretary of State. After a brief stint as President of West Virginia Wesleyan College, JAY returned to public service in 1976, when he was elected Governor of West Virginia. Following two successful terms as Governor, he won election to the U.S. Senate in 1984, where he has served ever since.

Senator ROCKEFELLER has held a number of important positions in the Senate, including Chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence,

where I was privileged to serve with him. This is a crucially important committee that deals with some of the weightiest issues that come before Congress. JAY led the committee with equanimity and respect. His work helped keep our country safe.

Senator ROCKEFELLER has also been an active legislator. I was honored to work with him on the creation of the State Children's Health Insurance Program, or SCHIP, which has made health insurance available to millions of children. Other issues JAY and I have worked on together over the years include tax reform, stem cell research, and protecting the American flag. He and I did not always see eye to eye, but I always knew he did what he thought was right.

Mr. President, I am grateful to have been able to serve alongside Senator ROCKEFELLER these past 30 years. He's a man of deep conviction, and a man utterly devoted to the people of his home state of West Virginia. I wish the very best for him, his wife Sharon, and their family as they enter the next chapter of their lives.

MARK PRYOR

Madam President, I also honor my friend MARK PRYOR. For 12 years Senator PRYOR has served the people of Arkansas in this body. He is independent, open-minded, and hard-working. He will be missed.

Senator PRYOR comes from a distinguished Arkansas political family. His father, David Pryor, was Governor of and later Senator from Arkansas. MARK was born in Fayetteville, AR, and attended college at the University of Arkansas. He received a law degree from the University of Arkansas School of Law and then spent several years in private practice.

In 1991, Senator PRYOR was elected to the Arkansas House of Representatives. Eight years later he was elected Attorney General of Arkansas. In 2002, MARK won election to the U.S. Senate from Arkansas, winning the same seat his father once held.

In the Senate, MARK has distinguished himself through his independence and his willingness to reach across party lines. Although MARK and I have not always agreed, I have always known he has acted in what he firmly believes are the best interests of his State.

Senator PRYOR has served on a number of important committees during his time in the Senate, including the Appropriations Committee, the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. I have been fortunate to work with him on a number of important pieces of legislation, on topics ranging from medical care to homeland security to victim restitution. He has been a strong partner in these efforts, and I have been grateful to have him as an ally.

Senator PRYOR is a decent and thoughtful man. He has served his State honorably. I wish him and his family the very best.

JOHN WALSH

Madam President, finally I pay tribute to Senator JOHN WALSH. I have known JOHN for only a brief time, but I know that he is a good man who has served his country well.

Senator WALSH began his service to our country long before he came to the Senate. He joined the Montana National Guard right after high school—the start of an impressive military career. JOHN served 8 years as an enlisted U.S. Army soldier before he was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in 1987. As an officer, he distinguished himself and quickly rose through the ranks.

Senator WALSH led the 163rd Infantry Battalion in Iraq, commanding more than 700 Army National Guard soldiers in combat. He later received the Bronze Star and the Combat Infantryman's badge for his service. In 2008, Governor Brian Schweitzer appointed JOHN the Adjutant General of Montana's National Guard. As Adjutant General, JOHN oversaw the command of thousands of troops. These soldiers and their families looked to him for leadership and strength, and he always delivered.

Senator WALSH moved from military service to public office when he became Montana's Lieutenant Governor in 2013. Governor Steve Bullock appointed JOHN to fill former Senator Max Baucus's seat in February 2014, making JOHN the first Iraq War veteran to serve as a Senator.

Though his time here in the Senate was brief, Senator WALSH was an active member of the Committee on Rules and Administration; the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry; and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. He always treated me and our other colleagues with the utmost kindness and respect.

Senator WALSH is a good man who has dedicated his life to serving our country and keeping us safe. I wish him, his wife Janet, and their children the very best.

TOM COBURN

Mr. ENZI. Madam President, at the close of each session of Congress it is our tradition to take a moment to express our appreciation and say goodbye to those of our colleagues who will be retiring at the session's close. It is always a bittersweet moment to reflect on the important contributions our friends have made as they worked so hard to represent their States and our Nation.

Such an individual is TOM COBURN and that is just one of the reasons why we will miss him. TOM always has and always will be a strong voice for conservative values and principles. There are not many who can express their be-

liefs with the same kind of clarity and power he brings to the issues the Senate takes up for deliberations.

I will always believe that TOM has been so successful in his career as a political leader and a doctor because he began his life with one of the greatest of all advantages—he was born in Wyoming, in Casper. That was not all. He graduated from Oklahoma State University with a degree in accounting. As an accountant myself I was not surprised by that. His love of accounting, his fondness for numbers and details, and his Wyoming birth all help to explain his power of persuasion.

I am kidding about that but one thing that is true about his background is how his love of numbers and his understanding of budgets and accounting practices has helped him to understand the financial problems we currently face as a nation and the importance of taking action to address them before they get so far out of hand we will be jeopardizing the future of our children and our grandchildren.

That would have never happened on TOM's watch. Grandfathers are like that. With one eye on the bottom line and the other on the future of our Nation, TOM has developed an amazing knack for finding ways to cut waste and save money, time and effort. For TOM it is clear, if it is not worth doing at all, it is not worth doing well.

His insight and his immediate grasp of the essence of so many controversial and complicated issues has made him a great asset on the committees on which he has served. His willingness to get involved and lead on some pretty difficult issues has enabled him to make a difference that will be remembered around here for quite a while.

In our deliberations one of TOM's great weapons has been his mastery and understanding of the facts surrounding his positions on the issues we have taken up in committee and on the floor. He is an excellent speaker and when he talks we are all very attentive. The reason why is simple. If you agree with him you want to know what his views are so you will be able to strengthen your own arguments on the bill with some of his reflections and recommendations. If you disagree with him you will still want to hear him speak so you will know what the toughest arguments are you will be faced with during our deliberations.

No matter what side you are on, it is rare that anyone has ever questioned his facts. They may not like them—but you can not avoid acknowledging them.

In addition, as a father, a grandfather and a physician, TOM has been an outspoken advocate on health and medical issues. During his career he has worked to increase the access of seniors to the health care services they need. He has also been active in efforts to try to control health care costs and protect the right to life of the unborn.

He has such a strong kinship with the delegations of the West because TOM has a strong and heartfelt understanding of the challenges of our urban communities. I have often said one of our great battles here in Washington is to help our colleagues get a deeper understanding of the difference in life in the large eastern cities and the smaller rural communities of the West. It is a crucial difference that must be understood to get a better sense of what is needed to help both our rural and urban communities to grow and prosper.

In the next session I know we will miss him, his understanding of our conservative values and principles and his commitment to this generation and the next—and beyond. TOM knows that if future generations are to have it as good as we have we will all have to learn to get along with a little less.

Now TOM is closing that great chapter of his life that contains his service in the House and the Senate. It has not been easy. The House and Senate are very different places in which to work—and make progress but TOM has managed to do it—and he has the results to show for his efforts.

Thank you, TOM, for all you have done to make our Nation a better place to live. We are grateful for your service, for your vision for America and most of all, your commitment to the future of Oklahoma and our Nation. Please keep in touch with us. I am going to keep your number on speed dial in my office so I'll have it when one of those days comes along when I need a thoughtful word or two for a debate or a committee session. As the saying goes facts are tough and powerful things and when it comes to those issues in which he truly believes so is TOM COBURN.

TIM JOHNSON

Madam President, it is a tradition here in the Senate to take a moment before the end of each session of Congress to express our appreciation for the service of those Members who will be retiring at the end of the year. It is always a difficult time to lose some of our best and brightest. One fellow Senator I know we will all miss is TIM JOHNSON.

TIM has had quite a remarkable career and legacy of service to South Dakota of which he should be very proud. He came to the Senate to work for the people of his State and he did such a good job they kept sending him back. It is been a mutual admiration society—the people of South Dakota and TIM.

TIM followed a proven path of success for his service in Congress by first serving in the South Dakota State Legislature. He had a knack for getting things done there that it preceded him to serve in the House as South Dakota's at-large Representative. He quickly developed a reputation in the House as

someone who had an abundance of good ideas. As a freshman he had a list of bills he had dropped in that was longer than any other freshman in the House. It was clear to everyone that TIM was the kind of person who knew how to get results.

TIM and I were part of the same freshman class of the Senate. Over the years I have enjoyed having a chance to come to know him. He has proved to be a good friend, a great ally and someone who was willing to work with members on all sides to get things done for South Dakota and our Nation.

For me, it meant a great deal to have a Senator from a neighboring State who had an understanding of our agriculture industry. As I have often said, urban life is very different from rural life and it was good to have someone to work with whose background made those issues and the need for action clear to him.

That is one of the reasons why TIM has such a strong understanding of one of the key issues of the West—water. For many of us water is something that we take for granted. It is easy. You turn on the tap and you can have as much as you want.

Unfortunately, for our rural communities, it is not that easy. Water is a precious commodity—down to the last drop. In fact, just about everyone from the West has heard the old adage, “Whiskey is for drinking, Water is for fighting!”

It is a message that has stayed with TIM throughout his service in the House and the Senate. It has been a priority for him to ensure that good, clean water supplies are available to everyone in South Dakota and the West. That is why you will find his legislative record of accomplishments filled with his efforts to pass infrastructure projects to ensure our water supplies would be both reliable and available.

I could go on about his other accomplishments and our work together on agriculture issues but I would be here for quite a long time and not begin to make a dent in what he has been able to achieve during his career. Let me just say that the work TIM began in the State Legislature and continued when he came to Congress has helped to make South Dakota what it is today. I think by any standard he has done a good job and made the people of his home State proud.

Through the years, TIM has had some health problems, but he never let them stop him or slow him down in his work for South Dakota. Sometimes I think of him as a warrior—a quiet one—who is blessed with a spirit to work for the people of South Dakota that just can not be diminished.

When I think of TIM I will always think of him as someone who leads the best way, by example. I have learned a lot from him over the years and I think

we have made a difference together in our shared commitment to our Nation's agriculture industry. We have worked on a lot of bills together and by placing both our names on a bill we made it a bipartisan effort that I would like to think drew a lot of other Members to our side to work with us.

Thank you, TIM, for your service, not only to South Dakota but to the West and to all our Nation. You have a lot to look back on with the satisfaction that comes from having done a job and done it well. Diana joins in sending our best wishes to you for your hard work and determined effort to address the problems and challenges of our Nation. Thanks, too, for your friendship. Good luck on the next chapter of the great adventure of your life.

CARL LEVIN

Mr. CASEY. Madam President, I wanted to speak today about Senator CARL LEVIN and his years of service to the Senate and the people of Michigan. Senator LEVIN has served 36 years and is Michigan's longest serving senator.

John F. Kennedy once said that “leadership and learning are indispensable to each other.” Senator LEVIN's time here has been an illustration of that statement, and I have experienced this firsthand ever since I arrived in the Senate in 2007 and sought his guidance on difficult issues like the war in Iraq. He is one of the best informed and knowledgeable members of the Senate.

CARL LEVIN has been a leader for years on the Senate Armed Services Committee and the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations. Senator LEVIN has served as the Democratic leader of the Armed Services committee since 1997, a term that overlapped with several defining events for U.S. national security, including the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, the beginnings of the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, the operation against Osama bin Laden and the current conflict against the terrorist group ISIS. Chairman LEVIN has guided our caucus through the National Defense Authorization Act process every year, working to ensure members have an opportunity to include their priority issues in the bill. I am grateful for Senator LEVIN's support of my efforts to ensure Afghan women and girls remain at the forefront of our Afghanistan policy through this transition period. One of Senator LEVIN's most important legacies will be his thoughtful and principled opposition to shifting attention away from the fight against al Qaeda in Afghanistan to Iraq. Our caucus will miss CARL LEVIN's steady hand guiding us through these important matters.

At the helm of the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, Senator LEVIN has led the charge against some of the worst abuse and corruption occurring in our country. Under Senator LEVIN's leadership the subcommittee



conducted an eighteen month investigation into the causes of the financial crisis that culminated in four hearings in April 2010. The hearings brought forth information that helped craft the Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010. He also led an investigation into abusive and unfair practices of the credit card industry, which would lead to the Credit Card Accountability Responsibility and Disclosure Act, along with investigations into tax shelters, offshore tax havens and Federal contractor tax delinquency, among other issues. In 2012, the *National Journal* wrote that “the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations is one of the few institutions in Congress that’s still working. CARL LEVIN is a big reason why.”

CARL LEVIN’s legacy can be summed up in one word: integrity. His commitment to our security and our servicemembers is incomparable. We wish him well as he returns to Michigan and moves on to new challenges and I thank him for his service.

TOM HARKIN

Madam President, I also wanted to speak about my colleague TOM HARKIN who will be retiring at the end of this Congress. I commend him for his 40 years of service in Congress for the people of Iowa.

Senator Hubert Humphrey once said that the moral test of government should be how it treats those in the dawn of life, our children; those in the twilight of life, our older citizens; and those in the shadows of life, people with disabilities, among others. TOM HARKIN’s work in the House and Senate has been a testament to what Senator Humphrey said. Senator HARKIN has never hesitated to stand up and fight for those without power. He is also proud of the legacy of the Great Society under President Lyndon Johnson and never shies away from reminding us of the work that was done then, or how much more we still have to do.

When it comes to protecting and championing people with disabilities, there is no equal to TOM HARKIN. He helped write the Americans with Disabilities Act, ADA, of 1990 and the ADA Amendments Act of 2008. These bills did for people with disabilities what the civil rights acts of the 1950s and 1960s did for African-Americans. He authored the Television Decoder Circuitry Act to create universal closed captioning and he expanded services for children with disabilities under the Individuals with Disabilities in Education Act, IDEA. Under the Workforce Investment Opportunity Act, he enhanced employment opportunities for young people with disabilities and under the Affordable Care Act he created the Community First Choice Option to give states that offer services to people with disabilities outside of nursing homes extra federal funding.

Senator HARKIN pushed the issue of prevention and the health and wellness

of Americans long before those issues became national themes. Senator HARKIN wrote the prevention title in the Affordable Care Act and introduced the first bill that allowed the Food and Drug Administration, FDA, to regulate tobacco. He is also the reason the word “Prevention” is included in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s name. Child labor is another area where TOM was ahead of the curve. The Clinton Administration’s Executive Order, “Prohibition of Acquisition of Products Produced by Forced and Indentured Child Labor,” was backed by Senator HARKIN and he helped obtain the adoption and Senate ratification of United Nations Convention 182, a treaty that called for the elimination of the worst forms of child labor.

On a personal note, I want to express my appreciation to Chairman HARKIN and his staff on the HELP Committee for their help in getting three bills I introduced this Congress passed into law—the Children’s Hospital GME Support Reauthorization Act, the Emergency Medical Services for Children Reauthorization Act and the Traumatic Brain Injury Reauthorization Act. Without the efforts of Chairman HARKIN and his team, these bills would not have moved forward.

The late Senator Paul Wellstone of Minnesota, once said that “Politics is not just about power and money games, politics can be about the improvement of people’s lives, about lessening human suffering in our world and bringing about more peace and more justice.” TOM HARKIN is a living example of those words. Our Nation and our world are better today because of his life of service.

JAY ROCKEFELLER

Madam President, as the 113 Congress comes to a close, the time has come to say goodbye to several colleagues and friends who will leave at the end of this Congress. Today, I would like to pay tribute to our friend and colleague, JAY ROCKEFELLER. Senator ROCKEFELLER has served the people of West Virginia for 50 years, the last thirty of them in the United States Senate.

While Senator ROCKEFELLER has accomplished many notable things in his decades of service, you can really sum up much of what he did for our country in one word—kids. Nelson Mandela once said “There can be no keener revelation of a society’s soul than the way in which it treats its children.” JAY ROCKEFELLER worked tirelessly to ensure that we never lost sight of our children as we worked on issues large and small.

One key example of his advocacy is the Children’s Health Insurance Program or CHIP as it is better known. In the 1990s, members like JAY ROCKEFELLER came together and created CHIP to ensure low-income children of working parents had access to health care. When my father was governor of

Pennsylvania, he signed into law the CHIP program that initially insured over 50,000 children across the state and served as a model for the national program. On a personal level, I thank Senator ROCKEFELLER for helping to expand this program to children around the country and I look forward to working with my colleagues to ensure CHIP remains strong for children in the years ahead.

In 2009 health care reform was on the agenda again and JAY ROCKEFELLER played a key role in getting a number of important provisions included. He pushed to expand Medicaid and to make sure insurance companies actually spent the bulk of dollars on health care and not administrative costs. He also worked to ensure that information provided to consumers buying insurance on the exchange could be understood by all, and, of course, he led the charge to protect CHIP kids and make sure they did not end up with the short end of the stick.

Senator ROCKEFELLER’s work extends far beyond health care and children. Coal miners and their families have had no better friend in the Senate than JAY ROCKEFELLER. He has tirelessly fought and won battles to protect their health, safety and pensions while also protecting and preserving Black Lung benefits for workers made sick by doing their jobs. His advocacy in this body will be missed. Now it is up to the rest of us to carry the torch.

Senator ROCKEFELLER is quoted as follows in the *Charleston Daily Mail* last year:

“Rockefeller said he knew all the Kennedys well but liked Bobby best. ‘Because he struck me,’ Rockefeller said. ‘He had a soul, and there are a lot of photographs of him in West Virginia later when he ran for president sitting on a slag heap, looking mournful, looking off into the distance, thinking, ‘Why does this condition exist, what can I do?’”

JAY ROCKEFELLER also has a soul and he has spent his life asking those same questions and finding ways to make things better. We will miss him in the Senate. We will miss his conscience and his voice, but we will never forget his example. I thank him for his decades of service and wish him well.

MARY LANDRIEU

Ms. HEITKAMP. Madam President, I honor my friend and colleague from Louisiana, Senator MARY LANDRIEU, who is departing the Senate at the end of this year. Her career in public service began 34 years ago when she was elected to the Louisiana House of Representatives. During that time and in her service in the United States Senate, she has proved time and again that the people of Louisiana could not have asked for a better advocate and fighter on their behalf.

It is tough to describe someone like Senator LANDRIEU. Senator LANDRIEU



is selfless, dedicated, tenacious, and resilient, but these are just words that, while accurate, fail to truly capture who this woman is and what she stands for. It is only by looking at Senator LANDRIEU's significant accomplishments that someone can truly begin to understand the depths of her selflessness, dedication, and resiliency. During my time in the Senate, I have seen MARY embody these words like few others in this body.

Senator LANDRIEU and I both come from large families. I know the impact being one of seven children had on me growing up and I am sure Senator LANDRIEU can attest to how big of an impact being one of nine children had on her. During her time in public service, Senator LANDRIEU has worked hard to ensure that all children can benefit from having a family to call their own. Senator LANDRIEU has worked extensively with the Angels in Adoption program since its inception, and cochaired the Congressional Coalition on Adoption and the Congressional Foster Care Caucus. Senator LANDRIEU's work has changed the lives of children across Louisiana, the country, and around the world. Because of her work, there are countless children who are now able to feel the love and benefits of having a family.

In 2005, Louisiana was victim of one of the worst natural disasters to ever hit this country. Hurricane Katrina devastated New Orleans and Louisiana the likes of which this country has rarely seen. With one of the country's great cities devastated and in ruins, it was MARY LANDRIEU who took the lead on recovery efforts. It was MARY LANDRIEU who held FEMA's feet to the fire to better serve Louisianans. It was MARY LANDRIEU who helped direct billions of dollars in recovery funds to the State. It was because of MARY LANDRIEU that the great State of Louisiana has bounced back strong as ever.

Senator LANDRIEU's leadership did not end with the recovery and rebuilding efforts. Following the passage of the Biggert-Waters Flood Reform Act in 2012, Senator LANDRIEU was one of the first to recognize and sound the alarm on the impending problems homeowners would face with unreasonably high flood insurance rates. Because of her early recognition of these problems and her proactive approach to finding solutions, Congress was able pass a bill preventing thousands of people across the country from being forced to pay disastrously high flood insurance premiums.

I have also had the privilege of working with Senator LANDRIEU on energy issues. There is no better advocate in the Senate on energy than Senator LANDRIEU. I came here with the intent of learning everything that I could from Senator LANDRIEU. My only regret is that there was no way to fully take in all of her knowledge in the

brief time that I have been here. That is a testament to the incredible work that she has done over her career to advance a pragmatic energy policy for this country, work that I hope to continue in the years ahead building upon the energy legacy that Senator LANDRIEU will leave behind. A word you hear often when people describe Senator LANDRIEU is tenacious, and this was never more apparent than on her work to advance the Keystone XL Pipeline. Anyone who watched Senator LANDRIEU work that bill and work behind the scenes to get the votes knows that she will fight to the very last second for what she believes in and that the word "can't" doesn't exist in her vocabulary. Senator LANDRIEU single-handedly forced this bill to the Senate floor and brought us closer than we have been in 6 years to approving this project once and for all. Senator LANDRIEU's pragmatic approach to this issue and willingness to embrace solutions over politics stands as an example for the rest of the Senate to strive for.

Senator LANDRIEU always looked out for the energy interests of her State, while recognizing the need to provide and protect her gulf coast communities. She has pushed for increased LNG exports that would bring new jobs and significant investment to her State. She also has been instrumental in expanding oil exploration and production in the Gulf of Mexico, but while doing so she has made sure that her coastal communities receive a bigger share of the royalties and revenue to mitigate any impacts from the development. Working for jobs and economic development and protecting those most impacted by this development, that is a pretty good legacy to leave behind in Louisiana.

The Landrieu family name comes with a long history of public service in Louisiana. The Landrieus, known for their big personalities that are eclipsed only by their accomplishments in office, can rest easy knowing that MARY has more than lived up to the family name. The Senate, Louisiana, and the country, are better off because of the work MARY LANDRIEU has done in the Senate. I know I am not alone in saying that we will miss having her here. I also know I am not alone in saying that I am sure her work is not done. I wish her luck in this next chapter of her life and look forward to seeing the tremendous work she will accomplish outside of this Chamber.

MARK PRYOR

Madam President, I also wish to honor my colleague, Senator MARK PRYOR, who will be leaving the Senate at the end of this Congress. Senator PRYOR has been a tireless champion for the people of Arkansas for 12 years in this legislative body. However, his commitment and dedication to the State of Arkansas is reflected not only

in his work here, but in the public service he and his family have given for decades.

As the son of the former Governor and U.S. Senator, Senator MARK PRYOR grew up in a family which embodied public service, instilling his interest and desire to do the same in his career. After attending the University of Arkansas and working in the private sector as an attorney, he turned his sights to public service. While serving as a member of the Arkansas House of Representatives and then as attorney general for the State of Arkansas, Senator PRYOR honed his understanding of the needs of the State and developed strong connections through its institutions which served him well throughout his career. It was here that I first met Mark. He was serving as attorney general in Arkansas at the same time I was serving as attorney general in North Dakota. I was immediately impressed with this young public servant and grew to understand that he is intelligent and principled in how he approaches his life and career. In 2003, Senator PRYOR was elected U.S. Senator from Arkansas, reclaiming the seat his father once held.

As a Senator, he served on various committees which allowed him to fight for the priorities of Arkansas, pass legislation and champion initiatives which helped this Nation. During his tenure on the Armed Services Committee, Senator PRYOR protected the interests of Arkansas servicemembers and their families. His work on the Appropriations and Commerce Committees created opportunities for growth in transportation, rural broadband, energy, and agriculture, all critical interests for Arkansas. Leading these issues with bipartisan proposals and working closely with his colleagues on marshaling these efforts Congress after Congress, Senator PRYOR earned the respect of his colleagues for his quiet devotion and steadfast commitment.

MARK is a Senator who promotes common sense solutions—solutions that seek strong support and address some of the more important needs of this Nation's citizenry. During my short time in the Senate, we served together on the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and Small Business Committees. I very much enjoyed working with him and serving together for the benefit of others. I continue to find him to be a man of great honesty and integrity. This type of stewardship is to be admired and appreciated by those inspired to serve on the local, State or Federal level.

I applaud my colleague for his years of tireless commitment in defense of his home State, for his service in the Senate and this Country. I wish the very best to him and his family in the years to come.

MARK BEGICH

Madam President, finally I pay tribute and recognize the accomplishments

of a trusted ally and dear friend, Senator MARK BEGICH, who will be leaving the Senate at the end of the term. Mark has been a tenacious and steadfast advocate for his constituents and the State of Alaska and a strong moderate voice during his years in the Senate.

I have had the honor and privilege to work with Senator BEGICH on both the Indian Affairs and Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committees. As someone who represents one of the most rural States in America, he has an impressive understanding and compassion for the unique challenges rural communities face.

As a member of the Homeland Security Committee, he played a major role in postal reform negotiations. He understood rural citizens rely most on the Postal Service for critical deliveries of prescription medicines, time sensitive bills, and other important communications. He knew that without a rural post office, many small, rural communities would cease to exist.

During his tenure on the Indian Affairs Committee, he was dedicated to confronting and addressing the unpleasant truths about the Federal Government's treatment of Native people in our country. He understood the threats facing subsistence rights, native languages, and rich cultural traditions, and fought to ensure they were given parity and respect. Senator BEGICH also knew far too many Native women today experience violence and sexual assault, particularly in remote areas, and so he fought for the tribal provisions in the reauthorization of the Violence Against Woman Act—VAWA—and advanced his Safe Families and Villages Act to extend those protections to Native women in Alaska. He has also been a fighter for American Indian and Alaska Native veterans and worked hard to increase their access to care at both Indian Health Service and Veteran Affairs facilities. His compassion for indigenous issues extended to tribes in the lower 48 States and Native Hawaiians, and I know Native people across the country feel they have lost a true champion with his departure.

Anyone who knows Senator BEGICH knows he is an intellectually curious and energetic person. He always approached issues from a solutions-oriented mindset, which meant he was more tied to outcomes than to rhetoric, and the Senate was well-served by his presence. Senator BEGICH is also a devoted family man to his wife Deborah and young son Jacob. I remind myself that our loss is their gain, as I am sure they are excited to have him home more. I truly enjoyed working alongside him and look forward to when our paths cross again. I wish him incredible happiness and success in the next chapter.

#### TRIBUTE TO NANCY ERICKSON

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, today I recognize Nancy Erickson for her 26 years of honorable service to the United States Senate.

Nancy is a native of Brandon, SD, and is a graduate of Augustana College and American University, where she earned her M.A. in public policy. Nancy began working for the Senate in 1989, when she accepted a position working for Senator Daschle. In 2005, Nancy began serving as the Democratic representative for the Senate's Sergeant at Arms. Then in 2007, Nancy became the 32nd person and the 6th woman to serve as Secretary of the Senate. Nancy has been a constant professional in the way she conducts herself and goes about her work.

Nancy has played a pivotal role in the function of the Senate, and I want to extend my thanks and appreciation to her and wish her continued success in the years to come.

#### REMEMBERING JOHN KREBS

Mrs. BOXER. Madam President, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the life and extraordinary accomplishments of former Congressman John Krebs, who recently passed away at the age of 87 in Fresno, CA.

John was born on December 17, 1926, in Berlin, Germany. After Hitler came to power, he escaped with his family to Tel Aviv. There, he became a diamond cutter and joined the Haganah, a Jewish underground organization that supported independence from Britain and the establishment of an independent Jewish state.

John moved to California in 1946 to attend the University of California at Berkeley and after graduating in 1950, he became a United States citizen in 1952. Following two years in the U.S. Army, John graduated from the University of California Hastings College of Law and practiced law for three decades.

Throughout his remarkable life, John Krebs sustained a strong commitment to public service. He worked on numerous state and local campaigns and was a respected Democratic activist and community leader before his 1970 election to the Fresno County Board of Supervisors, where he was a courageous and eloquent advocate for his constituents.

In 1974, he was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives, where he successfully championed a bill to permanently protect 25,000 acres of the Sierra National Forest known as Kaiser Ridge, saving this beautiful area above Huntington Lake from logging. Then, in 1978, Congressman Krebs took on an even greater challenge: fighting for legislation to transfer Mineral King Valley from the Sequoia National Forest to Sequoia National Park, thereby blocking plans to build a ski resort

that would have destroyed this pristine alpine valley in the southern Sierra Nevada. Facing significant opposition, this was the toughest fight of his political career—one that may have cost him his seat in Congress—but John was proud of what he accomplished in preserving this natural treasure for future generations to enjoy.

Years later, I was honored to introduce legislation designating 40,000 acres of land, including the Mineral King Valley, as the John Krebs Wildness. President Obama signed it into law in 2009, and that summer some 200 friends, family and admirers gathered in Mineral King Valley to dedicate this worthy tribute to John's courage and vision.

On Friday, November 14, more than 250 of John's friends and family joined together at Temple Beth Israel in Fresno to share memories and honor this remarkable man's amazing legacy. John Krebs's extraordinary life was a uniquely American story, and he will be truly missed. I extend my deepest sympathies to his wife and partner of 58 years, Hanna, children Daniel and Karen, and their families.

#### VOICE OF AMERICA UKRAINIAN SERVICE'S 65TH ANNIVERSARY

Mr. MCCAIN. Madam President, today I honor Voice of America's Ukrainian Service as it celebrates its 65th anniversary this week. VOA has distinguished itself among the very best news organizations in the world. For over 65 years, from the dark days of Stalin's rule to the regime of Vladimir Putin, VOA has served as a beacon of truth for Ukrainian citizens. Throughout the Cold War, VOA supported the struggle for freedom and gave hope to citizens living under repressive rule in Soviet Ukraine. After the collapse of the Soviet Union, VOA was the first to pick up the call of independence and take advantage of new opportunities to speak freely to the Ukrainian people.

The organization's long history of comprehensive reporting and objective, reliable coverage proved ever more important in November 2013 when demonstrations broke out against then-President Yanukovich's decision not to sign an association agreement with Europe. Through all of this, VOA provided live video streaming and multimedia reporting from the center of the EuroMaidan demonstrations and was one of the few news outlets fully covering Russia's annexation of Crimea. In its coverage, the world saw the spirit of the Ukrainian people and stood with them in their struggle for democracy, human rights, and the values of the transatlantic community. Through its continued coverage today, the world is now witness to Russia's aggression and invasion.

More recently, VOA has been a critical source of information for the

Ukrainian people as Russia continues to advance its propaganda campaign across the region, spreading disinformation and undermining the efforts of Ukraine's EuroMaidan reformers. Putin's control of information is a key part of his strategy to rebuild post-Soviet Russia through aggression, and he uses disinformation as a tool to complement his transnational military campaigns and subvert democratic growth and development in Ukraine and across Eastern Europe. At a time when Putin's propaganda machine is working to deny reality and distort perceptions, Ukrainians rely heavily on VOA's credibility and accuracy, and its message of freedom, hope and human dignity.

VOA's reporters have worked under difficult and at times dangerous conditions. Previous governments have attempted to manipulate the media through repression and intimidation, and journalists were often arrested or detained. Today, journalists attempting to report on the conflict in eastern Ukraine are being harassed, intimidated, and physically attacked, constantly under threat of Russian thuggery. But this has not stopped the brave men and women working for VOA Ukrainian Service. They have worked through trying times, but have always maintained the integrity and professionalism to which all journalists can aspire.

Over the last 65 years, VOA has delivered thoughtful, comprehensive, and honest reporting when the Ukrainian people needed it most. I thank all members of VOA Ukrainian Service, past and present, for their tireless efforts and congratulate the organization on its 65th anniversary. Thank you for the work you do in service to the people of Ukraine and the shared values we hold dear. Together, and with the information you provide, we can achieve the democratic aspirations of our people and make the world a better, safer place for all citizens.

#### TRIBUTE TO ROBERT F. HEIL, JR.

• Mr. HARKIN. Madam President, I salute an unsung hero in our government, Mr. Robert F. Heil, Jr. Bob, as he is known to his friends, is retiring as the budget director at the Health Resources Services Administration after 42 years of service to the Federal Government.

To be honest, I don't know Bob Heil but I have heard about him and his work for years. Bob isn't the guy who stands up and gives speeches, he's the guy that quietly makes things happen. Whenever there was a problem with one of the community health centers in my State, my staff would say "I'll call Bob" and I knew it would get straightened out. Bob would always call to let us know when something good might happen, and if something bad was com-

ing, he would call with a solution before we knew there was a problem. He's a man you can trust.

In a town where political winds blow, Bob has won universal praise from both sides of the aisle for years. That's because he always answers the phone, if he knows the answer he gives it, and he treats everyone with the same respect—no matter who is in the White House or who is in control of Congress.

As Bob moves into another phase of his life, I thank him for his years of work expanding access to health care for the least fortunate among us. Hubert Humphrey once said, "the moral test of government is how that government treats those who are in the dawn of life, the children; those who are in the twilight of life, the elderly; those who are in the shadows of life; the sick, the needy and the handicapped."

By that measure, Bob has made our society and our government a much better one. Thank you Bob, on behalf of myself, my staff, and all those who will never know who to thank. I wish you all the best. ●

#### REMEMBERING BOB BENNETT

Mr. PORTMAN. Madam President, I wish to talk about a friend, a mentor, a public servant, a husband, father, and son of Ohio, Bob Bennett, who passed away at his home in Cleveland last Saturday. I was sorry to miss the funeral service in Ohio today for Bob because we are still in session, but I did want to pay tribute to him in a lasting way through the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

Bob was a lawyer and a CPA, a man who loved sailing and giving back to the people of Ohio through his many charitable works such as his time serving on the Board of University Hospitals in Cleveland. He was a legend in Ohio and a giant of Ohio politics. He became chairman of the Ohio Republican Party in 1988 and remained actively involved in politics until his death last week. He was one of the longest serving State chairs of either party, was viewed as a true professional, and gained the respect of political leaders in both parties.

He was certainly successful in the world of politics. When he was first elected chairman, there were no statewide Republican office holders in Ohio. He went to work with the passion, the dedication, the commitment that would become his trademark. He was a happy warrior, beloved by those in his party and respected by his political rivals. He had a vision not only for what the Republican Party could become but for what it could accomplish for the people of Ohio.

Within a decade, under his leadership, Republicans controlled all three branches of State government, from the Governor's mansion, to the statehouse, to the supreme court.

He never stopped working. The day before he died, he was on the phone with me, talking about 2016, giving me advice. He never let his illness hold him back, and he never stopped accomplishing things for the Ohio GOP. No one was more responsible for bringing the 2016 Republican National Convention to Cleveland than Bob Bennett. Like so many times before, he had a vision, and he made it happen. It will be his lasting legacy, and I only wish he could be there to see yet another of his dreams become reality.

That is the public story of Bob Bennett's life, and what a story it is. But those of us who knew him, who worked with him, who were inspired by him, we know that what made Bob Bennett great goes far beyond what he accomplished on the political stage. The number of people who he helped with advice, with guidance, or even just a kind word—the number of people who loved Bob Bennett as a close friend—could fill this Chamber.

It has been said that we can measure a man's life by the friends he makes, by the other lives he touches, by the people whose own journey on this Earth is made better because of him. By that measure, the measure that he would have cared about the most, Bob Bennett was a great man, indeed.

He will be missed, but he won't be forgotten.

#### TRIBUTE TO KEITH DETERS

Mr. PORTMAN. Madam President, I wish to congratulate Keith Deters on his retirement and to recognize his impressive career.

Keith has been with General Dynamics for 32 years and has served as plant manager of the Joint Systems Manufacturing Center, JSMC, previously known as the Lima Army Tank Plant, for the past 11 years.

Keith grew up in Ohio and received his bachelor's degree in organizational management from Bluffton College and earned his MBA from the University of Findlay. He now resides in Lima with his wife Donna. They have two sons and five grandsons.

During Keith's tenure as plant manager at JSMC, the plant addressed a number of service programs, including the future combats systems, expeditionary fighting vehicle, ground combat vehicle, Mk46 Navy turret, Abrams SEP, Abrams TUSK armor, MRAP Cougar, Abrams heavy assault bridge, joint light tactical vehicle prototypes, Stryker family of vehicles, Stryker armor upgrade programs, Stryker slat armor kit, tank urban survivability kit, Merkava Namer APC, Abrams Egyptian FMS, Australian Abrams AIM FMS, KSA Abrams FMS, and the Iraq Abrams FMS.

In addition, Keith has been at the forefront of developing next-generation combat vehicle capabilities, and under

his supervision while plant manager innovative prototype structures built at JSMC included the joint assault bridge, heavy assault bridge, joint light tactical vehicle, ground combat vehicle, amphibious combat vehicle, expeditionary fighting vehicle, future combat vehicle, Stryker slat armor kit, common ballistic shield, hull protection kit, Stryker reactive armor kit, tank urban survivability kit, mine roller kit, commanders remote operation weapon system, hull system demonstrator, and Scout vehicle.

Outside of work, Keith has been actively involved in the Lima community. He has served on numerous boards including the United Way of Greater Lima, the Ohio State University at Lima, the Ohio Energy & Advanced Manufacturing Center, Allen-Lima Leadership, and the Allen Economic Development Group. Keith is also a member of the Lima Rotary Club and Task Force Lima.

Keith is a supporter of his local Make A Wish Foundation and has been involved with Operation Christmas Tank, Family Day at JSMC for Lima employees and their families, the West Central Ohio Manufacturing Consortium with Rhodes College, and Lima Senior High School's Moonbuggy Project.

I would like to congratulate Keith on the many contributions he has made to JSMC and to the Lima community.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### RECOGNIZING THE REED FAMILY

• Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam President, I rise today to congratulate the Reed family for earning the distinction of 2014's Arkansas Farm Family of the year.

This honor reflects the dedication of Nathan and Kristin Reed to farming and the importance they play in Arkansas's number one industry. Nathan is a fourth-generation farmer. I know that he will pass along his passion for farming to the couple's young children; 2-year-old twins Stanley "Eldon" and Jane-Anne and 1-year-old Katherine.

The Reeds farm cotton, corn and soybeans on their Lee County farm where they emphasize conservation and sustainability. Using variable rate technology for applying fertilizer and irrigation wells and center pivot systems run off electric power, they save energy. Nathan is also constantly learning about different crops and crop rotating practices by experimenting on the farm.

The Reeds are not only committed to farming and producing safe supplies of food and fiber to the world, but they are also committed to their community. Nathan serves on numerous boards and committees.

As a long-time friend of the Reed family I understand the importance of

farming, agriculture and community involvement that Nathan's father Stanley and his mother Charlene encouraged. Nathan is following in their footsteps. They were named the Lee County Farm Family of the Year in 1984.

The Arkansas Farm Bureau's program honors farm families across the State for their outstanding work both on their farms and in their communities. This recognition is a reflection of the contribution to agriculture at the community and State level and its implications for improved farm practices and management. The Reeds are well-deserving of this honor.

I congratulate Nathan, Kristin, Stanley, Jane-Anne and Katherine on their outstanding achievements in agriculture and ask my fellow colleagues to join me in honoring them for this accomplishment. I wish them continued success in their future endeavors and look forward to the contributions they will continue to will offer Arkansas farming and agriculture. •

##### REMEMBERING MICHAEL DAVID DAVIS, JR.

• Mrs. BOXER. Madam President, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Placer County Sheriff's Detective Michael David Davis, Jr., an experienced detective, dedicated public servant and beloved husband, father, brother, son and grandson who was tragically killed in the line of duty on October 24, 2014.

Michael Davis, Jr. was born on October 29, 1971, in Bellflower, CA. After spending his childhood in Southern California, Michael moved to Placer County to pursue a career in law enforcement, continuing a family commitment to public service. Detective Davis's father, Michael Davis, Sr., was a Riverside County Sheriff's Deputy who also tragically lost his life in the line of duty. Detective Davis's aunt and uncle both retired from the Placer County Sheriff's Department, and Detective Davis's wife, Jessica, and his brother, Sergeant Jason Davis, worked by his side until Michael's life was so senselessly cut short on October 24.

Following his graduation from the Butte College Law Enforcement Academy, Detective Davis began his career in public safety as a Reserve Deputy for the Placer County Sheriff's Department in 1996. He later joined the Auburn Police Department as a Patrolman before returning to the Sheriff's Department in 1999 as a Deputy. In 2005, he was promoted to become a Homicide Detective in the Crimes Against Persons Division.

At a memorial service on November 4, Placer County Sheriff Edward Bonner recalled that Detective Davis approached his job with "respect, tact, and empathy." Others remembered Michael Davis as a quick-witted family

man who lived his life to the fullest, spending time with his loved ones at family gatherings, coaching Little League, rooting for his beloved San Francisco 49ers and Los Angeles Dodgers, and riding motorcycles with friends.

On behalf of the people of California, whom Detective Davis served so bravely, I extend my gratitude and deepest sympathies to his wife, Jessica; daughters Angelique and Samantha; stepchildren Ivey and Chayse; mother Deborah; brother Jason; and grandparents Bob and Joan.

We are forever indebted to him for his courage and sacrifice, and he will be deeply missed. •

##### REMEMBERING DANNY P. OLIVER

• Mrs. BOXER. Madam President, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Sacramento County Sheriff's Deputy Danny Oliver, an experienced peace officer, dedicated public servant, and beloved son, husband and father who was tragically killed in the line of duty on October 24, 2014.

Danny Oliver was born on February 9, 1967, and grew up in the Del Paso Heights neighborhood of Sacramento. Both his father's career as a firefighter and his own experiences growing up in a high-crime neighborhood helped shape Danny Oliver's commitment to strengthening his community through public service. After graduating from the Sheriff's Academy at the top of his class, Danny joined the Sacramento County Sheriff's Department in 1999.

During his 15-year career with the Department, Deputy Oliver worked in the main jail, patrol, and most recently as a member of the Problem Oriented Policing, P.O.P., team, working closely with the community to reduce crime and improve public safety. Deputy Oliver knew that this job came with great personal risk. He understood it required a unique ability to gain the trust of local leaders and residents. As Deputy Oliver's colleagues and family recall so admiringly, he excelled at it all—arriving to work an hour early, answering every email, and attending countless community meetings in the neighborhoods he worked so diligently to protect.

Deputy Oliver's partner in life was his loving wife of 25 years, Susan Oliver. While Danny attended the Sheriff's Academy, Susan worked two jobs to support their family so her husband could follow his dream. Together they raised two beautiful daughters, Melissa and Jenny. The family enjoyed spending time together and traveling, making many happy memories before Danny's life was so senselessly and tragically cut short.

On behalf of the people of California, whom Deputy Oliver served so bravely, I extend my gratitude and deepest sympathies to Susan, Melissa, Jenny, and Danny's parents, Bill and Jeri Oliver.

We are forever indebted to him for his courage and sacrifice, and he will be deeply missed.●

#### REMEMBERING MARTIN LITTON

● Mrs. BOXER. Madam President, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the memory of Martin Litton, a legendary conservationist and great outdoorsman who died on November 30 at the age of 97.

Clyde Martin Litton was born in Los Angeles on February 13, 1917. As an English major at UCLA, he met his future wife, Esther, and became a conservation activist—forming a student group that kept roads out of California's wildlands. After graduating in 1939, he worked as the publicist for an Arizona dude ranch and as a tour guide at the Los Angeles Times. When war broke out, he joined the Army Air Corps and became a glider pilot flying missions behind enemy lines. In gentler times, he piloted his own plane and loved taking environmental and political leaders for wild rides into the wild.

After the war, Martin returned to the Times as a freelance writer, filing stories and photos from long backpacking trips with his wife and young family. He later worked at Sunset magazine, first as travel editor and later as senior editor.

In 1952, David Brower, the first executive director of the Sierra Club—which had hitherto been a hiking and outdoors group with little involvement in public policy—enlisted Litton to help him fight the Bureau of Reclamation's plan to build two dams at Dinosaur National Monument, and the group successfully lobbied Congress to scuttle the plan by 1956. That battle helped transform the Sierra Club into the powerful national advocacy organization we know today, with Litton supporting the Club's activism as a member of the national board from 1964 to 1972.

Along with his good friend Brower, Litton is widely recognized as one of the founders of the modern environmental movement. Brower called Martin his "environmental conscience" because he never compromised his principles as he led the conservation movement to some of its greatest victories. With his eloquent writing, beautiful photographs, and fiery rhetoric, he inspired the efforts to keep dams out of the Grand Canyon, a ski resort out of the Sierras' pristine Mineral King Valley, and logging out of the Giant Sequoia National Monument. He was instrumental in the creation of Redwood National Park in 1968; 2 years later, dissatisfied with the park's boundaries, he led the successful fight to protect an additional 48,000 acres.

A longtime oarsman and whitewater enthusiast, Litton also started a company in 1971 to take tourists through his beloved Grand Canyon in small

wooden boats. He maintained an active role in Grand Canyon Dories and at 87 became the oldest person ever to pilot a boat through the Canyon.

A fierce and determined defender of our nation's wildlands, Martin Litton was a force of nature—and a force for the preservation of nature. On behalf of the people of California, who have benefited so much from his life work, I send my deepest gratitude and condolences to his beloved wife, Esther; children John, Donald, Kathleen, and Helen; five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. Martin's memory and legacy will live on with everyone who loves America's priceless natural heritage, which he did so much to preserve and protect.●

#### RECOGNIZING LOWCOUNTRY STUDENTS

● Mr. SCOTT. Madam President, I wish to commend the hard work and achievement of a team of students and their teacher in my State of South Carolina.

I believe that education, and especially STEM education, is a key to success, and I am thrilled to see students across my State and our Nation creating original research to compete for the honor of having their experiments performed in space by the Student Spaceflights Experiments Program.

This year, this team of Lowcountry students and teachers collaborated on an extraordinary experiment design to test the formation of tin whiskers in lead-free solder in space flight. With tin whisker formation causing failures in devices ranging from space satellites to pacemakers, the students chose an important and relevant topic for their work.

Rachel Lindbergh, a senior at the Palmetto Scholars Academy, Gabriel Voigt, a sophomore at Bishop England High School, and Joseph Garvey, a sophomore at Palmetto Scholars Academy, came together with their teacher facilitator Kelly Voigt and put in a tremendous number of hours to create an excellent research project design.

The team's experiment will be launched into space as part of the Student Spaceflight Experiments Program Mission 6 to the International Space Station.

I am very proud of their work, and hope that it will serve as an example for all students that if you work hard and follow your passion, there is no telling where it may lead you.●

#### TRIBUTE TO LOREN DUKE ABDALLA

● Mr. THUNE. Madam President, today I wish to honor the heroic service of Loren Duke Abdalla, a member of the Yankton Sioux Tribe and the great grandson of the great Chief Running Bull. Corporal Abdalla, better known

as "Duke", is a brave Marine who fought courageously in the Pacific Theater of World War II, earning the Purple Heart.

Duke enlisted into the U.S. Marine Corps in October of 1943. After finishing his basic training at the age of 18, he was sent to the island of New Caledonia before being assigned to Pavuvu Island alongside the First Marine Division, 1st Regiment, 1st Battalion, A Company, 1st Platoon. Shortly after his training on Pavuvu Island, Duke's regiment was given orders to invade the Island of Peleliu on September 15, 1944. His regiment worked its way toward Bloody Nose Ridge, where they became surrounded on three sides and suffered heavy casualties. Despite persistent enemy fire, receiving shrapnel wounds in both of his legs, and blasts blowing out both his ear drums, Duke fought hard through the 6-day battle. In the end, Duke was one of only 29 survivors of his battalion. He received the Purple Heart and was promoted to corporal for his heroic efforts and leadership at Peleliu.

After recovering from his numerous injuries, Duke resumed Active Duty and rejoined his brothers in arms in the Battle of Okinawa. A Company, 1st and 3rd platoons were tasked with advancing on enemy positions, and Duke was assigned 3rd squad leader of the 1st platoon. On May 5, 1945, 2nd Squad Leader CPL John Brady was burned by a phosphorous grenade. Under heavy fire, Duke threw CPL Brady over his shoulder and carried him to safety. Duke then swiftly returned to the frontline and proceeded to engage a series of six enemy machine gun nests. Duke was the only member of his 12-person team to reach the fourth nest, and he continued moving forward and removed the last two nests by himself. His actions permitted the First Marine Division to safely advance up the ridge.

While many Americans were honored for their courageous actions that day and throughout the campaign, Duke's heroic actions have largely gone unrecognized. I stand here today and ask that Duke's selfless and brave actions be acknowledged and not soon forgotten. Duke received an honorable discharge from the United States Marine Corps on February 28, 1947, ending a military career that undoubtedly factored into American successes in the Pacific Theater.

Duke is most deserving of recognition for his exemplary bravery in the face of great danger and for putting the concerns of others always before his own. His selfless acts saved the lives of his colleagues and helped to secure American victory in that great war. Our Nation will always be grateful for Duke's dedicated service, and as thankful citizens, we must never take for granted the courage displayed by heroes like Corporal Loren Duke Abdalla.●

## REMEMBERING BRET KNAPP

• Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. President, in New Mexico we are very proud to be the home of Los Alamos National Laboratory. LANL employs some of the finest scientists and researchers in the world. Each day, these brilliant public servants go to work and make vital contributions to our national security and to cutting-edge scientific and innovative advances.

The dedicated men and women of LANL are a credit to my State and to our Nation. It is with regret that I rise today to remember Bret Knapp, a valued member of the LANL team, who passed away last month.

Mr. Knapp received his B.A. in mechanical engineering at the California Polytechnic State University and his M.S. in mechanical engineering at the University of California, Davis.

In a career that spanned over three decades, Mr. Knapp demonstrated valued expertise and leadership. His commitment to excellence was a defining element of his career, and, even as we mourn his passing, we are grateful for his service.

Over the years, Mr. Knapp established an outstanding reputation for programmatic achievements, as well as for technical depth, honest and open communication, and fostering a strong sense of partnership and collaboration. He was the principal associate director for the weapons program at LANL, which plays a crucial role in supporting our country's defense, energy, and environmental needs. He also served as acting director at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory.

Among his many accomplishments at LANL, Bret Knapp integrated the planning and execution of the stockpile stewardship program, which is a critical mission for the Nation. He received the NNSA Defense Program Individual Award for Excellence in 2000 and two NNSA Defense Program Awards for Excellence in 1998 and 1999.

Those are, of course, the public and well-deserved accolades of an exemplary career. But for those who worked closely with Bret Knapp, they recall an inspiring colleague, a good friend, and someone who will be greatly missed.

I offer my sincere condolences to Mr. Knapp's wife Sheryl and their sons, Trevor and Cameron. I hope that, for all of Bret Knapp's friends and family, your memories of his life will offer a measure of comfort now in your loss. •

## MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:16 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House agrees to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2640) to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to adjust the Crooked River boundary, to provide water certainty for the City of Prineville, Oregon, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House agrees to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 3329) to enhance the ability of community financial institutions to foster economic growth and serve their communities, boost small businesses, increase individual savings, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House has passed the following bills, without amendment:

S. 1353. An act to provide for an ongoing, voluntary public-private partnership to improve cybersecurity, and to strengthen cybersecurity research and development, workforce development and education, and public awareness and preparedness, and for other purposes.

S. 1474. An act to amend the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 to repeal a special rule for the State of Alaska, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 5859. An act to impose sanctions with respect to the Russian Federation, to provide additional assistance to Ukraine, and for other purposes.

At 1:00 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 2591. An act to amend certain provisions of the FAA Modernization and Reform Act of 2012.

H.R. 5699. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to acquire approximately 44 acres of land in Martinez, California, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5803. An act to require the Secretary of the Interior to assemble a team of technical, policy, and financial experts to address the energy needs of the insular areas of the United States and the Freely Associated States through the development of energy action plans aimed at promoting access to affordable, reliable energy, including increasing use of indigenous clean-energy resources, and for other purposes.

At 5:13 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, without amendment:

S. 2338. An act to reauthorize the United States Anti-Doping Agency, and for other purposes.

S. 3008. An act to extend temporarily the extended period of protection for members of uniformed services relating to mortgages, mortgage foreclosure, and eviction, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House agrees to the amendment of the Senate to the text of the bill (H.R. 2952) to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to assess the cybersecurity workforce of the Department of Homeland Security and develop a comprehensive workforce strategy, and for other purposes, with an amendment to the title.

The message also announced that the House agrees to the amendment of the

Senate to the bill (H.R. 4007) to recodify and reauthorize the Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards Program.

The message further announced that pursuant to section 1238(b)(3) of the Floyd D. Spence National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2001 (22 U.S.C. 7002), amended by division P of the Consolidated Appropriations Resolution, 2003 (22 U.S.C. 6901), the Minority Leader reappoints the following member on the part of the House of Representatives to the United States-China Economic and Security Review Commission: Mr. Michael Wessel of Falls Church, Virginia.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 3(b) of the Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor Act of 2001 (42 U.S.C. 15202), the Minority Leader appoints the following member on the part of the House of Representatives to the Medal of Valor Review Board: Mr. Brian Fengel of Bartonville, Illinois.

## ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

The President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY) announced that on today, December 12, 2014, he had signed the following enrolled bills, previously signed by the Speaker of the House:

S. 1000. An act to require the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to prepare a crosscut budget for restoration activities in the Chesapeake Bay watershed, and for other purposes.

S. 1683. An act to provide for the transfer of naval vessels to certain foreign recipients, and for other purposes.

S. 1691. An act to amend title 5, United States Code, to improve the security of the United States border and to provide for reforms and rate of pay for border patrol agents.

S. 2142. An act to impose targeted sanctions on persons responsible for violations of human rights of antigovernment protesters in Venezuela, to strengthen civil society in Venezuela, and for other purposes.

S. 2270. An act to clarify the application of certain leverage and risk-based requirements under the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act.

S. 2444. An act to authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard for fiscal year 2015, and for other purposes.

S. 2519. An act to codify an existing operations center for cybersecurity.

S. 2521. An act to amend chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code, to provide for reform to Federal information security.

S. 2651. An act to repeal certain mandates of the Department of Homeland Security Office of Inspector General.

S. 2759. An act to release the City of St. Clair, Missouri, from all restrictions, conditions, and limitations on the use, encumbrance, conveyance, and closure of the St. Clair Regional Airport.

H.R. 1067. An act to make revisions in title 36, United States Code, as necessary to keep the title current and make technical corrections and improvements.

H.R. 1204. An act to amend title 49, United States Code, to direct the Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security (Transportation Security Administration) to establish an Aviation Security Advisory Committee, and for other purposes.



H.R. 1281. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize programs under part A of title XI of such Act.

H.R. 1447. An act to encourage States to report to the Attorney General certain information regarding the deaths of individuals in the custody of law enforcement agencies, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2719. An act to require the Transportation Security Administration to implement best practices and improve transparency with regard to technology acquisition programs, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2952. An act to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to assess the cybersecurity workforce of the Department of Homeland Security and develop a comprehensive workforce strategy, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3044. An act to approve the transfer of Yellow Creek Port properties in Iuka, Mississippi.

H.R. 3374. An act to provide for the use of savings promotion raffle products by financial institutions to encourage savings, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3468. An act to amend the Federal Credit Union Act to extend insurance coverage to amounts held in a member account on behalf of another person, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4007. An act to recodify and reauthorize the Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards Program.

H.R. 4193. An act to amend title 5, United States Code, to change the default investment fund under the Thrift Savings Plan, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4199. An act to name the Department of Veterans Affairs medical center in Waco, Texas, as the "Doris Miller Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center".

H.R. 4681. An act to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2014 and 2015 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4926. An act to designate a segment of Interstate Route 35 in the State of Minnesota as the "James L. Oberstar Memorial Highway".

H.R. 5705. An act to modify certain provisions relating to the Propane Education and Research Council.

At 7:07 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following joint resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.J. Res. 131. Joint resolution making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2015, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 125. Concurrent resolution providing for the sine die adjournment of the second session of the One Hundred Thirteenth Congress.

#### ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

At 7:51 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. WOLF) has signed the following enrolled bills:

S. 1353. An act to provide for an ongoing, voluntary public-private partnership to improve cybersecurity, and to strengthen cybersecurity research and development, workforce development and education, and public awareness and preparedness, and for other purposes.

S. 1474. An act to amend the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 to repeal a special rule for the State of Alaska, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2640. An act to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to adjust the Crooked River boundary, to provide water certainty for the City of Prineville, Oregon, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3096. An act to designate the building occupied by the Federal Bureau of Investigation located at 801 Follin Lane, Vienna, Virginia, as the "Michael D. Resnick Terrorist Screening Center".

H.R. 3329. An act to enhance the ability of community financial institutions to foster economic growth and serve their communities, boost small businesses, increase individual savings, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4771. An act to amend the Controlled Substances Act to more effectively regulate anabolic steroids.

H.R. 5057. An act to amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to permit exemptions for external power supplies from certain efficiency standards, and for other purposes.

#### ENROLLED BILLS PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on today, December 12, 2014, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bills:

S. 1000. An act to require the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to prepare a crosscut budget for restoration activities in the Chesapeake Bay watershed, and for other purposes.

S. 1683. An act to provide for the transfer of naval vessels to certain foreign recipients, and for other purposes.

S. 1691. An act to amend title 5, United States Code, to improve the security of the United States border and to provide for reforms and rate of pay for border patrol agents.

S. 2142. An act to impose targeted sanctions on persons responsible for violations of human rights of antigovernment protesters in Venezuela, to strengthen civil society in Venezuela, and for other purposes.

S. 2270. An act to clarify the application of certain leverage and risk-based requirements under the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act.

S. 2444. An act to authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard for fiscal year 2015, and for other purposes.

S. 2519. An act to codify an existing operations center for cybersecurity.

S. 2521. An act to amend chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code, to provide for reform to Federal information security.

S. 2651. An act to repeal certain mandates of the Department of Homeland Security Office of Inspector General.

S. 2759. An act to release the City of St. Clair, Missouri, from all restrictions, conditions, and limitations on the use, encumbrance, conveyance, and closure of the St. Clair Regional Airport.

#### EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-8156. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Vice Admiral Paul J. Bushong, United States Navy, and his advancement to the grade of vice admiral on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-8157. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fluopyram; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL No. 9918-99) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 11, 2014; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-8158. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Natamycin; Amendment to an Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance" (FRL No. 9919-35) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 11, 2014; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-8159. A communication from the Senior Counsel, Bureau of the Fiscal Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Government Securities Act Regulations: Large Position Reporting Rules" (31 CFR Part 420) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 11, 2014; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-8160. A communication from the General Counsel of the Federal Housing Finance Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Housing Trust Fund" (RIN2590-AA73) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 11, 2014; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-8161. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Extension for Deadline to Submit Option and Advisory Letter Applications for Pre-approved Defined Benefit Plans" (Announcement 2014-41) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 11, 2014; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-8162. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Update for Weighted Average Interest Rates, Yield Curves, and Segment Rates" (Notice 2014-78) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 11, 2014; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-8163. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "2014 Cumulative List of Changes in Plan Qualification Requirements" (Notice 2014-77) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 11, 2014; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-8164. A communication from the General Counsel, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the

report of a rule entitled "Benefits Payable in Terminated Single-Employer Plans; Interest Assumptions for Paying Benefits" (29 CFR Part 4022) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 11, 2014; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-8165. A communication from the Chair of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's Semiannual Report of the Inspector General and the Semiannual Management Report for the period from April 1, 2014 through September 30, 2014; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-8166. A communication from the Administrator of the Small Business Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Semiannual Report from the Office of the Inspector General for the period from April 1, 2014 through September 30, 2014; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-8167. A communication from the Board Members, Railroad Retirement Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Board's Performance and Accountability Report for fiscal year 2014, including the Office of Inspector General's Auditor's Report; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-8168. A communication from the Chairman of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Museum's fiscal year 2014 Report on Audit and Investigative Activities; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-8169. A communication from the Secretary of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department's Semiannual Report of the Office of the Inspector General for the period from April 1, 2014 through September 30, 2014; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-8170. A communication from the Chief Financial Officer, National Labor Relations Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Performance and Accountability Report for Fiscal Year 2014"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-8171. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Texas; Repeal of Lead Emission Rules for Stationary Sources in El Paso and Dallas County" (FRL No. 9920-34-Region 6) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 11, 2014; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-8172. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Illinois; Withdrawal of Direct Final Rule" (FRL No. 9920-13-Region 5) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 11, 2014; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-8173. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Maryland; Redesignation Request and Associated Maintenance Plan for the Baltimore, Maryland

Nonattainment Area for the 1997 Annual Fine Particulate Matter Standard" (FRL No. 9920-41-Region 3) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 11, 2014; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-8174. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Maryland; Redesignation Request and Associated Maintenance Plan for the Maryland Portion of the Martinsburg-Hagerstown, WV-MD Nonattainment Area for the 1997 Annual Fine Particulate Matter Standard" (FRL No. 9920-42-Region 3) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 11, 2014; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-8175. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revisions to the California State Implementation Plan, Feather River Air Quality Management District" (FRL No. 9919-52-Region 9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 11, 2014; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-8176. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "National Priorities List" (FRL No. 9920-06-OSWER) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 11, 2014; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-8177. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "EPAAR Clause for Work Assignments" (FRL No. 9920-48-OARM) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 11, 2014; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-8178. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Ethylene Glycol Ethers; Significant New Use Rule" ((RIN2070-AJ52) (FRL No. 9915-61)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 11, 2014; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-8179. A communication from the Acting Director of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Ocean Perch in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area" (RIN0648-XD614) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 11, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8180. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries Off West Coast States; Modifications of the West Coast Commercial and Tribal Salmon Fisheries; Inseason Actions No. 10 through No. 23" (RIN0648-XD425) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 11, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8181. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Herring Fishery; 2014 Sub-Annual Catch Limit (ACL) Harvested for Management Area 1A" (RIN0648-XD570) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 11, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8182. A communication from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Dusky Rockfish in the Western Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska" (RIN0648-XD630) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 11, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8183. A communication from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Snapper-Grouper Fishery of the South Atlantic; 2014 Recreational Accountability Measure and Closure for Gray Triggerfish in the South Atlantic" (RIN0648-XD628) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 11, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8184. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act Provisions; Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Northeast Groundfish Fishery; Gulf of Maine Haddock Annual Catch Limit Revision" (RIN0648-BE45) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 11, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8185. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act Provisions; Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Northeast Groundfish Fishery; Fishing Year 2014; Emergency Gulf of Maine Cod Management Measures" (RIN0648-BE56) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 11, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8186. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Highly Migratory Species; Technical Amendment to Regulations" (RIN0648-BE54) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 11, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8187. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Snapper-Grouper Fishery Off the Southern Atlantic States; Regulatory Amendment 14" (RIN0648-BD07) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 11, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.



EC-8188. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone off Alaska; Monitoring and Enforcement; At-Sea Scales Requirements" (RIN0648-BD90) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 11, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8189. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Modifications to Federal Fisheries Permits and Federal Processor Permits" (RIN0648-AX78) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 11, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8190. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Amendment 96 to the Gulf of Alaska Fishery Management Plan; Management of Community Quota Entities" (RIN0648-BD74) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 11, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mrs. BOXER, from the Committee on Environment and Public Works, with amendments:

S. 2055. A bill to allow for the collection of certain user fees by non-Federal entities (Rept. No. 113-309).

By Mr. ROCKEFELLER, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:

Report to accompany S. 1014, a bill to reduce sports-related concussions in youth, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 113-310).

Report to accompany S. 2581, a bill to require the Consumer Product Safety Commission to promulgate a rule to require child safety packaging for liquid nicotine containers, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 113-311).

By Ms. MIKULSKI, from the Committee on Appropriations:

Special Report entitled "Further Revised Allocation to Subcommittees of Budget Totals for Fiscal Year 2015" (Rept. No. 113-312).

By Mr. MENENDEZ, from the Committee on Foreign Relations:

Report to accompany S. 2922, a bill to reinstate reporting requirements related to United States-Hong Kong relations (Rept. No. 113-313).

By Mr. ROCKEFELLER, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:

Report to accompany S. 2482, a bill to implement the Convention on the Conservation and Management of the High Seas Fisheries Resources in the North Pacific Ocean, as adopted at Tokyo on February 24, 2012, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 113-314).

Report to accompany S. 2484, a bill to implement the Convention on the Conservation and Management of the High Seas Fishery

Resources in the South Pacific Ocean, as adopted at Auckland on November 14, 2009, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 113-315).

Report to accompany S. 2485, a bill to implement the Amendment to the Convention on Future Multilateral Cooperation in the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries, as adopted at Lisbon on September 28, 2007 (Rept. No. 113-316).

By Mr. TESTER, from the Committee on Indian Affairs:

Report to accompany S. 2442, a bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to take certain land and mineral rights on the reservation of the Northern Cheyenne Tribe of Montana and other culturally important land into trust for the benefit of the Northern Cheyenne Tribe, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 113-317).

By Mr. ROCKEFELLER, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:

Report to accompany S. 2140, a bill to improve the transition between experimental permits and commercial licenses for commercial reusable launch vehicles (Rept. No. 113-318).

Report to accompany S. 429, a bill to enable concrete masonry products manufacturers to establish, finance, and carry out a coordinated program of research, education, and promotion to improve, maintain, and develop markets for concrete masonry products (Rept. No. 113-319).

Report to accompany S. 2022, a bill to establish scientific standards and protocols across forensic disciplines, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 113-320).

Report to accompany S. 2777, a bill to establish the Surface Transportation Board as an independent establishment, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 113-321).

Report to accompany S. 2799, a bill to extend the authority of satellite carriers to retransmit certain television broadcast station signals, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 113-322).

#### INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself and Mr. ROCKEFELLER):

S. 3009. A bill to improve end-of-life care; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. MCCASKILL:

S. 3010. A bill to improve the enforcement of prohibitions on robocalls, including fraudulent robocalls; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. HATCH:

S. 3011. A bill to provide for the establishment of a process for the review of rules and sets of rules, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. MENENDEZ:

S. 3012. A bill to improve the enforcement of sanctions against the Government of North Korea, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. LEVIN (for himself and Mr. MCCAIN):

S. 3013. A bill to amend the Commodity Exchange Act to prevent manipulation of physical commodities prices, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Ms. AYOTTE (for herself and Mrs. SHAHEEN):

S. 3014. A bill to extend and modify a pilot program on assisted living services for veterans with traumatic brain injury, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. PAUL:

S. 3015. A bill to establish a rule of construction clarifying the limitations on executive authority to provide certain forms of immigration relief; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. HEINRICH:

S. 3016. A bill to amend the Act of July 31, 1947, to provide for the termination of certain mineral materials contracts; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. HATCH:

S. 3017. A bill to provide a categorical exclusion under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 to allow the Director of the Bureau of Land Management and the Chief of the Forest Service to remove Pinyon-Juniper trees to conserve and restore the habitat of the greater sage-grouse; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

#### SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. UDALL of New Mexico (for himself and Mr. MERKLEY):

S. Res. 600. A resolution to limit certain uses of the filibuster in the Senate to improve the legislative process; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. KIRK, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Mr. CARDIN):

S. Res. 601. A resolution recognizing 35 years of cooperation in science and technology between the United States and the People's Republic of China; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

#### ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 2500

At the request of Mr. WALSH, the name of the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. PAUL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2500, a bill to restrict the ability of the Federal Government to undermine privacy and encryption technology in commercial products and in NIST computer security and encryption standards.

S. 2529

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2529, a bill to amend and reauthorize the controlled substance monitoring program under section 3990 of the Public Health Service Act.

S. 2581

At the request of Mr. NELSON, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2581, a bill to require the Consumer Product Safety Commission to promulgate a rule to require child safety packaging for liquid nicotine containers, and for other purposes.

S. 2645

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2645, a bill to provide access to medication-assisted therapy, and for other purposes.

S. 2839

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2839, a bill to authorize the Attorney General to award grants to address the national epidemics of prescription opioid abuse and heroin use.

S. 2930

At the request of Mr. REED, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2930, a bill to direct the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide for the conduct of an evaluation of mental health care and suicide prevention programs of the Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Affairs, to require a pilot program on loan repayment for psychiatrists who agree to serve in the Veterans Health Administration of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2930, *supra*.

## SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

### SENATE RESOLUTION 600—TO LIMIT CERTAIN USES OF THE FILBUSTER IN THE SENATE TO IMPROVE THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico (for himself and Mr. MERKLEY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. RES. 600

#### SECTION 1. MOTIONS TO PROCEED.

Paragraph 1 of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate is amended by inserting at the end the following new paragraph:

“Other than a motion made during the first 2 hours of a new legislative day as described in paragraph 2 of rule VIII, consideration of a motion to proceed to the consideration of any debatable matter, including debate on any debatable motion or appeal in connection therewith, shall be limited to not more than 2 hours, to be equally divided between, and controlled by, the Majority Leader and the Minority Leader or their designees. This paragraph shall not apply to motions considered nondebateable by the Senate pursuant to rule or precedent.”.

#### SEC. 2. EXTENDED DEBATE.

Paragraph 2 of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate is amended by striking the second undesignated paragraph and inserting the following:

“Is it the sense of the Senate that the debate shall be brought to a close? And if that question shall be decided in the affirmative by three-fifths of the Senators duly chosen

and sworn, except on a measure or motion to amend the Senate rules, in which case the necessary affirmative vote shall be two-thirds of the Senators voting, a quorum being present, then cloture has been invoked.

“If that question is on disposition of a bill or joint resolution, a resolution or concurrent resolution, a substitute amendment for a bill or resolution, a motion with respect to amendments between the Houses, a conference report, or advice and consent to a nomination or treaty, and if such question shall be decided in the affirmative by a majority of Senators voting, a quorum being present, but less than three-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn (or less than two-thirds of the Senators voting, a quorum being present, in the case of a measure or motion to amend the Senate rules), then it shall be in order for the Majority Leader (or his or her designee) to initiate a period of extended debate upon the measure, motion, or other matter pending before the Senate, or the unfinished business, in relation to which the motion to close debate was offered, in which case the period of extended debate shall begin one hour later.

“During a period of extended debate, such measure, motion, or other matter pending before the Senate, or the unfinished business, shall be the unfinished business to the exclusion of all other business, except on action or motion by the Majority Leader (or his or her designee).

“During a period of extended debate it shall not be in order for a Senator other than the Majority Leader (or his or her designee) to raise a question as to the presence of a quorum, except immediately prior to a vote or when it has been more than forty-eight hours since a quorum was demonstrated. If upon a roll call it shall be ascertained that a quorum is not present, then the Senate shall adjourn to a time previously decided by order of the Senate or, if no such time has been established, then to a time certain determined by the Majority Leader, after consultation with the Minority Leader.

“During a period of extended debate a motion to adjourn or recess shall not be in order, unless made by the Majority Leader (or his or her designee) or if the absence of a quorum has been demonstrated. Notwithstanding paragraph 1 of rule XIX, there shall be no limit to the number of times a Senator may speak upon any question during a period of extended debate.

“If, during the course of extended debate, the Presiding Officer puts any question to a vote, the Majority Leader (or his or her designee) may postpone any such vote, which shall occur at a time determined by the Majority Leader, after consultation with the Minority Leader, but not later than the time at which a quorum is next demonstrated.

“If at any time during a period of extended debate no Senator seeks recognition, then the Presiding Officer shall inquire as to whether any Senator seeks recognition. If no Senator seeks recognition, then the Presiding Officer shall again put the question as to bringing debate to a close (and the Majority Leader or his or her designee may postpone such vote in accordance with the preceding paragraph), which shall be decided without further debate or intervening motion. If that question shall be decided in the affirmative by a majority of Senators voting, a quorum being present, then cloture has been invoked and the period of extended debate has ended. If that question shall be decided in the negative by a majority of Senators voting, a quorum being present, then the period of extended debate has ended.

“If cloture is invoked, then the measure, motion, other matter pending before the Senate, or the unfinished business, in relation to which the motion to close debate was offered, shall remain the unfinished business to the exclusion of all other business until disposed of.”.

#### SEC. 3. POST-CLOTURE DEBATE ON NOMINATIONS.

Paragraph 2 of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate is amended by striking “After no more than thirty hours of consideration of the measure, motion, or other matter on which cloture has been invoked, the Senate shall proceed, without any further debate on any question, to vote on” in the fourth undesignated paragraph and inserting “After no more than 30 hours of consideration of the measure, motion, or other matter on which cloture has been invoked, except on the question of advice and consent to a nomination other than a nomination to a position as Justice of the Supreme Court in which case consideration shall be limited to 2 hours, the Senate shall proceed, without any further debate on any question, to vote on”.

#### SEC. 4. CONFERENCE MOTIONS.

Rule XXVIII of the Standing Rules of the Senate is amended by—

(1) redesignating paragraphs 1 through 9 as paragraphs 2 through 10, respectively;

(2) redesignating any reference to paragraphs 1 through 9 as paragraph 2 through 10, respectively; and

(3) inserting before paragraph 2, as redesignated, the following:

“1. A nondivisible motion to disagree to a House amendment or insist upon a Senate amendment, to request a committee of conference with the House or to agree to a request by the House for a committee of conference, and to authorize the Presiding Officer to appoint conferees (or to appoint conferees), is in order and consideration of such a motion, including consideration of any debatable motion or appeal in connection therewith, shall be limited to not more than 2 hours.”.

#### SEC. 5. RIGHT TO OFFER AMENDMENTS.

Paragraph 2 of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate is amended by inserting at the end the following:

“After debate has concluded under this paragraph but prior to final disposition of the pending matter, the Majority Leader and the Minority Leader may each offer not to exceed 3 amendments identified as leadership amendments if they have been timely filed under this paragraph and are germane to the matter being amended. Debate on a leadership amendment shall be limited to 1 hour equally divided. A leadership amendment may not be divided.”.

### SENATE RESOLUTION 601—RECOGNIZING 35 YEARS OF COOPERATION IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. KIRK, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Mr. CARDIN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 601

Whereas mutually beneficial cooperation between the Governments of the People's Republic of China and the United States in promoting science and technology has made tremendous strides since the signing of the

Agreement Between the Government of the United States and the Government of the People's Republic of China on Cooperation in Science and Technology, done at Washington January 31, 1979, which was the first inter-governmental agreement since the United States and the People's Republic of China established diplomatic relations in 1979;

Whereas the Governments of the People's Republic of China and the United States have become active partners in fostering research and innovation since the signing of the Agreement Between the Government of the United States and the Government of the People's Republic of China on Cooperation in Science and Technology in 1979;

Whereas cooperation in science and technology since 1979 has brought numerous benefits to both countries, including—

(1) shared information on issues such as climate variability, seismic activity, and agricultural science;

(2) joint publication of scientific and technological research; and

(3) exchange of technical assistance and best practices in areas such as food and pharmaceutical safety and environmental cleanup;

Whereas the continued promotion of science and technology in both countries holds the potential to advance shared interests, as well as the interests of United States partners and allies in the region and globally, including in mitigating the effects of climate change, securing the availability of water, food and energy, and improving public health, disease prevention, and pandemic response;

Whereas the government-to-government relationship conducted under the Agreement Between the Government of the United States and the Government of the People's Republic of China on Cooperation in Science and Technology now consists of some 30 subordinate agency-to-agency protocols, including—

(1) cooperation between the Department of Energy and the Chinese Ministry of Science and Technology to form the Clean Energy Research Center to explore advances in clean vehicles, advanced coal technology, and building energy efficiency;

(2) cooperation between the Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Research Service and the Chinese Ministry of Science and Technology on agricultural biotechnology, natural resource management, food safety, and similar issues;

(3) cooperation between the National Institutes of Health and the counterparts in China, including the Natural Science Foundation of China and Chinese Ministry of Science and Technology to conduct basic and clinical biomedical research;

(4) cooperation between the Environmental Protection Agency and the counterparts in China, including the Chinese Ministry of Science and Technology and the Chinese Ministry of Environmental Protection to support joint environmental research, and to exchange best practices on environmental legislation and enforcement;

(5) exchange of personnel between the Chinese Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to develop information exchange and response mechanisms for influenza pandemics;

(6) collaboration between the Food and Drug Administration and food and medical regulators in China to enhance the safety of imported food and medical products from China through better information sharing and access to production facilities; and

(7) collaboration between the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Peking University Health Center (former Beijing Medical University) to study child health issues and health hazards caused by environmental factors;

Whereas many educational institutions in the United States and China have established partnerships to further science and technology research, including—

(1) Northwestern University, based in Evanston, Illinois, which has developed strategic partnerships in China, such as the Wanxiang Fellows Program, which allows Northwestern students to study emerging energy challenges and renewable energy innovations in the United States and China; and

(2) University of California, Davis, based in Davis, California, which has partnered with China's Northwest Agricultural and Forestry University in Shaanxi province to establish the Sino-U.S. Joint Research Center for Food Safety to promote international collaborative research for food safety in China and the United States;

Whereas the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign has signed 97 inter-institutional cooperative partnership agreements with various institutions that are headquartered in China in the fields of engineering, food sciences, and transportation, including a high-speed rail research partnership between the university's Railway Transportation and Engineering Center and China's oldest and most recognized railway engineering school, Southwest Jiaotong University;

Whereas, on December 5, 2014, China and the United States will commemorate the 30th anniversary, and renew for another ten years, the CHELBI partnership, which has created the largest joint venture engineering consulting firm in China, having undertaken over 600 bridge, road, and other projects the designs of which meet World Bank and Asian Development Bank standards, and has made significant progress in engineering knowledge-sharing for road, bridge, and other project design and construction between the United States and China;

Whereas several United States Department of Energy national laboratories have established partnerships with research institutions in China to advance energy research, including—

(1) Argonne National Laboratory in Lemont, Illinois, which has worked with the China Automotive Technology and Research Center (CATARC) to promote energy-efficient vehicle technologies and clean transportation fuels in China since 2003; and

(2) Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory in Berkeley, California, which has formed the China Energy Group to work collaboratively with groups in China to understand the dynamics of energy use, improve energy efficiency, reduce emissions in China, strengthen Chinese capabilities in energy efficiency, and enhance relationships on energy efficiency among Chinese, United States, and international institutions;

Whereas, in 2013, the State of California and the Chinese Ministry of Commerce signed a Memorandum of Understanding to establish a working group to deepen cooperation in fields such as biological pharmaceuticals, information technology, agriculture, and energy;

Whereas the exchange of ideas in science and technology and shared research conducted in China and the United States holds the potential to increase United States exports of non-sensitive commercial technologies to China;

Whereas the agreement reached in November 2014 between the United States and the People's Republic of China to expand the scope of goods covered by the Information Technology Agreement will further deepen trade, investment, and mutual cooperation in science and technology;

Whereas collaboration in science and technology since 1979 has provided both countries with the technological foundation to make ambitious pledges to reduce future emissions of carbon dioxide; and

Whereas people-to-people exchanges conducted under the Agreement Between the Government of the United States and the Government of the People's Republic of China on Cooperation in Science and Technology have fostered mutual understanding of both countries and have led to joint research in science and technology: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the cooperation in science and technology between the Governments of the United States and the People's Republic of China since 1979;

(2) emphasizes the importance of open markets, intellectual property rights, and the free exchange of information to the development of science and technology; and

(3) expresses continued support for the principles of the Agreement Between the Government of the United States and the Government of the People's Republic of China on Cooperation in Science and Technology, done at Washington January 31, 1979, to which both countries remain committed.

#### AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 4100. Mr. REID proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 83, to require the Secretary of the Interior to assemble a team of technical, policy, and financial experts to address the energy needs of the insular areas of the United States and the Freely Associated States through the development of energy action plans aimed at promoting access to affordable, reliable energy, including increasing use of indigenous clean-energy resources, and for other purposes.

SA 4101. Mr. REID proposed an amendment to amendment SA 4100 proposed by Mr. REID to the bill H.R. 83, *supra*.

SA 4102. Mr. REID proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 83, *supra*.

SA 4103. Mr. REID proposed an amendment to amendment SA 4102 proposed by Mr. REID to the bill H.R. 83, *supra*.

SA 4104. Mr. REID proposed an amendment to amendment SA 4103 proposed by Mr. REID to the amendment SA 4102 proposed by Mr. REID to the bill H.R. 83, *supra*.

SA 4105. Mr. COBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 5771, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend certain expiring provisions and make technical corrections, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the tax treatment of ABLE accounts established under State programs for the care of family members with disabilities, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4106. Mr. COBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 5771, *supra*; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4107. Mr. COBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 5771, *supra*; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4108. Mr. COBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him

to the bill H.R. 5771, *supra*; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4109. Mr. COBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 5771, *supra*; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4110. Mr. COBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 5771, *supra*; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4111. Mr. COBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 5771, *supra*; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4112. Mr. COBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 5771, *supra*; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4113. Mr. COBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 5771, *supra*; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4114. Mr. COBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 5771, *supra*; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4115. Mr. COBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 5771, *supra*; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4116. Mr. COBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 5771, *supra*; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4117. Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. Kaine, Mr. Cardin, Mrs. Shaheen, Mr. Coons, Mr. Udall of New Mexico, Mr. Murphy, Mr. Markey, and Mrs. Boxer) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 83, to require the Secretary of the Interior to assemble a team of technical, policy, and financial experts to address the energy needs of the insular areas of the United States and the Freely Associated States through the development of energy action plans aimed at promoting access to affordable, reliable energy, including increasing use of indigenous clean-energy resources, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4118. Ms. Warren (for herself, Mr. Vitter, Mr. Markey, and Mr. Merkley) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 83, *supra*; which was ordered to lie on the table.

#### TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

**SA 4100.** Mr. REID proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 83, to require the Secretary of the Interior to assemble a team of technical, policy, and financial experts to address the energy needs of the insular areas of the United States and the Freely Associated States through the development of energy action plans aimed at promoting access to affordable, reliable energy, including increasing use of indigenous clean-energy resources, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

This Act shall become effective 1 day after enactment.

**SA 4101.** Mr. REID proposed an amendment to amendment SA 4100 proposed by Mr. REID to the bill H.R. 83, to require the Secretary of the Interior to assemble a team of technical, policy, and financial experts to address the en-

ergy needs of the insular areas of the United States and the Freely Associated States through the development of energy action plans aimed at promoting access to affordable, reliable energy, including increasing use of indigenous clean-energy resources, and for other purposes; as follows:

In the amendment, strike "1 day" and insert "2 days".

**SA 4102.** Mr. REID proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 83, to require the Secretary of the Interior to assemble a team of technical, policy, and financial experts to address the energy needs of the insular areas of the United States and the Freely Associated States through the development of energy action plans aimed at promoting access to affordable, reliable energy, including increasing use of indigenous clean-energy resources, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

This Act shall become effective 3 days after enactment.

**SA 4103.** Mr. REID proposed an amendment to amendment SA 4102 proposed by Mr. REID to the bill H.R. 83, to require the Secretary of the Interior to assemble a team of technical, policy, and financial experts to address the energy needs of the insular areas of the United States and the Freely Associated States through the development of energy action plans aimed at promoting access to affordable, reliable energy, including increasing use of indigenous clean-energy resources, and for other purposes; as follows:

In the amendment, strike "3 days" and insert "4 days".

**SA 4104.** Mr. REID proposed an amendment to amendment SA 4103 proposed by Mr. REID to the amendment SA 4102 proposed by Mr. REID to the bill H.R. 83, to require the Secretary of the Interior to assemble a team of technical, policy, and financial experts to address the energy needs of the insular areas of the United States and the Freely Associated States through the development of energy action plans aimed at promoting access to affordable, reliable energy, including increasing use of indigenous clean-energy resources, and for other purposes; as follows:

In the amendment, strike "4" and insert "5".

**SA 4105.** Mr. COBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 5771, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend certain expiring provisions and make technical corrections, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the tax treatment of ALE accounts established under State programs for the care of family members with disabilities, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Beginning on page 135, strike line 11 and all that follows through page 140, line 4 and insert the following:

"(e) OTHER DEFINITIONS AND SPECIAL RULES.—For purposes of this section—

"(1) ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL.—An individual is an eligible individual for a taxable year if during such taxable year the individual is entitled to benefits based on blindness or disability under title II or XVI of the Social Security Act, and such blindness or disability occurred before the date on which the individual attained age 26.

"(2) DESIGNATED BENEFICIARY.—The term 'designated beneficiary' in connection with an ALE account established under a qualified ALE program means the eligible individual who established an ALE account and is the owner of such account.

"(3) MEMBER OF FAMILY.—The term 'member of the family' means, with respect to any designated beneficiary, an individual who bears a relationship to such beneficiary which is described in subparagraph section 152(d)(2)(B). For purposes of the preceding sentence, a rule similar to the rule of section 152(f)(1)(B) shall apply.

"(4) QUALIFIED DISABILITY EXPENSES.—The term 'qualified disability expenses' means any expenses related to the eligible individual's blindness or disability which are made for the benefit of an eligible individual who is the designated beneficiary, including the following expenses: education, housing, transportation, employment training and support, assistive technology and personal support services, health, prevention and wellness, financial management and administrative services, legal fees, expenses for oversight and monitoring, funeral and burial expenses, and other expenses, which are approved by the Secretary under regulations and consistent with the purposes of this section.

"(5) ALE ACCOUNT.—The term 'ALE account' means an account established by an eligible individual, owned by such eligible individual, and maintained under a qualified ALE program.

"(6) CONTRACTING STATE.—The term 'contracting State' means a State without a qualified ALE program which has entered into a contract with a State with a qualified ALE program to provide residents of the contracting State access to a qualified ALE program.

"(f) TRANSFER TO STATE.—Subject to any outstanding payments due for qualified disability expenses, upon the death of the designated beneficiary, all amounts remaining in the qualified ALE account not in excess of the amount equal to the total medical assistance paid for the designated beneficiary after the establishment of the account, net of any premiums paid from the account or paid by or on behalf of the beneficiary to a Medicaid Buy-In program under any State Medicaid plan established under title XIX of the Social Security Act, shall be distributed to such State upon filing of a claim for payment by such State. For purposes of this paragraph, the State shall be a creditor of an ALE account and not a beneficiary. Subsection (c)(3) shall not apply to a distribution under the preceding sentence.

"(g) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall prescribe such regulations or other guidance as the Secretary determines necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes of this section, including regulations—

"(1) to enforce the 1 ALE account per eligible individual limit,

"(2) providing for the information required to be presented to open an ALE account,

“(3) to generally define qualified disability expenses,

“(4) to prevent fraud and abuse with respect to amounts claimed as qualified disability expenses,

“(5) under chapters 11, 12, and 13 of this title, and

“(6) to allow for transfers from one ABLE account to another ABLE account.”.

**SA 4106.** Mr. COBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 5771, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend certain expiring provisions and make technical corrections, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the tax treatment of ABLE accounts established under State programs for the care of family members with disabilities, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike section 115.

**SA 4107.** Mr. COBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 5771, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend certain expiring provisions and make technical corrections, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the tax treatment of ABLE accounts established under State programs for the care of family members with disabilities, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 12, strike lines 9 through 16.

**SA 4108.** Mr. COBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 5771, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend certain expiring provisions and make technical corrections, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the tax treatment of ABLE accounts established under State programs for the care of family members with disabilities, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Beginning on page 25, strike line 13 through page 26, line 7.

**SA 4109.** Mr. COBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 5771, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend certain expiring provisions and make technical corrections, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the tax treatment of ABLE accounts established under State programs for the care of family members with disabilities, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Beginning on page 26, strike line 17 through page 27, line 5.

**SA 4110.** Mr. COBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 5771, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend certain expiring provisions and make

technical corrections, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the tax treatment of ABLE accounts established under State programs for the care of family members with disabilities, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 11, strike lines 14 through 21.

**SA 4111.** Mr. COBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 5771, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend certain expiring provisions and make technical corrections, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the tax treatment of ABLE accounts established under State programs for the care of family members with disabilities, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 12, strike lines 18 through 25.

**SA 4112.** Mr. COBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 5771, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend certain expiring provisions and make technical corrections, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the tax treatment of ABLE accounts established under State programs for the care of family members with disabilities, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 14, strike lines 12 through 20.

**SA 4113.** Mr. COBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 5771, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend certain expiring provisions and make technical corrections, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the tax treatment of ABLE accounts established under State programs for the care of family members with disabilities, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

**SEC. \_\_\_\_ PROHIBITION ON USING TAX-EXEMPT STATE AND LOCAL BONDS FOR CERTAIN FACILITIES.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 103(b) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(4) BOND TO FINANCE CERTAIN FACILITIES.—Any bond to finance a facility primarily used for gambling, a private or commercial golf course, a country club, a skybox or other private luxury box, or a stadium or arena for professional sports exhibitions or games.”.

**SA 4114.** Mr. COBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 5771, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend certain expiring provisions and make technical corrections, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the tax treatment of ABLE accounts established under State pro-

grams for the care of family members with disabilities, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 10, between lines 19 and 20, insert the following:

(c) PROHIBITION ON COMBINING THE NEW MARKET TAX CREDIT WITH OTHER SOURCES OF FEDERAL FUNDING.—Section 45D is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(j) PROHIBITION.—A qualified community development entity shall not use any equity leveraged through the new markets tax credit under this section on any project that is benefitting from the rehabilitation credit for certified historic structures under section 47.”.

**SA 4115.** Mr. COBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 5771, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend certain expiring provisions and make technical corrections, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the tax treatment of ABLE accounts established under State programs for the care of family members with disabilities, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 10, between lines 19 and 20, insert the following:

(c) PROHIBITION ON USE OF THE NEW MARKET TAX CREDIT ON CERTAIN FACILITIES.—Section 45D is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(j) PROHIBITION.—Any amounts allocated to a qualified community development entity under this section shall not be used to leverage funding for the purchase, construction, maintenance, or operation of a fast-food restaurant, gas station, flea market, doggy daycare or grooming facility, or brewery.”.

**SA 4116.** Mr. COBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 5771, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend certain expiring provisions and make technical corrections, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the tax treatment of ABLE accounts established under State programs for the care of family members with disabilities, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

**SEC. \_\_\_\_ DISCLOSURE OF PUBLIC COMPANIES RECEIVING CERTAIN TAX BENEFITS.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding section 6103 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or any other provision of law, the Secretary of the Treasury, or the Secretary's delegate, shall provide to administrator of the website established under the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (31 U.S.C. 6101 note), for purposes of inclusion on such website, the information described in subsection (b) with respect to any corporation—

(1) the stock of which is publicly traded on an established securities market, and

(2) which is allowed an applicable tax benefit.

(b) INFORMATION INCLUDED.—The information described in this subsection is—

- (1) the name of the corporation,
- (2) the type of applicable tax benefit, and
- (3) the amount of the applicable tax benefit.

(c) **APPLICABLE TAX BENEFIT.**—For purposes of this section, the term “applicable tax benefit” means, with respect to any taxpayer for any taxable year beginning after December 31, 2013, any credit, deduction, or other benefit allowed to the taxpayer by reason of an amendment made by—

- (1) part II or part III of subtitle A of title I of this Act,
- (2) subtitle B of title I of this Act, or
- (3) section 107(b) of this Act.

**SA 4117.** Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. KAINE, Mr. CARDIN, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. COONS, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. MARKEY, and Mrs. BOXER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 83, to require the Secretary of the Interior to assemble a team of technical, policy, and financial experts to address the energy needs of the insular areas of the United States and the Freely Associated States through the development of energy action plans aimed at promoting access to affordable, reliable energy, including increasing use of indigenous clean-energy resources, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

**DIVISION —AUTHORIZATION FOR USE OF MILITARY FORCE AGAINST THE ISLAMIC STATE OF IRAQ AND THE LEVANT**

**SEC. —01. SHORT TITLE.**

This division may be cited as the “Authorization for the Use of Military Force against the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant”.

**SEC. —02. FINDINGS.**

(a) **FINDINGS.**—Congress makes the following findings:

(1) The terrorist organization known as the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant and various other names (in this division referred to as “ISIL”) poses a grave threat to the people and territorial integrity of Iraq, Syria, regional stability, and the national security interests of the United States and its allies and partners.

(2) ISIL holds significant territory in Iraq and Syria and has stated its intention to seize more territory and demonstrated the capability to do so.

(3) ISIL leaders have stated that they intend to conduct terrorist attacks internationally, including against the United States, its citizens, and interests.

(4) ISIL has committed despicable acts of violence and mass executions against Muslims, regardless of sect, who do not subscribe to ISIL’s depraved, violent, and oppressive ideology.

(5) ISIL has threatened genocide and committed vicious acts of violence against religious and ethnic minority groups, including Iraqi Christians, Yezidi, and Turkmen populations.

(6) ISIL has targeted innocent women and girls with horrific acts of violence, including abduction, enslavement, torture, rape, and forced marriage.

(7) ISIL is responsible for the brutal murder of innocent United States citizens, including James Foley, Steven Sotloff, and Abdul-Rahman Peter Kassig.

(8) It is the policy of the United States to work with regional and global allies and partners to degrade and defeat ISIL, to cut off its funding, to stop the flow of foreign fighters to its ranks, and to support local communities as they reject ISIL.

(9) The announcement of the anti-ISIL Coalition on September 5, 2014, during the NATO Summit in Wales, stated that ISIL poses a serious threat and should be countered by a broad international coalition.

(10) President Barack Obama articulated five lines of effort in the campaign to counter ISIL, including supporting regional military partners, stopping the flow of foreign fighters, cutting off ISIL’s access to financing, addressing urgent humanitarian needs, and contesting ISIL’s messaging.

(11) The United States Government calls on its allies and partners in the Middle East and North Africa that have not already done so to join and participate in the anti-ISIL Coalition.

(12) The United States Government has successfully conducted airstrikes in Iraq, in coordination with Iraqi and Kurdish security forces, to prevent humanitarian catastrophes, protect vulnerable minority populations, repel ISIL from areas of strategic importance, and demonstrate support to communities in western and northern Iraq being terrorized by ISIL.

(13) The United States Government has successfully conducted airstrikes in Syria, in coordination with local actors on the ground who demonstrate commitment and capability in countering ISIL, in order to target ISIL training camps and munitions facilities, stop sources of ISIL funding, protect vulnerable minority populations, and target extremist groups intent on attacking the United States and its allies.

(14) United States and Coalition airstrikes to date have succeeded in halting ISIL’s advance in Iraq and Syria.

(15) The President should to the greatest extent possible act in concert or cooperation with the security forces of other countries in the region to counter the grave threat to regional stability and international security posed by ISIL.

(16) The anti-ISIL strategy requires effective local security forces in Iraq and Syria, and empowered political leaders committed to leading inclusive, representative governments that enable citizens in both countries to achieve their legitimate aspirations and to live in peace and security.

(17) President Obama stated on November 5, 2014, his commitment to working with Congress to pass an authorization for the use of military force for the anti-ISIL military campaign.

**SEC. —03. AUTHORIZATION FOR USE OF UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES.**

(a) **AUTHORIZATION.**—The President is authorized, subject to the limitations in subsection (c), to use the Armed Forces of the United States as the President determines to be necessary and appropriate against the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant or associated persons or forces as defined in section —06.

(b) **WAR POWERS RESOLUTION REQUIREMENTS.**—

(1) **SPECIFIC STATUTORY AUTHORIZATION.**—Consistent with section 8(a)(1) of the War Powers Resolution (50 U.S.C. 1547(a)(1)), Congress declares that this section is intended to constitute specific statutory authorization within the meaning of section 5(b) of the War Powers Resolution (50 U.S.C. 1544(b)), within the limits of the authorization established under this section.

(2) **APPLICABILITY OF OTHER REQUIREMENTS.**—Nothing in this division supersedes any requirement of the War Powers Resolution (50 U.S.C. 1541 et seq.).

(c) **LIMITATIONS.**—The authority granted in subsection (a) does not authorize the use of the United States Armed Forces for the purpose of ground combat operations except as necessary—

(1) for the protection or rescue of members of the United States Armed Forces or United States citizens from imminent danger posed by ISIL; or

(2) to conduct missions not intended to result in ground combat operations by United States forces, such as—

- (A) intelligence collection and sharing;
- (B) enabling kinetic strikes;
- (C) operational planning; or
- (D) other forms of advice and assistance to forces fighting ISIL in Iraq or Syria.

**SEC. —04. DURATION OF THIS AUTHORIZATION.**

This authorization for the use of military force shall terminate three years after the date of the enactment of this Act, unless reauthorized.

**SEC. —05. REPORTS.**

(a) **PERIODIC REPORT.**—The President shall report to Congress at least once every 60 days on specific actions taken pursuant to this authorization.

(b) **COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGY.**—Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall submit to Congress an unclassified report, which may include a classified annex, on the comprehensive strategy of the United States in Iraq and Syria, including all activities authorized by this division. The comprehensive strategy report shall include—

(1) The specific political and diplomatic objectives of the United States in the region and the methods proposed to achieve them.

(2) Clearly defined military objectives of the United States, including—

- (A) a list of the organizations and entities to be targeted by military operations;
- (B) the geographic scope of military operations; and
- (C) methods for limiting civilian casualties.

(3) Actual and proposed contributions from coalition partners of the United States, including financing, equipment, training, troops, and logistics support.

(4) Humanitarian assistance and support for displaced civilian populations.

(5) Benchmarks for assessing progress toward political, diplomatic, and military goals.

(6) A realistic end goal and exit strategy.

(7) An estimate of the costs involved and how any funds made available for activities authorized by this division will be fully offset through reduced spending, increased revenue, or both.

**SEC. —06. ASSOCIATED PERSONS OR FORCES DEFINED.**

In this division, the term “associated persons or forces” means individuals and organizations fighting for or on behalf of the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant or a closely-related successor entity, for the purposes of action authorized to be taken under this division.

**SEC. —07. APPLICABILITY.**

The provisions of this division pertaining to the authorization of use of force against the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant shall supersede any preceding authorization for the use of military force.

**SEC. — 08. REPEAL OF AUTHORIZATION FOR USE OF MILITARY FORCE AGAINST IRAQ.**

The Authorization for Use of Military Force Against Iraq Resolution of 2002 (Public Law 107-243; 116 Stat. 1498; 50 U.S.C. 1541 note) is hereby repealed.

**SEC. — 09. SUNSET OF 2001 AUTHORIZATION FOR USE OF MILITARY FORCE.**

The Authorization for Use of Military Force (Public Law 107-40; 50 U.S.C. 1541 note) shall terminate on the date that is three years after the date of the enactment of this Act, unless reauthorized.

**SA 4118.** Ms. WARREN (for herself, Mr. VITTER, Mr. MARKEY, and Mr. MERKLEY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 83, to require the Secretary of the Interior to assemble a team of technical, policy, and financial experts to address the energy needs of the insular areas of the United States and the Freely Associated States through the development of energy action plans aimed at promoting access to affordable, reliable energy, including increasing use of indigenous clean-energy resources, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike section 630 of title VI of division E (amending section 716 of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (15 U.S.C. 8305)).

**PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR**

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Larkin O'Hern, a military fellow in Senator MURRAY's office, be granted the privilege of the floor for the remainder of the 113th Congress.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

**ORDERS FOR SATURDAY,  
DECEMBER 13, 2014**

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 12 noon tomorrow, Saturday, December 13, 2014; that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; that following any leader remarks, the Senate resume consideration of the motion to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 83.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. Let me say I understand the sincerity of my friend from Utah. I am unable to agree with him, but it doesn't take away from the sincerity of his request.

**PROGRAM**

Mr. REID. For the information of all Senators, rollcall votes are expected throughout the day on Saturday. This is really the way it is going to be. It appears we are going have to have a series of votes all day tomorrow starting as soon as we get here, into the evening and perhaps into the morning.

**ADJOURNMENT UNTIL TOMORROW**

Mr. REID. If there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it adjourn under the previous order.

Before the Chair rules on that, we have tried our very best to work something out to move forward with a consent agreement. We have spent all night and have been unable to do that. There have been a number of mixed sig-

nals to my Members. They are now being notified—for the last several hours—indicating that we have to be here this weekend. It is inconvenient for a lot of people. I am sorry. We are in the Senate and we are going to have to rearrange our schedules for the weekend.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 10:53 p.m., adjourned until Saturday, December 13, 2014, at 12 noon.

**CONFIRMATIONS**

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate December 12, 2014:

**DEPARTMENT OF STATE**

AMY JANE HYATT, OF CALIFORNIA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF PALAU.

ROBERT C. BARBER, OF MASSACHUSETTS, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF ICELAND.

ARNOLD A. CHACON, OF VIRGINIA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE.

MARK GILBERT, OF FLORIDA, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO NEW ZEALAND, AND TO SERVE CONCURRENTLY AND WITHOUT ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION AS AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE INDEPENDENT STATE OF SAMOA.

**BROADCASTING BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

MICHAEL W. KEMPNER, OF NEW JERSEY, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BROADCASTING BOARD OF GOVERNORS FOR A TERM EXPIRING AUGUST 13, 2015.

**DEPARTMENT OF STATE**

VIRGINIA E. PALMER, OF VIRGINIA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF MALAWI.

DAVID NATHAN SAPERSTEIN, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE AMBASSADOR AT LARGE FOR INTERNATIONAL RELIGIOUS FREEDOM.

DONALD L. HEFLIN, OF VIRGINIA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF CABO VERDE.

**BROADCASTING BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

LEON ARON, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BROADCASTING BOARD OF GOVERNORS FOR A TERM EXPIRING AUGUST 13, 2016.



## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### RECOGNIZING CARL LINDNER

#### HON. JOHN A. BOEHNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a very special person to our local area, Carl Lindner, as the city of Cincinnati recently moved to adorn one of its downtown streets with Mr. Lindner's name.

Mr. Lindner spent a lifetime making the Queen City the best place on earth to live and raise a family. I cannot think of a better place to honor him than on the streets of the city he loved and worked so hard to make better for us and for our children.

He was a wonderful man, and, more importantly, a good friend to so many of us. It's for these reasons that our community is so very grateful, and I ask all Members of the House to join me as we celebrate Carl Lindner's legacy.

### TRIBUTE TO ELEANOR OWNBEY

#### HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Eleanor Ownbey and to honor the work of her two daughters, Maggie and Sue Ownbey, for their many years of advocacy on behalf of their mother and the Alzheimer's disease community.

Eleanor battled Alzheimer's disease for more than ten years, passing away from this tragic disease on February 18, 2014. Maggie and Sue watched as their mother not only forgot that they were her daughters, but also how to talk, to walk, and to feed herself. Eleanor spent the last three years of her life in hospice care and most of that time confined to a bed. Her daughters describe her as a brave woman with a strong spirit and an infectious sense of humor.

Inspired by their mother's courage, Maggie and Sue have spent the last eight years telling their mother's story and how much this ravaging disease costs families, what caregivers need, and how desperately a cure needs to be found.

In fact, someone develops Alzheimer's disease every 67 seconds and more than five million Americans suffer from Alzheimer's disease. It is also the only cause of death in the top 10 in America without a way to prevent it, treat it, or slow its progression. This devastating disease is also taking a toll on our economy and health care infrastructure. Caring for people with Alzheimer's and other dementias cost the United States an estimated \$214 billion in 2014, and unless something

changes, costs are estimated to rise to a total of \$1.2 trillion in 2050.

I call on my colleagues to recognize the growing Alzheimer's crisis and to support a strong increase in funding for Alzheimer's disease research for Fiscal Year 2015 that will enable the National Institutes of Health to arrive one step closer to finding a cure for this tragic disease.

Eleanor Ownbey is survived by her children Maggie, Sue, Steven, and Mark and her grandchildren Jason, Summit, Netanya, Allie, and William "Finn." I wish the Ownbey family all the best in their future endeavors and express my deepest gratitude for their advocacy on behalf of the millions of families whose loved ones suffer from Alzheimer's disease.

### REMEMBERING AND HONORING SALVATORE FERRARA II

#### HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Salvatore Ferrara II who passed away on November 27, 2014.

Salvatore attended Fenwick High School in Oak Park, IL and later served on the school's Board of Trustees. He then went on to graduate from Loyola University in New Orleans. Salvatore joined his father's company, Ferrara Pan Candy Company, in the mid-1970s and climbed the ranks to CEO. According to Salvatore's father, Nello, Salvatore is the inspiration behind the Lemonheads candy because Nello joked that he was born with a lemon-shaped head. The company is now located in Oakbrook Terrace and is known as Ferrara Candy Company. During his time as CEO, Salvatore managed the merger with Farley's & Sathers Candy Company in 2012 and oversaw a period of steady growth in which the company expanded to over 500 employees.

Salvatore is survived by his wife, Andrea, and is the father of five children as well as a grandfather of three. In his free time, his daughter says he liked to drive his red Ferrari and go out on his boat named Lemonhead.

When Salvatore was diagnosed with cancer, he became a strong advocate for encouraging others to become educated and get doctor checkups. I admire him for his courage as he battled his cancer and commend him for empowering others.

Salvatore's visitation and funeral Mass were held on December 1st at Holy Family Catholic Church in Chicago, IL. As his family grieves through this difficult time, I hope Mr. Ferrara's family finds comfort in knowing that he is with God now and is no longer in any pain. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering the inspiring life of Salvatore Fer-

rara II and extending condolences to his family.

### IN APPRECIATION OF DR. ROBERT MORRIS

#### HON. SPENCER BACHUS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. BACHUS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate Dr. Robert Morris, a Board certified Ophthalmologist, a founding physician of Retina Specialists of Alabama, and the President of the Helen Keller Foundation for Research and Education. Dr. Morris also serves as Chairman of the International Society of Ocular Trauma and an Associate of Clinical Professor of Ophthalmology at the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

Dr. Morris, an outstanding professional and true humanitarian, is a leader in promoting better eyesight and vision care in Alabama and throughout the nation. It has been my honor to collaborate with him on a number of projects during my time in Congress.

Dr. Morris' strong devotion to his patients and craft is evidenced by his ability to innovate new medical techniques including Vitreoretinal surgery while simultaneously managing a large clinical practice. He regularly contributes to national and international journals and conferences of vitreoretinal surgeons and other ophthalmologists. His advanced training and surgical skills are particularly recognized in the treatment of severe eye injuries and surgeries of the macula (center of vision). Further, Dr. Morris pioneered techniques of temporary keratoprosthesis (TKP) vitrectomy to completely reconstruct injured or infected eyes. He has been consulted to treat patients who have suffered severe injury to both eyes resulting from terrorist bombs.

Dr. Morris has received numerous awards including the American Academy of Ophthalmology (AAO) Best of Show Award in 2001 and 2003 for videos of macular surgery. He is a recipient of the senior honor award from both the AAO and the American Society of Retina Specialists for extensive contributions to scientific activities.

As a teenager, Dr. Morris had a goal of becoming an astronaut. A failed eye test for the ROTC during college in Purdue led him to shift his focus to pre-medicine. Dr. Morris subsequently enrolled in Medical School at the University of Alabama. Six months before graduation, Dr. Morris signed up for the Air Force, with the possibility that becoming a pilot might provide an alternate pathway to space. However, after serving as a reconnaissance pilot in the Air National Guard, Dr. Morris made the decision to fully devote himself to the pursuit of ophthalmology and his choice has changed innumerable lives for the better.

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



Dr. Morris' professional accomplishments and life story are most impressive, but it is his charitable service that is unparalleled. He is quite literally a miracle worker. As President of the Hellen Keller Foundation, he and his team devote many weeks each year to treating children who have lost their sight.

The Hellen Keller statue currently on display in the United States Capitol would not have been possible without the leadership of Dr. Morris. His tireless dedication was instrumental in ensuring the placement of this statue in the Capitol where generations of children will be inspired by Helen Keller's ability to overcome obstacles, including the loss of vision, to become one of our nation's most esteemed educators and advocates.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, let us commend Dr. Robert Morris for his accomplishments and professional and charitable service and wish him continued success in his many pursuits. He is one of Alabama's finest citizens and merits our appreciation for his dedication to his patients, charitable endeavors, the State of Alabama and the Field of Medicine.

#### THE FUTURE OF SPACE EXPLORATION

### HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Nicolle Walters for being one of a few students in America chosen to participate in NASA's Aerospace Scholars Program. Nicolle is currently a junior at Lamar Consolidated High School in Rosenberg, Texas—go Mustangs!

Nicolle will participate in an online learning experience with actual NASA engineers this spring and spend a week this summer working with aerospace engineers at the Johnson Space Center. Nicolle will have an amazing opportunity to be mentored by NASA engineers and scientists, which will hopefully aide her interest in space exploration. Nicolle is a member of the Project Lead the Way program at Lamar Consolidated. Project Lead the Way provides engaging, hands-on STEM courses and prepares students to be leaders in the fields of science, technology, engineering and math.

I wish Nicolle the best of luck with this amazing experience and with her future endeavors. On behalf of the residents of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, I again congratulate Nicolle Walters for being chosen to participate in NASA's Aerospace Scholars Program.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF FRANCIS CHESKO FOR EXTENSIVE MILITARY SERVICE DURING WORLD WAR II

### HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Francis Chesko, who is

being recognized by the Mahanoy City Historical Society on Saturday, December 13, 2014. During World War II, Mr. Chesko took part in the D-Day Invasion and the Battle of the Bulge, reached the rank of sergeant in the 148th Engineer Battalion, received five Bronze Stars and the Army Presidential Unit Citation for his service.

In 1942, Francis received his basic training in Camp Shelby, Mississippi. In October, he was deployed and stationed in Swindon, England, where he helped construct a Bailey bridge and a landing strip. While in Swindon, Francis was informed that his brother Joseph, who was also enlisted, was stationed 25 miles away from Francis's post. The two were able to visit each other one weekend with permission from Francis's captain. Shortly thereafter, Francis's outfit was ordered to move south to Southampton and prepare to leave for German-occupied France. On June 6, 1944, Francis landed on Utah Beach as part of the Allied Invasion of Normandy.

On July 19, 1944, Francis was wounded during German shelling in the town of La Haye du Puits. He returned to Swindon for treatment. After his recovery, Francis was sent back across the English Channel and joined the 7th Armored Division in Holland. While serving with the 7th Armored Division, Francis endured the Battle of the Bulge. During the battle, while his unit was constructing a small tree-cut bridge, Francis narrowly avoided being hit by an 88-mm enemy mortar shell.

While guarding a bridge in Holland, German forces took Francis's unit by surprise. After a friendly anti-tank round misfired, Francis and comrades had to fall back from their position. While trying to avoid a German tank, Francis was knocked over by debris sent flying by enemy gunfire. Friendly reinforcements arrived and disabled the German armor. Later, German forces began bombarding Francis's position. In the midst of the shelling, he took cover in a ditch and did not discover until the next morning that a mortar struck the ground above. Fortunately, the round did not go off.

Francis's unit was dug in at the town of St. Vith, Belgium when Germans attacked the town on December 17, 1944. His division was ordered to hold their position for three days; they held it for five. German forces eventually took the town, but on January 23, Allied Forces recaptured it. After the Battle of the Bulge, Francis's unit helped construct the longest bridge of the war (1,300 feet) over the Rhine river. As he pushed into Germany, Allied Forces liberated 1,200 captive American soldiers.

Francis currently resides in Mahanoy City, Pennsylvania with his wife Rose. They have been married over 65 years and have been blessed with 3 children, 6 grandchildren, and 3 great-grandchildren. I am sure Francis has been thanked many times for his brave service to his country, but, today, I add one more official notation of gratitude for his heroic answer to our nation's call to military duty.

#### HONORING THE NORTHWEST HIGH SCHOOL JAGUARS

### HON. JOHN K. DELANEY

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. DELANEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Northwest High School football team and Head Coach Mike Neubeiser of Germantown, Maryland. On Friday, December 5, the Jaguars won their second consecutive Maryland Class 4A State Football Championship.

The Northwest Jaguars capped off a 13–1 season with a 34–31 win over Old Mill. The Jaguars rolled through the playoffs, outscoring their opponents by an impressive 147–67 margin. The Jaguars repeated last year's success by winning their second title in a row, and being the first Montgomery County team to do so in 15 years. The championship is the team's third title.

Being the reigning champion, Coach Neubeiser's squad started the season as the favorite. Their only loss came in week 9, and the Jaguars quickly rebounded to stay on the championship road. I want to thank Coach Neubeiser and his staff for their leadership, as well as all the student-athletes for their hard work and determination to be the best they can be both in the classroom and on the field. I also wish the Northwest Jaguars the best of luck as they look to win their third straight title next season.

I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues help me in honoring this significant accomplishment.

#### MARKING ONE YEAR SINCE CONFLICT BROKE OUT IN SOUTH SUDAN

### HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, last December, a terrible civil conflict erupted in the nation of South Sudan. Two million people have been displaced, 1.5 million don't have enough to eat, and an estimated 50,000 have been killed. The scale of the human suffering and ethnic violence in the world's newest country is shocking.

It is deeply troubling that so little progress has been made towards a peace agreement between the parties to this conflict.

Today, I call on both parties to lay down their arms. It is unconscionable that the people of South Sudan should have to endure such suffering due to the irresponsible actions of their own leaders. The parties must set aside their differences and negotiate a non-violent resolution for the good of their young nation.

The U.S. government must also step up its efforts, using its political and diplomatic influence to bring a lasting end to this crisis. As we mark a year since the onset of political violence in this country, we must reaffirm our dedication to working for peace in South Sudan.

SUPPORT OF THE INSURANCE  
CAPITAL STANDARDS CLARIFI-  
CATION ACT OF 2014

**HON. GARY G. MILLER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I along with Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York have authored legislation to address the capital requirements that apply to insurance companies under federal supervision pursuant to the Dodd-Frank Act. This legislation would strengthen the regulatory regime applicable to federally supervised insurance companies by ensuring that they are not subject to bank-centric capital standards.

One of the central elements of the Dodd-Frank Act's financial reforms was stronger capital rules for both banks and certain non-bank financial institutions. Two sections of the Dodd-Frank Act expanded Federal Reserve authority to regulate large banks and imposed increased capital requirements—Section 165, which applies to large bank holding companies and to non-bank systemically important financial institutions (SIFIs), and Section 171, which applies minimum capital standards to insured depository institutions, depository institution holding companies, including insurance savings and loan holding companies, and to SIFIs.

We have been disappointed by the Federal Reserve's failure to recognize that they have the authority to implement the Collins amendment as it applies to insurers in a manner that tailors the capital requirements for the insurance business model. We continue to believe that the regulators could solve this problem using their existing authority. Our House bill, H.R. 4510, shows that there is strong bipartisan support for addressing this issue, with 227 of our colleagues cosponsoring the bill. A slightly amended version of our legislation, which we support, passed the Senate with unanimous support in early June, and passed the House as part of a larger package in July of this year. We are pleased that final action on this legislation is imminent, and hope it will be sent to the President before the end of the session.

Our bill (and the Senate version, S. 2270) is narrowly crafted to only address this issue as it relates to federally supervised insurance companies, including SIFIs and insurance savings and loan holding companies. Under the legislation banks will be subject to the full force of the Collins Amendment. That is as it should be, and we will not change that.

To accomplish the goal of directing the Federal Reserve to tailor rules for insurance, our legislation permits the Federal Reserve to create a non-Basel III regime for the insurance operations of supervised entities. The legislation allows the Fed to work with state insurance regulators to develop appropriate insurance-based capital standards for federally supervised insurance companies. Alternatively, the Fed could defer to state insurance regulators for the capital standards that should apply to the insurance activities that they regulate.

The bill clarifies that, in establishing the minimum leverage capital and risk-based capital

standards under Section 171, the Federal Reserve Board is not required to include activities or companies that are engaged in the business of insurance and are subject to state insurance regulation, including state insurance capital requirements. Similarly, regulated foreign affiliates or subsidiaries engaged in the business of insurance and subject to foreign insurance regulation and foreign insurance capital requirements that have not been deemed to be inadequate also may be excluded from Section 171 capital standards. It is worth noting that the Government Accountability Office found that the state risk-based capital rules performed well during the financial crisis.

The bill allows the insurance capital requirements that have been effective to continue to determine the capital requirements for the activities of insurance companies and groups that are supervised by the Federal Reserve Board. Furthermore, activities of a holding company supervised by the Federal Reserve Board that are not the business of insurance would remain subject to the capital standards under Section 171. In determining insurance versus non-insurance activities of a supervised entity, the legislation provides regulators with the flexibility to tailor the rules for certain affiliates or subsidiaries of insurance companies that are necessary to the business of insurance, including, for example, affiliates or subsidiaries that support insurance company general and separate accounts.

Our legislation defines “business of insurance” by reference to Section 1002 of the Dodd-Frank Act, and under this definition the business of insurance means “the writing of insurance or the reinsuring of risks by an insurer, including all acts necessary to such writing or reinsuring and the activities relating to the writing of insurance or the reinsuring of risks conducted by persons who act as, or are, officers, directors, agents, or employees of insurers or who are other persons authorized to act on behalf of such persons.” The reference to this definition of the “business of insurance” will help ensure that insurance activities of federally supervised companies are subject to tailored capital rules, whether those activities are undertaken by the insurance companies themselves or by their affiliates or subsidiaries on their behalf.

We also want to ensure that the Federal Reserve uses its authority to tailor capital rules for insurance operations of entities under its supervision, regardless of the size of the subsidiary insured depository institution. As we have stated, under this legislation and under current law, the Basel banking regime and the Collins Amendment requirements will continue to apply to all insured depository institutions. It would be at odds with sound public policy and the intent of this legislation for the Federal Reserve to impose a Basel banking capital regime on the entire enterprise of an insurer that happens to also own a sizable insured depository institution—the depository institution in that operation will already be subject to banking rules, but the insurance operations should not be.

Another important provision of our legislation addresses the issue of insurance accounting for a small number of non-publicly traded insurance companies. While every publicly

traded company in the United States is required by the Federal Securities laws to prepare consolidated financial statements under Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), all insurance companies in the United States—whether in mutual or stock form of organization—are required by their state insurance regulators to utilize an accounting method known as Statutory Accounting. Indeed, most mutual insurance companies only use Statutory Accounting in preparing their financial statements.

Statutory Accounting Principles (SAP) are generally more conservative than GAAP because they are specifically designed to promote insurer solvency and the ability to pay claims instead of measuring an insurer's value as a going concern. SAP does not allow a number of non-liquid or intangible assets to be included on an insurer's balance sheet and provides less favorable accounting treatment for certain expenses. In both the text of the Dodd-Frank Act and its legislative history, Congress recognized the acceptability of SAP for holding companies engaged in insurance activities coming under Federal Reserve jurisdiction. Specifically, Congress (1) directed the Federal Reserve to rely on existing reports and information provided to state and other regulators (which for insurance companies would have been prepared according to SAP); and (2) included Senate report language stating that Federal Reserve assumption of jurisdiction over savings and loan holding companies engaged in the business of insurance did not reflect a mandate to impose GAAP. However, in proposed rulemakings, the Federal Reserve expressed its intention to require all companies to eventually prepare GAAP financial statements—consistent with their existing model for all bank holding companies. Imposing such a mandate on companies using only SAP would cost insurers a substantial amount to take on multi-year financial projects yielding minimal—if any—supervisory benefit to regulators. Additionally, we believe the principle of preserving SAP should apply to any international discussions relating to insurance.

This bill makes clear that under Section 171 of the Dodd-Frank Act and the Home Owners' Loan Act, such a mandate is inappropriate where the holding company is a non-publicly traded insurance company that is only required to prepare and file SAP statements. Nothing in this provision prevents the Federal Reserve from obtaining any information it is otherwise entitled to obtain from a SAP-only insurer.

We and the many other supporters of this bill are pleased that the House is poised to consider a final version of this legislation and look forward to it reaching the President's desk soon. We expect regulators to follow through with appropriate, tailored capital rules for insurers under their supervision.

HONORING NANCY L. CARRINGTON,  
PRESIDENT/CEO OF CON-  
NECTICUT FOOD BANK ON THE  
OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT

**HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride and a bit of a heavy heart that I rise today to join the many family, friends, and colleagues who have gathered to celebrate the retirement of Connecticut Food Bank President and CEO, Nancy L. Carrington. A dear friend and outstanding advocate, Nancy has spent the last three decades at the Connecticut Food Bank and, put simply, the organization will not be the same without her.

Nancy came to the Connecticut Food Bank just two years after it was incorporated. She began her work with the organization as a food solicitor—responsible for seeking the donation of excess and unsalable products from local and regional food companies. When Nancy first came to the Food Bank, the organization was already distributing 1.3 million pounds of food a year to 188 community agencies throughout Connecticut. Just five years after starting at the Connecticut Food Bank, Nancy became the organization's Executive Director; her title later changed to President and CEO.

Over the course of the last three decades, Nancy's leadership has guided the organization as it has grown from a grassroots, volunteer organization into the largest centralized source of donated, emergency food in Connecticut. Today the Connecticut Food Bank serves nearly 700 food-assistance programs in Fairfield, Litchfield, Middlesex, New Haven, New London and Windham counties and distributes an average of 40 tons of food every business day. And, just this past summer, the Connecticut Food Bank broke ground on what will be an 82,251-square-foot building that will be the organization's new home. While her daily presence at the Connecticut Food Bank will be missed, Nancy has certainly built it a strong foundation on which it can continue to succeed in its mission.

Nancy has not only been responsible for the day-to-day operations at the Connecticut Food Bank, but is also one of Connecticut's strongest voices on behalf of the hungry. She has said that "food should not be a privilege . . . it should be a basic human right." Nancy has made it her personal mission to overcome the challenge of feeding the hungry—her work touching the lives of thousands over the years. She has volunteered to deliver groceries to homebound seniors for an emergency food pantry. She served as a founding director of End Hunger Connecticut!, a statewide anti-hunger and food security organization. Nancy also works closely with other food banks in New England and partners with Feeding America, the national network of food banks. There is no stronger or more dedicated advocate.

I would be remiss if I did not take a moment to thank Nancy for her many years of friendship. Nancy and I are kindred spirits in so many ways—both having learned the impor-

tance of public service from our parents and both passionate about the need to address hunger in our community and across the nation. She is an inspiration to me and so many others and I am proud to call her my friend. And so I stand today to express my deepest thanks and appreciation to Nancy L. Carrington, for all of her good work and many years of dedicated service to the Connecticut Food Bank and wish her all the best for many more years of health and happiness as she enjoys her retirement.

TRIBUTE TO THE COHASSET HIGH  
SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM, 2014  
MASSACHUSETTS DIVISION VI  
SUPER BOWL CHAMPIONS

**HON. STEPHEN F. LYNCH**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor and congratulate the administration, coaches and players of the Cohasset High School football team. On December 6, 2014, the Skippers won the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association Division VI Super Bowl, earning them the title, State Champions.

Cohasset High School has a long tradition of excellence in high school football. In 1957, the CHS football team went undefeated with a 9-0 record. CHS has won eight South Shore League championships since then, but 2014 is the school's first state championship.

The 2014 team finished the season this year by winning ten consecutive games, including five hard-fought victories in the MIAA Tournament. This historic playoff run included a 35-3 victory over the previously undefeated Nantucket Whalers, a 28-7 victory over the Mayflower League Champion Bishop Connolly Cougars, a 20-7 victory over the Tri-Valley League Champion Millis Mohawks, a 35-6 victory over the Catholic Conference Champion Cathedral Panthers, and the 35-22 Super Bowl victory over the Littleton Tigers.

Mr. Speaker, the young men on this football team conducted themselves in such a way as to bring honor, pride and recognition to the Town of Cohasset. They represent what is truly best about high school student athletes. Today, it is my honor to join with the families, friends and residents of Cohasset, Massachusetts, to congratulate the Cohasset High School football team on their historic achievement.

Administration: Superintendent Barbara Cataldo, Principal Carolyn Connolly, Athletic Director Ron Ford, Head Coach Pete Afanasiw, Assistant Coaches Kevin Dooley, Jeff Knight, John Maher, Phil Maloney, Brian Pattison, Bob Silvia, Don Silvia, Dave Terry, Pete Umbrianna.

Players: Xander Schubert, Michael Cohen, Danny Durkin, Luke O'Brien, Danny Axelson, Drew Skolnick, Mike Lund, Henry Butenschoen, Adam Benson, Brett Dooley, Nick Hall, Kyle Ferreira, David Burke, Liam Lynch, Cole Sullivan, Connor Curran, Christian Hanke, Patrick Haggearty, Jake Koncius, Noah Froio, Joseph Welman, Zach Silva, Mike

Nolan, Nick Slamp, Cole Kissick, Ray Tolosko, Ollie Hanke, Tim Gillis, Sam Sullivan, Chris Norton, Thomas Durkin, Charlie Swartwood, Max Fitzgerald, Sean Mavilla, Jake Johnson, Jack Osten, Matt Froio, Jack Hoffman, Steve Iantosca, Bobby Driscoll, Vincenzo Kulturides, Liam Prescott, Nick Lydon, Derek Bennett, Ryan Losordo, Cal Osten, Jake Bennett, Tyler Mulhern, Victor Najjar, James Hynes, Jack Mahoney, Chris Lydon, Reed Parks, Alex Norton, Hayes Keniley, Nick Tetreault, Will Thomas, Ryan Donovan, Jack Donohue, Jack Speer.

RECOGNIZING THE NAZARETH  
ACADEMY FOOTBALL TEAM FOR  
THEIR STATE CHAMPIONSHIP  
WIN

**HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Nazareth Academy Roadrunners football team. On November 29th, Nazareth Academy captured their first Class 6A state football championship with a 26-7 victory over Lemont High School in Champaign, IL. I want to congratulate all of the players, coaches, trainers, and parents, and commend them on their hard work and on the dedication they have shown to their team, their school, and their community. I also want to congratulate Coach Tim Racki and the principal of Nazareth Academy, Deborah Tracy, for helping lead these young men to victory.

In the championship game, Nolan Dean rushed for 199 yards and two touchdowns and Julian Love added another rushing touchdown. Wide receiver Kevin Jackson also had a touchdown catch from quarterback Jonah Beauduy. The defense held Lemont to only one first quarter touchdown and had three interceptions of quarterback Ryan Dawson, two by Matthew Flach. The victory completed an undefeated 14-0 season for the Roadrunners.

With this championship, Tim Racki became the first coach in the state of Illinois to win titles with two different schools, having won four previously as coach of Driscoll Catholic High School.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Nazareth Academy Roadrunners football team and to congratulate them on their IHSA Class 6A State Championship. And I wish each player continued success as he moves forward.

THE HONORABLE CONGRESSMAN  
STEVE STOCKMAN

**HON. KERRY L. BENTIVOLIO**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. BENTIVOLIO. Mr. Speaker, now that the 113th Congress is coming to a close, I would like to recognize my good friend and colleague from Texas' 36th District, STEVE STOCKMAN.

STEVE and I actually grew up in the same town and went to the same schools. But, when he reached adulthood, his Texas family roots called him to the Lone Star state so it was only years later, in our nation's capitol, that we should meet as Members of Congress.

Congressman STOCKMAN was first elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Texas in 1994, defeating a 42-year incumbent in one of the biggest upsets in political history. He was re-elected to Congress on November 6, 2012, with the same vision he'd had in the 90's of limited government, strong support for American families, and a robust national defense.

STEVE has built very effective rapport with colleagues on both sides of the aisle. His sense of humor and jovial approach to interpersonal relations endear him to us all, while we have come to recognize he has broad, but exceptionally deep understanding of many topics. He always has substantive inputs and bills, not only on specific Constitutional guarantees, but on national defense, freedoms and lack thereof in nations around the world.

You often find individuals with social interaction skills, and others with tremendous knowledge and insights. It is rare to find both qualities in a single individual. But, STEVE possesses both.

However, one would never know this about STEVE if they only read the press. That's because STEVE always stands up and speaks the truth, regardless of whether it's politically expedient. Consequently, he's vilified in the press; but Americans who are tired of business-as-usual here in our nation's Capitol applaud him and greatly appreciate Congressman STOCKMAN.

Congressman STOCKMAN has been a fierce defender of Constitutional liberties, and a leader in defending the Second Amendment. He introduced the very first pro-gun bill in the House in 2013, H.R. 35, to repeal federal gun free zones.

When the President threatened to bypass Congress and enact gun control through Executive Orders, Congressman STOCKMAN, along with Sen. RAND PAUL of Kentucky in the Senate, introduced the "Restore the Constitution Act of 2013," which would nullify any anti-gun orders.

The gentleman from Texas blue slipped both the Senate's gun control bill and their immigration bill.

Congressman STOCKMAN serves as Vice Chairman of the House Second Amendment Task Force, and also authored legislation to strip funding to the UN should that body attempt to restrict Americans' gun rights.

As a 100% pro-life supporter, STEVE authored the 2013 Sanctity of Life Act, which declares that life begins at conception, and which also limits the federal courts' jurisdiction in cases dealing with the unborn.

Congressman STOCKMAN was the first congressman to step up and introduce a bill to defend the rights of native Americans in southeast Texas. The Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas won a Federal claim against the U.S. Government for millions, if not billions, of dollars. STOCKMAN's bill, if passed, would resolve that claim without any impingement on the Federal deficit.

Congressman STOCKMAN's district is home to NASA's Johnson Space Center, the research and training facility for all human space exploration and the location of the famous Mission Control Center.

As a member of the House Committee on Science, Space and Technology, Congressman STOCKMAN highlights the importance of a vigorous space exploration program and for keeping the U.S. at the forefront of space technology. He fought to save the arc jet facility at the Johnson Space Center, and advocated for defining a serious timetable and sufficient funding to actually land on and create research bases on the moon and Mars. Further, he understands the strategic necessity to remain the undisputed leader in space, and to not let non-democratic nations like China and Russia dominate the high frontier of space and high technology.

The gentleman from Texas' district has the highest number per capita of oil and gas refineries and downstream petrochemical plants in the world. STEVE has worked tirelessly for commonsense regulatory relief for the nation's oil and gas industries, which will lead to less U.S. dependence on foreign oil and more American jobs.

His tireless efforts were instrumental in expediting the building permits for state-of-the-art new petrochemical plants to be built in his district that will bring in billions of dollars in new investment. The gentleman from Texas has used his position on the House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology to question the EPA's technological criteria for evaluating applications on hydraulic fracking. Also, legislation he's promoted will facilitate improvements in current technologies used in shale oil and gas production.

Congressman STOCKMAN has spoken out about the need to dredge southeast Texas ports from which many of the Gulf Coast petrochemicals are shipped. With hundreds of thousands of jobs at stake, these Ports are and will be fueling the Texas economic miracle.

At 3.5 cents per kilowatt hour, Texas has one of the cheapest power costs in the world and STOCKMAN, with fellow members of the Science, Space, and Technology Committee, has pressed EPA to release its stranglehold on latest technologies that will keep power costs low in Texas. [http://science.house.gov/sites/republicans.science.house.gov/files/documents/Letters/121\\_913\\_mccarthy.pdf](http://science.house.gov/sites/republicans.science.house.gov/files/documents/Letters/121_913_mccarthy.pdf)

The National Taxpayer's Union honored Congressman STOCKMAN with the Taxpayers' Friend Award and NFIB named him "Guardian of Small Business" in recognition of his outstanding votes for legislation fostering healthy job-creating businesses. Earning a consistent "100 percent" rating by the American Conservative Union, my colleague from Texas has been honored with the "Taxpayers Best Friend Award" from Citizens for Tax Reform, and "Taxpayer's Hero Award" by Citizens Against Government Waste.

Always on the cutting edge of up and coming technologies and economic trends, Congressman STOCKMAN recently introduced a bill in Congress that would not only extend substantial protections to cryptocurrencies, but would also require that cryptocurrencies be classified as a "currency." The bill, entitled the

Cryptocurrency Protocol Protection and Moratorium Act (CryptPMA), begins by placing a five-year moratorium on any state legislation concerning, or taxation on, cryptocurrencies.

STOCKMAN believes in the future. He has predicted that three technologies will change the world. He forecasts that nanotubes, 3-D printers, and cryptocurrencies will revolutionize and change the world in fundamental ways. Furthermore, Congressman STOCKMAN has called for a study of magnetic poll shifting, resultant fluctuation of magnetic fields, and their impact on the earth's climate.

With his broad knowledge of geopolitical and socioeconomic affairs, it is appropriate that Congressman STOCKMAN sits on the House Foreign Affairs Committee, where—among other important actions—he's for greater openness about what really happened in the 2012 assault on the U.S. Consulate in Benghazi. He has also been a strong voice in the House in support of the Ukrainians' passion for strengthening liberties in their country.

Congressman STOCKMAN co-founded the House South Sudan Caucus, in support of the world's newest nation. South Sudan, which is a majority Christian nation, suffered decades of oppression and genocide from North Sudan, and still endures attacks, despite the existence of a peace agreement. Congressman STOCKMAN grieves the fact that now a simmering civil war is ongoing in the new nation. He has traveled to Juba, the South Sudan's capital, and led a Congressional delegation to Nigeria to investigate how the U.S. might better help that country end the brutal atrocities of Boko Harm. STEVE has also visited other parts of Africa, in support of medical missionary work.

As the 113th Congress comes to a close, the Conservative movement will lose a great friend to liberty and individual rights in Congressman STOCKMAN. I and many of our friends will miss working alongside my good friend and colleague who has been a staunch ally and supporter for life, liberty and country.

#### HONORING EISENHOWER ACADEMY

#### HON. BILL FOSTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 11, 2014

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Eisenhower Academy in Joliet, Illinois, which was ranked the best elementary school in Will County by the Chicago Tribune.

I would like to recognize the teachers, administrators, and students of this magnet school for their commitment to learning. The rankings were based on the Illinois Standards Achievement Test (ISAT) and found that over 94 percent of students in grades three through five met or exceeded expectations.

Although 100 percent of the students at the school come from low-income families, through hard work and with the support of teachers and parents, these students have already achieved something remarkable. I look forward to following their progress.

Congratulations to Eisenhower Academy and Joliet Public Schools District 86. I would like to thank the teachers, administrators, parents and students for their hard work and dedication.

## HONORING RALPH BENSON

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleague, Congressman JARED HUFFMAN, to honor Ralph Benson upon his retirement as Executive Director of the Sonoma Land Trust.

For the past twelve years, Mr. Benson has worked tirelessly to guide, expand and strengthen the Sonoma Land Trust, enabling the organization to better fulfill its goal of protecting and conserving our lands for generations to come. During his time as the Executive Director, Mr. Benson increased the Sonoma Land Trust's budget from \$1 million to \$5 million, doubled its staff and more than doubled its membership. During his tenure, the Sonoma Land Trust acquired 5,630 acres in the Jenner Headlands and opened the Baylands Center at Sears Point Ranch for use as an environmental education center. Under his leadership, Sonoma Land Trust is currently working on a tidal wetlands restoration project and trail expansion along San Pablo Bay and Highway 37.

Mr. Benson's impressive work to grow his organization and take on sizable projects has bestowed tremendous benefits upon our community. The Sonoma Land Trust now protects 48,000 acres of land, up from 15,000 acres, and has attracted outside capital to the County of Sonoma that amounts to more than \$80 million.

Mr. Benson's colleagues credit his success to his ability to foster enduring and productive partnerships and connections. A true leader, Mr. Benson inspired others to believe in his vision of what the Sonoma Land Trust was capable of achieving and with hard-work and his can-do attitude, made his vision a reality.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we honor and thank Mr. Benson for his invaluable contributions to land conservation in Sonoma County. On behalf of a grateful community, we wish him a most enjoyable retirement.

IN HONOR OF COLONEL (RET) ROY  
GEORGE PLUMMER**HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding citizen, leader, pastor and inspiration to the Columbus, Georgia community, Colonel (Ret) Roy George Plummer. Colonel Plummer will be retiring as JROTC Director of Army Instruction of the Muscogee County School District in Columbus, Georgia. A retirement dinner in celebration of Colonel Plummer will be held on Thursday, December 11, 2014 at the National Infantry Museum at Fort Benning in Columbus, Georgia.

A native of Jamaica, Colonel Plummer enlisted in the U.S. Army and served in several

military assignments in the United States and Germany. He completed his Active Duty Army career as Chief of Chaplains at Fort Benning. He currently serves as the Chaplain for Rotary International District 6900, The State of Georgia.

As JROTC Director, he was responsible for eight high school JROTC programs and four other county JROTC programs. Since 1998, he has worked to create a successful district-level JROTC program which has grown from 400 cadets to an outstanding current operating enrollment of 1200 cadets. Under Colonel Plummer's leadership, the Muscogee County School District JROTC has earned GHSA State Rifle Championships, state-level awards in drill team and raider competitions, and honorable recognition in the annual JROTC Academic Bowl.

Always pressing towards the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus, to better improve the craft of Christian ministry and discipleship, Colonel Plummer has been the Senior Pastor and CEO of Faith Tabernacle Community Church, Inc. in Columbus, Georgia since he founded the church in 1994.

A shining light in the Columbus community, Colonel Plummer has played a leading role in several other religious-affiliated and community-based organizations, including the St. Francis Hospital Foundation, Columbus Hospice, United Way, Boy Scouts of America, and the Greater Columbus Georgia Chamber of Commerce.

To top off his diverse portfolio of service, Colonel Plummer served as an Assistant Professor at Columbus State University in the Department of Counseling Graduate Studies. He has earned a baccalaureate in Biblical Literature, Master of Arts in Human Relations and Group Process, Master of Science in Guidance and Counseling, Master of Divinity in Pastoral Care, and Doctorate in Divinity. This solid educational background coupled with his compassion and leadership inspired Colonel Plummer to create the Plummer Home for homeless and disenfranchised military veterans.

Colonel Plummer has achieved numerous successes in his life, but none of this would have been possible without the grace of God and his four daughters and seven grandchildren. He lives by Psalm 27:1, "The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life, of whom shall I be afraid?"

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring Colonel (Ret) Roy George Plummer on the occasion of his retirement as JROTC Director of Army Instruction and recognizing him for his many great contributions to the people of Columbus, Georgia and the United States and for his life of selfless service to God, the church and to humankind.

INTRODUCTION OF THE TAX  
REFORM ACT OF 2014**HON. DAVE CAMP**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to announce the introduction of H.R. 1, the Tax Re-

form Act of 2014. This bill—which formalizes, without modifications, the tax reform discussion draft I released publicly on February 26, 2014—reflects the years of work undertaken on this critical issue by the Committee on Ways and Means during my time as chairman. I want to thank the members of our committee, on both sides of the aisle, for their tireless efforts and for their outstanding contributions to this legislation and to the transparent, inclusive process that produced it. While I will not be returning to the House of Representatives next year, I very much look forward to watching the ongoing work of our great committee as the tax reform debate continues to unfold in the 114th Congress.

Mr. Speaker, the urgent need to fix our broken tax code—and the incredible progress we've made toward making tax reform a reality for the first time since 1986—has already been well documented, and I will not seek to recount all of that background and history here today. But I do hope that, going forward, Congress will continue to focus on the twin goals that have guided the tax reform process thus far—strengthening the economy, and making the tax code simpler and fairer for all Americans.

When I set out to produce a comprehensive tax reform bill, I wanted to do it the right way. So, over the last four years, the Ways and Means Committee held over 30 public hearings, including the first joint hearings with the Senate Finance Committee on tax policy since World War II. Ways and Means Ranking Member SANDY LEVIN—my home state colleague—and I formed 11 bipartisan working groups to tackle different areas of the tax code. In that time, I also launched TaxReform.Gov, which received more than 14,000 public comments and suggestions, while Sen. Max Baucus (D-MT) and I left the confines of Washington, DC to talk with taxpayers all across the country. I am proud to say that we have done this in the most open, transparent, and bipartisan way—getting input from all sides. Now, the debate about whether to do tax reform is over; the only debate now is about how.

At its core, the Tax Reform Act of 2014 is about making the tax code simpler and fairer for hardworking taxpayers. I believe every taxpayer should be able to do his or her taxes without fear that someone with better accountants or lawyers is getting a better deal. This legislation does that by ensuring that virtually all taxpayers would pay the least amount of taxes without having to keep track of every receipt and record and live in fear of an IRS audit. This legislation makes the Code more effective and efficient by getting rid of narrowly targeted provisions to lower tax rates across the board. This will enable small and large businesses alike to expand operations, hire new workers, and increase benefits and take-home pay.

The proposal flattens the rate structure by reducing rates and collapsing today's seven individual rate brackets into two brackets of 10 and 25 percent for virtually all taxable income, ensuring that over 99 percent of all taxpayers face rates no higher than 25 percent. The plan also reduces the corporate rate to 25 percent.

By making America's corporate tax rate more competitive and by modernizing our anti-competitive international tax rules, which have

not been reformed since the 1960s, we would encourage companies to keep their headquarters in the United States, so they can grow, invest, and hire here, instead of moving overseas in search of a better tax environment. We need a real solution to this growing problem, and I believe a significantly lower corporate tax rate and a more competitive tax system is just the solution we need.

Independent economists agree: Tax reform results in stronger economic growth, more jobs, and higher wages. In fact, the independent, non-partisan Joint Committee on Taxation (JCT) estimates that this plan could increase the size of our economy by \$3.4 trillion—that's equivalent to 20 percent of today's economy. Based on that stronger economic growth, we could see nearly two million new jobs created. JCT also estimates that this proposal could generate up to \$700 billion in additional Federal revenues that could be used to lower tax rates even further or to reduce the debt. Indeed, based on calculations using data provided by JCT, the average middle-class family of four could, under this proposal, have an extra \$1,300 per year in its pocket from the combination of lower tax rates in the plan and higher wages due to a stronger economy. This is the kind of growth America needs, and these are the kinds of policies that can produce a stronger, more robust economy that benefits all Americans.

Before concluding, Mr. Speaker, I want to acknowledge the countless hours devoted to this effort by the Ways and Means Committee staff and the staffs of the Joint Committee on Taxation and the Office of Legislative Counsel. A project this large—on an issue of this magnitude—simply could not be undertaken by this institution without the dedication, the policy know-how, and the technical expertise of the professional staff. We owe all of them our sincere thanks. Indeed, their contributions to this proposal extend not just to the legislative language of the bill itself, but to a set of helpful explanatory materials as well. For those who are looking for a fuller description of the legislation I am introducing today as H.R. 1, a section-by-section summary of the proposal prepared by the Ways and Means Majority Tax Staff is available at: <http://tax.house.gov/>. Similarly, JCT's technical explanation of the proposal—along with JCT's revenue estimate, distributional analysis, and macro-economic analysis of the proposal—has been published as JCS-1-14, available at <https://www.jct.gov/publications.html?func=startdown&id=4674>.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I close by urging my colleagues who will be returning in January for the 114th Congress to keep pushing forward and to see this tax reform process through to a successful conclusion. It would undoubtedly be easier for Congress to hang its head and say that the problems with the current tax system are just too big, and that the work of tax reform is just too hard. But nothing worth doing is ever easy, and tax reform is even more necessary now than it was back in 1986. Indeed, today's generation of tax reformers should remember how the headline in the Washington Post captured the moment when the 1986 Act finally made it over the finish line—it called tax reform the "impossible that became the inevitable." I would like to see that headline again, and with today's formal in-

troduction of the Tax Reform Act of 2014, we take another important step down that historic path.

I thank the Speaker for reserving the bill number H.R. 1 for this legislation, and I hope that the formal introduction of this proposal in the House today will help spur further action on this critical issue in the 114th Congress.

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HONORING CHIEF MICHAEL HOLUB  
FOR MORE THAN FOUR DECADES  
OF SERVICE TO OUR NATION  
AND COMMUNITIES

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HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor La Grange Police Chief Michael Holub for his more than four decades of service dedicated to protecting and serving our nation and our communities. At the end of this year, Holub will be retiring as Chief of Police.

Chief Holub is a native of Berwyn, Illinois, and attended Morton West High School, graduating in 1970. From there he joined the Army and served with the Official Ceremonial Unit and Escort to the U.S. President, which is known as the Old Guard because it is the oldest active duty regiment in the Army. After serving his country, Holub returned to serve his community and joined the Stickney, IL Police Department in 1974. He spent the next twenty years with the Stickney Police Department, rising through the ranks to become Chief of Police. He subsequently served as Chief of Police for the Village of Palos Park, IL, and as the Chief of Police for the Village of River Forest, IL, before coming to La Grange.

Chief Holub has highly valued education throughout his career. He earned his Bachelor's Degree from Lewis University in Romeoville, IL, as well as his Master of Arts Degree in Law Enforcement and Justice Administration. While Chief of Police, Holub continued to serve for 15 years as a member of the adjunct faculty of Triton College in River Grove, IL, teaching courses to undergraduate students in criminal justice. Chief Holub always challenged his officers to get their degrees so that they could move forward, as his mantra has always been "to always be prepared for the next level."

In addition to being Chief of Police, Michael Holub has always shown a deep commitment to his community in many other ways. He is a fixture at community events and is active with the American Legion, always helping with charity events and aiding the men and women in our armed forces as well as fellow veterans.

Today I express my admiration for Chief Michael Holub's lifelong dedication to our nation and our communities. I ask my colleague to join me in honoring his lifetime of service and wish him the best in his retirement.

IN COMMEMORATION OF THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE OF DR. MICHAEL MCCALL TO THE COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my friend, Dr. Michael B. McCall, the Founding President of the Kentucky Community and Technical College System (KCTCS). Dr. McCall has announced that this will be his last year as System president and will be retiring in January.

Under the leadership of Dr. McCall, KCTCS has served as the major gateway to post-secondary education across the Commonwealth. Since his appointment in December 1998, Dr. McCall has achieved many successes, such as merging the 28 community and technical colleges into 16 individually accredited comprehensive community colleges and leading KCTCS to its position as the largest provider of post-secondary education in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Because of his leadership, KCTCS currently serves over 92,000 students and represents over 47% of all undergraduate college students. Perhaps most importantly, KCTCS has dramatically increased participation in postsecondary education. The number of students participating in KCTCS has risen dramatically since the system was created, with enrollment increasing by 62,000 in the first decade.

I am proud to have five community colleges within the KCTCS System that serve my district: Somerset Community College, Southeast Kentucky Community and Technical College, Hazard Community and Technical College, Big Sandy Community and Technical College, and Ashland Community and Technical College. Each college has seen incredible growth since KCTCS was founded in 1997.

Dr. McCall has also led the System to create major advancements in education and pioneered many new educational opportunities that are unique to Kentucky, including the North American Racing Academy (first college-affiliated horse racing academy in the United States), the Kentucky Coal Academy, Kentucky Fire Commission, and the Kentucky Board of Emergency Medical Services.

Dr. McCall has served for more than 40 years in community and technical colleges. He has been recognized as Kentucky Monthly Magazine's Kentuckian of the Year and was also the Board Chair of the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC). This marked the first time a System-level president was elected chair of the AACC board.

I am proud to have known Dr. McCall since he became KCTCS President and wish him great luck in retirement. I offer my full congratulations to Dr. McCall for his service to KCTCS and the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Thank you and may God bless you.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF  
IRENE PORTER POWERS MATTHEW**HON. PAUL A. GOSAR**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of my constituents, Irene Porter Powers Matthew of Lake Havasu City, Arizona.

Irene Porter was born in Downs, Kansas, on November 20, 1917. She moved to Colorado where she attended high school at the age of 12, where she played basketball, sang in a trio, and the Glee Club. She graduated at the age of 16.

Following high school, she worked for the Colorado Agriculture Extension Service. In 1937, she went to work for the Farm Security Administration in Colorado. Around 1940, she moved to Amarillo, TX to assist in the establishment of the FSA regional headquarters.

On July 28, 1942, Irene married William (Bill) Powers, who was serving in the Army Air Corps. They were married and raised four children: Rosemary, Gary, Suzanne, and Marilyn.

In the 1960s, Irene moved to Colorado Springs, Colorado to work as a private secretary with the Central Bank in Colorado. In 1974, she became the first female bank vice president in Colorado Springs, and likely in Colorado. This was a position she held until she retired in December 1979.

In the 1980s Irene and Bill retired and toured the country in a Holiday Rambler, including a trip to Guatemala. When they returned to the States, they returned to Colorado and spent the summer volunteering at Lutheran Valley Retreat, a Lutheran youth camp.

In 1986, as a second retirement, Irene and Bill retired to Lake Havasu, Arizona, where they lived until Bill Powers died in 1991.

Irene married Kenneth A. Matthew, a retired lobster fisherman on February 3, 2007.

Irene is preceded in death by her parents, a brother, a sister, her first husband, Bill, two grandsons and one great-grandson. She is survived by her husband, Ken; children, Rosemary/Dave Tunnell, Gary/Sharon Powers, Suzanne/Rick Twinczek and Marilyn/Ryan Paradis; ten grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren, two great-great-grandchildren and two sisters.

One last word from Irene, "I want Ken, all my children, all my grandchildren, and now all my great-grandchildren to know how much I love them. You are all an important and beautiful part of my life."

CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNI-  
VERSARY OF THE BELLEVUE  
AVENUE LIBRARY**HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Bellevue Avenue Library, located in the Township of Montclair, New Jersey as it celebrates its 100th anniversary.

The Bellevue Avenue Library, part of the Montclair Public Library, officially opened its doors on December 7, 1914. Prior to its official opening, the library had been using a small rented space in the real estate office of John Mancini. In 1913, the Montclair Public Library received a grant from the Carnegie Corporation of \$40,000 to construct a new building for the Montclair Public Library system on Bellevue Ave. In 1914, the new building was created and opened as the Bellevue Avenue Library.

The Bellevue Avenue Library was designed by architect F.A. Nelson, who also designed other prominent buildings in Montclair, such as the Post Office and the Upper Montclair Women's Club. The library is now on the National Register of Historic Places, with the register noting "its temple-like austerity and diminutive size," along with its classical embellishment. Although the library underwent a major renovation in the 1985, it still holds the same architectural design.

Since the building of the Bellevue Avenue Library, the library has had two floors consisting of an extensive literature collection, audio, and visual files. The lower floor focuses on children's services, including the well-known 'children's place' which holds weekly story time readings and is staffed by community volunteers. The second floor is primarily focused on adult services and literature. Although in a separate location, the Bellevue Avenue Library offers the same range of services as the main library.

As the Bellevue Avenue Library and its staff celebrate their centennial anniversary, they look forward to growing with the community they serve. They look forward to new advancements, new literature, and whatever excitement the future holds.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Bellevue Avenue Library and to salute the work of the trustees, staff and volunteers of the Montclair Public Library System.

TRIBUTE TO HOOD RIVER BOYS  
SOCCER CHAMPIONS**HON. GREG WALDEN**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Hood River Valley High School boys' soccer team, which brought home the title of "State Champions" this year in the 2014 Oregon 5A state championship. Hood River is my hometown, and both my son and I are proud graduates of Hood River Valley High School, so this victory is especially sweet.

Led by head coach Jaime Rivera and assistant coach Joe Dolan, the Eagles had a perfect 18-0 season and playoff run that was topped off by a 2-0 victory against Woodburn in the finals. After making it to the state finals last year, this season marks the culmination of willpower and sacrifice displayed by these dedicated young men.

The Eagles' undefeated record illustrates what happens when a team unites under one

goal and exhibits the necessary work ethic, team work, and positive attitude to achieve success. I know that these skills have helped prepare these young men to be upstanding citizens of our great state and nation.

I am always proud to see how young men and women can inspire a community, and Hood River certainly rallied around the Eagles. Throughout the season, the community has rallied around and supported this team, game after game. After being engulfed on the field by supporters following their championship victory, the team was escorted by a caravan of police and fire trucks on their way back to Hood River.

I'd like to personally congratulate each member of this team: Travis Running, Marco Cuevas, Danny Romero, Manuel Mozqueda, Uriel Torrez, Joel Garcia, Marcos Trejo, Mario Sandoval, Andres Baeza, Gio Magana, Alex Gutierrez, Angel Sonato, Johnny Villafana, Luis Perez, Noah Noteboom, Antonio Bustos, Jaime Frias, Diego Rueda, Aldo Muro, Noe Magana, Coach Jaime Rivera, and Coach Joe Dolan. As a proud Hood River resident, I look forward to cheering on this year's team as they pursue their goals in the years to come. It is truly a privilege to represent the members of this team in the House of Representatives and my pleasure to congratulate them on their outstanding accomplishment of bringing home the teams' first state title. Go Eagles!

## RECOGNIZING JOHN M. SAMUELS

**HON. DAVE CAMP**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the enormous contributions made by John M. Samuels to the development of sound U.S. tax policy over the last 40 years. John Samuels is retiring from the General Electric Company at the end of this year, where he has been the Vice President and Senior Counsel for Tax Policy and Planning since 1988. Before joining GE, John had a successful career in private practice and spent several years at the U.S. Department of Treasury, as Deputy Tax Legislative Counsel and Tax Legislative Counsel.

Most press articles about John highlight his distinguished career at GE. And while that is important, I want to acknowledge the work he has done behind the scenes to promote sound, effective, pro-growth tax policies for the benefit of the entire U.S. economy. The progress we have made in advancing the cause of comprehensive tax reform has benefited enormously from his efforts.

One example has been his support of academic research into international corporate tax issues through the founding of the International Tax Policy Forum (ITPF). John Samuels has served as the chairman of ITPF since it was founded in 1992. ITPF, which has been called the "world's leading tax think tank," plays a unique and important role in sponsoring nonpartisan academic research, often by young, up-and-coming scholars, and hosting conferences at which such papers are presented, discussed, and debated. This gives



tax policymakers in Washington access to a much broader body of research and thought than we would otherwise have, thus informing and elevating the policy discussions taking place in Congress, in the Administration, and at other think tanks.

In 2009, John received the Tax Foundation's Distinguished Service Award for his contributions to tax policy. In announcing the award, the President of the Tax Foundation said, "John's leadership in facilitating a rational debate on international tax policy is without peer."

While John is retiring from GE, he is not retiring from the world of tax policy. I know his leadership in "facilitating a rational debate on international tax policy" will carry on. I am confident his contributions will continue in the next chapter of his distinguished career. And I know that my colleagues who will push forward in Congress on the extremely important work we started in reforming our tax code will turn to John Samuels again and again for advice, ideas, and wise counsel.

#### SOLUTIONS TO DAILY STRESS

### HON. STEVE STOCKMAN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. STOCKMAN. Mr. Speaker, hypnosis may be a useful tool in the field of mental and physical health as well as combatting against those who wish to kick the habit of smoking and substance abuse.

FoxNews Health recently published a column noting the effectiveness of "hypnosis as therapy for anxiety, stress," wherein it noted that "Hypnosis was birthed from the brains of psychologists and researchers, and . . . it's now making its way back into the mainstream." It recommended the National Guild of Hypnotists (the NGH) as one of two national organizations from which to seek referrals. The following is a news report profiling the organization.

MERRIMACK, NH.—(Marketwired—Jan. 21, 2014)—Change is stressful, even when change comes in the form of beneficial technology and social transformation. Too often, the stress of change manifests as overeating and obesity, smoking, substance abuse, aggression and other negative behaviors. Millions are searching for a non-pharmaceutical solution that is effective, long lasting and causes no side effects. The National Guild of Hypnotists has demonstrated through its longevity and documented results that hypnosis provides proven alternatives for reducing and eliminating many of the negative responses to today's stressful world.

The National Guild of Hypnotists, NGH, is the oldest, largest and most respected professional association of hypnotists in the world. The National Guild of Hypnotists, under the leadership of Dr. Dwight Damon, has been instrumental in raising conscious awareness of consulting hypnosis as a separate and distinct profession. Hypnosis now is recognized in the medical and scientific mainstream and its use and acceptance continue to grow.

Founded in Boston in 1950 and now based in Merrimack, NH. with over 14,000 members worldwide, the National Guild of Hypnotists includes trained, certified hypnotists, doc-

tors, dentists and other health professionals and educators from many fields. An international organization serving members in 80 countries, the National Guild of Hypnotists established a strong universal code of ethics for the profession. In 1994, the National Guild of Hypnotists chartered the rapidly growing National Federation of Hypnotists, Local 104, a Union affiliated with the OPEIU, AFL-CIO, CLC. Those knowledgeable of non-clinical hypnosis universally acknowledge Dr. Damon as "The Father of Consulting Hypnotism as a Separate and Distinct Profession."

The National Guild of Hypnotists established and maintains a rigorous certification program based on a standardized curriculum. Annually, the National Guild of Hypnotists conducts educational seminars around the country and an international convention and educational conference, held in Marlborough, MA, that attracts over a thousand hypnotists. Under the guidance of Convention Director Elsom Eldridge Jr., the convention is the leading and largest venue for the sharing of best practices within the profession. Each year's convention provides a platform for teaching advanced hypnotic techniques and sharing new information and practical developments from leading members of the profession and legislative and legal updates. The most prestigious awards in the profession are presented during the event. The adjunct faculty, recruited from around the world, provides a distinguished nexus for what Dr. Damon describes as, "an open forum for a free exchange of ideas concerning hypnotism."

Dr. Damon says, "As members of the National Guild of Hypnotists, we have accepted the invitation and have risen to the challenge that the actions we have taken over the years, lay the groundwork for our profession to soar beyond all that has been accomplished and even beyond all we can conceive. We rise to the invitation to leave a legacy of excellence."

Respectful of licensed health care professionals, the National Guild of Hypnotists encourages its members to make their services widely available as a complementary adjunct to medical, dental and other licensed health professions. The organization's vision is of a time when a visit to a Consulting Hypnotist will be as routine as a trip to the dentist. Consistent efforts by the National Guild of Hypnotists in fostering professionalism has been the decisive factor in bringing about the recognition of hypnosis as a separate and distinct profession.

The non-profit association publishes The Journal of Hypnotism and the Hypno-Gram quarterly, as informative publications for practitioners and recently introduced Hypnosis Today, an annual magazine created for all readers.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, on roll call no. 557 I am not recorded because I was absent due to a previously scheduled meeting. Had I been present, I would have voted Aye.

WELCOME, BABY MARY PARKS NATONSKI

### HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I am happy to congratulate the former communications director of South Carolina's Second District and now Chief of Staff for RICHARD HUDSON (NC-08) Pepper Pennington Natonski, and her husband Dave, who serves as Chief of Staff for KEVIN YODER (KS-03), upon the birth of their beautiful daughter. Mary Parks Natonski arrived into the world at 7:02AM on Thursday, November 27, 2014. Born at Sibley Memorial Hospital in Washington, DC, Mary Parks weighed eight and a half pounds and measured twenty-one and a half inches long. The Thanksgiving Day baby is the first child for the happy couple. I look forward to watching her grow and have no doubt that her talented parents will be dedicated to her well-being and bright future.

I would also like to congratulate Mary Parks' grandparents, Cass and Cindy Pennington of Orlando, Florida, and General Richard and Barbara Natonski of Woodbridge, Virginia. Congratulations to the entire Pennington and Natonski families as they welcome their newest edition of pure pride and joy!

CITY OF SUGAR LAND EMPLOYEE DELIVERS RESULTS

### HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the City of Sugar Land Risk Manager Norma Martinez for receiving the 2014 Risk Professional of the Year award from the Public Risk Management Association Chapter of Texas.

Martinez's innovative efforts have significantly lowered costs for the City of Sugar Land. As risk manager, Norma decreased the citywide worker's compensations cost by 62% over three years, decreased citywide auto liability costs by 64% over three years, decreased lost city time by 63% over five years, and decreased worker's compensation cost for the fire department by 91% over five years. It's clear that Norma delivers results.

The City of Sugar Land is fortunate to have such a proactive leader in their Human Resources Department. On behalf of the residents of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations to Norma Martinez for receiving the 2014 Risk Professional of the Year award.

#### REFLECTIONS ON CONGRESS

### HON. SPENCER BACHUS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. BACHUS. Mr. Speaker, as I prepare to retire after 22 years in the House, I feel as I



did when I first walked into this chamber as a freshman—it is an extraordinary privilege to be able to serve and being a U.S. representative is a humbling opportunity I never imagined I might have.

As Members of Congress, we see the Capitol Dome every day and I suspect that none of us ever fails to be inspired by its beauty and what it symbolizes. It is the incarnation of words attributed to Alexander Hamilton: “Here . . . the people govern.”

In times of peace and war, prosperity and economic crisis, and social consensus and societal change, America stands unique among nations and in history. The phrase that perfectly explains this is “American Exceptionalism,” which I truly believe in. You see it in the leadership that America provides to the world, in the service of our troops and veterans, and in the spirit of our people.

In Congress, I have served with three Presidents and five Speakers and been in this institution for the final years of the collapse of the Soviet Union, the tragedy of the 9/11 attacks, the accounting scandals and later the financial crisis of 2008, and many other historic events. Frequently, the concern expressed in our nation was, “Will we make it through?” Each time, America demonstrated its resilience and the reason for that, in my view, is because of our freedom.

It has been my privilege to serve on three great committees: the Financial Services Committee, the Judiciary Committee, and the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. My colleagues accorded me the honor of selecting me as Financial Services Committee Chairman, the first to come from my home state of Alabama since Representative Henry B. Steagall in the 1930s. Little did I know that my leadership term on the committee would coincide with the most severe financial crisis to test the U.S. since the Great Depression. During the depths of the financial crisis in the fall of 2008, we worked to prevent a repeat of that catastrophe by stabilizing our weakened banking system; I am proud of my advocacy of the successful capital purchase program as a solution.

However, if asked about my most satisfying achievement, it would be debt relief. The bipartisan agreement that emerged from Congress and the Clinton and Bush Administrations to provide debt relief to the world's poorest nations has reduced hunger, poverty and disease and lifted tens of millions of children and families from despair to hope. It is an example of what this institution is capable of doing at its finest.

As Dean of the Alabama congressional delegation, I have been honored to be part of a group of House Members and Senators that works across party lines to promote the interests of our state as a whole. Some of the projects that stand out to me are the construction of I-22 and the Northern Beltline, the creation of the Cahaba River National Wildlife Refuge, the location of the National Computer Forensics Center in Hoover, and especially the construction of the Alabama National Cemetery in Montevallo, a shrine to our veterans and their families.

One thing that Members of Congress learn quickly is that their effectiveness is greatly enhanced by a high quality staff. Over the years,

I have had many talented and dedicated individuals on my personal and committee staffs. In the past on this floor, I have noted the contributions of Larry Lavender, Warren Tryon, and Gerry Cashin. While time does not permit me to name every staff member, I would like to acknowledge loyal staffers who have been with me during my final year in office: Michael Staley, Tim Johnson, Brett Quick, Philip Swartzfager, Thomas Crockett, Summer Bravo, Brooks McClendon, Katherine Runkle, and Blake Lasuzzo in my Washington office and Christian Sanford, Ethan Vice and Pam Cook in my Birmingham office. Both the institution of Congress and bureaucracy of the federal government are large and complex, and experience matters when you interact with them on behalf of your constituents.

One thing I cannot stress enough is that I would not have been able to achieve anything without the support of my family. My wife Linda is my source of comfort, inspiration, and love. We are blessed with five wonderful children—Candace, Warren, Lisa, Stuart, and Elliott—and seven delightful grandchildren—Christopher, Madeline, Olivia, Rayner, Charlotte, Braden and Lillie. With great eagerness, I look forward to having more time to spend with my beautiful family.

In conclusion, I leave with great respect as well as with an abiding fondness for this institution. A departing hope is that while we vigorously debate policy, as we elected to do, we focus on doing so with respect and civility. My father gave me the advice, “If you can't say anything nice about a person, don't say anything at all.” That's not an easy thing to do in politics, but it's a good standard to aspire to. A benefit, I believe, would be an increase in public regard for this legislative body, which is vital in a society where consent comes from the governed. We should strive to make the public proud of their Congress; as Members, we should take personal pride in and honor the tradition of this essential institution.

The people of America look to us for leadership and, in turn, the nations of the world look to America for leadership. This is still President Reagan's beloved “Shining City on the Hill.” My hope is that during the time the people of Alabama have given me here, brief in the scope of our country's glorious history, I have been able to contribute in some small way to maintaining the Promise of America for our children, grandchildren, and the generations to come.

HONORING THE COURAGEOUS  
SERVICE AND SACRIFICE OF  
STAFF SERGEANT MATTHEW R.  
AMMERMAN

**HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute of a true American hero, Staff Sergeant Matthew R. Ammerman. Tragically, on December 3, Sergeant Ammerman was killed when his unit came under fire in the Zabul province of Afghanistan. I, along with people from across the United States, stand in

eternal gratitude for the dedication, service and sacrifice of this young man.

A native of Noblesville, Indiana, Ammerman joined the Army in July 2004. He was deployed in 2006 to Iraq, where he served for 14 months. In 2009, he served as an assistant gunner, fire team leader and squad leader in Afghanistan. In 2012, he volunteered for the Special Forces and graduated in 2013 as a Special Forces communications sergeant. Sergeant Ammerman again answered the call of duty in late 2014 in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

His many awards are a testament to the exceptional character of this incredibly talented and immensely brave young man. His accomplishments include the Army Commendation Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters, the Army Good Conduct Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Afghanistan Campaign Medal with Campaign Star, the Iraq Campaign Medal with Campaign Star, the Global War on Terror Service Medal, the Non-Commissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon, the Army Service Ribbon, the Overseas Service Ribbon and NATO Medal. He also received the Special Forces Tab, the Ranger Tab, the Combat Infantryman Badge, the Expert Infantryman Badge, the Parachutist Badge and the Driver and Mechanic Badge.

Staff Sergeant Matthew Ammerman will forever be remembered as a man willing to pay the ultimate sacrifice to defend the freedoms that we so cherish. However, I know his wife, Emily, and his mother, Susan, will always remember him as a loving husband, and a courageous son. I join all Americans in praying for their comfort in this time of grief and the safe return of all those continuing to protect the United States abroad.

RECOGNIZING ACHIEVE HUMAN  
SERVICES OF YUMA ARIZONA  
AND THE ABILITYONE PROGRAM

**HON. PAUL A. GOSAR**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Achieve Human Services and the AbilityOne® Program. The AbilityOne Program partners with participating community-based nonprofit agencies that are dedicated to training and employing individuals with disabilities. Organizations like Achieve, located in every state of our great nation, employ nearly 45,000 Americans who are blind or have significant disabilities through this Program.

AbilityOne affiliated non-profit agencies offer people who are blind or who have significant disabilities opportunities to acquire the job skills and training necessary to receive good wages and benefits that ultimately improve their quality of life. The value of these opportunities cannot be overstated as only 21 percent of individuals with disabilities currently have jobs.

Achieve helps Americans with disabilities lead more productive lives, support their families, gain important work experience and share in the same pride that each of us have after an honest day's work. Many of these individuals work in support of our men and women

in uniform, doing their part to improve our country and ensure safety and security for us all.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I recognize the AbilityOne Program and to Achieve Human Services. I also want to acknowledge the dedication and commitment of Ms. Carol Carr, the Executive Director of Achieve, and her staff for helping individuals who are blind or have significant disabilities find employment opportunities. Such actions greatly improve the lives of those less fortunate and make our country a better place.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CARY  
MARIE FAIRCHILD

HON. SUZANNE BONAMICI

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 11, 2014

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, I rise with Congressman EARL BLUMENAUER and Congressman KURT SCHRADER to honor the life of Cary Marie Fairchild, an Oregonian who tragically lost her life as the result of a car accident in October of 2014.

Cary was a force of nature who served her community with kindness, compassion, and joy. Born in New York City, Cary moved with her family, several times before moving to Hammond, Indiana, where she was raised with her three younger siblings. Growing up, Cary was a natural-born leader. She was the center of her family who not only depended on her, but enjoyed the wild ride. Cary graduated from Hammond Morton High School and attended Ripon College, studying language abroad in Lausanne, Switzerland. Cary graduated with honors from Indiana University and went on to receive her Masters in Psychology from Valparaiso University. She also completed the course work required for a Doctorate in Clinical Psychology at the Illinois School of Professional Psychology in Chicago.

After high school, Cary married Terry Luchene. They had two children, Aaron and Ann. Cary was a very devoted mother who adored her children and her grandson, Logan.

Cary met Jim, her husband of over 30 years, when they both worked as therapists in the same mental health center in Valparaiso. In 1989, they moved to Oregon. They sold everything that didn't fit into a rental truck and set out for Portland. Although they didn't know anyone in Portland and didn't have jobs, they knew where they were meant to be and trusted in their ability to make a new life in a place they loved.

Cary worked at the Oregon State Hospital, where she was employed as a Mental Health Specialist for almost 25 years. She was an outspoken advocate for her patients and fellow workers. Cary championed patient rights and fought to bring the option of alternative care to the hospital. She was instrumental in starting successful yoga and mindfulness meditation programs at OHS. These programs were well-liked and well-attended. Many of Cary's patients sent her notes affirming how very helpful yoga and meditation are to their recovery.

One of Cary's colleagues said, "Speaking up for alternative care in the workplace can

take courage. Cary treated her patients with compassion, dignity and respect, and they loved her for it. She was fierce!" Cary's family and friends will forever remember her for her caring, compassionate, playful nature and for the joy she brought to all their lives. Cary was loved by everyone who knew her and she is terribly missed.

Cary is survived by her husband Jim, and mother, Eileen Zneimer of Portland; father, Jack Zneimer of Sarasota, FL; son Aaron Luchene of Canby; daughter, Ann Klug of Merrillville, IN; brothers Peter Zneimer of Chicago and John Zneimer of LaCrosse, WI; and sister Maud of Mill Valley, CA.

We send our sincere condolences to her family, and join in the celebration of her life.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN HOWARD

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 11, 2014

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor John Howard, an indispensable member of my staff and good friend who will soon retire after ten years of faithful service to me and the people of Oregon's Second District.

John has had a long, dedicated career serving his country. In fact, this actually marks John's second retirement. In 1994, John left his beloved United States Navy after a thirty year career, rising from enlisted seaman to Commander. A passionate Fighting Illini alumnus, John received his commission in 1970 as a graduate of the Navy ROTC program at the University of Illinois. John served on five ships, including command of the USS *Saginaw* (LST-1188) and several shore assignments, including two tours in Washington D.C.

After a few years of retirement—and a brief stint as a dotcom millionaire gone bust with an independent software development company—John and his wife Cathy relocated from Virginia Beach, Virginia to Medford, Oregon in September 2001. In fact, the closing on his home was delayed because of 9/11. He persevered through and settled in to the Rogue Valley getting involved in his community through the United Way and several military organizations. I first met John when he was the president of the Rogue Valley Council of the Navy League where he presented me with an honorary Navy League membership.

A lifelong Republican, John stepped up to volunteer with the 2004 Bush/Cheney presidential campaign in Jackson County, OR. John stayed in touch with my office through similar political and community volunteer efforts. Soon, when a member of my staff decided to return to school part time, I brought John on to share the workload and the following year, John joined my team full time to handle veterans and military casework and provide input on related policy matters.

Bringing John onboard wasn't without issue. John Howard is a pretty common name for one and we already had a John on staff. The communication logistics could have been daunting, yet by chance House IT averted a crisis. John was bestowed with a non-standard email address that had no "dot" between his

first and last name. Thereafter and forevermore, John was referred to as NoDot amongst Team Walden.

During his ten years on staff, John has handled 4,144 cases for individual constituents and veterans, almost 1/3 of all the cases handled in 16 years by my office. That doesn't include the countless other veterans and other constituents assisted on the side with information and guidance.

Of course, it was hard for him to top the success of one of his first cases on staff where he showed an ability that surprised us all, bringing veterans back to life. John was contacted by a veteran who had received a letter from the VA containing the shocking news that he was deceased. Working with his contacts at the VA, John was able to get the error corrected and brought the veteran back to life in the VA's records. Over the years, John has had a couple other similar cases, all of which he found fascinating to resolve.

As my veterans caseworker, and later as Director of Constituent Services, John worked with veterans organizations across the district to make sure that I heard their concerns and let them know I was available to assist. John was a familiar face at veterans meetings and events in southern Oregon. Further, he was instrumental in developing a presentation for civic groups on what goes on in congressional offices, making my services more known and available to constituents.

A good naval officer is always concerned about the morale of his sailors. John carried that approach with him and became the de facto Morale Officer in my Southern Oregon District Office. Combining this with a firm belief in the importance of quality community outreach in politics, John founded "Rope Yarn/Veterans Outreach Wednesdays" which are weekly after hours gathering for staff and local veterans to discuss local veteran's issues and partake in the occasional fermented beverage—as any good sailor would!

During his tenure, John took the reins of my service academy selection process, changing and building it into the strong program it is today. He constructed a board of retired military officers to interview all candidates that was decidedly "Purple," ensuring all service components were fully represented. This system has proven to be highly successful. In fact, nine of the 18 students I nominated last year received an appointment to the class of 2018.

As John heads into retirement, he is looking forward to some increased time with his extensive family, which includes his wife Cathy, his son, five daughters; soon-to-be 13 grandchildren—including two newborn fraternal twin granddaughters—along with 2 foster grandchildren.

Always service oriented, John will continue to volunteer in his community and was recently appointed to the board of the Jackson County Retired Seniors Volunteer Program. In addition, he has been approached to serve on the board of the United Way and the Jackson County Veterans Advisory Committee.

Whether spending time with family, golfing or volunteering it will always be easy to identify John from afar in the University of Illinois characteristic orange and blue, or overhear the words to the Songs of the Illini—from Illinois Loyalty to Hail to the Orange—which he

loudly and proudly belt out with the slightest provocation.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring John's 40 plus years of public service and in wishing fair winds and following seas to a true gentleman, shipmate, and friend. Godspeed, NoDot!

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. CHRISTOPHER P. GIBSON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. GIBSON. Mr. Speaker, on roll call no. 555, I was unavoidably detained on official business.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF JOHN H. KREBS

### HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise with my colleagues, Congressman XAVIER BECERRA, Congressman AMI BERA, Congresswoman JULIA BROWNLEY, Congresswoman LOIS CAPPS, Congressman TONY CÁRDENAS, Congresswoman JUDY CHU, Congresswoman ANNA ESHOO, Congressman SAM FARR, Congresswoman JANICE HAHN, Congressman JARED HUFFMAN, Congresswoman ZOE LOFGREN, Congressman ALAN LOWENTHAL, Congresswoman DORIS MATSUI, Congresswoman GLORIA NEGRETE MCLEOD, Congressman JERRY MCNERNEY, Congressman GEORGE MILLER, Congressman RICK NOLAN, Congresswoman GRACE NAPOLITANO, Congresswoman NANCY PELOSI, Congressman SCOTT PETERS, Congresswoman LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD, Congressman RAUL RUIZ, Congresswoman LORETA SANCHEZ, Congressman ADAM SCHIFF, Congressman BRAD SHERMAN, Congresswoman JACKIE SPEIER, Congressman ERIC SWALWELL, Congressman MIKE THOMPSON and Congressman HENRY WAXMAN to pay tribute to the life of former Congressman, John H. Krebs.

John Krebs was an honorable man, and a community leader whose unwavering service will be greatly missed. In addition to his two terms in the United States Congress from 1975–1979, Mr. Krebs was a civic and Democratic Party leader in Fresno, California. Additionally, he worked as an attorney for over 30 years, he was an apprentice diamond cutter during his youth in Tel Aviv, and he served in the U.S. Army.

While in Congress, he was best known for his authorship and enactment of legislation incorporating the Mineral King Valley into Sequoia National Park, thwarting Disney developers who wanted to turn the wilderness area into a major ski resort. In 2009, President Obama recognized John for his efforts, and signed legislation establishing the John Krebs Wilderness Area which covers 40,000 acres within the Mineral King Valley.

John Krebs was born on December 17, 1926, in Berlin. His parents fled Germany a few months after Hitler came to power, and he was raised in Tel Aviv. During his adolescence, John embarked on a career as a diamond cutter and joined the Haganah, a Jewish underground organization opposing the British rule, while also preparing to attend college.

In 1946, John moved to the United States to attend the University of California, Berkeley. He graduated in 1950 and became a U.S. citizen in 1952. Following his two years in the Army, he attended the University of California Hastings College of Law and passed the California Bar in 1957. For the next three decades, he practiced law with the Parichan law firm, specializing in civil defense litigation.

John wanted to make a positive difference in the community, and he quickly became an activist and leader for Fresno's Democratic Party, playing a key role in local and statewide campaigns. In March 1970, he was elected to the Fresno County Board of Supervisors, a position he held until his election to Congress in 1974. He was the first foreign-born congressman from California. John fulfilled the American Dream, and he serves as an inspiration for all of us.

John returned to Fresno after his tenure in Congress, and practiced law until his retirement. He served on numerous boards and commissions, and was foreman of the Fresno County Grand Jury for two years. John and his wife, Hanna enjoyed traveling, and loved spending time with their children and grandchildren.

John's strong values, work ethic, and compassion for others were evident to all of those who were fortunate to know him. His loving guidance as a husband, father, grandfather, and friend will be forever cherished.

John will be greatly missed by Hanna, his son, Daniel Krebs, his daughter, Karen, daughter-in-law, Susan, son-in-law, John, and grandchildren, Elizabeth, Caroline, Jack, Clay, and Peter as well as his 90 year old brother, Shlomo.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that we ask the entire House of Representatives to join us in paying tribute to the life of John H. Krebs. We all have an extraordinary role model to look up to, and his presence will be greatly missed, but his legacy will surely live on.

#### EMPHASIZING IMPORTANCE OF INVESTING IN EVIDENCE-BASED PROGRAMS

### HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight the importance of investing in evidence-based programs with proven track records.

As we work to invest our tax dollars in the most efficient manner possible, we need to know which government programs work, which do not, and which could be improved. The Appropriations bill provides a set aside of 0.5% for program evaluations for both the Depart-

ment of Labor and certain Education programs.

It has recently been brought to my attention, how the moneyball approach to government could help in our spending decisions. We all have heard about Billy Bean and how he used evidence and data to assemble his winning team.

We in Congress can use this same model by examining best practices and evaluating Federal programs.

"Investing in What Works" is not a partisan issue. This practice dates back to Presidents Clinton and Bush and continues today with President Obama.

Many of you have heard me speak about my disdain for these austere budget times and how we are forced to look at every available avenue to do more with less. Conducting program evaluations and investing in what works can help improve outcomes for children, families and communities across this nation.

#### RECOGNIZING DISTINGUISHED EAGLE SCOUT BERNARD QUENEAU

### HON. CHRIS COLLINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. COLLINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, as the Chairman of the Congressional Scouting Caucus, I rise today to honor Bernard Queneau, the oldest Eagle Scout in America, who passed away earlier this week.

Born in Liege, Belgium in 1912, Bernard moved with his family to America and joined Boy Scout Troop 3B in New Rochelle, New York. He received his Eagle Scout award on March 5, 1928 and was subsequently selected as one of four scouts selected to travel the Lincoln Highway from New York to San Francisco on a 34-day Lincoln Highway Safety Tour. During this journey, Bernard and his fellow scouts gave scouting skills demonstrations and set the stage for 3,400 concrete Lincoln Highway markers to be erected by scouts from coast to coast, cementing the memory of President Lincoln onto this national roadway.

At 102 years old, Bernard was the last living member of the 1928 Boy Scout Lincoln Highway Safety Tour. Bernard recently received the Distinguished Eagle Scout Award, the National Eagle Scout Association's highest honor. He was the 2098th recipient of the 45 year old award, which honors Eagle Scouts with at least 25 years of service and exceptional career achievement or recognition.

Bernard was a lifelong scout and true believer in the values of preparedness and doing your best. He lived his life by the scout oath and law and I am honored to recognize such an exemplary man today. I know Bernard's memory will live on through this family and friends, as well as the myriad of scouts of all ages his life touched.

RECOGNIZING PACIFIC NORTH-  
WEST NATIONAL LABORATORY'S  
50TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. DOC HASTINGS**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, which is celebrating a half-century of innovation and achievement in American research and development.

For 50 years, the men and women at PNNL have worked diligently to make the Lab a leader among the scientific foundations of the United States, evolving from a laboratory supporting a nuclear materials development mission to a multi program national laboratory with significant portfolios in science, energy, and nonproliferation.

When America went to the moon in 1969, NASA chose the lab (then called the Pacific Northwest Laboratory, or PNL) as the only Northwest organization to analyze the lunar material from the Apollo program, and their work became critical to understanding the origin and history of the moon. Additionally, their research had many applications outside of the laboratory. In 1974, they developed a data storage technique called optical digital recording, and became the pioneer of a technology still popular with consumers today—CDs and DVDs.

Their commitment to the environment has consistently been a driving force in work they do. When Mt. St. Helens erupted in 1980, PNL was ready. Because of their expertise in environmental sampling and monitoring, researchers were able to collect samples of the ash and assess potential threats to health and the environment. After the 1986 disaster at Chernobyl, they were assigned the lead role in collecting air samples of the fallout using special research aircraft. They also helped to monitor the radiation levels in the plume after it arrived in America. And, in the early 1990s, PNL helped create the Global Change Assessment Model (GCAM). This model is now widely used around the world, and demonstrates the true impact of the laboratory's work on an international scale.

In 1995, they changed their name to the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory—a suitable switch, since they had always been a national lab making national impacts. Two years later, they opened the Environmental Molecular Science Laboratory (EMSL), a national scientific user facility, which narrows the gap between theoretical molecular modelling and practical physical experimentation. Since its opening, EMSL has welcomed scientific users from every state, and nearly 30 countries.

In the early 2000s, PNNL began to focus on updating the infrastructure of the United States' century-old electric grid, and incorporating it into the information age. They continue to be a leader in testing and developing new technology to manage and protect the grid, especially from new cybersecurity threats. Some of their most recent scientific missions include increasing U.S. energy capacity, and reducing dependence on imported

oil; preventing and countering terrorism and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction; and creating sustainable systems, reducing the environmental effects of human activities.

Closer to home, PNNL created a suite of modern facilities to support its national and international customers using Battelle, federal, State and third party funds . . . a complex unique in the DOE laboratory system. The Consolidated Laboratory complex allowed PNNL to vacate older facilities that were on the Hanford site.

PNNL developed and supported efforts to create a WSU Branch Campus in the Tri Cities, including joint appointments and federal/state partnership for a research laboratory on the WSU campus. PNNL has been a strong supporter of STEM education programs throughout Washington State, including early funding to build the Delta Prep school in the Tri-Cities.

I want to thank the generations of hard-working men and women who helped bring PNNL this far. I am proud of the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, its work, and the boundless spirit of American innovation that has made it possible for the last 50 years.

IN RECOGNITION OF BLAISE ALAN  
DENTE FOR RECEIVING THE  
UNICO MAN OF THE YEAR  
AWARD FOR 2014

**HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Blaise Alan Dente for being awarded UNICO's "Man of the Year" Award for 2014. Mr. Dente is a lifelong resident of Pittston, Pennsylvania, and graduated from Seton Catholic High School. Mr. Dente received a Bachelor of Science in Hotel, Restaurant and Tourism from East Stroudsburg University of Pennsylvania. Today, he is the owner of Dente's Catering and Rental, which has been voted the Sunday Dispatch's "Best Caterer of Greater Pittston" in both 2011 and 2013.

Mr. Dente is a member of the American Culinary Federation, a national organization of chefs, cooks, and culinary students. Through this association, he obtained his certification as a Certified Chef de Cuisine, which he has held since 2003. He was also inducted as an "honorary fellow" in the American Academy of Chefs, the prestigious honor society within the American Culinary Federation. In addition, Mr. Dente is a member of the local chapter of ACF, Professional Chefs of Northeast Pennsylvania. Within this local chapter, he has chaired several committees and has years of service in various chapter offices. Mr. Dente has also held the position of Chapter President and currently serves as the chapter's Chairman of the Board. In 2008, he was named Chapter Chef of the Year.

Mr. Dente is also an active member of the local community. He serves as a Eucharistic Minister, lector, and usher at his church, Our Lady of the Eucharist. Mr. Dente is a member

of both the Wilkes-Barre and Greater Scranton Chambers of Commerce and sits on the Executive Board of Directors, Pittston Chamber of Commerce. In addition, Mr. Dente volunteers for the Pittston Tomato Festival Committee and is a Fourth Degree Knight of Columbus Council 372 & Assembly 948. He is also a member of the Color Guard Core Group and serves as Assembly Faithful Scribe. In 2010, Mr. Dente was named one of the "Top 40 under 40" Business Professionals. Mr. Dente is also a graduate of Leadership Wilkes-Barre.

It is a great honor to recognize Mr. Dente's many achievements and to congratulate him being UNICO's "Man of the Year" for 2014. I wish him continued success with his business and express my gratitude for his involvement in the community.

INTRODUCTION OF AMERICAN SO-  
LUTION FOR SIMPLIFYING THE  
ESTATE TAX ACT OF 2014  
("ASSET ACT")

**HON. ANDY HARRIS**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, one area of unfinished business for the 113th Congress is comprehensive tax reform, which would have given us the chance to reduce the burden of the Internal Revenue Code on families and businesses and would have stimulated economic growth.

Recognizing that tax reform is an issue that the 114th Congress should prioritize, I am introducing today a bill that offers a creative solution to the problems associated with the current federal estate tax. I want to note at the outset that I was an early cosponsor of Congressman BRADY's legislation to repeal the estate tax. However, as part of the tax reform process, Members of the Ways and Means Committee have demonstrated a willingness to consider a variety of policy suggestions and thus, in the interest of stimulating discussion, I am introducing the American Solution for Simplifying the Estate Tax Act of 2014, the "ASSET Act." As I will explain further, the ASSET Act is intended to be a revenue-neutral solution that would provide a new voluntary simplified method for Americans with large estates to pay a fair share of taxes but without any of the distortive, inefficient effects created by the current method of collecting the estate tax.

The origins of the current federal estate tax arise out of the need to fund World War I and enactment of the Revenue Act of 1916. In that respect, this law has outlived its original purpose. It might come as a surprise to some that over the past 50 years, the much-debated federal estate tax has generated only around one percent of total federal tax collections and in 2013 brought in \$14 billion, or around 4/10th of a percent of total tax revenue. When one considers the distortive effects of the current estate tax and the disproportionately low amount of revenue actually raised, it is incumbent upon us to identify more appropriate policy solutions.

The case for reform is dramatically illustrated by reviewing the data cited by the Joint

Economic Committee (JEC) in its May 2006 study and updated in a July, 2012 study issued by the Republican staff of the JEC. The 2006 study indicated that individuals' costs of complying with the estate tax (avoiding wealth transfer taxes) roughly equals the revenue yield of the estate tax for the Treasury. Both studies demonstrated that the costs of the estate tax includes tens of millions of dollars of compliance costs, a substantial reduction in the capital stock of our economy, reduced savings/increased consumption, and the dissolution of family-run businesses. The 2006 study cited the Congressional Budget Office in saying that many estates that owed estate taxes had a tax liability in excess of their liquid assets, which is a key reason why many family-run businesses are liquidated prematurely or sold at firesale prices after the death of the primary owner.

One example of this problem is Maryland resident Jack Fitzgerald. Jack is a successful owner of a number of automobile dealerships. He has explained to me and to many others in Congress that he is kept up at night by concerns that he will pass away and that his heirs will have to liquidate his thriving small businesses in order to pay the federal estate tax. He routinely mentions the 1200 employees whose livelihoods depend to a great extent on him and his managers. To prevent against the risk of a forced liquidation, Jack says that he pays nearly \$700,000 annually in life insurance premia so that his estate would have enough funds to cover the IRS tax liability. Those are funds that he could be reinvesting in his business, his employees, or otherwise using productively if the current estate tax were not looming in the distance. We all know of farmers, ranchers, and other family-run businesses that have to consider selling at an inopportune time in order to ensure that the tax man will get his share. One famous example was captured in the film, "Secretariat," when the horse's owner almost has to sell him and the entire horse farm to pay the estate taxes after the patriarch's death, but she creatively developed an innovative syndication scheme to raise the \$6 million and to keep the trailblazing horse and the farm within the family.

My office has received letters in support of the ASSET Act from a diverse group of Marylanders, including a CPA, the owner of a minority/woman-owned public relations and advertising firm, the president of a general contracting firm, and the Maryland Auto Dealers Association. One gentleman, who is a farmer who also owns an agricultural business, wrote that "the present federal estate tax law is very detrimental for businesses (whether it be a farm or other operating business) to pass onto the next generation. During my lifetime I have seen many hardworking farmers and business owners' lifetime work be sold upon their death in order to pay for the inheritance tax. This is a bad situation for creating and keeping jobs and it also creates a real hardship on families."

Responding to their concerns and others I have heard on numerous occasions when meeting with constituents, the ASSET Act offers a new, simplified approach that will solve permanently the problems with the current estate tax. It permits individual taxpayers to opt

in to a new system in which death would no longer be a taxable event. By taking the uncertainty of death out of the question of how and when assets should be liquidated, the ASSET Act will contribute to economic growth and preserve the stability of companies. Small business owners, farmers, ranchers, and others will not have to live their lives fearing the tax liability imposed under the existing estate tax and will not have to dismantle profitable companies, sell farms and ranches, over-purchase life insurance, and waste their money on lawyers and accountants with sheltering strategies.

Under the ASSET Act, individuals could make a "down payment" on their estate taxes during their earning years and then the government would rely upon traditional capital gains taxes to generate revenue from estate assets when sold. In the current draft of the ASSET Act, a taxpayer may "opt in" to this approach by agreeing to pay an additional one percent of his/her AGI each year. (If, based on Joint Committee on Taxation revenue estimates, the one percent rate needs to be adjusted to ensure revenue neutrality over time, that would be possible prior to enactment.) Once in the system, these payments must continue through the earning life of the taxpayer, but no tax will be levied against the estate of such a taxpayer at his death. His or her assets remain intact until they are sold, at which time they will be subject to capital gains tax at the then current rate. Taxpayers must pay the 1 percent fee for a minimum of seven years before they can take full advantage of the ASSET Act system.

There are several primary reasons to support the ASSET Act. As noted earlier, owners of small and medium sized businesses could better plan for the orderly succession of their companies and preserve critically needed jobs. This can avoid forcing the heirs to liquidate the company at just the wrong time, destroying the business and eliminating jobs. And, the government can avoid losing significant capital gains tax revenue that it would have realized had the asset been sold at the right economic opportunity in the future. The ASSET Act solves those concerns and ensures stability for vital engines of our economy.

The ASSET Act will help reduce tax avoidance scheming. Current law exempts estates that are worth less than \$5 million for an individual or \$10 million for a couple. However, it does not solve the liquidation problem for large estates, which will pay 40% on amounts above those levels. Individuals with very large estates or who expect to accrue such large estates now spend a great deal of time and significant money on strategies to shelter their assets from the estate tax. When these strategies are successful, the government receives nothing. That is why, historically, estate tax revenues have comprised only 1% of total federal tax revenues and 2.47% of the AGI of taxpayers earning more than \$1 million per year. The ASSET Act eliminates the incentive to hide assets from the IRS and to engage in unproductive strategies and avoidance schemes, so individuals will "stay within the system" and contribute their fair share of taxes to the Treasury.

The ASSET Act is intended to be revenue neutral and would offset the revenue loss of

eliminating the current estate tax collection methodology for some taxpayers by imposing a very small annual prepayment surcharge and by capturing the benefits of increased capital gains tax revenues that would occur over time as estate assets are sold.

I encourage my colleagues to study the ASSET Act and to work with me to ensure that as the next Congress considers comprehensive tax reform proposals, we leave no stone unturned in the effort to rectify the problems associated with the current estate tax.

IN HONOR OF DALLAS/FT. WORTH  
INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT'S  
NEWEST AIRLINE, ETIHAD AIRWAYS

**HON. KENNY MARCHANT**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 11, 2014

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, on December 3, 2014, Etihad Airways become the latest new airline to start service at Dallas/Ft. Worth International Airport (DFW), which I represent in Congress. Etihad's new service now connects DFW with Abu Dhabi and the world beyond. Though Etihad is only eleven years old, it has already become a trend setter in the aviation industry for service and onboard product offerings, winning its 6th straight "World's Leading Airline" award at the World Travel Awards this year.

Etihad and DFW based American Airlines enjoy codesharing and reciprocal frequent flier mileage agreements, making it easier for frequent fliers of both airlines to earn miles on their airline of choice and make connecting flights at DFW or Abu Dhabi. DFW is Etihad's sixth destination in the United States, further increasing ties between the United States and the United Arab Emirates. Etihad serves the DFW/Abu Dhabi route with a Boeing 777—which will be further complemented by the airline's \$40 billion order for additional Boeing aircraft in the coming years equipped with General Electric engines.

I congratulate Etihad and Dallas/Ft. Worth International Airport on this latest expansion of international service which will greatly increase travel options for my constituents and promote economic growth in North Texas.

HONORING THE FORT HILL HIGH  
SCHOOL SENTINELS

**HON. JOHN K. DELANEY**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 11, 2014

Mr. DELANEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Fort Hill High School football team and Head Coach Todd Appel for winning the Maryland Class 1A State Football Championship for the second year in a row on Saturday, December 6th.

The Fort Hill Sentinels finished a second consecutive perfect 14–0 season with a 40–8 win against Douglass High School. The Sentinels have now won back-to-back state championships, their fourth in school history. They

continued last season's dominance, outscoring their opponents 197-64.

Coach Appel has now compiled an impressive 80-11 record through seven seasons. The Sentinels started as the favorite and never looked back, sweeping the regular season and playoffs. I want to thank Coach Appel and his staff for their leadership, as well as all the student-athletes for their hard work and determination to be the best they can be both in the classroom and on the field. The Sentinels success over the last two years has brought pride to both Fort Hill High School and the local community. I also wish the Fort Hill Sentinels the best of luck as they look to win their third straight title next season.

I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues help me in honoring this significant accomplishment.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DR.  
STEVEN FRITZ

HON. SUZANNE BONAMICI

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, I rise with Congressman EARL BLUMENAUER and Congressman KURT SCHRADER to honor the life and work of Dr. Steven Edward Fritz, an Oregonian whose life was tragically lost in an accident in September of 2014.

Steven Fritz was born in Frankfort, Kentucky on September 21, 1960. His parents are Salvation Army officers and Steven enjoyed moving to various assignments from Maine, Philadelphia, New Jersey, and New York City. Active in the Salvation Army, Steven was a teenager when he got his first job as a dishwasher at Camp Tecumseh, a Salvation Army children's camp in New Jersey. There he met Amanda, his wife, in 1977.

Steven graduated from Geneva College in Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania, and medical school at the University of Rochester, NY. He completed residency training in psychiatry at Oregon Health Sciences University and became a board certified psychiatrist, serving at the Oregon State Hospital (OSH) for 24 years. For several years he was the Chief Medical Officer at OSH, but he preferred taking care of patients so he left administrative work and returned to staffing forensics units. He was also the President of the local chapter of the Association of Federal, State, and County Municipal Employees (AFSCME). Steven was described by his colleagues as a "compassionate clinician" who was guided by kindness and what was best for his patients. He often worked with people who would otherwise be incarcerated, and his approach was valued for its philosophy of allowing patient-collaboration in guiding treatments. He was praised frequently by his colleagues, his patients, and their families.

After Steven and Amanda married in May of 1982, they did a nationwide search to choose a place to settle and raise their family. They moved to Portland in 1986. Their three children were born during the four years of Steve's residency training at OHSU. Steve and Amanda worked hard for many years rais-

ing their children, who attended Portland's public schools, and exploring natural areas in Oregon and the West Coast together as a family. They all particularly enjoyed camping in the Alvord Desert. Steve relished his relationships with his children, and was a terrific father.

Dr. Steven Fritz is survived by his wife Amanda; their three children, Luke, Maxwell, and Alessandra; his parents, Colonel Edward Fritz and Colonel Emily Fritz of Portland, OR; two brothers and their wives, Samuel and Diana of Amherst, NY and Andrew and Jody of Olympia, WA; his loving in-laws in England, including mother-in-law Pamela and siblings-in-law Peter and Sue; and many nephews and nieces.

We send our sincere condolences to his family, and join in the celebration of his life.

TRIBUTE TO KEITH H. DETERS

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. JORDAN. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to commend to the House the outstanding service of Keith H. Deters, who is retiring from the Joint Systems Manufacturing Center in Lima, Ohio, after a distinguished 32-year career.

Keith began his time at JSMC as a quality engineer in 1982. For the last 12 years, he has served as plant manager—the longest tenured manager in the modern history of that facility, which is the only remaining heavy combat vehicle production plant on the continent. A hands-on manager, he noted that there has rarely been a day that he did not walk the production floor to interact with the plant's highly skilled workforce, to which he has always paid great tribute for the facility's success.

In the face of challenges to JSMC's future, Keith has been a tireless advocate of the plant and the vital role it plays in our nation's defense industrial base. Under his leadership, JSMC has diversified beyond its traditional Abrams tank refurbishment work for the Army, providing high-quality combat vehicles and other products to other branches of the military and to our international allies.

Keith has been instrumental in the success of Task Force LIMA (Linked in Mutual Alliance), established more than a decade ago to support and promote JSMC and Ohio's other defense facilities. He is well respected throughout our congressional delegation as a man of vision and an industry expert.

Mr. Speaker, the Lima community will gather at Lima's City Club on December 17 to celebrate Keith's many contributions and distinguished record of service. On behalf of the people of Ohio's Fourth Congressional District, I am proud to join in the accolades to him and offer my warmest congratulations on his retirement. He and his wife, Donna, have my best wishes as they enter a new chapter in their lives.

PASSAGE OF THE COAST GUARD  
AND MARITIME TRANSPORTATION  
ACT OF 2014: A CRITICAL  
STEP IN THE REVITALIZATION  
OF U.S. SHIPBUILDING AND MER-  
CHANT MARINE

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, on December 10th, I was proud to bear witness to the passage, under Unanimous Consent, of the House and Senate compromise language for the Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Reauthorization Act of 2014. S. 2444, the culmination of months of hard work and diligent analysis by Coast Guard Subcommittee Chairman DUNCAN HUNTER, House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Chairman BILL SHUSTER, Ranking Member NICK RAHALL, Senator ROCKEFELLER, Senator THUNE, myself, and our staff, is a beacon of the thoughtful compromise and responsible lawmaking we hope to see more of in the coming years.

Notably, S. 2444 contains a provision to ensure that our commitment to U.S. maritime is maintained as America considers the possible exportation of liquefied natural gas (LNG). Existing law, written before the natural gas boom when America was forecasted to be an LNG importer, authorizes the Secretary of Transportation to develop and implement a program to promote the transportation of imported LNG on U.S.-flag vessels. Under the Deepwater Ports Act, the Secretary is also required to give top priority to the processing of licenses for LNG import facilities that will utilize U.S.-flag vessels. S. 2444 includes language from H.R. 5270, the Growing American Shipping Act, to modernize these laws. LNG exports will now be included in the program to promote the use of U.S.-flag vessels in the carriage of LNG, and the Secretary will be required to give priority processing to export applications for deepwater port terminals that would utilize U.S.-flag vessels.

The U.S. shipbuilding industry and U.S. natural gas market are strategic national assets essential to U.S. national security interests. Shipbuilding is critical to the growth and flow of our economy, and to our ability to control the safety and security of the global supply chain. It is also essential to the United States Navy, which relies on a select few remaining shipyards for the construction of new ships and the repair and refitting of existing ships. Despite this importance, our foreign trade fleet has declined from 1,200 ships in the 1950s to less than 100 today, and despite having pioneered gas tanker technology, America no longer manufactures LNG tanker ships. To transport LNG by sea, the world must rely on China, Japan, and South Korea to build the requisite tankers.

Further decline of the U.S. shipbuilding industrial base will continue to erode competitive bidding among shipyards, both for commercial builds and for Navy shipbuilding needs, thus compromising efforts to reduce the deficit and balance the national budget. It will also result in the further loss of marine engineering expertise, preventing the adoption and utilization

of the same cutting edge ship construction technologies used by our foreign competitors. Furthermore, tens of thousands of American jobs, both inside shipyards and throughout the U.S. supply chain, depend on the strength of the maritime industry.

The decline of the shipbuilding industry threatens another strategic national asset in reducing key personnel. The U.S. Merchant Marine is a highly trained, militarily-useful labor force, and American merchant sailors are the foundation of our marine transportation system. Further attrition of the Merchant Marine threatens American security because our nation relies on this secure source of labor for the movement of supplies and military cargo and personnel. The explosive nature of LNG strengthens the need to ensure that the transport of LNG, especially through U.S. ports, is done by U.S. seafarers, and not foreign crews that come with an increased potential for sabotage.

The export of LNG is projected to slowly ramp up over the next two or three years and will then quickly accelerate over the next decade or more. This will allow both time and a stable, long-term market demand, which—if given the correct incentives—could spur the U.S. shipbuilding industry to re-tool its infrastructure and processes to ramp up the production of domestic tankers, paving the way for production of vessels for export of this strategic national asset. It is in the U.S. national interest to utilize the emerging LNG coastwise and export trades to provide reliable, long-term markets for U.S. commercial shipbuilding and for U.S.-flag operators, to expand and increase the U.S. shipbuilding industrial base, and to use LNG export trade to strengthen U.S. strategic interests and alliances with LNG trading partners.

Therefore, it is the purpose of this law to enhance the national security and port safety of the United States by encouraging to the maximum extent practicable the transport of LNG on U.S.-built and -flag vessels. This law aims to maintain the technological ability of the United States shipbuilding industry to build and repair vessels for the Navy and the Coast Guard by maintaining the critical industrial infrastructure and skilled human workforce necessary to build such vessels. Further, this law promotes American job creation by encouraging domestic shipbuilding and the use of U.S. mariners in the transport of American LNG.

This provision of the Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Act of 2014 is supported by the Maritime Trades Department (AFL-CIO); the Seafarers International Union (AFL-CIO); the Transportation Institute; the Shipbuilders Council; the Navy League of the United States; the American Maritime Officers; the Marine Engineers' Beneficial Association (MEBA); the International Association of Masters, Mates and Pilots (MM&P); the Maritime Institute for Research and Industrial Development (MIRAID); the Marine Firemen's Union, Metal Trades Department (AFL-CIO); the Sailors' Union of the Pacific; the American Maritime Officers Service; and the American Maritime Congress. I thank these organizations for their commitment to national security, a strong maritime industry, and the creation of good American jobs so vital to the economic prosperity and future of this nation.

#### HONORING DAN MCCORQUODALE

#### HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 11, 2014

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise with my colleagues, Congress members ANNA ESHOO, MIKE HONDA, and MIKE THOMPSON to recognize the four decades of tenacious, dedicated service of Mr. Dan McCorquodale to the County of Santa Clara, the City of San Jose, and the State of California.

For over 40 years, Dan has been a fixture in public service in California after becoming interested in remedying the pervasive, lingering injustices of racial, gender, and disability discrimination. Having served as a Sergeant in the U.S. Marine Corps for four years, attended college, and worked as a teacher, Dan joined the City Council of Chula Vista, California in 1962 as the youngest person in history to ever be elected to the Council. Only four years later, Dan became the City's first Mayor, elected by a broad margin.

Consistent with his lifelong passion for teaching and the cause of individuals struggling with mental health issues, Dan returned to education from 1969 to 1972, teaching learning-disabled fourth, fifth, and sixth graders. During this time, Dan initiated the first Educationally Handicapped program for the Evergreen School District. After discovering the need to increase access to mental health centers in Santa Clara County, among other issues, Dan decided to run for the Board of Supervisors there.

In 1972, Dan was elected to the Board, serving as a Chairperson for two of his three terms. As a Supervisor, Dan took local leadership on justice and gender and racial equality, health care access, environment, and transportation issues.

Dan never backed down from his lifelong fight against discrimination and injustice. He worked to bring in women, minorities, and individuals living with developmental disabilities to the workforce. For example, Dan appointed the first woman commissioner to the Fire Commission. He also garnered Board consensus regarding supporting workshops, job training, and a program to ease job access for the developmentally disabled.

During his tenure on the Board, Dan expanded his efforts beyond local leadership, representing Santa Clara County on regional and state-wide governing Boards and Commissions, including becoming a member and Chairperson of the Bay Area Quality Management District, and a member of the Bay Conservation and Development Commission, the Association of Bay Area Governments, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, and the Advisory Council of the State Office of Planning and Research.

In 1982, Dan was elected State Senator where he served for three terms. As a Senator, Dan authored legislation in a variety of areas including: comprehensive water plans for the State, water reclamation, conservation, consumer protection, people with disabilities, LGBT issues, and humane treatment of animals.

After leaving office, Dan worked as a Commissioner on the California Medical Assistance

Commission with the Office of the Governor, working to enhance access to medical care for those in need.

Throughout his career Dan has been known for his stellar work ethic, incredible resilience, professionalism, and commitment to hard work in the best interest of the people. I wish Dan the happiest of birthdays, congratulate him on his impressive career, and commend him for his invaluable service to our community and the State of California. We have been lucky to have him.

#### HONORING CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS CHAIRWOMAN MARCIA FUDGE

#### HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 11, 2014

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, today I rise with my colleagues to pay tribute to the indelible mark my colleague and friend Representative MARCIA FUDGE has had on the Congressional Black Caucus during her time as our chairwoman in the 113th Congress.

She has been an outstanding chairwoman to the Congressional Black Caucus and I have been honored to serve under her fine leadership. As the true embodiment of the "conscience of the Congress," Chairwoman FUDGE has been a tireless champion for blue-collar workers, food stamp recipients, students, and communities of color. She has also been a staunch advocate for voter protection, job creation, and fair housing. As a dedicated public servant, she has continuously represented the needs of both her constituents and underrepresented Americans across this country.

Under Chairwoman FUDGE's leadership, 14 members of the Congressional Black Caucus traveled to my district in September 2013 to honor the lives of the four little girls killed in the 1963 bombing of the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church. She has also traveled to my hometown of Selma on multiple occasions to commemorate the Selma-to-Montgomery March and Bloody Sunday.

On a personal note, Chairwoman FUDGE has and continues to serve as a great friend and mentor to me. I am inspired by her work ethic, problem solving spirit, and remarkable insight and knowledge. With these qualities and more, she has proven to be invaluable to not only the Congressional Black Caucus, but to the Congress as a whole.

Mr. Speaker, Chairwoman FUDGE has led the Congressional Black Caucus with great character and an unwavering commitment to ensuring that all Americans are given equal opportunities to reach their full potential. Thank you, Chairwoman FUDGE for your service and astute leadership.



FALLEN MICHIGAN SHERIFF'S  
DEPUTY

**HON. MIKE ROGERS**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Deputy Grant William Whitaker who was killed in the line of duty on Sunday, December 7, 2014 in Stockbridge Township, Michigan. Deputy Whitaker was 25 years old and had been with the Ingham County Sheriff's Office for one and a half years. Deputy Whitaker had previously served as a police officer with Stockbridge Police Department and Waterloo Township Police. Grant grew up with the drive to serve his community and found his calling in law enforcement. A native of Stockbridge, Grant went to Stockbridge High School where he played baseball. He was an avid outdoorsman who hunted deer, waterfowl and turkey. He enjoyed playing pool and golf and spending time with his nephews. It is tragic when any loved one passes, and to lose someone so young and so dedicated to his community is a terrible loss indeed. My thoughts and prayers are with Grant's parents and family during this difficult time.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. BILL HUIZENGA**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today regarding a missed vote on December 10, 2014. Had I been present for roll call vote number 560, H.R. 1204, on the motion to suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendment for the Aviation Security Stakeholder Participation Act of 2014, I would have voted "yay."

CONGO-BRAZZAVILLE

**HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, 2015 will be an important year for the future of African democracy. Many countries on the continent will either hold or prepare for Presidential elections. If recent history is any guide, some long-serving African leaders will be tempted to alter constitutions or take other quasi-legal steps to extend their rule. I strongly encourage these leaders, including President Sassou-Nguesso of Congo-Brazzaville, to resist this temptation and to respect the will of their people.

Congo-Brazzaville has enormous natural resource wealth, including oil, minerals and timber. In 2014, the nation's GDP will be an estimated \$12.9 billion. It has also received nearly \$2 billion in debt relief since 2010. However, it is ranked 142 out of 186 on the U.N. Human Development Index—in other words, human

development is low. Political opposition is repressed, so discussion about governance and how to improve and deliver broader economic growth is limited.

In 2016, when it is time for the people of Congo-Brazzaville to go to the polls and elect a President, they deserve the chance to choose a new leader who will endeavor to deliver equitable growth to their country. According to the constitution, that should be their right—President Nguesso's two 7-year terms will have expired. However, there are indications that he is considering amending that constitution so he is eligible to run again, further extending his 30-year long rule.

The events in Burkina Faso earlier this fall should give pause to any leader considering constitutional changes that would allow them to extend their rule. President Nguesso should allow the voters of Congo-Brazzaville to select a new leader and engage in real democracy—a process that involves a peaceful change in government.

Let 2015 be a year filled with peace and prosperity for the Congolese people. Let a legitimate, democratic transfer of power be the legacy of President Sassou-Nguesso. Let his actions serve as a model and inspiration for other leaders in the region. And let democracy and the rule of law prosper in sub-Saharan Africa.

HONOR AND PRIVILEGE OF SERVING  
IN CONGRESS FOR THE  
PAST 18 YEARS

**HON. DONNA M. CHRISTENSEN**

OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, Like several members before me, as I prepare to depart, I rise to address this body in which I have had the honor and privilege of serving for the past 18 years.

I thank God for His grace and guidance and for keeping me fit of mind and body, so that I could faithfully serve my constituents and our country.

I thank my constituents, the people of the Virgin Islands for their overwhelming support at every election from 1996 through 2012, and for their advice, counsel and their prayers during my tenure.

I thank the leadership under whom I have served—Republican and Democrat—for their support of legislation and the concerns of the people of the Virgin Islands. But I especially thank my Democratic leaders for their unwavering support and advocacy on my and my constituents behalf.

Special thanks to the leaders and the members of the Congressional Black Caucus from the first Chair MAXINE WATERS, all the way to our most recent Chair MARCIA FUDGE and all in between.

I have been successful in my ability to represent my district and to contribute to their health and wellbeing and that of all of the people of this country and beyond, because of their overwhelming support.

Being named as Chair of the CBC Health Braintrust gave me a national platform that al-

lowed a non-voting member, from a Territory that many members could not locate on a map, the opportunity to influence not only local but national policy. And I thank the leaders and members of our TriCaucus partners—the Hispanic and Asian Pacific Caucuses—and my fellow Delegates for their support as well.

And above all I thank the very best staff anyone could ask for. Without them I could not have accomplished anything and my family who sacrificed so that I could serve.

In these 18 years I served on several committees: Natural Resources where I was a Ranking member on the Parks and Public Lands Subcommittee and chair of the Subcommittee on Insular Affairs, Wildlife, Oceans and Fisheries; the Committee on Small Business, the Committee on Homeland Security and finally with the Support of the CBC, I became the first delegate ever to serve on the exclusive Committee on Energy and Commerce. I particularly thank Chairwoman FUDGE, Assistant Leader CLYBURN and Leader PELOSI for that honor.

I have been blessed to serve in interesting times and during the terms of three presidents—Presidents Clinton, Bush and Obama.

Even without a vote I participated in discussions on every major issue in these 18 years both in Congress and in each White House.

And I have been fortunate with the help and support of the many who I have thanked to have been able through increased rum cover over funds, forgiveness of disaster loans, enabling borrowing and helping to ensure territories were included in the recovery act to help stave off what would have been a far worse impact from the national and global recession.

My staff and I were able to increase funding for roads and provide new funding for wastewater treatment systems and other infrastructure repair. First responder funding reached unprecedented highs.

And even though we were unsuccessful in our efforts to get state like treatment for the territories in the Affordable Care Act, I count as one of my most important legacies is the fact that working with my TriCaucus colleagues I was able to include many provisions for us that will enable coverage, service and protections for the four and a half million of us, as well as health equity and other provisions that benefit all Americans.

I had the privilege of working with others to create and maintain the Minority AIDS Initiative, to improve Ryan White, to expand the Children's Health Insurance, and to create the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities at NIH.

There is more, but most of all I am proud of the individuals and families we have helped in our district and Washington offices.

We helped resolve immigration, veterans, military, TWIC card, VICORP, social security, and Homeland Security issues, some involving saving jobs or getting them thousands of dollars they were owed. We were not 100% successful, but we always pursued the issues on behalf of our constituents to the nth degree.

So again to everyone who voted for me, who supported my efforts and who helped to provide the tools for a better life for the people of the Virgin Islands, thank you.

I will forever be grateful to all of you and will always consider it the highest honor to have



been able to serve the people of the U.S. Virgin Islands and my country for 18 wonderful years.

**HONORING COMPAÑEROS EN  
SALUD/PARTNERS IN HEALTH,  
NFP**

**HON. BILL FOSTER**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor Compañeros en Salud/Partners in Health, a not-for-profit grass roots organization in Aurora, Illinois that is celebrating its 15th Anniversary.

Since 1999, Compañeros en Salud/Partners in Health, NFP has provided assistance for members of the Hispanic community and other diverse groups to ensure equal access to health care and other social services in the Fox Valley. I would especially like to recognize Dr. Lulu Blacksmith, Compañeros en Salud's founder, for her dedication and leadership of the organization.

Through programs such as the Latina Health Festival, the Men's Health Festival, and Language Access Healthcare, Compañeros en Salud has become an important resource for our community. Since its founding, the organization has been expanding its focus into areas such as mental health and diabetes, while still offering high quality service to those who need assistance the most.

I would like to offer my sincere congratulations to Compañeros en Salud/Partners in Health, NFP as it celebrates its 15th Anniversary.

**RECOGNIZING NIU'S LEADERSHIP  
ON CAMPUS SAFETY**

**HON. ADAM KINZINGER**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Northern Illinois University from my district for its proactive leadership in creating safe, supportive living-learning communities by protecting all students from sexual assaults.

I commend NIU President Doug Baker for convening a Task Force on the Violence Against Women Act to bring together students, faculty, staff, administrators, public safety officials, and the DeKalb community on this important issue. To illustrate this collaboration, I would like to insert a student perspective into the RECORD offered by the President of NIU's Student Association.

Their hard work resulted in the Task Force Report which contains recommendations that enhance NIU's efforts in the prevention of sexual assault, provide support for sexual assault victims and survivors, and strengthen policies and processes related to student conduct and reporting. I am proud to say NIU is among the first universities in the nation to conduct such a comprehensive and public review.

My constituents' health and safety is a top priority. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the hard work of NIU's Task Force and look forward to continuing to work with NIU on our shared commitment to campus safety.

**STUDENT PERSPECTIVE**

One of the most memorable days in a parent's life is the one in which they send their child off to college. Parents can only hope the well-being of their child is in good hands. It is our duty as decision makers in the university community to make sure we have a safe environment for our students. This is why as President of the Northern Illinois University (NIU) Student Association, I reached out to groups across campus, from the NIU Police to our Health Enhancement Department, to collaborate on a White House-initiated campaign called "It's On Us". The It's On Us campaign mobilizes students and advocates for their awareness of responses to and prevention of campus sexual assaults, a pressing issue facing our nation today. I commend everyone involved with the campaign for making a positive change to our campus culture.

It is exceedingly important to note this student-led movement is the bottom-up companion to a top-down approach by the university administration. I recognize and applaud the efforts of NIU President Doug Baker and his administration for their proactive approach to addressing sexual assaults on campus, embodied in the work of the Presidential Task Force on Violence Against Women Act. This task force and the report created from it will play a crucial role in the health, safety and well-being of our students, faculty, staff and community members. It makes me a proud student to see NIU as one of the national leaders paving the way on such significant issues. Judging by the energy felt around campus, I believe my fellow students agree.

JOE FRASCELLO,  
President, STUDENT ASSOCIATION,  
Northern Illinois University.

**IN HONOR OF RACHEL STANLEY**

**HON. RON KIND**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Rachel Stanley for her many contributions to the House of Representatives and specifically to my office. At the end of this year, Rachel will be leaving my office to pursue opportunities away from Capitol Hill.

Rachel joined my staff in the fall of 2011 as my Legislative Assistant handling the tax and financial services portfolio. She hit the ground running and was invaluable from the start. Recognizing her growth in the office, she was promoted to Tax Counsel and will leave my office after serving for the past year as my Legislative Director. Rachel was particularly successful in working on the Cooperative and Small Employer Charity Pension Flexibility Act, which provides flexibility for multiple employer pension plans by allowing them to opt in or out of Pension Protection Act funding rules. This allows for more money to be invested into businesses and communities.

Over the past year, Rachel has served as my Legislative Director. Under her tenure, my office has a number of legislative accomplishments, including awarding the Medal of Honor

to Alonzo Cushing, advocating for greater rail safety, and pushing for a tax code that encourages American manufacturing.

Next year, Rachel will join the staff of Principal Financial, where she will continue to work on tax and pension policy. While I am sorry to see her leave my staff, I wish her the best of luck in her new role. Rachel embodies the term public service and has worked tirelessly to make our nation a better place, which has not been easy given the current toxic environment. It is unfortunate that we are losing such a competent and dedicated public servant.

Mr. Speaker, on my behalf, thank you to Rachel for her service and dedication to not only the constituents of the Third District of Wisconsin, but to all Americans.

**ORIGINATION CLAUSE**

**HON. DAVE CAMP**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I rise to address an important institutional issue. Under the Constitution, it is the prerogative of the House of Representatives to originate revenue measures. Article 1, section 7, clause 1 of the United States Constitution provides that "All Bills for raising revenue shall originate in the House of Representatives; but the Senate may propose or concur with Amendments as on other Bills." This clause is commonly known as the Origination Clause. As chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means, I have a special responsibility in guarding this important House prerogative.

A recent court decision has caused me to come to this floor to re-affirm the House position on the Origination Clause. The rationale used by the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals in their July 29, 2014 decision in *Sissel v. HHS* is at odds with consistent House Origination Clause practice. Specifically, the ruling from a three-judge panel of the D.C. Circuit held that because the primary aim of PPACA was not to raise revenue, but rather to "induce participation in health insurance plans," it was not a "bill for raising Revenue" within the meaning of the Origination Clause. *Sissel v. HHS*, Op. at 13 (July 29, 2014).

Although some courts have taken a narrower view of what constitutes a "a bill for raising revenue," the "primary purpose" test articulated in *Sissel* presents heightened challenges in interpretation that not only threaten the constitutional balance in Congress but invite subjective judicial scrutiny of the legislative process. This analysis may lead to confusion between the legislative and judicial branch on measures where the primary purpose is not easily ascertainable, measures that contain multiple, competing purposes, and measures that state a purpose that is in conflict with its content.

The House's traditional provision-by-provision review of a measure and the effect of each on revenue is the more sound approach. This interpretation has served the Congress well when resolving differences between the House and Senate on the Origination Clause.

I offer H.R. 4310, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013, as a recent example. H.R. 4310, as passed by the House on May 18, 2012, was a lengthy measure that addressed nearly every aspect of our national defense. The Senate amended it on December 4, 2012 with its own version of the bill. Rather than attempting to assess the purpose of this diverse, multifaceted measure, the Committee on Ways and Means reviewed both the House and Senate measures in their entirety. This review of the Senate amendment revealed a subtitle that included import restrictions on Iran. Import restrictions invoke the revenue jurisdiction of the Committee on Ways and Means and have been the subject of Origination Clause action in the past. In response to this institutional infringement, I offered House Resolution 829, a measure returning H.R. 4310 and the offending amendment to the Senate. House Resolution 829 was adopted by the House unanimously on December 12, 2012. In response to the House action, the Senate, also by unanimous consent, stripped the Iran sanctions content from its amendment, and the measure proceeded to conference. The bill was enacted into law on January 2, 2013.

As chair of the oldest committee in the House, I have strived to protect this venerable institutional prerogative and clarify its application when needed. I am especially grateful to the majority and minority staff of the committee for their vigilance in this area. I hope these remarks will clarify the House position on this important constitutional issue.

#### HONORING LILLIE G. HENSON

#### HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable hero, Lillie G. Henson.

Lillie G. Dean Henson was born to the late Aaron and Lillian Dean on August 10, 1949 in Sardis, MS Panola County. She is the ninth of eleven children, five boys and six girls. There were many challenges that she faced that seemed to have placed her in the line of the first born. She was blessed to be born in a Christian home where reading and studying the Bible were not an option, therefore, her faith in the Lord was well rooted and grounded.

Faced with many challenges of sickness in my family, Lillie learned the application of her faith was the only true anchor. Growing up was very challenging at times. Early in her growing up years her mother was stricken with a severe heart condition which required lots of rest and carefully prepared meals.

At the age of fourteen, much of the responsibility of taking care of the family fell upon Lillie. Cooking breakfast for the family and preparing a special diet for her ailing mom before going off to school was quite an experience.

As a little girl growing up, Lillie's dad would ask her to read the Bible to him, and as a child she remembers reading: "Honor your father and your mother that your days may be

long upon the earth." This scripture and many others rested in her spirit as she grew into adulthood. Lillie's passion for the word of God grew greater and greater.

By the time Lillie was a junior in high school, she began to make plans for college . . . only to be asked by her ailing mother to stay home to make sure her younger sister, who was then a junior, finish high school. Her plans were shattered but she learned to be obedient to her parents through the studying of the scriptures.

In 1969, Lillie's mother went to be with the Lord, her sister completed her junior year of high school with perfect attendance and completed high school as planned.

In 1970, Lillie moved to Chicago with her older siblings. Lillie was employed at Brachs Candy Company for twenty years. She was among the first few African Americans to hold a manager's position in the Quality Control Department.

In 1990, Lillie's dad at the age of eighty two became ill. Her husband, Otha Henson, Sr., who was also employed at Brachs Candy Company and is from Kilmichael, MS., decided to move back south to care for Lillie's dad and baby sister, Rebecca, who was born with Spinal Bifida. Lillie's dad passed away in 1991 and Rebecca lived ten years after his death.

Since 1996 to present, Lillie has been employed as Program Manager at Youth Opportunities Unlimited, a Youth Development Program located in Lambert, MS.

Lillie continued her education at Northwest Community College, Senatobia, MS., Rust College, Holly Springs, MS., and in 2012, she earned a BA in Ministry and in 2013 she received a Masters in Christian Counseling from Jacksonville Theological Seminary in Jacksonville, FL.

Lillie is happily married, the proud mother of four children, eleven grandchildren and two great grand boys.

You can find her teaching Sunday school on Sunday mornings at Pleasant Green M.B. Church, Sardis, MS, also a praise and worship leader, counseling, and encouraging and nurturing those in need.

Eph. 6:2, "Honor thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise."

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. Lillie G. Henson for she is definitely the epitome of an unsung hero.

#### ACKNOWLEDGING BERNARD MULLIGAN

#### HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge Bernard Mulligan and to personally thank him for his life-long spirit of public service and his unyielding commitment to the community of Morgan Hill.

Bernie graduated from Red Bank Catholic High School in New Jersey in 1960. He later went on to receive a Bachelor's and Master's degree in Political Science from Temple University in Philadelphia, PA. Following his grad-

uation, he moved to Morgan Hill, CA where he has been an active member of the community for the past 40 years.

Among his many accomplishments, Bernie Mulligan was the Volunteer Coordinator for the community's annual Independence Day celebration. He chaired the Blue Ribbon Task Force on medical needs and is a member of the Board of Trustees for the Morgan Hill Community Health Foundation and the Saint Louise Regional Hospital Foundation. Bernie is the current President of the Morgan Hill Sister Cities program and personally founded the Headford, Ireland and Seferihisar, Turkey Sister City Associations.

Bernie has spent countless hours promoting the values of limited government through several years of service on the Santa Clara County Republican Committee and working on the 1980 and 1984 campaigns for President Ronald Reagan.

Bernie has one son, Sean, who is a programming engineer. Bernie's hobbies include traveling, music, and drinking Irish ales and stouts. He is known by members of the Morgan Hill community as the "Ambassador of Good Will."

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring and thanking Bernard Mulligan for his exemplary leadership and unyielding service to the community.

#### TRIBUTE TO COLONEL JAMES W. COOKSEY

#### HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Colonel James W. Cooksey of Aurora, Colorado, who was awarded a Congressional Gold Medal on December 10, 2014, for his service with the Civil Air Patrol during World War II.

Colonel Cooksey began his decorated career in 1943 as a cadet in the Civil Air Patrol. During World War II, Colonel Cooksey served as a Civil Air Patrol Observer, conducting air search and rescue missions.

Colonel Cooksey continued his service with both the Army and, subsequently, the Air Force. It was during his time in the Air Force that he served in Korea, Turkey, and Thailand. Additionally, he worked in the U.S. Air Force Academy Admissions Office and was an ROTC instructor at Michigan State University. After retiring from active duty, Colonel Cooksey taught history for 20 years at Aurora Hills Middle School. Throughout his career, he continued to serve in the Civil Air Patrol and became Vice Commander of the Rocky Mountain Region.

In total, Colonel Cooksey dedicated 71 years to the Civil Air Patrol, and currently remains a dues paying member. It gives me great pride to represent such an exemplary American in Congress. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Colonel James W. Cooksey for his service to his country.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF  
DR. ERIC RUDENSHIOLD

**HON. PETER J. ROSKAM**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of my colleague, Congressman DAVID PRICE, and the Members of the House Democracy Partnership (HDP) to recognize a dedicated public servant, Dr. Eric Rudenshiold, who recently concluded his service as staff director for HDP. As chairman of HDP, it has been my privilege to work with Dr. Rudenshiold to engage the legislative bodies of developing democracies around the world.

During his tenure with HDP, Dr. Rudenshiold has been a passionate advocate for democracy building and an expert on global political development. He was instrumental in helping to stabilize HDP after a turbulent post-sequester period and his strategic vision has helped to put HDP on sound footing for the future.

In addition to serving as a knowledgeable and trusted counselor, Dr. Rudenshiold executed a massive logistical feat with deftness and charm, successfully working with high profile leaders on multiple continents over a period of many months to plan and conduct the HDP curriculum. This past September he helped organize a seminar with Members of Parliament from Afghanistan, Indonesia, Kenya, Mongolia, and Pakistan, which explored ways to strengthen transparency and government oversight. In October, he led a foreign staff training seminar for HDP's partner countries teaching effective legislative oversight, budget analysis, committee operations, and constituent relations. Lastly, in November he developed a workshop for women Members of Parliament from Afghanistan, Albania, Bhutan, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Georgia, Honduras, Kenya, Mongolia and Peru offering tools and resources to grow their capacity as legislators and leaders in their home countries. Through Dr. Rudenshiold's hard work, HDP successfully executed a busy 2014 program and has laid the groundwork for an equally ambitious 2015 agenda.

Mr. Speaker and Distinguished Colleagues, please join me in recognizing Dr. Eric Rudenshiold for his years of service in pursuit of the ideal of effective, representative democracy not just in the United States, but throughout the world, and in wishing him all the best as he embarks on new challenges and a new chapter.

HONORING CONGRESSMAN JAMES  
MORAN

**HON. BETTY McCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to the career of Congressman JAMES MORAN. I had the pleasure of serving alongside JIM on the Appropriations Committee, including both the Defense and Inter-

rior-Environment subcommittees. Congressman MORAN's experience and wisdom not only benefited his district and the nation, but myself as well.

Congressman MORAN has always brought passion to his work in Congress and that passion will be sorely missed next year.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring the service of Congressman JAMES MORAN in the United States House of Representatives.

IN HONOR OF TRAVIS ROBEY

**HON. RON KIND**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Travis Robey for his many contributions to the House of Representatives and specifically to my office. At the end of this year, Travis will be leaving my office to pursue opportunities away from Capitol Hill.

Travis first came to Capitol Hill as a Legislative Assistant for Congresswoman Darlene Hooley, focusing on health policy. He joined the staff of Congressman MIKE THOMPSON in April of 2008 as a Legislative Assistant. In 2009, he joined my staff as Legislative Director. From day one in my office, Travis worked tirelessly on health care reform. Through tough negotiations, he helped me lead the Quality Care Coalition and was successful in getting the Value Modifier for Physician payments included in health care reform. That provision incorporated quality and cost metrics as a factor in physician reimbursements for the first time. Additionally, he helped me successfully advocate for the small business exchanges and small business tax credits in the ACA, which were modeled after legislation that he had worked on.

Apart from his successes during health care reform, Travis was integral on the staff level in negotiating the successful adoption of the SMART Act Secondary Payer Reform into law. Being in the Minority can make legislative successes fleeting, but Travis had the talent to work with the Majority to get meaningful things done in one of the most dysfunctional congresses of all time.

As my Legislative Director, Travis effectively cultivated junior staff into successful Legislative Assistants who continue to be an asset to my team. Over the past year, Travis has served as my Chief of Staff in Washington, D.C. Under his tenure, my office was legislatively successful, despite being in the Minority in a very polarized Congress. I am proud that he has helped my staff to remain legislatively productive despite great challenges.

Next year, Travis will join the staff of the American Hospital Association, where he will continue to work on important health policy challenges. While I am sorry to see him leave my staff after almost 6 years, I wish him the best of luck in his new role. Travis embodies the term public service and has worked tirelessly to make our nation a better place, which has not been easy given the current toxic environment. It is unfortunate that we are losing such a competent and dedicated public servant.

Mr. Speaker, on my behalf, thank you to Travis for his service and dedication to not only the constituents of the Third District of Wisconsin, but to all Americans.

ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR  
ALZHEIMER'S RESEARCH

**HON. TONY CÁRDENAS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. CÁRDENAS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to speak in support for increased funding for Alzheimer's research.

There is no other way to put it: Alzheimer's is a terrible disease. It destroys your memory and thinking skills, and eventually even the ability to carry out the simplest of tasks.

In the United States, more than 5 million Americans currently have Alzheimer's, and about half of those with the disease do not know they have it. In fact, every 67 seconds, someone in this country develops Alzheimer's—a staggering statistic, no doubt—but by 2050, it will be every 33 seconds. To make matters worse, Alzheimer's is the only cause of death in the top 10 in America without a way to prevent, treat, or slow the progression of the disease. In other words, there is no cure.

It should not be a surprise that Alzheimer's is the most expensive disease in America. In 2014, caring for people with the disease and other dementias will cost the United States an estimated \$214 billion. Medicare and Medicaid spending will shoulder the majority of the care cost, an estimated \$150 billion this year alone. This means that roughly 1 in 5 Medicare dollars are spent on someone with Alzheimer's. And unless something is done, the costs of Alzheimer's to Americans will total \$1.2 trillion, in today's dollars, including an over 500% increase in Medicare and Medicaid spending on Alzheimer's.

Congress has already taken action to address this very serious issue. Specifically, Congress unanimously passed the National Alzheimer's Project Act (NAPA) in 2010, calling for the creation of a National Alzheimer's Plan. That plan has resulted in some notable accomplishments, including the NIH creating a blueprint for Alzheimer's research. However, for the progress this disease requires, scientists need additional funds to carry out the blueprint.

While Congress provided a much needed addition of \$100 million in Alzheimer's research, a chronic underinvestment in Alzheimer's research persists. Congress must continue its commitment to the fight against Alzheimer's by increasing funding for Alzheimer's research in Fiscal Year 2015 by \$200 million.

Democrats and Republicans alike should be united in tackling Alzheimer's. After all, it is a disease that affects individuals regardless of party preference, a disease that affects our very own constituents and loved ones, and a disease that we, as elected officials, have a responsibility to do something about.

HONORING DR. MICHAEL WAHL,  
MD

**HON. PETER J. ROSKAM**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Michael Wahl, who I am pleased to nominate for the Wave Maker Award for the 5th Annual Unsung Heroes of Public Health Campaign. This award recognizes individuals for their work on a major regional or national program that has had a significant positive impact on an important public health issue.

Dr. Wahl has devoted his life to improving public health and safety in Illinois. Since 1998, he has served as the Medical Director for the Illinois Poison Center—the oldest poison center in the United States. During his tenure, Dr. Wahl initiated the Poison Center Hotline, which currently treats over 90% of incoming accidental poisoning calls at home without a trip to a medical facility. The Hotline saves the State of Illinois \$52 million in unnecessary health care costs each year and has prevented thousands of severe medical emergencies. Building on this successful model, Dr. Wahl has set up similar state hotlines for H1N1, Middle Eastern Respiratory Syndrome (MERS), and currently Ebola, which provide the general public and health care providers with vital information during infectious disease outbreaks.

Dr. Wahl and the Illinois Poison Center have also done important work in conjunction with the Office of the Illinois Attorney General and law enforcement to observe trends in synthetic drug use and provide local officials with data and surveillance on these chemicals. Because of these initiatives, synthetic drug use in Illinois has not reached the high prevalence experienced by other states. Finally, Dr. Wahl lends his time and experience to the Illinois Department of Public Health Work Group to reduce the alarming rate of heroin use by prescription drug abusers. In these many challenging endeavors, Dr. Wahl brings an unparalleled passion for service and a commitment to improve lives throughout the State of Illinois.

Mr. Speaker and Distinguished Colleagues, please join me in honoring Dr. Michael Wahl for his dedicated work in expanding access to health care and his innovative efforts to strengthen public health for the people of Illinois and congratulating him on his nomination for the Wave Maker Award.

FAREWELL TO THE HONORABLE  
ENI FALCOMAVEGA

**HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to say a fond farewell to our esteemed colleague, the Honorable ENI FALCOMAVEGA.

Since 1989, ENI has honorably represented the people of American Samoa in this chamber with a no-nonsense attitude and approach to legislating.

He brought the issues that affect Asia and the Pacific regions here to Congress.

He led the first delegation of Asian American members of Congress to Asia. There he saw firsthand the devastating impact that the Vietnam War's unexploded ordnances had on Southeast Asia, especially Laos where about 2.5 million tons of bombs were dropped between 1964 and 1973.

As the Chair of the Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific, this experience led him to chair the first-ever hearing on UXOs.

As a Vietnam veteran himself, ENI takes pride in being a strong voice for his fellow Samoans who serve in our military.

This passion led his efforts to help establish the first VA clinic in Samoa.

American Samoa, the Asian Pacific Region, Congress, and all of America have been well served by Congressman ENI FALCOMAVEGA. Today, I say "thank you" for your work, and your friendship. We will miss you. Tofa soifua.

HONORING THE LIFE AND DEDICATED SERVICE OF CHARLES HUTTON "BULL" RIGDON, JR.

**HON. JEFF MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is with profound sadness that I rise today to recognize the life and service of my friend, Northwest Florida's beloved Charles Hutton "Bull" Rigdon, Jr. Throughout his long and distinguished life, Bull was a devoted family man, a patriotic veteran and civil servant, committed civic leader, an exceptional elected official, and a great friend. The entire Northwest Florida community mourns the passing of a truly remarkable man.

Bull Rigdon was born in Portland, Florida on September 29, 1929, and he spent the majority of his childhood years growing up in beautiful Northwest Florida. A true patriot, Bull served with honor and distinction in the United States Army, where he served in both World War II and the Korean War. After leaving the Armed Forces, Bull continued his service to our Nation as a civil engineer working at Eglin Air Force Base, Florida. Thanks to his hard work and commitment to excellence, Bull's 43-year career as a civil servant at Eglin Air Force Base was marked with wide-spread success and acclaim.

Both during and after his extremely successful civil service career, Bull was also deeply involved as a leader in Northwest Florida's civic society. He was an active member of First Presbyterian Church, where he served as a church elder, as well as a Mason and Shriner, serving as Past Potentate of Hadji Temple and Master Mason of Alpha Lodge #172. In these capacities, he helped touch the lives of countless individuals in Northwest Florida, and he served as a true example of selfless community service.

Bull was also a dedicated local official, serving for decades in various electoral capacities. In 1964, he won a seat on the Fort Walton Beach City Council, where he served until 1981. During this stint on the City Council, Bull

also served numerous times as Mayor Pro-Tem of Fort Walton Beach. Bull rejoined the City Council briefly in 1985, when he was asked to fill a temporary vacancy, before returning to the City Council full time in 2010, where he continued to serve the people of Fort Walton Beach until his passing.

In addition to his exceptional service on the City Council, Bull also served for three decades on the Okaloosa County Gas Board, representing the people of Okaloosa County. He played an integral role helping to attract businesses and promote economic development in Northwest Florida, as evidenced by his election to serve as the first Chairman of the West Florida Regional Planning Council, as well as his service on the Tourist Development Council Board. On top of these impressive civic duties, Bull also served as CEO of the Northwest Florida Fair until his death. In recognition of his impressive leadership and dedication, the Fort Walton Beach City Council voted in 2009 to name the fairgrounds in his honor.

To some, Bull Rigdon will be remembered as a patriot, who answered the call to serve this great Nation with honor and distinction, first in the Armed Forces and then for more than four decades of exceptional civil service at Eglin Air Force Base. To others, he will be remembered as a man of great faith, who took on important positions at his church, and as a long-time elected official who went above and beyond the call of duty to serve the residents of the community that he called home. To his family and those of us who were fortunate enough to get to know him, Bull will always be remembered as a loving husband, father, grandfather, and friend.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am proud to recognize the life and legacy of Charles Hutton "Bull" Rigdon, Jr. My wife, Vicki, and I extend our deepest prayers and condolences to his wife Helen Hunt Rigdon; children, Karen Rigdon Hughes and Charles William Rigdon; grandchildren Charles William Lamkin, Lauren Ashley Rigdon, Blake William Rigdon and Montana Dodson; sister, Ouida Rigdon Miller; stepson, Michael B. Dodson; and the entire Rigdon family.

RECOGNIZING ORLANDO REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER AIR CARE TEAM

**HON. DANIEL WEBSTER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Orlando Regional Medical Center's Air Care Team as they celebrate 30 years of critical-care service.

Since 1984, the helicopter transport team has flown nearly two million rescue miles and transported more than 29,000 patients to Orlando Regional Medical Center (ORMC) and other Central Florida medical facilities. The elite crew's service area encompasses a 100-mile radius that includes Orange, Lake, and Polk counties. Highly trained and experienced medical personnel, communications specialists, pilots and mechanics comprise the team that provides emergency medical care on the scene and in flight. The commitment and expertise that the team brings to Central Florida

truly saves lives, reaching patients within the critical first hour of injury.

I thank the Air Care Team for their extraordinary work in providing care for the people of Central Florida.

#### HONORING MS. SARAH DEER

#### HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Sarah Deer to congratulate her on receiving the 2014 MacArthur Foundation Fellowship. This grant is given to individuals who show extraordinary dedication and originality in their field, as well as exceptional promise for continuing their work in the future. Ms. Deer demonstrated these qualities through her advocacy and knowledge of tribal and federal law to develop policies and legislation that empower tribal nations to protect Native American women from sexual and domestic violence.

Ms. Deer is a nationally recognized activist and expert in the movement to end violence against Native American women, a professor of law, and co-director of the Indian Law Clinic at William Mitchell College of Law. As a member of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, she works with grassroots and national organizations to protect Native American victims of violence.

Receiving the MacArthur Foundation Fellowship is a testament to Ms. Deer's outstanding work. This includes membership on the American Bar Association (ABA) Commission on Domestic Violence and the board of the National Alliance to End Sexual Violence. In 2007, Ms. Deer led Amnesty International's report, *Maze of Injustice*, which cast domestic violence as an international human rights problem. Her efforts were instrumental in passing the 2013 Violence Against Women Act, giving tribal courts the power to prosecute non-Native Americans who assault Native American spouses or dating partners, or violate a protection order on tribal lands.

Ms. Deer has exhibited exceptional devotion to a worthy cause and continues to improve countless lives. I appreciate all that she has done to serve our nation, and I thank her for her exemplary work. She deserves this honor.

#### HONORING MS. DOROTHY JOHNSON-SPEIGHT

#### HON. CHAKA FATTAH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. FATTAH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of Philadelphia's greatest luminaries, Ms. Dorothy Johnson-Speight, Founder and Executive Director of Mothers In Charge, Inc. She is a respected leader, solid advocate and inspirational speaker against the war to end senseless acts of violent crime. Her work, though rooted in Philadelphia, has led to national appearances and presentations across the United States and abroad.

A licensed family therapist, Dorothy actively engages in championing the rights of children and families. She has a distinguished career in victim advocacy. In 2001, her life was forever changed following the tragic murder of her son Khaalq Jabbar Johnson over a parking space dispute. That tragic incident left Mrs. Johnson-Speight needing the support of others. She reached out to other grieving mothers and together they founded the non-profit organization Mothers In Charge, Inc., a grassroots organization whose mission is violence prevention through education. Mothers In Charge engages in proactive intervention with children, young adults, families and community organizations.

The work of Mothers In Charge under the direction of Mrs. Johnson-Speight has motivated mothers from around the country who have suffered the indescribable loss of a child. Chapters of this extraordinary organization have been founded in Wilmington, DE, San Francisco, CA, Los Angeles, CA, Kansas City, MO, Atlantic City, NJ, Brooklyn, NY and Harrisburg, PA.

The extraordinary work of Dorothy Johnson-Speight and Mothers In Charge has been appreciated and acknowledged by some of the nation's most influential publications and organizations. Dorothy has been the recipient of numerous awards, including the Best Philadelphia Award from the Philadelphia Magazine; the Philadelphia Eagles identified her as one of the 75 Greatest Living Philadelphians; in 2012, the Philadelphia Tribune chose her as one of Philadelphia's Most Influential African American Leaders, and the Philadelphia Inquirer named her Citizen of the Year in 2013. The recognition doesn't stop there as Mothers In Charge has also received numerous organizational awards and recognitions. The organization was the focus of a special feature on the OWN Network's "Our America" with Lisa Ling. Villanova University produced a documentary, *No Greater Pain* which journal's Dorothy's unspeakable loss and her arduous and unexpected journey to victim advocacy.

Organizational awards include the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Director of Community Service Award, the Wells/Fargo/Wachovia Community Service Award, and the School District of Philadelphia Humanitarian Award.

I am pleased to lead the Congress in honoring Dorothy Johnson-Speight—founder of Mothers In Charge—for her unceasing efforts and outstanding progress in victim advocacy. Her legacy in Philadelphia and her mark on the national stage for victim advocacy will leave a legacy on generations to come.

#### HONORING PASTOR E.L. KING

#### HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Pastor E.L. King, who is a former educator in the Greenwood Public School District, extraordinary and public servant.

Mrs. Ethel King was born in Leflore County on June 8, 1959 to Robert and Ethel L. Law-

rence. At the age of thirteen, her mother died and she was nurtured by her grandfather, Mr. Willie James Lawrence, along with her seven siblings.

Mrs. King attended Greenwood Public School. She dropped out of school in the twelfth grade in 1976 because she had her first child. She was very independent and determined to make an easier life for her child. She immediately went to work at Rocky Manufacturing at the age of eighteen. She remained there 3½ years. She left Rocky Manufacturing to work for Irvin Industry Automobile & Parts for 3½ years. After seven years of working in a factory environment, she felt life had more to offer her. She went on to take her GED and attended Mississippi Valley State University in 1986. Before completing college in November, 1989, her daughter fell ill and later died with leukemia in December, 1990. While at the University Hospital, she volunteered as a coordinator to help parents cope with their children's illness. She later volunteered with a candidate for a supervisor position in the 2nd District in Greenwood.

Mrs. King was called into the Ministry in 1992. She completed her Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice in 1993. After completing her degree, her health failed. She continued to fight on in 1996. She went to work as a volunteer permanent substitute teacher at Dickerson Elementary School under the leadership of Mrs. Vivian Redmond. Later she was hired as a full-time substitute teacher. Mrs. King was very dedicated to educating children.

In 1998 she was hired at Bankston Elementary School as an assistant teacher until her health failed again. She retired in 2006. After retiring from the school system, Mrs. King worked as a Notary Public of the State of Mississippi under Governor Haley Barbour. She also volunteered with the Fannie Lou Hamer Foundation in Leflore County. Later, she became Pastor of Monument of Grace Church II in Lexington, MS for three years under the leadership of Bishop L.J. Johnson.

Pastor Ethel L. King has made an impact on the lives of many children and adults alike, encouraging them through the scripture, "... but seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all things shall be added unto you."

Pastor Ethel L. King is married to Edward E. King and they are the proud parents of two beautiful daughters and eight precious grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Pastor Ethel L. King, a former educator, a pastor who is yet inspiring others and often giving of herself to make many lives better.

#### RECOGNIZING 2015 ILLINOIS TEACHER OF THE YEAR STEVE ELZA

#### HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Steve Elza, the 2015 Illinois Teacher of the Year.

Mr. Elza is an Applied Technology teacher at William Fremd High School in my district who teaches Automotive Technology classes and is the sponsor of the school Auto Club. He has worked in School District 211 and Fremd High School for over 7 years and strives to create an educational environment where students learn real-world skills they can take with them after graduation.

I think we can all agree that teachers are in a unique position to mold their students, and good teachers can guide and inspire students to achieve. Speaking to his students and peers, it is clear that Mr. Elza is a great teacher. Day in and day out he goes above and beyond to create a classroom environment where students can pursue projects they are passionate about, an approach that energizes his students, expands their skillsets, and reminds them that learning can be fun. Teaching students to explore their interests, and consider their career prospects, Mr. Elza has had an outsized impact on the success of his students as they go out into the workforce as young adults.

Evidence of his unique approach isn't hard to find. Through the Auto Club, students participate in various extracurricular activities like practicing maintenance repairs on cars of faculty members and competing in a national automotive competition held annually in Las Vegas. By engaging students to enjoy and apply what they are learning, Mr. Elza has broken through the bustle of busy young lives to really leave a mark on students. It's proven to be a winning formula.

Mr. Speaker and distinguished colleagues please join me in recognizing Mr. Steve Elza for his outstanding service and congratulate him on being named the 2015 Illinois Teacher of the Year.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF KELLY KNOTT

#### HON. JOHN KLINE

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. KLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Katherine "Kelly" Marjory Krauser Knott. Kelly fought a courageous battle against breast cancer, which sadly took her life on December 3.

As demonstrated at a memorial service earlier this week, Kelly touched many lives. The gathering held in her memory overflowed with love and grief shared by her many friends, colleagues, and family members.

Kelly was a graduate of New Canaan High School and St. Mary's College in Notre Dame, Indiana. She earned a master's degree from George Washington University.

She began her career in the nation's capital as an aide to our former colleague, Rep. Mel Hancock of Missouri. She worked in and around policy with true grace and professionalism. She held various positions throughout her distinguished career and was universally respected and admired.

I met Kelly my first week as a new Member of Congress and was struck by her knowledge of both policy and politics. She had a great

understanding of the Hill and worked tirelessly to advance the goals of her members. I not only considered her a colleague but a friend.

As important as her professional achievements were, they do not compare to the success she enjoyed in her personal life. Kelly was a devoted wife to her husband Stewart and beloved mother to Carson, Halle, and Kendall.

I ask the House to join me in offering condolences to the Knott family and keep them in your prayers as they mourn the loss of a remarkable woman.

#### OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

#### HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$17,997,912,502,715.74. We've added \$7,371,035,453,802.66 to our debt in 5 years. This is over \$7.3 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

#### HONORING MARVIS HOOD, JR.

#### HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of the Marvis Hood, Jr., who, after proudly serving his country, passed away on December 8, 2014, from complications related to pneumonia.

Marvis "Big Daddy" Hood, Jr. was born in Marlin, Texas to Marvis and Jewelene Hood with one sibling, Graham Hood. In 1960, Mr. Hood joined the United States Air Force and later re-enlisted in the United States Army 52nd Sig BN, performing 22 years of military service. He voluntarily served three tours in Vietnam and eventually retired on Oct. 6, 1984 as a Staff Sergeant. During his service, he earned five Good Conduct Medals, the National Defense Service Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal (5 campaigns), the Vietnam Campaign Medal, the Vietnam Cross of Gallantry w/Palm, and Expert on Rifle and Pistol awards. He earned the nickname "Big Daddy" playing football during a duty station assignment in Naples, Italy where he earned MVP as an offensive tackle.

While in the military, he married Vera Mae Touchstone, a childhood friend. They had three sons, Roderick, Marcus, and Marvis III. Mr. Hood remarried on March 18th, 1977, to the love of his life Dora Jean Taylor. Having moved to Modesto for the remainder of his military career, he also served as a Reserve Officer with the Stanislaus County Sheriff Department.

Being a resident of Modesto for 37 years, Mr. Hood was involved in many charitable en-

deavors that benefited many in and outside the community of Modesto. Because of his appreciation for the opportunities his military career provided, which helped shape the man he became, Mr. Hood was deeply concerned about veteran issues; especially the health and welfare of homeless veterans. He established a yearly "Stand Down" for homeless veterans, that was modeled after the concept established during the Vietnam War, to help provide health services, winter clothing, food, and a warm safe place for the night.

Wanting to provide service for more than a few days a year, Mr. Hood was looking for a long term solution that led him to establish the Central Valley Homeless Veterans home. He provided a support system to aid many veterans in getting back on their feet. The Stanislaus County chapter of the American Red Cross awarded the Good Samaritan Senior Hero award to Marvis Hood, Jr. for his work helping veterans.

Mr. Marvis Hood Jr. is survived by his wife Dora; his three sons Roderick Hood, Marcus Hood and Marvis Hood III; his brother Graham Hood; and half-brothers Dwight Hood and Mike Wallace. He is loved and remembered by a host of family, friends, and the many he helped.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in celebrating the life of Marvis "Big Daddy" Hood, Jr. and all of his excellent contributions to veterans and the community. Anyone who knew Marvis saw a gregarious and sometimes larger than life personality which at times hid a teddy bear heart of gold which was always willing to lend a helping hand or timely words of wisdom.

#### HONORING TRINA GEORGE

#### HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Trina George, who is a Director, Leader and Public Servant.

Trina George was appointed on June 29, 2009, by President Barack Obama to serve as Mississippi's Director of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Development. She has made history by being the first woman appointed in this position for the State of Mississippi. In her new role, she is charged with assisting residents of rural Mississippi with a range of programs such as: Affordable Housing, Water Systems Upgrades, and Economic Development Efforts. Rural development also provides grant and loan assistance to local governments and non-profit organizations for fire and police protection as well as health clinics, libraries and other facilities for public use. She is an advocate for rural communities throughout the state to assist with their growth, development and sustainability.

Prior to this appointment, Mrs. George served for 15 years as a Special Project Coordinator for Congressman BENNIE THOMPSON where she resolved community and constituency issues by thinking inside, outside and around the box. Her hands-on experience in the Congressional Office served as an ideal prerequisite for her role in rural economic development and community participation for the State of Mississippi.

Mrs. George served on many civic organizations, including education and volunteer groups. She is actively involved in the community where she is: a Board Member for the Heart of the South Girl Scouts Council, which serves Northern Mississippi and Southern Tennessee; and a Member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. and Pi Alpha Alpha Honor Society. She holds a Bachelor's Degree from Mississippi Valley State University and a Master's Degree from Mississippi State University. She is currently a Ph.D. Candidate in Public Policy and Administration at Walden University. Also, she holds a Professional Certificate in Management and Leadership from the NeighborWorks Training Institute of America in Washington, DC.

Mrs. George is an important advocate for rural communities throughout the state. She administers and manages over 40 programs which include: housing; business and cooperative programs; community programs; and community facilities which are designed to improve the quality of life in rural America. Rural Development is an agency that the Obama Administration wants to see in the forefront of efforts to promote renewable energy and conservation of natural resources while ensuring a safe, sustainable, nutritious food supply through the Agency's cooperatives for present and future users.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Trina George, a director, leader and advocate, who is improving the quality of life for rural America.

#### CONGRATULATING SARAH KAPLAN

##### HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 11, 2014

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Sarah Kaplan for her many contributions to the New Democrat Coalition. At the end of this year, Sarah will be leaving the New Dem staff to continue graduate school full-time.

The New Democrat Coalition, which I have the pleasure to lead as Chair, is a group of 55 pro-growth, innovative solutions oriented Members of the House Democratic Caucus. The New Dems are committed to a growth agenda that speaks to Americans' hopes for a brighter economic future. Whether it's revolutionizing the ways we prepare people for the jobs of the future, encourage a spirit of innovation and entrepreneurship, or maintaining America's competitiveness in a rapidly-shifting global economy, the New Dems continue to work to advocate these priorities and modernize the policy and messaging of the Democratic Caucus.

Sarah joined the New Dem staff in May 2013 as a staff assistant and research associate. She hit the ground rolling and was valuable at the start to the Members and staff of the Coalition. Recognizing her growth in the office, she was promoted to Policy & Member Services Aide where she assisted the New Dem Leadership Team and the Executive Director in strengthening the cohesion of the Coalition and advancing our policy priorities. Sarah was particularly valuable in working on

the Coalition's innovation, education, national security, and trade policy priorities.

Next year, Sarah expects to earn a Masters in Security Studies with a focus on Terrorism and Substance Violence from Georgetown University. After earning her graduate degree, she plans to continue serving our nation by re-joining government in national security policy.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Members of the New Democrat Coalition, thank you Sarah.

#### TRIBUTE TO KAREN L. DAILY

##### HON. TODD ROKITA

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 11, 2014

Mr. ROKITA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and salute a truly amazing Hoosier, Mrs. Karen L. Daily, who passed from this world to the next on December 7, 2014. I wish to express my heartfelt gratitude and appreciation for her leadership and service to our community, state, and country.

Karen served for many years as Deputy Clerk before her election by the people of Benton County to three non-consecutive terms as Clerk of the Circuit Court. As a member of the Association of Clerks of the Circuit Courts of Indiana, Karen was chosen several times by her peers to serve as Treasurer. She was actively involved in the organization, devoting time to advocate on behalf of her profession while also serving on the Legislative Committee.

Though I had known Karen for many years, it was not until after my election as Secretary of State that I realized how truly blessed the people of Indiana were to have such a tireless and professional public servant. She used her talents as a voice for rural communities on the Statewide Voter Registration System Steering Committee, a group tasked with the responsibility to develop and implement a single voter file for the State of Indiana. Each month, her leadership was evident in the actions taken by the committee to integrate the system statewide. Through her leadership, the system came online on time, worked well from the beginning, and saved Indiana millions of dollars.

Karen leaves four children, seven grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren to carry on her legacy of community service and joins her late husband Larry, in eternity. I am a better leader and public servant because of the lessons learned and advice received from Karen. She was a true friend and mentor.

On behalf of all Hoosiers, I am humbled to honor Karen here today. She will be missed for her friendship, leadership and most of all, her character. God bless you, Karen.

#### HONORING SHERIFF PATRICK B PEREZ

##### HON. BILL FOSTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 11, 2014

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Patrick B Perez and his tenure as the Sheriff of Kane County.

Sheriff Perez retired on Sunday, November 30th, 2014 after over 22 years of service to Kane County. Since becoming the first Hispanic sheriff of Kane County in 2006, Sheriff Perez had many successes, including his efforts to combat gang violence, heroin and other substance abuse problems in Kane County. During his tenure, the city of Aurora saw a 13-month period from 2012–2013 of no reported murders. Sheriff Perez oversaw the creation of the agency's website, which sees more than one million visitors a year, and the construction of a new shooting range for the 244 officers who must show competence with their weapons twice a year. He also led successful charitable efforts and community outreach programs, such as the citizens' police academy and the annual car show.

He served with professionalism, a strong work ethic, and a sense of duty to the officers under his command and the community they serve. I congratulate Sheriff Perez on his retirement and thank him for his service to Kane County.

#### RECOGNIZING DONALD E. GRAHAM

##### HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 11, 2014

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Donald E. Graham for his outstanding contributions to the nation and to the people of the nation's capital. Don Graham is best known for his unique contributions to the field of journalism, but he is also greatly admired in the District of Columbia, his hometown, as a citizen and leader.

For more than four decades, Don Graham has played a significant role in the life of the nation and here in the District of Columbia. Don served his country for two years during the Vietnam War, prior to returning to the District of Columbia and joining the D.C.'s police department, the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD). At MPD, Don courageously dedicated himself to serving the residents of the District as a patrol officer in the Ninth Precinct in the Northeast section of the District of Columbia. Only after charting his life with these experiences, life changing in themselves, did Don begin his career in professional journalism, in 1971, when he joined the family business as a reporter. Don Graham proceeded to come up through the ranks of the Washington Post and eventually became Publisher of the paper and then Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Washington Post Company. During his tenure, Don Graham shepherded a historic era at the Post. Under his leadership, the Post not only won more than 20 Pulitzer Prizes, it entered into the digital age, launched a website, and began printing in color.

Beyond his stellar accomplishments in journalism, Don Graham also has made notable contributions to the District of Columbia and its residents. He has continued a family tradition of service to the District with special attention to secondary education and higher education. Don was the driving force behind the D.C. Tuition Assistance Grant program (DCTAG), not



only in our ability to achieve federal funding for higher education unique to the District, but in what it has taken to maintain it for 15 years. DCTAG has doubled college attendance in the District of Columbia, allowing D.C. students, who have no state university system, to attend any state university in the country with up to \$10,000 per year in assistance. Moreover, Don has gone even further in pursuit of higher education opportunities for D.C. residents. He is a co-founder of the D.C. College Access Program, which has assisted over 13,000 D.C. students and provided over \$18 million in scholarships. Most recently, Don has formed TheDream.US, a new scholarship program that seeks to assist undocumented students, who cannot qualify for federal financial aid programs. Don sold the Post to engage in other pursuits, leaving the paper in good hands to continue its distinctive contributions. However, Don Graham's dedicated public service as a private citizen continues to this day.

Mr. Speaker, I could only summarize Donald E. Graham's achievements. Even so, it should now be clear why I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Donald E. Graham for his service to American journalism and for his continuing service to the residents of the District of Columbia.

**HONORING WEE CARE NURSERIES  
AND LEARNING CENTERS, INC.**

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a landmark establishment within the City of Tchula that provides one of the most critical and essential services for all working parents: Wee Care Nursery and Learning Center, Inc.

Tchula's Wee Care Nursery and Learning Center began as Tchula Day Care. Tchula Day Care opened its doors on September 3, 1991. The name was later changed to Tchula's Wee Care Nursery and Learning Center, Inc. On May 15, 1995, Wee Care Nursery and Learning Center #2 opened its doors in Lexington, MS.

Tchula's Wee Care capacity is 142 and Lexington's is 169. Current enrollment is 77 and 54 respectively.

At Wee Care Nurseries and Learning Centers, their mission is to provide child care that meets the needs of each child and family in a safe, educational environment.

They take pride in the Centers and focus on the individual needs of each child, while providing quality, reliable and safe child care.

The goals of At Wee Care Nurseries and Learning Centers are: 1) To provide affordable, convenient, dependable child care services; 2) To create a child care setting for social, cognitive, and physical development; 3) To provide a nurturing environment; 4) To provide learning experiences for children; and 5) To provide a preschool program, readying children for lifelong learning.

Wee Care Nurseries and Learning Centers, Inc. believe that a high quality early childhood

program provides a safe and nurturing environment that promotes the physical, emotional, social, and cognitive development of young children while responding to the needs of families. They believe in promoting an anti-bias, pro-social curriculum that teaches children to value and respect themselves and others for their own unique individuality. Each child is considered unique in temperament and rate of development. Curriculum is planned to enhance and challenge particular, distinct individual needs, interests and abilities. The curriculum includes: manipulatives, art, music, games, and outdoor play. They believe child-initiated, child-directed, teacher-supported play is an essential component of developmentally appropriate practice. Activities and relationships occur in a healthy, positive and relaxed environment in which well-qualified staff—provide personal attention, guidance and nurturing to each child.

Wee Care Nurseries and Learning Centers, Inc. strives to maintain continuity and consistency throughout the program by conducting helpful staff planning, training and a variety of joint activities involving various groups of children. In this context, all caregivers at Wee Care Nurseries and Learning Centers are encouraged to express their individual educational strengths as they work with children and in their cooperative efforts with other staff members.

When you come to Wee Care Nurseries and Learning Centers, your child will receive the best care the industry has to offer. All you need to do is "expect more." They have been fortunate to get special recognition from: Greenwood Voters' League, Mississippi State University, The Cities of Tchula and Lexington, Mississippi Building Blocks and The Delta Foundation.

Wee Care Nurseries and Learning Center is able to care for children ages 6 weeks to 12 years. Along with regular childcare services, they also provide before and after school care and a summer reading and math enrichment program.

Wee Care Nurseries and Learning Centers, Inc. have a Motto/Slogan: Building a better world one child at a time. Learning Today . . . Leading Today!

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Wee Care Nurseries and Learning Centers, Inc. for its past and present dedication to providing impeccable, dependable childcare services in an effort to help families of all backgrounds within the Tchula community.

**NIGERIA WILLIAMS HONORED AS  
TRAINEE OF THE YEAR BY THE  
GERMAN AMERICAN CHAMBER  
OF COMMERCE**

**HON. JOE WILSON**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to rise today to recognize the accomplishment of Nigeria Williams, a senior at South Aiken High School in the Second Congressional District of South

Carolina, who was recently named Trainee of the Year by the German American Chamber of Commerce.

Established in 2012, the apprenticeship program at the MTU Aiken Plant in Graniteville, South Carolina, provides high school students in the Palmetto State the opportunity to participate in the first-ever registered vocational apprenticeship program in the state of South Carolina. This two year program, developed in partnership with Aiken County Schools, Aiken Technical College, and Apprenticeship Carolina gives high school juniors and seniors a chance to experience hands on vocational learning opportunities in a real manufacturing environment. Graduates of the program earn an Industrial Mechanic-Basic certification.

Ms. Williams is the first female participant in the MTU Aiken Plant apprenticeship program. I congratulate her on this achievement and offer my best wishes for continued success.

I ask that my colleagues join me in recognition of Ms. Williams's accomplishments.

**JOE BRESSI, 2014 PENNSYLVANIA  
SPORTS HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE**

**HON. LOU BARLETTA**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize Joe Bressi for his recent induction into the Pennsylvania Sports Hall of Fame.

Mr. Bressi has had a long and successful career as an athletic coach, where he has demonstrated an exceptional ability to lead his teams to victory. His career highlights include:

Ten seasons as the head coach of the Bishop McDevitt High School girls basketball program, finishing with a 238–40 record, eight conference titles, five District 3 titles, and appearances in two state championships.

Eight years with the Bloomsburg University women's basketball program, where he finished with a 175–47 record and led the team to seven PSAC East titles, one PSAC playoff title, and four NCAA Division II tournaments. During the 1988–1989 season, his team became the first NCAA Division II women's team to go undefeated.

Six years with the Lycoming College men's basketball program, where the team had a record of 97–53 and reached the NCAA Division III tournament twice.

For his hard work and dedication, Mr. Bressi was inducted into the Pennsylvania Basketball Hall of Fame, two regional chapters of Pennsylvania's Sports Hall of Fame, and the Hall of Fame at East Stroudsburg where he attended college. During his time at Lycoming, he received the Middle Atlantic Conference Coach of the Year award twice. He also coached three Freedom Conference Players of the Year, two rookies of the year, and nine all-conference picks.

In 2000, Mr. Bressi left Lycoming College to become the director of athletics for Central Dauphin High School, where he worked for 11 years. Mr. Bressi retired, but shortly returned to coaching in 2013 as the head girl's basketball coach at Bishop McDevitt High School.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Bressi has shown outstanding athletic achievement and coaching



ability, leading his teams over 500 victories. Therefore, I commend him on his induction into the Pennsylvania Sports Hall of Fame and wish him the best in his future endeavors.

#### RECOGNIZING THE WEBB CITY CARDINALS

#### HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Webb City football team for winning their fifth straight state football championship.

The Webb City Cardinals clenched their fifth consecutive state title by defeating the Cape Central Tigers 48–21. Through their hard work and excellence on and off the field, the Cardinals have developed into a truly great championship team.

I also want to commend Head Coach John Roderique for a job well-done on developing such a strong football program. In his 18 years of coaching the Cardinals, his teams have won ten of the school's 13 state titles.

The Webb City community is rightly proud of this astonishing group of young and talented student-athletes. I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Webb City Cardinals as they celebrate their fifth consecutive State Championship.

#### FAREWELL REMARKS

#### HON. MIKE MCINTYRE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. MCINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, what a blessing it has been to serve in the United States Congress! Indeed, it has been a dream come true—an opportunity to make a positive difference in the lives of the people back home and the communities in which we live, work, worship, retire, and play.

Over the course of 18 years in Congress, we have been blessed to have accomplished a great deal together with the citizens of the Seventh Congressional District.

This job could not have been done without the people, purpose, and partnerships that have been integral to our work.

Indeed, none of this would have been possible without the strong support of my family—my wonderfully amazing, astute and astounding wife Dee, without whose wisdom, counsel, inspiration, analysis, steadfast partnership, and love I would have never been able to run—much less survived—in public service; and my two sons, Joshua and Stephen, whose imagination, intelligence, and insight, as well as their proclivity for the pragmatic, practical, and positive aspects of politics and public service (not to mention patience with having to eat a lot of barbecue and chicken bog!) always kept our serious perspective for the future balanced with laughter and common sense.

And I would like to extend a personal token of my appreciation to my wonderful staff

throughout these years. These individuals have graciously given their very best in the service of their country and our district, and I am grateful for their work and their friendship. Indeed, through teamwork and loyalty, they have demonstrated what it truly means to answer the high calling of public service.

I owe a special thanks to my colleagues here in Congress who have worked diligently with us, reaching across the aisle to find real solutions to our nation's greatest challenges and to help our great state to prosper.

It has been a blessing to serve alongside these men and women who have devoted their lives to public service.

Thank you especially to my friends in the Congressional Prayer Caucus and in the Congressional Prayer Breakfast for the friendships that have transcended party labels and focused on answering the call that the good Lord has laid upon our hearts to help the people back home and across the nation.

Second, it has been the purpose which has guided our actions:

My favorite Old Testament verse is from the Book of Proverbs (29:18 a): "Where there is no vision, the people perish."

During my 18 years here, we have sought to pursue a vision that offers hope to others and a bright future for our next generation.

It was in June of 1973, as rising high school senior, that I attended a student leadership seminar, the Washington Workshops Congressional Seminar.

I had just visited my then-freshman Congressman, Charlie Rose, and I meandered over to the Senate side to find the senior Senator for North Carolina, a white-haired gentleman who quoted Scripture as an old country lawyer, Sam Ervin, Jr.

He was conducting something called the "Watergate hearings."

All three national TV networks were there.

I waited in line and stood in the back of the hearing room on the day that John Dean began his testimony, which was the beginning of the end of the Nixon White House—a day I'll never forget.

I went home for my senior year of high school and came back to DC the next summer, 1974, as an intern for my Congressman. That was the summer that Nixon resigned.

I decided to major in political science as I headed off to the University of North Carolina that August, thinking that, "maybe someday I'll get to come back to this place."

And 22 years later, that dream came true.

"How could you be interested in politics?" everyone asked. "It's so dirty, so corrupt," they said.

I gave them the same answer then that I gave people when I first ran 18 years ago, that I still give today: "If all the people with the right motives stay out of politics, then who's left to run our government?"

"If we who are serious about our faith and our vision don't become involved, then by definition, there is going to be a void."

We should remember that so many times the world says, "you must be successful," but the key to success is first being faithful.

We must be faithful to our calling—answering the call that God has laid upon our hearts.

"He who is faithful in little will be faithful in much."

If we are faithful in the opportunities we have, then God will grant success in His timing; after all, isn't that what really counts—how we are using our time during the time we have on this earth?

Third, it has been the partnerships:

In eastern North Carolina, we have demonstrated that public service is a partnership between constituents and the representative they entrust to speak on their behalf.

For us, this steadfast partnership has been forged by putting policy over politics, issues over ideology, dialogue over dollars, and cooperation over campaigning.

This partnership has transcended politics and allowed us to accomplish monumental tasks, such as quadrupling the number of veterans' clinics in our area, passing the tobacco buyout, expanding our military bases, establishing an economic commission to promote jobs and fight poverty—and ensuring that the North Carolina coast will continue to be an economic engine and environmental treasure.

We also have built new fire and police stations, town halls, and workforce development centers; opened new farmers' markets and senior centers; improved airports and the Wilmington Port; and expanded educational and recreational opportunities for our children and youth.

We have helped thousands of constituents from all walks of life in ways that have significantly impacted their lives. None of this could have been accomplished without the strong commitment of my family, the hard work of my staff, and—especially—the willingness of people throughout our region to put partisanship aside and work together to get things done for the betterment of eastern North Carolina.

Indeed, I am grateful to all of the Democrats, Republicans, and Independents with whom we have successfully worked through nine general elections over 18 years.

People, purpose, partnerships: if we all remember these three ingredients and remain faithful to our calling, then we will have the recipe for success.

I close with the words of Adlai Stevenson, former UN Ambassador and Presidential candidate whom I quoted on the night of my first election in 1996, and which are a reminder of what has been a solemn and exciting duty:

"Trust the people, trust their good sense, their decency . . . their faith. Trust them with the facts. Trust them with the great decisions. And fix as our guiding star the passion to create a society . . . where no American is held down by race or color, by worldly condition or social status, from gaining what his character earns him as an American citizen, as a human being and as a child of God."

May God grant us the wisdom and the will to find the way to be moving always to an even better and brighter day. And by His grace, we will!

#### TRIBUTE TO EDWIN J. SIMCOX

#### HON. TODD ROKITA

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. ROKITA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and salute a remarkable Hoosier,

Mr. Edwin (Ed) J. Simcox, for his retirement as CEO of the Indiana Energy Association. I wish to express my heartfelt gratitude and appreciation for his leadership and service to our community, state, and country.

Ed was born in LaPorte, Indiana and holds an A.B. degree in Government and Economics from Indiana University and a J.D. degree from the Indiana University School of Law. Ed served as President of the Indiana Electric Association and helped guide a merger with the Indiana Gas Association in 2004 to form the Indiana Energy Association, where he served as CEO from 2010 to 2014. He currently serves as the President Emeritus of the Indiana Energy Association.

Ed has served Hoosiers in numerous capacities at the state level, including as Secretary of the State Highway Commission, Secretary of the Indiana Public Service Commission, and legal deputy of the office of the Reporter of the Indiana Supreme Court.

Hoosiers might look at my early public service career and rightfully assume it is comparable to Ed's. We were both on staff before serving as Indiana Secretary of State for two terms. We were both among the youngest elected secretaries of state at the time we took office. We also earned our J.D. from Indiana University School of Law. As someone who followed a similar career path as me, I frequently sought his counsel, and continue to do so as a Member of Congress.

Ed has also served on many other boards and commissions over the years for both public and private entities. He has dedicated his professional life to serving Hoosiers and improving the quality of life in Indiana. On behalf of all Hoosiers, thank you Ed, for all you have done and continue to do for the people of Indiana. Enjoy your well-deserved retirement.

#### HONORING CLEOTHA SADDLER

### HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable hero, Cleotha Saddler.

Cleotha Saddler was born on February 1, 1945 in Illinois to Garfield Allen and Viola Orr. She grew up in a home with six other relatives until her father decided he would raise her in Memphis, TN. Cleotha attended Mississippi Valley State University where she earned multiple degrees in elementary education. She later married Frank Saddler, Jr., settled in Marks, MS, and gave birth to nine children.

Today, Cleotha, also known as "Cleo" or "Lou", is the rock of her family. She continues to care for her children, and take care of her grandchildren. Over the course of her life, she has contributed to her community tremendously. Her name has become one so common for helping others that the desire from others to want to help even her grandchildren has increased. She is most known in her efforts for raising money for those in need.

In 2005, she stood at the main intersection in Marks, MS tirelessly to gather donations from townspeople to send to Louisiana for

Hurricane Katrina victims. In addition to that, she is never been reluctant to gather donations in that same way for families who cannot afford to pay for the funerals and burials of their loved ones. She comforts those families, not just with funds but with endless visits and "check-in" calls. She also helps organizations to decorate and/or cook for different events in the community. She is one that is very supportive of the school system, in reference to achieving adequate education. Cleotha is never hesitant to help anyone in any way that she possibly can.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. Cleotha Saddler for she is definitely the epitome of an unsung hero.

#### FAREWELL STATEMENT

### HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, as my time as a Member of Congress is coming to an end, I want to thank the people of Maine's Second District for allowing me the privilege of representing them here in the People's House.

From Fort Kent to Lewiston and Franklin County to Washington County, Mainers have shared with me their lives, their hopes and their concerns. We have worked together to improve our transportation infrastructure—which is pretty important when you represent the largest geographic district east of the Mississippi. We've worked together to stop bad trade deals from taking away good jobs; and to attract new businesses to Maine's increasingly diverse and innovative economy. I've been down on the clam flats, hiked our new and growing recreational trails and walked the floors of our mills. I couldn't have asked for better "bosses" than the men and women of the Second District.

I'm proud of everything we have accomplished together. We've helped support innovative small businesses across Maine through the Northern Border Regional Commission. We've protected and created new jobs in places like DFAS at Limestone. We've expanded access to affordable quality healthcare. We've taken steps to strengthen manufacturing in Maine by ensuring that our service members wear American-made footwear.

I'm particularly honored by the work I've been able to do with our veterans. During my time in Congress and with the support of our local veterans' organizations, we expanded access to care—making it easier for veterans in the County to get care at Cary Medical Center, so they don't have to take time off from their jobs and travel hundreds of miles, round-trip, to Togus. Working together, we ensured that aging veterans could always access affordable and quality healthcare at state veterans homes. We secured additional resources to confront the very serious problem of veterans' homelessness. We strengthened the GI Bill, making it easier for veterans to access important education and training opportunities.

I'd like to thank my fellow delegation members—Representative CHELLIE PINGREE, and

Senators ANGUS KING and SUSAN COLLINS. It's been a pleasure partnering with them over the years on a number of issues critical to Mainers. I'd also like to thank my staff, who have helped me always meet the needs of my constituents. They include Peter Chandler, John Graham, Diane Smith, Jane Calderwood, Gene Allen, Dan Rafter, Daniel Walls, Ben Goodman, Mac Routh, Andrea Quaid, Chris Winstead, Matt Dubois, Barbara Hayslett, Susan Cerini, Brandon Smith, Rachel Smith, Cassie Doyle, Rosemary Winslow, Brian Zimmerman, Nora Todd, Ed Gilman, Kim Glas, Monica Castellanos, Nancy Dolan, and the staff on the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs. I'd also like to thank all of those who have been on my staff in the past, and who worked so hard for the residents of the Second District.

Despite the partisan gridlock we see all too often here in Washington, Mainers are known for our tenacity and our willingness to roll up our sleeves and get things done. We have a proud history of well-respected lawmakers who have done just that, from Margaret Chase Smith to George Mitchell to Olympia Snowe. I am confident that if Maine's representatives continue to be guided by a commitment to partnership over partisanship, we can continue to achieve great things.

I return home honored by the time I spent serving the Second District in Congress, grateful for the people I met and the experiences I had, and optimistic for our future. Working together, we've made Maine a better place.

#### HONORING CONGRESSWOMAN CAROLYN MCCARTHY

### HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to the career of my good friend, Congresswoman CAROLYN MCCARTHY.

I had the privilege of serving alongside CAROLYN on the Committee on Education and the Workforce, where we began developing a close, personal friendship.

Congresswoman MCCARTHY's courage and leadership on the issue of gun violence has been a hallmark of her time in the House. Arising from tragic circumstances, CAROLYN's passionate commitment to preventing gun violence has inspired others and made a real difference. The power of her voice on this critical issue will be greatly missed in the next Congress.

Mr. Speaker, I honor the distinguished career of my dear friend, CAROLYN MCCARTHY.

#### LEGISLATIVE RECORD OF STEVE STOCKMAN IN 113TH CONGRESS

### HON. STEVE STOCKMAN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. STOCKMAN. Mr. Speaker, as the 113th Congress comes to a close, it is my pleasure

to note all of the legislative actions that I have taken in my tenure in this Congress.

In the 113th Congress, I introduced the following legislation:

H.R. 4587—Fifth Amendment Restoration Act. This bill sought to stop the Federal Government from stealing people's property by abolishing the use of civil asset forfeiture.

H.R. 5777—Cryptocurrency Protocol Protection and Moratorium Act. This bill sought to protect cryptocurrencies by imposing a five year moratorium on new cryptocurrency regulations.

H.R. 5755—Safer American Streets Act. This bill sought to withhold certain highway funds from a State that uses an automated traffic enforcement system on a Federal-aid highway.

H.R. 5756—Heller Public Firearms Range Act of 2014. This bill sought to restore a public firearms range to the District of Columbia.

H.R. 5757—Honoring Workers' Rights Act. This bill sought to rename the headquarters of the Department of Labor in honor of right to work activist Reed Larson.

H.R. 5734—Right of Return Act. This bill sought to establish a lasting peace in the Middle East by defunding UNRWA, defunding the Palestinian Authority, and directing the Secretary of State to call for Israel to extend sovereignty of Judea, Samaria, and Gaza with the Arab population residing in those territories to be given a right of return to the countries who controlled those territories from 1949 to 1967.

H.R. 5726—Freedom From Foreign Influence Act. This bill sought to direct the Secretary of the Interior to issue promptly permits allowing energy resources exploration and extraction in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

H.R. 5718—Stockman Effect Act. This bill sought to direct the National Science Foundation to commission a study on the potential impact of a polar magnetic shift on the weather.

H.R. 5717—Report the Costs Act. This bill sought to require annual reports from agencies detailing the cost of multilingual services, to end speculation about the cost of multilingual services provided by the Federal Government, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5473—James Boulet National Language Act of 2014. This bill sought to make English the official language of the United States, require that official U.S. government functions be conducted in English, and require the U.S. government to preserve and enhance the role of English as the official language of the United States.

H.R. 5472—To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service currently located at 16281 U.S. Highway 59 in Moscow, Texas, as the "Anna Stepanovna Politkovskaya Memorial Post Office". This bill sought to name the post office in Moscow, Texas in honor of Anna Stepanovna Politkovskaya, an American journalist who was assassinated in Moscow, Russia as a result of her coverage of the human rights abuses committed by the regime of Vladimir Putin.

H.R. 5433—Stop Funding Terrorism Act. This bill sought to prohibit any direct U.S. assistance, loan guarantee, or debt relief to the Palestinian Authority.

H.R. 5316—Safely Exacting Cautious Useful Rules for Immigration This Year (SECURITY) Act. This bill sought to secure the border between the United States and Mexico.

H.R. 5202—Personal Information Notification Act. This bill sought to require notification when personally identifying information is disclosed by a Government agency.

H. Amdt. 1033. This amendment to H.R. 4923, the Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2015, sought to prohibit funds made available by this Act from being used for the Department of Energy's Loan Program Office.

H. Res. 664—Providing for the arrest of Lois G. Lerner to answer the charge of contempt of Congress.

H. Res. 649, 648, 647, 646, and 645. This series of resolutions sought to direct various federal agencies to disclose emails transmitted by Lois Lerner.

H. Amdt. 941. This amendment to H.R. 4870, the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2015, sought to prohibit the use of funds for any activity that would grant de jure or de facto support of territorial, maritime, or airspace claims made by the People's Republic of China on the international waters or territories of other sovereign nations in the South China, East China, and Yellow Seas.

H. Amdt. 940. This amendment to H.R. 4870, the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2015, sought to prohibit the use of funds for the procurement of weapons systems that contain rare earth materials, metals, magnets, parts, or components that are produced in Cuba, North Korea, the People's Republic of China, or Venezuela.

H. Amdt. 939. This amendment to H.R. 4870, the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2015, sought to prohibit the use of funds to destroy Department of Defense equipment or ammunition in Afghanistan without such equipment or ammunition first being offered to independent states of the former Soviet Union and major non-NATO allies that are willing to pay for transportation of such equipment or ammunition to such states or allies.

H. Res. 635—Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) must allow taxpayers the same lame excuses for missing documentation that the IRS itself is currently proferring.

H.R. 4883—National Rare-Earth Cooperative Act of 2014. This bill sought to provide for the establishment of a National Rare-Earth Refinery Cooperative.

H. Res. 612—Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the Government of Mexico should forthwith repatriate Sgt. Andrew Paul Tahmooressi from Mexican prison(s) and expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the President of the United States should take actions to impose sanctions on Mexico until such time as Sgt. Tahmooressi is released.

H.R. 4774—Veterans' Health Accountability Act. This bill sought to improve the quality of care offered by the Veterans Health Administration.

H. Res. 602—Recognizing the 96th anniversary of the founding of the Democratic Republic of Azerbaijan.

H.R. 4651—To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 601 West Baker Road in Baytown, Texas as the "Specialist Keith Erin Grace Jr. Memorial Post

Office". This bill sought to name a post office in Baytown, Texas in honor of Keith Erin Grace Jr.

H.R. 4650—European Union Religious Freedom Act. This bill sought to recognize the prohibition of homeschooling, religious methods of meat production, circumcision, or wearing of religious garb as being infringements on religious freedom.

H.R. 4602—Virtual Currency Tax Reform Act. This bill sought to change the status of virtual currencies from property to foreign currency.

H.R. 4581—Prohibiting Discrimination Against Israel Act. This bill sought to prohibit federal funds from going towards international projects that discriminate against Judea and Samaria.

H.R. 4520—Aircraft Positioning Modernization Act. This bill sought to require passenger aircraft to transmit GPS location data.

H.R. 4518—Parental Protection Act. This bill sought to protect the constitutional rights of parents and children.

H.R. 4380—Gun Confiscation and Registration Prevention Act. This bill sought to prohibit gun confiscation and registration.

H.R. 4381—Biometric Information Privacy Act. This bill sought to prohibit firms from selling personal biometric information to third parties.

H.R. 4343—Write the Laws Act. This bill sought to end the unconstitutional delegation of legislative power which was exclusively vested in the Senate and House of Representatives by article I, section 1 of the United States Constitution, and to direct the Comptroller General of the United States to issue a report to Congress detailing the extent of the problem of unconstitutional delegation to the end that such delegations can be phased out, thereby restoring the constitutional principle of separation of powers set forth in the first sections of the United States Constitution.

H.R. 3199—Safe Military Bases Act. This bill sought to safeguard military and civilian personnel on military bases by repealing bans on military personnel carrying firearms, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3156—Responsible Implementation of Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2013. This bill sought to reform the Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2012 to responsibly protect homeownership.

H. Res. 333—Expressing the firm conviction of the House of Representatives that any continuing resolution or debt ceiling increase it may approve for the duration of the 113th Congress shall affirmatively include a provision specifically prohibiting the expenditure of any federal funds in support of or in implementation or effectuation or enforcement of any provision of the Affordable Care Act ("ObamaCare").

H. Amdt. 397. This amendment to H.R. 2397, the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2014, sought to prohibit funds appropriated or made available in this Act from being used for United States military exercises which include any participation by the People's Republic of China.

H.R. 2764—Sanctity of Life Act of 2013. This bill sought to declare that human life shall be deemed to exist from conception.

H. Res. 306—Providing for the consideration of the resolution (H. Res. 36) establishing a select committee to investigate and

report on the attack on the United States consulate in Benghazi, Libya.

H.R. 2625—Student Protection Act. This bill sought to prohibit the use of appropriated funds for any educational institution which punishes a child for brandishing food which is partially consumed in such a way that the remnant resembles a gun; possessing a toy gun two inches or less in length or made of plastic snap together building blocks; using a finger or hand to simulate a gun; vocalizing imaginary firearms or munitions; wearing a T-shirt that supports Second Amendment rights; drawing a picture of, or possessing an image of, a firearm; or using a writing utensil to simulate a firearm.

H.R. 2606—Stabilization and Reconstruction Integration Act of 2013. This bill sought to establish the United States Office for Contingency Operations.

H.R. 1815—Union Coercion Prevention Act. This bill sought to protect workers from the corrupt and coercive “Card Check” system of organizing labor unions.

H.R. 1144—Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas Equal and Fair Opportunity Settlement Act. This bill sought to restore an opportunity for tribal economic development on terms that are equal and fair.

H.R. 1143—Federal Correctional Workers Safety Act of 2013. This bill sought to amend the federal criminal code to require the Director of the Bureau of Prisons to ensure that each prison facility provides a secure firearms storage area for use by all employees who are authorized to carry a firearm, or allow such employees to store their firearm in a Bureau-approved vehicle lockbox.

H.R. 577—Veterans Second Amendment Protection Act. This bill sought to prohibit, in any case arising out of the administration of laws and benefits by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, considering any person who is mentally incapacitated, deemed mentally incompetent, or experiencing an extended loss of consciousness from being considered adjudicated as a mental defective for purposes of the right to receive or transport firearms without the order or finding of a judicial authority of competent jurisdiction that such person is a danger to himself or herself or others.

H.R. 576—Save Endangered Species Act of 2013. This bill sought to require the Secretary of the Interior to allow for the taking, export or reimport, delivery, receipt, carrying, and transport, shipment, or sale in interstate or foreign commerce, in the course of a commercial activity, of U.S. captive-bred live scimitar-horned oryx, addax, or dama gazelle, including embryos, gametes, and sport-hunted trophies, as long as certain criteria are met, including that the purpose of such activity is associated with the management or transfer of live wildlife or sport hunting in a manner that contributes to increasing or sustaining captive numbers or to potential reintroduction to range countries.

H.R. 575—Second Amendment Protection Act of 2013. This bill sought to prohibit the United States from providing any funding to the United Nations (U.N.) for a fiscal year unless the President certifies to Congress that the U.N. has not taken action to infringe on the rights of individuals in the United States to possess a firearm or ammunition, or abridge any of the other constitutionally protected rights of U.S. citizens.

H.R. 410—Restore the Constitution Act of 2013. This bill sought to provide that any executive action infringing on the Second Amendment has no force or effect, and to prohibit the use of funds for certain purposes.

H.R. 35—Safe Schools Act of 2013. This bill sought to amend the federal criminal code to repeal provisions making it unlawful to possess or discharge a firearm in a school zone.

H.R. 33—Audit The Fed Act of 2013. This bill sought to repeal the authority of the Comptroller General (GAO) to carry out an onsite examination of an open insured bank or bank holding company only if the appropriate federal regulatory agency has consented in writing.

RICHARD “DICK” KNOEBEL, 2014  
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION  
OF AMUSEMENT PARKS AND AT-  
TRACTIONS (IAAPA) HALL OF  
FAME INDUCTEE

### HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 11, 2014

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize Richard “Dick” Knoebel for his induction into the International Association of Amusement Parks and Attractions (IAAPA) Hall of Fame, which honors legends and pioneers for their significant contributions to the growth and development of the attractions industry.

Mr. Knoebel’s parents founded Knoebel’s Amusement Park in Elysburg, Pennsylvania in 1926, and as a result, he grew up surrounded by the attractions industry. As an adult, Mr. Knoebel pursued his passion for amusement parks, becoming president of the Pennsylvania Amusement Parks Association in 1971. In 1984, he was a key player in the development and adoption of the Pennsylvania Ride Inspection Act.

Since 1988, Mr. Knoebel has served as the president of the family business. In this role, he has shown a strong dedication to preserving and restoring vintage rides including “The Phoenix” roller coaster from Texas and “The Twister” from Colorado, both of which currently operate at Knoebel’s. He has also constructed first-of-their-kind attractions such as a flume ride with wood supports and the “Flying Turns,” the only wooden bobsled-style roller coaster in existence which was modeled after a ride from the 1930s. Mr. Knoebel has been an active IAAPA volunteer and has made many significant contributions to the organization, including serving as a member of the Board of Directors from 1999 to 2002.

Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of Dick Knoebel’s induction into the IAAPA Hall of Fame, I commend him and thank him for all of his hard work and lasting contributions to the attractions industry, and I wish him well in his future endeavors.

SUPPORTING SECTION 206 OF H.R.  
647, THE ABLE ACT

### HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 11, 2014

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I was pleased to advocate for and support the recently passed H.R. 647, the ABLE Act, for the important benefits it offers to the disabled, and because of the additional clarity and equity it will provide for employers dealing with the IRS.

Section 206 addresses an issue under current law and the interpretation of the IRS for employers that use the services of professional employer organizations (PEOs). For example, any PEO that qualifies as a statutory employer under the Internal Revenue Code is eligible to claim the Tip Tax Credit, instead of the restaurant for which the wait staff who directly perform the services and therefore earned the qualification for it.

Under this system, some PEOs claim the credit themselves as the statutory employer, others administer the credit for the restaurants which they serve, and some restaurants claim the credit directly—only to be challenged in IRS audits.

This provision of the ABLE Act provides important tax clarity for small businesses working with PEOs. I am pleased to have been able to help secure the passage of this legislation in the House of Representatives, and I urge its prompt consideration in the Senate.

HONORING UNDER SHERIFF  
DERRICK CUBIT

### HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 11, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable enforcement officer and community servant, Under Sheriff Derrick Cubit.

Derrick Cubit was born on a warm, sunny day of September 1, 1970 in Jackson, MS. As a youngster, he lived in Hazlehurst, Mississippi with his mother, Bobbie, his brother, Travis, and his late grandmother, Sarah.

Derrick Cubit started school when he was six-years-old. He went to kindergarten through fifth grades at Hazlehurst Elementary, attended Hazlehurst Middle School, and graduated from Hazlehurst High School in 1988. He continued his education by attending Hinds Community College and Jackson State University where he majored in Criminal Justice.

“Life has been a means of friends and family who you can trust and who trusts you.” says Mr. Cubit. He is pretty happy with what life brings and is accustomed to being around primarily adults, those who he received wisdom from. He met lots of people who invested and took time with him, and helped him to excel at most of his many and various hobbies. He did well in school because of this and fortunately, self-awareness was something that was learned later on in his years.

Under Sheriff Cubit is a member of the Phi Beta Fraternity and of the Golden Square

Lodge #88. There was always an interest in being a public servant, and he finally got an opportunity to work for the Copiah County Sheriff Department in October of 1997. He gives all thanks to the late Chief Deputy Joe L. Young, who gave him the opportunity to become a Deputy Sheriff with the Copiah County Sheriff Department. The trend was set by just meeting his potential, and taking on new challenges when someone brought it to his attention that he'd be perfect for the opportunity to work through the ranks at the Sheriff Department. He started out being a Deputy Sheriff, later was promoted to Juvenile Officer, after that he was promoted to Captain of Patrol, and now he serves as the Under Sheriff for the Copiah County Sheriff Department.

Under Sheriff Cubit always assumed he'd never get married because he was a hard worker and thought that if he was tied down by the constraints of a wife and kids his work might hinder family growth. But then, he met the beautiful Ms. Semekia Jones in 1994 and they agreed to marry in 2001. He had one son before this union and now his new family role suits him as being a father and husband. He's driven to spur his son on to even greater accomplishments.

Despite a lifetime of challenges and accomplishments Under Sheriff Cubit has held on to a quote by James Baldwin: "The world is before you, and you need not take it or leave it as it was when you came in." His goal is to achieve what James Baldwin speaks about. Although he would question, "How?" he believes that the moment his son entered this world, he then knew that he had achieved it.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Under Sheriff Derrick Cubit for his dedication to serving our great Country and his community.

#### DAVE CONNER TRIBUTE

#### HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 11, 2014

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Assistant U.S. Attorney Dave Conner, who recently passed away after a long fight with cancer. Dave is survived by his wife Teri, son Gavin, and daughter Ashton.

Dave Conner dedicated his life to public service, serving for over thirty-two years in the state and Federal courts. And throughout that time, he served our state and country with both honor and integrity.

Dave's career as a public servant dates back to 1982, when he graduated law school and began working as a Deputy District Attorney in Denver. After six years, he became an Assistant U.S. Attorney. In 1996, he took a position as a public defender, and after four years in that capacity, he returned to the U.S. Attorney's office.

I have had the honor of meeting Dave and discussing possible ways we could curb the trend of mass shooting incidents that our nation, and Colorado, in particular, has experienced in recent years. Dave was dedicated to public safety and I found his insight and advice on gun violence to be very helpful as we discussed this extremely important issue.

An active member of the Smoky Hill United Methodist Church, Dave Connor was dedicated to his family and community and his life should serve as an example of the positive effect that dedicated public servants can have on those around them. My heartfelt prayers go out to his family, friends, and loved ones as they grieve the loss of a dedicated public servant and a great man.

#### ABD AL-BASET AZZOUZ

#### HON. MARC A. VEASEY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 11, 2014

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in order to commend the recent intelligence partnership between the United States and the country of Turkey that led to the apprehension and eventual transfer into U.S. custody of a senior Al Qaeda operative, Abd al-Baset Azzouz.

The State Department of the United States listed Azzouz as a "Specially Designated Global Terrorist" pursuant to Executive Order 13224 on September 24, 2014. Additionally, the State Department states that Azzouz "has had a presence in Afghanistan, the United Kingdom, and Libya. He was sent to Libya in 2011 by al-Qa'ida leader Ayman al-Zawahiri to build a fighting force there, and mobilized approximately 200 fighters. He is considered a key operative capable of training al-Qa'ida recruits in a variety of skills, such as IED construction."

I am encouraged by this positive development between Turkey and the United States and hope that this event indicates a growing partnership between our countries that will result in a common military strategy against hostile elements in Iraq and Syria. While no international relationship is perfect, there is already a large amount of cooperation that exists between the U.S. and allies like Turkey and it is critical that we continue to grow our existing partnerships in this important region as well as forge new ones.

It is important that we recognize and commend this very positive incident of counterterrorism cooperation between the U.S. and Turkey, as well as do all that we can to encourage these efforts to continue.

Finally, I submit the recent articles from the Washington Post and International Business Times.

[From the Washington Post, Dec. 5, 2014]

SUSPECTED AL-QAEDA MEMBER HELD IN JORDAN AS U.S. INVESTIGATES POSSIBLE BENGHAZI LINK

(By Adam Goldman and Karen DeYoung)

A suspected member of al-Qaeda who had recently been designated a global terrorist by the United States has been detained in Jordan. The United States is also investigating whether he played a role in the September 2012 attacks on U.S. facilities in Benghazi. U.S. officials, who spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss an ongoing investigation, identified the man as Abd al-Baset Azzouz, a Libyan national. Details about his capture and what charges he could face in the United States remain unclear. Turkish news media reported that Azzouz

was captured Nov. 13 in an operation in Yalova, which is about 100 miles south of Istanbul, and that he was later deported to Jordan.

Turkey's Daily Sabah newspaper said the CIA provided the tip that led to his arrest. The CIA declined to comment.

In recent years, the Obama administration has brought a number of alleged terrorists to this country after capture by the U.S. or through extradition. Azzouz has not been named in any public statements or reports about those sought in connection with the Benghazi attacks. Although the State Department designated Azzouz as a terrorist, it is not known if there are any criminal charges against him that would facilitate his extradition to the United States.

A likely venue for any criminal proceedings would be federal court in New York. FBI spokesman Peter Donald in New York declined to comment. One official stressed that U.S. intelligence was still examining whether Azzouz had a role in the Benghazi attacks that killed U.S. Ambassador J. Christopher Stevens and three other Americans.

In September, the State Department designated Azzouz a global terrorist. The State Department said he has also lived in Afghanistan and Britain.

As part of the designation, the United States said Azzouz was sent home by al-Qaeda leader Ayman al-Zawahiri in 2011 to build a fighting force in Libya, mobilizing about 200 fighters.

"He is considered a key operative capable of training al-Qaeda recruits in a variety of skills, such as IED [improvised explosive device] construction," according to the State Department.

Seth Jones, an analyst at the Rand Corp., said Azzouz probably has minimal information about where Zawahiri is hiding but could provide a clearer picture of the terrorist groups operating in Libya.

"He's got a lot of information that could be useful on how al-Qaeda is structured, its broader strategy and operations," he said.

Azzouz isn't the first known al-Qaeda operative suspected of going to Libya in recent years.

Officials said there was intelligence that Thirwat Shihata, an Egyptian who was Zawahiri's deputy at one point, traveled to Libya after he was allowed to leave Iran, where he had been since 2003.

Azzouz lived in Britain and was known to police but left the country in 2009 for Pakistan and Afghanistan. Authorities in Britain had briefly detained Azzouz before letting him go, according to news reports.

[From International Business Times, Dec. 4, 2014]

AL QAEDA LEADER ABD AL-BASET AZZOUZ, ACCUSED OF PARTICIPATION IN BENGHAZI ATTACK, REPORTEDLY AWAITING TRIAL IN US

(By Alessandria Masi)

A senior al Qaeda leader accused of participating in the attack on the U.S. embassy in Benghazi, Libya, was arrested in Turkey last month. The Libya-based terrorist leader was transferred to Jordan and subsequently to the U.S., where he is now awaiting trial, according to the Turkish Hurriyet Daily News.

A joint CIA and Turkish intelligence operation led to Abd al-Baset Azzouz's capture when he attempted to enter Turkey with a fake passport, according to a report from Turkish daily Milliyet. Azzouz is a senior member of al Qaeda's branch in Libya and allegedly had a role in the bombing that killed U.S. Ambassador to Libya Christopher Stevens and U.S. Foreign Service Information

Management Officer Sean Smith on Sept. 11, 2012.

The CIA declined to comment on its alleged involvement in the operation and the Department of Defense did not immediately confirm Azzouz's continued presence in the U.S.

A man by that name was put on the U.S. State Department's Designated Terrorist List in September and described as a "key operative capable of training al Qaeda recruits in a variety of skills, such as IED [improvised explosive device] construction." Azzouz's name was also presented to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs last year on a list of people it did not "make sense to consider anything but 'core' al Qaeda members."

Azzouz was detained for nearly 10 months in the U.K. in 2006. Upon his release, he moved to Libya at the request of al Qaeda leader Ayman al-Zawahiri, according to Hurriyet. Al-Zawahiri reportedly sent him to Libya to open a training camp and recruit fighters, a move that "indicates that senior al Qaeda leaders trust him to carry out the strategic task of establishing an al Qaeda network in Libya," according to a 2012 report from the Federal Research Division of the Library of Congress.

Libyan jihadist group Ansar al-Sharia has been widely held accountable for the deadly Benghazi attack, but the group said in a statement that it "didn't participate as a sole entity." Ansar al-Sharia has a strong presence in Benghazi and is "ideologically aligned" with al Qaeda, according to the State Department. The group also has a branch in the Libyan port city of Derna, where Azzouz allegedly set up his training camp.

Derna has long been a jihadist battleground and is home to several groups, including the Islamic Youth Shura Council, which recently pledged allegiance to the Islamic State group.

#### HONORING THE SERVICE OF MAYOR BRENDA LAWRENCE TO THE CITY OF SOUTHFIELD

##### HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. PETERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the service of Brenda Lawrence, Mayor of the City of Southfield, who will be leaving office at the end of this year to represent Michigan's 14th Congressional District in the United States House of Representatives.

Mayor Brenda L. Lawrence is a long-time resident of the City of Southfield. A product of Michigan's public school system, Mayor Lawrence is an alumna of Pershing High School and received her BA in Public Administration from Central Michigan University.

Ms. Lawrence was elected Mayor of the City of Southfield in November of 2001. She is the first African American and first woman Mayor of Southfield, a city with a population of over 78,000 residents, a budget of \$143 million, and 833 employees. Mayor Lawrence is committed to diversity, fiscal responsibility, education, and keeping a clean and safe city.

Mayor Lawrence has been a community advocate for many years, both as an elected offi-

cial and a private citizen. She has served on the Southfield City Council, where she was elected president in 1999. As a Councilwoman, Ms. Lawrence gained experience in managing a multi-million dollar budget and demonstrated fiscal responsibility. Ms. Lawrence has also served on the Southfield Public School Board of Education as President, Vice-President, and Secretary. Her love for community involvement has been evident through her previous service as a volunteer in various capacities on the Parent Youth Guidance Commission, Oakland County United Way Advisory Committee, and Oakland County AIDS Council.

Since becoming Mayor, Ms. Lawrence has initiated the following community programs: The Mayor's Walk community health program; Mayor's Roundtable—a citizen driven forum where residents can discuss one-on-one topics of concern; Southfield Reads!—a program designed to promote reading literacy in the City of Southfield; Annual Flower Day; City-wide Blood Drive; and Today's Woman—a cable show featuring respected women in and around Southfield. As a result of her initiative to create a more environmentally friendly community, Mayor Lawrence joined over 600 other Mayors in signing the Mayors Climate Protection Agreement, and with Council support has created the Southfield Green Committee.

Mayor Lawrence has received many honors for her leadership skills. She was recognized in October 2007 as one of Crain's "2007 Most Influential Women." She is the recipient of the "2004 Wand Award" for breaking new frontiers for women and minorities, the Jewish War Veterans-State of Michigan "Brotherhood Award," the Leadership Detroit "Challenging the Process" award, the ABWA Millennium Chapter "Woman of the Year Award," the Detroit Historical Society's "Enterprising Women" award, Leadership Oakland's 2004 Distinguished Leadership & Future Leaders Award for Exemplary Leadership, and the "Black Women Achiever Award." Mayor Lawrence has also been named to the Women's Informal Network "List of the Most Influential African American Women in Metropolitan Detroit" and CORP Magazine's "95 Most Influential Women in Michigan."

Mayor Lawrence is a member of the Oakland County Chapter of the NAACP, a member of the Michigan Association of Mayor's Advisory Board, the U.S. Conference of Mayors Advisory Board, the American Heart Association's "Go Red For Women," the Michigan Suburbs Alliance Executive Board, Women Officials Network Board of Directors, Birmingham YMCA Advisory Board, the Pepsi Community Advisory Board, MBN TV, Radio Advisory Board and the Board of Governors of the Renaissance/Skyline Club.

Mr. Speaker, as a former city councilman, I know first-hand how communities benefit from dedicated elected leaders. Brenda's years of dedicated service to the residents of Southfield is a testament to her character and I know that her experience will serve her well as a member of this legislative body. As I close, I can say with confidence that our community is a better place thanks to the ongoing, selfless service of people like Mayor and now Congresswoman-Elect Brenda Lawrence.

#### SUPPORTING AMERICA'S CHARITIES ACT

##### HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I voted against suspending the rules and adopting the "Supporting America's Charities Act." I think there are strong arguments in favor of this legislation and arguments of roughly equal weight that we should not at this time make these tax incentives permanent when they are not paid for.

As I have stated in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on many occasions, I believe that controversial matters should come up under regular order, allowing adequate debate time and preferably allowing for amendments from the floor. This legislation is controversial enough to warrant that attention.

Under these circumstances I could not vote to suspend the rules. I might well vote for this legislation if it came to the floor of the House through regular order, particularly if members were allowed to offer amendments.

#### HONORING CONGRESSMAN JIM MATHESON

##### HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to the career of Congressman JIM MATHESON. JIM and I were both elected to the House in 2000. It has been a privilege to work with him over the course of the past fourteen years.

JIM has been a tireless advocate for the people of his district and his voice in Congress will be sorely missed.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring the service of Congressman JIM MATHESON in the United States House of Representatives.

#### HONORING SERGEANT MILTON MOORE

##### HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable veteran and community servant, Sergeant Milton Moore. Sergeant Moore has shown what can be done through hard work, setting goals, and aiming high.

Sergeant Moore attended the Southern Regional Public Safety Institute in Long Beach, MS where he graduated with honors in 2000. He has completed training in: Clandestine Lab Investigations, Interview and Interrogation, Psychological Response to Active Shooter, and numerous other training courses, including, FEMA Incident Command System ICS200, ICS300, ICS400, and ICS700.

Sergeant Milton Moore was hired with the City of Vicksburg in September 1999, as a firefighter. Deciding to follow the footsteps of his father, he became an employee of the Vicksburg Police Department in March 2000. Since that time, he has served as a Patrol Officer and Field Training Officer.

Sergeant Moore was promoted to the rank of Sergeant in February 2010, scoring the highest of all candidates. Sergeant Moore is presently serving as a shift commander, where he currently has 9 officers under his command.

Sergeant Moore was only 6 years old when his father joined the Vicksburg Police Department in 1975. Being around law enforcement all of his life, Sergeant Moore gained interest and respect for the duties of law enforcement. He knew that one day he would be able to wear the uniform and follow his father's footsteps and become an officer at the Vicksburg Police Department. Most of the traits and values that Sergeant Moore's father instilled in him he still practices daily. These attributes have helped Sergeant Moore become a model officer.

February 19, 2014, Sergeant Milton Moore was honored as Officer of the Year by the Vicksburg Homecoming Benevolence Club. Being a recipient of this award, was a very humbling experience for Sergeant Moore. The award is named the "Artel Moore Award" after Sergeant Moore's deceased father.

Sergeant Moore is a member of the Mississippi Homeland Security Task Force. Sergeant Moore is a veteran of the United States Armed Forces, serving in the U.S. Navy during the first Iraq war, Desert Storm, in 1991.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Sergeant Milton Moore for his dedication to serving our great Country and his community.

THE HONORABLE JOHN D. DRIGGS

**HON. KYRSTEN SINEMA**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Ms. SINEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in remembering the Honorable John D. Driggs, former Mayor of Phoenix and a member of one of the early pioneering families of Arizona. Mayor Driggs passed away on December 11, 2014, surrounded by his wife Gail and his devoted family. He leaves behind a history of public service to Phoenix that will be remembered for generations to come. His family and everyone who had the opportunity to work with John Driggs will miss him beyond description because he was a man of integrity, with a strong belief in civic responsibility.

In addition to serving as Phoenix Mayor from 1970–1974, John Driggs was a passionate Arizona historic preservationist, and in 2005 was named "Arizona History Maker" by the Arizona Historical Society. In 1969, John Driggs spearheaded the successful Phoenix Growth Committee Bond Elected, which provided funding for the Phoenix Public Library and other cultural venues. He then ran for Mayor of Phoenix and served for two terms.

During his time in office, the Phoenix Mountain Preserve was established, which he later described as one of his most important accomplishments.

John Driggs served in the U.S. Navy during World War II, he started the Second Harvest National Food Bank Network, and he was the cornerstone of the 2012 Arizona Centennial Commission. Arizona State Senator Adam Driggs is one of Mayor Driggs' five sons, and I had the honor of serving with Adam in the Arizona Legislature from 2005–2012. The dedication and commitment to service that John Driggs instilled in Adam is apparent in everything that he does as a legislator, and I am proud to call Senator Adam Driggs my friend and colleague. Members, please join me for a moment of silence as we extend our deepest condolences to the Driggs family and as we remember the remarkable life of John Driggs—one of Arizona's great leaders.

HONORING MONROE COLLEGE'S  
WOMEN'S AND MEN'S SOCCER  
TEAMS

**HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate both the women's and men's soccer teams at Monroe College, based on Jerome Avenue in my district in the Bronx.

On November 22nd, the women's soccer team won the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Division 1 Championship in Melbourne, Florida, defeating defending champion Iowa Western. That same weekend, the men's team reached the finals of the men's championship, and fought valiantly before losing in overtime to the Tyler (TX) Community College team.

Monroe College first opened in the Bronx in 1933, and over the years has expanded educational opportunities for thousands of Bronxites. Many of the beneficiaries are from my district, although with a campus in New Rochelle, the College has students from all over the New York metropolitan area.

The time, dedication, and effort of these student-athletes to both their academic and athletic pursuits is truly impressive, and I have no doubt that the values they have gained through this experience will serve them well in the future. I congratulate these young men and women on their achievements. They have made the Bronx proud.

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS ON RESOLUTION "COMMEMORATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WORLD WAR I CHRISTMAS TRUCE OF 1914"

**HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, today I have introduced a resolution commemorating the

centennial anniversary of the World War I Christmas Truce of 1914.

One hundred years ago this month, soldiers on the Western Front came together to unofficially pause hostilities and celebrate the Christmas holiday without regard for country lines or battle lines. The truce gave armies on both sides an opportunity to bury their fallen comrades, as well as share some festive cheer while far away from their homes and families.

Reports from soldiers on the front lines were that soldiers engaged in singing carols, sharing food and other provisions, and even light-hearted games. One of the most well-known aspects of the Christmas Truce is the impromptu football game that took place among the men. Many football clubs to this day recognize the Christmas Truce by holding commemorative games, and this year's historic anniversary will feature a number of recognitions in the sporting world.

The Christmas Truce has always inspired me as a reminder that it is possible for opponents to look beyond their differences and see each other as people, but I have a more personal connection as well. My great-grandfather was one of the soldiers present during the Christmas Truce, and his story and his experiences have been passed down as family lore.

I've also been drawn to this year's commemorations by my good friend Don Mullan, an Irish author who has been championing worldwide celebrations of this proud moment in world history. Don has been developing a Christmas Truce and Flanders Peace Field Project in Messines, Belgium in partnership with the United Nations Office on Sport for Development and Peace and UNESCO. This project has gained the support of Nobel Peace Prize laureate Archbishop Desmond Tutu, and will help ensure that the Christmas Truce, and more importantly, the lessons it has taught us, will always be remembered.

I hope that this holiday season, wherever we are, we can all take a moment to remember the Christmas Truce and to remind ourselves of a time when soldiers laid down their weapons and recognized how essential it is to value humanity. The Christmas Truce is a symbol of the triumph of the human spirit over adversity, and reminds us that even in the darkest times, we should always strive toward peace.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED STATES

**HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, together with my colleagues—the Honorable BOB GOODLATTE, Chairman of the House Judiciary Committee; the Honorable SPENCER BACHUS, Chairman of the Subcommittee on Regulatory Reform, Commercial and Antitrust Law; and the Honorable HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR., Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Regulatory Reform, Commercial



and Antitrust—to recognize the 50th anniversary of the Administrative Conference of the United States.

Every year, federal agencies issue thousands of regulations that concern the food we eat, the air we breathe, and the autos we drive. Although regulations play a role in myriad aspects of our daily lives, there is no independent, nonpartisan entity—other than the Administrative Conference of the United States—that exists specifically so that Congress can call upon it to evaluate ways to improve the regulatory process.

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the Administrative Conference of the United States, an independent federal agency tasked by Congress to make recommendations intended to improve the administrative process and to provide nonpartisan expert advice. Over the course of its existence, many of these recommendations have been enacted into law or voluntarily implemented by federal agencies and the federal judiciary. As a result of the Conference's excellent work, our Nation's federal administrative procedures are not only looked to as a standard around the world, but constantly in the course of additional improvement.

From its inception in 1964, the Conference has provided invaluable guidance to all three branches of government, including federal agencies, Congress, and the federal judiciary—about how to make the regulatory process more responsive, efficient, and cost-effective. Members of the Conference are drawn from executive and judicial branches of the federal government, academia, as well as from the private sector.

Congress has assigned the Conference important responsibilities in the implementation of the Administrative Dispute Resolution Act, the Negotiated Rulemaking Act, the Equal Access to Justice Act, the Congressional Accountability Act, and the Magnusson-Moss Warranty-Federal Trade Commission Improvement Act. In addition, the Conference has facilitated judicial review of agency decisions and helped eliminate various technical impediments to such review. And, the Conference helps save taxpayer dollars. Just one agency alone—the Social Security Administration—estimated that the Conference's recommendation to change that agency's appeals process would result in approximately \$85 million in savings.

In recognition of its many accomplishments, the Conference has enjoyed broad bipartisan and bicameral support over the years. President Lyndon Baines Johnson signed the initial legislation creating the Conference into law in 1964, and President George W. Bush reauthorized the Conference in 2008. Similarly, the Conference is supported by the private sector and advocacy groups across the political spectrum.

United States Supreme Court Justices Stephen Breyer and Antonin Scalia have testified before the House Committee on the Judiciary in support of the Conference and its work on not just one, but two highly historic occasions. Justice Breyer, for example, cited the Conference's "unique" role in identifying ways to improve the federal regulatory process. He explained in 2004, prior to the Conference's revival in 2010:

Given the Conference's rather low cost (a small central staff, commissioning academic papers, endless amounts of volunteered private time, and two general meetings a year), it is indeed a pity that by abolishing this Conference, we have weakened our federal government's ability to respond effectively, in this general way, to the problems of its citizens.

I have not found other institutions readily available to perform this same task. Individual agencies, while trying to reform themselves, sometimes lack the ability to make cross-agency comparisons. The American Bar Association's Administrative Law Section, while a fine institution, cannot call upon the time and resources of agency staff members and agency heads as readily as could the Administrative Conference. Congressional staffs cannot as easily conduct the technical research necessary to develop many of the Conference's more technical proposals. The Office of Management and Budget does not normally concern itself with general procedural proposals.

Justice Scalia also described the Conference's "unique" characteristics. Citing its "combination of talents from the academic world, from within the executive branch . . . and, . . . from the private bar, especially lawyers particularly familiar with administrative law," he observed, "I did not know another organization that so effectively combined the best talent from each of those areas." In sum, Justice Scalia said that ACUS was "obviously . . . a worthwhile organization" and that it was "an enormous bargain."

Accordingly, we are pleased to mark the 50th anniversary of the Conference and to express our continued support for its very important work.

#### FINANCIAL VICTIMIZATION

#### HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. GARRETT. Mr. Speaker, for approximately the past six years, innocent customers of three failed broker-dealers—the securities firms of Bernie Madoff, Allan Stanford, and McGill, Smith, have been unfairly victimized time and time again despite the existence of remedial legislation enacted by Congress for the specific purpose of protecting such customers.

Initially these customers were victimized by the nefarious fraudsters, whose Ponzi schemes caused the failure of several securities firms and resulted in financial devastation for so many. Next, these customers were victimized by the Securities Investor Protection Corporation (SIPC) and their henchmen, whose antics, behavior, and positions were the antithesis of investor protection—financial self interest and preservation clearly appeared to be their guiding mantra. Finally, when SIPC sought the Court's blessing for its wrongful conduct and breach of trust, the court's bizarre deference to SIPC and their blatant misapplication of the Securities Investor Protection Act (SIPA) resulted in a perverted process and erroneous interpretations of SIPA, which, further victimized these customers by depriving them of the financial pro-

tections and benefits mandated by SIPA and exposed them to draconian claw-back lawsuits seeking to strip them of what few remaining assets they might still possess.

Examples abound supporting these conclusions. If someone walked into a securities firm and purchased a stock or a bond, who would believe that such a person would not be considered a "customer" and would be denied basic Congressionally created customer protections? Why would a customer of a failed securities house, one who had no knowledge of a Ponzi scheme operated by the broker-dealer, be subjected to costly litigation to defend the returns their account statements told them they had earned from their investments? Why would a customer of a broker-dealer receive a monthly "account statement", purporting to evidence their financial position at the firm, and later the parties charged with protecting the rights of those customers be allowed to disregard those statements and eliminate all stated returns in the account? And who could have ever anticipated that this same entity would elect to adopt a "valuation" methodology patently designed to provide the lowest values to the customers in order to maximize its own bank accounts and resources? While these results seem fanciful and far fetched, they are the realities that innocent customers of these three broker dealers have had to endure.

While the courts are charged with the responsibility of interpreting statutes, that function properly involves determining Congressional intent. If, as here, the Courts have misinterpreted that intent, it is then the role of Congress to reaffirm what it actually meant and to clarify how Congress meant to achieve the desired results. Thus the Garrett-Maloney bill is not an attempt to rewrite SIPA retroactively. Rather it is intended to reaffirm what Congress meant all along—the protection of innocent customers who have been defrauded by a dishonest broker-dealer.

When Congress reconvenes in January, we will expeditiously address these important issues—victims have been victimized for too long. Victims will receive what they are due. Victims who had no actual knowledge of the frauds will be extricated from the harassing "claw back" lawsuits. Much progress was made on these issues during the past two years—numerous hearings were held and support for the Garrett-Maloney bill is now robust and bipartisan. Addressing these issues, and providing appropriate remedies for the victims, will be a top priority in January, indeed an urgent one.

#### IN PRAISE OF CONGRESSIONAL STAFF

#### HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, throughout my tenure in the House of Representatives, I have been continually impressed by the legions of staffers who eagerly sign up to serve in the ranks of Congressional aides.

Having started my own career of public service as a staffer in the U.S. Senate, I know



a little about laboring behind the scenes, answering the phones, responding to the mail, enduring the long hours of sometimes mundane, often utterly thankless tasks that keep this place running for the people we were elected to serve. These eager, bright minds come to this place looking to make a difference in the world. They sacrifice higher paying jobs in the private sector, and precious time with their family and friends, in order to work without applause for the betterment of our Nation.

These members of our staffs do their work anonymously and generally do their work exceedingly well, putting their heart and soul into fighting for the people we were elected to serve. Frankly, they put up with a lot and Members of Congress ought to do more to defend these loyal employees. When the slings and arrows of public anger are aimed at this institution, these staffers have demonstrated, time and again, a selfless willingness to stand silently as their jobs and benefits are slashed in some ill-conceived sacrificial exercise. They are not our political shields. It is the lot of a leader—a true leader—to take the hits.

Before retiring this year, I want to acknowledge and express my deep gratitude to the staff members who have been by my side throughout my career. And I take this moment to express my undying thanks to those who stayed with me until the very end—never wavering in their loyalty to me and the constituency we served together. These are outstanding and dedicated individuals who deserve the highest praise for their selfless sacrifice and service in behalf of the people of southern West Virginia.

David McMaster, my Chief of Staff

Kent Keyser, my longtime aide and trusted advisor

Kate Denman, my Deputy Chief of Staff

Diane Luensmann, my Communications Director

Carol Wallace, my Projects Director

Josh Sutherland, my Legislative Correspondent

Megan Price, my Staff Assistant

Andy Mollohan and Rachel Meyer, my Legislative Assistants,

Kelly Dyke, my District Director, and Greg Crist, Kim McMillon, and Larone Alexander, who worked in the Congressional Office in Beckley

Debrina Workman, Teri Booth, and Debbie Stevens—my longtime district aides who staffed the Congressional Offices in Logan, Huntington, and Bluefield

Jim Zoia, Ann Adler, Ward McCarragher, Ed Gilman, Lisa James, and Luke Strimer on my Transportation and Infrastructure Committee staff.

HONORING SHERIFF OLIVER  
PARKER, JR.

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an extraordinary community leader, Sheriff Oliver Parker, Jr.

Sheriff Oliver Parker, Jr.'s life began in Duncan, MS. Sheriff Parker's mother, Mrs. Eddie Mae Parker, relocated to Hinchcliff, MS when he was 10 years old. Sheriff Parker has resided in Quitman County for over 50 years. He is a graduate of Quitman County High School, Northwest Junior College, and the Mississippi Law Enforcement Training Academy. Parker completed the Mississippi Fire Investigation Training Academy as a requirement to become an Arson Investigator. He has one daughter, Fatina Parker Elliott; one granddaughter, Ashley-Faith Elliott; and one goddaughter, Detra Foster-Webb.

Sheriff Parker has never been a stranger to hard work. He worked assiduously as a teenager to help his single mother provide for his siblings. He has always had a desire to help others. He knew at an early age that he wanted to make a difference in the lives of the citizens of Quitman County. He pursued his dreams of helping the citizens of Quitman County by beginning a career in law enforcement. He served in the capacity of Deputy Sheriff for the Quitman County Sheriff's Department for 23 years. In 1999 he pursued his life-long dream of becoming the Sheriff of Quitman County. He was elected the first African-American Sheriff of Quitman County in November of 1999 and took the Oath of Office on December 9, 1999. He began his responsibilities as Sheriff of Quitman County on January 1, 2000. He has humbly served as Sheriff of Quitman County for 14 years.

Since the beginning of his career as Sheriff of Quitman County, Sheriff Parker has instituted change in a variety of ways and made major contributions to the Quitman County Sheriff's Department. Jailed youth are offered a variety of programs designed to help them avoid returning to jail, as well as GED tutoring and testing. The elderly are assisted via the TRIAD Program. Sheriff Parker also initiated the employment of a full-time School Resource Officer at Madison Shannon Palmer High School. Under Sheriff Parker's leadership, a full-time detective and additional deputies and dispatchers were hired to assist with protecting and serving the citizens of Quitman County. Sheriff Parker's leadership has proven to be successful, as there were no unsolved murders in Quitman County until February 8, 2013.

Sheriff Parker was present at a major milestone in the history of Quitman County which was the unveiling of the Mule Train sign at the city limits of Marks, Mississippi.

Sheriff Parker possesses sound judgment; he has a great sense of accountability to the citizens of Quitman County; and he has an irreproachable professionalism. Sheriff Parker constantly seeks to establish relationships with the community that ensures continued trust and dependability. He is a God-fearing individual who seeks to serve the citizens of Quitman County with the utmost respect, dignity and honesty.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Sheriff Oliver Parker, Jr. for his dedication in being a respected community leader.

MOTOR TRANSPORTATION  
COMPANY 100TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. LOU BARLETTA**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the Motor Transportation Company as they celebrate their 100th anniversary.

The Motor Transportation Company, founded in 1914 by Leon Dotter, began with a mail route from Lehighton to Stroudsburg. Leon also hauled coal from the Harwood Mines to bins in the Hazleton Steam Heating Co. and transported coal miners throughout local coal mining villages. Following the economic devastation of the Depression and the decline of the coal industry, Herman Dotter, a veteran who served in the U.S. Marine Corps, shifted the company's focus to school busing while still ensuring residents of the Hazleton area had access to first-class transportation. In 1959, Motor Transportation achieved national recognition by winning Fleet Owner Magazine's color design award, no doubt due in part to the company's signature "orange wheels." In 1978, Herman developed Hazleton Area Transit, providing service from Hazleton to the surrounding areas, and he also promoted tourism into the region's historic coal mining area. Currently, third generation Lee Dotter and Lori Dotter Yanuzzi run the company and maintain the organization's commitment to providing quality service, mainly focusing on tourism.

Mr. Speaker, on the 100th anniversary of its founding, I thank all of the members of the Motor Transportation Company, past and present, for their hard work and continued efforts to provide quality transportation services and tours for the people of Northeast Pennsylvania, and I wish the organization many more years of successful service.

IN RECOGNITION OF STATE REPRESENTATIVE VICKI BARNETT FOR TWENTY YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE PEOPLE OF FARMINGTON HILLS AND MICHIGAN

**HON. GARY C. PETERS**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. PETERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a valued public servant to the people of Michigan, my dear friend, State Representative Vicki Barnett. After twenty years of service to the residents of the Greater Farmington area at both the local and state level, Vicki is preparing to embark upon new endeavors.

Prior to her embarking upon her journey of public service, Vicki worked as a financial planner, helping her clients realize their goals through making sound investments, a profession she has continued during her tenure as an elected official. Vicki is also a licensed accident, life and health insurance agent.

As a person who cares deeply for the well-being and vitality of her community, Vicki

sought to make a difference in Farmington Hills, one of Oakland County's most populous and diverse cities, and was elected to the Farmington Hills City Council in 1995. She went on to serve as a Councilwoman for eight years before the voters of Farmington Hills elected her their mayor in 2003. While serving as mayor, Vicki worked to revitalize her community by creating a long-term economic master plan that focused on encouraging mixed-use developments and increasing commercial density—plans which put Farmington Hills at the forefront of these efforts. In recognition of her strong record of service and results, she was named the President of the Michigan Municipal League from 2006 to 2007 and was named one of Detroit's most influential women by *Crain's Magazine* in 2007.

Following her time in city government, Vicki went on to continue the legacy of another great Farmington Hills Mayor in Lansing and public servant, Aldo Vagnozzi, a man who also served as her mentor. I know it was a great honor for Vicki to be entrusted to succeed Aldo both as Mayor and later as Farmington and Farmington Hills' voice in Michigan's House of Representatives in Lansing. In that role, she has continued her exemplary commitment to public service, working across the aisle as an advocate for strengthening public schools, leveraging Michigan's resources to draw new industries to the state, and protecting communities' abilities to provide essential services to their residents. In recognition of her outstanding leadership, she was named the 2012 Legislator of the Year by the Police Officers Association of Michigan.

I have been so fortunate to have a partner at the state level like Vicki, who has been a strong voice and valuable resource for the people of Michigan. With experience that transcends multiple levels of government, her advice on the issues affecting the state of Michigan has been invaluable.

Mr. Speaker, as a public servant, I know that our local elected officials are dedicated to the communities they serve. Vicki has demonstrated this throughout her tenure of service to the people of the Greater Farmington area and Michigan. I know her passion and reason will be greatly missed by her colleagues in the Michigan Legislature, but as someone who cares deeply for her community, I know Vicki will continue to be involved in endeavors that seek to strengthen the City of Farmington Hills and other municipalities across Michigan. I wish her success in her new endeavors and look forward to continuing to work with her for the people of Michigan.

#### HONORING CONGRESSMAN RUSH HOLT

#### HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to the career of Congressman RUSH HOLT.

During his time in the House, Congressman HOLT has been a leader on protecting the environment and his voice on this important

issue will be sorely missed. A research physicist by training, his constituents are known to boast bumper stickers proclaiming "My Congressman IS a Rocket Scientist." I know we have all benefited from RUSH's intelligence and wisdom during his time in office.

I was fortunate to have the opportunity to work with RUSH on protecting our environment. His perspective as a scientist has enriched the debate over conserving our natural resources and seeking clean sources of alternative energy. I wish him the best in his new role as CEO of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, a cause that is close to his heart.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring the service of Congressman RUSH HOLT in the United States House of Representatives.

#### HONORING CHARLES MCLIMANS AND LOAVES AND FISHES COMMUNITY SERVICES

#### HON. BILL FOSTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Charles McLimans, the President and CEO of Loaves & Fishes Community Services in Naperville, Illinois.

Loaves & Fishes is a nonprofit community organization that has become an institution for Naperville and DuPage County for both the population it serves and the over 1,500 volunteers that help every year. The Loaves & Fishes Community Pantry provided aid to over 18,000 people in 2012–2013, handling over 3 million pounds of groceries. Additionally, the organization's Pathways to Empowerment program assists people in accessing vital community services and training courses.

Mr. McLimans is stepping down as President and CEO on January 9, 2014 after seven years leading the organization. Under his leadership, Loaves & Fishes has moved to a new home, added additional services such as healthcare counseling and computer classes, and expanded its coverage to serve all of DuPage County.

I would like to thank Charles McLimans for his service to our community and for his tireless efforts in the fight against hunger.

#### TRIBUTE TO JOHN KNOCHEL

#### HON. TODD ROKITA

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. ROKITA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and salute a notable Hoosier, Mr. John Knochel, who after years of service to Tippecanoe County, Indiana, will be retiring on December 31, 2014. On behalf of the citizens of Tippecanoe County, I wish to express our heartfelt gratitude and appreciation for his leadership and service to our community, state, and country.

John is a lifelong Hoosier and Tippecanoe County resident. He served as District 1 Tip-

pecanoe County Commissioner since 1997. During those 17 years, he oversaw the construction of the County Parking Garage and organized the development of the Tippecanoe County Community Corrections Center. Previously, he served the people of Tippecanoe County as a member of the County Council for two terms. During his time on the council, he oversaw the remodel and renovation of the Tippecanoe County Office Building and the unique and historic County Courthouse. His past service on the Tipmont REMC Board of Directors helped keep energy affordable to Hoosier families. He also shared his love of literature with younger generations while a member of the Tippecanoe Library Board.

I have known John and his family since the very beginning of my public service career. He has always been willing to share advice on a variety of good government measures. He is a role model for his friends, family, leaders in the community, and the citizens of Tippecanoe County.

I am honored to congratulate him on his retirement and thank him on behalf of the people of Tippecanoe County for his years of service to his community, his goodwill, and dedication in helping make Indiana a better place to live. John, thank you for sharing your talents and generosity in service to the Greater Lafayette area.

#### A TRIBUTE TO THE PEOPLE OF THE THIRTY-SIXTH DISTRICT OF TEXAS

#### HON. STEVE STOCKMAN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. STOCKMAN. Mr. Speaker, as I deliver my last speech as a Congressman for the 36th District of Texas, I want to begin by once again thanking the people of Southeast Texas for giving me the honor of representing them.

Our oil produces everything from the gas you put in your car to the PVC in an antifracking bumper sticker. We build the spacecraft that explore the stars and the freighters that serve every port in the world. The 36th District's powerful economic reach goes around the world and even into space.

But we in Southeast Texas aren't just known for giving birth to NASA and the world's oil industry. We are also known for fighting for what we believe in no matter the odds.

I first came to Congress in 1995. The man I defeated was a 42-year incumbent, the Chairman of the Judiciary Committee and the most senior Democrat in Congress in one of the most heavily Democrat districts in America. The district had never in 100 years elected a Republican, and he remains the most senior member of Congress to have been defeated in a general election.

I overcame similar odds to return here in 2012. We defeated the President of the Texas Senate in a district he had drawn for himself and was supposed to win without a runoff. We forced a runoff, without him in it, where I defeated a millionaire who outspent me 15 to 1.

My election to this Congress had the lowest dollar-per-vote of any winning federal campaign in America, despite having to face three

elections, two of which I was not favored to win.

Those two victories over improbable odds prove anything is possible, if you know how to fight for it.

I bring this up because this Congress faces a monumental fight. The very survival of our constitutional republic is in question.

Will this Congress allow Barack Obama to centralize authority in the White House under an imperial Presidency, or will we take back our Constitutional Republic?

Too many in this chamber are perfectly happy to let Obama render them irrelevant.

I am not one of them. I didn't come here to settle in. I came here to upset things.

I introduced several measures that would restore our congressional oversight and our constitutional republic.

When Barack Obama used Executive Orders to violate the Second Amendment, I fought back. Working with Senator RAND PAUL, I introduced the Restore the Constitution Act, which would nullify any executive action and prohibit funding of any action that oversteps the President's constitutional authority.

I also introduced the Second Amendment Protection Act of 2013 to prohibit all UN funding as long as they continue to target peaceful gun owners, as well as the Safe Military Bases Act to allow our soldiers to carry firearms to stop terrorists.

I introduced the first-ever Sanctity of Life Act in 1995, and brought it back to this Congress, to declare that life begins at conception and to end the tragedy of abortion.

I introduced H. Res. 306, which would have forced a vote on establishing a Select Committee to investigate President Obama's bungled response to the terrorist attacks on our consulate in Benghazi, Libya. The public pressure created by that eventually led to a House investigation of the terrorist act.

I introduced the Virtual Currency Tax Reform Act and the Cryptocurrency Protocol Protection and Moratorium Act to protect the emerging technologies of alternative currencies, which will eventually lead to greater prosperity and economic opportunity for all.

And I introduced the Audit the Fed Act, to require transparency and accountability in the Federal Reserve System.

I helped lead the battle against amnesty for illegal aliens in every possible way. I was able to block the 2013 Senate amnesty bill—which was on a fast track to passage—with the 'blue slip' procedure, resulting in the Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee declaring the bill in violation of the Constitution.

This year I inspected and reported my findings about our porous border and the inhumane facilities which were used to house illegal alien children. In addition, my SECURITY Act would build the 2,000 mile border fence and eliminate many of the so-called magnet benefits, which would dramatically reduce if not halt illegal immigration.

I also filed five resolutions seeking to force the President, Attorney General, Treasury Secretary, FEC Chairman and Defense Secretary to turn over all emails in their or in the NSA's possession which were sent to or from former IRS official Lois Lerner. Since then, the supposedly lost emails have been uncovered.

The IRS' actions amount to a crime, and one that the highest official should be accountable for.

These acts and resolutions are needed now more than ever, because these next two years will be among the most perilous in American history.

As we saw in the ongoing IRS scandal, the left in America seems intent to use the government to target citizens who speak out.

They did it to Ted Stevens. They did it to Tom DeLay. They're doing it to Rick Perry. And they will do it to you.

This Congress and the next must rein in those activists who weaponize the government to target opponents.

From the IRS to the EPA to the FEC, politicians are perverting the mission of federal agencies. Instead of administering laws passed by Congress, federal agencies are now used to target those whose ideas differ from those in power.

This perversion of power extends to the targeting of law-abiding gun owners by political activists in the Justice Department, the targeting of landowners by political activists in the Interior Department and EPA, and the targeting of people of faith by virtually all federal agencies.

Liberals are building an America where government is used to settle scores and stifle opposing ideas.

Congress must fight back.

We must protect, and restore the Second Amendment by repealing anti-gun laws and reining in a rogue Justice Department.

We must protect the right to life by passing a Human Life Amendment to the Constitution and repealing Obamacare.

We must protect a free economy by passing a REINS Act to take away the power of bureaucrats to make up and enforce their own laws, and by repealing all laws and government agencies not explicitly spelled out in Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution.

And this Congress and the next must restore a Constitutional Presidency by taking back powers usurped by the White House and repealing all Executive Orders that defy the Constitution.

Just because I won't be here in the well doesn't mean I won't continue to fight.

And we must fight more ferociously than ever if we are to save this constitutional republic.

It has been an honor to serve with you all. Thank you for this opportunity to speak, and I pray that the members of the 114th Congress will fight with fire in their bellies for the life of our Republic.

HONORING LAMBS OF GOD, INC.

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a landmark establishment within the Clinton community that provides one of the most critical and essential services for all working parents: Lambs of God, Inc.

Lambs of God, Inc., formerly known as Agape' Childcare, was established on August 1987 by Jessie and Shirley Burns of Bolton, Mississippi. Over the past two decades, the establishment has changed ownership and name twice, but the quality of childcare and nurturing has continued to grow for over 20 years. In 1998, Victor and Cantrell Keyes, also of Bolton, Mississippi, became the new owners and changed the name to Agape Christian Academy. In June 2005, Kenneth and Vickie Lewis of Clinton, Mississippi became the establishment's present day owners and renamed the business Lambs of God, Inc.

Over 1000 children have been served and ministered to through Lambs of God, Inc. Founded in reference to John 21:15. The business is currently licensed to serve 57 children and is dedicated to developing and nurturing the physical, cognitive, emotional, and social growth in a safe Christian learning environment.

In addition to providing childcare, the establishment also offers summer camp, preschool, afterschool, before school drop-off, A'Beka tutorial and two well-balanced meals and two afternoon snacks. The overall mission of Lambs of God, Inc. is to interactively engage a child's educational needs while promoting professionalism in the field of childcare.

The vision and inspiration for Lambs of God, Inc. manifested via the encouragement given by Mrs. Daisy Johnson, owner of Kids Are Kids Learning Center in Brandon, Mississippi. Her insight in the field of childcare gave Mr. and Mrs. Lewis the inspiration and the tools needed to encourage and redirect families and single parents. Childcare became the perfect opportunity to lay a strong spiritual/educational foundation, build character and exemplify love, all while strengthening the community and establishing lifelong relationships.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Lambs of God, Inc. for its' past and present dedication to providing impeccable, dependable childcare services in an effort to help families of all backgrounds within the Clinton community.

LEGISLATIVE RECORD OF STEVE STOCKMAN IN 104TH CONGRESS

**HON. STEVE STOCKMAN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. STOCKMAN. Mr. Speaker, as the 113th Congress comes to a close, it is my pleasure to note all of the legislative actions that I have taken in my tenure in my first term in Congress. In the 104th Congress, I introduced the following legislation:

H.R. 4222—Educational Freedom Act of 1996: This bill sought to amend the Internal Revenue Code to allow a tax credit of up to \$3,000 per student per year for tuition and related expenses at nonpublic elementary and secondary schools. Subjects such credit to adjusted gross income limits.

H.R. 4221—Stephen E. LeNoir Malpractice Accountability Act of 1996: This bill sought to amend the Federal Tort Claims Act to make the United States liable in an action brought

by a member of a uniformed service for personal injury caused by the provision of health care by a health care professional in a uniformed service, except where such injuries were sustained during a declared state of war.

H. Con. Res. 179—To express the sense of the Congress that Buddhist monks and civilians and Roman Catholic monks and priest unlawfully detained by the government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam should be released: This bill called for the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to release all Buddhist monks and civilians and all Roman Catholic monks and priests currently being unlawfully detained.

H.R. 3446—Regulatory Relief and Job Preservation Act of 1996: This bill amends the Clean Air Act to repeal the authority of the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to require enhanced monitoring and submission of compliance certifications.

H. Con. Res. 161—Authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the Washington for Jesus 1996 prayer rally: This bill sought to permit One Nation Under God, Inc., to sponsor a free public event on the Capitol Grounds on April 29 and 30, 1996.

H.R. 2749—Child Protection and Ethics I Education Act of 1995: This bill sought to direct the Comptroller General to conduct a study to determine whether programs, lectures, texts, or other pedagogical materials involving sexuality used by agencies, universities, or elementary and secondary schools (institutions) that receive Federal funds for educational purposes significantly or particularly rely on the scholarship of, directly or indirectly consisting of, or based on the studies entitled "Sexual Behavior in the Human Male" and "Sexual Behavior in the Human Female" authored by Alfred Kinsey and his team of researchers, published in 1948 and 1953 (Kinsey reports).

H.R. 2470—Second Amendment Reaffirmation Act of 1995: This bill sought to repeal the Brady Handgun Violence Prevention Act and the Assault Weapon Manufacturing Strict Liability Act of 1990.

H.R. 2469—Wanda Boughton Social Security Original Intent Act of 1995: This bill sought to amend title II (Old Age, Survivors and Disability Insurance) (OASDI) of the Social Security Act to permit an individual entitled to both OASDI and to widow's and widower's insurance benefits to receive both without reduction in the amount of the widow's or widower's insurance benefit by the amount of the OASDI benefit.

H.J. Res. 107—Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States regarding congressional pay and pensions: This bill sought to require Members of Congress to receive compensation for their services or to be reimbursed for expenses incurred with respect to such services only from the treasury of the State which they represent in Congress in an amount to be determined by an act of the State's legislature.

H.R. 2328—Jeramy's Act: This bill sought to direct the Secretary of Transportation to withhold specified percentages of Federal-aid highway funds apportioned to States that permit the sale of alcoholic beverages to persons who are less than 21 years old.

H.R. 2250—Community Development Act of 1995: This bill sought to amend Federal cus-

toms law to require the Secretary of the Treasury to promulgate regulations providing for the return of one percent of customs duties assessed on a commodity to the port or airport of entry that is a public corporation in which the commodity was located at the time of assessment.

H. Res. 210—Providing for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 464) to repeal the prohibitions relating to semiautomatic assault weapons and large capacity ammunition feeding devices: This bill sought to repeal prohibitions on semiautomatic assault weapons and large capacity feeding devices.

H. Res. 199—Amending clause 2 of rule XXII of the Rules of the House to prohibit the introduction or consideration of legislation designating a building or any other structure in honor of a person who is serving or has served as a Member of Congress, a Federal judge, or an officer of the executive branch before the date that is 5 years after the person has retired from that office: This bill sought to amend rule XXII of the Rules of the House of Representatives to prohibit the introduction or consideration of legislation designating a building in honor of a person who has served as a Member of Congress, a Federal judge, or an officer in the executive branch until at least five years after the person's retirement from that office.

H.R. 2087—Sanctity of Life Act of 1995: This bill sought to amend the Federal criminal code to declare that the Supreme Court and district courts shall not have jurisdiction over any case arising out of any statute, ordinance, rule, regulation, or practice on the grounds that the statute, ordinance, rule, regulation, or practice protects the rights of human persons between conception and birth or prohibits, limits, or regulates the performance of abortions or the provision of public funds, facilities, personnel, or other assistance for the performance of abortions.

H.R. 1849—Chinese Human Rights Act of 1995: This bill sought to amend the Trading with the Enemy Act to define China as an enemy for purposes of the export of military products to such country until the Congress determines that China does not engage in any significant violation of human rights and poses no significant threat to the United States. Amends the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide that a person who has been forced to abort a pregnancy or to undergo involuntary sterilization, or who has been persecuted for failure or refusal to undergo such a procedure, shall be deemed to have been persecuted on account of political opinion and entitled to political refugee status under such Act.

H.J. Res. 87—Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States regarding citizenship in the United States: This bill sought to grant U.S. citizenship to only those persons: (1) born to a parent who is a U.S. citizen; (2) born within the United States to a parent lawfully in and subject to the jurisdiction of the United States at the time of that parents' entry into the United States; and (3) naturalized according to U.S. law. Sets forth provisions relating to: (1) restrictions on services or payments to non-U.S. citizens; (2) English language requirement for naturalization; and (3) apportionment of Representatives based on number of citizens of each State.

H.R. 807—Taxpayer Protection Act of 1995: This bill sought to prohibit funds appropriated or made available under any law from being used for the purpose of any swap, loan, loan guarantee, or grant to Mexico until the Congress has affirmatively approved such assistance.

## HONORING MURIEL ELLIS

### HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 11, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Muriel Ellis, who has been blazing through Mississippi's legal system.

Mrs. Ellis, 54, became the first African American clerk of Mississippi's Supreme Court and Court of Appeals on July 1 this year, after being the first African American Supreme Court deputy clerk and chief deputy clerk.

Mrs. Ellis worked her way through the clerk's office for 23 years after beginning as a legal clerk in 1991. The Callaway High School alumna, who graduated in 1977, became chief deputy clerk in 2009 after being named a team leader in 2000 and deputy clerk in 2007.

The Jackson native said she is blessed and honored to accept her new position. "I am just going to lead the clerk's office forward," she said. Mrs. Ellis took courses at Phillips Business College and worked as a ward secretary for St. Dominic Hospital from 1979–1987.

Mrs. Ellis has seen many changes since working in the clerk's office. Along with Ms. Kathy Gillis, former Mississippi Supreme Court Clerk of 33 years, Mrs. Ellis supervised the office's transition to electronic filing. Since the office's mandatory e-filing for briefs and motions began on Jan. 1, 2014, she continues to work on the electronic transition through implementing emailed orders and clerk's notices, as well as e-filing transcripts and records from other trial courts.

The clerk became interested in a career in the legal system when she was serving as an alternate juror in the Hinds County Circuit Court. While working in the billing edits department at the City of Jackson Water Department, she said she drove past the Supreme Court building all the time on her way to the Water Department office, which is also located on High Street. "I never knew what this building was, but I used to say: 'That is a pretty building. I would love to work there someday,'" Mrs. Ellis said.

Mrs. Ellis has three children: Karen Ellis Evans, Kimberly Ellis and Leonard Ellis; three grandchildren: Madison Evans, Leonard Ellis, III and Bryson Williams—and is married to Mr. Leonard Ellis, Sr.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. Muriel Ellis.

COMMENDING JOYCE LEONARD  
FOR HER DEDICATION TO HOME-  
OWNERSHIP IN AMERICA

**HON. GARY G. MILLER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to give special recognition to Joyce Leonard for her 35 years as a real estate issue advocate for private property rights and the preservation of the American Dream of homeownership.

In addition to a successful career as a Realtor, Joyce has dedicated her time and talents to serving her fellow Realtors at the local, state, and the national levels. Joyce was the President of the Tri-Counties Association of Realtors in 1999. Currently a Pacific West Association of Realtors member and director, she has served various Committees at the state and local level. She has been a California Association of Realtors Director for over 20 years. On the national level, Joyce has been a National Association of Realtors Director for four years and served as a member of the Conventional Lending and Finance Committee.

Joyce is passionate about homeownership, and she is committed to ensuring that elected officials understand the impact of policies under consideration on the ability of Americans to own, buy, and sell real property. Joyce has been a Federal Political Coordinator (FPC) for the National Association of Realtors since 1996. During my time in Congress, Joyce served as my FPC, and she did a tremendous job of always ensuring that I was apprised of the issues of concern to the National Association of Realtors.

Joyce cares about her local community, and her service extends to serving on various boards and commissions. Joyce worked with the MAC Council to help Diamond Bar become a City. She was instrumental in developing the Diamond Bar General Plan. She served on the Traffic and Transportation Commission and Chaired the School of Safety Studies & Offsite Parking Task Force for the City of Diamond Bar.

For these important contributions to her community and for her dedication to the American Dream of homeownership, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Joyce Leonard for her service. Joyce, we know that you will continue to positively impact our community and country for many years to come.

IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 2901 "SEN.  
PAUL SIMON WATER FOR THE  
WORLD ACT"

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 2901, the Paul Simon Water for the World Act of 2014, which makes the provision of safe water and sanitation a stated goal of U.S. foreign assistance policy

and requires the President, through the State Department, to develop and implement a strategy to further such efforts in developing countries.

Safe drinking water, sanitation and hygiene are among the most basic needs a person can have, yet 748 million people in the world do not have access to safe water; roughly 1/10 of the world's population.

In countries such as Ethiopia, Madagascar, Mozambique, Niger and Papua New Guinea, less than 50% of the population has access to safe water.

More than 2.5 billion people in the world lack access to adequate sanitation, which is approximately 35 percent of the global population.

The lack of clean water and basic sanitation facilities leaves millions trapped in a cycle of poverty and disease, costing the lives of around 500,000 children per year—dying from diarrhea caused by unsafe water and poor sanitation.

The Senator Paul Simon Water for the World Act will make better use of existing WASH ("Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene") funds, strengthen accountability for WASH programs already underway, and ensure the greatest impact on communities worldwide without spending new money or creating new bureaucracy.

For every \$1 invested in WASH, \$4 is returned in increased economic productivity, making WASH one of the most effective and efficient choices we can make for global child health, nutrition, resource conservation, women's empowerment and education.

Specifically, H.R. 2901, the Water for the World Act, will:

1. Institutionalize existing capacity in the U.S. government to ensure WASH remains a political priority and expertise is available at USAID and State Department headquarters to guide strategic implementation of effective and sustainable WASH programs

2. Enhance criteria for choosing high-priority countries to ensure that limited funds are directed to the countries and communities most in need

3. Advance best practices of effective aid, such as improved monitoring and evaluation and a focus on leveraging non-Federal partnerships and funds

4. Improve the strategic approach to international safe water, sanitation, hygiene, and water resources management by providing smart guidance that builds off USAID's own strategy

The bill before us today also provides for a Global Water Coordinator to be designated to oversee water, sanitation, and hygiene assistance, and to develop a complementary strategy to further the U.S. foreign assistance objective to provide affordable and equitable drinking water, sanitation, and hygiene in developing countries.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2901 will provide effective, long-term, sustainable impacts by improving coordination and oversight of safe water, sanitation, and hygiene projects and activities.

By voting in support of this act, we have the power to improve the well-being, education, economic opportunity, safety and dignity of the 2.5 billion people in the world who live without a basic latrine every day.

I strongly encourage my colleagues to join me in supporting the passage of the Water for the World Act to save lives, reduce poverty, and help drive economic growth by bringing safe drinking water and improved sanitation and hygiene to those most in need.

Mr. Speaker, access to clean, potable water will be one of the world's most pressing problems over the next century and further contribute to instability within and between nations as is the case in the Darfur conflict.

In the developing world, water-related diseases kill 5,000 children every day.

Sick children miss nearly 300 million school days a year from water-related causes, and an estimated 320 million productive work days are lost to illness—with much of the burden carried by girls and women.

Mr. Speaker, I agree with Senator RICHARD DURBIN of Illinois, Senator Paul Simon's successor and the lead Democratic sponsor of the Senate companion to H.R. 2901, that:

Water access is no longer simply a global health and development issue; it is a mortal and long-term threat that is increasingly becoming a national security issue. The United States needs to do much more to ensure that global water access is protected and expanded.

Passing H.R. 2901 is an essential first step in ensuring that global water access is protected and expanded.

I urge all members to join me in supporting this important legislation and fitting memorial to the late great Senator from Illinois, Senator Paul Simon.

CONGRATULATING RICK VIOLETT  
FOR RECEIVING THE 2014 CALI-  
FORNIA DISTINGUISHED REAL-  
TOR AWARD

**HON. GARY G. MILLER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Rick Violett, who has received the 2014 California Distinguished Realtor Award from the California Association of Realtors.

A licensed Realtor for the past 40 years, Rick Violett began his real estate career at Horvath Realty in Fullerton, California. He later started his own company, Investment Brokers of Orange County, in 1977. But Rick was not selected for this distinguished award because of his company's success. The 2014 California Distinguished Realtor Award is awarded to an individual who has been a California Realtor for 20 years and has demonstrated outstanding service to the California Association of Realtors for no less than 15 of the 20 years of service. The honoree also must have achieved the California Association of Realtors' designation of Director-for-Life.

Aside from growing his own business, Rick has devoted his time and skills to serving as an active participant in the Pacific West Association of Realtors, the California Association of Realtors, and the National Association of Realtors. Rick has contributed countless hours and hard work to preserving the American

Dream of homeownership for future generations, not only in California but across the nation. Rick served as President of the Greater North Orange County Association of Realtors and as merger chairman for the formation of the Pacific West Association of Realtors. He has been a California Association of Realtors Director since 1993, chaired numerous committees, and has served as a member of the California Association of Realtors' Executive Committee. At the national level, Rick has served the National Association of Realtors' most prestigious committees and he has also chaired various workgroups and task forces. Rick always kept me apprised of how the issues that were being considered in Congress impacted my district's housing market.

A true public servant, Rick is active in his community. He has served as a board member of the Placentia Rotary Club, a member of Placentia-Yorba Linda School Demographic Advisory Council, and the President of Southern California Leadership Education Foundation for 6th Grade Outdoor Camps.

I am so pleased that Rick has been recognized for his many years of dedicated service to the Realtors. Please join me in congratulating Rick Violet for being awarded the highest recognition that the California Association of Realtors can bestow on a member. Rick, we thank you for your commitment to strengthening the ability of Americans to own, buy, and sell real property.

NEW YORK DELEGATION  
FAREWELL

**HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER**  
OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the Gentleman, Mr. RANGEL, our dean of the House New York State delegation for yielding me the time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and bid farewell to four colleagues who have served this institution, this country, their constituents, and the Great State of New York admirably and well.

From a nurse to a captain in the United States Navy, my four colleagues, Representatives OWENS, MAFFEI, MCCARTHY, and BISHOP, have brought diverse backgrounds to our chamber, enriched us with their insight, and stood by us through our Nation's most pressing debates.

Mr. Speaker, today, the New York delegation is losing four pillars, four leaders, four friends. I have worked late into the night with each one of them on issues vital to the health of our Nation, such as stemming the tide of gun violence, ensuring an affordable college education, updating our Nation's crumbling infrastructure, and providing health care through the Affordable Care Act.

While they will no longer be serving their constituents in this body, I am confident that whichever way their paths lead them, they will continue their legacies of service to their communities any way that they can.

Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues in the New York Delegation and the House as a

whole in wishing BILL, DAN, CAROLYN, and TIM the best of everything in the next chapter of their lives and careers.

HONORING CHERIE SLAYTON ON  
HER RETIREMENT

**HON. COLLIN C. PETERSON**  
OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. PETERSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the dedicated service of my Chief of Staff, Cherie Slayton. After more than 30 years of government service, Cherie will be retiring at the end of this Congress.

Cherie started her career as an elevator operator. She went on to work for former Senator Frank Church and Congressmen Norm Dicks and Larry LaRocco before joining my staff in 1995.

Cherie began as an Executive Assistant in my office and, in 2011, was named Chief of Staff. Throughout this time, Cherie has been a calm and steady voice in a sometimes-chaotic environment, offering good judgment and trustworthy service. Quite frankly, I don't know if I would have made it through some days without her.

But more important than the day to day work here in Washington, Cherie has served the people of Minnesota's Seventh Congressional District. Over the years she has developed numerous personal relationships—listening to the concerns of our constituents—and it is these friendships that have made Cherie an invaluable member of my team as well as a staunch advocate for Minnesotans. It is also part of the reason it is so difficult to see her go.

After so many years of dedicated public service I know that she is looking forward to spending more time with her husband Tom, children Tom and Kate, and her granddaughter Ellie.

So again, Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize Cherie's service to the House of Representatives and her dedication to Minnesota's Seventh District. I wish her all the best in her retirement.

CYBERSECURITY ENHANCEMENT  
ACT OF 2014

**HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON**  
OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 1353, the Cybersecurity Enhancement Act of 2014.

I want to commend several Members on both sides of the aisle and both chambers who have worked on this bill for many years. I want to thank Representatives LIPINSKI and MCCAUL and Senators ROCKEFELLER and THUNE for their longstanding, bipartisan leadership on this critical topic of cybersecurity research and development.

This bipartisan bill is overall a very good bill that contributes in essential ways to any com-

prehensive effort to keep our nation, our businesses, and our citizens safe from malicious cyber attacks.

S. 1353 incorporates a number of pieces from H.R. 756, the Cybersecurity Enhancement Act of 2013 that moved on a bipartisan basis through the Science, Space, and Technology Committee, and then was passed overwhelmingly on the House floor last April.

While S. 1353 is a good bill and I will be supporting it, I want to talk about what is not in this bill but was in H.R. 756. I hope that as we continue to discuss actions our government can take to better secure our cyberspace, we keep these topics on the table.

The first of these topics is human factors. The fact is that people, not software or hardware, remain the weakest link in our cybersecurity. Whether it's weak passwords, or falling victim to phishing, or using corrupted thumb drives, people unwittingly compromise their own security and that of large networks and companies every day. To truly secure our cyberspace, it is vital that we understand how and why people make the decisions they do, and how we might develop better policies and technologies to reduce risky behaviors. Unfortunately, a section contained in H.R. 756 to direct just this type of research was not incorporated into S. 1353. I hope we continue to make human factors a priority going forward.

The second topic is workforce. The federal government and private sector alike is suffering from a lack of adequately trained cybersecurity professionals. Unfortunately, women and underrepresented minorities are still significantly underrepresented in computer and information sciences. We can't expect to fix the shortage of skilled cybersecurity professionals with much less than half of our brain power. I wish S. 1353 included more language on how our agencies can help address this shortage. As I see it, our only option is to continue to make this a priority.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I want to address a concern that NIST had about some of the language in this bill. In one of the opening paragraphs of the bill, paragraph (e)(1), NIST is directed to prevent duplication of regulatory processes and prevent conflict of regulatory requirements. I just want to clarify two things. First, by definition, NIST's processes are non-regulatory. Second, NIST cannot be held responsible for regulatory actions or processes at other agencies.

The language is ambiguous on this second point so I just wanted to make sure we are clear in our expectations for NIST. To address a second concern that NIST raised, I hope that limitation clause in paragraph (e)(2) does not prevent regulatory agencies from using information gained through the processes in this bill to fix duplicative or outdated regulations.

With that Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

HONORING OUTGOING CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS CHAIRWOMAN,  
CONGRESSWOMAN  
MARCIA FUDGE

**HON. YVETTE D. CLARKE**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to stand with my colleagues today to honor the Chairwoman of the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC), Congresswoman MARCIA FUDGE, my sorority sister and friend as she nears the completion of her term as the 23rd Chair of the CBC. Congresswoman FUDGE is only the seventh woman to serve as the Chair of our Caucus and she has led the way in our fight to tackle difficult issues during her two-year term as Chairwoman.

She is an attorney, a businesswoman, former president of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., a former mayor and has been an outstanding leader of the conscience of the Congress.

Chairwoman FUDGE has an exceptional record of achievements as the Chairwoman of the CBC. Under her leadership, the CBC has continued to be the voice of people of color and the underrepresented throughout our great nation and the world. Whether it was civil rights, voting rights, job creation, comprehensive immigration reform, health care, fighting poverty, or education, Chairwoman FUDGE reached across the aisle to build coalitions to work on behalf of all people.

I want to personally thank MARCIA FUDGE for being not only a friend but also my mentor. She has been an invaluable resource to me and I truly appreciate her.

I agree with our former colleague, the great Shirley Chisholm who once said, "You don't make progress by standing on the sidelines, whimpering and complaining. You make progress by implementing ideas." Chairwoman FUDGE embodies this sentiment as the leader of the CBC.

I look forward to working with Congresswoman FUDGE in the future and the rest of my colleagues in the CBC during the 114th Congress as we continue to be the conscience of the Congress.

THANK YOU FOR THE HONOR OF  
SERVING 18 YEARS IN CONGRESS

**HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, since 1997, I have had the privilege to serve New York's 4th congressional district in the U.S. House of Representatives. Earlier this year, I announced that I would not be seeking reelection; in January of 2015, I will step down from the post that has brought me so much professional and personal happiness and enabled me to serve the District to the best of my ability.

Who can say that life follows the script we imagine for ourselves when we are young? I

was a nurse from Mineola living the life I wanted. But fate intervened: I went to Washington as an advocate against the scourge of gun violence, and I fought for legislation including the 2007 National Instant Background Check System Improvements Act (NICS). I worked tirelessly during this chapter of my life, but I remained in so many ways, a nurse from Mineola. I never forgot where I came from or the people I grew up with. I have treasured those relationships. I became a Representative to better their lives through legislation. As I look back now, I know that together we have done this and laid the groundwork for a brighter future.

Through my work with gun violence legislation, I acquired a reputation as a "one-issue" candidate. But, as I like to say, what woman has just one issue? I've authored three pieces of legislation written into law: The Civil Rights History Project Act of 2009, which helped preserve historical artifacts from the Civil Rights era; the Serve America Act of 2009, which greatly expanded vital service programs such as AmeriCorps; and the aforementioned NICS act. In addition, I've worked on various legislative efforts, including acts that bolstered our science and math education. Working on the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, I championed the creation of an entity within the Consumer Financial Bureau that focused on financial empowerment by giving consumers the tools to be financially literate. While I went to Washington as a crusader against gun violence, I grew over the years into a candidate for all issues.

Most elected officials accomplish what they do thanks to the people who supported them along the journey. I am no different, and I am forever grateful. My staff and I worked to provide programs and enact legislation that benefited Long Island. We led the Small Business Relief Forum in the aftermath of Superstorm Sandy, held numerous job fairs to help Long Islanders manage the difficult economy, and ran blood drives and Medicare prescription drug seminars. We've closed over 30,000 constituent cases—ranging from social security and IRS issues, to veterans affairs and USCIS concerns. In these initiatives, the chief goal was always the same: better the lives of the 4th Congressional District.

No one reaches this point in life without accumulating a long list of people to thank. I am indebted to the entire 4th District for allowing me to represent them in Congress, and to my staff, volunteers and supporters who have been by my side on this journey. I owe a thank you to my colleagues in the House of Representatives; their compassion for the job has continuously inspired me. And, of course, I am forever grateful for the support of my family, particularly my son Kevin, whose attitude and toughness is a towering display of bravery.

As I enter my last few weeks in office, I feel confident that all we've accomplished has prepared us for what is ahead. However, while my role as a U.S. Representative is ending, my job is not yet done. Although I no longer have a voice in Congress, I will always have a voice for the community. To everyone who has supported me, I'd like to say thank you. But I am not saying goodbye. I remain, as a

wonderful chapter of my life comes to an end, very excited to see where we will go together next.

THE CYBERSECURITY  
ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2014

**HON. LAMAR SMITH**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I thank Representatives MCCAUL and LIPINSKI for introducing the Cybersecurity Enhancement Act in the House last year. I am pleased to be an original cosponsor.

In April 2013, the Cybersecurity Enhancement Act was favorably reported out of the Science, Space, and Technology Committee and later passed the House by a bipartisan vote of 402-16.

The bipartisan, bicameral agreement on the legislation before us today is based on the House-passed bill.

Throughout the 113th Congress, the Science Committee has remained committed to advancing the basic research necessary to strengthen our Nation's cyber infrastructure.

Cyber attacks against the U.S. government and private sector networks are on the rise. Scarcely a day passes without a report of a new cyber attack on critical parts of our nation's cyber infrastructure, government agency, or business.

As our reliance on information technology expands, so do our vulnerabilities. New technological advances bring new avenues from which foreign countries can attack our networks.

Protecting America's cyber systems is critical to our economic and national security.

The Cybersecurity Enhancement Act is the work of a bicameral bipartisan compromise. S.1353 promotes much-needed research and development to help create new technologies and standards that better protect America's information technology systems.

The legislation before us today will coordinate research and development activities to better address evolving cyber threats.

Keeping our cyber infrastructure secure is a responsibility shared by several Federal agencies, including the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) and the National Science Foundation (NSF).

To improve America's cybersecurity abilities, this bill strengthens:

Strategic planning for cybersecurity research and development needs across the federal government;

NSF scholarships to improve the quality of the cybersecurity workforce; and

Research, development and public outreach organized by NIST related to cybersecurity.

S. 1353 maintains language from the House passed Cybersecurity Enhancement Act. This language will strengthen NIST's role in cybersecurity automation and checklist creation for government systems, strategic planning for cloud computing, and identity management research and development.

The bill also includes language from the legislation introduced last year by Senators



ROCKEFELLER and THUNE. These provisions will encourage competitions and challenges that focus on the security of information technology and support public-private collaboration on cybersecurity.

The threat of cyber-attacks is immediate. To address our vulnerabilities as quickly as possible, America needs a solution that invokes the cooperation of many public and private sector entities. We must develop a rigorous scientific foundation for cybersecurity. This legislation helps foster such an effort.

I again thank my Science Committee colleague, Representative MCCAUL, for his initiative on this issue. He has led the charge on this legislation over the last several Congresses. I look forward to this bill becoming law.

**NATIONAL CYBERSECURITY  
PROTECTION ACT, S. 2519**

**HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN**

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the National Cybersecurity Protection Act and the Senate Amendment to the Cybersecurity Workforce Assessment Act. I applaud my friend and fellow co-Chair of the Congressional Cybersecurity Caucus, Mike MCCAUL, as well as Chairman CARPER in the Senate and Ranking Member THOMPSON here in the House, for their efforts to bring this legislation to this point.

I believe that cybersecurity is one of the defining national security challenges of our time. No other issue affects our national defense, our economic well-being, and our individual lives as cybersecurity does. With each day's news rife with stories of cyberattacks and data breaches that target our agencies, companies, citizens and allies, we as policymakers have a responsibility to act.

I have made no secret of the frustration I have felt for the past several years as Congress has failed to act to shore up our cybersecurity. This week, with these bills and others, we are making a down payment on what must be a sustained level of attention and effort. The challenge we face demands no less.

But so very much more needs to be done—and soon. I am extremely disappointed that the Senate has failed to pass information sharing legislation that was approved by the House, legislation that the private sector and government agencies agree is long overdue. And while the bills before us and others that Congress has passed in recent days are important, even these measures are limited in scope. In particular, they do not address any organizational changes within the executive branch that I firmly believe are necessary, such as the creation of a National Office for Cyberspace within the Executive Office of the President, with budgetary oversight powers, able to coordinate and oversee the security of agency information systems and infrastructure across government.

Still and all, these pieces of legislation move the ball forward in key areas, and above all ends the inaction on cybersecurity issues that

has gripped this Congress for far too long. I applaud my House and Senate colleagues for their efforts, and urge support of these measures.

**A LIFE OF SERVICE AND SHARING**

**HON. CORRINE BROWN**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the constituents of the Fifth Congressional District of Florida, I rise now to offer my heartfelt condolences and pay tribute to the life of Rev. Thomas A. Wright, a leader, humanitarian, activist and friend.

I am moved and encouraged when recalling the life achievements of this giant in the field of religion and social activism. As a champion for the marginalized and disenfranchised, we remember Rev. Wright for his many achievements, which among them include; creating a scholarship for disadvantaged youth, helping his church acquire an affordable apartment complex for low-income residents and promoting economic development for east Gainesville.

As a man who served his country, Rev. Wright distinguished himself on the field of battle in World War II.

As a community activist, he gave of himself and his talents to benefit both the individuals and the many organizations he served. From being President of the Alachua County NAACP for 17 years to pastoring Mount Carmel church for over 45 years.

These and many other civic activities were distinctive and the accolades received for all his good works.

The life of Rev. Thomas A. Wright was one of accomplishment, service and sharing. And now in his passing we pay tribute to the man and his life of service to all of us. My prayer is that the life he lived serves as an example to each of us.

Rev. Wright is survived by his children, son Philoron Wright of Gainesville; daughters Dr. LaVon Wright Bracy (Rev. Dr. Randolph Bracy) of Orlando and Patricia Wright Murray of West Palm Beach; 16 grandchildren; 41 great-grandchildren; and nine great-great-grandchildren.

**HONORING HOWARD WELINSKY**

**HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Howard Welinsky on the occasion of his 65th birthday on December 14, 2014. Through his involvement in various public service organizations, Mr. Welinsky has proved to be a tireless advocate for his state and community.

As a fellow UCLA Bruin, Mr. Welinsky is active within the UCLA Alumni Association and serves on the Board of Governors for the UCLA Foundation. His involvement with the

University is representative of his advocacy on behalf of higher education in California.

He served on the California Postsecondary Education Commission for over a decade and later went on to co-found the California Coalition for Public Higher Education, an organization dedicated to prioritizing higher education in the state by fighting rising tuition costs, larger class sizes, and budget cuts.

Earlier this month, he was recognized by the California League of Conservation Voters for his support of environmental policies and pro-environment candidates in Los Angeles and California.

Mr. Welinsky is also involved with the Jewish community on a local, state, and national level. He has served as Chair of Democrats for Israel, Los Angeles since 1992 and used his position to advocate for Israel within the Democratic Party. His advocacy has led him to be a key participant in other organizations like the Los Angeles Jewish Federation and the American Israel Public Affairs Committee.

He finds time to be civically involved, despite his demanding job as Senior Vice President for Warner Brothers. For his commitment to public service and giving back to causes near and dear to him, I congratulate Mr. Howard Welinsky on his 65th birthday. We look forward to many more years of his tireless advocacy.

**RECOGNIZING NANCY GILMORE  
FOR HER SERVICE TO THE PACIFIC  
WEST ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS  
AND WISHING HER  
WELL IN HER RETIREMENT**

**HON. GARY G. MILLER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor, commend, and congratulate Nancy Gilmore, who after 35 illustrious years of serving the real estate industry, is transitioning from her role as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Pacific West Association of Realtors (PWR).

Nancy has been the CEO of PWR since its establishment in 1997, through the merger of several Southern California Realtor associations. Nancy previously served as Association Executive for the Azusa-Glendora Board, Whittier Board and Greater Long Beach Association of Realtors and is one of the most respected Association Executives in the state and the nation.

During Nancy's tenure, PWR has grown to become the largest local real estate association in California and one of the largest and most respected in the United States.

Nancy's commitment to Realtors and their business success has been the driving force in her career.

At the recent California Association of Realtors Expo, Nancy was recognized and celebrated for her service and commitment to the industry and the members of the Pacific West Association of Realtors.

I am sure that many of my colleagues will join me today in extending our heartfelt gratitude for Nancy Gilmore's contributions



throughout her remarkable career. We wish Nancy much success and happiness in her future endeavors. She will be missed.

RECOGNIZING LIEUTENANT COMMANDER ERIC H. BROMLEY,  
UNITED STATES NAVY

**HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 11, 2014*

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize those men and women who have served this great Nation with honor, men such as Lieutenant Commander Eric H. Bromley, United States Navy. For the past year, Lieutenant Commander Bromley, a proud naval aviator and graduate of the United States Naval Academy Class of 2000, served on my staff as a Congressional Defense Fellow. Eric is the type of aviator that I hold near and dear to my heart, for it is his responsibility to not only provide logistics and cargo to the aircraft carrier as a C-2A Greyhound pilot, but it is his job to safely transfer passengers to and from the carrier . . . to include Congressional Delegations filled with members of Congress. It is quite a ride, one that I have had the pleasure of taking many times when I have had the opportunity to visit our Sailors and Marines in action at sea. This is a mission that Eric has executed safely numerous times and we are forever thankful to him and his shipmates for their professionalism and service.

During his assignment, he served as a senior member of my staff responsible for defense, veterans, foreign affairs and intelligence matters. Lieutenant Commander Bromley executed his work as a liaison to the constituents of the First District and the numerous defense installations in the First District with distinction. Furthermore, he provided exceptional support to me as my staff liaison to the House Armed Services Committee, in my role as a Subcommittee Chairman and as the Co-Chair of the Congressional Shipbuilding Caucus.

Lieutenant Commander Bromley directly contributed to my goal of providing excellent constituent service to the people of the First District during the 113th Congress. He was responsible for bringing numerous constituent inquiries to a successful conclusion and he was able to leverage his personal and operational experience to respond to the most challenging inquiries.

In addition to his efforts on behalf of the First District, Lieutenant Commander Bromley took on projects with regional, state and national implications, demonstrating his ability to view a challenge from many angles and develop innovative solutions often requiring collaboration across many levels of government. Lieutenant Commander Bromley's work ethic, duty to mission, and commitment to servant leadership is without equal. I believe that his personal drive to achieve excellence in his work has and will set a very high standard for his peers.

I would also like to thank Lieutenant Commander Bromley for the service and sacrifice he has made, and continues to make, for our nation and our great Navy. His keen sense of

honor, impeccable integrity, quick wit, intelligence, boundless work ethic, and loyal devotion to duty earned him the respect and admiration of my staff and the First District of Virginia. After spending the last 14 years as a COD pilot in California and Virginia and completing numerous deployments, which included flying support missions throughout the Middle East, Lieutenant Commander Bromley and his family are headed to Colorado Springs, Colorado where he will work at United States Northern Command. It is my sincere hope that Lieutenant Commander Bromley, who has been selected for the rank of Commander, is given the opportunity to return to the fleet to help lead and train our Sailors and continue to "Fly Navy". I have no doubt that Lieutenant Commander Bromley will continue to serve the United States Navy honorably and with distinction.

I wish him, his wife Jenny . . . a former naval aviator, and his children Charlie and Louise the best of luck as they continue their journey together as a Navy family. It was an honor and a pleasure having him serve on my staff. We all can sleep soundly at night knowing that men and women like Lieutenant Commander Eric Bromley are members of our all-volunteer force and they stand ready to defend our country and take the fight to our enemies; far away from their families and the comforts of the United States of America. I wish you the best of luck to you and may God bless you, your family, and all the Sailors you are charged with leading. Eric, you will be missed, thank you for a job well done! Fair winds and following seas!

RECOGNIZING THE PUBLIC  
SERVICE OF DAVID SCHNITTGER

**HON. JOHN A. BOEHNER**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 12, 2014*

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to a dedicated public servant, David M. Schnittger of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

David will be leaving the Office of the Speaker shortly after two decades of distinguished service to the people's House. He has performed his duties with unparalleled skill and devotion. I am honored to have this opportunity to record his service for posterity.

Like me, David was born and raised in Southwest Ohio and graduated from Archbishop Moeller High School. He volunteered on my first campaign for Congress in 1990 while he was attending the University of Dayton, where he graduated with a degree in economics and political science.

Since officially becoming a member of my staff in 1994, David has served as both press secretary and chief of staff for my office serving Ohio's Eighth District. In addition, he served as communications director for the House Committee on Education and the Workforce during my tenure as chairman.

Since 2006, he has served as deputy chief of staff in the Office of the Majority Leader, Office of the Minority Leader, and Office of the Speaker. As one of my most trusted advisers,

he has overseen communications, speech-writing, outreach, and special events operations.

This biography, while impressive, does not do justice to the sheer breadth of David's contributions. It is not enough to say he enjoys the respect and admiration of his colleagues. He has inspired generations of staff who will always cherish his wisdom and strive to emulate his example of loyalty and integrity to the last. He has served as the beating heart of this operation he helped build. These are irreplaceable things.

On behalf of the people's House—and on behalf of Boehnerland, from West Chester to Springfield to Troy to Washington, DC—I thank David for his service. I send our love to his wife Stephanie, and their five beautiful children: Ella, Kayla, Julia, Andrew, and Cecilia.

This House, especially this Speaker, owes an immeasurable debt of gratitude to the Schnittger family.

THE FALSE ECONOMICS OF THE  
CROMNIBUS BILL

**HON. STEVE STOCKMAN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 12, 2014*

Mr. STOCKMAN. Mr. Speaker, in the 11th Century, King Canute proved his humility by ordering the tides from not coming in, yet the tides came in without respect to his royal majesty. Last night I thought we were experiencing another King Canute moment. The House passed a bill that was to rational economics what King Canute's order was to the rising tides.

Perpetuating the overspending and compounding the debt burden on future generations is not only immoral, it is plain dumb policy.

One would have thought that a lesson was learned when in August of 2011, the United States' credit rating was downgraded. But massive deficits have continued and the bill adopted last night will continue those deficits. Today's projections say that in the future the annual deficit will continue to rise—topping the trillion dollar mark in under ten years.

Now we know that these deficits are ultimately unsustainable and a crunch will come. One scenario is that much of the federal debt will be wiped away by inflating the dollar. Meaning that a dollar of debt today could be paid off with a penny of real money. This would have some rather serious side effects such as the destruction of much of the wealth of the U.S. and every other nation. It would mean economic collapse and the destruction of world trade.

Other side effects that the Congress risks by passing legislation like the bill we considered last night are the collapse of the social safety net on which our elderly and disabled population depends. I have a one-hundred trillion dollar bill—and it can't buy a loaf of bread. It is a Zimbabwe bill and that nation's economic policies are what we seem to be trying to emulate.

But my listing of the effects of fiscal (and monetary) incontinence is not the first in this

Chamber. And that is the great tragedy. It is like the captain of the *Titanic* knew about the iceberg the previous day and continued his course which he knew would end in catastrophe.

I hope and pray that the members of the next Congress will change course. I have done my work to change that course, and I will continue to work to change U.S. economic policy from outside these walls. God bless America, and God help us.

RECOGNIZING THE LAO AND  
HMONG-AMERICAN COMMUNITY

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 12, 2014*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and express my appreciation to the Lao and Hmong-American community in California's 16th Congressional District and across the country, especially the veterans and their families. It is important to note their historic and positive contributions to California's San Joaquin Valley and their critical sacrifices in support of the United States during the Vietnam War.

This year, my Congressional office was pleased to once again attend the memorial ceremonies held this past May in Arlington National Cemetery to honor those who served during the Vietnam War as well as their refugee families who were resettled in America following the end of the conflict.

Each year, since May 1997, constituents from my district in the San Joaquin Valley travel a very long distance to Washington, D.C., to help organize and host this memorial service. Colonel Wangyee Vang, President of the Lao Veterans of America Institute, of Fresno, and Philip Smith, Washington Director of the Lao Veterans of America, worked closely with members of the U.S. Congress, Arlington National Cemetery, the U.S. Army and Department of Defense, and others, to coordinate the memorial service at the "Laos Memorial" in Arlington. A joint U.S. Armed Services Color Guard, the "Old Guard," and a U.S. Marine Corps Honor Guard provide additional support for the events, which are attended each year by a delegation of Lao Hmong veterans from the Central Valley. A U.S. Army wreath-bearer and bugler contribute additional meaning to this moving ceremony. These important events, which my office has attended over the years, seek to honor the Lao and Hmong veterans and their U.S. Special Forces and CIA clandestine advisers.

As always, I am grateful and proud of the historic and ongoing contributions of the Laotian- and Hmong-American community in the San Joaquin Valley and across the United States. We must not forget how Hmong veterans have sacrificed and struggled to help the United States during and after the war. These brave individuals have truly made the San Joaquin Valley a better place.

Many of my colleagues in the U.S. House and Senate have been supportive of my steadfast efforts to introduce and advance the Hmong Veterans' Service Recognition Act

(H.R. 3369), which continues to gain strong bipartisan support in Congress. I wish to thank the many Senators and Members of Congress for standing alongside me in this worthy effort. I must also thank the Hmong veterans and Hmong-American community, who seek to honor their veterans and historic legacy. It is my hope that this legislation will continue to progress as more of my colleagues in the Congress and the public become aware of the unique and important contribution that the Hmong people have made, and continue to make, to our nation.

TRIBUTE TO MIKE FAHEY

**HON. GREG WALDEN**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 12, 2014*

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my very good friend, Mike Fahey, for his many years as a leading Oregon business executive and advocate of forest health. Mike is retiring this month as CEO of Columbia Helicopters, where he has loyally served in numerous executive roles for nearly 40 years. As his career at Columbia Helicopters winds down, I'd like to take a moment to pay tribute to his significant contributions to Oregon and the aerospace industry.

A native Oregonian, Mike was born in Oregon City and attended local public schools. He graduated from Portland State University in 1966 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Accounting, with Honors. His studies emphasized economics and finance, subjects that would prove to be crucial later in life when he took the helm of a company with global operations.

In 1966, Mike began working for the accounting firm of Arthur Young & Company, and in 1968 he began a three-year project, auditing the books of a rapidly growing, young company called Columbia Helicopters. That audit introduced him to the company's founder, Wes Lematta, a pioneer in the helicopter operations industry. In 1975, Mike joined Columbia Helicopters full time as the company's first Director of Finance. He later was named Vice President of Finance, and became Executive Vice President in 1997.

For the majority of his employment with Columbia Helicopters, Mike has been involved with contract negotiations for both foreign and domestic operations, as well as assisting with the purchase of aircraft to expand the company's fleet of heavy-lift helicopters. One of Mike's happiest memories was when the company purchased two Chinook helicopters from tycoon businessman Donald Trump in 1993. Mike always felt the company got the best end of the bargain because he'd read Trump's book "The Art of the Deal" and anticipated a negotiating tactic that Trump attempted to use. Mike won that deal, Donald.

In the late 1990s and throughout the 2000s, Mike took an active role in promoting legislation that would improve forest health. Like most of us from the West, Mike believes that proper forest management is key to maintaining good forest health. The company's "selective harvesting" system uses Columbia's helicopters to remove only a portion of the timber,

creating natural forest spacing and improving the overall health of the forest.

In 1999, Mike was named President of Columbia Helicopters, a position he held until 2013 when he was named CEO. Perhaps his greatest achievement during that period was the acquisition of the Type Certificates for the Boeing 234 commercial Chinook helicopter, and for the Boeing Vertol 107-II helicopter. This is the equivalent of Chevrolet selling the engineering and manufacturing rights to the Corvette to a small business. Today these heavy-lift helicopters are identified as the Columbia Model 234 Chinook and the Columbia 107-II, and Columbia Helicopters is the world leader in commercial heavy-lift helicopter operations. The company currently has aircraft working around the world: supporting military operations in Afghanistan, moving petroleum exploration equipment in Peru and Papua New Guinea, logging and construction projects in Canada and domestic operations in the western United States.

Throughout the years, Mike has always been a dedicated supporter of numerous charities and organizations, whether local, national or global in scale. He has supported Lines for Life, a non-profit organization dedicated to preventing substance abuse and suicide in youths and the military; Medical Teams International, a global health organization working to provide care to people affected by disaster, conflict and poverty; the Providence Medical Foundation and Providence Child Care; and the American Heart Association. He also currently serves on the Board of Directors for the Oregon Forest Industries Council.

More than anything else, Mike is a devoted and loving family man. He married his wife Penny in 1964 in Lake Oswego, Oregon, where they still maintain a home. They have three children, Michael Fahey II, Holly Bellavara and Elizabeth Tobin, and they have six grandchildren. Mike will finally get to spend more time with his family in retirement, but I expect he will still find time to hit the links with his clubs—he got his first hole in one in August 2013, and he is making a valiant effort at his second.

Mr. Speaker and my colleagues, please join me in recognizing and thanking my good friend, Mike Fahey, for his many years of exemplary leadership as an Oregon businessman and caring member of his community. I wish Mike and Penny many more years of good health and true happiness.

RECOGNIZING LES MCCABE

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 12, 2014*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Hebert Leslie McCabe, Jr., who honorably served our nation in the United States Navy during World War II and was employed by Merced College for more than 30 years.

Les was born in Upper Lake, California, on April 9, 1927. Twenty years later he married the love of his life, Elizabeth, with whom he raised five children. After serving in the United States Navy during World War II, Les returned

to California to attend college. He earned a bachelor's degree from UC Davis in 1950, his master's degree from UC Davis in 1956, and his doctorate from Nova-Southeastern University in 1977.

Les was employed by Merced College for more than 30 years, working as an Agriculture Business instructor, Career Programs coordinator, and Work Experience coordinator. Les also assumed the roles of Director of Financial Aid and Career Placement and Dean of Vocational Education. Les has the honor of being a charter member of the California Agriculture Teachers Association Hall of Fame as well as a member of the Academic Senate and President of the Faculty Association. Les served honorably on the Merced College Board of Trustees for 16 years and the Merced County Farm Bureau Board of Directors for 15 years. He was also appointed by Governor George Deukmejian to serve on the State Council on Vocational Education.

Les and his family have lived in Merced since 1967. He has been active in the community as a member of many organizations, including the American Legion Le Grand Post, Disabled American Veterans Atwater Post, the Masonic Order, and the Scottish Rite. Not one to shy away from leadership, he also served as President of the Kiwanis Club of Greater Merced and President of the Merced County Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring the service of Les McCabe. He has earned the respect of his peers and the admiration of all who know him.

#### HONORING WAYNE McCLAIN

#### HON. ROBIN L. KELLY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 12, 2014*

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following resolution honoring the life and career of University of Illinois Associate Head Basketball Coach Wayne McClain.

Whereas, Over a 37 year career as a teacher, school administrator, and basketball coach at the high school and college level Wayne McClain touched the lives of countless players, students, and families; and

Whereas, Wayne McClain led the Peoria Manual High School Rams to four straight AA State Championships from 1994 to 1997, with his 1997 squad being named National High School Champions; and

Whereas, Wayne McClain was named the Illinois Basketball Coaches Association Coach of the Year in 1995, 1996, and 1997, and the National High School Coach of the Year in 1997; and

Whereas, Wayne McClain coached for 11 years at the University of Illinois, first as an assistant coach, and then as associate head coach; and

Whereas, Following a successful collegiate career, Wayne McClain returned to coach High School basketball last season at Campaign Central High School, seeing it as an opportunity to make a more meaningful and direct impact across his entire community; and

Whereas, Wayne McClain passed away this Fall, and is survived by his wife Robin, his son

and former player Sergio, a member of the state champion Rams and four year letterman for the Illini, his daughter Brindeshie, his grandson Sergio Jr., and his granddaughter Brindisi;

Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved, by the House of Representatives of the United States of America*, That the life and career of Wayne McClain be honored and remembered, and that he be recognized for his nearly four decades of service to student athletes across the state of Illinois.

#### HONORING THE CAREER OF DR. JOAN L. VORIS

#### HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 12, 2014*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the work and career of UCSF Fresno Associate Dean Dr. Joan L. Voris, and to congratulate her on her retirement from the UCSF Fresno Medical Education Program on January 5, 2015.

Dr. Voris has decided to retire, leaving her most recent post as the associate dean of the UCSF Fresno Medical Education Program, a position she has held since 2002. Prior to her appointment as associate dean, she was a faculty member for 24 years. In her position as associate dean Dr. Voris provided leadership and oversight to residency programs in eight specialties, 17 sub-specialties, undergraduate medical education, the UCSF Fresno Latino Center for Medical Education and Research, the California Area Health Education Center, the UCSF Fresno Alzheimer's and Memory Center, and various pipeline programs within the community.

Dr. Voris has made incredible changes to the UCSF Fresno medical education program as associate dean. During her tenure, the program has seen an increase in the number of core faculty from 77 to 229, and the number of residents and fellows trained on an annual basis increased from 172 to 293, a 70% increase. To add to her long list of accomplishments, all but one of the 14 fellowship programs was established under her leadership.

Prior to working at UCSF Fresno, Dr. Voris attended prestigious Stanford University where she earned both her bachelor's and medical degrees. Afterwards, she completed her pediatrics residency training at UCSF Fresno. During her 36 years working as a pediatrician in Fresno, Dr. Voris has served on a medical team which brings health care to communities in Mexico during the summer, working to provide health care to those who live in areas which have access to little to no medical services.

Due to her amazing contributions to the medical community and her expertise in child abuse issues and childhood obesity, Dr. Voris was named by the Marjaree Mason Center in 2010 as one of their Top 10 Professional Women. Additionally, in 2012, she received the "Physician Community Service Lifetime Achievement Award" from the Fresno-Madera Medical Society.

Her colleagues have nothing but praise for Dr. Voris, expressing their appreciation at her

tireless efforts to improve health care in the San Joaquin Valley and to increase awareness of UCSF Fresno.

Mr. Speaker, it is with utmost respect that I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the career of Dr. Joan L. Voris. Her outstanding work in pediatrics, her improvements at the UCSF Fresno Medical Education Program, and her extensive contributions to the community have all led to her to be regarded as one of the best doctors in the Central Valley. It is my hope that she continues to have a happy and fulfilling life in retirement.

H.R. 83

#### HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 12, 2014*

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, last night, I voted "no" on H.R. 83 (The Continuing Resolution/Omnibus bill) despite adequate funding levels in several areas because it contained far too many poison pills. The best way forward would have been to compromise on a bill that did not include policy riders and would have funded the government without jeopardizing our financial security, the environment, our retirees, and our election system. I fully support the provisions in H.R. 83 that provide robust funding for our military, provide a 1% pay raise for military and civilian employees, and would provide additional funding for Tobyhanna Army Depot. However, I ultimately voted "no" because the legislation places the interests of greedy Wall Street investment bankers ahead of regular American working families. The Continuing Resolution/Omnibus bill, which passed by a narrow 219–206, guts important Dodd-Frank safeguards against a repeat of the \$700 billion taxpayer bailout of Wall Street financiers. It also exponentially raises the limits on campaign contribution cash that wealthy individuals (like Wall Street bankers) can donate to federal political parties. In one bill, House Speaker JOHN BOEHNER has managed both to jeopardize the American economy and further weaken the foundations of our American democracy itself. We should have been able to vote on a bill that focused on funding our government, instead we had to vote on a bill that contained numerous giveaways to private interests and that is why I voted "no."

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. ROBERT HURT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 12, 2014*

Mr. HURT. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for Roll Call vote #564, a recorded vote on H.R. 5699. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. TIM MURPHY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 12, 2014*

Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, on roll call no. 564 had I been present, I would have voted YEA.

## FREEDOM OF THE PRESS

**HON. STEVE STOCKMAN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 12, 2014*

Mr. STOCKMAN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to discuss today a very important and serious issue that is seemingly taking hold within our nation and that is an "assault on our freedom of the press". Mr. Speaker, I would like to submit a recent article in Roll Call entitled "Congress: Support Higher Level of Press Freedoms, End Propaganda". In particular, the article opines "that administration officials have gone to great lengths to control media messages and the President's refusal to grant free and easy access for photographers and reporters". Mr. Speaker, clearly, restricting or controlling media messages is without a doubt—propaganda.

[From Roll Call, Dec. 10, 2014]

CONGRESS: SUPPORT HIGHER LEVEL OF PRESS FREEDOMS, END PROPAGANDA—COMMENTARY  
(By Maayan Jaffe)

It seems that recently, U.S. media took a turn for the worse. In 2013, Reporters Without Borders noted a profound erosion of press freedom, which included a year of attacks on whistleblowers and digital journalists, and revelations about mass surveillance. The U.S. plunged 13 spots on the group's rankings to No. 46.

Simultaneously, reports continue to surface that administration officials have gone to great lengths to control media messages. Associated Press editors have decried the president's refusal to grant free and easy access for photographers and reporters and equated his actions as tantamount to propaganda.

It's striking that with what the Obama administration is doing—and is only getting away with it because the media use the handout copy and photographs—that America's closest allies are regularly maligned. In the last month, for instance, it was reported with sensation and disdain that a top U.S. official referred to Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu as "chicken---" and that U.S. ally Azerbaijan, apparently, is trying to promote its relationship with the U.S., instead of supporting radicals around the world like some others.

All this, while arch enemies—or countries that pose a risk to national security, sponsors of the murderous ISIS to the Mullahs of Iran—are given a free ride . . . even by state-sponsored media. The Washington Free Beacon reported that Congress was calling for an investigation into Voice of America's Persian language news service as a result of the station's systemic pro-Iran bias and cozy ties to the anti-American ruling regime, according to a letter sent recently to Secretary of State John Kerry.

The Free Beacon wrote, "Lawmakers and Iranian dissidents have long accused VOA's Persian News Network (PNN) of producing sympathetic coverage of the Iranian regime and blacklisting prominent Iranian opposition voices . . . The call from Congress for an investigation into these alleged practices comes just a month after the Washington Free Beacon revealed that PNN had banned a prominent Iranian opposition member and placed him on a so-called 'black list' after he attacked Iran's ruling regime for sponsoring terrorism."

Earlier this year, I penned a piece in Roll Call about the tragedy of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty's bias against Azerbaijan. I asked Congress why it allows \$750 million of American taxpayers' money to fund a media outlet that is attacking our allies. That report—which found that in a one-month period RFE/RL had managed to publish 30 articles and videos about Azerbaijan (not one celebrating Azerbaijan's accomplishments), while it ran nothing of pressure against America's adversary, Armenia—was met with an explosion of Twitter fury.

Americans don't want to face up to what the media has become: a propaganda machine, pandering to the special interests, superficial stereotypes, personal agendas and money, and fear of reprisal by extremist regimes.

Azerbaijan and Israel are attacked not only because attacks sell, but because they are two of the few Middle Eastern/Muslim countries with pro-Western, anti-terrorist governments and societies and therefore journalists are less afraid to come out against them. Israel is accused of war crimes for protecting itself from a daily barrage of rocket attacks and trauma, while the world is silent to Egyptian action recently taken against Gaza, a country which clearly understands the difference between Palestinian civilians and the terrorists of Hamas.

Israel and Azerbaijan take this pressure because the alternative is siding with extremism and neither country is willing to compromise their democratic, open ideals. But Congress needs to pay attention to this growing trend because good friends can only take so much bullying.

Israel and Azerbaijan—or any U.S. ally—are not without challenges and growth opportunities. Iran is a rogue regime developing nuclear weapons that could shift the world's balance, and we are supporting a media outlet that panders to that regime. The media, with the support of Congress, needs to be bold about what is really happening on the ground. A truthful report here and there is not enough. We need to regain a top level of freedom of the press and be confident that if we tell the full truth, then truth will prevail.

Congress has an obligation to retain American freedom of the press. I hope this new Congress will see access to information as a fundamental freedom and strength. If we lose that right, I don't want to think about what will be next . . .

## IN MEMORY OF GERALD "JERRY" HOGAN

**HON. GREG WALDEN**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 12, 2014*

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise today to honor the memory

of Gerald Hogan, who passed earlier this week at his home in McLean, Virginia. Jerry, as everyone called him, was a longtime outstanding advocate for the telecommunications industry, most recently with AT&T. Jerry is very well known throughout this Chamber and many of us regarded him as a close personal friend.

Jerry was always interested in you as a person and would ask about your family. He genuinely cared and would remember what you told him. If he learned it was your birthday, you could expect a phone call the next year. If you recounted a tale of your child, he would offer tips from a lifetime of parenting his children. Humble, generous, genuine, caring, funny and smart. . . . Jerry was all of these to his broad range of friends.

Jerry will be sorely missed for so many wonderful personal attributes, not least of which was his love for his children and their endeavors. The last few years Jerry and I had a fun gentleman's bet as his youngest son played against my beloved Oregon Ducks. On a few big occasions my Ducks came out on the losing side of the contest but Jerry, always the funny and classy act, would see me with a twinkle in his eye and deliver some well-deserved ribbing. Our business meetings in the past were never quick as we'd joyfully spend the first portion of our time swapping stories about all of Jerry's children and family and mine too before we'd get down to the official business matters. I will really miss all of my interactions with Jerry.

I am very privileged to have known Jerry and will always remember him very fondly. On behalf of many of my colleagues and my staff I want to let Jerry's dear friends and family—especially his wife Donna, his two sons, Brian and Kevin, and his daughter, Kelly—know that all who knew Jerry always felt that he brought high respect and honor to his work. Our prayers are with you during this time of sadness, and may the luck of the Irish be with you always.

Mr. Speaker, a number of my colleagues have asked me to include their following comments.

Congressman FRED UPTON said: "My condolences go out to Jerry's wife, Donna, and their wonderful children. We will miss Jerry's bright smile, wit, and warmth. Jerry was one who, virtually every minute of his all too short life, truly lived the words of the poem 'I shall not pass this way again.' 'I shall pass through this world but once. Any good therefore that I can do or any kindness that I can show to any human being, let me do it now. Let me not defer or neglect it, for I shall not pass this way again.' Thanks for all the love and laughs, Jerry. Godspeed."

Congressman F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, Jr. said: "The world will be a little less full now that Jerry Hogan is no longer a part of it. Jerry was a truly wonderful person and I was blessed to call him a friend. I wish his wife Donna and his children the very best during this difficult time."

Congressman TOM MARINO said: "I am deeply saddened by the loss of Jerry Hogan. He was a close friend and trusted advisor and we all feel the void of his passing. My condolences go out to his friends and family during this time of sadness."

Congressman PETER KING said: "Jerry put up a terrific fight against his illness over the past four years and exemplified the term Fighting Irish. I admired his dedication and loyalty and will miss my good friend."

Former Congressman Dan Lungren said: "Jerry was a great friend and a special person. Even during his time of need, fighting his own battle, he heard of a challenge that a member of my family was once again taking on and he informed me that he awoke that morning at 4 AM and said the Rosary in her honor. That is how he lived his life thinking of others and giving to others to the very end. God Bless you Jerry and God Bless your wonderful family during this sad time."

#### HONORING FRAN ROEHM

#### HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 12, 2014

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Frances "Fran" Roehm, a librarian extraordinaire at the Skokie Public Library in my district who is retiring after 18 years of remarkable service to our community.

Fran graduated from the University of Illinois and received a Bachelor's degree in History. As a single mom, she was awarded a scholarship from the then Secretary of State Jim Edgar. This scholarship allowed Fran to return to school and earn her Master's Degree in Library of Sciences, also from the University of Illinois.

Fran Roehm has worked as the Skokie Net Librarian and Community Liaison with distinction and has guided consumers to resources in the community. Fran is a leader in the library community who works hard to bring the best resources to patrons at the Skokie Public Library. She shines a bright light on our community and the rich resources available at the Skokie Library. Her compassion and leadership inspire the people around her to advocate for others.

She was nominated by State Senate President John Cullerton to serve on the "Eliminate the Digital Divide Committee" and has proudly served on that committee, which distributed \$4,000,000 in grants to organizations that serve low-income populations. This important grant program seeks to provide access to computers, telecommunications technologies and related training to disadvantaged communities—a major interest of Fran.

Fran also offered a wonderful form of outreach to my office. She realized that the library would be a perfect location for neighborhood office hours and from there, we began bringing our constituent services to the Skokie Library in the evenings, once a month, for constituents who cannot meet with our staff during the day for help. This service also allows the public to become more civically engaged. In addition, Fran helped make our annual Artistic Discovery high school art event, which we hold every year at the Skokie library, an extremely successful and welcoming event. Fran is masterful at putting resources and people together. She has been a great advocate and ally to our office.

Fran is the proud mother of son, Christopher, who lives in California and a proud grandmother to 5-year-old Twyla. Fran is a warm, kind, generous person who has touched and enriched countless lives.

I join others in the Skokie area and in Illinois in offering my deep gratitude and appreciation of Fran's decades of work and lifelong commitment to providing equal access to community resources. Although she is leaving the Skokie Library, she will remain a leader in our community advocating for the underserved. I wish her well and ask this body to do the same.

#### ANTI-SEMITISM AND ETHNIC CLEANSING

#### HON. STEVE STOCKMAN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 12, 2014

Mr. STOCKMAN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to discuss today an issue that continues to haunt ethnic and religious minorities throughout our world and in particular, a rise in anti-Semitism and ethnic cleansing in Armenia. Mr. Speaker, in other words, Armenia, throughout its history continues to practice anti-Semitism and ethnic cleansing of the Azerbaijani minority. Mr. Speaker, I would like to submit an article written by Arye Gut, a board member of the Israeli-Azerbaijani International Organization entitled "Anti-Semitism in Armenia: A Clear and Present Danger". Mr. Gut clearly articulates the issues of anti-Semitism and ethnic cleansing in Armenia.

#### ANTI-SEMITISM IN ARMENIA: A CLEAR AND PRESENT DANGER

(By Arye Gut/JNS.org)

The conflict in Syria has forced millions to leave their homes, among them many of the country's Armenian minority. Many have fled and returned to Armenia, a safe haven for ethnic Armenians—much as Israel is for Jews around the world. So it is ironic, given this shared need for a homeland free of religious intolerance, that Armenia's own Jewish community has been pressured and intimidated since the country attained independence.

Anti-Semitism in Armenia is an unfortunate and little-acknowledged fact. Since the fall of the Soviet Union, the country's Jewish minority and Jewish heritage—the products of a more tolerant time—have shrunk dramatically. The end of Soviet rule removed constraint, and anti-Semitic attacks rose dramatically. That, and Armenia's ongoing economic collapse, drive the Jews of Armenia to flee the country. In just 20 years, Armenian Jewish population has shrunk from more than 5,000 to just a few hundred.

And the cultural violence has continued. Anti-Semitic books are published and TV programs aired, and the Holocaust memorial in the capital of Yerevan has been repeatedly defaced. Of course, many countries have suffered such unfortunate incidents, the product of an ignorant populace. But in Armenia such views have been espoused even by mainstream politicians and media personalities. In 2004, a pro-government radio presenter expressed anti-Semitic views for months on end. A nationalist politician was also allowed to freely make lurid slurs against Jews before public pressure forced the government to arrest him.

The dwindling Jewish community in Armenia has complained about these attacks—the head of the Jewish community expressed her concern that "this [anti-Semitism] has the backing of people in power." But appeals have fallen on deaf ears, which is hardly a surprise when such attitudes are shared by much of Armenian society. The Anti-Defamation League's latest survey in June 2014 showed that the rate of anti-Semitism in Armenia (at 58 percent) was the third-highest in all of Europe, and the highest in all of the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. Thus, around 1.3 million out of 2.2 million adults in Armenia expressed anti-Semitic attitudes. Armenia's closest comparisons were with virulently hostile countries in the Middle East.

Sixty-three percent of Armenians surveyed believe that Jews are hated "because of the way Jews behave;" 60 percent claimed that "Jews don't care what happens to anyone but their own kind;" 45 percent think that "Jews still talk too much about what happened to them in the Holocaust;" and 38 percent consider that "Jews are responsible for most of the world's wars."

Also disturbing, and of concern to Jews around the world, is that in 1988 some 49,928 families (250,000 Azerbaijanis) were forced to flee their places of origin in 172 Azerbaijani inhabited villages, 89 villages with mixed ethnic population, and six cities from Armenia. During the deportation, 226 Azerbaijanis were killed by Armenians and scores horrifically injured. Their houses and properties were burned as well.

The Khojaly massacre, committed by current Armenian leadership with incredible brutality, was one of the worst tragedies of the 20th century. It is a historical fact that the Armenian armed forces and gunmen spared none of the Khojaly residents, who had not managed to leave the city and its surroundings. As a result of the atrocities of the Armenian armed forces, 613 people were killed, 487 people were crippled, and 1,275 people—the elderly, children, and women who were captured—were subjected to unprecedented torture, abuse, and humiliation.

In addition, Armenia, the aggressor, illegally occupied 20 percent of Azerbaijan, including Nagorno-Karabakh and seven adjacent districts. This caused a refugee crisis numbering nearly 1 million innocent Azerbaijanis, as they attempted to ethnically cleanse the region. Today, this remains a threat to peace and security in the South Caucasus region. Encouraged by intense Armenian lobbying efforts in the U.S. and other key nations, as well as by strong and ongoing Russian military, economic, and political aid, Armenia has ignored four United Nations Security Council resolutions associated with the occupation of Azerbaijani lands and treatment of civilians.

Perhaps this is not so surprising considering that one of Armenia's closest allies is theocratic Iran, which has always opposed Israel's right to existence. This strange relationship has been very beneficial for Iran, which has used Armenia as a conduit for smuggling and other illicit activities, often with serious consequences for U.S. national security.

The last point also has unnerving overtones for Armenia's Jewish community, which has never forgotten the participation of the brutal 20,000-strong Armenian Legion as part of Wehrmacht in the Second World War. The Legion, led by the nationalist warlord known as General Dro, was tasked with rounding up Jews and other "undesirables" behind the German army as it swept across

Russia, and organized their death marches to the concentration camps.

In such an environment, it is hardly surprising that most of Armenia's Jewish population has either fled or intermarried to avoid attracting attention. Regrettably, the government of Armenia does almost nothing to curb the growing anti-Semitism in the country. Until Armenia realizes that narrow-minded nationalism and blaming the country's economic and political problems on outsiders will never solve anything, the Jews of Armenia will continue to suffer.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. TAMMY DUCKWORTH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 12, 2014*

Ms. DUCKWORTH. Mr. Speaker, on December 9, 2014, on Roll Call #552 on the Democratic Motion to Recommit H.R. 5781, I am not recorded because I was absent for medical reasons. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA.

On December 9, 2014, on Roll Call #553 on Passage of H.R. 5781—California Emergency Drought Relief Act 2014, I am not recorded because I was absent for medical reasons. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY.

On December 10, 2014, on Roll Call #554 on H. Res. 775 Providing for consideration of

S. 2244, the Terrorism Risk Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2014; and for other purposes, I am not recorded because I was absent for medical reasons. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY.

On December 10, 2014, on Roll Call #555 on the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass S. 1000—Chesapeake Bay Accountability and Recovery Act of 2014, I am not recorded because I was absent for medical reasons. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA.

On December 10, 2014, on Roll Call #557 on Passage of S. 2244—Terrorism Risk Insurance Program Reauthorization Act, I am not recorded because I was absent for medical reasons. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA.

On December 10, 2014, on Roll Call #558 on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Concur in the Senate Amendment to H.R. 4681, I am not recorded because I was absent for medical reasons. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA.

On December 10, 2014, on Roll Call #559 on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Concur in the Senate Amendment to H.R. 2719, I am not recorded because I was absent for medical reasons. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA.

On December 10, 2014, on Roll Call #560 on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Concur in the Senate Amendment to H.R. 1204, I am not recorded because I was absent for medical

reasons. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA.

On December 11, 2014, on Roll Call #561 on H. Res. 776, Providing for Consideration of the Motion to Concur in the Senate Amendment with an Amendment to H.R. 83—Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2015, I am not recorded because I was absent for medical reasons. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY.

On December 11, 2014, on Roll Call #562 on the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 5806—Supporting America's Charities Act, I am not recorded because I was absent for medical reasons. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY.

On December 11, 2014, on Roll Call #563 on the Motion to Concur in the Senate Amendment with an Amendment to H.R. 83—Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2015, I am not recorded because I was absent for medical reasons. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA.

On December 11, 2014, on Roll Call #564 on the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended H.R. 5699—John Muir National Historic Site Expansion Act, I am not recorded because I was absent for medical reasons. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA.

**SENATE—Saturday, December 13, 2014**

The Senate met at 12 noon and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

**PRAYER**

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Eternal God, the giver of every good and perfect gift, thank You for this season of giving that reminds us of Your blessing of salvation.

Your redemptive thread can be seen throughout the fabric of our Nation's history. Redeem us again. Make Your redemptive power give wisdom and courage to our lawmakers as You illuminate their path with the light of Your guidance. Empower them to make their decisions after weighing them on the scale of long-term consequences.

Today, bless our United States Capitol Police, who routinely risk their lives for liberty. Surround them and their loved ones with the shield of Your protection and favor.

In a special way embrace Senator THAD COCHRAN with Your transforming presence as he grieves the loss of his beloved Rose. Lord, thank You for the life and legacy of Rose Cochran.

We pray in Your great Name. Amen.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The President pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

**RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER**

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

**SCHEDULE**

Mr. REID. Mr. President, following my remarks and those of the Republican leader, the Senate will resume consideration of the motion to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 83, which is the omnibus spending bill.

Rollcall votes are expected throughout the day. If no time agreement is reached, the cloture vote on the motion to concur in relation to the omnibus will be at approximately 1 a.m. tomorrow morning.

**FUNDING THE GOVERNMENT**

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I won't use a lot of time here this morning because we have a lot to do.

We worked for a long time yesterday, into the late hours of the night, trying to secure an agreement to vote on a long-term government funding bill. I was last talking to the chairman of the Appropriations Committee at 11 o'clock last night.

Regrettably, a small group of Senate Republicans has determined it is in their political interests to hold this legislation hostage. They objected to an agreement that would allow us to vote on Monday night. We are now relegated to watching time tick away on our clocks just so we can keep the government open and funded. I remind everyone that at 12 o'clock midnight—12 a.m.—the U.S. Government, tonight, runs out of money.

We even tried to get an agreement last night to extend government funding for a few extra days while we worked to pass the long-term funding bill, but the Republicans wouldn't let us do that.

So now we wait. But while we wait, we shouldn't waste time. Republicans and their leader have known for weeks, if not months, that we intend to vote on the President's nominations. So it is clear that this impasse we are having here today is not about nominees, it is about preventing us from funding the government. So now, on the eve of our government running out of funding, Senate Republicans are forcing completely unnecessary procedural votes just to waste time and slow us down from funding the government.

It doesn't have to be this way. We can still come to an agreement to take care of funding for our great country right now.

Mr. DURBIN. Will the majority leader yield for a question?

Mr. REID. I will yield for a question.

Mr. DURBIN. I would like to ask the majority leader for some clarification.

Is my understanding correct that at midnight tonight officially the funding of our government ceases?

Mr. REID. Absolutely true.

Mr. DURBIN. And the majority leader asked the Republican side of the aisle to at least extend it several days while we completed our work on the omnibus budget bill sent to us by the House?

Mr. REID. Yes, we had yesterday evening a piece of legislation from the House doing just that—extending the time for a few days.

Mr. DURBIN. Was there an objection by the Republicans to the short-term extension so our government would continue operating?

Mr. REID. We were told it wouldn't be necessary to do that because we

couldn't get agreement to do it. So the answer is yes.

Mr. DURBIN. Late last night, the junior Senator from Texas came to the floor. Is he part of the group that is objecting to moving forward on the omnibus bill?

Mr. REID. Well, it appears so. At 10 o'clock or so last night he gave a relatively extended speech. If someone looks at that speech, he wasn't critical of me. Most of his criticism was for the Speaker and the Republican leader here. He was challenging whether they were people of their word as to what they were going to do.

Mr. DURBIN. I might just ask the majority leader, this is the same Senator who shut down the government last year in protest over the Affordable Care Act?

Mr. REID. The very same man. Now he is hung up on not only the Affordable Care Act but the President's action to give 5 million people relief in this country so they can come out of the shadows and make our country a more productive place.

Mr. DURBIN. I thank the majority leader and hope we can find some support to moving forward to fund the government and accept our responsibilities.

**RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME**

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

**INSULAR AREAS AND FREELY ASSOCIATED STATES ENERGY DEVELOPMENT**

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of the message to accompany H.R. 83, which the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 83, an act to require the Secretary of the Interior to assemble a team of technical, policy, and financial experts to address the energy needs of the insular areas of the United States and the Freely Associated States through the development of energy action plans aimed at promoting access to affordable, reliable energy, including increasing use of indigenous clean-energy resources, and for other purposes.

Pending:

Reid motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to the bill.

Reid motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate



to the bill, with Reid amendment No. 4100 (to the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to the bill), to change the enactment date.

Reid amendment No. 4101 (to amendment No. 4100), of a perfecting nature.

Reid motion to refer the message of the House on the bill to the Committee on Appropriations, with instructions, Reid amendment No. 4102, to change the enactment date.

Reid amendment No. 4103 (to (the instructions) amendment No. 4102), of a perfecting nature.

Reid amendment No. 4104 (to amendment No. 4103), of a perfecting nature.

Mr. REID. I now move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 1084.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ), the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI), the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), and the Senator from Colorado (Mr. UDALL) are necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN), the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. CORKER), the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE), the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. JOHANNIS), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN), the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO), and the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT).

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. HEITKAMP). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 48, nays 35, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 327 Leg.]

#### YEAS—48

Baldwin	Hagan	Murray
Begich	Heinrich	Pryor
Bennet	Heitkamp	Reed
Blumenthal	Hirono	Reid
Booker	Johnson (SD)	Rockefeller
Boxer	Kaine	Schatz
Brown	King	Schumer
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Cardin	Landrieu	Stabenow
Carper	Leahy	Tester
Casey	Levin	Udall (NM)
Coons	Manchin	Walsh
Donnelly	Markey	Warner
Durbin	McCaskill	Warren
Franken	Merkley	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Murphy	Wyden

#### NAYS—35

Alexander	Burr	Cornyn
Ayotte	Coats	Crapo
Barrasso	Cochran	Cruz
Boozman	Collins	Fischer

Flake	Kirk	Roberts
Graham	Lee	Sessions
Grassley	McCain	Shelby
Hatch	McConnell	Thune
Heller	Moran	Toomey
Hoeven	Murkowski	Vitter
Isakson	Paul	Wicker
Johnson (WI)	Risch	

#### NOT VOTING—17

Blunt	Harkin	Portman
Chambliss	Inhofe	Rubio
Coburn	Johanns	Sanders
Corker	Menendez	Scott
Enzi	Mikulski	Udall (CO)
Feinstein	Nelson	

The motion was agreed to.

### EXECUTIVE SESSION

#### NOMINATION OF SARAH R. SALDANA TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF HOMELAND SECURITY

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Sarah R. Saldana, of Texas, to be an Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. REID. Could we have order.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will come to order.

Mr. REID. Madam President, we have a series of votes we are going to do today and we are going to cut the votes off at the exact time, so everybody would be better off to stay here on the Senate floor because these are going to move every 20 minutes.

#### CLOTURE MOTION

There is a cloture motion at the desk which I ask the Chair to order be reported.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

#### CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Sarah R. Saldana, of Texas, to be an Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security.

Harry Reid, Thomas R. Carper, Patrick J. Leahy, Patty Murray, Tom Udall, Brian Schatz, Charles E. Schumer, Barbara Boxer, Benjamin L. Cardin, Richard Blumenthal, Jeff Merkley, Al Franken, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Martin Heinrich, Elizabeth Warren, Richard J. Durbin, Christopher Murphy.

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum under rule XXII be waived.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. WICKER. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The Senate will be in order.

Mr. REID. I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ), the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI), and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) are necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE), and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 52, nays 40 as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 328 Ex.]

#### YEAS—52

Baldwin	Harkin	Pryor
Begich	Heinrich	Reed
Bennet	Heitkamp	Reid
Blumenthal	Hirono	Rockefeller
Booker	Johnson (SD)	Schatz
Boxer	Kaine	Schumer
Brown	King	Shaheen
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Stabenow
Cardin	Landrieu	Tester
Carper	Leahy	Udall (CO)
Casey	Levin	Udall (NM)
Collins	Manchin	Walsh
Coons	Markey	Warner
Donnelly	McCaskill	Warren
Durbin	Merkley	Whitehouse
Franken	Murphy	Wyden
Gillibrand	Murray	
Hagan	Nelson	

#### NAYS—40

Alexander	Flake	Murkowski
Ayotte	Graham	Paul
Barrasso	Grassley	Risch
Blunt	Hatch	Roberts
Boozman	Heller	Rubio
Burr	Hoeven	Scott
Coats	Isakson	Sessions
Cochran	Johanns	Shelby
Corker	Johnson (WI)	Thune
Cornyn	Kirk	Toomey
Crapo	Lee	Vitter
Cruz	McCain	Wicker
Enzi	McConnell	
Fischer	Moran	

#### NOT VOTING—8

Chambliss	Inhofe	Portman
Coburn	Menendez	Sanders
Feinstein	Mikulski	

The motion was agreed to.

### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. REID. Madam President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 1058.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

Mr. JOHANNIS. I ask for the yeas and nays.



The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI), and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) are necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE), and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 52, nays 41, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 329 Leg.]

#### YEAS—52

Baldwin	Heinrich	Pryor
Begich	Heitkamp	Reed
Bennet	Hirono	Reid
Blumenthal	Johnson (SD)	Rockefeller
Booker	Kaine	Schatz
Boxer	King	Schumer
Brown	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Cantwell	Landrieu	Stabenow
Cardin	Leahy	Tester
Carper	Levin	Udall (CO)
Casey	Manchin	Udall (NM)
Coons	Markey	Walsh
Donnelly	McCaskill	Warner
Durbin	Menendez	Warren
Franken	Merkley	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Murphy	Wyden
Hagan	Murray	
Harkin	Nelson	

#### NAYS—41

Alexander	Fischer	Moran
Ayotte	Flake	Murkowski
Barrasso	Graham	Paul
Blunt	Grassley	Risch
Boozman	Hatch	Roberts
Burr	Heller	Rubio
Coats	Hoeven	Scott
Cochran	Isakson	Sessions
Collins	Johanns	Shelby
Corker	Johnson (WI)	Thune
Cornyn	Kirk	Toomey
Crapo	Lee	Vitter
Cruz	McCain	Wicker
Enzi	McConnell	

#### NOT VOTING—7

Chambliss	Inhofe	Sanders
Coburn	Mikulski	
Feinstein	Portman	

The motion was agreed to.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

#### NOMINATION OF CAROLYN WATTS COLVIN TO BE COMMISSIONER OF SOCIAL SECURITY

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Carolyn Watts Colvin, of Maryland, to be Commissioner of Social Security.

#### CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. REID. I send a cloture motion to the desk and ask that it be reported.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The assistant bill clerk read as follows:

#### CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Carolyn Watts Colvin, of Maryland, to be Commissioner of Social Security.

Harry Reid, Ron Wyden, Barbara A. Mikulski, Benjamin L. Cardin, Christopher Murphy, Elizabeth Warren, Kirsten E. Gillibrand, Tom Harkin, Angus S. King, Jr., Richard Blumenthal, Charles E. Schumer, Mazie Hirono, Amy Klobuchar, Barbara Boxer, Tammy Baldwin, Bernard Sanders, Sheldon Whitehouse, Jeff Merkley.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. REID. Madam President, a number of Senators have come to me indicating that they have read the rules and the time for a vote is 15 minutes. I ask, through the Chair, is it true that the extra 5 minutes is not in the rule?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Would the Senator restate his question?

Mr. REID. We have been calling votes at the end of 20 minutes. It is my understanding that the rule calls for votes to be 15 minutes in length.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. It is a 15-minute vote with a 5-minute grace period.

Mr. REID. Is the 5-minute grace period in the rule?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair will research the unanimous consent from January of last year.

Mr. REID. In the meantime, I move to proceed to legislative session.

Mr. JOHANNES. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

Mr. HATCH addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Utah.

Mr. HATCH. I voted for this fine woman coming out of the committee, but there since have arisen all kinds of problems concerning perhaps criminal problems at the Social Security—

Mr. REID. Madam President, I am sorry, I can't understand the Senator and I believe I have the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will come to order.

Mr. HATCH. Madam President, I will make one more statement. There is enough evidence of criminal conduct there—I am not accusing her but, on the other hand, she was the authority there.

Mr. REID. Regular order, Madam President.

Mr. HATCH. We should not be voting on this at this time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The yeas and nays have been ordered. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND), the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI), and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) are necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE), and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN).

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 51, nays 41 as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 330 Ex.]

#### YEAS—51

Baldwin	Heinrich	Nelson
Begich	Heitkamp	Pryor
Bennet	Hirono	Reed
Blumenthal	Johnson (SD)	Reid
Booker	Kaine	Rockefeller
Boxer	King	Schatz
Brown	Klobuchar	Schumer
Cantwell	Landrieu	Shaheen
Cardin	Leahy	Stabenow
Carper	Levin	Tester
Casey	Manchin	Udall (CO)
Coons	Markey	Udall (NM)
Donnelly	McCaskill	Walsh
Durbin	Menendez	Warner
Franken	Merkley	Warren
Hagan	Murphy	Whitehouse
Harkin	Murray	Wyden

#### NAYS—41

Alexander	Fischer	Moran
Ayotte	Flake	Murkowski
Barrasso	Graham	Paul
Blunt	Grassley	Risch
Boozman	Hatch	Roberts
Burr	Heller	Rubio
Coats	Hoeven	Scott
Cochran	Isakson	Sessions
Collins	Johanns	Shelby
Corker	Johnson (WI)	Thune
Cornyn	Kirk	Toomey
Crapo	Lee	Vitter
Cruz	McCain	Wicker
Enzi	McConnell	

#### NOT VOTING—8

Chambliss	Gillibrand	Portman
Coburn	Inhofe	Sanders
Feinstein	Mikulski	

The motion was agreed to.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that any remaining votes with these nominations be 10 minutes in duration.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there objection?

Mr. CORNYN. I object.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Objection is heard.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, under the standing order rollcall votes are 15 minutes. What we usually do is have a grace period, just by practice. In the

future the Chair will call the votes after 15 minutes.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The rule is 15 minutes. The votes will be called in 15 minutes.

The majority leader.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 681.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

Mr. WICKER. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI), and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) are necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. KIRK), and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN).

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 52, nays 40, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 331 Leg.]

#### YEAS—52

Baldwin	Heinrich	Pryor
Begich	Heitkamp	Reed
Bennet	Hirono	Reid
Blumenthal	Johnson (SD)	Rockefeller
Booker	Kaine	Schatz
Boxer	King	Schumer
Brown	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Cantwell	Landrieu	Stabenow
Cardin	Leahy	Tester
Carper	Levin	Udall (CO)
Casey	Manchin	Udall (NM)
Coons	Markey	Walsh
Donnelly	McCaskill	Warner
Durbin	Menendez	Warren
Franken	Merkley	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Murphy	Wyden
Hagan	Murray	
Harkin	Nelson	

#### NAYS—40

Alexander	Fischer	Murkowski
Ayotte	Flake	Paul
Barrasso	Graham	Risch
Blunt	Grassley	Roberts
Boozman	Hatch	Rubio
Burr	Heller	Scott
Coats	Hoeben	Sessions
Cochran	Isakson	Shelby
Collins	Johanns	Thune
Corker	Johnson (WI)	Toomey
Cornyn	Lee	Vitter
Crapo	McCain	Wicker
Cruz	McConnell	
Enzi	Moran	

#### NOT VOTING—8

Chambliss	Inhofe	Portman
Coburn	Kirk	Sanders
Feinstein	Mikulski	

The motion was agreed to.

### EXECUTIVE SESSION

NOMINATION OF VIVEK HALLEGERE MURTHY TO BE MEDICAL DIRECTOR IN THE REGULAR CORPS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE, SUBJECT TO QUALIFICATIONS THEREFOR AS PROVIDED BY LAW AND REGULATIONS, AND TO BE SURGEON GENERAL OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Vivek Hallegere Murthy, of Massachusetts, to be Medical Director in the Regular Corps of the Public Health Service, subject to qualifications therefor as provided by law and regulations, and to be Surgeon General of the Public Health Service.

#### CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. REID. There is a cloture motion at the desk, and I ask that it be reported.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

#### CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Vivek Hallegere Murthy, of Massachusetts, to be Medical Director in the Regular Corps of the Public Health Service and to be Surgeon General of the Public Health Service.

Harry Reid, Tom Harkin, Patrick J. Leahy, Patty Murray, Tom Udall, Brian Schatz, Charles E. Schumer, Barbara Boxer, Benjamin L. Cardin, Richard Blumenthal, Jeff Merkley, Al Franken, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Elizabeth Warren, Richard J. Durbin, Christopher Murphy, Bernard Sanders.

Mr. REID. I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

Mr. REID. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI), and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) are necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE), and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN).

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 52, nays 41, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 332 Ex.]

#### YEAS—52

Baldwin	Heinrich	Pryor
Begich	Heitkamp	Reed
Bennet	Hirono	Reid
Blumenthal	Johnson (SD)	Rockefeller
Booker	Kaine	Schatz
Boxer	King	Schumer
Brown	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Cantwell	Landrieu	Stabenow
Cardin	Leahy	Tester
Carper	Levin	Udall (CO)
Casey	Manchin	Udall (NM)
Coons	Markey	Walsh
Donnelly	McCaskill	Warner
Durbin	Menendez	Warren
Franken	Merkley	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Murphy	Wyden
Hagan	Murray	
Harkin	Nelson	

#### NAYS—41

Alexander	Fischer	Moran
Ayotte	Flake	Murkowski
Barrasso	Graham	Paul
Blunt	Grassley	Risch
Boozman	Hatch	Roberts
Burr	Heller	Rubio
Coats	Hoeben	Scott
Cochran	Isakson	Sessions
Collins	Johanns	Shelby
Corker	Johnson (WI)	Thune
Cornyn	Kirk	Toomey
Crapo	Lee	Vitter
Cruz	McCain	Wicker
Enzi	McConnell	

#### NOT VOTING—7

Chambliss	Inhofe	Sanders
Coburn	Mikulski	
Feinstein	Portman	

The motion was agreed to.

### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader.

Mr. REID. I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 1150, Antony Blinken.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the motion to proceed.

Mr. WICKER. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI), and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) are necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE), and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN).

The result was announced—yeas 52, nays 41, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 333 Leg.]

## YEAS—52

Baldwin	Heinrich	Pryor
Begich	Heitkamp	Reed
Bennet	Hirono	Reid
Blumenthal	Johnson (SD)	Rockefeller
Booker	Kaine	Schatz
Boxer	King	Schumer
Brown	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Cantwell	Landrieu	Stabenow
Cardin	Leahy	Tester
Carper	Levin	Udall (CO)
Casey	Manchin	Udall (NM)
Coons	Markey	Walsh
Donnelly	McCaskill	Warner
Durbin	Menendez	Warren
Franken	Merkley	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Murphy	Wyden
Hagan	Murray	
Harkin	Nelson	

## NAYS—41

Alexander	Fischer	Moran
Ayotte	Flake	Murkowski
Barrasso	Graham	Paul
Blunt	Grassley	Risch
Boozman	Hatch	Roberts
Burr	Heller	Rubio
Coats	Hoeven	Scott
Cochran	Isakson	Sessions
Collins	Johanns	Shelby
Corker	Johnson (WI)	Thune
Cornyn	Kirk	Toomey
Crapo	Lee	Vitter
Cruz	McCain	Wicker
Enzi	McConnell	

## NOT VOTING—7

Chambliss	Inhofe	Sanders
Coburn	Mikulski	
Feinstein	Portman	

The motion was agreed to.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

### NOMINATION OF ANTONY BLINKEN TO BE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF STATE

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the nomination.

The assistant bill clerk read the nomination of Antony Blinken, of New York, to be Deputy Secretary of State.

## CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask that the cloture motion at the desk be reported.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The assistant bill clerk read as follows:

## CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Antony Blinken, of New York, to be Deputy Secretary of State.

Harry Reid, Brian Schatz, Patrick J. Leahy, Bernard Sanders, John E. Walsh, Patty Murray, Jack Reed, Tom Udall, Sheldon Whitehouse, Amy Klobuchar, Debbie Stabenow, Christopher A. Coons, Robert Menendez, Carl Levin, Barbara Boxer, Tom Harkin, Richard J. Durbin.

Mr. REID. I now move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the motion to proceed to legislative session.

Mr. COATS. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

Mr. CRUZ. Mr. President, would the majority leader yield for a unanimous consent request?

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senate is in a rollcall vote.

The assistant bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI), and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) are necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE), and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN).

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KING). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 52, nays 41, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 334 Ex.]

## YEAS—52

Baldwin	Heinrich	Pryor
Begich	Heitkamp	Reed
Bennet	Hirono	Reid
Blumenthal	Johnson (SD)	Rockefeller
Booker	Kaine	Schatz
Boxer	King	Schumer
Brown	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Cantwell	Landrieu	Stabenow
Cardin	Leahy	Tester
Carper	Levin	Udall (CO)
Casey	Manchin	Udall (NM)
Coons	Markey	Walsh
Donnelly	McCaskill	Warner
Durbin	Menendez	Warren
Franken	Merkley	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Murphy	Wyden
Hagan	Murray	
Harkin	Nelson	

## NAYS—41

Alexander	Fischer	Moran
Ayotte	Flake	Murkowski
Barrasso	Graham	Paul
Blunt	Grassley	Risch
Boozman	Hatch	Roberts
Burr	Heller	Rubio
Coats	Hoeven	Scott
Cochran	Isakson	Sessions
Collins	Johanns	Shelby
Corker	Johnson (WI)	Thune
Cornyn	Kirk	Toomey
Crapo	Lee	Vitter
Cruz	McCain	Wicker
Enzi	McConnell	

## NOT VOTING—7

Chambliss	Inhofe	Sanders
Coburn	Mikulski	
Feinstein	Portman	

The motion was agreed to.

## LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 635.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

Mr. McCONNELL. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI), and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) are necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE), and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 52, nays 41, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 335 Leg.]

## YEAS—52

Baldwin	Heinrich	Pryor
Begich	Heitkamp	Reed
Bennet	Hirono	Reid
Blumenthal	Johnson (SD)	Rockefeller
Booker	Kaine	Schatz
Boxer	King	Schumer
Brown	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Cantwell	Landrieu	Stabenow
Cardin	Leahy	Tester
Carper	Levin	Udall (CO)
Casey	Manchin	Udall (NM)
Coons	Markey	Walsh
Donnelly	McCaskill	Warner
Durbin	Menendez	Warren
Franken	Merkley	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Murphy	Wyden
Hagan	Murray	
Harkin	Nelson	

## NAYS—41

Alexander	Fischer	Moran
Ayotte	Flake	Murkowski
Barrasso	Graham	Paul
Blunt	Grassley	Risch
Boozman	Hatch	Roberts
Burr	Heller	Rubio
Coats	Hoeven	Scott
Cochran	Isakson	Sessions
Collins	Johanns	Shelby
Corker	Johnson (WI)	Thune
Cornyn	Kirk	Toomey
Crapo	Lee	Vitter
Cruz	McCain	Wicker
Enzi	McConnell	

## NOT VOTING—7

Chambliss	Inhofe	Sanders
Coburn	Mikulski	
Feinstein	Portman	

The motion was agreed to.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

### NOMINATION OF FRANK A. ROSE TO BE AN ASSISTANT SEC- RETARY OF STATE (VERIFICATION AND COMPLI- ANCE)

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Frank A. Rose, of Massachusetts, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Verification and Compliance).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

## CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. REID. Mr. President, there is a cloture motion at the desk, and I ask that it be reported.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The bill clerk read as follows:

## CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Frank A. Rose, of Massachusetts, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Verification and Compliance).

Harry Reid, Robert Menendez, Patrick J. Leahy, Martin Heinrich, Jack Reed, Dianne Feinstein, Tom Udall, Benjamin L. Cardin, Bill Nelson, Barbara Boxer, Thomas R. Carper, Edward J. Markey, Jeff Merkley, Sheldon Whitehouse, Jon Tester, Richard J. Durbin, Charles E. Schumer.

Mr. REID. I now move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

Mr. WICKER. I demand the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI), and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) are necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE), and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 52, nays 41, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 336 Ex.]

## YEAS—52

Baldwin	Heinrich	Pryor
Begich	Heitkamp	Reed
Bennet	Hirono	Reid
Blumenthal	Johnson (SD)	Rockefeller
Booker	Kaine	Schatz
Boxer	King	Schumer
Brown	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Cantwell	Landrieu	Stabenow
Cardin	Leahy	Tester
Carper	Levin	Udall (CO)
Casey	Manchin	Udall (NM)
Coons	Markey	Walsh
Donnelly	McCaskill	Warner
Durbin	Menendez	Warren
Franken	Merkley	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Murphy	Wyden
Hagan	Murray	
Harkin	Nelson	

## NAYS—41

Alexander	Fischer	Moran
Ayotte	Flake	Murkowski
Barrasso	Graham	Paul
Blunt	Grassley	Risch
Boozman	Hatch	Roberts
Burr	Heller	Rubio
Coats	Hoeven	Scott
Cochran	Isakson	Sessions
Collins	Johanns	Shelby
Corker	Johnson (WI)	Thune
Cornyn	Kirk	Toomey
Crapo	Lee	Vitter
Cruz	McCain	Wicker
Enzi	McConnell	

## NOT VOTING—7

Chambliss	Inhofe	Sanders
Coburn	Mikulski	
Feinstein	Portman	

The motion was agreed to.

## LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

## MAKING FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015

Mr. REID. Mr. President, if I could have everyone's attention.

I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of H.J. Res. 131, which is a short-term continuing resolution that will go until Wednesday, December 17, 2014, which the Senate received from the House and is at the desk; further, that the joint resolution be read three times and the Senate now proceed to vote on passage of the joint resolution with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Hearing none, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the joint resolution by title.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A joint resolution (H.J. Res. 131) making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2015, and for other purposes.

The Senate proceeded to consider the joint resolution.

The joint resolution was ordered to a third reading and was read the third time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The joint resolution having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the joint resolution pass?

The joint resolution (H.J. Res. 131) was passed.

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the motion to reconsider be made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 1144.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

Mr. RISCH. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH), the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), and the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) are necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE), and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN).

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. LANDRIEU). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 50, nays 41, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 337 Leg.]

## YEAS—50

Baldwin	Heinrich	Nelson
Bennet	Heitkamp	Pryor
Blumenthal	Hirono	Reed
Booker	Johnson (SD)	Reid
Boxer	Kaine	Rockefeller
Brown	King	Schatz
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Schumer
Cardin	Landrieu	Shaheen
Carper	Leahy	Tester
Casey	Levin	Udall (CO)
Coons	Manchin	Udall (NM)
Donnelly	Markey	Walsh
Durbin	McCaskill	Warner
Franken	Menendez	Warren
Gillibrand	Merkley	Whitehouse
Hagan	Murphy	Wyden
Harkin	Murray	

## NAYS—41

Alexander	Fischer	Moran
Ayotte	Flake	Murkowski
Barrasso	Graham	Paul
Blunt	Grassley	Risch
Boozman	Hatch	Roberts
Burr	Heller	Rubio
Coats	Hoeven	Scott
Cochran	Isakson	Sessions
Collins	Johanns	Shelby
Corker	Johnson (WI)	Thune
Cornyn	Kirk	Toomey
Crapo	Lee	Vitter
Cruz	McCain	Wicker
Enzi	McConnell	

## NOT VOTING—9

Begich	Feinstein	Portman
Chambliss	Inhofe	Sanders
Coburn	Mikulski	Stabenow

The motion was agreed to

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

## NOMINATION OF COLETTE DODSON HONORABLE TO BE A MEMBER OF THE FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Colette Dodson Honorable, of Arkansas, to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

## CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. REID. Madam President, there is a cloture motion at the desk that I ask to be reported.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The bill clerk read as follows:

#### CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Colette Dodson Honorable, of Arkansas, to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

Harry Reid, Brian Schatz, Patrick J. Leahy, Bernard Sanders, John E. Walsh, Patty Murray, Jack Reed, Tom Udall, Sheldon Whitehouse, Amy Klobuchar, Debbie Stabenow, Christopher A. Coons, Robert Menendez, Carl Levin, Barbara Boxer, Tom Harkin, Richard J. Durbin.

Mr. REID. Madam President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

Mr. COATS. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI), and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) are necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE), and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 53, nays 40, as follows:

#### [Rollcall Vote No. 338 Ex.]

##### YEAS—53

Baldwin	Harkin	Nelson
Begich	Heinrich	Pryor
Bennet	Heitkamp	Reed
Blumenthal	Hirono	Reid
Booker	Johnson (SD)	Rockefeller
Boozman	Kaine	Schatz
Boxer	King	Schumer
Brown	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Cantwell	Landrieu	Stabenow
Cardin	Leahy	Tester
Carper	Levin	Udall (CO)
Casey	Manchin	Udall (NM)
Coons	Markey	Walsh
Donnelly	McCaskill	Warner
Durbin	Menendez	Warren
Franken	Merkley	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Murphy	Wyden
Hagan	Murray	

##### NAYS—40

Alexander	Cornyn	Heller
Ayotte	Crapo	Hoeben
Barrasso	Cruz	Isakson
Blunt	Enzi	Johanns
Burr	Fischer	Johnson (WI)
Coats	Flake	Kirk
Cochran	Graham	Lee
Collins	Grassley	McCain
Corker	Hatch	McConnell

Moran  
Murkowski  
Paul  
Risch  
Roberts

Rubio  
Scott  
Sessions  
Shelby  
Thune

Toomey  
Vitter  
Wicker

Rubio  
Scott  
Sessions

Shelby  
Thune  
Toomey

Vitter  
Wicker

#### NOT VOTING—7

Chambliss  
Coburn  
Feinstein

Inhofe  
Mikulski  
Portman

Sanders

Chambliss  
Coburn  
Feinstein

Inhofe  
Mikulski  
Portman

Sanders

The motion was agreed to.

The motion was agreed to.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. REID. Madam President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 979, Daniel J. Santos, to be a Member of the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

Ms. COLLINS. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI), and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) are necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE), and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 52, nays 41, as follows:

#### [Rollcall Vote No. 339 Leg.]

##### YEAS—52

Baldwin	Heinrich	Pryor
Begich	Heitkamp	Reed
Bennet	Hirono	Reid
Blumenthal	Johnson (SD)	Rockefeller
Booker	Kaine	Schatz
Boxer	King	Schumer
Brown	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Cantwell	Landrieu	Stabenow
Cardin	Leahy	Tester
Carper	Levin	Udall (CO)
Casey	Manchin	Udall (NM)
Coons	Markey	Walsh
Donnelly	McCaskill	Warner
Durbin	Menendez	Warren
Franken	Merkley	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Murphy	Wyden
Hagan	Murray	
Harkin	Nelson	

##### NAYS—41

Alexander	Crapo	Johanns
Ayotte	Cruz	Johnson (WI)
Barrasso	Enzi	Kirk
Blunt	Fischer	Lee
Boozman	Flake	McCain
Burr	Graham	McConnell
Coats	Grassley	Moran
Cochran	Hatch	Murkowski
Collins	Heller	Paul
Corker	Hoeben	Risch
Cornyn	Isakson	Roberts

#### NOT VOTING—7

Chambliss  
Coburn  
Feinstein

Inhofe  
Mikulski  
Portman

Sanders

The motion was agreed to.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

#### NOMINATION OF DANIEL J. SANTOS TO BE A MEMBER OF THE DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Daniel J. Santos, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board.

#### CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. REID. Madam President, there is a cloture motion at the desk that I ask to be reported.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

#### CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Daniel J. Santos, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board.

Harry Reid, Carl Levin, Brian Schatz, Patrick J. Leahy, Bernard Sanders, John E. Walsh, Patty Murray, Jack Reed, Tom Udall, Sheldon Whitehouse, Amy Klobuchar, Debbie Stabenow, Christopher A. Coons, Robert Menendez, Barbara Boxer, Tom Harkin, Richard J. Durbin.

Mr. REID. I now move, Madam President, to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

Mr. McCONNELL. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI), and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) are necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN), and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 52, nays 42, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 340 Ex.]

YEAS—52

Baldwin	Heinrich	Pryor
Begich	Heitkamp	Reed
Bennet	Hirono	Reid
Blumenthal	Johnson (SD)	Rockefeller
Booker	Kaine	Schatz
Boxer	King	Schumer
Brown	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Cantwell	Landrieu	Stabenow
Cardin	Leahy	Tester
Carper	Levin	Udall (CO)
Casey	Manchin	Udall (NM)
Coons	Markey	Walsh
Donnelly	McCaskill	Warner
Durbin	Menendez	Warren
Franken	Merkley	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Murphy	Wyden
Hagan	Murray	
Harkin	Nelson	

NAYS—42

Alexander	Fischer	Moran
Ayotte	Flake	Murkowski
Barrasso	Graham	Paul
Blunt	Grassley	Portman
Boozman	Hatch	Risch
Burr	Heller	Roberts
Coats	Hoeven	Rubio
Cochran	Isakson	Scott
Collins	Johanns	Sessions
Corker	Johnson (WI)	Shelby
Cornyn	Kirk	Thune
Crapo	Lee	Toomey
Cruz	McCain	Vitter
Enzi	McConnell	Wicker

NOT VOTING—6

Chambliss	Feinstein	Mikulski
Coburn	Inhofe	Sanders

The motion was agreed to.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. REID. I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 840, Estevan R. Lopez to be Commissioner of Reclamation.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

Mr. JOHANNES. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) is necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN), and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 54, nays 42, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 341 Leg.]

YEAS—54

Baldwin	Booker	Cardin
Begich	Boxer	Carper
Bennet	Brown	Casey
Blumenthal	Cantwell	Coons

Donnelly	Leahy	Rockefeller
Durbin	Levin	Sanders
Franken	Manchin	Schatz
Gillibrand	Markey	Schumer
Hagan	McCaskill	Shaheen
Harkin	Menendez	Stabenow
Heinrich	Merkley	Tester
Heitkamp	Mikulski	Udall (CO)
Hirono	Murphy	Udall (NM)
Johnson (SD)	Murray	Walsh
Kaine	Nelson	Warner
King	Pryor	Warren
Klobuchar	Reed	Whitehouse
Landrieu	Reid	Wyden

NAYS—42

Alexander	Fischer	Moran
Ayotte	Flake	Murkowski
Barrasso	Graham	Paul
Blunt	Grassley	Portman
Boozman	Hatch	Risch
Burr	Heller	Roberts
Coats	Hoeven	Rubio
Cochran	Isakson	Scott
Collins	Johanns	Sessions
Corker	Johnson (WI)	Shelby
Cornyn	Kirk	Thune
Crapo	Lee	Toomey
Cruz	McCain	Vitter
Enzi	McConnell	Wicker

NOT VOTING—4

Chambliss	Feinstein
Coburn	Inhofe

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

NOMINATION OF ESTEVAN R. LOPEZ TO BE COMMISSIONER OF RECLAMATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The assistant bill clerk read the nomination of Estevan R. Lopez, of New Mexico, to be Commissioner of Reclamation.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. REID. Madam President, there is a cloture motion at the desk, and I ask that it be reported.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Estevan R. Lopez, of New Mexico, to be Commissioner of Reclamation.

Harry Reid, Patrick J. Leahy, Martin Heinrich, Jack Reed, Dianne Feinstein, Robert Menendez, Tom Udall, Benjamin L. Cardin, Bill Nelson, Barbara Boxer, Thomas R. Carper, Edward J. Markey, Jeff Merkley, Sheldon Whitehouse, Jon Tester, Richard J. Durbin, Charles E. Schumer.

Mr. REID. I now move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

Mr. COATS. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) is necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN), and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE).

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SCHATZ). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 54, nays 42, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 342 Ex.]

YEAS—54

Baldwin	Heinrich	Nelson
Begich	Heitkamp	Pryor
Bennet	Hirono	Reed
Blumenthal	Johnson (SD)	Reid
Booker	Kaine	Rockefeller
Boxer	King	Sanders
Brown	Klobuchar	Schatz
Cantwell	Landrieu	Schumer
Cardin	Leahy	Shaheen
Carper	Levin	Stabenow
Casey	Manchin	Tester
Coons	Markey	Udall (CO)
Donnelly	McCaskill	Udall (NM)
Durbin	Menendez	Walsh
Franken	Merkley	Warner
Gillibrand	Mikulski	Warren
Hagan	Murphy	Whitehouse
Harkin	Murray	Wyden

NAYS—42

Alexander	Fischer	Moran
Ayotte	Flake	Murkowski
Barrasso	Graham	Paul
Blunt	Grassley	Portman
Boozman	Hatch	Risch
Burr	Heller	Roberts
Coats	Hoeven	Rubio
Cochran	Isakson	Scott
Collins	Johanns	Sessions
Corker	Johnson (WI)	Shelby
Cornyn	Kirk	Thune
Crapo	Lee	Toomey
Cruz	McCain	Vitter
Enzi	McConnell	Wicker

NOT VOTING—4

Chambliss	Feinstein
Coburn	Inhofe

The motion was agreed to.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 922, Marcus Jadotte to be an Assistant Secretary of Commerce.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

Mr. WICKER. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) and the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) are necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator

from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN), and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 53, nays 42, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 343 Leg.]

#### YEAS—53

Baldwin	Heitkamp	Pryor
Begich	Hirono	Reed
Bennet	Johnson (SD)	Reid
Blumenthal	Kaine	Rockefeller
Booker	King	Sanders
Brown	Klobuchar	Schatz
Cantwell	Landrieu	Schumer
Cardin	Leahy	Shaheen
Carper	Levin	Stabenow
Casey	Manchin	Tester
Coons	Markey	Udall (CO)
Donnelly	McCaskill	Udall (NM)
Durbin	Menendez	Walsh
Franken	Merkley	Warner
Gillibrand	Mikulski	Warren
Hagan	Murphy	Whitehouse
Harkin	Murray	Wyden
Heinrich	Nelson	

#### NAYS—42

Alexander	Fischer	Moran
Ayotte	Flake	Murkowski
Barrasso	Graham	Paul
Blunt	Grassley	Portman
Boozman	Hatch	Risch
Burr	Heller	Roberts
Coats	Hoeben	Rubio
Cochran	Isakson	Scott
Collins	Johanns	Sessions
Corker	Johnson (WI)	Shelby
Cornyn	Kirk	Thune
Crapo	Lee	Toomey
Cruz	McCain	Vitter
Enzi	McConnell	Wicker

#### NOT VOTING—5

Boxer	Coburn	Inhofe
Chambliss	Feinstein	

The motion was agreed to.

### EXECUTIVE SESSION

#### NOMINATION OF MARCUS DWAYNE JADOTTE TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF COMMERCE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Marcus Dwayne Jadotte, of Florida, to be an Assistant Secretary of Commerce.

#### CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. REID. Mr. President, there is a cloture motion at the desk, and I ask the Chair to report it.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The bill clerk read as follows:

#### CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Marcus Dwayne Jadotte, of Florida, to be an Assistant Secretary of Commerce.

Harry Reid, Patrick J. Leahy, Martin Heinrich, Jack Reed, Dianne Feinstein, Robert Menendez, Tom Udall, Ben-

jamin L. Cardin, Bill Nelson, Barbara Boxer, Thomas R. Carper, Edward J. Markey, Jeff Merkley, Sheldon Whitehouse, Jon Tester, Richard J. Durbin, Charles E. Schumer.

Mr. REID. I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

Mr. WICKER. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) is necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN), and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE).

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. DONNELLY). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 54, nays 42, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 344 Ex.]

#### YEAS—54

Baldwin	Heinrich	Nelson
Begich	Heitkamp	Pryor
Bennet	Hirono	Reed
Blumenthal	Johnson (SD)	Reid
Booker	Kaine	Rockefeller
Boxer	King	Sanders
Brown	Klobuchar	Schatz
Cantwell	Landrieu	Schumer
Cardin	Leahy	Shaheen
Carper	Levin	Stabenow
Casey	Manchin	Tester
Coons	Markey	Udall (CO)
Donnelly	McCaskill	Udall (NM)
Durbin	Menendez	Walsh
Franken	Merkley	Warner
Gillibrand	Mikulski	Warren
Hagan	Murphy	Whitehouse
Harkin	Murray	Wyden

#### NAYS—42

Alexander	Fischer	Moran
Ayotte	Flake	Murkowski
Barrasso	Graham	Paul
Blunt	Grassley	Portman
Boozman	Hatch	Risch
Burr	Heller	Roberts
Coats	Hoeben	Rubio
Cochran	Isakson	Scott
Collins	Johanns	Sessions
Corker	Johnson (WI)	Shelby
Cornyn	Kirk	Thune
Crapo	Lee	Toomey
Cruz	McCain	Vitter
Enzi	McConnell	Wicker

#### NOT VOTING—4

Chambliss	Feinstein
Coburn	Inhofe

The motion was agreed to.

### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. REID. I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 901, Jonathan Nicholas Stivers to be an Assistant Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

Mr. VITTER. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) is necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN), and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 54, nays 42, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 345 Leg.]

#### YEAS—54

Baldwin	Heinrich	Nelson
Begich	Heitkamp	Pryor
Bennet	Hirono	Reed
Blumenthal	Johnson (SD)	Reid
Booker	Kaine	Rockefeller
Boxer	King	Sanders
Brown	Klobuchar	Schatz
Cantwell	Landrieu	Schumer
Cardin	Leahy	Shaheen
Carper	Levin	Stabenow
Casey	Manchin	Tester
Coons	Markey	Udall (CO)
Donnelly	McCaskill	Udall (NM)
Durbin	Menendez	Walsh
Franken	Merkley	Warner
Gillibrand	Mikulski	Warren
Hagan	Murphy	Whitehouse
Harkin	Murray	Wyden

#### NAYS—42

Alexander	Fischer	Moran
Ayotte	Flake	Murkowski
Barrasso	Graham	Paul
Blunt	Grassley	Portman
Boozman	Hatch	Risch
Burr	Heller	Roberts
Coats	Hoeben	Rubio
Cochran	Isakson	Scott
Collins	Johanns	Sessions
Corker	Johnson (WI)	Shelby
Cornyn	Kirk	Thune
Crapo	Lee	Toomey
Cruz	McCain	Vitter
Enzi	McConnell	Wicker

#### NOT VOTING—4

Chambliss	Feinstein
Coburn	Inhofe

The motion was agreed to.

### EXECUTIVE SESSION

#### NOMINATION OF JONATHAN NICHOLAS STIVERS TO BE AN ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR OF THE UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Jonathan Nicholas Stivers, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Administrator of the

United States Agency for International Development.

# CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. REID. Mr. President, there is a cloture motion at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The bill clerk read as follows:

# CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Jonathan Nicholas Stivers, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development.

Harry Reid, Robert Menendez, Patrick J. Leahy, Martin Heinrich, Jack Reed, Dianne Feinstein, Tom Udall, Benjamin L. Cardin, Bill Nelson, Barbara Boxer, Thomas R. Carper, Edward J. Markey, Jeff Merkley, Sheldon Whitehouse, Jon Tester, Richard J. Durbin, Charles E. Schumer.

Mr. REID. I now move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

Mr. ROBERTS. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) is necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN), and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 54, nays 42, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 346 Ex.]

# YEAS—54

Baldwin	Heinrich	Nelson
Begich	Heitkamp	Pryor
Bennet	Hirono	Reed
Blumenthal	Johnson (SD)	Reid
Booker	Kaine	Rockefeller
Boxer	King	Sanders
Brown	Klobuchar	Schatz
Cantwell	Landrieu	Schumer
Cardin	Leahy	Shaheen
Carper	Levin	Stabenow
Casey	Manchin	Tester
Coons	Markey	Udall (CO)
Donnelly	McCaskill	Udall (NM)
Durbin	Menendez	Walsh
Franken	Merkley	Warner
Gillibrand	Mikulski	Warren
Hagan	Murphy	Whitehouse
Harkin	Murray	Wyden

# NAYS—42

Alexander	Cochran	Fischer
Ayotte	Collins	Flake
Barrasso	Corker	Graham
Blunt	Cornyn	Grassley
Boozman	Crapo	Hatch
Burr	Cruz	Heller
Coats	Enzi	Hoeben

Isakson	Moran	Scott
Johanns	Murkowski	Sessions
Johnson (WI)	Paul	Shelby
Kirk	Portman	Thune
Lee	Risch	Toomey
McCain	Roberts	Vitter
McConnell	Rubio	Wicker

# NOT VOTING—4

Chambliss	Feinstein
Coburn	Inhofe

The motion was agreed to.

# UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—H.R. 83

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that following the filing of cloture on executive calendar nominations—the list of nominations is at the desk, the last of which is the cloture motion on the Biggs nomination, Executive Calendar No. 1147—the Senate resume legislative session and the Senate proceed to vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 83; that if cloture is invoked, there be 2 minutes postcloture debate time remaining on the motion to concur; that upon the use or yielding back of time, the motion to concur with an amendment be withdrawn and the Senate then immediately proceed to vote on the motion to concur.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. There will be some votes tonight. Everybody be patient. I appreciate very much everyone's patience. As I told some Senators a little while ago in both parties, what we have gone through over the last day or so I think is going to help us next year. I really mean that. I certainly hope so.

I now move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 735.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

Mr. RUBIO. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) and the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) are necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN), and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 53, nays 42, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 347 Leg.]

# YEAS—53

Baldwin	Heinrich	Nelson
Begich	Heitkamp	Pryor
Bennet	Hirono	Reed
Blumenthal	Johnson (SD)	Reid
Booker	Kaine	Rockefeller
Boxer	King	Sanders
Brown	Klobuchar	Schatz
Cantwell	Landrieu	Schumer
Cardin	Leahy	Shaheen
Carper	Levin	Tester
Casey	Manchin	Udall (CO)
Coons	Markey	Udall (NM)
Donnelly	McCaskill	Walsh
Durbin	Menendez	Warner
Franken	Merkley	Warren
Gillibrand	Mikulski	Whitehouse
Hagan	Murphy	Wyden
Harkin	Murray	

# NAYS—42

Alexander	Fischer	Moran
Ayotte	Flake	Murkowski
Barrasso	Graham	Paul
Blunt	Grassley	Portman
Boozman	Hatch	Risch
Burr	Heller	Roberts
Coats	Hoeben	Rubio
Cochran	Isakson	Scott
Collins	Johanns	Sessions
Corker	Johnson (WI)	Shelby
Cornyn	Kirk	Thune
Crapo	Lee	Toomey
Cruz	McCain	Vitter
Enzi	McConnell	Wicker

# NOT VOTING—5

Chambliss	Feinstein	Stabenow
Coburn	Inhofe	

The motion was agreed to.

# EXECUTIVE SESSION

# NOMINATION OF JOHN CHARLES CRUDEN TO BE AN ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of John Charles Cruden, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Attorney General.

# CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. REID. Mr. President, there is a cloture motion at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

# CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of John Charles Cruden, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Attorney General.

Harry Reid, Patrick J. Leahy, Martin Heinrich, Jack Reed, Dianne Feinstein, Robert Menendez, Tom Udall, Benjamin L. Cardin, Bill Nelson, Barbara Boxer, Thomas R. Carper, Edward J. Markey, Jeff Merkley, Sheldon Whitehouse, Jon Tester, Richard J. Durbin, Charles E. Schumer.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I now move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.



The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) is necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN), and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 54, nays 42, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 348 Ex.]

YEAS—54

Baldwin	Heinrich	Nelson
Begich	Heitkamp	Pryor
Bennet	Hirono	Reed
Blumenthal	Johnson (SD)	Reid
Booker	Kaine	Rockefeller
Boxer	King	Sanders
Brown	Klobuchar	Schatz
Cantwell	Landrieu	Schumer
Cardin	Leahy	Shaheen
Carper	Levin	Stabenow
Casey	Manchin	Tester
Coons	Markey	Udall (CO)
Donnelly	McCaskill	Udall (NM)
Durbin	Menendez	Walsh
Franken	Merkley	Warner
Gillibrand	Mikulski	Warren
Hagan	Murphy	Whitehouse
Harkin	Murray	Wyden

NAYS—42

Alexander	Fischer	Moran
Ayotte	Flake	Murkowski
Barrasso	Graham	Paul
Blunt	Grassley	Portman
Boozman	Hatch	Risch
Burr	Heller	Roberts
Coats	Hoeven	Rubio
Cochran	Isakson	Scott
Collins	Johanns	Sessions
Corker	Johnson (WI)	Shelby
Cornyn	Kirk	Thune
Crapo	Lee	Toomey
Cruz	McCain	Vitter
Enzi	McConnell	Wicker

NOT VOTING—4

Chambliss	Feinstein
Coburn	Inhofe

The motion was agreed to.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. REID. I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 553, Christopher Smith, of Texas, to be an Assistant Secretary of Energy.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion to proceed.

Mr. COATS. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) is necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), the Sen-

ator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN), and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE).

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. WARREN). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 54, nays 42, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 349 Leg.]

YEAS—54

Baldwin	Heinrich	Nelson
Begich	Heitkamp	Pryor
Bennet	Hirono	Reed
Blumenthal	Johnson (SD)	Reid
Booker	Kaine	Rockefeller
Boxer	King	Sanders
Brown	Klobuchar	Schatz
Cantwell	Landrieu	Schumer
Cardin	Leahy	Shaheen
Carper	Levin	Stabenow
Casey	Manchin	Tester
Coons	Markey	Udall (CO)
Donnelly	McCaskill	Udall (NM)
Durbin	Menendez	Walsh
Franken	Merkley	Warner
Gillibrand	Mikulski	Warren
Hagan	Murphy	Whitehouse
Harkin	Murray	Wyden

NAYS—42

Alexander	Fischer	Moran
Ayotte	Flake	Murkowski
Barrasso	Graham	Paul
Blunt	Grassley	Portman
Boozman	Hatch	Risch
Burr	Heller	Roberts
Coats	Hoeven	Rubio
Cochran	Isakson	Scott
Collins	Johanns	Sessions
Corker	Johnson (WI)	Shelby
Cornyn	Kirk	Thune
Crapo	Lee	Toomey
Cruz	McCain	Vitter
Enzi	McConnell	Wicker

NOT VOTING—4

Chambliss	Feinstein
Coburn	Inhofe

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

NOMINATION OF CHRISTOPHER SMITH TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF ENERGY (FOSSIL ENERGY)

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The assistant bill clerk read the nomination of Christopher Smith, of Texas, to be an Assistant Secretary of Energy (Fossil Energy).

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. REID. Madam President, there is a cloture motion at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Christopher Smith, of Texas, to be an Assistant Secretary of Energy (Fossil Energy).

Harry Reid, Mary Landrieu, Richard J. Durbin, Al Franken, Mark L. Pryor, Benjamin L. Cardin, Sheldon Whitehouse, Christopher Murphy, Tim Kaine, Charles E. Schumer, Michael F. Ben-

net, Ron Wyden, Patty Murray, Debbie Stabenow, Carl Levin, Barbara Boxer, Tom Udall.

Mr. REID. I now move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

Mr. RISCH. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) and the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) are necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN), and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 53, nays 42, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 350 Ex.]

YEAS—53

Baldwin	Heinrich	Nelson
Begich	Heitkamp	Pryor
Bennet	Hirono	Reed
Blumenthal	Johnson (SD)	Reid
Booker	Kaine	Rockefeller
Boxer	King	Sanders
Brown	Klobuchar	Schatz
Cantwell	Landrieu	Schumer
Cardin	Leahy	Shaheen
Carper	Levin	Stabenow
Casey	Manchin	Tester
Coons	Markey	Udall (CO)
Donnelly	McCaskill	Udall (NM)
Durbin	Menendez	Walsh
Franken	Merkley	Warner
Gillibrand	Mikulski	Warren
Hagan	Murphy	Whitehouse
Harkin	Murray	Wyden

NAYS—42

Alexander	Fischer	Moran
Ayotte	Flake	Murkowski
Barrasso	Graham	Paul
Blunt	Grassley	Portman
Boozman	Hatch	Risch
Burr	Heller	Roberts
Coats	Hoeven	Rubio
Cochran	Isakson	Scott
Collins	Johanns	Sessions
Corker	Johnson (WI)	Shelby
Cornyn	Kirk	Thune
Crapo	Lee	Toomey
Cruz	McCain	Vitter
Enzi	McConnell	Wicker

NOT VOTING—5

Chambliss	Feinstein	Stabenow
Coburn	Inhofe	

The motion was agreed to.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. REID. I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 1041, the nomination of Stephen Bough of Missouri.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

Mr. TOOMEY. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) is necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN), and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 54, nays 42, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 351 Leg.]

#### YEAS—54

Baldwin	Heinrich	Nelson
Begich	Heitkamp	Pryor
Bennet	Hirono	Reed
Blumenthal	Johnson (SD)	Reid
Booker	Kaine	Rockefeller
Boxer	King	Sanders
Brown	Klobuchar	Schatz
Cantwell	Landrieu	Schumer
Cardin	Leahy	Shaheen
Carper	Levin	Stabenow
Casey	Manchin	Tester
Coons	Markey	Udall (CO)
Donnelly	McCaskill	Udall (NM)
Durbin	Menendez	Walsh
Franken	Merkley	Warner
Gillibrand	Mikulski	Warren
Hagan	Murphy	Whitehouse
Harkin	Murray	Wyden

#### NAYS—42

Alexander	Fischer	Moran
Ayotte	Flake	Murkowski
Barrasso	Graham	Paul
Blunt	Grassley	Portman
Boozman	Hatch	Risch
Burr	Heller	Roberts
Coats	Hoeven	Rubio
Cochran	Isakson	Scott
Collins	Johanns	Sessions
Corker	Johnson (WI)	Shelby
Cornyn	Kirk	Thune
Crapo	Lee	Toomey
Cruz	McCain	Vitter
Enzi	McConnell	Wicker

#### NOT VOTING—4

Chambliss	Feinstein
Coburn	Inhofe

The motion was agreed to.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

#### NOMINATION OF STEPHEN R. BOUGH TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Stephen R. Bough, of Missouri, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Missouri.

#### CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. REID. There is a cloture motion at the desk, and I ask that it be reported.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

#### CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Stephen R. Bough, of Missouri, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Missouri.

Harry Reid, Patrick J. Leahy, Christopher A. Coons, Dianne Feinstein, Richard J. Durbin, Richard Blumenthal, Brian Schatz, Debbie Stabenow, Michael F. Bennet, Jeff Merkley, Patty Murray, Barbara Boxer, Christopher Murphy, Edward J. Markey, Al Franken, Tom Harkin, Sheldon Whitehouse.

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that Senator Grassley be recognized for 5 minutes for debate only.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The senior Senator from Iowa.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, I rise to correct the Record on the claim that we typically confirm judges during a lameduck session. However, we do confirm judges during a lameduck if those judges were reported to the floor before the election. What we typically don't do is report judges out of committee during a lameduck and then also confirm them that same year, and that is what the majority is attempting to do here, and, of course, I object.

We need to follow precedent on these nominees. I will use 12 years as an example to illustrate what really happened.

In 2002, 20 judges were confirmed during the lameduck, but 18 of those judges had been reported out of committee before the midterm election. Only two of those judges were reported during the lameduck, and that was because these two judges waited for more than a year for a hearing.

In 2004, four judges were confirmed during the lameduck session, but none were reported out during that lameduck session.

In 2006, one judge was confirmed, but again, that judge was not reported out of committee during the lameduck session.

In 2008, there were no confirmations in the lameduck session.

In 2010, again, no judges were confirmed, but that year 15 judges were reported out of committee during the lameduck and every one of those 15 judges was returned to the White House.

Finally, in 2012, no judges were confirmed. That year, again, five judges were reported out of committee during the lameduck, but all five were returned to the White House. That is the raw data.

The data confirms that since 2002, with only two exceptions for special

circumstances, no judges have been reported out and confirmed during the lameduck session. The reason is simple. It gives our newly elected Senators the opportunity to have their voices heard, and that is what this is all about. That is the reason the judicial nominees, which are lifetime appointments, are typically returned to the President if they come out of committee during a lameduck session. It gives the new Members an opportunity to have their voices heard.

I am raising this objection today, although I know we are going to proceed, to protect the prerogatives of newly elected Members. Frankly, I am disappointed that the Members are not willing to stand up and protect those rights and prerogatives. I believe I have a pretty good reputation for working across the aisle on a lot of issues, and I expect that somebody would realize that next year these people would get a fair hearing just as they did before they were reported out of committee.

I yield the floor.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. REID. I now move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

#### NOMINATION OF JORGE LUIS ALONSO TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 1070.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the nomination.

The assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Jorge Luis Alonso, of Illinois, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois.

#### CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. REID. There is a cloture motion at the desk, and I ask that it be reported.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

#### CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Jorge Luis Alonso, of Illinois, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois.

Harry Reid, Patrick J. Leahy, Christopher A. Coons, Dianne Feinstein, Richard J. Durbin, Richard Blumenthal, Brian Schatz, Debbie Stabenow, Michael F. Bennet, Jeff Merkley, Patty Murray, Barbara Boxer, Christopher Murphy, Edward J. Markey, Al Franken, Tom Harkin, Sheldon Whitehouse.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. REID. I now move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

#### NOMINATION OF HAYWOOD STIRLING GILLIAM, JR., TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

Mr. REID. I now move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 1071.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the nomination.

The assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Haywood Stirling Gilliam, Jr., of California, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of California.

#### CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. REID. Mr. President, there is a cloture motion at the desk that I ask to be reported.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

#### CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Haywood Stirling Gilliam, Jr., of California, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of California.

Harry Reid, Patrick J. Leahy, Christopher A. Coons, Dianne Feinstein, Richard J. Durbin, Richard Blumenthal, Brian Schatz, Debbie Stabenow, Michael F. Bennet, Jeff Merkley, Patty Murray, Barbara Boxer, Christopher Murphy, Edward J. Markey, Al Franken, Tom Harkin, Sheldon Whitehouse.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. REID. I now move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

#### NOMINATION OF AMIT PRIYAVADAN MEHTA TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 1072.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the nomination.

The assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Amit Priyavadan Mehta, of the District of Columbia, to be United States District Judge for the District of Columbia.

#### CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. REID. I ask that the cloture motion, which is at the desk, be reported.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

#### CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Amit Priyavadan Mehta, of the District of Columbia, to be United States District Judge for the District of Columbia.

Harry Reid, Patrick J. Leahy, Christopher A. Coons, Dianne Feinstein, Richard J. Durbin, Richard Blumenthal, Brian Schatz, Debbie Stabenow, Michael F. Bennet, Jeff Merkley, Patty Murray, Barbara Boxer, Christopher Murphy, Edward J. Markey, Al Franken, Tom Harkin, Sheldon Whitehouse.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. REID. I now move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

#### NOMINATION OF ALLISON DALE BURROUGHS TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS

Mr. REID. I now move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 1073.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the nomination.

The assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Allison Dale Burroughs, of Massachusetts, to be United States District Judge for the District of Massachusetts.

#### CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. REID. There is a cloture motion at the desk.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The assistant bill clerk read as follows:

#### CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Allison Dale Burroughs, of Massachusetts, to be United States District Judge for the District of Massachusetts.

Harry Reid, Patrick J. Leahy, Christopher A. Coons, Dianne Feinstein, Richard J. Durbin, Richard Blumenthal, Brian Schatz, Debbie Stabenow, Michael F. Bennet, Jeff Merkley, Patty Murray, Barbara Boxer, Christopher Murphy, Edward J. Markey, Al Franken, Tom Harkin, Sheldon Whitehouse.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. REID. I now move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

#### NOMINATION OF JOHN ROBERT BLAKEY TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

Mr. REID. I now move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 1075.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

The clerk will report the nomination.

The assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of John Robert Blakey, of Illinois, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois.

#### CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. REID. There is a cloture motion at the desk.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The bill clerk read as follows:

#### CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of John Robert Blakey, of Illinois, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois.

Harry Reid, Patrick J. Leahy, Christopher A. Coons, Dianne Feinstein, Richard J. Durbin, Richard Blumenthal, Brian Schatz, Debbie Stabenow, Michael F. Bennet, Jeff

Merkley, Patty Murray, Barbara Boxer, Christopher Murphy, Edward J. Markey, Al Franken, Tom Harkin, Sheldon Whitehouse.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. REID. I now move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

#### NOMINATION OF AMOS L. MAZZANT, III, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I now move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 1076.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

The clerk will report the nomination. The assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Amos L. Mazzant, III, of Texas, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Texas.

#### CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. REID. There is a cloture motion at the desk.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The bill clerk read as follows:

#### CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Amos L. Mazzant, III, of Texas, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Texas.

Harry Reid, Patrick J. Leahy, Christopher A. Coons, Dianne Feinstein, Richard J. Durbin, Richard Blumenthal, Brian Schatz, Debbie Stabenow, Michael F. Bennet, Jeff Merkley, Patty Murray, Barbara Boxer, Christopher Murphy, Edward J. Markey, Al Franken, Tom Harkin, Sheldon Whitehouse.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. REID. I now move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

#### NOMINATION OF ROBERT LEE PITMAN TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS

Mr. REID. I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 1077.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the nomination.

The assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Robert Lee Pitman, of Texas, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Texas.

#### CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. REID. There is a cloture motion at the desk.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The bill clerk read as follows:

#### CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Robert Lee Pitman, of Texas, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Texas.

Harry Reid, Patrick J. Leahy, Christopher A. Coons, Dianne Feinstein, Richard J. Durbin, Richard Blumenthal, Brian Schatz, Debbie Stabenow, Michael F. Bennet, Jeff Merkley, Patty Murray, Barbara Boxer, Christopher Murphy, Edward J. Markey, Al Franken, Tom Harkin, Sheldon Whitehouse.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. REID. I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

#### NOMINATION OF ROBERT WILLIAM SCHROEDER III, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS

Mr. REID. I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 1078.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the nomination.

The assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Robert William Schroeder III, of Texas, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Texas.

#### CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. REID. I have a cloture motion at the desk.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The bill clerk read as follows:

#### CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the

Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Robert William Schroeder III, of Texas, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Texas.

Harry Reid, Patrick J. Leahy, Christopher A. Coons, Dianne Feinstein, Richard J. Durbin, Richard Blumenthal, Brian Schatz, Debbie Stabenow, Michael F. Bennet, Jeff Merkley, Patty Murray, Barbara Boxer, Christopher Murphy, Edward J. Markey, Al Franken, Tom Harkin, Sheldon Whitehouse.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. REID. I now move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

#### NOMINATION OF JOAN MARIE AZRACK TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

Mr. REID. I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 1145.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the nomination.

The assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Joan Marie Azrack, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York.

#### CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. REID. I have a cloture motion at the desk.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The bill clerk read as follows:

#### CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Joan Marie Azrack, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York.

Harry Reid, Patrick J. Leahy, Benjamin L. Cardin, Tom Harkin, Jeff Merkley, Mazie Hirono, Patty Murray, Brian Schatz, Sheldon Whitehouse, Charles E. Schumer, Angus S. King, Jr., Amy Klobuchar, Bill Nelson, Christopher A. Coons, Mark Begich, Christopher Murphy, Barbara Boxer.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. REID. I now move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

## NOMINATION OF ELIZABETH K. DILLON TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I now move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 1146.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the nomination.

The assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Elizabeth K. Dillon, of Virginia, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Virginia.

## CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. REID. I have a cloture motion at the desk.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The bill clerk read as follows:

## CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Elizabeth K. Dillon, of Virginia, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Virginia.

Harry Reid, Patrick J. Leahy, Benjamin L. Cardin, Tom Harkin, Jeff Merkley, Mazie Hirono, Patty Murray, Brian Schatz, Sheldon Whitehouse, Angus S. King, Jr., Charles E. Schumer, Amy Klobuchar, Bill Nelson, Christopher A. Coons, Mark Begich, Christopher Murphy, Barbara Boxer.

## LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. REID. I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

## NOMINATION OF LORETTA COPELAND BIGGS TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA

Mr. REID. I now move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 1147.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the nomination.

The assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Loretta Copeland Biggs, of North Carolina, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of North Carolina.

## CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. REID. There is a cloture motion at the desk.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The bill clerk read as follows:

## CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Loretta Copeland Biggs, of North Carolina, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of North Carolina.

Harry Reid, Patrick J. Leahy, Benjamin L. Cardin, Tom Harkin, Jeff Merkley, Mazie Hirono, Patty Murray, Brian Schatz, Sheldon Whitehouse, Angus S. King, Jr., Charles E. Schumer, Amy Klobuchar, Bill Nelson, Christopher A. Coons, Mark Begich, Christopher Murphy, Barbara Boxer.

## LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. REID. I now move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

## INSULAR AREAS AND FREELY ASSOCIATED STATES ENERGY DEVELOPMENT—Continued

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The bill clerk read as follows:

## CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 83.

Harry Reid, Barbara A. Mikulski, Brian Schatz, Benjamin L. Cardin, Martin Heinrich, John E. Walsh, Richard J. Durbin, Thomas R. Carper, Patty Murray, Tim Johnson, Angus S. King, Jr., Mark R. Warner, Tom Udall, Dianne Feinstein, Bill Nelson, Mark L. Pryor, Tammy Baldwin.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the motion to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 83 shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) is necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN), and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE).

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 77, nays 19, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 352 Leg.]

## YEAS—77

Alexander	Flake	Merkley
Ayotte	Gillibrand	Mikulski
Baldwin	Graham	Murkowski
Barrasso	Grassley	Murphy
Begich	Hagan	Murray
Bennet	Harkin	Nelson
Blumenthal	Hatch	Pryor
Blunt	Heinrich	Reed
Booker	Heitkamp	Reid
Boozman	Hirono	Roberts
Boxer	Hooven	Rockefeller
Burr	Isakson	Schatz
Cantwell	Johanns	Schumer
Cardin	Johnson (SD)	Shaheen
Carper	Johnson (WI)	Stabenow
Casey	Kaine	Tester
Coats	King	Thune
Cochran	Kirk	Toomey
Collins	Klobuchar	Udall (CO)
Coons	Landrieu	Udall (NM)
Corker	Leahy	Walsh
Cornyn	Levin	Warner
Donnelly	Markey	Whitehouse
Durbin	McCain	Wicker
Enzi	McConnell	Wyden
Fischer	Menendez	

## NAYS—19

Brown	McCaskill	Scott
Crapo	Moran	Sessions
Cruz	Paul	Shelby
Franken	Portman	Vitter
Heller	Risch	Warren
Lee	Rubio	
Manchin	Sanders	

## NOT VOTING—4

Chambliss	Feinstein
Coburn	Inhofe

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. On this vote, the yeas are 77, the nays are 19.

Three-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn having voted in the affirmative, the motion is agreed to.

Cloture having been invoked, the motion to refer fails.

## AGRICULTURAL EXEMPTIONS

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to engage in a colloquy with my colleague, Senator MIKULSKI.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I wish to discuss an important matter related to H.R. 83, the omnibus bill, with my colleague from Maryland, Senator MIKULSKI. As you know, section 111 of this bill for the Corps of Engineers discusses the agricultural exemptions under section 404(f)(1)(A),(C) of the Clean Water Act.

There has been some confusion as to exactly what this provision does and doesn't do. I would like to clarify that this provision does not expand or modify the current agricultural exemptions that are contained in the Clean Water Act nor does it impact the "recapture" provision in section 404(f)(2).

Mr. President, can the Senator from Maryland provide a further explanation of the issue?

Ms. MIKULSKI. First and foremost, I wish to thank the Senator from California for her efforts in negotiating the difficult issues within the Energy and Water portion of the omnibus bill.

As the Senator knows, the original House language would have kept the Corps of Engineers from regulating the agricultural exemptions as well as essentially eliminating the recapture provision where permits are needed if an exempted activity impacts waters of the U.S. by impairing circulation of or reducing the reach of such waters.

I was pleased that the language that we were able to work out with Chairman ROGERS and include in the omnibus dropped the language in the original House provision. The compromise language does not change current law and preserves the current scope of agricultural exemptions. The simple fact remains that if you needed a permit before, you will need to get a permit under this provision; if you didn't need one before, you won't under this provision.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. I thank my colleague so much for this clarification. This is a very important clarification.

#### LEAD CONTENT REGULATION

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to engage in a colloquy with my colleague, Senator MIKULSKI.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I am joined by the chair of the Appropriations Committee to discuss a provision in the fiscal year 2015 Omnibus appropriations bill, which we will vote on shortly in the Senate.

The provision is section 425 of division F of the fiscal year 2015 Omnibus appropriations bill, which preserves the status quo with regard to the regulation of the lead content of certain items. As House Report 113-551 and the Omnibus Joint Explanatory Statement each explain, section 425 prohibits the use of funds to regulate the lead content of: (1) ammunition, (2) ammunition components, and (3) fishing tackle. The Toxic Substances Control Act regulates the chemical content of products. However, the Environmental Protection Agency has denied petitions to regulate the lead content of ammunition and fishing tackle under this statute. The omnibus provision simply reaffirms EPA's decision not to regulate the lead content of ammunition or fishing tackle under TSCA.

While I oppose restricting EPA's ability to regulate the content of bullets and fishing tackle, I think it is important to be clear about what this provision does. I would ask my colleague, Senator MIKULSKI, if she agrees with this interpretation of section 425.

Ms. MIKULSKI. I thank Senator BOXER. As chairman of the Appropriations Committee and lead author of the fiscal year 2015 Omnibus appropriations bill, I agree with her understanding of section 425.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, today we face a difficult choice. The appropriations bill before us today contains a lot

of good for Michigan and for our country, and it will provide most of our Federal agencies, and the people who rely on them, with the certainty needed to plan and invest. But it also contains some very troubling provisions.

We shouldn't use appropriations bills like this one to weaken our financial protection laws and to open the floodgates to campaign donations from millionaires. We shouldn't fund our financial regulators far below what they need to do their jobs. We shouldn't meddle with the will of the majority of residents in our Nation's Capital. And we shouldn't let tax cheats walk free by funding the IRS at the lowest level in years. I could go on and on about the flaws in this bill, and there is one in particular that I will highlight further.

But despite these significant flaws, the alternatives to this bill are also deeply problematic. Passage of a continuing resolution, which would put the Federal Government on autopilot, or worse, a government shutdown, are the two alternatives to passage of this bill. So that leaves us with the terrible decision we face today. So this bill appears poised to pass because it must and because it is better than the terrible alternatives I just discussed. If my vote were needed to pass this bill, I would, grudgingly, vote in favor. But it appears that this bill will pass regardless, and so I will not vote in favor of it today because I wish to express my deep concern about a number of provisions.

That provision, which guts the swaps pushout rule, will repeal an antibailout section of the Dodd-Frank act and risk putting taxpayers back on the hook for Wall Street banks' risky bets. As chairman of the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, just last month I held a hearing on bank involvement in the commodities markets. As chairman of the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, just last month I held a hearing on bank involvement in the commodities markets. We found that Wall Street had huge, wide-ranging ownership and control of and inside information about oil, copper, aluminum, uranium, and electricity markets at the same time they were engaging in financial transactions related to those same commodities posing big risks to the banks and, as a result, to the taxpayers who could be called on to bail them out in the event that those bets go awry.

Less than 14 years ago, the seeds of our financial crisis were planted in a derivatives provision planted in the 2001 appropriations bill. This provision, which like the provision in the bill before us, was added at the last minute and not subject to debate on its own, exempted derivatives from regulatory scrutiny, and left regulators, banks, and the American public on the hook when risky bets went bad.

As a result, Congress voted to enact a prohibition against Federal Govern-

ment bailouts of swaps entities, or the swaps pushout rule, as part of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act. This provision bans big banks from conducting risky derivatives trading in their insured banking units—the units that taxpayers would have to bail out if their bets went wrong.

Now we risk repeating the same mistake of 2001.

The language of the provision was written—literally written—by lobbyists for the big banks. According to a New York Times report, 70 of the 85 lines of the provision came directly from Wall Street's recommendations. Even more surprisingly, according to the Times, "two crucial paragraphs, prepared by Citigroup in conjunction with other Wall Street banks, were copied nearly word for word."

The Senate has long operated under rules that prevent legislative changes from being made on an appropriations bill. This provision runs completely against that longstanding precedent. The swaps pushout provision is bad policy, and it is bad procedure. And if I could vote against that provision by itself, I certainly would.

But, unfortunately, because of where we are today and because of the decision to insert the unrelated, lobbyist-drafted provision into this bill at the last minute, we won't be able to consider that provision on its merits. Instead, we are considering this as part of an all-or-nothing package, with the threat of a continuing resolution or a government shutdown looming.

So, I will vote against this bill despite much good that it would do for my State and for our country in hopes that the next Senate will heed the warnings of myself and many of my colleagues that the provision in this bill weakening our country's banking regulations may sow the seeds of another taxpayer funded bank bailout and another financial crisis.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I wish to speak on the fiscal year 2015 Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act that is currently before the Senate.

For the last year, members of the Appropriations Committee have worked hard to develop bipartisan bills that establish priorities and responsibly fund the government. While I would have much preferred each of these bills to have been brought to the floor individually so they could be debated and amended, passage of this compromise legislation to keep government open and provide vital services to Americans who depend on them is essential.

While the legislation funds nearly all government operations, programs, and agencies through the remainder of the fiscal year, notably, this bill funds the Department of Homeland Security only through February 27, 2015, giving Congress time to thoughtfully respond to

the President's unilateral action on immigration. While I supported the bipartisan legislation to reform our immigration laws that passed the Senate last year, I believe President Obama's recent Executive action on immigration circumvents Congress and undermines the separation of powers in our Constitution. This bill gives Congress time to formulate an appropriate response.

In addition to the regular funding contained in this bill, the legislation also provides more than \$5 billion in emergency funding to address the Ebola crisis at home and abroad. The scope and urgency of this crisis require continued attention, and this funding will build on the important initial investment for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Department of Health and Human Services that Congress provided in September.

I want to highlight the important work that Chairman MURRAY and I have accomplished as the leaders on the Transportation and Housing and Urban Development Subcommittee on Appropriations. Over this past year, Senator MURRAY and I worked together to craft a bipartisan bill that includes input from Members on both sides of the aisle and provides the necessary resources to meet our nation's transportation and housing needs. Every Member of Congress has unmet transportation and housing needs in his or her home State, from crumbling roads and bridges to a growing population of low income families, elderly, and disabled individuals in need of housing assistance.

There are a number of key programs that I would like to highlight. With regard to transportation infrastructure, we secured funding to address the safe transportation of crude oil and other hazardous materials by rail, strengthening three components: prevention, mitigation, and response. These safety measures will help to prevent disasters like the horrific derailment in Lac-Mégantic, Quebec, last year—so very close to the Maine border.

We also provide \$500 million for the TIGER program, an effective initiative that helps advance transportation infrastructure projects. We all have seen firsthand how TIGER projects create jobs and support economic growth in our home States. In fact in Maine this highly competitive program has supported more than \$90 million in funding for roads, bridges, ports, and rail projects.

Turning to air travel, the aviation investments included in the bill will continue to modernize our Nation's air traffic system and keep rural communities connected to the transportation network. These investments are creating safer skies and a more efficient airspace to move the flying public.

Also included in the bill are provisions I authored, which were adopted

by the Appropriations Committee by a bipartisan vote of 21 to 9, to respond to potential safety concerns related to DOT regulations governing truck drivers. As a result of unintended consequences of these regulations, more trucks have been forced on our Nation's roads during the most congested morning hours—when commuters are traveling to work and children are traveling to school. The bill provides temporary relief until the DOT Secretary conducts a comprehensive study on the impacts of these unanticipated outcomes.

In addition to these transportation programs, our bill provides sufficient funding to keep pace with the rising cost of housing programs for our most vulnerable families. More than four million families will continue to receive critical rental assistance for housing. Without it, many of these families would otherwise become homeless.

The bill reflects our strong commitment to reduce homelessness and includes more than \$2 billion for Homeless Assistance Grants. Since 2010, we have reduced overall chronic homelessness by 21 percent and veterans' homelessness by 33 percent. This program works. That is why we build on these successes and provide an additional 10,000 HUD-VASH vouchers to serve our Nation's veterans.

While we continue to help families in need, we also recognize the struggles facing our local communities. Boosting local economies is critical to job creation and helping families obtain financial security. Our bill supports these local development efforts by providing \$3 billion for the Community Development Block Grants program. This is an extremely important program for States and communities because it allows them to tailor the Federal funds to support local economic and job creation projects.

Other provisions of the bill make equally important investments in our national security, energy infrastructure, veterans, and health and human services.

For our military and our national security, I particularly appreciate that the bill fully funds the *Arleigh Burke*-class DDG-51 and *Zumwalt*-class DDG-1000 destroyers. The destroyers are known as the real workhorses of the fleet and are critical to maintaining the robust forward naval presence our nation requires especially in a time of increasing threats to our security. The continued support of the destroyer programs is also a strong testament to the hard work and dedication of the men and women at Bath Iron Works in Maine. Bath-built truly is best built.

The bill also includes funding for the procurement of 38 F-35s and for four additional aircraft. The F-35 is vital to maintaining air superiority, and components of the aircraft are built by

skilled workers at Pratt & Whitney in North Berwick, General Dynamics Ordnance and Tactical Systems in Saco, Hunting Dearborn, Inc. in Fryeburg, and Fairchild Semiconductor in South Portland. Neither the bill, nor the report, recommends an unnecessary study of an extra engine for the F-35 fighter, which would have wasted billions of dollars.

Turning to our Nation's public shipyards, I am pleased that this bill funds our Navy's facility maintenance and modernization efforts, including projects at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard in Kittery, ME. The agreement contains language I secured that ensures the capital investment for the Navy's four public shipyards, including the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, is funded at the level required by law.

For the men and women serving in uniform all over the world, the bill also rightly rejects many of the President's proposals that would have imposed burdens on many servicemembers and their families.

For our Veterans, I am pleased that this bill provides funding for the highly successful Access Received Closer to Home program, or ARCH, which provides critical care to our veterans living in rural areas, including those living in Northern Maine. The ARCH pilot program provides VA-covered health care services through non-VA providers and has been crucial to increasing access to care for rural Maine veterans.

The funding bill also provides additional resources to implement the reforms included in the recently enacted Veterans Access to Care through Choice, Accountability, and Transparency Act.

We must increase our investment in biomedical research, and this bill provides \$72 million in new funding for Alzheimer's Disease research, treatment, and caregiver programs. This important step takes us closer toward the goal of doubling funding for Alzheimer's research and eventually reaching the level of \$2 billion a year in federal investment. This is the amount that the chairman of the Alzheimer's Advisory Council has said will be necessary if we are to reach our goal of having a way to prevent or effectively treat Alzheimer's Disease by 2025. At a time when Alzheimer's is costing our Nation \$214 billion a year, including \$150 billion in costs to Medicare and Medicaid, we are spending less than \$600 million a year on Alzheimer's research. While this bill does take a step forward, clearly we need to do more given the tremendous human and economic toll this devastating disease takes on our Nation.

In addition, this funding bill makes important investments in agricultural research and extension activities, from potatoes to wild blueberries to aquaculture and forest products, while maintaining a commitment to nutrition and food security. The agreement



finally allows all fresh vegetables, including the fresh, white potato, to be included in the WIC program while USDA carries out an evaluation of the nutrient value of all vegetables, helping to ensure that any long-term policy is transparent and reflects the latest science.

This bill also makes important commitments to our energy infrastructure and provides robust funding for the Department of Energy wind program. This program funds the offshore wind demonstration projects, including the R&D project being carried out by the University of Maine. Federal seed money is helping overcome barriers to the development and implementation of new and innovative technologies, such as deepwater offshore wind, which can position the U.S. as a global leader in innovative clean energy.

To help address the high cost of residential energy, particularly for those living in northern, rural States like Maine, funding is provided in this bill for the Weatherization program. This program plays an important role in permanently reducing home energy costs for low-income families and seniors. Moreover, the funding included for LIHEAP will help ensure that many of our most vulnerable families and seniors do not have to choose between paying for heat and paying for other necessities such as food or medicine.

Helping to meet the water infrastructure needs of smaller states and regions is another vital piece of our National infrastructure. This bill includes funding for the operation and maintenance of Army Corps projects at smaller harbors, which are the economic lifeblood for many rural communities, a fact not fully accounted for under the Corps' budget metrics, which tend to favor larger ports.

The bill also continues to support our nation's fisheries, which are so important to the economies of our coastal communities, particularly in Maine. From funding for annual stock assessments, surveys and monitoring, and cooperative research, the bill supports key State and Federal partnerships. It provides funding to ensure fisheries data collection accurately reflects stock sustainability and funding for NOAA to invest in the science and research necessary to sustainably manage our fisheries in a way that continues to support our fishing fleets.

Finally, I am pleased to see that the bill includes full funding for the Trade Adjustment Assistance programs that are so important in Maine, and for which Senator KING and I both advocated. As we continue to deal with the recent job losses at paper mills in Maine, this assistance to displaced workers is extremely important.

Completing action on this bill will keep government open and provide essential services to Americans who depend on them. While there are aspects

of this compromise legislation that should have been subject to debate and amendment in an open process by the full Senate, including provisions that affect significantly multi-employer pensions and our campaign finance laws, we simply cannot allow a government shutdown. For that reason, I will be voting for this compromise legislation, and I urge my colleagues do so as well.

Mr. MANCHIN. Mr. President, I rise today to voice my opposition to the spending bill we are being forced to vote on. I am not voting to shut down the government. I am voting to negotiate on a bill where we are at least able to participate. I am voting to stay here, work with all my colleagues on a better bill, and put an end to the dysfunctional process we are forced to endure every year. I have read through the bill, and I am sure everyone can find something in here that they like.

I certainly have some items in the bill that will help my little State of West Virginia. But there is just too much waste, too much taxpayer risk, and too little transparency for me to stomach.

In the 4 years I have been in the Senate and on the Armed Services Committee, I have heard from officials on the damage done by the sequester and how it has cannibalized the Armed Forces. And yet, while DOD officials were forced to absorb across-the-board cuts in 2013, I have made it a point to ask if they are being forced into projects they don't want or need. This bill, however, completely ignores what the Department of Defense has said.

We are wasting \$5 billion on Department of Defense spending that the Pentagon did not ask for and does not need. They didn't ask for some of these ships, tanks and airplanes, but we are forcing them to purchase those projects anyway. And not only are we wasting this money, but we are denying it from other important programs that desperately need those funds.

In this bill, we gut hard-working Americans' pensions, and instead of using the \$5 billion to fund the Care Act, which ensures that the UMWA's Pension Plan remains solvent to benefit miners who have helped power this Nation, we give the Pentagon tanks and ships and planes they don't need or even want. We have seen our political process become more corrosive than ever in recent years.

We have already seen the negative effects that the Citizens United ruling has had on our elections. It has allowed unlimited and dark money to distort the records of our colleagues, flood our airwaves with negative advertisements and shrink our campaigns to sound bites instead of ideas.

And what does this bill do to address this? It increases the limits for individual contributions to political parties by 10 times the current limit—10

times. The current limit of \$32,400 was already too high for most West Virginians and Americans to be able to take full advantage. The new limit of \$324,000 is inconceivable for the vast majority of Americans. That means that our political process will only be available to a small number of wealthy individuals who will have more influence on our government than the hard-working Americans we are sent here to represent.

Main Street America is still hurting from the fallout of Wall Street's greedy behavior. Americans lost 8.8 million jobs and our GDP fell by at least \$7.2 trillion. We lost a generation of jobs and economic progress. And while our economy is still trying to recover and millions of Americans are still out of work, Wall Street has seen record profits.

Instead of working to help our small businesses, community banks, and credit agencies, this bill allows Wall Street banks to go back to the same risky behavior that drove us into the great recession in the first place. If we pass this bill, we will allow Wall Street banks to trade risky derivatives and once again force American taxpayers to bail them out if they lose their bets.

Haven't we learned our lesson yet? If big banks want to trade in risky derivatives and act with greed, then they should bear the cost of their mistakes, not the American taxpayer.

Mr. President, I understand omnibus bills are made out of negotiation and compromise, but negotiations start with participation. Here, most Members of the Senate were not even consulted on this bill, nor was there an opportunity to offer amendments.

Senator Robert C. Byrd, a man who defined what it meant to be a representative of the people and one of the most dedicated and passionate United States Senators to date, told me what it was like to work in the Senate before the process was broken. Upon arriving in the Senate, I assumed those same rules of conduct applied until Members here in this body explained to me just how much has changed.

We used to consider individual appropriations bills that were carefully deliberated by committee members, and then we brought those smaller bills to the floor and were given an opportunity to offer amendments and debate the bill in a timely, proper manner. Somehow, the Senate process has gotten away from the days of regular order. Instead, here we are today, where we were given two days to read a 1,600-page bill loaded with provisions that we cannot even amend.

Since we are forced to consider this bill as a whole, I have determined that it is simply too flawed for me to support.

I urge my colleagues to stay here another week and truly draft a bipartisan omnibus package that fairly represents American values.



The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Texas.

Mr. CRUZ. Mr. President, 1 month ago President Obama announced unprecedented Executive amnesty, in direct conflict with the immigration laws passed by Congress. Tonight is the first opportunity that Congress has to express its disapproval.

A dozen Democrats have publicly criticized the Executive amnesty. Tonight, both Democrats and Republicans will have the opportunity to show America whether they stand with the President, who is defying the will of the voters, or with the millions of Americans who want a safe and legal immigration system.

This point of order is targeted not to the entire omnibus but specifically to the DHS funding that the President has announced will be spent unconstitutionally.

If you believe President Obama's amnesty is unconstitutional, vote yes. If you believe President Obama's amnesty is consistent with the Constitution, then vote no. Accordingly, I raise a constitutional point of order against Division L of the pending House amendment, on the grounds that it violates the following provisions of the Constitution: the separation of powers embodied in the vesting clauses of article I, section 1, and article II, section 1; the enumerated powers of Congress stated in article I, section 8; and the requirement that the President take care that the laws be faithfully executed as stated in article II, section 3.

It is incumbent on this body to resolve those constitutional questions and to honor and protect the constitutional authority of the United States Congress.

I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The majority leader.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, the junior Senator from Texas raises a point of order attacking the pending legislation on the grounds that the President has acted unconstitutionally. The junior Senator from Texas is wrong, wrong, wrong on several counts. But most importantly for us this evening, it is an attack on this bill because this is not an appropriate place to debate the constitutionality of any executive branch action. Under the precedents of the Senate, the Senate determines whether it is constitutional to consider the legislation before it.

The House of Representatives passed this legislation before us in an exercise of its powers under article I of the United States Constitution. This bill has, thus, originated in the House within the meaning of the origination clause of the Constitution.

Voting on this measure is no different from thousands of other meas-

ures on which the Senate has voted. The Constitution objection is completely—completely—without merit and should be rejected.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Who yields time?

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I yield back all time.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. All time has expired.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, regular order.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. All time has expired. Regular order has been requested.

Under the precedents and practices of the Senate, the Chair has no power or authority to pass on such a point of order. The Chair, therefore, under the precedents of the Senate, submits the question to the Senate, Is the point of order well taken?

The yeas and nays were previously ordered.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) is necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN), and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE).

The result was announced—yeas 22, nays 74, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 353 Leg.]

#### YEAS—22

Blunt	Isakson	Rubio
Boozman	Johanns	Scott
Burr	Lee	Sessions
Crapo	Moran	Shelby
Cruz	Paul	Thune
Fischer	Portman	Vitter
Grassley	Risch	
Hoeven	Roberts	

#### NAYS—74

Alexander	Gillibrand	Mikulski
Ayotte	Graham	Murkowski
Baldwin	Hagan	Murphy
Barrasso	Harkin	Murray
Begich	Hatch	Nelson
Bennet	Heinrich	Pryor
Blumenthal	Heitkamp	Reed
Booker	Heller	Reid
Boxer	Hirono	Rockefeller
Brown	Johnson (SD)	Sanders
Cantwell	Johnson (WI)	Schatz
Cardin	Kaine	Schumer
Carper	King	Shaheen
Casey	Kirk	Stabenow
Coats	Klobuchar	Tester
Cochran	Landrieu	Toomey
Collins	Leahy	Udall (CO)
Coons	Levin	Udall (NM)
Corker	Manchin	Walsh
Cornyn	Markey	Warner
Donnelly	McCain	Warren
Durbin	McCaskill	Whitehouse
Enzi	McConnell	Wicker
Flake	Menendez	Wyden
Franken	Merkley	

#### NOT VOTING—4

Chambliss	Feinstein
Coburn	Inhofe

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question was put to the Senate, Is the point of order well taken?

On this vote, the yeas are 22, the nays are 74.

The point of order is not well taken. Under the previous order, the motion to concur with amendments is withdrawn.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the motion to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 83.

The majority leader.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, this will be the last vote tonight. We hope to be able to start at 9:30 Monday morning with the next vote. We will let everyone know for sure.

Mr. WICKER. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) is necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN), and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE).

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 56, nays 40, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 354 Leg.]

#### YEAS—56

Alexander	Enzi	Murphy
Ayotte	Fischer	Murray
Baldwin	Graham	Nelson
Barrasso	Hagan	Pryor
Begich	Hatch	Reid
Bennet	Heinrich	Roberts
Blunt	Heitkamp	Rockefeller
Boozman	Hoeven	Schatz
Burr	Isakson	Schumer
Cardin	Johanns	Shaheen
Carper	Johnson (SD)	Stabenow
Casey	Kaine	Thune
Coats	King	Toomey
Cochran	Kirk	Udall (CO)
Collins	Landrieu	Udall (NM)
Coons	Leahy	Walsh
Cornyn	McConnell	Warner
Donnelly	Mikulski	Wicker
Durbin	Murkowski	

#### NAYS—40

Blumenthal	Hirono	Reed
Booker	Johnson (WI)	Risch
Boxer	Klobuchar	Rubio
Brown	Lee	Sanders
Cantwell	Levin	Scott
Corker	Manchin	Sessions
Crapo	Markey	Shelby
Cruz	McCain	Tester
Flake	McCaskill	Vitter
Franken	Menendez	Warren
Gillibrand	Merkley	Whitehouse
Grassley	Moran	Wyden
Harkin	Paul	
Heller	Portman	

#### NOT VOTING—4

Chambliss	Feinstein
Coburn	Inhofe

The motion was agreed to.

Ms. MIKULSKI. I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. REID. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HEINRICH). The clerk will call the roll. The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### CORRECTING THE ENROLLMENT OF H.R. 83

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of H. Con. Res. 122, correcting the enrollment of H.R. 83, providing a new title; that the concurrent resolution be agreed to; and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 122) was agreed to.

#### UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—MANDATORY QUORUM REQUIRED UNDER RULE XXII

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum required under rule XXII be waived with respect to the cloture motions filed during today's discussion on the nominations.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to a period of morning business, during which time Senators be permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

#### EXPLANATION OF CONGRESSIONAL INTENT

Mr. REID. Mr. President, the intent of division N, section 101 is to establish separate limits for funds raised into separate, segregated accounts established by national political party committees for certain specified purposes. All of these funds are "hard money" subject to all of the source limitations, prohibitions, and disclosure provisions of the act.

The first account, described in section 315(a)(9)(A) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, "FECA", as amended, is intended to allow a national committee of a political party—other than a national congressional campaign committee—to defray expenses related to a Presidential nominating convention using funds raised under separate, increased limits. Section 315(a)(9)(A) also caps the aggregate amount of expenditures a national political party committee may make from such account with respect to any

convention at \$20,000,000. This section is intended to provide national political party committees with a means of acquiring additional resources to be used specifically in connection with the funding of Presidential nominating conventions because such conventions may no longer be paid for with public funds. It is the intent to allow these funds to be used in the same manner as the former public funds could have been used, as well as to pay for the costs of fundraising for this segregated account.

The second account, described in section 315(a)(9)(B) of FECA, as amended, is intended to permit a national committee of a political party—including a national congressional campaign committee of a political party—to defray expenses incurred with respect to the construction, purchase, renovation, operation and furnishing of party headquarters buildings located throughout the United States, including the cost of fundraising for this segregated account, using funds raised under separate, increased limits. Funds in these accounts also may be used to repay loans and other obligations incurred for the purpose of defraying such building expenses, including loans and obligations incurred 2 years before the date of the enactment of this act.

The third account, described in section 315(a)(9)(C) of FECA, as amended, is intended to permit a national committee of a political party—including a national congressional campaign committee of a political party—to defray expenses incurred with respect to the preparation for and the conduct of election recounts and contests and other legal proceedings, including the costs of fundraising for this segregated account, using funds raised under a separate limit. Section 101 of division N is not intended to modify Federal Election Commission precedent permitting the raising and spending of funds by campaign or State or national party committees. See FEC Advisory Opinions 2006–24, 2009–4. Section 101 is also intended to permit the national parties to use such funds for costs, fees, and disbursements associated with other legal proceedings.

Finally, under current law coordinated limits do not apply even absent these provisions to the existing accounts as described in section 315 of FECA and therefore it is the intent of the amendments contained herein that expenditures made from the accounts described in section 315(a)(9) of FECA, many of which, such as recount and legal proceeding expenses, are not for the purpose of influencing Federal elections, do not count against the coordinated party expenditure limits described in section 315(d) of FECA.

#### FIRST STATE HISTORICAL NATIONAL PARK

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to engage in a colloquy with the chair of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee, Senator LANDRIEU, concerning the authorization of the First State National Historical Park that was included within H.R. 3979, the National Defense Authorization Act.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. CARPER. As the chairman is aware, our staffs worked diligently with property owners and other stakeholders in the drafting of the language authorizing the First State National Historical Park within H.R. 3979. The authorization includes language that redesignates the sites currently within the boundary of the First State National Monument and authorizes four additional sites—the Old Swedes Church, Fort Christina, the John Dickinson Plantation, and the Ryves Holt House—to be included within the boundary of the new First State National Historical Park. The language authorizes the National Park Service to acquire the listed additional sites only under very specific parameters, including by purchase from a willing seller; by exchange, which can only be achieved if the property owner consents; or by donation. No lands or interests in land can be acquired by condemnation, so no landowner can be forced to sell their property for inclusion in the park. To further clarify our intent, the legislation references a map outlining the boundaries for each of the eligible sites.

I would like to ask the Chair of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources whether she agrees with my intent and understanding of the language authorizing the First State National Historical Park within H.R. 3979 in that no additional property can be included in the boundaries of the park until the U.S. government has acquired the property, and furthermore, that no property can be acquired—either in fee title or an interest in land, such as an easement—unless acquired from a landowner who willingly desires to sell or donate. I would also like to ask the chairman if it is her understanding that none of these properties could be acquired for inclusion within the boundaries of the park by the exercise of Federal power of eminent domain?

Ms. LANDRIEU. I want to thank the Senator from Delaware for raising these important issues. I agree with his understanding and description of the land acquisition provisions for the First State National Historical Park within H.R. 3979, that the language does not permit condemnation, so that the only way a specific property can be acquired by the Federal Government is through a voluntary sale by the landowner.

Mr. CARPER. I thank the Senator from Louisiana for her comments and her leadership on this issue. I also would like to thank the committee staff, especially David Brooks, for all the hard work they have done over the years to make a national park a reality in Delaware.

#### BUDGETARY REVISIONS

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2013, which Congress passed a year ago this month, not only provided relief to families, servicemembers, and the economy from the harmful effects of sequestration, but also put an end to the recent fiscal crises and uncertainty by establishing a bipartisan budget for two years.

Pursuant to section 116 of the Bipartisan Budget Act, I previously filed budgetary aggregates and committee allocations for budget year 2015. Today, I am adjusting those levels to account for H.R. 83, the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2015.

Section 251 of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 establishes statutory limits on discretionary spending and allows for various adjustments to those limits, while sections 302 and 314(a) of the Congressional Budget Act allows the Chairman of the Budget Committee to establish and make revisions to allocations, aggregates, and levels consistent with those adjustments. H.R. 83, which has passed the House, is eligible for the following adjustments:

Division A, the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, which includes \$91 million in budget authority and \$40 million in outlays that is designated as

disaster funding, and \$25 million in budget authority and \$7 million in outlays designated as an emergency.

Division C, the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, which includes \$64 billion in budget authority and \$30.476 billion in outlays that is designated as Overseas Contingency Operations funding, and \$112 million in budget authority and \$119 million in outlays that is designated as emergency funding

Division G, the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, which includes \$1.484 billion in budget authority and \$1.277 billion in outlays for program integrity initiatives, and \$2.742 billion in budget authority and \$933 million in outlays designated as an emergency.

Division I, the Military Construction and Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, which includes \$221 million in budget authority that is designated as Overseas Contingency Operations.

Division J, the State, Foreign Operations, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, which includes \$9.258 billion in budget authority and \$2.233 billion in outlays that is designated as Overseas Contingency Operations funding, and \$2.526 billion in budget authority and \$468 million in outlays designated as an emergency.

Because I previously filed adjustments for most of these bills after they were reported by the Committee on Appropriations, the adjustments I am making today takes into account those existing adjustments and reflect only the net difference.

In total, I am revising the budgetary aggregates for 2015 by a total of \$11.351 billion in budget authority and \$3.983 billion in outlays. I am also revising the budget authority and outlay allo-

cations to the appropriations committee for 2015 by a total of \$6.048 billion in revised nonsecurity budget authority, \$5.967 billion in revised security budget authority, and \$4.567 billion in total outlays.

I am pleased to note that the funding in the omnibus appropriations bill is fully consistent with the bipartisan limits on discretionary spending agreed to in the Bipartisan Budget Act.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the following tables detailing the changes to the allocation to the Committee on Appropriations and the budgetary aggregates be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

#### DETAIL BY CATEGORY ON ADJUSTMENTS TO FISCAL YEAR 2015 ALLOCATIONS TO COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 302 AND 314(a) OF THE CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET ACT

[\$s in billions]

	Adjustments Made for Committee-Reported Bills*	Total Funding Eligible for Adjustments in H.R. 83	Changes to Existing Adjustments to Match Total H.R. 83 Adjustments
Overseas Contingency Operations			
BA .....	68.344	73.479	5.135
Outlays .....	30.868	32.709	1.841
Emergency			
BA .....	0.000	5.405	5.405
Outlays .....	0.075	1.527	1.452
Program Integrity Initiatives			
BA .....	0.000	1.484	1.484
Outlays .....	0.000	1.277	1.277
Disaster			
BA .....	0.100	0.091	-0.009
Outlays .....	0.043	0.040	-0.003
Total			
BA .....	68.444	80.459	12.015
Outlays .....	30.986	35.553	4.567

\* Excludes adjustments made for the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations bill, which is funded in H.R. 83 on a temporary basis through February 27th, 2015, and therefore no further adjustments are appropriate at this time.

#### DETAIL ON ADDITIONAL ADJUSTMENTS BY SUBCOMMITTEE TO FISCAL YEAR 2015 ALLOCATIONS TO COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 302 AND 314(a) OF THE CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET ACT

[\$s in billions]

	Program Integrity	Disaster Relief	Emergency	Overseas Contingency Operations	Total
H.R. 83, Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2015 *					
Agriculture					
Budget Authority .....	0.000	-0.009	0.025	0.000	0.016
Outlays .....	0.000	-0.003	0.007	0.000	0.004
Defense					
Budget Authority .....	0.000	0.000	0.112	4.281	4.393
Outlays .....	0.000	0.000	0.044	2.108	2.152
Labor-HHS-ED					
Budget Authority .....	1.484	0.000	2.742	0.000	4.226
Outlays .....	1.277	0.000	0.933	0.000	2.210
MilCon-VA					
Budget Authority .....	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.221	0.221
Outlays .....	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
State-Foreign Operations					
Budget Authority .....	0.000	0.000	2.526	0.633	3.159
Outlays .....	0.000	0.000	0.468	-0.267	0.201
Total					
Budget Authority .....	1.484	-0.009	5.405	5.135	12.015
Outlays .....	1.277	-0.003	1.452	1.841	4.567
Breakdown of Above Adjustments by Category					
Revised Security Category Budget Authority .....	0.000	0.000	0.112	5.855	5.967
Revised Nonsecurity Category Budget Authority .....	1.484	-0.009	5.293	-0.720	6.048
General Purpose Discretionary Outlays .....	1.277	-0.003	1.452	1.841	4.567

\* This table reflects the additional adjustments needed to match the Congressional Budget Office estimate of Divisions A-K as well as sections 8, 10, and 11 of H.R. 83, Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2015 as passed by the House on December 11, 2014. Division L continues temporary funding for the Department of Homeland Security (OHS) through February 27th, 2015, and therefore no further adjustments are appropriate at this time. Adjustments were made in July, 2014, for disaster and overseas contingency operations funding included in the Senate-reported DHS bill.

REVISIONS TO THE BUDGET AUTHORITY AND OUTLAY ALLOCATIONS TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015 PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 302 AND 314(a) OF THE CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET ACT OF 1974

[In millions of dollars]

	Current Allocation/ Limit	Adjustments*	Adjusted Allocation/Limit
Fiscal Year 2015:			
Revised Security Category Discretionary Budget Authority .....	579,851	5,967	585,818
Revised Nonsecurity Category Discretionary Budget Authority .....	508,872	6,048	514,920
General Purpose Discretionary Outlays .....	1,191,978	4,567	1,196,545
Memorandum: Total Discretionary Budget Authority .....	1,088,723	12,015	1,100,738

\* Pursuant to section 314(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the allocation to the Committee on Appropriations will be adjusted following the reporting of bills, offering of amendments, or submission of conference reports that qualify for adjustments to the discretionary spending limits as outlined in section 251(b) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

BUDGETARY AGGREGATES PURSUANT TO SECTION 116 OF THE BIPARTISAN BUDGET ACT OF 2013 AND SECTION 311 OF THE CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET ACT OF 1974

[\$ in millions]

	2015
Current Spending Aggregates:*	
Budget Authority .....	3,015,088
Outlays .....	3,035,641
Adjustments:**	
Budget Authority .....	11,351
Outlays .....	3,983
Revised Spending Aggregates:	
Budget Authority .....	3,026,439
Outlays .....	3,039,624

\* 2015 current spending aggregates reflect previous adjustments made for disaster, overseas contingency operations, and emergency.

\*\* Note: reflects the additional adjustments needed to match the Congressional Budget Office estimate of Divisions A-K as well as sections 8, 10, and 11 of H.R. 83, Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2015 as passed by the House on December 11, 2014. Note that it also excludes the budget authority and outlays for program integrity initiatives classified as off-budget.

VOTE EXPLANATION

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, I was unavoidably detained for rollcall vote No. 327, the motion to proceed to executive session to consider Executive Calendar No. 1084, Sarah Saldana to become the Assistant Secretary for Immigration and Customs Enforcement at the Department of Homeland Security. Had I been present, I would have voted yea.

Mr. President, I was unavoidably detained for rollcall vote No. 328, the motion to proceed to legislative session. Had I been present, I would have voted yea.

TRIBUTE TO ADRIENNE HALLETT

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, the omnibus appropriations bill that the Senate approved today includes the Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies bill. Or, as we like to refer to it, the Labor-HHS bill. Most people didn't think that would happen. They thought Labor-HHS was too controversial. There was no way the Senate and House could work out a compromise on this bill. But we did, and as the Senate clerk of the Labor-HHS bill, Adrienne Hallett is the staffer who deserves the greatest credit. More than any other staffer, the burden of completing this bill fell on her. Despite what so many people expected, she made it happen.

Adrienne has been an outstanding staff director of my Labor-HHS subcommittee. She has served the Appropriations Committee and the Senate extraordinarily well during her 15 years of Senate service. I believe she

will continue to serve it well after my term expires. I think a bit of back-ground will help you understand why I have this view.

First of all, Adrienne has strong Iowa roots. She hails from Cedar Rapids, where her mom still lives and enjoys the company of dozens of relatives throughout the State. Her father left us too soon after a battle with ALS ended over a decade ago. However, before his untimely death he had already helped Adrienne develop a strongly held view on service and a can-do spirit that propels her forward in pursuit of solutions to challenges that seemingly can't be overcome. He also had already supported Adrienne in her pursuit of higher education.

That higher education started with a degree in philosophy from the University of Northern Iowa, UNI. Now, you might say that such a degree is perfect for the ponderous Senate. What I have noticed is that the ethical decision-making skills she honed there have enabled her to more effectively find agreements that help the Senate and Congress advance good public policy. I will discuss some of that policy in a moment.

After earning her degree from UNI she went on to divinity school at Vanderbilt University, where she earned a master's degree and then went on to work for the Vice Chancellor for Health at Vanderbilt University Medical Center. Fortunately for me, Adrienne did not stay long before she joined my staff in Washington, DC in 1999.

Adrienne quickly demonstrated what an asset she was to me through her hard work and dedication to serving my Iowa constituents. I realized she could help me serve them and all Americans even better by joining my labor-HHS subcommittee staff which she agreed to do in 2001.

Now, I frequently am thanked and recognized for the things I have done as one of Iowa's Senators and in my role leading the labor-HHS subcommittee. What most people don't always know is the role that Adrienne Hallett has played in helping make those accomplishments a reality.

I think of community health centers from Clinton to Council Bluffs. That is thousands of families in Iowa receiving critical medical care they need to stay healthy or recover from injury or illness.

There is the Job Corps Center in Ottumwa that will give hundreds of

youth another chance at education and training that will enable them to be self-sufficient and positively contribute to society.

There is the National Civilian Community Corps campus in Vinton. Hundreds of young men and women are being trained for service projects in local communities throughout the North Central region of the United States.

I could go on and on in naming centers and programs around Iowa where someone has thanked me for something that Adrienne helped make possible. But it is not just Iowa that has benefited from her service.

It is also the expansion of community health centers throughout the United States. There are millions of families being served by those centers.

Something so close to my heart is the significant role she has played in advancing public health systems in the United States and throughout the world. These all are things where I am recognized for something Adrienne helped make possible.

Adrienne, I join with the entire Senate family in thanking you for your outstanding service and offering best wishes to you for the future.

REMEMBERING RUFUS JONES

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, I wish to offer a tribute to my uncle, Rufus Jones, who died last week at age 88. He was a dear friend, a devoted husband and father of six, and a WW II veteran who was a member of the "greatest generation." In fact, he signed up for the Navy straight out of high school. He went back to school at Purdue after the war and got a degree in mechanical engineering and went on to a career in business. He also served his community in many ways, including being a member of the vestry at his church and a member of the Worthington, OH School Board.

I remember him as an uncle who always had a smile on his face and never had an unpleasant word for anyone, as a friend later in life, and as a stalwart supporter of mine.

Today, I was home in Ohio to attend the visitation and funeral of my uncle. I regret that I was absent from procedural votes, but had I not given him a proper farewell, I would have regretted that more. He will be missed.

## MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

## ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

The President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY) announced that on today, December 13, 2014, he had signed the following enrolled bills, previously signed by the Speaker pro tempore of the House (Mr. WOLF):

S. 1353. An act to provide for an ongoing, voluntary public-private partnership to improve cybersecurity, and to strengthen cybersecurity research and development, workforce development and education, and public awareness and preparedness, and for other purposes.

S. 1474. An act to amend the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 to repeal a special rule for the State of Alaska, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2640. An act to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to adjust the Crooked River boundary, to provide water certainty for the City of Prineville, Oregon, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3096. An act to designate the building occupied by the Federal Bureau of Investigation located at 801 Follin Lane, Vienna, Virginia, as the "Michael D. Resnick Terrorist Screening Center".

H.R. 3329. An act to enhance the ability of community financial institutions to foster economic growth and serve their communities, boost small businesses, increase individual savings, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4771. An act to amend the Controlled Substances Act to more effectively regulate anabolic steroids.

H.R. 5057. An act to amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to permit exemptions for external power supplies from certain efficiency standards, and for other purposes.

## ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION SIGNED

At 5:54 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. WOLF) has signed the following enrolled joint resolution:

H.J. Res. 131. Joint resolution making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2015, and for other purposes.

The joint resolution was subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

## REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. MENENDEZ, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, without amendment with a preamble:

S.J. Res. 47. An original joint resolution to authorize the limited use of the United States Armed Forces against the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (Rept. No. 113-323).

## INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. MENENDEZ:

S.J. Res. 47. An original joint resolution to authorize the limited use of the United

States Armed Forces against the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant; from the Committee on Foreign Relations; placed on the calendar.

## ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

## AMENDMENT NO. 4118

At the request of Ms. WARREN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4118 intended to be proposed to H.R. 83, to require the Secretary of the Interior to assemble a team of technical, policy, and financial experts to address the energy needs of the insular areas of the United States and the Freely Associated States through the development of energy action plans aimed at promoting access to affordable, reliable energy, including increasing use of indigenous clean-energy resources, and for other purposes.

## AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 4119. Mr. TOOMEY (for himself, Mr. SESSIONS, and Mr. FLAKE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 83, to require the Secretary of the Interior to assemble a team of technical, policy, and financial experts to address the energy needs of the insular areas of the United States and the Freely Associated States through the development of energy action plans aimed at promoting access to affordable, reliable energy, including increasing use of indigenous clean-energy resources, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

## TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 4119. Mr. TOOMEY (for himself, Mr. SESSIONS, and Mr. FLAKE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 83, to require the Secretary of the Interior to assemble a team of technical, policy, and financial experts to address the energy needs of the insular areas of the United States and the Freely Associated States through the development of energy action plans aimed at promoting access to affordable, reliable energy, including increasing use of indigenous clean-energy resources, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of division L, add the following:  
SEC. \_\_\_\_ None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available, including any funds or fees collected or otherwise made available for expenditure, by this or any other Act, or otherwise available to the Secretary of Homeland Security, for any fiscal year may be used to implement, administer, carry out, or enforce the policies in the memoranda issued by the Secretary of Homeland Security on November 20, 2014, titled "Policies for the Apprehension, Detention and Removal of Undocumented Immigrants," and "Exercising Prosecutorial Discretion with Respect to Individuals Who Came to the United States as Children and with Respect to Certain Individuals Who Are

the Parents of U.S. Citizens or Permanent Residents."

Mr. REID. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. WALSH). The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MURPHY). Without objection, it is so ordered.

## CLOTURE MOTION WITHDRAWN—EXECUTIVE CALENDAR NO. 1058

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the cloture motion with respect to Executive Calendar No. 1058 be withdrawn.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

## UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding rule XXII, on Monday, December 15, 2014, following leader remarks, the Senate proceed to executive session for consideration of Executive Calendar Nos. 681, Murthy; 979, Santos; 635, Rose; 1084, Saldana; 1150, Blinken; that at 4:30 p.m., there be 1 hour equally divided in the usual form on the Murthy nomination and at 5:30 p.m. the Senate proceed to vote on cloture on Calendar No. 681, Murthy; that if cloture is invoked, all postcloture time be expired and the Senate proceed to vote on confirmation of the nomination; that following disposition of the nomination, the Senate proceed to vote on Calendar Nos. 979, Santos, and 635, Rose; that if cloture is invoked, on Tuesday, December 16, 2014, following leader remarks, the Senate proceed to executive session and all postcloture time be expired and the Senate proceed to vote on confirmation of the nominations in the order listed.

Further, that at 2:30 p.m., the Senate proceed to vote on cloture on Calendar No. 1084, Saldana; that if cloture is invoked, all postcloture time on the nomination be expired and the Senate proceed to vote on the nomination.

Further, that at 5 p.m., the time until 6 p.m. be equally divided in the usual form, and at 6 p.m. the Senate proceed to vote on cloture on Calendar No. 1150, Blinken; that if cloture is invoked, all postcloture time be expired and the Senate proceed to vote on confirmation of the nomination.

Further, that if any nomination is confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order to the nomination; that any statements related to the nomination be printed in the RECORD; that the

President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. WALSH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

### NOMINATIONS DISCHARGED

Mr. WALSH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session and the commerce committee be discharged from further consideration of: PN 1816, PN 2000, PN 2142, PN 2143, PN 2144, and PN 2145 and the Senate proceed to their consideration; that the nominations be confirmed, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order to the nomination; that any related statements be printed in the RECORD; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and the Senate then resume legislative action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The nominations considered and confirmed are as follows:

#### COAST GUARD

The following named officer for appointment to Director of the Coast Guard Reserve pursuant to Title 14, U.S.C., section 53(b) in the grade indicated:

#### *To be rear admiral*

Rear Admiral (Selectee) James M. Heinz

The following named officers for appointment in the United States Coast Guard to the grade indicated under title 14, U.S.C., section 271(e):

#### *To be rear admiral (lower half)*

Capt. Steven J. Andersen  
Capt. Pat DeQuattro  
Capt. William G. Kelly  
Capt. John P. Nadeau  
Capt. Joanna M. Nunan  
Capt. Keith M. Smith  
Capt. David G. Throop

The following named officers for appointment to the grade indicated in the United States Coast Guard under title 14, U.S.C., section 271(e):

#### *To be captain*

Scott E. Anderson  
Michael M. Balding  
David C. Barata  
Richard E. Batson  
Matthew T. Beck  
Peter F. Brady  
Marko R. Broz  
Timothy J. Buchanan

James D. Burns  
Sean M. Carroll  
Christopher J. Conley  
David W. Cooper  
Michael W. Cribbs  
Lucinda Cunningham  
Gregory J. Czerwonka  
Jerry W. Davenport  
Christina M. Davidson  
Mary M. Dean  
Daniel J. Deptula  
John C. Dettliff  
Eric J. Doucette  
John J. Driscoll  
Joseph S. Dufresne  
Joseph A. Dugan  
Patrick J. Dugan  
Andrew W. Eriks  
James C. Estramonte  
Owen L. Gibbons  
Christian J. Glander  
David J. Godfrey  
Jeffrey W. Good  
Ryan K. Griffin  
Randal A. Hartnett  
Timothy L. Haws  
Jonathan P. Hickey  
Russell E. Holmes  
David A. Husted  
Jeffrey A. Janszen  
Thomas J. Kaminski  
Christopher R. Kaplan  
Brian P. Keffer  
Scott J. Kelly  
Erich F. Klein  
Robert J. Landolfi  
Scott E. Langum  
Brandon W. Lechthaler  
Joseph B. Loring  
William J. Makell  
Michael C. McKean  
Carl R. Messalle  
Frances M. Messalle  
Thomas S. Meyer  
Charles D. Miller  
Thomas S. Morkan  
Holly L. Najarian  
Patrick S. Nelson  
Ronald Pailliotet  
Daniel K. Pickles  
Jeffrey K. Randall  
John W. Reed  
Rodd M. Ricklefs  
Stanley T. Romanowicz  
Richard J. Schultz  
Vincent J. Skwarek  
Kyle J. Smith  
Thomas J. Stuhldreier  
Paul D. Stukus  
Linda A. Sturgis  
Gregory B. Tlapa  
Troy J. Vest  
Kurtis L. Virkaitis  
Daniel P. Walsh  
Scott J. Weaver  
Christopher S. Webb  
Howard H. Wright  
Daniel L. Youngberg

The following named officers for appointment to the grade indicated in the United States Coast Guard Reserve under title 10, U.S.C. section 12203(a):

#### *To be captain*

Elizabeth A. Campbell  
Todd A. Childers  
James T. Cobb  
Richelle L. Johnson  
Miriam L. Lafferty  
Anthony Larusso  
Scott R. Linsky  
Thomas O. Martin  
Carol M. McAllister  
Sean D. Salter  
Lynn S. Sletto

Kevin J. Smyth  
Christopher R. Stout  
Geoffrey J. Warren  
Kathleen A. Zygmunt

The following named officers for appointment to the grade indicated in the United States Coast Guard Reserve under title 10, U.S.C., section 12203(a):

#### *To be captain*

Philip R. Prather  
Kirby K. Sniffen

The following named officers for appointment to the grade indicated in the United States Coast Guard under title 14, U.S.C., Section 271(e):

#### *To be commander*

Micah N. Acree  
Erin N. Adler  
Edward W. Ahlstrand  
Eric C. Allen  
Jamie T. Amon  
Kyle S. Armstrong  
Jordan M. Balduenza  
David M. Bartram  
Derek C. Beatty  
James R. Bigbie  
James A. Binniker  
Stephen R. Bird  
Jose M. Bolanos  
Matthew T. Bourassa  
Matt A. Bournonville  
Jeffrey R. Bray  
Channing D. Burgess  
Patrick C. Burkett  
Gregory A. Callaghan  
James C. Campbell  
Michael J. Capelli  
Erick M. Carrero  
Justin M. Carter  
Drew M. Casey  
Sean R. Cashell  
John D. Cashman  
Eric R. Casler  
Robert B. Chambers  
John V. Chang  
Randall T. Chong  
Joseph A. Comar  
Peter A. Cook  
Daniel H. Cost  
Thomas G. Cowell  
Thomas D. Crane  
Michael A. Crider  
Egardo Cruz  
Patrick A. Culver  
Kenneth C. Cutler  
Douglas K. Daniels  
Stephen P. DaPonte  
Javier A. Delgado  
Matthew J. Denning  
Frederick D. Detar  
Shana R. Donaldson  
Janine E. Donovan  
Jason J. Dorval  
Rachel M. Eldridge  
Robin A. Ellerbe  
Theodore J. Erdman  
Thomas C. Evans  
Jessica A. Fant  
Peter E. Fant  
Frances Ann B. Fazio  
John M. Ferebee  
Elizabeth A. Fielder  
Thomas R. Foster  
Jamie C. Frederick  
Matthew S. Furlong  
Lawrence D. Gaillard  
Joseph W. Gaskill  
Mark P. Glancy  
Jeffrey R. Graham  
Sean W. Green  
Andrew L. Guedry  
James J. Harkins  
Anthony H. Hawes

Suzanne E. Hemann  
 Jeff S. Henderson  
 Brian J. Henry  
 John Henry  
 Chad B. Holm  
 Ashley R. Holt  
 Anna K. Hopkins  
 Wesley K. Hout  
 Jeffery S. Howard  
 Thomas A. Howell  
 Brian P. Huff  
 Michael S. Jackson  
 James L. Jarnac  
 Meridena D. Kauffman  
 Daniel P. Keane  
 Brad W. Kelly  
 Heather J. Kelly  
 Shanell M. King  
 Robert R. Kistner  
 Breanna L. Knutson  
 Brian M. Kostecki  
 Jerry J. Krywanczyk  
 Julie P. Kuck  
 Michael R. Lachowicz  
 Megan L. Lane-Cull  
 Deborah S. Lindquist  
 Anthony J. Maffia  
 Romulus P. Matthews  
 Williams L. McGoey  
 Eugene D. McGuinness  
 Brian J. McLaughlin  
 Brian J. McSorley  
 William L. Mees  
 David L. Melton  
 Andrew J. Meyers  
 John H. Miller IV  
 Stacy L. Miller  
 Matthew J. Moorlag  
 Guy A. Morrow  
 Edward X. Munoz  
 Andre C. Murphy  
 Maurice D. Murphy  
 Dawn W. Murray  
 Loan T. O'Brien  
 Michael G. Odom  
 Craig T. Olesnevich  
 Michael P. O'Neil  
 Thomas A. Ottenwaelder  
 Philbert C. Pabellon  
 Joshua D. Pennington  
 Eben H. Phillips  
 Robert M. Pirone  
 Charlotte E. Pittman  
 Juan M. Posada  
 Robert H. Potter  
 Michael J. Rasch  
 Micahel C. Reed  
 David J. Reinhard  
 Ryan S. Rhodes  
 Luis J. Rodriguez  
 Paul A. Rodriguez  
 Blanca Rosas  
 Gregory K. Sabra  
 Scott M. Sanborn  
 Mark C. Sawyer  
 Norbert M. Schweinsberg  
 Donald E. Shaffer  
 Michael D. Sharp  
 Gregory A. Shouse  
 Keith L. Smith  
 William E. Strickland  
 James B. Suffern  
 Christopher J. Tantillo  
 Gregory P. Torgersen  
 Todd C. Troup  
 Daniel R. Ursino  
 Omar Vazquez  
 Greg E. Versaw  
 Richard E. Vincent  
 Randy S. Waddington  
 Matthew J. Waldron  
 Thomas W. Wallin  
 Jon T. Warner  
 Charles E. Webb

Kimberly S. Wheatley  
 Christopher J. Williammee  
 Scott R. Williams  
 Timothy C. Williamson  
 Norman C. Witt  
 William C. Woityra  
 Michael J. Woodrum  
 Robert S. Workman  
 Michael J. Zeruto

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will resume legislative session.

#### AMENDING CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF THE FAA MODERNIZATION AND REFORM ACT OF 2012

Mr. WALSH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of H.R. 2591, which was received from the House and is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 2591) to amend certain provisions of the FAA Modernization and Reform Act of 2012.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. WALSH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read three times and passed and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 2591) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

#### IMPOSING SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION AND PROVIDING ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE TO UKRAINE

Mr. WALSH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 5859, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 5859) to impose sanctions with respect to the Russian Federation, to provide additional assistance to Ukraine, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. WALSH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time and the Senate proceed to vote on passage of the bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill was ordered to a third reading, and was read the third time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate?

If not, the bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill pass?

The bill (H.R. 5859) was passed.

Mr. WALSH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### SIGNING AUTHORITY

Mr. WALSH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Senator LEVIN be authorized to sign the enrollment of H.R. 3979.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### ORDERS FOR MONDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2014

Mr. WALSH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m. on Monday, December 15, 2014; that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; and that following any leader remarks, the Senate proceed to executive session as provided under the previous order.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### PROGRAM

Mr. WALSH. Mr. President, for the information of all Senators, there will be up to four rollcall votes at 5:30 p.m. on Monday on cloture on Murthy, if cloture is invoked, on confirmation of Murthy, and cloture on the Santos and Rose nominations.

#### ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY, DECEMBER 15, AT 10 A.M.

Mr. WALSH. If there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it adjourn under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 11:42 p.m., adjourned until Monday, December 15, 2014, at 10 a.m.

#### DISCHARGED NOMINATIONS

The Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation was discharged from further consideration of the following nominations by unanimous consent and the nominations were confirmed:

COAST GUARD NOMINATION OF REAR ADMIRAL (SE-LECTEE) JAMES M. HEINZ, TO BE REAR ADMIRAL.

COAST GUARD NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH CAPT. STEVEN J. ANDERSEN AND ENDING WITH CAPT. DAVID G. THROOP, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 8, 2014.

COAST GUARD NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH SCOTT E. ANDERSON AND ENDING WITH DANIEL L. YOUNGBERG, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON NOVEMBER 13, 2014.

COAST GUARD NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ELIZABETH A. CAMPBELL AND ENDING WITH KATHLEEN A. ZYGMUNT, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON NOVEMBER 13, 2014.

COAST GUARD NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH PHILIP R. PRATHER AND ENDING WITH KIRBY K. SNIFFEN, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON NOVEMBER 13, 2014.

COAST GUARD NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH MICAH N. ACREE AND ENDING WITH MICHAEL J. ZERUTO, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON NOVEMBER 13, 2014.

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#### CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate December 13, 2014:

#### IN THE COAST GUARD

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO DIRECTOR OF THE COAST GUARD RESERVE PURSUANT TO TITLE 14, U.S.C., SECTION 53(B) IN THE GRADE INDICATED:

#### *To be rear admiral*

REAR ADMIRAL (SELECTEE) JAMES M. HEINZ

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 14, U.S.C., SECTION 271(E):

#### *To be rear admiral (lower half)*

CAPT. STEVEN J. ANDERSEN  
CAPT. PAT DEQUATTRO  
CAPT. WILLIAM G. KELLY  
CAPT. JOHN P. NADEAU  
CAPT. JOANNA M. NUNAN  
CAPT. KEITH M. SMITH  
CAPT. DAVID G. THROOP

COAST GUARD NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH SCOTT E. ANDERSON AND ENDING WITH DANIEL L. YOUNGBERG, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON NOVEMBER 13, 2014.

COAST GUARD NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ELIZABETH A. CAMPBELL AND ENDING WITH KATHLEEN A. ZYGMUNT, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON NOVEMBER 13, 2014.

COAST GUARD NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH PHILIP R. PRATHER AND ENDING WITH KIRBY K. SNIFFEN, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON NOVEMBER 13, 2014.

COAST GUARD NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH MICAH N. ACREE AND ENDING WITH MICHAEL J. ZERUTO, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON NOVEMBER 13, 2014.



**SENATE—Monday, December 15, 2014**

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable JOE DONNELLY, a Senator from the State of Indiana.

**PRAYER**

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Almighty God, the center of our joy. On this special day when I am honored to participate in Senator MARK KIRK's retirement ceremony from the U.S. Navy Reserve at the Pentagon, thank You for his service to You and country. Lord, we are also grateful for all of our military men and women who back their words with courageous deeds.

In this season that brings tidings of a coming dawn, guide our lawmakers through the darkness that precedes the breaking of day. You have guided this Nation through stormy places, and we have felt the winds and have been tossed by troubled seas. May our Senators, amid the tumult, hear the whisper of Your promise to never forsake us. Remind us of life's brevity so that we will number our days and have hearts of wisdom.

We pray in Your marvelous Name. Amen.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Presiding Officer led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

**APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE**

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,  
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,  
Washington, DC, December 15, 2014.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable JOE DONNELLY, a Senator from the State of Indiana, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATRICK J. LEAHY,  
President pro tempore.

Mr. DONNELLY thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

**RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER**

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

**SENATE CHAPLAIN, DR. BARRY C. BLACK**

Mr. REID. Mr. President, for those watching the opening of the Senate, I am sure some are wondering why the Chaplain was dressed in a Navy dress uniform. He is an admiral in the U.S. Navy. He has spent many years traveling the world, and we are so fortunate to have this good man here.

It is always difficult to know what to call him—doctor, chaplain, mister, admiral, and on and on. But what I call him is just a fine man, a real gentleman. So for those who are watching, he has his uniform on because he is an admiral in the U.S. Navy.

**SCHEDULE**

Mr. REID. Mr. President, following my remarks, the Senate will proceed to executive session to debate the Murthy, Santos, Rose, Saldana, and Blinken nominations.

**BLINKEN NOMINATION**

I am not going to speak extensively on any of these. I will just say now, Tony Blinken I have known for many years. He was integral to the success of JOE BIDEN, as U.S. Senator, and has been with him as Vice President. Now he is going to be the second in command at the State Department.

When we have our briefings in the classified room, there is no one who is more articulate and can answer the questions any better than Tony Blinken. I have great admiration for him. I think we as a country are so fortunate he is going to be in the position he is in.

At 5:30 today there will be four roll-call votes. Those votes will be as follows: cloture on Murthy to be Surgeon General of the United States, confirmation of the Murthy nomination, cloture on the Santos nomination to be a member of the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board, and cloture on Executive Calendar No. 635, Frank Rose to be an Assistant Secretary of State.

This man has been waiting 513 days, an extremely important job: verification of plants, nuclear. I don't think the Republicans dislike him. They don't like the job he is going to have. They have left it basically empty for all this time.

So we have some important stuff to do. We can complete everything we

wanted to today—today. Everything that is scheduled now for the week, we can finish today. I hope everyone understands we can move forward, but we are going to have to be here until we finish our work, whether that is Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday or Saturday. So everyone should understand they can't be leaving.

I know we all have things to do. I haven't been home in such a long time and I want to go home. I bought a new home there. As everyone knows, I sold my place in Searchlight and bought a home in the Greater Las Vegas area. I would like to be able to see the home. I have not slept in it. We bought it in May and I have not been there. My wife is there waiting, getting ready for the move in, which is now taking place. So we have a lot of work to do. We have to work together to get it done as quickly as possible.

**TRIBUTE TO DEPARTING SENATORS****MARK BEGICH**

Mr. REID. Mr. President, Alaska is a State unlike any other State in the country. Often referred to as the "last frontier," Alaska's landscape is as breathtakingly beautiful as it is immense. Its residents are some of the most kind and accepting people one would ever meet. Any person who represents the State of Alaska must possess a true love for the exceptional beauty of this region and the vastness of it. It is so far away from everything. The capital Juneau, you can only get there in an airplane. That is the only way you can get to the capital of the State of Alaska. So I am going to spend a little bit of time talking about Senator MARK BEGICH and his faithful service to the people of Alaska.

There is no surprise that he is dedicated to Alaska and the people of Alaska. His father, Congressman Nick Begich, was dedicated to Alaska, as has been his mom Peggy. They moved to the then-Territory of Alaska in 1957 to teach school. Congressman Begich became involved in Alaskan politics and successfully ran for a seat in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Tragedy struck. The whip of the House, Hale Boggs, and he were in Alaska campaigning and they were flying to an event. The plane disappeared. They searched, they searched, they searched. After 2 months, Congressman Boggs, Congressman Begich, and the pilot were declared dead. Their plane and bodies to this day have not been found. They are hidden someplace in the vastness of Alaska, in one of the

mountains or the many bodies of water. We don't know.

In spite of this heartbreaking loss, the Begich family has pushed on. His mother continued to raise six children alone while managing real estate properties and being active in local politics.

By the age of 17, MARK had already acquired his mother's business acumen, starting his first business, a jewelry venture, and also owning and managing real estate. One reason Senator BEGICH has been a good Senator is because of his innate business acumen.

At age 26, he was elected to the Anchorage Assembly, which is the city council, a position he held for 10 years. Then in 2003 he was elected mayor of Anchorage. He served two terms before running for the Senate.

Now, 2008 was a dark time for Alaskan politics, but MARK's Senate victory brought a fresh face and new hope to the State. From the time he stepped foot on the Senate floor, he has not let the people of Alaska down. He has fought to expand economic opportunity, to defend the rights of Alaska Natives, and to fortify rural Alaska. Senator BEGICH's efforts to reform the Alaskan veterans health care system was exemplary, and it is a blueprint for a bipartisan solution that the Senate reached this year to reform the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Senator BEGICH has made tremendous contributions to the Senate over the past 6 years. I know he will continue to fight for what is best for Alaska as he transitions into the next stage of his life. I hope public service is somewhere in MARK's future. Every State needs a man of his quality. He will always have his wife Deborah and his son Jacob by his side.

I can remember the first time I saw Jacob was right behind us by the Ohio clock. President Obama walked by and that little boy yelled "Obama!" So his little boy loves politics.

It has truly been an honor to serve with Senator BEGICH. I am glad he has been part of our leadership team as head of the steering committee. He has done a remarkable, good job. I thank him again for his service to the Senate and certainly to our country.

MARK UDALL

Mr. President, the famous English poet William Blake once said, "Great things are done when men and mountains meet." There could be nothing more apt when talking about MARK UDALL than when we talk about men and mountains. He knows mountains. He has climbed nine Himalayan peaks. He has climbed Mount McKinley. He has climbed 99 of the highest summits in Colorado, and that is the place where we have the great Rockies. Those are big mountains. He once attempted to scale Mount Everest but was stopped by a severe storm. Some of us, while we were waiting to finish our work on Saturday, told me they were hoping to go skiing on Sunday.

I said: Where are you going to go skiing?

I don't know the name of the place.

How high is that place?

Eight hundred feet.

In the Sierra Nevada mountains where I am from, and the Rockies, that is not a mountain. We have mountains in Colorado and Nevada.

MARK UDALL once attempted to scale Mount Everest and was nearly there when one of the most violent storms came. Using good sense, he decided they shouldn't do it, and it was the right thing to do. People die by saying they are stronger than nature. He understands his limitations, and his limitations are not very much. MARK is a tremendous athlete. He could do anything athletically. He has the genes of his dad, Morris Udall, whom I had the good fortune of serving with in the House of Representatives. Morris Udall is the only person to have played professional basketball being blind in one eye, couldn't see, but he was able to adjust his perceptive qualities with a basketball hoop to play professional basketball.

We all felt MARK's loss when his brother Randy was found dead. He was found dead in the place he loved more than anyplace else, the Wind River Mountains in Wyoming. That is where Randy loved to go. That is where MARK loves to go. People told Randy he shouldn't go alone, but he went alone and it appears maybe he had a heart attack while he was out there. They found him several weeks later in the mountains he loved, dead. It was real tough for MARK, who looked up so much to his brother. MARK, though, has met many mountains and done many great things.

He served in the House of Representatives where he was stellar. But it is the work in the Senate where his greatest feats have been accomplished. In 2013 there were storms in Colorado and there was catastrophic flooding. It was very bad. Lives were lost, homes washed away. The people of Colorado needed help, and MARK would not stop. He held up legislation until the people of Colorado got what they deserved. He helped secure nearly \$1 billion in Federal assistance for the people of his State, money to rebuild homes, bridges, roads, and reestablish lives.

While he dedicated himself to protecting the people of Colorado, he also was committed to safeguarding the constitutional rights of all Americans. Who has done more in exposing what has been going on with the invasion of people's privacy? No one has done more than MARK. He has done this in a number of different ways. But as a member of the Intelligence Committee, his work sounded the alarm about the National Security Administration's bulk data collection program. He fought to end the CIA's detention and interrogation program, and together with Sen-

ator FEINSTEIN has pushed to make public the committee's study of the CIA's torture program.

People have said: Perhaps if MARK had not been so concerned about individual rights, about the bulk data collection, about the torture, maybe he would have been reelected. But that is not MARK UDALL. He comes from a family with a long tradition of public service, as I have indicated. His uncle Stewart was Secretary of the Interior, after having served in Congress for many years representing the State of Arizona, as did his dad Mo Udall. Mo Udall was one of the most recognizable Congressmen in the entire 20th century, having run for President, and he had a sense of humor that was really quite remarkable.

Here in the Senate MARK has cousins. It has been interesting. During the last few years, we have had a lot of cousins: MARK, TOM, MIKE LEE, Gordon Smith—all cousins, first cousins. How did that come about? MARK would, as he did just a day or two ago, look and kind of smile and say: It could have been polygamy. And it was. But they are a very, very close family, a very close family.

In spite of the closeness of TOM and MARK—two brothers could not be closer than these two men. They climb mountains together. I have talked to them about putting on crampons, these spikes you put on your shoes to climb the ice. These are adventurers.

So we are going to miss MARK. But he has forged his own path and his own legacy.

Now, as his time in the Senate draws to a close, he will carry that legacy to other endeavors.

I wish MARK all the best. It has been such a privilege to serve with him. He will be deeply missed.

#### TAX INCREASE PREVENTION ACT OF 2014—MOTION TO PROCEED

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I now move to proceed to Calendar No. 627, which is H.R. 5771.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 627, H.R. 5771, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend certain expiring provisions and make technical corrections, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the tax treatment of ABLE accounts established under State programs for the care of family members with disabilities, and for other purposes.

#### RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

NOMINATION OF VIVEK HALLEGERE MURTHY TO BE MEDICAL DIRECTOR IN THE REGULAR CORPS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE, SUBJECT TO QUALIFICATIONS THEREFOR AS PROVIDED BY LAW AND REGULATIONS, AND TO BE SURGEON GENERAL OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

NOMINATION OF DANIEL J. SANTOS TO BE A MEMBER OF THE DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

NOMINATION OF FRANK A. ROSE TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE (VERIFICATION AND COMPLIANCE)

NOMINATION OF SARAH R. SALDANA TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF HOMELAND SECURITY

NOMINATION OF ANTONY BLINKEN TO BE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF STATE

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session to consider the following nominations, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read the nominations of Vivek Hallegere Murthy, of Massachusetts, to be Medical Director in the Regular Corps of the Public Health Service, subject to qualifications therefor as provided by law and regulations, and to be Surgeon General of the Public Health Service; Daniel J. Santos, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board; Frank A. Rose, of Massachusetts, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Verification and Compliance); Sarah R. Saldana, of Texas, to be an Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security; and Antony Blinken, of New York, to be Deputy Secretary of State.

Mr. REID. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

## MURTHY NOMINATION

Mr. BARRASSO. I rise today to oppose the nomination of Dr. Vivek Murthy to be Surgeon General of the United States. The Surgeon General is

known as America's doctor. Americans have great respect for this important position. They expect their Surgeon General to be someone who has substantial experience in helping patients, in helping improve their health, and in helping them reduce their risk of illness and injury.

This important position has been vacant since July of 2013, about a year and a half. It is far too long, and it has been completely avoidable. We have seen how the Obama administration has struggled in response to important health issues such as the Ebola crisis. America should have had a Surgeon General in the job to lead in the fight against Ebola and to take on other serious health challenges as well.

Dr. Murthy is a smart man who is very well educated. He has an undergraduate degree from Harvard, an MBA from Yale, and an M.D. from the Yale School of Medicine. These are impressive academic credentials, and I am sure he will be a fine doctor, but they are simply not sufficient qualifications for this important job.

Is Dr. Murthy a renowned expert in treating patients or researching diseases? No, not at all. Has he actually built a career teaching medicine or leading major public health organizations? No, not yet. In fact, Dr. Murthy only completed his residency in 2006—just 8 years ago. I speak as someone who has actually practiced medicine for 25 years, has been an instructor of surgery at Yale Medical School, which Dr. Murthy attended, and I saw that being a doctor is about much more than going to school. Doctors learn more and more as they progress through their careers and spend more time with their patients, listening to patients and the patients' families. Dr. Murthy has not had the time to develop these kinds of skills.

So what qualifies him to be Surgeon General of the United States? Well, in 2008, just 2 years out of his residency, he founded a group called Doctors for Obama; the purpose: to elect a President. The majority of his career has been spent not as a doctor treating patients but as an activist—an activist focused on gun control and political campaigns.

Even former Surgeon General Richard Carmona has said Dr. Murthy doesn't have the medical experience to serve in such an important position. Let me point out that Dr. Carmona is a Democrat. He wrote an article for the Huffington Post on December 4. It was entitled "In Search of a Surgeon General." I will read a little bit of what he wrote. He said:

We don't appoint doctors early in their career to be a university Dean or Chairman. Graduate business students at the top of their class don't become instant CEOs. Top law graduates of elite law schools don't get nominated to be U.S. Attorney General or a Supreme Court Justice. Why would the U.S. Surgeon General be any different?

He concludes by asking:

Is the health, safety, and security of the Nation any less important?

Is the health, safety, and security of the Nation any less important? Well, no, the health, safety, and security of the Nation are not less important, and the job of Surgeon General is not less important.

Americans want the same thing from a Surgeon General as they want from their own doctors. People want honest and straightforward advice about medical dangers, such as cancer, heart attacks, and stroke. They don't want an inexperienced, unqualified political appointee. Patients don't want a doctor who might let political ideology get in the way of treatment and their best interest. Americans don't want a Surgeon General who might use this position of trust to promote his own personal campaign against the Second Amendment of the Constitution.

This is just another example of President Obama giving someone an important job based solely on their support of the President's political career—just like his nomination of a soap opera producer to be Ambassador to Hungary or the President's nomination of a man to be Ambassador to Norway when the person didn't know the first thing about the country. Of course, both those nominations to be Ambassadors had funneled hundreds of thousands of dollars to the President's campaigns. Well, those nominations were embarrassing, and so is this nomination to be Surgeon General.

This office of Surgeon General is not just an honorary title. It is not just a figurehead position. The Surgeon General commands the entire Commissioned Corps of the uniformed public health officers. There are 6,700 people whom the Surgeon General commands. It is one of the key positions leading America's public health efforts.

America has a long history of qualified and talented people filling this job. When President Bill Clinton nominated David Satcher in 1998, Dr. Satcher had already served as president of a medical school and as Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. C. Everett Koop spent 35 years as a leading world-renowned pediatric surgeon. They were substantial candidates who brought serious experience to the job. The responsibilities of being America's Surgeon General require a strong, professional leader, and the American people deserve a qualified nominee. There is a long list of capable doctors who could meet those requirements. The President should pick one of them.

Over the years, we have seen that when the President has nominated qualified people for this position, the Senate has approved their nominations on overwhelmingly bipartisan votes. When President Obama nominated Regina Benjamin to be Surgeon General,

she was confirmed unanimously, as was Richard Carmona when President Bush nominated him. Today, even Democrats have objected to the nomination of Dr. Murthy.

So why are we wasting the Senate's time talking about this now? Well, if President Obama thinks Dr. Murthy is qualified, why haven't we already voted on him? He was nominated more than a year ago—more than a year ago. We had the Ebola crisis and no Surgeon General. He was nominated more than a year ago. His confirmation hearing in the committee was last February. The majority leader could have brought this up for a vote at any time in the past 9 months, but he didn't do it. Why? Because he knew this nominee—this unqualified, partisan nominee—didn't have the votes. He could not get the votes on the Democratic side of the aisle. The nomination would have been an embarrassment before the election.

Now is not the right time for this nomination, and this is not the right job for Dr. Murthy. The Ebola problem and the other health crises facing our Nation are enormous challenges that require skills and talents that this nominee has simply not had time to develop and which he has so far not demonstrated in his career.

I wish to close by quoting from a letter former Surgeon General Carmona sent to all of the Members of the Senate earlier this month. He sent it to each and every one of us. I ask unanimous consent that the letter be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

DECEMBER 1, 2014.

DEAR SENATOR, I am writing to express my concern over the present nominee for U.S. Surgeon General whose name may be submitted to you for confirmation during the remaining Senate session. The U.S. Surgeon General is the doctor of the nation and the commander of the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps, one of the seven uniformed services of the United States. The nominee, Dr. Vivek Murthy is a physician very early in his career with great promise but no formal public health education, training, leadership or management experience.

However, he was the founder of Doctors for Obama, a partisan organization supporting the election and policies of President Obama. His partisanship and lack of qualifications for the job of Surgeon General give this nomination the scent of political patronage. In addition, the position of Surgeon General is a uniformed services position with the rank of Vice Admiral. The nominee has no uniformed service experience, does not merit this rank and his confirmation would undermine the credibility and authenticity of the Office of the Surgeon General while demeaning the selfless service of qualified career uniformed officers who merit consideration.

The public we have the privilege to serve deserves and expects a Surgeon General who, through extensive education, experience, training and service, merits the position of Surgeon General of the United States.

For these reasons, I respectfully request that if this nomination comes before you

that you reject it in favor of a qualified career USPHS officer who merits your consideration.

Sincerely,

RICHARD H. CARMONA, MD,  
MPH, FACS.

Mr. BARRASSO. Dr. Carmona writes:

His partisanship and lack of qualifications for the job of Surgeon General gives this nomination the scent of political patronage.

That is from a Democrat who actually served as Surgeon General and knows what it takes to do the job well.

Dr. Carmona added in his letter to all of the Members of the Senate:

His confirmation would undermine the credibility and authenticity of the Office of Surgeon General, while demeaning the selfless service of qualified career uniformed officers who merit consideration.

That is whom the President of the United States has chosen to nominate—someone who would undermine the credibility and authenticity of the Office of Surgeon General, while demeaning the selfless service of qualified career uniformed officers who merit consideration.

Americans deserve a Surgeon General who has substantial experience in managing complex crises and delivering patient care. The American people deserve a Surgeon General who has proven throughout his or her career that their main focus is a commitment to patients, not a commitment to politics.

Dr. Murthy has time to learn, time to gain experience, and that may make him a fine Surgeon General someday, but that day is not today. I call on the Senate to defeat the nomination of Dr. Murthy for Surgeon General of the United States.

I thank the Presiding Officer.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. HEITKAMP). The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I see my friend from Wyoming, who spoke on the floor earlier and is in the Chamber, and I wish to publicly acknowledge—and I hope he will too—that we are friends, but we disagree on the nomination of Dr. Murthy to be the next Surgeon General. I will speak for a few moments about why I support him, and I hope a majority of Members will join me in supporting his nomination.

This is an indication of what can go wrong in the Senate. We received this nomination from the President of the United States to fill the post of Surgeon General, which was reported from the committee in February of this year. Obviously we are in December. It has been sitting here since February. In fact, the post of Surgeon General has been vacant since July of 2013.

The Surgeon General is supposed to be one of the leaders in America speaking to issues on public health. Can anyone think of a public health issue we have had to face since February when Dr. Murthy was reported to the floor of the Senate? Perhaps one of the deadliest diseases that has ever been recorded is being fought in west Africa, and we are being asked on a regular basis how we will respond in the United States. The Centers for Disease Control plays a major role in it but, historically, Surgeons General have played a major role when we faced similar public health challenges.

I can remember coming to the U.S. House of Representatives years ago when President Reagan had been elected, and he had chosen C. Everett Koop to be his Surgeon General. C. Everett Koop was a controversial choice by President Reagan because he had been outspoken on some major political issues. He personally had strong feelings against abortion and had said as much before his nomination, and some other issues. It led many people to believe he was too political for the job and that President Reagan had made the wrong choice. But Koop was chosen. Despite the fact that he had been at least engaged as a medical doctor in discussing political issues, he was chosen. I wasn't in the Senate at the time; I didn't have a vote when it came to his choice, but I will tell my colleagues this: When Dr. Koop took over as Surgeon General, he made it clear he understood his obligation was to be the Nation's doctor, not the Nation's leading medical politician. He did some extraordinary things. I don't know what America would have been like if it were not for Dr. Koop's presence, pushing back on a lot of political spin when it came to public health issues—issues involving AIDS, for example.

It is no secret—it is well known—that many politicians—in both parties, for that matter—were reluctant to go into the whole issue of the AIDS crisis in America for a variety of reasons. But if my colleagues will remember, history shows that under Dr. Koop, we ended up mailing every household in America to let them know about the danger of the AIDS epidemic. That was an extraordinary act of public leadership when it came to public health, and Dr. Koop was Surgeon General when that occurred. So those who worried that C. Everett Koop was too political for the job were disabused of that notion as we watched his service to our country.

I make that point because I don't want the same mistake to be made in criticizing Dr. Vivek Murthy whom we are going to vote on later today to be our next Surgeon General. It is true that he has engaged in political activity, as any American citizen is entitled to. I hope that will not disqualify him. When I read in a few moments the

groups that are supporting him, people will understand he isn't in this position of being nominated simply because of his political activity. He has extraordinary backing of individuals in the medical profession.

Now we need him more than ever. We need to fill the post of Surgeon General of the United States of America. We hope we can see an end to the Ebola epidemic, but we are not quite there. But we ought to have a Surgeon General in the United States of America. To think we have waited since February while this doctor's name has been on our calendar, and we had to use some extraordinary parliamentary moves to even bring his name up for a vote. I think it is time for us to vote and it is time for us to confirm the nomination of Vivek Murthy as our next Surgeon General.

This past year, Americans have battled public health crises on all fronts. Here at home, parents watched while a severe strain of enterovirus spread from State to State, threatening young children. My home State of Illinois was one of the hardest hit. I heard from doctors across the State that the minute they discharged one child with respiratory symptoms from the emergency room, another came in.

Abroad, we still face the worst Ebola epidemic in history. With over 6,300 deaths and many more diagnosed with this devastating disease, now more than ever America needs to fill the spot of top doctor. It has been vacant since July—since July of last year. Dr. Murthy is that doctor, and I am proud to vote for him as the next U.S. Surgeon General. I am hoping my colleagues will join me.

Let me tell my colleagues a little bit about his background. Dr. Murthy is an attending physician at Brigham and Women's Hospital and an instructor at the Harvard Medical School. Part of what is extraordinary about him is that as well as treating his patients individually, he also thinks about the systemic issues affecting the health of patients and tackles those as well. He is a leading voice in public health, publishing his research on the participation of women and minorities in cancer clinical trials and top journals, including *Science*, *Journal of the American Medical Association*, and *Journal of the National Cancer Institute*.

Critics of Dr. Murthy who say he is not up to the job should look at the literature. He has published in medical research areas of great importance. He also cofounded and chairs the Trial Networks, a software company that helps clinical researchers collaborate more effectively and efficiently with drug developers to speed up drug discovery.

In 2011, Dr. Murthy was appointed to the Advisory Group on Prevention, Health Promotion, and Integrative and Public Health. Over 100 national, State,

and local public health organizations have endorsed his nomination. They describe him as "a well-qualified, forward-thinking, innovative leader with a strong commitment to public health."

Does that sound like a political hack when 100 organizations say that about this doctor?

The organizations that support Dr. Murthy include the American College of Physicians, the American Academy of Family Physicians, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American Public Health Association, the American Hospital Association, the American Cancer Society, the American Heart Association, the American Diabetes Association, and the list goes on from there.

In his confirmation hearing before the Senate HELP Committee last February, Dr. Murthy stated that, if confirmed, he would prioritize his efforts on obesity and tobacco-related disease and "make prevention and health promotion the backbone of our communities."

This is a priority I share with Dr. Murthy. For the past 30 years, serving in the House and Senate, I have worked on the issue of tobacco and public policy. I have worked to reduce youth smoking, implement programs to help people quit, and rein in the most insidious practices of the tobacco industry. Moreover, as a cochair of the Senate Hunger Caucus, I have become familiar with the complex and arguably unjust way food is distributed and consumed in America, leaving communities—including many in Illinois—simultaneously facing high levels of food insecurity and high rates of obesity.

Obesity and tobacco-related diseases are part of a growing trend of chronic disease that account for 7 out of the top 10 causes of death in America and make up 84 percent of America's health care costs. Dr. Murthy says these are his priorities. They should be. These statistics are unacceptable.

I believe Dr. Murthy understands the importance of the national crises before him. I feel confident that his experience, his training, and his tenacity have proved that he has the qualifications needed to tackle these issues.

Not only is Dr. Murthy an outstanding doctor and public health expert, he also remains closely connected to his community and family.

Dr. Murthy was born to parents who originally were from the southern part of India. He came to the United States at the age of 3 and grew up in Miami, FL. He did very well in school. He was valedictorian of his high school, graduated magna cum laude from Harvard in just 3 years, and then got a combined medical and business degree from Yale.

So Senators come to the floor and question this man's resume, his ability? For goodness sakes. He has an ex-

traordinary background and that is why the President nominated him.

From a very early age, Dr. Murthy did not set out to make money, he set out to make a difference. In 1995 he cofounded Visions Worldwide, a nonprofit organization that conducts and supports HIV/AIDS education and empowerment programs in India. Until 2003, he served as the president of that organization and then board chair. He is a dedicated uncle and friend, consistently described by those who know him as humble, soft-spoken, and tireless. I know the Indian-American community across this Nation is so proud of Dr. Murthy's accomplishments, as all of us should be.

Many years ago I worked for a State Senator in Illinois named Cecil Partee. Cecil Partee used to say, For every political controversy, when you listen to the arguments, understand there is a good reason and a real reason.

What is the real reason for the opposition to Dr. Murthy? It may have come down to just one thing he said. It was alluded to by the Senator from Wyoming earlier. In an online post, he said he believed gun violence was a public health issue. Gun violence, a public health issue. For making that statement, he has been pilloried and excoriated by the gun lobby, and that may be a major reason why his nomination is controversial.

I am proud to represent the city of Chicago and the State of Illinois. Gun violence is a public health problem. Go into the emergency rooms—and I can give the names of the list of hospitals in Chicago to start with. Go to the emergency room on Friday or Saturday night and you tell me that gun violence isn't a public health issue. In those emergency rooms we see the victims of gun violence, many of them fighting for their lives. If we go to Mount Sinai Hospital in the Englewood section of Chicago, we can look across the street to a rehab institute. Those who have survived gun violence at Mount Sinai go across the street to the Schwab Rehabilitation Hospital and learn how to live a life as a paraplegic or a quadriplegic. Does that have anything to do with public health? It certainly does. Gun violence is a public health issue, no apology necessary.

I think Dr. Murthy, as has Dr. Koop, has made it clear they are not aspiring to be the leading doctor in America to engage in a political debate, but rather to engage in public health debates about obesity and tobacco and things that make a dramatic difference to the lives of so many people who live in this country.

I am supporting Dr. Murthy. I think he will be an extraordinary Surgeon General. I am sorry he and America have had to wait so long for this vote. I hope the majority of my colleagues will step up and support his nomination as well. At this time of challenge

when it comes to public health issues, we need his leadership. We need his expertise. We need a person of this quality as Surgeon General of the United States.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### TRIBUTE TO KAY HAGAN

Mr. REID. Madam President, North Carolina's official motto is a Latin phrase which means, simply translated, "To be, rather than to seem." "To be, rather than to seem" means don't talk about being a hard worker—be a hard worker. Don't just pretend to be honest—be honest. If you talk about being sincere, be genuine about it. Senator KAY HAGAN, a native of Shelby, NC, embodies her State's motto. She is as genuine and honest as anyone could be. It is no wonder that in 2008, when the country was seeking change, the people of North Carolina elected KAY HAGAN to the Senate. From the moment she arrived, she got to work. The very first piece of legislation she cosponsored was the Lilly Ledbetter Act. Having worked as a corporate executive, KAY is aware of the difficulties working women face. This legislation was personal to KAY, and she saw it through until completion. The daughter of a veteran, KAY spent her time in the Senate creating sound policies to protect and benefit members of the U.S. armed services and their families. She has done this by virtue of her position, not only as a Senator but on that important Armed Services Committee.

As a former executive of North Carolina National Bank, KAY knows all of the challenges facing businesses in her State and how women have a little different view of how difficult it is to work their way through the corporate world. She has fought tirelessly to create a better climate for small businesses to create jobs and grow. On any given issue, at any given time, KAY HAGAN has advocated her position and has done it well. She refused to give up until meaningful solutions were discovered.

While I am sure Senator HAGAN will take some well-deserved time off to think about her future, I am convinced that her service on behalf of the people of North Carolina and the American people is not going to end.

Senator HAGAN has a lovely family. We all like Chip very much. He is a Navy Vietnam veteran. She has three children—Tilden, Jeanette, and Carrie. I wish her family the very best as they transition into a new chapter of their lives.

On a personal basis, no one has impressed me more as being a hard worker. We are so disappointed that she is now going to have to find different public service. I have no inside information, but she could be back in this body. I have no doubt the people of North Carolina are going to miss her dearly.

I applaud KAY HAGAN for serving the American people with conviction, and I look forward to the great things she will accomplish for North Carolina and our country in the future.

I suggest the absence of a quorum. The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Ms. COLLINS. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. HIRONO). Without objection, it is so ordered.

Ms. COLLINS. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to speak as in morning business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### NATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY MUSEUM COMMISSION ACT

Ms. COLLINS. Madam President, last week the Senate passed the National Women's History Museum Commission Act, a bill that I authored with the dean of the Democratic women Senators, Senator MIKULSKI of Maryland. It passed finally as part of the National Defense Authorization Act.

Our legislation will create a commission to evaluate and plan the establishment of a museum dedicated to women's history right here in our Nation's Capital. I know the Presiding Officer shares my view that this is long overdue.

I am in fact pleased to have had all of the women Senators as cosponsors of this bill, and I am thankful for the support of many of our other colleagues as well. Senator MIKULSKI has been a terrific co-leader, and I thank her for her leadership.

A women's history museum is long overdue in Washington, DC. Think of it. We actually have a museum dedicated to honoring buildings. We have museums along the mall that commemorate various aspects of our history. We have the Air and Space Museum. There is a privately run Spy Museum. There is the Newseum, which honors journalism. There is a museum that honors Native Americans. Americans from all over this country can come to Washington and learn about our history and the contributions of the people who have made our Nation the greatest country in the world. Despite the plethora of museums, however, there has been no museum dedicated to the women who have helped to shape our Nation's history.

The legislation that was finally approved last week calls for a commis-

sion to fund its own costs, and it would be paid for entirely with private funds at no cost to American taxpayers.

This commission would put forth a plan for establishing a museum on women's history so that people who are coming to Washington can learn about the enormous contributions of women to our Nation's history.

Indeed, American women have made invaluable contributions to our country across such diverse fields as government, business, medicine, law, literature, sports, entertainment, the arts, and the military. A museum dedicated to women's history will help ensure that future generations understand what it is we owe to the many American women who have helped to build, sustain, and advance our society.

Such a museum will share the stories of pioneering women such as abolitionist Harriet Tubman, the founder of the Girl Scouts, Juliette Gordon Low, Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, astronaut Sally Ride, and my personal inspiration, Maine Senator Margaret Chase Smith.

I first introduced legislation to establish a museum for women's history in 2003. Early the following year, the Senate unanimously approved my bill. Unfortunately, that legislation was not taken up by the House and died.

In 2005, the Senate again approved the legislation, but it too stalled in the House. With the passage finally of this commission bill, the effort to establish a museum for women's history in our Nation's Capital takes a positive step forward.

This bill will convene a talented, diverse, and skilled panel of historians, educators, museum administrators, and other experts with experience in women's history to make recommendations for the creation and the sustainment of such a museum.

It is important to emphasize that this museum will portray all aspects of women's contributions to our history, without partisanship or bias. The only political statement we will be making is to correct the longstanding omission of the role of women in America's history.

I also recognize and thank Chairwoman LANDRIEU and Ranking Member MURKOWSKI for their careful consideration of our bill by the Energy and Natural Resources Committee, which unanimously approved it last month.

Telling the history of the contributions of American women matters, and this bill takes a long overdue first step toward recognizing and honoring those who have shaped our shared American heritage. I look forward to the day when young girls and young boys visiting Washington will be able to visit a women's history museum to learn more about the remarkable contributions of American women to our Nation.

Madam President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Ms. COLLINS. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Ms. COLLINS. I ask unanimous consent that I be permitted to speak as in morning business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### TRIBUTE TO SAXBY CHAMBLISS

Ms. COLLINS. Madam President, it is a great pleasure but a bittersweet moment for me to rise on the Senate floor to pay tribute to a dear friend and an esteemed colleague, Senator SAXBY CHAMBLISS.

After 20 years in Congress—8 in the House and 12 here in the Senate—Senator CHAMBLISS retires from this phase of service to Georgia and to our Nation with a well-deserved reputation as a true statesman.

At a time when the coarsening political discourse across our Nation and here in Congress is a growing concern, Senator CHAMBLISS is a shining example of expertise and ability combined with civility and respect. He leaves Congress not only with many friends on both sides of the aisle, but also with many accomplishments to his credit.

His leadership in national security and intelligence in both Chambers has been a great asset to our Nation. From agriculture to armed services, Senator CHAMBLISS has been an informed and effective advocate for his constituents and for the American people.

The golfers here might consider the hole-in-one he famously scored in a foursome with President Obama last year to be worthy of mention. Personally, as the founder and cochair of the Senate Diabetes Caucus, I would consider his dedication to the cause of juvenile diabetes to be a true highlight.

I have also had the great pleasure of serving with Senator CHAMBLISS both on the Intelligence Committee, where he is the vice chairman, and previously on the Senate Armed Services Committee. I saw firsthand his extraordinary grasp of complicated issues that are so critical to the security of our Nation. I also witnessed how he would listen carefully to the views of others, whether on the Republican side of the aisle or from the Democratic Members on both committees.

But if there is one shining moment that stands out for me, it would be Senator CHAMBLISS's leadership in the Gang of 6 during the 2011 debt ceiling crisis. At a time when it was far easier to stand back, point fingers, and fix blame, Senator CHAMBLISS, along with Senator MARK WARNER, led the way in producing a framework to provide a bipartisan, comprehensive, and balanced way to put our Nation on a stable fis-

cal path. The fact that our national debt has grown from \$16 trillion to \$18 trillion since then makes it all the more imperative that we continue the effort, with the leadership that was shown by Senator CHAMBLISS and that he so courageously helped to start.

The fact that this dedicated and wise leader cited Washington gridlock and partisan posturing as the driving force in his decision to retire from the Senate should give us all cause to reflect.

Senator SAXBY CHAMBLISS has always been a voice of reason. No matter how bitter the debate, he has always engaged in thoughtful discussions that result in solutions. As he returns to private life, his advice will continue to be sought after and I hope heeded. His knowledge and insight will still be valued, and the example of decency and civility he has set should guide us all. I know his beloved wife, his children, and his grandchildren will be happy to have more of Senator CHAMBLISS's time, but for those of us who have been privileged to serve with him in the Senate, his decision to retire is a great loss.

The people of Georgia, the people of America, and those of us who have been privileged to serve as SAXBY CHAMBLISS's colleagues are grateful for his service. I wish him all the best in the years to come, both on and off the golf course.

Thank you, Madam President.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### TRIBUTES TO DEPARTING SENATORS

##### MARY LANDRIEU

Mr. REID. Madam President, a noted author and analyst of human behavior, Stephen Covey, said, "Strength lies in differences, not in similarities."

For the last 18 years, Senate Democrats were stronger because of Senator MARY LANDRIEU. Her ability to shun political labels—instead of just going the route with Democrats and Republicans and Independents, she went her route. She made the United States a better place. She made the Senate a better place.

She had good training for being a consensus builder and somebody who liked compromise. I had the good fortune to serve in the Senate with other Louisiana Senators. I served with Bennett Johnston for many years on the Appropriations Committee. He was chairman of the Energy and Water Subcommittee on Appropriations. He was a good legislator. Not only did he help Louisiana a lot, he helped the country. And then there was John Breaux. He and I came to the Senate

together. He was the dealmaker. He could put a deal together when no one thought one could be put together. So MARY LANDRIEU has had good Louisiana genes with those two men, and that is one of the reasons she has been as effective as she has been.

As I indicated, MARY came to the Senate with no partisan agenda. She was not interested in representing just liberals or just conservatives. She worked to represent all of Louisiana, which meant that sometimes she and I were not on the same side of an issue, and other times we were on the same side of an issue, but one thing was always certain: She was always on Louisiana's side.

The Landrieu family's political legacy runs long and deep in the State of Louisiana. She is the oldest of nine children. She is the daughter of Moon Landrieu, and her brother Mitch Landrieu is the mayor of New Orleans. Moon was a former mayor of New Orleans from 1970 to 1978, and was Jimmy Carter's Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

A number of years ago, I toured New Orleans because she asked me to, as a member of the Appropriations Committee. I said, OK, I will go, but I have to see those pumps—p-u-m-p-s. I watched this show on national public broadcasting, and they talked about these old pumps that had been there since 1900 that still worked every day pumping the water.

New Orleans is below sea level and those pumps have to work 24 hours a day. I went to see those old, old pumps. They were so clean. That place was spotlessly clean using those very old pumps.

I toured Lake Pontchartrain. I learned so much about it. Most all of the highways in New Orleans were built using the seashells from that lake. Thousands and thousands of tons of shells have come out of that lake. They recently stopped doing that, after so many years, because they thought it would be damaging to the environment. But over the last 50, 60, 100 years, thousands and thousands of tons of shells came out of that lake. We all heard about Lake Pontchartrain during that huge storm that hit.

Also, as part of the tour of New Orleans, you had to go to her home, that little home where nine children were raised. It is really a beautiful little home—but nine children, wow. Her mom and dad were there. That was the first time I had been able to meet the famous Moon Landrieu.

When we came there, unannounced, he was making peanut brittle, and I got some peanut brittle. On occasion, that good man has sent me some of his homemade peanut brittle. So I think the world of MARY and her family.

She was very quick to follow in her father's footsteps. At the age of 23, she was elected to the State legislature,



making her the youngest woman to have ever been elected to that body.

After 8 years in the legislature, she became the State treasurer for 8 years. In 1996, she was elected to the Senate, becoming the first woman in Louisiana ever elected to a full Senate term.

Since coming to the Senate, MARY has chaired the Senate committee on small business, and she was really good there. She is now the chair of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, the same full committee her predecessor Bennett Johnson chaired.

On the committee on small business, she reduced heavy Federal regulations and created tax relief for small businesses. As chair of the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, MARY LANDRIEU fought for Louisiana's industry and jobs. Even before she became chair of that committee, she did something that was impossible. People had been trying to do something like this in Louisiana for 50, 60 years, 70 years, 80 years, but she did it—she was able to get New Orleans and the whole State of Louisiana and the gulf coast some financial benefit from the offshore drilling. She did that. That is a legacy she will always have.

She always had Louisiana's interests at heart, and the people of Louisiana have been all the better because of it. For example, in the aftermath of Katrina, she stood up to the Bush administration and demanded more disaster relief for the people in Louisiana. The New York Times called her "the national spokeswoman for victims of the hurricane."

As her time in the Senate comes to an end, all Louisianans will miss having MARY in their corner. I wish MARY LANDRIEU and her husband Frank and their children Connor—who was recently married—and Mary Shannon the very best.

I remember when MARY brought that little baby Mary Shannon to the Senate. She was a tiny little baby. Now this beautiful child has grown to be an expert horsewoman. She is one of those people who rides horses all the time. She has entered her horses in different contests and has done very well.

I have known Connor since he was a little boy. He is married, and they have a little baby named Maddox, and MARY is so proud of her grandchild. Her husband Frank is a wonderful human being. I think so very much of him. I hope we will continue seeing them. Very often MARY will bring her family to my office. She takes them out on the balcony that overlooks the Mall.

MARY has touched my heart for a number of things, but the one thing she has done, which has been unsurpassed, is her caring for children who have no parents—adoptions. She led the Senate in adoptions. Her two children were adopted. Connor and Mary Shannon were adopted. She is so involved in

that program, and I know she will continue to be involved.

Here on the Senate floor we will all miss MARY, her voice of reason and moderation. I consider her to be a good friend, and I appreciate all she has done for me, the people of Louisiana, and our country.

JOHN WALSH

Mr. REID. Madam President, there is only one combat veteran of the Iraq war in the Senate, and that is GEN JOHN WALSH—Senator JOHN WALSH.

In 2004 General WALSH led the deployment of several hundred National Guard men from Montana to Iraq. He did the same thing a year later. It was a very difficult time for Americans in Iraq. General WALSH's men were in some of the heaviest battles. Many of them were wounded, and a number of them gave the ultimate sacrifice.

He led the largest deployment of Montana soldiers and airmen since World War II. For his service, JOHN was awarded the Bronze Star, the Legion of Merit Award, and the Combat Infantry Badge. JOHN came to the Senate a hero, and he will leave the Senate a hero.

He treated his time in the Senate like his time in the Army—he volunteered for the most difficult assignments here in the Senate. For example, Saturday night it was late—we thought we may have to be in here all night—and he volunteered to be here all night, not having to be relieved. He agreed to be here all night. He said: That is what I am here for.

He served the people of Montana admirably in the Senate. I thank him for his service over the past year.

I thank his family—his wife Janet, his sons Michael and Taylor, and granddaughter Kennedy—for their sacrifice in supporting his work here in Washington, DC.

I wish him the very best. He was the lieutenant governor of Montana, a job I held in the past, and we talked about that.

I don't know what the next chapter in his life will be, but knowing the courage and integrity of JOHN WALSH, it will be an important chapter.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. WYDEN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. BALDWIN). Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. WYDEN. I ask unanimous consent to speak as in morning business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. WYDEN. Madam President, my friend Senator THUNE and I are on the floor this afternoon to speak together about the Internet Tax Freedom Act.

Before that, I wish to spend a few minutes discussing Senator ROCKEFELLER and his extraordinary accomplishments. I know that Senator THUNE, after he and I have spoken about the Internet Tax Freedom Act, will make some additional remarks. I commend the work of Senator THUNE on charitable contributions. He and I have led the effort to protect charitable donations. Neither of us consider charity efforts as some kind of tax loophole. We consider them a lifeline for the American people.

So I look forward to the remarks of the Senator from South Dakota on several issues.

TRIBUTE TO JAY ROCKEFELLER

With respect to Senator ROCKEFELLER, one of the challenges right now for some of us is to get our arms around the idea that Senator ROCKEFELLER will no longer be serving in the Senate. This is a challenge for me especially because I remember watching Senator ROCKEFELLER's work years before I had entered public life.

Right after I got out of law school, we started the Oregon Gray Panthers. I had a full head of hair and rugged good looks. We were passing around petitions for the wonderful work Senator ROCKEFELLER was doing on behalf of the elderly. He was in the vanguard even then in the health care field. I know the Presiding Officer from the State of Wisconsin has been very interested in this—in ensuring that there are more options for older people, particularly in the long-term care setting.

We were passing petitions around—the Gray Panthers back in those days—urging that Americans and the Senate all rally to Senator ROCKEFELLER's work to ensure that there were more alternatives to nursing home care. It was just the beginning of the effort to create more options for home care for seniors. Now it is an idea we pretty much accept as gospel. But Senator ROCKEFELLER, as has been the case, was way ahead of his time. That is really the time when I began to really be a charter member of what I guess I will call the Rockefeller grassroots delegation that was sweeping the country for health care reform.

As the Presiding Officer and our colleagues know, Senator ROCKEFELLER's accomplishments in a number of fields have been exceptional. They span a host of issues, from cyber security to reducing violence on television to improving our transportation system and, of course, we have all seen his leadership in reining in some of the excesses of the CIA. He is a very strong supporter of the rank and file—the thousands of individuals who work in the intelligence field who are as patriotic as it is possible to be and do wonderful work to protect our people. Senator ROCKEFELLER has said that as they do that work, they are stronger when there is vigorous congressional oversight, and we are very grateful for his



work. I have sat next to him on the Intelligence Committee for many years and have watched his leadership there.

Today, though, as chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, I wish to focus in particular on Senator ROCKEFELLER's work on that committee. I will start by noting that his service on the Finance Committee is really a family legacy. His great grandfather, Nelson Aldrich, the Senator from Rhode Island, not only served on the Finance Committee but is often described as one of the committee's most distinguished chairs. On the committee Senator ROCKEFELLER has exercised similar influence.

JAY ROCKEFELLER has served on the Senate Finance Committee for 28 years—longer than all but 11 other Senators—and his tireless work on the committee has had a profound and positive impact. He has been a leader on maintaining a strong U.S. trade policy, while thinking creatively about Asia long before it became cool. He also has been a great advocate for fairness in the tax system—something I know many of us consider a special priority at this time.

Senator ROCKEFELLER has paid special attention to programs such as the Trade Adjustment Assistance Program, including the health coverage tax credit, the earned-income tax credit, and the child tax credit. That was drawn from recommendations of the National Commission on Children which Senator ROCKEFELLER, as is the case so often, ably chaired.

So I wish to speak about the common denominator in these kinds of efforts. It is really pretty direct because it captures JAY ROCKEFELLER's approach to public service and to life: Reach out to those who don't have power and clout, those who don't have a lot of political influence and political action committees, and lend a hand. Make the difference. Particularly for millions of Americans to whom JAY ROCKEFELLER gave voice, now they have an opportunity—millions of men, women, and children—to enjoy better lives and a more secure future because of JAY ROCKEFELLER's strong moral compass.

Now, as I touched on at the beginning of my comments, my first experience in watching JAY ROCKEFELLER—I am of the view that health care is the area where Senator ROCKEFELLER's legacy is going to be especially important. In a sense, JAY ROCKEFELLER always captured the notion that if you and your loved ones don't have their health, it is pretty hard to do anything else. In other words, if you aren't feeling well, if you are facing a chronic illness, how do you jump up and enjoy the wonderful outdoors of Oregon, Wisconsin, and West Virginia? So JAY ROCKEFELLER always said that health care was a special priority for him, and we see it in a whole host of accomplishments.

JAY ROCKEFELLER has been a leader in the fight against Alzheimer's and

other neurological conditions. He was a powerful and persistent voice, particularly in advocating for low-income Americans in the Affordable Care Act. I am especially pleased to note that Senator ROCKEFELLER, along with my colleague and partner on the Finance Committee Senator HATCH, really played the key role in creating the Children's Health Insurance Program. This is a program I hope not only will be extended but also strengthened in the next Congress. As many Members of this body know, JAY ROCKEFELLER's work to protect and expand Medicaid is without equal.

Over the past half century, we can count on one hand the Senators who have done an extraordinary amount to improve the health care of America, and when we look at that handful of Senators, JAY ROCKEFELLER is right at the top.

I started with a personal comment about JAY ROCKEFELLER, and I wish to end with one. When Chairman Baucus chose to take the Ambassador position in China, where he is doing a fine job, JAY ROCKEFELLER was next in line to replace Chairman Baucus. Make no mistake about it, JAY ROCKEFELLER would have been an outstanding chairman of the Senate Finance Committee. But his decision to decline that opportunity and to continue his work on the Senate commerce committee allowed me to accept the position as the chairman of the Finance Committee and the responsibility that has gone along with it. That kind of approach was really characteristic of JAY ROCKEFELLER—not wanting to push himself out front. As I have indicated, I told him I think he would have been a superb chairman of the Senate Finance Committee. But I wish to note on the personal side, as I started on the personal side, my thanks to JAY ROCKEFELLER.

So I close simply by saying that now, as the chairman of the Finance Committee and in the years ahead, my goal—when we take up issues such as health care, tax fairness, and a trade policy that lets us tap global markets but works for the middle class worker—and I think it is the goal of other members of the Senate Finance Committee—it is our goal in the days ahead to live up to the high standard that Senator JAY ROCKEFELLER has set.

With that, I yield the floor on my remarks about Senator ROCKEFELLER.

#### INTERNET TAX FREEDOM ACT

Now, for a few minutes, Senator THUNE and I are going to talk about the Internet Tax Freedom Act and our involvement in it. The story about the Internet Tax Freedom Act really starts in the 1990s. This was a period when I think policymakers were starting to think about how we lay out a framework for addressing the various challenges to ensure that the Internet would tap its full potential. We wanted to ensure that the Internet would tap

its full potential for innovation, for commerce, for learning, for health care. I want to make it clear, we weren't talking about inventing the Internet. What we were talking about was laying out a set of policies to ensure it would be possible for our country and for persons all around the world to tap the full potential of the Net.

I got my start with the former Congressman from California, Chris Cox, when we were looking at the challenge of what would happen if a Web site or a blog was held liable for something that was posted on the Web. The two of us, much like Senator THUNE and I have done over the years on the Internet Tax Freedom Act, tried to really unspool all the implications. It became very clear back in the 1990s that if a Web site or a blog was held liable for something that was posted on the site, nobody would ever go out and invest in what we now know to be the social media because the last thing they would do is put their money into something where they would be hit and hammered with all kinds of litigation and lawsuits. Our former colleague Chris Cox and I wrote the laws that ensured that a Web site would not be held secondarily liable. In fact, at that time, all this was so new that our approach, which relied on voluntary filters and the like to deal with smut, and another approach that was more of an old-fashioned censorship approach—both—went to the Supreme Court, and the Supreme Court upheld our approach and struck down the other.

Today, if you talk to many people in the social media, they cite that law as really being the key that unleashed modern investment in the social media because if you ran a Web site or a blog, you knew you wouldn't be held secondarily liable for something you couldn't control. I think it is fair to say that Congressman Cox and I, we were intoxicated about the fact that we had written this law, upheld by the Supreme Court, and we thought about what ought to go next in terms of trying to lay out a framework, as I indicated, to tap the full potential of the Net. Early on in our discussions, we came across a situation with respect to taxing the Internet that was particularly troubling. What we found was that if someone bought a subscription to a newspaper and they bought the online edition, they got hit with a big tax. But if they bought the offline edition—what we call now the snail-mail edition—they didn't get taxed. Congressman Cox and I said then that this is not going to help promote innovation. That is not going to allow the Internet to grow. It is just plain discrimination. It is singling the Internet out. You have to pay taxes for the online edition of the publication but you don't have to pay a tax if you

buy the snail-mail edition. We wrote the Internet Tax Freedom Act to protect the openness and viability of the Net for the platform for commerce speech and the exchange of ideas.

As both Senator THUNE and I have seen over our years of working together on this, this has become important to the millions of American citizens and businesses who depend on the Net. I think it would be fair to say—Senator THUNE and I discussed this—it is likely the Internet would be subject to the same level of punitive taxation that is currently inflicted on wireless services without the legislation we wrote. Without the Internet Tax Freedom Act, access to information in America would no longer be tax-free—access to online communication would no longer be tax-free. Access to the global marketplace so crucial to America's economic future would no longer be tax-free. The cost to consumers could be hundreds of dollar a year per household, which certainly is a burden to many working-class families who right now are walking on an economic tightrope trying to balance the food against the fuel and the fuel against the college costs and all of the challenges we know for working-class families in Wisconsin, Oregon, and across the country.

Senator THUNE and I have been working together on this issue for a number of years. I want to thank him for our partnership over the years. Now we have gotten a bit of seniority. We chaired a subcommittee on the Finance Committee, and we really see these issues as central to economic competitiveness.

This is what we need to grow and prosper with more good-paying, high-skill and high-wage jobs for middle-class people. That is why we have introduced together legislation that would really set our tax policy in this part of the economy into the 21st century. That is the Digital Goods and Services Tax Fairness Act. This legislation ensures the digital goods will continue to be treated fairly, consistently, and predictably across State lines, just as their nondigital competitors. Because the Internet Tax Freedom Act has been temporary, Senator THUNE and I authored new legislation to make the Net tax-free permanently. Our bill is cosponsored by more than half of our Senate colleagues.

Most importantly—and this is why I think we are on the ascent in terms of support for our cause—the House passed a permanent bill in July putting the ball in the Chamber's court here. This body could take up and pass our permanent legislation—the permanent legislation Senator THUNE and I have authored—on a permanent basis if it chose to do so. But because the Congress has become too reliant—we certainly have seen this in a number of areas on stop-and-go government—it

was necessary to once again pass a yearlong extension as part of a larger bill. The extension, in my view, is certainly a positive step. But in my view, it is clearly time. In fact, it is long overdue to enact a permanent law, to guarantee the certainty and predictability to all who are seeking to innovate online, to the people in a garage, whether it is in Wisconsin, Oregon or anywhere else, and to have some sense of what the ground rules are going to be.

That is what I sought to be a part of in the 1990s. That is why I am so grateful for Senator THUNE's leadership, because he has been a partner in this cause now for many years on the Finance Committee. Our view is that a permanent law in this area would be hugely valuable to innovation, to the small businesses, and to the people who have a good idea, because it would provide them a new measure of certainty and predictability when they are looking at what is coming out of Washington, DC.

We have temporary measures, and we have measures that last a few weeks. Senator THUNE and I want to get away from that.

I am very hopeful that next year a permanent version of the Internet Tax Freedom Act will be enacted. Senator THUNE and I are going to continue to work together on a bipartisan basis until that is done.

With that, I yield the floor for my partner from South Dakota and thank him for all his leadership.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from South Dakota.

TRIBUTE TO JAY ROCKEFELLER

Mr. THUNE. I thank my colleague from Oregon Senator WYDEN for his continued leadership on this issue. I want to echo what he said about Senator ROCKEFELLER.

I had the opportunity to serve as his ranking Republican on the Senate commerce committee and really enjoyed serving with him during his chairmanship and learned a lot. He is someone who has great experience here—36 years in the Senate. I have been here now for 10. So I have a lot to learn from people like Senator ROCKEFELLER.

We did some good things together. We just recently got through the Senate the cyber security bill that the commerce committee passed earlier this year and the satellite television reauthorization this year, which ended up being—it is always somewhat controversial to move that legislation, but we were successful in getting that ultimately enacted this year. We moved the STB reauthorization bill, Surface Transportation Board, which had rail reforms in it, out of the commerce committee. Unfortunately, they didn't get it considered on the floor of the Senate but had hearings on numerous issues that are under the jurisdiction of the commerce committee. I appre-

ciate so much Chairman ROCKEFELLER's leadership and his service here. Like him, I come from a small State. We share a lot of things in common. We came from small communities and represent people who work hard and just want a fair break and want to make sure that the people they elect to represent them in Washington, DC, are staying focused on the issues that are important to their livelihood. I appreciate his leadership on those issues.

I have to say that he stands tall among our colleagues. I think he probably has the distinction of being the tallest Senator. The Senator from Oregon, Senator WYDEN, and I are not far behind. But if Senator ROCKEFELLER ever stood up all the way, I think he would have us by several inches. The tall-guy caucus here in the Senate will be less represented when Senator ROCKEFELLER departs. I have always enjoyed his sense of humor and the way in which he approaches the job and the passion he feels for public service. We wish him well in his retirement and thank him for a long and distinguished career here in the Senate.

INTERNET TAX FREEDOM ACT

I wish to say to my colleague from Oregon—he mentioned earlier that he was the pioneer on this issue, going back to 1998 when he worked with former Congressman Chris Cox. That was the original Internet Tax Freedom Act. I am hopeful that both our permanent bill, which Senator WYDEN mentioned, the ITFA bill, and our Digital Goods and Services Tax Fairness Act can be considered as early as possible in the next Congress.

The Senator from Oregon, Senator WYDEN, is the chairman of the Senate Finance Committee—a very powerful committee here in the Congress—and will continue his leadership in the next session of Congress as the ranking Democrat on that committee. He will be a very influential voice on all of these issues—tax matters, trade matters, health care matters. The Finance Committee has a very broad jurisdiction. It is really important that we get this part right.

If you look at what most Americans have dealt with when it comes to Internet service, they have not been taxed on Internet access for 16 years due to the Internet Tax Freedom Act moratorium that Senator WYDEN and Senator Cox were able to get instituted back in 1998. That moratorium has been extended three times. It has been critical to the rapid growth of the Internet. All of this would change if we allowed the Internet Tax Freedom Act to expire.

We were able to get through the end of this next fiscal year—which will be September 30 of next year—an extension of the moratorium. But the fact of the matter is, as Senator WYDEN mentioned, we need permanency with regard to this tax policy. We need certainty. We need predictability. We need

people in this country to know—American families to know—they are not going to be hit with substantial taxes as a result of the lapse of this particular legislation.

You look at what it could do to the average American family. The average State telecommunications tax rate is roughly 12 percent. Imagine a married couple with two children where everyone in the family has a phone with a \$50 data plan. Currently, the Internet Tax Freedom Act prevents taxes on the data plan in States that didn't have these taxes prior to the law's enactment, which is a large majority of the States. If this law expires, this family of four would be likely to see at least a \$20 increase in their monthly phone bill, meaning a tax increase of more than \$200 a year. For families struggling to make ends meet, as Senator WYDEN pointed out, this is real money.

This tax increase would not just be bad for American families and American consumers, it would also be bad for American economic competitiveness because we know that higher costs for the deployment of high-speed Internet will mean a slower rollout of this technology.

This is especially the case in rural America, where the cost of exploring high-speed Internet is often higher than urban or suburban areas. By keeping the cost of Internet access as low as possible, we help to encourage the continued use of the Internet as a source of economic growth, creativity, and entrepreneurship.

As the incoming chairman of the Senate commerce committee, I am committed to increasing Internet connectivity in this country. Whether it is through the Universal Service Fund, by getting additional spectrum into the hands of the private sector, or by providing regulatory certainty to encourage broadband buildout, our committee is going to be looking at all available options to make sure more Americans have access to high-quality Internet.

Unfortunately, if the Federal Government allows new taxes to be levied on Internet access, we risk canceling out our other efforts to get more Americans online. This does not make any sense. We all need to be rolling in the same direction if our country is going to be connected and engaged in this expanding Internet ecosystem.

Earlier this year the House of Representatives, as Senator WYDEN pointed out, by voice vote passed a bill to make the Internet Tax Freedom Act permanent, which is a very positive step forward. I am hopeful that next year we will move on a much longer term extension of ITFA as well as other measures that promote the digital economy, such as the Digital Goods and Services Tax Fairness Act that I mentioned earlier.

As incoming chairman of the commerce committee and as a member of

the tax-writing Finance Committee, I am looking forward to a new agenda next Congress, one that is optimistic and forward-leaning, an agenda that recognizes that the dynamism in our economy today should not be a source of concern but, rather, a source of opportunity for jobs, growth, and economic freedom. This agenda begins with support for the Internet Tax Freedom Act. That is why I am pleased the bill we passed Saturday evening extends the Internet Tax Freedom Act through September 2015 so that we can have a debate next year about how we promote the Internet economy with all of its benefits on a much more permanent basis.

I look forward to working with my colleague from Oregon, Senator WYDEN, and Senators on both sides who I think care deeply about this critical issue moving forward early in the next Congress. As the Senator from Oregon mentioned, I think half of the Members of the Senate are cosponsors of this bill. That suggests to me that obviously there is broad, bipartisan support for what we are talking about here.

I also look forward to working with Senator WYDEN on other issues that are important to the digital economy. Digital trade is something he and I have partnered on in the past as well. As we look at the trade agreements that are currently being negotiated—the TPP as well as the TTIP trade agreements with Europe—all need to include important protections for the digital economy.

This is one of the areas in our economy where we actually have a trade surplus. Because of American ingenuity, know-how, creativity, and innovation, we continue to lead the world in this area. We need to make sure that we not only are putting in place the important safeguards here in this country against taxing these services but also ensuring that we have access to other markets around the world where we know American know-how and American ingenuity and creativity can lead the way.

I very much look forward in the next Congress to continuing to work with my colleague from Oregon on these important matters so that we can continue to see middle-income families in this country benefit from the gains in productivity that come, hopefully a higher standard of living, higher take-home pay, better wages, and better job opportunities that come with a robust, vibrant digital economy that enables our broader economy to continue to make great gains.

I thank the Senator from Oregon, Mr. WYDEN, for his leadership on this issue both past and present. I look forward to working with him as we try in the future to make sure that those gains are protected and that we move even further in the direction of economic freedom when it comes to the Internet.

#### SUPPORTING AMERICA'S CHARITIES ACT

I would like to shift gears and speak, if I might for just a moment, about another issue which I think is very important to our overall economy and very important to a lot of people across this country, both those who give to—empower charitable giving in this country and those who benefit from it.

Last week the House of Representatives voted on a piece of legislation that would empower Americans to give more to charity. The legislation would accomplish this by making permanent three tax incentives for charitable giving that have been in law on a temporary basis. All three of these tax provisions have historically enjoyed strong bipartisan support.

First, the bill would make permanent the law allowing individuals 70½ years of age and older to donate up to \$100,000 of their individual retirement account to charity without incurring a tax penalty for doing so.

Second, the bill would make permanent the enhanced deduction for food inventories, thus encouraging businesses to donate food that might otherwise go to waste to food pantries and other organizations that help to feed the hungry.

Finally, the bill would make permanent certain tax rules that make it easier for farmers and other land owners to donate land for conservation purposes, thus helping to preserve America's natural habitat. This last provision, I might add, is included in President Obama's 2015 budget.

These are commonsense measures that will help to promote what I believe is a core element of the American experience; that is, private citizens helping friends and neighbors in their time of need. What could be more appropriate during this season of giving than the government making it a little bit easier for Americans to lend a helping hand?

Unfortunately, this Christmas season the Obama administration has a different message for America's charities and the millions of individuals they serve. That message is "bah humbug." That is right. Instead of working with us to help America's charities, the Obama administration promised to veto this bill should it pass the House and the Senate. Apparently the President is so opposed to any new tax relief, he has decided to oppose a bill with significant bipartisanship support.

Let's be clear that this measure is not some budget-busting bill. In fact, this bill would provide about \$1 billion per year in tax relief to Americans who donate to charity, which would have almost no impact on a Federal budget of nearly \$4 trillion.

One measure of the bipartisan nature of this legislation is the fact that the Democratic chairman of the tax-writing Finance Committee, Senator

WYDEN, who was here briefly a moment ago, supports this measure. In fact, Chairman WYDEN recently indicated that he hoped we could get this measure to the President's desk quickly. He stated:

My view is we'll pass it as a clean bill and send it on to the President. I really don't see a lot of controversy.

That was from the chairman of the Senate Finance Committee.

Unfortunately for Senator WYDEN and me, along with many of our colleagues in both parties who see an opportunity to get something meaningful enacted before the end of this year, this White House sees yet another opportunity for gridlock. So I would say I strongly believe promoting charitable giving should be a high priority.

Earlier this year Senator WYDEN and I circulated a letter signed by 33 of our Senate colleagues to then-Finance Committee Chairman Baucus and Ranking Member HATCH urging them not to weaken the charitable tax deduction in any tax reform effort.

As a member of the Finance Committee, I have not signed many letters on tax reform, as I generally believe that everything needs to be on the table. However, I made an exception when it came to charitable giving because I believe so strongly that promoting charity is an integral part of who we are as a nation.

Much like the deduction for charitable contributions, the provisions of the Supporting America's Charities Act represent important means by which to encourage Americans to give more to charitable organizations. Unfortunately, due to opposition from the President, this legislation fell a few votes short of passage last week in the House when it was considered under suspension of the rules, which is a process that requires a two-thirds majority vote.

That being said, I intend to introduce similar legislation early next year, and I strongly urge the President of the United States to reconsider what I believe is his misguided opposition to these very worthy provisions. I hope the administration will join us in a spirit of good will toward all men and women, especially those of our fellow citizens most in need of assistance.

#### ABLE ACT

I wish to finally speak today regarding a bill that I am very pleased has moved through this Congress—I should say will be moving shortly—and that is the Achieving a Better Life Experience, or ABLE, Act. This bill will assist individuals with disabilities by creating a mechanism to achieve long-term personal savings—something individuals with disabilities are effectively prohibited from doing today under current law.

The ABLE Act would create tax-favored savings accounts for people with disabilities that would count toward

the \$2,000 individual asset limits that apply to the Supplemental Security Income and Medicaid Programs. The ABLE Act will allow individuals with disabilities and their families to save money to pay for qualified disability expenses, such as education, a primary residence, transportation, and other personal support expenses.

This legislation helps achieve a world where disabilities are no longer viewed as a limiting factor as individuals plan for jobs, for school, and for family life. It helps achieve a world where Federal policies no longer impede individuals with disabilities from achieving their dreams. It helps give parents peace of mind as they think about what the future holds for their children.

I have met with many families on this issue, and one story in particular stands out, the story of Tim and Jamie Geels from Dakota Dunes. They have three sons, and their middle son, Tyler, is a concrete example of a young South Dakotan who will see tangible changes to his future as a result of the ABLE Act.

The ABLE Act is one of the most far-reaching pieces of legislation to help individuals with disabilities in nearly 25 years. I am proud to be a cosponsor. Long hours and intense effort shaped this legislation into a package that helps Americans with disabilities and is fiscally responsible as well. I am proud to support the ABLE Act, as modified. I look forward to Senate passage of this very worthy legislation later this week as part of the tax extenders legislation.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Florida.

#### WORK OF THE COMMERCE COMMITTEE

Mr. NELSON. Madam President, before the Senator from South Dakota leaves the floor, let this Senator say that I am looking forward to working with him since he will be our chairman of the Commerce Committee next year. I will have the privilege of being the ranking member. We have a fairly full plate of things that must be done: FAA reauthorization, telecommunications rewrite. Fortunately, it looks as though we have just done a Coast Guard bill, but there can always be tweaks to that. There are a host of things. We are way beyond on NASA reauthorization. Fortunately, we have been able to build on the NASA reauthorization that was done in 2010, but that needs to be updated. There are all kinds of consumer legislation as we get into things such as this thorny issue of Internet access. It is going to take some real bipartisan cooperation.

In my discussions with the future chairman, Senator THUNE, I am looking forward to working with him on this very important committee.

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, I know the Senator from Florida has things he wants to talk about, but I do

want to take this opportunity to mention that I very much look forward to working with him. I think we have the potential for a real foundation, hopefully, for accomplishment on our committee.

The Senator from Florida is someone who has an interest in working in a bipartisan way to get things done for our country. I know of his great interest, being from Florida, in the space program and NASA, in oceans. Oceans are not an issue we have to deal with a lot in South Dakota; it is an issue our committee deals with. It is an issue that is very important to a lot of our colleagues on the committee as well as the Senator from Florida. So I welcome the opportunity to work with him.

As he mentioned, these are tough, thorny issues—telecommunications issues, transportation issues, the highway bill, FAA authorization, perhaps something on rail. There is a whole range of issues falling under the jurisdiction of the commerce committee that are going to require an extraordinary level not only of support from the members of our committee but a willingness on the part of those of us—the Senator from Florida and I—to hopefully craft an agenda to get things done for this country.

I appreciate his kind words and would reciprocate by saying how much I look forward to working with him and hopefully to have a real record of accomplishment as we head into this next year.

I thank the Senator from Florida for his kind words and wish to let him know we will be doubling down next year, working as hard as we can to put some points on the scoreboard that are good not only for the State of Florida and for the State of South Dakota but for America and for our economy, because we have so many things under the jurisdiction of the commerce committee that contribute to a stronger and more robust economy in this country.

#### TAX EXTENDERS

Mr. NELSON. Madam President, I wish to speak about a tax bill that is coming up that is fairly necessary for the country. The Senator from South Dakota and I have the privilege also of serving on the Finance Committee, and there is an example where we just haven't been able to get a lot done. Now, here we are at the eleventh hour and fifty-ninth minute with a whole bunch of provisions about to expire that are extremely important to American taxpayers, such as the research and development tax credit.

American businesses and American taxpayers would like to have some certainty of knowing, as they are doing their planning for the year, that they can plan on this or that deduction or tax credit. In Congress, for the entire past year, we have not had etched into law, because it has expired, a number

of these tax deductions and credits that I am going to go through. But the R&D tax credit is only one example.

So how in the world can American business and the American taxpayers plan? Take, for example, the Senator has a State where agriculture is predominant. So does this Senator.

There are a number of ranchers in the State of Florida who want to donate a conservation easement on their property to keep that property, in this case of ranching families, that they have been ranching for centuries. They want that way of life to continue.

There is an interest in environmental restoration; for example, the Everglades restoration, that the headwaters that ultimately flow to the Everglades be preserved from being developed. So there is an interest in the environment to obtain the development rights or a conservation easement.

It is clearly in the interests of the taxpayer, likewise, to have observed that conservation easement because that is the easiest way of cleaning up the water that ultimately flows into the Everglades. So the conservation easement is a win-win-win. It is a win for the rancher, it is a win for the taxpayer, and it is a win for the environment.

But the poor ranchers, because we have not passed the tax extenders bill, here they are at the end of the year and they would like to make the donation of the conservation easement. How are they going to get it done in the next couple of weeks if we don't pass it until almost the midnight hour?

It is just another example, and I look forward to working with the Senator from South Dakota. I hope we can pass it this week so at least some of it can be salvaged before the end of this tax year.

I have given two examples and I will give another: the wind energy production tax credit. It provides a credit for electricity produced by the wind.

There is a lot of wind out in the middle of this country. It is a good way to produce electricity. It is called renewable electricity. It has brought our electricity sector into the 21st century. It has reduced our dependence on carbon-based electricity.

It makes sense. If someone visits a country such as Denmark, look how many windmills there are. I still call them windmills, but they are wind turbines. They are highly sophisticated, finely tuned machines, blades that will take the least bit of wind and turn that big blade that is hundreds of feet long. As it turns, it is generating electricity.

Yet for the entire past year people who want to establish these wind farms don't have any certainty that they will be able to get this wind energy production tax credit.

The purpose for the tax credit is to give the businesses an incentive to establish wind farms which, No. 1, be-

comes a win for the environment; No. 2, becomes a win for the business that is in the business of wind energy production; and, No. 3, becomes a win for the consumers because it is weaning us from producing electricity only from a carbon-based fuel that ultimately sends CO<sub>2</sub> into the atmosphere. We know what is happening with a lot of CO<sub>2</sub> up there, it creates the greenhouse effect.

As the Sun's rays come in and bounce off the surface of the Earth and reflect or radiate back out into space, suddenly the glass ceiling—the greenhouse effect of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases—traps that heat. What happens? The increasing temperature of the planet, 90 percent of that heat is absorbed into the oceans and, as a result, we are seeing the sea level rise.

For a State such as mine, the State of Florida, NASA has measured over the past 50 years—not drafts, not projections, measurements—5 to 8 inches in South Florida of sea level rise in Florida.

By the way, check the papers. Yesterday the pumps didn't work. Alton Road in Miami Beach was flooded. The mayor of Miami Beach, when he was campaigning 1 year ago, went in a kayak down Alton Road as a demonstration of how the sea level rise at high tide is flooding streets of Miami Beach. It brings me back to this extenders tax bill we need to pass this week: the wind energy production tax credit.

Another example is the work opportunity tax credit, which encourages people who work to hire disadvantaged people. It provides a tax credit for businesses that hire people who have a difficult time getting a job. It encourages the private sector to help these folks get out of a difficult spot in their lives, because they have disadvantages, to become independent, to stand on their own two feet because they can go to work. That is the purpose of a tax credit for work opportunity, but that hasn't been in effect all this year, 2014.

We pass this tax extenders bill and it will retroactively take it back to the 1st of the year and make this tax credit—and these others I have mentioned—available as people are calculating their Federal income tax for the calendar year 2014.

Another is rollover IRAs to charities. It is when you get to a certain age—and I believe the age is 70—and you have an IRA. By law, setting up the IRAs which are nontaxable—recall all the years you put money in those IRAs, you put that money into the IRA before you paid tax on it.

When you bring money out of the IRAs that you have had all of your life, you are going to pay the tax, and that more than likely is going to be during your retirement years. That is what an IRA is for. It is called an Individual Retirement Account.

By law, under the IRA law, when someone gets to be 70, they have to start taking out a certain amount of that IRA.

We have had a provision in the Tax Code that is an incentive to give that money that people have to take out to charity. Therefore, it provides an easier way for people who have to take the money out of their retirement accounts to give that money to charity because, when they take it out, it doesn't become taxable before they give it to the charity.

In other words, it is a transfer of the tax-free dollars in the IRA directly over to charity. It is a win for the taxpayer, and it is a win for the charitable organizations because there is an incentive there to give that money to charitable organizations.

If we don't pass this tax extenders bill, that is not available for all of this year of 2014. Think what that is going to do to some charities and what it is going to be doing to taxpayers who have been planning on that deduction and suddenly find it is not available.

Another example is there are a few States—maybe half a dozen—that do not have a State income tax, but often the State government is in fact funded by the State sales tax. My State of Florida is one of those States. The State of Washington is another, and the State of Texas is another. There are about three others.

Therefore, if someone is in a State that has a State income tax, and they are calculating their Federal income tax, they can deduct the State income tax in the deduction of the Federal income tax.

What about the poor people in the States that don't have the income tax? They should be able to deduct the similar tax that we pay in our States, the State sales tax, and that provision has been there in the Tax Code, but it is not in there for 2014 because it lapsed, and we need to reenact it.

This is not a way to run a railroad and tax policy, but unfortunately, because it seems to have the word "tax" to it, it seems to be radioactive and, as a result, we have to wait until the eleventh hour and the fifty-ninth minute to pass it.

I certainly hope we will pass it this week.

Let me give you another example—the deduction for mortgage insurance premiums. When you want to buy a home, the bank negotiates and sets up a mortgage so you can buy the home. Most banks will require you to take out an insurance policy should you fail to pay on that mortgage. We have always had the deductibility of that insurance premium in calculating Federal income taxes, and it particularly helps low- and middle-income people deduct the amount they pay for private mortgage insurance. So, therefore, what does that do? That helps those

low- and middle-income folks buy a home.

Isn't home ownership something that is desirable in America? I think so. Well, we better pass this tax extenders bill.

I will give another example—excluding forgiven mortgage debt from income. It allows people to exclude forgiven mortgage debt from their income. Why am I raising this? Well, haven't we just gone through the worst recession since the Great Depression? Didn't some people get so upside down in their mortgage—with their mortgage being at this level, but the value of their home dropping to this level—so that they owed a much greater amount on their mortgage than the value of their home? What they tried to do was work with the purchaser and the bank that holds the mortgage. That is called a short sale. The bank forgives part of that debt—the difference between the mortgage amount and the value of the home.

The poor taxpayer, the homeowner, instead of treating what they have been forgiven as income—they have just had to take a shellacking because of the value of their home dropping below the value of the mortgage. Lo and behold, when they get a break and sell in a short sale, they end up having to pay income tax on that amount of debt that was forgiven.

I don't think we want to do that. That is why we have this provision to exclude that debt forgiveness from the income tax. But for all of the last 12 months it is not going to be forgiven if we can't pass this tax extenders bill. I think we better get serious about it. We are talking about looking at this as the last piece of legislation this week to pass before we leave. We better get serious about it.

And lastly, let me say that every one of us wants to treat teachers the right way. Teachers haven't been treated the right way. As a matter of fact, a lot of teachers are pulling money out of their own pockets because their school districts are not providing enough money for school supplies for those little children. Those unselfish teachers are going into their own pockets to bring out money to provide the supplies so the kids can learn. Now if a courageous and unselfish teacher does that, should we not at least give them a deduction of that amount they paid for those school supplies for their children? Shouldn't we let them deduct that in calculating their income tax?

We have in the past. But we haven't for calendar year 2014—this present year. And that is another one of the deductions that I hope the Congress will pass this week in order to take care of our people.

But as we go through this in the future, why do we have to keep waiting until the last minute so people can't plan, so people get nervous, so people

don't know what to do, so people don't know how to invest, so people don't know how to preserve their land, their business, and the future for their families? This is no way to run a railroad.

Let us at least salvage some kind of victory from the jaws of defeat. I hope we will pass this bill in short order.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. WALSH). The Senator from Vermont.

#### SOCIAL SECURITY

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, it is no secret to anyone in America that the middle class of our country today is struggling; that while millions of American workers are now working longer hours for lower wages than they did in some cases 30 or 40 years ago—we are looking at a 40-year decline of the middle class—that almost all of the new income being generated today is going to the top 1 percent. Tragically, the United States has the most unequal distribution of income and wealth of any major country on Earth.

But the issue is not just for the middle class right now or for working families. The issue of the economic crisis we are in significantly impacts senior citizens and children, the most vulnerable people in this country. My hope always has been that as a great nation we will not turn our backs on the children of America. But year after year that is exactly what we do. We continue to have millions of children living in poverty. In fact, we have the highest rate of childhood poverty of any major country on Earth. Almost 20 percent of our kids live in poverty. We have about one out of four children in America who gets their nutrition from the food stamp program.

I worry very much about the future of this country if we cannot stand with the children of America; if we cannot make sure that working parents all over this country have high quality, affordable childcare. That is certainly not the case right now, despite the fact that virtually all psychologists recognize that the most important years of a human being's life are zero to four. But our childcare system is a disaster.

It is not only the children we have turned our backs on. Increasingly we are turning our backs on senior citizens as well. It has distressed me for a number of years to be hearing many of my Republican friends and some Democrats talking about the need to cut Social Security—to cut Social Security. There are various schemes out there—some of them have to do with the so-called chained CPI—which would reformulate how we determine cost-of-living adjustments for seniors. This means, in fact, over a period of years significant reductions in what seniors and disabled veterans would get.

We have worked, I have worked, in opposition to that concept for years. I think we have beaten it back, but I have no doubt that it will surface

again. There are folks who want to cut Social Security, and, in my view, we have to do everything we can not only to defeat that proposal but we have to begin talking about how we expand Social Security benefits. Because today the kind of benefits that millions of seniors get are simply not adequate for them in terms of giving them the income they need to purchase the medicine they require, the food they need, the fuel to heat their homes in the wintertime, and other basic necessities.

In terms of Social Security, let me be very clear. Despite what folks on TV may be saying, and some politicians may be saying, Social Security is not going broke. Let me repeat: Social Security is not going broke. Today Social Security has a surplus in the trust fund of \$2.76 trillion—a surplus of \$2.76 trillion—and can pay out benefits to every eligible American for the next 19 years, to the year 2033. So anyone who comes forward and says Social Security is going broke, that is just factually not true. Social Security can pay out every benefit owed to every eligible American for the next 19 years.

We also hear the argument: Well, we have a large deficit, and Social Security is one of the causes of our deficit and our national debt. That is absolutely inaccurate. Social Security has not contributed one nickel to our deficit or our national debt, because Social Security, as every worker in America knows, is independently funded through payroll tax contributions from workers and employers—6.2 percent from each—and it does not receive funding from the Federal Treasury.

So, a, Social Security is not going broke; and b, it is not contributing to the deficit. But I will say this about Social Security. In an incredibly volatile economy, the stock market goes up, the stock market goes down. Social Security, from its inception 79 years ago, through good economic times and bad economic times, has paid out every nickel owed to every eligible beneficiary with minimal administrative cost.

Social Security is not an investment program. You can invest money on Wall Street, and sometimes you do well. You can invest money on Wall Street, and sometimes you lose your shirt. Social Security is a social insurance program. It has never failed 1 American in 79 years. That is a pretty good record.

But even with Social Security being strong and solvent for the next 19 years, we have to recognize we do have a retirement crisis in America today. I fear very much that the appropriations bill just passed the other day, which will allow pensions for millions of workers to be cut, is only going to exacerbate that problem. Today in America only one in five workers has a traditional defined benefit that guarantees income in retirement.

Amazingly enough, when we talk about anxiety among the American people, stress among the American people, and why people are angry, why they are fearful, over half of all Americans have less than \$10,000 in savings. Stop and think about that. If you have less than \$10,000 in savings, an automobile accident or needing a new car can wipe you out; an illness can wipe you out; a divorce can wipe you out. So we have millions and millions of Americans sitting there wondering how they are going to retire with dignity when they have \$5,000, \$8,000 or less in savings.

Here is the importance of Social Security: Two-thirds of senior citizens today depend upon Social Security for more than half of their income; one-third of all seniors depend upon Social Security for at least 90 percent of their income.

So when we talk about cutting Social Security, understand that a third of seniors depend upon Social Security for at least 90 percent of their income. This is not extra money; this is not fun money; this is life-and-death money. This is money that people need to buy medicine, food, and to keep their homes warm in the wintertime.

I wish I could say otherwise, but the truth is that the percentage of seniors living in poverty in America is going up. In 2011, the official senior poverty rate was 8.7 percent. Last year the official senior poverty rate was 9.5 percent. That is a pretty significant increase in senior poverty.

But if we look at the Census Bureau's more comprehensive measure of poverty, which takes a careful look at the out-of-pocket medical costs for seniors, the poverty rate for seniors is even worse. According to this supplemental poverty measure from the Census Bureau, the real senior poverty rate in America is actually 14.6 percent. What that means is that one out of seven seniors living in America last year could not afford to meet their most basic needs.

The average Social Security benefit today is just \$14,000 a year. As someone who will be the next ranking member of the Budget Committee, I intend to do everything I can not only to oppose vigorously any efforts to cut Social Security, I am going to do everything I can to expand Social Security benefits.

In fact, the best way to expand Social Security is to ask the wealthiest people in our country to pay more into the system by scrapping the cap on income that is subject to the Social Security payroll tax. As the Presiding Officer knows, right now a billionaire pays the same amount into Social Security as someone who makes \$117,000 a year. So if there is a multimillionaire here—somebody who is making \$50 million—and somebody who is making \$117,000, they both contribute the same amount into the Social Security trust fund.

This is regressive. This is unfair. This is absurd. If we lifted this cap and applied the Social Security payroll tax to income above \$250,000—not \$117,000, but \$250,000 a year, we could not only extend the solvency of Social Security for decades to come—which is what we want to do—but we could also provide the resources necessary to expand Social Security benefits. That is exactly what we should be doing, and that in fact is what the American people want us to do.

In August 2014, a poll by Lake Research Partners asked likely voters if they support the idea of:

... increasing Social Security benefits and paying for that increase by having wealthy Americans pay the same rate into Social Security as everybody else.

Interestingly, the poll found that 90 percent of Democratic voters said they support the idea, and 75 percent strongly support that idea of lifting the cap; 73 percent of Independent voters support that idea, 55 percent strongly support it; 73 percent of Republican voters support that idea, 47 percent strongly support it.

So there is for that idea enormously strong support across the political spectrum, Democrats, Independents, Republicans.

Sadly, despite this overwhelming support for expanding Social Security, the CEOs at the Business Roundtable—the organization representing the largest corporations in America—came out with a plan last year which does exactly what the American people do not want to do. The American people want to expand Social Security and the Business Roundtable came out with a plan that would increase the Social Security retirement age from 67 to 70 and severely cut the COLA of senior citizens and disabled veterans.

The Congress and the Senate here have got to make a very fundamental decision, and that is: Do we listen to the American people who are hurting today—the seniors who have worked their whole lives but who cannot get by in what in many cases are meager and inadequate Social Security benefits—do we listen to them? Do we stand up for and with the people who helped build this country—who worked the farms, who worked in our factories, who served us in our Armed Forces? Do we stand with them and expand Social Security, or do we listen to those on Wall Street and corporate America who want to cut Social Security benefits and in some cases want to privatize Social Security?

This is a huge issue for tens of millions of Americans. I intend to do everything I can not only to resist cuts to Social Security but to do everything we can to expand Social Security benefits for those seniors and disabled vets who desperately need that expansion.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

#### BOUGH NOMINATION

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, Members of the Senate, in a few hours, maybe within this day or tomorrow, the Senate will be voting on several nominees to be district judges. I come to the floor to speak about one of these, Stephen Bough, of Missouri, for a seat on the District Court of the Western District of Missouri.

As I do with every nominee, I thoroughly examined Mr. Bough's record with an eye at giving him and others the benefit of the doubt if problematic issues arose. After full consideration of that record, I am regrettably unable to support this nominee. There are just too many data points—red flags, if you will—which tell me that Mr. Bough doesn't have what it takes to serve in a lifetime appointment on the Missouri District Court.

These red flags all relate to one troubling question the nominee's record raises: whether Mr. Bough has the temperament to be a Federal judge. I have come to the conclusion that he doesn't have that type of temperament. So I would explain my conclusion.

First, there is the issue of this nominee's professional conduct. A specific incident from last year demonstrates how Mr. Bough has engaged in what I believe to be unethical behavior that precludes him from service on a Federal bench.

Last October, a member of the Mississippi bar drew my attention to the nominee's participation in a civil case in Federal District Court. The presiding judge on that case was the nominee's former employer, Senior District Judge Scott O. Wright.

About a week before the nominee signed on to the case, the plaintiff's attorney asked the court to transfer the case to another judge. Judge Wright denied that motion the next day. Then, just 1 week later, the nominee entered his appearance in the case. Mere hours after that, Judge Wright recused himself without any motion from the parties.

Now why did Judge Wright do that? Well, when Mr. Bough joined the case, he created a conflict of interest with Judge Wright. You see, Mr. Bough was Judge Wright's law clerk and remains his close personal friend today. In fact, Judge Wright had added the nominee to his personal conflicts list in January 2006, and Mr. Bough was well aware that he was on the conflicts list. So Mr. Bough knew that by joining the case Judge Wright was guaranteed to recuse himself—and that is exactly what the plaintiffs tried unsuccessfully to do just 1 week before Mr. Bough signed on and forced that recusal by creating the conflict with the judge.

Now we can reasonably ask, why is this significant? Well, what the nominee did here is known as judge shopping. It is an unethical litigation practice that has been strongly criticized



by courts throughout the country. Essentially, it is when a lawyer knowingly creates a conflict with a judge in order to get the judge kicked off a case and replaced with a new and perhaps more favorable judge. That is the shopping part.

The Michigan Supreme Court has explained that judge shopping “exposes the legal profession and the courts to contempt and ridicule.” The Fifth Circuit calls judge shopping “sheer manipulation of the justice system.” Another Federal court has noted that the practice is “universally condemned.”

This isn't the kind of professional conduct we can accept in a nominee to the Federal bench.

I gave Mr. Bough several opportunities to explain his conduct in questions for the record that I submitted to him. What I learned from his responses was this: The nominee knew that by joining the case he created conflict requiring Judge Wright's recusal.

I also asked the nominee to provide our Judiciary Committee with the work he says he did while he was an attorney on that case. You see, I wanted to know whether the nominee joined the case in good faith to work and to do it for the client, or joined just to create a conflict with the judge.

Mr. Bough responded that he provided advice and edits on only three documents. I requested those documents twice, and I told the nominee to redact any content protected by attorney-client privilege. The nominee has refused to provide those documents to me. The nominee has not provided to me memorandums, billing records, or any other materials to support his claim that he actually was working on that case; nor did the nominee attend any depositions or other pretrial hearings in that case. He made no filings with the court.

In short, Mr. Bough has provided me with almost nothing to support his claim that he actually did substantial work on the case during the 7 months he represented the client.

It is for this reason and for the circumstances I have already described that I am led to believe that the nominee's entry of appearance was not in good faith. It looks to me like a textbook case of judge shopping.

But the judge shopping is only one of many red flags. Let me discuss another that gives me serious pause.

The nominee has been active in Democratic Party politics in the Kansas City area for a number of years. Now I want to make it very clear that I don't hold that against him. I have said frequently over the years that I never disqualify a judicial nominee just because he or she has been politically active. Instead, the issue for me is whether a nominee has shown that they can shift gears and put aside their previous political advocacy once they put on the judge's robe. This nominee's

record makes it abundantly clear that he wouldn't be able to make the switch from political advocate to impartial arbiter of law.

I will give you an example. In recent years the nominee has written a number of blogs and those posts have been about national politics. I have read his posts. I would say some are of a stridently political nature. Those don't bother me. Others though are simply too crude and sexist for me to quote. I challenge any Democrat who is voting for this nominee to read those blogs aloud to the public. I am confident none of my colleagues will do that. So I will just say that the sheer coarseness of those posts led me and other members of our Judiciary Committee to question whether Mr. Bough has a temperament suited to the lifetime judicial service.

Unfortunately it is not just the blog posts that make me ask that question. The nominee has shown in other contexts that he is first and foremost a political operative rather than a zealous advocate for a client or officer of the court. For example, Mr. Bough has lodged two obviously frivolous and abusive complaints with the Federal Elections Commission against a congressional candidate whom he opposed ideologically. In 2008 the Commission dismissed the first of these complaints in a brief opinion. But in 2012, Mr. Bough redoubled his efforts and filed a second 93-page complaint against the same candidate. This time the Commission responded with a lengthy and meticulous opinion that is striking in its strong language dismissing each of Mr. Bough's allegations.

The Commission criticized Mr. Bough's allegations as “vague and speculative” and said any violation which may have occurred was so minor as to not merit consideration. The opinion concluded that Mr. Bough's complaint had no basis for its allegations and was without merit. So the bottom line is that the nominee was using a government agency as a tool to harass a political opponent.

As I said earlier, that is behavior indicative of a political operative, someone who is not going to be able to put it all aside and consider cases objectively once he becomes a judge.

From time to time some of my colleagues on the Judiciary Committee have commented that the best evidence for the type of judge a nominee will be is the type of lawyer they have been. So I think there is a lot of wisdom in that view. With this nominee we know what kind of lawyer he has been, defending an unsavory client or representing an unpopular cause is one thing; we expect lawyers to do that—our system in fact demands that they do that—but acting as a political operative is an entirely different matter, and that is the kind of lawyer this nominee's record shows him to have

been: a lawyer steeped in bare-knuckled political combat.

I said at the beginning of this statement that I am inclined to give nominees the benefit of the doubt when I come across something in their record that raises my eyebrows. I probably would have done that with this nominee, too, if there had been just an isolated issue or a noncharacteristic lapse in judgment. But that is not what we have here with Mr. Bough. Not only do we have unethical judge shopping, to that we have to add a number of crass, sexist, and insulting blog posts, and to that we also add a pair of frivolous complaints that abused the jurisdiction of a government agency in order to harass a political opponent.

There are too many red flags for me to support this nominee.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. HOEVEN. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### TAX INCREASE PREVENTION ACT

Mr. HOEVEN. Mr. President, I am here today to discuss the Tax Increase Prevention Act. We are now getting down to the end of the year. It is important that we get our work done. An important part of that work is passing the Tax Increase Prevention Act. It is often referred to as the tax extenders package. What it really does is it extends tax credits and deductions used by small businesses across this country. The Tax Increase Prevention Act will extend for 1 year 55 different tax credits and deductions that expired either at the end of 2013 or during 2014.

This is a bill that has already passed the House, and it passed with a huge margin, with a bipartisan vote of 378 to 46.

One of the most important provisions in the act is the section 179 depreciation and expensing provision for small businesses. That is the provision I particularly want to focus on today and talk about and discuss why it is so important for our small businesses and for our entire country.

Section 179 allows farmers and other small businesses to expense and depreciate property they have purchased or repaired for their operations. That is important to them so that they don't see a tax increase, but it also keeps our economy going. Without it, small business will buy and repair less equipment, slowing down our manufacturing base and slowing down our economy. Quite simply, that means fewer jobs. It is not only because small business's costs are increased, but it is also because of the uncertainty that is created when they don't know the rules of



the road. That is why this fix needs to be done on a permanent basis.

I think it could have been done on a permanent basis this year. We were working on a deal until the President threatened to veto that legislation. So now we have a 1-year fix, but we have broad support in this Chamber for the 1-year fix. We need to pass it now and then go back to work on a permanent fix next year.

I was home for the weekend about a week ago, and I was talking to some of the farmers in our State. They told me what they have been telling me for some time now; that is, they need the section 179 expensing and depreciation, they need to know the rules of the road, and they need to know it now.

We are at year-end. They are doing their year-end planning. They are doing their tax work. Some are still negotiating on buying equipment for next year. The depreciation and expensing rules affect the decisions they make. They will also affect the number of jobs in our economy. Agriculture alone is responsible for 16 million direct and indirect jobs in our economy. Ag is also a sector of our economy that produces a positive balance of trade. American agriculture provides the highest quality and lowest cost food supply in the world. It is something that benefits every single American every day.

Section 179 expensing and depreciation is important for other small businesses as well. And it is not just small businesses, it helps keep our large industries going too. For example, Case New Holland and John Deere have manufacturing plants in my home State. They produce tractors, balers, and other equipment. In addition, they also make industrial equipment. When farmers and other small businesses slow down their purchase of equipment, these manufacturing facilities slow down as well. It means less business, fewer workers needed, and fewer jobs. That is how it works. It is that simple. The truth is that small business is the backbone of our economy in this country.

The hallmark of America is that it has historically been the best place in the world to do business. It is where everybody has always come to do business. We have always had the best legal, tax, and regulatory business climate. We provided the certainty businesses need to invest, to hire people, to create jobs, and to grow the economy. That is the rising tide that lifts all boats—a higher standard of living for our people and revenue from economic growth, not higher taxes, to reduce our debt and deficit to get them under control as well.

Let's create that certainty for our farmers and small businesses across this great Nation. Let's make sure their taxes don't go up. Let's start by passing the Tax Increase Prevention Act and section 179 expensing and depreciation now.

I would like to close by reading from some of the letters I have received from some of my constituents. I think so often that the hard-working taxpayers of North Dakota, the small business people there who are getting it done every day, say it best.

The first one is from Dick Hedahl, owner of Bismarck-based Hedahls Auto Plus. He said: Without section 179 and the bonus depreciation, Hedahls Auto Plus would really have felt the pinch last year when we purchased equipment to service diesel powered trucks and heavy equipment.

Since the growth in the Bakken, his services have been especially important because he can save clients thousands of dollars by refurbishing worn diesel engine blocks. What makes the refurbishing possible is the 100 percent American-made equipment Hedahl bought in 2012 and 2013 for \$450,000. At a 34-percent tax rate, he says he would not have been able to make those equipment purchases work, but with section 179 expensing and depreciation, he was able to make those things work. As a result, he is providing jobs in the western part of our State. Hedahls Auto Plus employs more than 200 people.

Another constituent wrote in. Leann Slaubaugh of Rolette writes:

I am concerned about Section 179 and what this is doing to the agricultural sector in North Dakota. Farm equipment is not being sold, as the farmers are concerned about the amount they will have to pay taxes on. I farm with my husband and work at a small town farm supply. Farmers have quit spending due to low commodity prices and Section 179. I am concerned with the effect on our small town economy if Section 179 is not revised. After meeting with our tax consultant, we are concerned with the possible tax liability we are facing and what this means to the future of our family farm. Please push for revision of Section 179.

Dennis Miller, who grew up in Stark County and worked for an ag equipment dealership for 28 years, is similarly concerned. I am going to paraphrase from his letter. Four years ago he started his own business, Southwest AG Repair, Inc. He sells new McCormick tractors and repairs all brands of farm equipment. He has six employees.

Mr. Miller wrote to me earlier this year, anxious about the expiration of section 179:

It is going to cut sales of farm equipment drastically if the farmers don't get a tax incentive to purchase equipment. The loss of sales will create backlash in the economy throughout the State and the country. There has to be a better way to create the tax revenue.

Mr. Miller, there is. You create tax revenue with economic growth, not higher taxes, just like you create jobs, create economic activity, getting that rising tide that lifts all boats—that is when it enables us to invest in the future of our country, the roads and bridges, our schools, and all of the things people want for this great Na-

tion. But it comes from a growing economy. Of course, that is what creates the jobs we need for our families across America.

So when we talk about the Tax Increase Prevention Act, that is what we are talking about. We are talking about making sure here at the end of the year that taxes don't go up on hard-working taxpayers across this country, that taxes don't go up on our small businesses across the country, and that we understand that is truly the backbone of our economy, that all those people and all those small businesses are the ones who make our economy go every minute of every day.

It is time to act. The time is here. The votes are here on a bipartisan basis in this body to get it done. Let's get it done. Our American citizens, our hard-working taxpayers have waited long enough.

With that, I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SALDANA AND DEYO NOMINATIONS

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, it is good to see you here today. The place is a little empty. I am glad the Presiding Officer, our staff, and our pages are all here.

I rise today to urge my colleagues to support two critical nominations to the Department of Homeland Security. They are Russ Deyo to be the Under Secretary for Management at the Department of Homeland Security and Sarah Saldana to be the Assistant Secretary for Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

The committee which I am privileged to lead, along with Dr. TOM COBURN, the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, is responsible for working with the administration and others to help protect our Nation's security at home and abroad. At the same time, we strive to make sure Federal agencies work better and more efficiently with the resources that are entrusted to them by the American people.

During my years of public service, I have learned that the most important ingredient in helping organizations to work is leadership. I do not care whether the organization is a body such as this, a governing body, I do not care whether it is a sports team, a business, college or university, a school, the most important ingredient in the success of that organization is leadership.

The Presiding Officer is one who has led the National Guard for the State of Montana for a number of years. He knows just what I mean. I thank him for his service and for his leadership.

When it comes to the Department of Homeland Security, the absence of leadership throughout the Department has been a great challenge and a major cause of the low standing in terms of employee morale that Department faces.

As we know, the Congress is going to soon wrap up our session for the year—in a couple of days. Senators have the obligation to fill two key leadership posts in the Department of Homeland Security in the days that lie ahead. One is the Under Secretary for Management. Mr. Deyo has been nominated by the President. I believe he is a Republican. The other is the Assistant Secretary for Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Sarah Saldana.

As we all know, this Department plays a critical role in protecting our Nation from a number of threats, including terrorism, cyber attacks, and natural disasters, just to name a few. Given the Department's significant role in the security of our country, it is critical that Secretary Jeh Johnson have a full leadership team in place. That includes Russ Deyo as his Under Secretary for Management. That is the third highest position in the Department.

I wish to take a couple of minutes to explain why Mr. Deyo's nomination is so important. As of this week more than 10 months will have passed since the last Senate-confirmed Under Secretary for Management, Rafael Borrás, stepped down from his post. He was an excellent public servant, a great leader. We salute him and wish him well. But he has been gone for almost a year, and since then the Department has not had Senate-confirmed leadership. They need it.

Under Secretary Borrás was widely respected by members of our committee in the Senate and the House and others for his leadership, management expertise, and most of all, maybe, for his candor. He helped the Department make strides in many areas and led the Department to its first clean financial audit—something the Department was able to achieve again this year for the second year in a row. Why is that important? I have a friend, and if you ask him how he is doing, he says: Compared to what? Well the Department of Homeland Security—it took them almost a decade to get an unqualified audit, a clean financial audit. The Department of Defense has been around a whole lot longer—since the end of World War II. They have yet to get a clean financial audit. They are making some progress finally. But the Department of Homeland Security achieved it 2 years ago and then again this year.

I think it is safe to say that the Department needs somebody with the same kind of commitment and leadership Rafael Borrás brought. I believe, Secretary Johnson believes, and the President believes Russ Deyo is that person.

Mr. Deyo had an impressive career in the private sector, for 27 years helping to lead Johnson & Johnson, one of the top companies not just in America but in the world. There, he was the general counsel, and he was vice president for administration. We are so lucky that someone with his capabilities, his commitment, his smarts, his leadership skills, and his integrity is willing to serve in the Federal Government at this level. He also spent the last 15 years serving on the executive committee at Johnson & Johnson, which is the principal management group responsible for the company's global operations. He was also a partner at a major U.S. law firm.

Russ Deyo is no stranger to public service and working with law enforcement organizations. He was assistant U.S. attorney for New Jersey for 8 years. That included a period of time as chief of public corruption unit there.

His perspective from the private and public sectors will be an invaluable asset to Secretary Jeh Johnson, particularly as the Secretary implements his Unity of Effort Initiative at the Department, which strives to help the Department operate in a more unified, cohesive manner across all components.

If confirmed, Mr. Deyo will have a number of other challenges on his plate. For example, our friends at the Government Accountability Office continue to remind us that the acquisition and budgeting systems at the Department of Homeland Security are not fully mature. In fact, the overall management of the Department remains on the Government Accountability Office's high-risk list of government operations that need urgent attention. Of course, if Mr. Deyo is confirmed, he will inherit the challenges of improving morale across the Department. These are tough challenges, and some have been around since the creation of the Department. But I believe Mr. Deyo has the leadership experience and the skills necessary to tackle these challenges and to really make a difference.

I will take a moment here, if I can. Every year there is a nonprofit organization that looks across the Federal Government and asks questions of a lot of employees to really ascertain where morale is high, where some of the favorite places are for people to work in the Federal Government. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission for a number of years has led the pack there. There are roughly 15 big Departments that are part of that survey, but all told, there are something like 314 Federal agencies that are surveyed to make up this list, and the Department of Homeland Security runs dead last among the big Departments that are surveyed. Out of all of the Federal agencies that are surveyed, and there are 314 in all, ICE, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, which Sarah Saldana has

been nominated to lead—dead last. Dead last. One of the reasons why, when I talk to people at the Department of Homeland Security, employees, whether they happen to be customs agents, whether they happen to be folks down on the border, Border Patrol, whether they happen to be TSA folks—whatever role they are playing across the country and around the world, among the major factors they point to, explaining the low morale, is lack of leadership, lack of confirmed leadership. We have worked so hard to address that. We have two holes left. One of them will be filled by Mr. Deyo—we need to confirm him—and the other by Sarah Saldana.

Here is what former DHS Secretary Michael Chertoff—Judge Chertoff—had to say when he introduced Mr. Deyo at his confirmation hearing before the homeland security committee earlier this year. Here is what the former Secretary said:

Russ brings to the position he has been nominated for a broad range of experience with one of the best enterprises in the world.

That is Johnson & Johnson.

You will find him to be a smart, experienced, and devoted public servant who will actually bring a unique set of skills to this job which are very critical.

This is a former Secretary of the Department. He said:

I could not give a stronger endorsement to Mr. Deyo for this position.

Mr. Deyo has also received strong endorsements from three former Under Secretaries for Management at DHS, people who have had this job, done this job before: Paul Schneider, Elaine Duke, and the immediate past Under Secretary, Rafael Borrás, whom I mentioned earlier. Here is what they had to say. Here is what the three of them, in unison, had to say about Russ Deyo:

Russ Deyo is an outstanding choice by the President to be Under Secretary for Management.

An impressive leader, he brings the requisite skills, experience, and leadership to this important position. He is recognized as a professional, unflappable statesman who can meet head-on the challenges this position faces and get results.

I have had the privilege of meeting with him. I don't make snap judgments about people, but he is one impressive human being, one impressive leader. Everything I have learned about Mr. Deyo over the past several months has led me to conclude that he would be not only an exceptional candidate to be a manager at DHS but a terrific Under Secretary if confirmed.

I urge all my colleagues to support the nomination of Russ Deyo.

I wish to take a few more moments to turn to the nomination of Sarah Saldana to be the Assistant Secretary for Immigration and Customs Enforcement at the Department of Homeland Security.

We call it ICE, the acronym. As I said earlier, of the 314 Federal agencies that

are evaluated top to bottom in terms of employee satisfaction, ICE was dead last, No. 314.

It has been almost 1½ years since they had a Senate-confirmed leader. They need one—not just anyone, they need a terrific leader. We believe Sarah Saldana fills that bill and meets the qualifications and the needs very well.

Immigration and Customs Enforcement—ICE, as we call it—is a vital law enforcement agency within the Department of Homeland Security. As I said earlier, it has been without a Presidentially appointed and confirmed leader for almost 1½ years—far too long, particularly considering all the issues we face along our borders and the more than 400 laws—think of that—that this agency, ICE, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, is required to enforce.

Some of my colleagues may not be familiar with what ICE does and why it is so critical for the agency to have Senate-confirmed leadership in place.

I wish to take a minute to address that. ICE is one of the Nation's law enforcement agencies, with more than 19,000 employees in all 50 States, the District of Columbia, and 48 foreign countries. What do all these people do? That is a fair question.

In 2013 ICE special agents initiated over 125,000 new investigations, made over 40,000 criminal arrests, seized \$1.3 billion in currency and assets and took \$1.6 million pounds of narcotics and other dangerous drugs off our streets. That is just part of what they do.

On any given day ICE arrests 370 criminal aliens in the interior of our country, has 34,000 people in detention, and moves nearly 500 criminal aliens from our country—on any given day. Managing such a large agency, with one of the most complex missions in the Federal Government, is a tall order. Thankfully, Ms. Saldana has agreed to step up to this challenge.

She is a true American success story. She rose from humble beginnings in South Texas as the youngest of seven children to become an accomplished partner at a major law firm. She is now the Nation's top law enforcement officers.

Ms. Saldana was unanimously confirmed by the Senate in 2011 to her current position as U.S. attorney for the Northern District of Texas. She has a distinguished record representing the U.S. Government as the senior law enforcement officer in one of the largest districts in the Nation.

It spans some 100 counties. I don't know how many counties the Presiding Officer has in the State of Montana—we have three—but she presides over a law enforcement operation that has 100 counties in the northern part of Texas.

In this role, she deals as closely and extensively as anyone else with the threats this country faces every day from transnational criminal networks.

This experience will serve her well if confirmed to lead ICE.

Don't take my word for it. One of our good friends in the Senate, JOHN CORNYN, the senior Senator from Texas, felt strongly enough about her qualifications that he personally introduced Ms. Saldana at her confirmation hearing before the committee Dr. COBURN and I lead, the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

Senator CORNYN said about Sarah Saldana:

In her role as U.S. Attorney and prosecutor over the past decade, Ms. Saldana has served our State with honor, fighting corrupt public officials, organized crime, sex traffickers, and other dangerous criminals.

That sounds like a highly qualified candidate to me. That is not all Senator CORNYN had to say about Ms. Saldana. He went on to say this as well:

If respect for the rule of law is our standard, and I think it should be, we would be hard pressed to find a person more qualified to enforce the law than Ms. Saldana.

That is high praise indeed and I couldn't agree more.

Some are arguing we should not confirm Ms. Saldana because of the President's recent Executive action on immigration. This decision will provide, though, relief from deportation for as many as 5 million undocumented immigrants living in the shadows today, law-abiding people who are productive members of our communities.

Still, some argue the President's actions should preclude the Senate from confirming even a highly qualified candidate such as Sarah Saldana to this critical position. I think that is absurd.

We have before the Senate a highly qualified candidate, a person who—according to her neighbor and the senior Senator from Texas—is fiercely independent, has served with honor in her current role, and respects the rule of law.

It does not punish the President to leave this position unfilled, it punishes the citizens of our country. It makes it harder for ICE to accomplish its mission, and it hurts the men and women at ICE who deserve a leader to ensure that this agency runs as efficiently as possible.

I believe the President acted within the bounds of the law in announcing his executive action. But whether you agree with me, opposing Ms. Saldana's nomination will do nothing to change what the President has done, nothing.

I hope Ms. Saldana, the first Hispanic person and second woman to be nominated to Immigration and Customs Enforcement, does not fall victim to politics as usual in the Senate. She is by all accounts exactly what this critical agency needs: a proven leader and a respected member of the law enforcement community.

What do they say about integrity? If you have it, nothing else matters. In-

tegrity, if you don't have it, nothing else matters. She has it.

She will have a tough job ahead of her if she is confirmed this week, but I believe she is more than up to the task. I urge so strongly for our colleagues to join me, to join Senator CORNYN, and others to support her. We will never regret it.

With that, I am looking around the Senate Chamber. I know we are going to have a lot of folks voting, but I don't see anybody to speak.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. CARPER. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. CARPER. I have been asked to lead us through this wrapup session, even though it is a little early to wrap up, but I want to walk through it if I can.

#### COLLECTIBLE COIN PROTECTION ACT

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, as in legislative session, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 2754 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the bill by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 2754) to amend the Hobby Protection Act to make unlawful the provision of assistance or support in violation of that Act, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. CARPER. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 2754) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

#### REVISING THE BOUNDARIES OF CERTAIN JOHN H. CHAFEE COASTAL BARRIER RESOURCES SYSTEM UNITS

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, as in legislative session, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 3572, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3572) to revise the boundaries of certain John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System units.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 3572) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

#### PERMANENT ELECTRONIC DUCK STAMP ACT

JOHN RHOADES FEDERAL JUDICIAL CENTER AND JAMES M. CARTER AND JUDITH N. KEEP UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, as in legislative session, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 343, H.R. 1206, and H.R. 1378, which was received from the House en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bills by title en bloc.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 1206) to grant the Secretary of the Interior permanent authority to authorize States to issue electronic duck stamps, and for other purposes.

A bill (H.R. 1378) to designate the United States Federal Judicial Center located at 333 West Broadway in San Diego, California, as the "John Rhoades Federal Judicial Center" and to designate the United States courthouse located at 333 West Broadway in San Diego, California, as the "James M. Carter and Judith N. Keep United States Courthouse."

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bills en bloc.

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bills be read a third time and passed and the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table en bloc.

The bill (H.R. 1206) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

The bill (H.R. 1378) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

#### MAY 31, 1918 ACT REPEAL ACT

Mr. CARPER. As in legislative session, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 5050, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 5050) to repeal the Act of May 31, 1918, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. CARPER. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 5050) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

#### EARLY ACT REAUTHORIZATION OF 2014

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, as in legislative session, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of H.R. 5185, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 5185) to reauthorize the Young Women's Breast Health Education and Awareness Requires Learning Young Act of 2009.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. CARPER. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read three times and passed and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 5185) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

#### EXTENDING THE AUTHORIZATION FOR THE UNITED STATES COMMISSION ON INTERNATIONAL RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

Mr. CARPER. As in legislative session, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 5816, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 5816) to extend the authorization for the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. CARPER. I further ask unanimous consent that the bill be read three times and passed and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 5816) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

#### TRANSNATIONAL DRUG TRAFFICKING ACT

Mr. CARPER. As in legislative session, I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. 706 and the Senate proceed to its consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the bill by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 706) to provide the Department of Justice with additional tools to target extraterritorial drug trafficking activity, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (S. 706) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 706

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Transnational Drug Trafficking Act of 2013".

#### SEC. 2. POSSESSION, MANUFACTURE OR DISTRIBUTION FOR PURPOSES OF UNLAWFUL IMPORTATIONS.

Section 1009 of the Controlled Substances Import and Export Act (21 U.S.C. 959) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsections (b) and (c) as subsections (c) and (d), respectively; and

(2) in subsection (a), by striking "It shall" and all that follows and inserting the following: "It shall be unlawful for any person to manufacture or distribute a controlled substance in schedule I or II or flunitrazepam or a listed chemical intending, knowing, or having reasonable cause to believe that such substance or chemical will be unlawfully imported into the United States or into waters within a distance of 12 miles of the coast of the United States."

"(b) It shall be unlawful for any person to manufacture or distribute a listed chemical—

"(1) intending or knowing that the listed chemical will be used to manufacture a controlled substance; and

"(2) intending, knowing, or having reasonable cause to believe that the controlled substance will be unlawfully imported into the United States."

#### SEC. 3. TRAFFICKING IN COUNTERFEIT GOODS OR SERVICES.

Chapter 113 of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in section 2318(b)(2), by striking "section 2320(e)" and inserting "section 2320(f)"; and

(2) in section 2320—

(A) in subsection (a), by striking paragraph (4) and inserting the following:

"(4) traffics in a drug and knowingly uses a counterfeit mark on or in connection with such drug;"

(B) in subsection (b)(3), in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “counterfeit drug” and inserting “drug that uses a counterfeit mark on or in connection with the drug”; and

(C) in subsection (f), by striking paragraph (6) and inserting the following:

“(6) the term ‘drug’ means a drug, as defined in section 201 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 321).”.

#### MEASURES DISCHARGED

Mr. CARPER. As in legislative session, I ask unanimous consent that the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee be discharged from further consideration of the following items, which are postal naming-bills, and the Senate proceed to their consideration en bloc: H.R. 3027, H.R. 4416, H.R. 4651, H.R. 5331, and H.R. 5562.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bills en bloc.

Mr. CARPER. I ask unanimous consent that the bills be read a third time and passed en bloc and the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table en bloc with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### BARRY M. GOLDWATER POST OFFICE

The bill (H.R. 3027) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 442 Miller Valley Road in Prescott, Arizona, as the “Barry M. Goldwater Post Office,” was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

#### STAFF SERGEANT MANUEL V. MENDOZA POST OFFICE BUILDING

The bill (H.R. 4416) to redesignate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 161 Live Oak Street in Miami, Arizona, as the “Staff Sergeant Manuel V. Mendoza Post Office Building,” was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

#### SPECIALIST KEITH ERIN GRACE, JR. MEMORIAL POST OFFICE

The bill (H.R. 4651) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 601 West Baker Road in Baytown, Texas, as the “Specialist Keith Erin Grace, Jr. Memorial Post Office,” was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

#### COLONEL M.J. “MAC” DUBE, USMC POST OFFICE BUILDING

The bill (H.R. 5331) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 73839 Gorgonio Drive

in Twentynine Palms, California, as the “Colonel M.J. ‘Mac’ Dube, USMC Post Office Building,” was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

#### FEDERAL CORRECTIONAL OFFICER SCOTT J. WILLIAMS MEMORIAL POST OFFICE BUILDING

The bill (H.R. 5562) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 801 West Ocean Avenue in Lompoc, California, as the “Federal Correctional Officer Scott J. Williams Memorial Post Office Building,” was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

#### VETERANS TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY CARE IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2014

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, as in legislative session, I ask unanimous consent that the Veterans’ Affairs Committee be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 4276 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the bill by title. The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 4276) to extend and modify a pilot program on assisted living services for veterans with traumatic brain injury.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. CARPER. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 4276) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

#### JUANITA MILLENDER-MCDONALD POST OFFICE

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, as in legislative session, I ask unanimous consent that the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 5687 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the bill by title. The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 5687) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 101 East Market Street in Long Beach, California, as the “Juanita Millender-McDonald Post Office.”

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. CARPER. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed, and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 5687) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time and passed.

#### NOMINATION OF VIVEK HALLEGGERE MURTHY TO BE MEDICAL DIRECTOR IN THE REGULAR CORPS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE, SUBJECT TO QUALIFICATIONS THEREFOR AS PROVIDED BY LAW AND REGULATIONS, AND TO BE SURGEON GENERAL OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE—Continued

#### NOMINATION OF DANIEL J. SANTOS TO BE A MEMBER OF THE DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD—Continued

#### NOMINATION OF FRANK A. ROSE TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE (VERIFICATION AND COMPLIANCE)—Continued

#### NOMINATION OF SARAH R. SALDANA TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF HOMELAND SECURITY—Continued

#### NOMINATION OF ANTONY BLINKEN TO BE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF STATE—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Delaware.

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I see we have been joined by the senior Senator from the State of Hawaii. Aloha.

Ms. HIRONO. Aloha.

Mr. CARPER. I am happy to yield the floor to Senator HIRONO.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I had an indication that if I were here on the floor I would be recognized. I don’t know if there is any agreement on that or just an informal understanding.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There is no order to that effect.

Mr. SESSIONS. I believe I have the floor and I would like to share some remarks at this time.

I understand Senator HIRONO was expecting to speak after Senator CARPER and was informally promised time, and Senator CARPER went a little long. So I would be pleased to yield to her.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Hawaii.

Ms. HIRONO. I thank the Senator for yielding.

#### MURTHY NOMINATION

I rise today to speak in strong support of the nomination of Dr. Vivek Murthy for Surgeon General of the United States.

In these brief remarks I will explain why I think he is a highly qualified nominee, why his age should not be a limiting factor at all, and finally why we need a Surgeon General now.

Dr. Murthy has been waiting for a vote on this nomination for months. I am glad that today the time has come to give him that vote.

I met with Dr. Murthy a little while ago and found him to be one of the most interesting and likeable people I have met—and that is saying a lot.

He has accomplished much already and has a deep commitment to giving back through his work. I found him to be a breath of fresh air.

I was particularly impressed by his work at a company he founded where he identified inefficiencies in clinical drug trials and came up with a solution. His innovative ideas will help medical treatments move to market faster. In other words, he wanted to get drugs faster to the people who needed them.

We often speak with admiration of Americans who are technologically proficient, and it is rare to find someone who is not only tech savvy, but is able to take that skill and combine it with the kind of medical training, creative mind, and ability to identify and solve real-world problems. In Dr. Murthy, we have that someone.

While there are some who feel Dr. Murthy is too young and inexperienced to be Surgeon General, anyone who has met and talked with him as I have would, I believe, come away impressed.

Dr. Murthy is not yet 40, but certainly his age has not prevented him from accomplishing many things. He is someone who has done much to solve public health challenges in his years as a physician, and well before that.

He has leadership experience through his work starting and running a public health advocacy organization and this includes founding a technology company.

He has a strong medical background and experience that demonstrates his ability to take complex health information and translate it for others—exactly what we need in a Surgeon General.

If anything, we should be doing all we can to get young, bright, committed people such as Dr. Murthy into public service.

Recently, this Nation found itself worried about Ebola. Misinformation and fear were palpable in our communities. We did not have a permanent Surgeon General to coordinate the information tsunami that descended on the American people from government

and scientists. And without a Surgeon General, it has been a struggle to ensure that accurate, timely information about Ebola was disseminated to the public.

Today it is Ebola. We don't know what public health crisis will come next. We need a Surgeon General who will roll up his sleeves, survey the evidence, and take action.

Dr. Vivek Murthy has demonstrated he will be that kind of Surgeon General because he does not shy away from asking tough questions, listening, and then developing solutions that are driven by evidence.

His listening skills and his ability to engage and communicate with a broad spectrum of people, combined with his medical and business background—he also has a master's degree in business—will make him an extremely effective Surgeon General.

Think about this: We have a nominee who is not only a well-trained physician but also has business management skills and the ability to engage stakeholders—be they medical professionals, faith-based organizations, or the public at large.

He can start conversations and effect real change to improve the health of our communities, particularly in his priority areas of obesity and mental health.

Again, I found in Dr. Murthy a combination of an ability to be very creative, with the very important ability to listen; because although he has both a medical and business background, he doesn't think he knows more than everybody else. So this listening ability is very important, with the ability to solve real-world problems.

I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of Dr. Murthy for U.S. Surgeon General.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alabama.

#### SALDANA NOMINATION

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I rise today to speak in opposition to the nomination of Sarah Saldana. She has been nominated to head the Nation's top immigration law enforcement agency which has been at the epicenter of this administration's refusal to enforce our Nation's immigration laws. I am sure she is a person of integrity and character and has some experience at least as a U.S. attorney in Texas, but I will share with everyone some of the reasons I think this is not the right nomination at this critical time.

When asked in the Judiciary Committee whether she rejects the President's unlawful action to unilaterally grant legal residence and work permits to 5 million individuals illegally in the country, Ms. Saldana said she supported the President's action. Her answer reflects a remarkable disregard for the rule of law that demonstrates the difficulty she will have being the

leader of this important agency. U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, ICE, are immigration enforcement officials. They are hired to work as enforcement officials. As U.S. attorney I worked with Immigration and Customs officers and prosecuted their cases in Mobile, AL, and the gulf coast with shipping issues and immigration issues. That is what they do. But the President has decided to tell them not to follow their duties. Now he has gone so far as to unilaterally direct that those officers not enforce the law. He has established a new office in Crystal City, across the river in Virginia. That office will begin to process millions of claims for executive amnesty. They are hiring 1,000 new employees to do that work. What we are involved in is a situation in which a law enforcement agency is being instructed not to enforce the law—not only that, but the administration has gone beyond that and is actually providing legal status, work permits, and Social Security numbers and photo IDs, Medicare, and Social Security benefits to all of these people who entered the country illegally—which Congress refused to do.

The President asked for it. Congress said no. The President said: You didn't act, I am going to do it on my own, after saying more than 20 different times he didn't have the legal authority to do so. So I am not going to vote for and I don't think our colleagues should vote for a person to head this agency who believes this action by the President is lawful, because it is not lawful.

One would say: Somebody said it is lawful, JEFF, and that is your opinion. I served 15 years in the Department of Justice. I have been on the Judiciary Committee for 18 years. In my opinion it is not lawful, it is not constitutional, it is not a legitimate use of prosecutorial discretion. It goes beyond anything I have ever seen—perhaps this Nation has ever seen—in terms of violating the laws passed by Congress. That is the problem we have, and I think we should take a moment to listen to some excellent legal scholars on the question in play.

I would just add parenthetically that the Immigration and Customs Enforcement officers have the lowest morale of any of the subcomponent agencies in the government. It got so bad and they were so frustrated at not being able to do their jobs, the ICE association—representing some 7,000 agents and officers—sued their own director, John Morton, who held this position previously. This is the job Ms. Saldana has been nominated for. They said: Our supervisor is violating the law. He is directing us not to do our duties that the law says plainly we must do and shall do, and they filed a lawsuit in Federal court. I have never heard of any group of law officers filing a lawsuit saying they are being denied the right to fulfill their oath to see that the laws are

being enforced, and that is what happened.

The judge was very sympathetic. He said this President is not above the law, but he found technically that the court did not have jurisdiction to hear the suit, and that is now on appeal. It has been on appeal for some time. It goes to show how demoralized this agency is, and the fundamental reason is that every officer out there knows what is happening. They are being directed not to do their duty, and it is up to Congress to pass laws and Congress has passed laws and the President cannot do away with that.

Let's examine some of the comments we have seen from professors. Professor Jan Ting of Temple University, a law professor, he was also one of the top officials—Assistant Commissioner of the Immigration and Naturalization Service. He has experience in that. He testified before the Judiciary Committee just last week. He said:

... the most comprehensive analysis of the administration's deferred action policies that has been produced to date is a 77-page law journal article published last year by Berkeley law professor John Yoo and St. Thomas law professor Robert Delahunty. In that article the professors catalogued and reviewed "the most commonly offered and generally accepted excuses or justifications for the breach of [the president's] duty to execute the laws" and concluded that the DACA program "does not fall within any of them."

So basically he agrees with the professor who has written this comprehensive article saying this isn't a prosecutorial discretion question. Professor Ting continues:

The conclusions of Professors Yoo and Delahunty have been repeatedly endorsed during the past three years by a well-regarded former professor of constitutional law at the University of Chicago Law School, Barack H. Obama II. President Obama—then-Professor Obama—himself.

Indeed, President Obama said over 20 times that he does not have the authority to do what he has done. For example, on March 28, 2011, he said:

With respect to the notion that I can just suspend deportations through executive order, that's just not the case, because there are laws on the books that Congress has passed ... we've got three branches of government. Congress passes the law. The executive branch's job is to enforce and implement those laws. ...

There are enough laws on the books by Congress that are very clear in terms of how we have to enforce immigration system that for me to simply through executive order ignore those congressional mandates would not conform with my appropriate role as President.

That is the President himself, in detail. He considered it at this time, from the detail in that answer. These are people saying, just give the people amnesty yourself, Mr. President, and he said no.

Later, on September 17, 2013, he said with regard to his unlawful deferred ac-

tion for childhood arrivals program—the same principle, same program:

If we start broadening that ... I would be ignoring the law in a way that I think would be very difficult to defend legally. So that's not an option ... What I've said is there is a path to get this done, and that's through Congress.

On March 6 of this year, he stated that the DACA Program "already stretched my administrative capacity very far ... But at a certain point the reason that these deportations are taking place is, Congress said 'you have to enforce these laws.' They fund the hiring of officials at the department that's charged with enforcing. And I cannot ignore those laws any more than I could ignore, you know, any of the other laws that are on the books."

In August of this year, just a few months before announcing his Executive amnesty—just a few months ago, he said:

I think that I never have a green light [to push the limits of executive power]. I'm bound by the Constitution; I'm bound by separation of powers. There are some things we can't do. Congress has the power of the purse, for example. ... Congress has to pass a budget and authorize spending. So I don't have a green light.

That is true. Congress does have the power of the purse and Congress has not authorized the President to set up an office in Crystal City and hire 1,000 people to provide legal status and work authorization, Social Security numbers, and other such documents allowing them to take any jobs in America, and has not authorized that and hasn't provided money for that.

Congress should explicitly and directly—and I am disappointed that it hasn't this year—blocked that, which it can easily do.

Article I, section 8 of the Constitution is clear that Congress is vested with the plenary power over naturalization law. In 1954 the Supreme Court stated "that the formulation of these policies is entrusted exclusively to Congress has become about as firmly embedded in the legislative and judicial tissue of our body politic as any aspect of our government."

In exercising its plenary authority, Congress has declined to pass an immigration bill bestowing legal status and work authorization upon illegal immigrants. Congress has recognized the need to control the number of individuals who can come to this country to live and to work. It has passed laws to establish rules to protect the interests of American citizens. It is a fair system in which people apply to come to the United States, they are properly evaluated, and a certain number each year are admitted. We admit 1 million a year lawfully on a permanent resident status. Those are the most generous numbers in the entire world. In addition to that, we have 700,000 guest workers here and in addition to that it appears we have another 11 million il-

legal immigrants who have gotten into the country.

Now what about what is happening today, that Ms. Saldana said she supports, but I believe it is absolutely wrong. President Obama's recent unlawful Executive amnesty and work authorization actions have essentially started another system of immigration apart from the one that is in law. He has created another system of law to process people who want to come to America. In so doing he has violated the constitutional structure that gives Congress the power to set the laws for immigration.

In a recent paper, Professor Jan Ting, whom I noted before, said this:

In effect, the president's deferred-action program constitutes an alternate immigration system authorized by a cabinet secretary's memoranda. While the statutory system limits the number of employment-based visas to several hundred thousand per year, the presidential immigration system in a single year allots comparable privileges to several million illegal aliens. In light of the Supreme Court rulings on the "plenary," "complete," and "exclusive" authority of Congress to fashion immigration policy, an alternative presidential immigration system that nullifies the limits of the statutory immigration system is plainly unconstitutional.

That is what Professor Ting, who spent years working in the immigration system, described. Professor Ting further argues that the administration's assertions of authority to justify its "alternative presidential immigration system"—that is a pretty good way to describe it—through prosecutorial discretion to "defer action," "parole" authority, and the issuance of work authorization—directly violate constitutionally enacted immigration laws in the following ways:

Ordering ICE agents not to inspect and place into removal proceedings illegal aliens they encounter violates 8 U.S.C. Section 1225, which expressly curtails the President's discretion concerning inspection and detention of aliens not lawfully admitted to the United States.

It goes on to say:

Granting "advance parole" to "deferred action" recipients so they may travel back and forth between the United States and their native countries violates 8 U.S.C. section 1182(d)(5), amended in 1996 specifically to prevent the use of "parole" to "admit aliens who do not qualify for admission under established legal immigration categories."

Another quote:

Granting [work permits] to millions of illegal aliens ignores a century of case law, including Supreme Court decisions, holding that the Executive Branch may not circumvent the statutory employment-based visa system by opening the labor market to aliens not eligible for such visas, thereby defeating "Congress' purpose of protecting American laborers from an influx of skilled and unskilled labor."

Those are some of the things Professor Ting laid out that are directly violating law that the President has carried out in this scheme. He concludes: "In other words, the president's



deferred-action program sits on a plainly unconstitutional stool, which itself rests upon three plainly illegal legs."

I think that is a fair analysis.

Chapman University Law Professor John Eastman also testified before the Judiciary Committee that "the President has not just declined to prosecute (or deport) those who have violated our Nation's immigration laws. He has given to millions of illegal aliens a 'lawful' permission to remain in the United States as well, and with that the ability to seek work authorization, driver's licenses, and countless other benefits that are specifically barred to illegal immigrants by U.S. law. In other words, he has taken it upon himself to drastically rewrite our immigration policy, the terms of which by constitutional design are expressly set by Congress."

I think that is indisputable. Somebody could say that is just your opinion. Well, I am here to decide the question. All of us are here to decide the question. Did the President act responsibly, lawfully or unlawfully in this action? It is not a close question, colleagues. You can find excuses, you can find some professor who says this or that, but it is not accurate. At some point in our Nation's life we need to be able to ascertain and speak with clarity: Congress has the power to write immigration laws. Congress rejected the President's request to provide this power, and Congress should not allow this to continue because it is unlawful and in fact violates the Constitution.

Additionally, George Washington University Law School Professor Jonathan Turley, a nationally recognized constitutional scholar, who describes himself as a supporter of President Obama and his policies, testified before the House Judiciary Committee recently regarding the President's unilateral actions on immigration. He testified many times before Congress and frequently most usually, I believe, as a Democratic witness. He said this:

It's not prosecutorial discretion to go into a law and say an entire category of people will no longer be subject to the law. That's a legislative decision. Prosecutorial discretion is a case-by-case decision that is made by the Department of Justice. When the Department of Justice starts to say, we're going to extend that to whole sections of laws, then they are engaging in a legislative act, not an act of prosecutorial discretion. Wherever the line is drawn, it's got to be drawn somewhere from here. It can't include categorical rejections of the application of the law to millions of people.

I think he is exactly right. He goes on to say:

Many of these questions are not close, in my view. The President is outside the line. . . . And that's where we have the most serious constitutional crisis, I view, in my lifetime, and that is, [Congress] is becoming less and less relevant.

Professor Turley further testified:

I believe the president has exceeded his brief. The president is required to faithfully execute the laws. He's not required to enforce all laws equally or commit the same resources to them. But I believe the president has crossed a constitutional line in some of these areas. . . . The problem of what the President is doing is that he is not simply posing a danger to the constitutional system; he is becoming the very danger that the Constitution was designed to avoid: that is, the concentration of power in any single branch.

That is exactly what Madison and the Founders of our country wanted to create, was a system where there is separation of power, and the power to make law is in Congress's hands.

According to ICE officers and agents, they are already being ordered to implement the President's unlawful directives. One ICE supervisor told my office:

If you sneak in through the border, get past Border Patrol, stay under the radar for a few years, have kids, you will be rewarded with protection from deportation. This is not merely [prosecutorial discretion], this is a flagrant disregard for the rule of law and our sovereignty as a nation. Even if you come to the [port of entry] and claim credible fear, you will eventually be released from custody because you are not a priority.

According to the Partnership for Public Service's "Best Places to Work in the Federal Government" rankings released on December 9 of this year—just a few days ago—the Department of Homeland Security is the lowest of all the Federal agencies. That is a tragedy—that great agency. Of all Federal agencies—

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. HIRONO). Senator, your time has expired.

Mr. SESSIONS. I didn't know we had a time limit.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will be 1 hour of debate equally divided in the usual form. After that, a vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the Murthy nomination.

Mr. SESSIONS. I thank the Presiding Officer, and I ask unanimous consent for 30 seconds and I will wrap up.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. SESSIONS. Of all federal agency subcomponents, ICE is ranked dead last by its employees.

In June 2010, the National ICE Council, the union that represents more than 7,000 agents within ICE, cast a unanimous vote of "No Confidence" in former ICE Director John Morton. That vote stemmed from the fact that the agents were prevented by senior leadership from carrying out their lawful duty to enforce immigration laws. Several ICE agents later sued Secretary Napolitano, Director Morton, and former U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Director Mayorkas, arguing that the administration's amnesty policies caused the ICE agents to violate their oath of office and Federal

law by commanding them to refrain from detaining certain illegal aliens. The court held that "DHS does not have discretion to refuse to initiate removal proceedings [where the law requires it to do so]." The court also reaffirmed that Congress, and not the President, has the plenary power to set immigration law and that the administration's prosecutorial discretion and DACA policies violate Federal law.

Congress cannot further capitulate to this President's overreach. I would ask my colleagues to heed Professor Jonathan Turley's warning:

I believe that [Congress] is facing a critical crossroads in terms of its continued relevance in this process. What this body cannot become is a debating society where it can issue rules and laws that are either complied with or not complied with by the president. I think that's where we are. . . . [A] president cannot ignore an express statement on policy grounds. . . . [I]n terms of the institutional issue . . . look around you. Is this truly the body that existed when it was formed? Does it have the same gravitational pull and authority that was given to it by its framers? You're the keepers of this authority. You took an oath to uphold it. And the framers assumed that you would have the institutional wherewithal and, frankly, ambition to defend the turf that is the legislative branch.

The first priority of Congress must be to restore the rule of law, secure the border, and bring the administration into compliance with the laws of the United States. Congress cannot and must not confirm anyone to lead an agency in DHS or other law enforcement agency who supports Executive amnesty. Congress cannot vote to accelerate its own demise. It would be unthinkable to yield to the confirmation of such nominees in the face of so grave a threat to our constitutional order.

This individual is going to take this law enforcement office, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, and she is going to execute at her direction to all those officers a policy that violates law and violates the Constitution of the United States as a bipartisan group of professors have so declared, and therefore I think none of us should support such an action, and therefore I would urge my colleagues to vote no on this nomination.

I thank the Chair and yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The assistant majority leader.

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I don't understand this. I am glad the Senator from Alabama is still on the floor, but I just don't understand this.

How many speeches have we heard on the floor of the Senate that the No. 1 priority on the Republican side is border enforcement? How many times have we heard over and over again that before we can have any conversation about those in the United States, we have to seal our borders from the illegal immigrants coming into our country? I have heard it from the beginning. In fact, I heard it every time a



Republican Member initiated a conversation about immigration. Isn't this interesting.

Two days ago we passed the budget bill for the remainder of this fiscal year that was initiated by the House of Representatives and sent over here. It was not called an omnibus spending bill, which would have meant all of the agencies of the government are in the budget. It had this peculiar name—CROmnibus. I don't know who came up with it, but what they were trying to say was that there was one agency of government that was not included in the overall budget. What was that agency? Well, it turned out it was the Department of Homeland Security.

The Republican leadership in the House of Representatives refused to send any spending bill here that would give ordinary appropriations to the Department of Homeland Security. Well, what does the Department of Homeland Security do? They guard our borders and stop illegal immigration. They have a massive responsibility at the borders, which the Republicans have said repeatedly is their highest priority.

So the first thing they do is send us a spending bill that has what is known as a continuing resolution to tie the hands of the Department of Homeland Security when it comes to spending money to enforce our borders and stop illegal immigration. But that was not enough. Now we hear the opposition of the Republican side to filling the position that is responsible for enforcement of our borders, the position responsible for stopping illegal immigration. It is called ICE—Immigration and Customs Enforcement—which is part of the Department of Homeland Security. It was created in 2003. It is the largest investigative agency in the Department of Homeland Security. It is the second largest criminal investigative agency in the entire Federal Government. It has an annual budget of approximately \$6 billion. It has more than 20,000 employees and more than 400 offices in the United States and 48 foreign countries. What is the responsibility of Immigration and Customs Enforcement? To enforce the border and to stop illegal immigration.

So the first—

Mr. SESSIONS. Will the Senator yield for a question?

Mr. DURBIN. I will not yield until I finish making my statement, and then I will be happy to yield.

First the Republicans send us an appropriations bill, and they will not pay for the agency to enforce the border and stop illegal immigration, and now they come to the floor and argue against filling the position that is responsible for enforcement at the border and stopping illegal immigration.

How long has it been since the Senate has confirmed a person to head this critical agency? July 2012 was the last

time—more than 2 years—because of repeated objections by the Republicans to filling the vacancy of the person responsible for stopping illegal immigration.

The President has sent us a nominee. I will read what has been said about that nominee. Her name is Sarah Saldana. I quote:

Ms. Saldana [is] the first Latina United States Attorney in Texas history, and only the second woman to hold that position in the 135-year history of Texas' Northern District . . . In her role as U.S. Attorney and prosecutor over the past decade, Ms. Saldana has served our state with honor—fighting corrupt public officials, organized crimes, sex traffickers, and other dangerous criminals. Throughout her career, Ms. Saldana has developed a reputation for her decisive and fair temperament and her commitment to excellence.

Can you imagine a more ringing endorsement for someone to head up ICE, Immigration and Customs Enforcement? You would expect that came from the White House, wouldn't you? You would think such a glowing tribute to this nominee must have been personally written by President Obama. No. The quote I read to you comes from the senior Senator from Texas, Mr. JOHN CORNYN. Senator CORNYN, of course, sits on the Republican side of the aisle. Senator CORNYN didn't vote for Ms. Saldana in committee. I take that back. Every Republican Senator in the Judiciary Committee, including Senator CORNYN, voted against her nomination, so that part is accurate, but all the Republicans voted against her. Get the picture?

All the speeches about border enforcement, all the speeches about stopping illegal immigrants being the No. 1 priority of the Republican Party on immigration—first, they don't fund the agency; second, they won't fill the position responsible for administering the law.

Then comes an imminently qualified woman to run the agency—to paraphrase the words of Senator CORNYN of Texas—and they object to her. They refuse to stand by her nomination.

If you think this is hard to understand or follow, imagine what we have seen over the last 2 years. It has been about 540 days since the Senate passed a comprehensive immigration reform bill with 68 votes. Fourteen Republicans and the Democrats passed a comprehensive immigration reform bill that had the strongest border protection in the history of the United States. It would have virtually created a seamless fence—literally and figuratively—on the border between the United States and Mexico from San Diego to Galveston. It would have put more technology and more people on the border. Under this bill, the people on the border who are working for us to stop illegal immigration would have been able to literally stand and see another person standing half a mile away

along the 2,000-mile border, 24/7. That is how many people were in this bill. We passed it with 68 votes. It was lauded by conservatives and liberals, the chamber of commerce, the AFL-CIO, faith groups, justice groups. They all said this is a good bill.

It passed the Senate and went to the House of Representatives, where it was never ever called in over 500 days. Speaker BOEHNER refused to call the bill on the floor. Why? Because it would have passed. He knows it would have passed, and that is why he would not call it. It was because of the failure of the Republican leadership in the House to even call this bill that the President issued his Executive order.

We had a hearing—the Presiding Officer chaired it—last week in a subcommittee of the Senate Judiciary Committee, and we discussed the President's Executive order on immigration. There were two witnesses who opposed the President's order, two professors. It was Professor Eastman and Professor Ting, if I remember correctly. I will correct the RECORD if I am mistaken. They opposed the President's Executive order.

I asked a simple question: This is a world of choices, and we have three choices, and I would like to ask each of you which one you would choose.

The first choice is to continue this broken immigration system in America and do nothing, which is the position taken by the House Republicans. They have done nothing for a year and a half. So that is the first choice. We could leave it as is—a broken system that we know has 11 million undocumented people in the United States with no registration, no guarantee they are paying taxes, and no criminal background checks. That is choice No. 1.

Choice No. 2 is deport 11 million people in the United States of America who are here undocumented. Deport them. That was Mitt Romney's choice when he was running for President.

Choice No. 3 is what the President has proposed—that anyone who has been here for at least 5 years must come forward, register with the government, submit themselves to a criminal background check, pay their fair share of taxes for a temporary work permit, which must be regularly renewed so we can check again. If they have done anything wrong or if there is a criminal record, they are gone. If there is no criminal record, they can stay and work on a temporary basis.

I said to them: Those are the three choices—the broken system, mass deportation, or the President's approach. Take your pick.

They didn't want to make the choice. Of course not. Those are terrible choices if you oppose the President's position.

I think the President has done what is reasonable, and it is what 11 other

Presidents have done—Executive orders on immigration.

I want strict border enforcement. I voted for it here on the floor of the Senate, the strongest in our history. But I can't understand the Republican position which opposes funding border enforcement on a regular basis, opposes filling the position that administers border enforcement, and which has no alternative to offer. That is what we have before us.

#### MURTHY NOMINATION

I will yield the floor and add in closing that coming up for a vote at 5:30 p.m., if I am not mistaken, will be the nomination of Dr. Vivek Murthy to be Surgeon General of the United States of America. I gave a speech about him earlier today. He is eminently qualified. Here is a man who has an extraordinary academic background, including graduating magna cum laude from Harvard. He has worked on a combined degree of a medical degree and a business degree. He has taught at Harvard. He is published in the journals and has the support of over 100 professional medical organizations that believe he would be an extraordinary Surgeon General.

I ask, at a time when we are facing the greatest public health crisis in current memory with the Ebola epidemic, how in the world can we leave this post vacant?

I urge my colleagues to support his nomination.

I yield the floor.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Louisiana.

#### SALDANA NOMINATION

Mr. VITTER. Madam President, I rise to strongly oppose the nomination of Sarah Saldana to head ICE for a very simple reason: If confirmed as the head of ICE, Ms. Saldana would be a key player in the administration to help President Obama further a very bad policy that is very unconstitutional and completely beyond the President's proper constitutional authority.

In my opinion, it all comes down to this very important issue of his Executive amnesty—his recent decision, without authority, to move forward on his own, without legislative approval and without congressional action, to grant about 5 million illegal aliens in this country an Executive amnesty.

I think that is a horrible and dangerous decision for two reasons.

First of all, I think the policy is wrong and is guaranteed—alas, even designed—to produce more illegal border crossings, which will increase the problem, not solve it. Some things are pretty simple, and one simple rule with regard to law enforcement is that when you reward certain behavior, you are going to get more of it, not less of it. Through his Executive amnesty, President Obama is clearly rewarding that behavior and rewarding illegal crossings. In every instance in our past when that has happened—including a

1986 amnesty that was at least passed through Congress—it produced more of that behavior, more of the illegal crossings, and more of a problem, not less of it. I think it is horrible policy from that point of view.

The second reason I am very concerned about this recent Executive action is even more fundamental, and that is because I think this is clearly beyond the President's proper legal constitutional authority. I think his actions are clearly unconstitutional, beyond that authority, and therefore a very serious matter for the country and the Congress to focus on.

I am the first to admit that every President has significant Executive power, and every President has the power to provide details when statutes are silent about them, to figure out necessary details in implementing and in executing statutes. His job as the Executive is to execute. But that is fundamentally different from taking action that is completely contrary to statute. Of course, that is what the President is doing in this case—granting amnesty to about 5 million illegal aliens when the statute, properly passed through Congress, says these folks came into our country illegally, they are here illegally, and allowing them to stay here and work is contrary to law.

Again, it would be one thing if the President had to figure out details consistent with that statute, but instead he is taking action directly contrary to those statutes and that directive. It is not simply prosecutorial discretion. It is not simply saying, well, because of a particular circumstance, we are not going to prosecute that case or this case or that case over there. He is making a broad policy which will affect about 5 million cases, and he has gone way beyond saying: We won't prosecute these cases. He is having his bureaucracy—his administration—actually issue work permits by giving folks who cannot work legally in this country work permits. He is telling employers to hire them because they have this new work permit. He is giving them Social Security numbers and other affirmative identification. Again, that is not figuring out the details on how to execute law; that is not figuring out unspoken details about how to further law; that is acting directly contrary to our law and to our statutes on this very topic. Clearly, anyone in the position of heading ICE, including this nominee, Ms. Sarah Saldana, if she is confirmed, would be clearly and directly furthering that bad policy and illegal and unconstitutional action.

To the point of this being unconstitutional, don't take my word for it. There are a lot of authorities on the subject, a lot of legal authorities, such as professors and academic experts.

The Supreme Court directly recognized that on the policy of immigration

in particular, Congress absolutely has clear authority to act in that area under the Constitution. In fact, in previous opinions, the Supreme Court has written that "over no conceivable subject is the power of Congress more complete" than on immigration.

Another interesting expert and source on this topic is President Obama himself. Prior to taking this enormous action—in the years prior—President Obama said very directly to his supporters urging him in this direction: I don't have the authority to do it. He repeatedly acknowledged that.

He said:

This notion that somehow I can just change the laws unilaterally is just not true.

He also stated:

For me to simply, through executive order, ignore those congressional mandates would not conform with my appropriate role as President.

Well, President Obama was right back then. The problem is his recent actions—his Executive amnesty—constitute a complete turnaround on that by doing exactly what he himself previously said he doesn't have the authority to do.

Again, why is this pertinent? Because Sarah Saldana, if confirmed to head ICE, will be a key participant in the administration thereby furthering this policy that is a bad policy. It is a counterproductive policy that will make it worse, not better. Even more seriously, it will further this action, which is illegal, unconstitutional, and well beyond the President's constitutional authority.

This is serious stuff. This is serious constitutional business, and I urge my colleagues to look hard at these matters. After they do look seriously at these matters, I urge my colleagues, Democrats and Republicans, to vote no on this confirmation.

Again, the whole issue is serious. Illegal immigration is a vexing problem. Yes, we need to act. It is a complete straw man for the distinguished leader on the Democratic side to say that Republicans in the House—or anybody else—just don't want to act. Of course we need to act. Of course we have proposed actions.

The question is, what actions, in what order, in what time?

This action is wrong on so many grounds. It is wrong on policy because it is going to make the problem worse. It is rewarding illegal crossings, so we will get more of them. It is wrong, even more seriously, on constitutional grounds. It has gone well beyond President Obama's legal and constitutional authority. Based on those serious areas of concerns, I urge my colleagues to vote no on this confirmation.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. MARKEY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### MURTHY NOMINATION

Mr. MARKEY. Madam President, I rise to speak briefly to say that Dr. Murthy is about as well qualified to be Surgeon General as anyone has ever been. He brings a unique set of skills, background, and perspective that is going to serve our Nation very well. It is my hope the Senate will take this great opportunity to ensure he is given the position to serve our country with his incredible background in the way that I know all Americans are ultimately going to come to be very proud.

I want everyone to know that in Massachusetts we are very proud of him. We in Massachusetts know that he has developed a skill set which is much needed for the 21st century, much needed in an era where diseases cross international boundaries, where there is a recombinant of DNA of disease that increasingly, because of the global nature of the world we live in, is coming back here to the United States. This is our opportunity to put a real leader in this position—a leader who then can give leadership not only to our own country but to the rest of the world as well.

So I urge an affirmative vote for Dr. Murthy to become our new Surgeon General.

I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Ms. CANTWELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MARKEY). Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### SMALL BUSINESS LEGISLATION

Ms. CANTWELL. Mr. President, I know that so many of my colleagues are looking forward to wrapping up this year's business and hopefully getting home soon for the holidays.

I wish to take a few minutes to speak about a couple of issues. First I wish to give some remarks about my colleague, the Senator from Louisiana, on her retirement, and to mention a few things that have been going on in the small business committee which will be wrapping up business. The small business committee and Senator LANDRIEU are kind of synonymous in my mind because my colleague Senator LANDRIEU has been, for the better part of the last couple of years, the Chair of that committee and has done some incredible work. As legislation is moving through the final days in the U.S. Senate, we have been very successful in getting some important legislation passed for small business.

One piece of legislation we were able to make a part of the Defense authorization bill is sole-source contracting for women entrepreneurs so they can more easily get contracting with the Federal Government. That is going to help us have their great products and services more easily contracted and get access to those contracts.

There is also money for microlending programs. My colleague from Michigan, Senator LEVIN, has pioneered an idea that is so important to women entrepreneurs and that involves the kind of lending they would like to see from the Small Business Administration, which is microlending, and for women to be able to get access to microloans. They also want an intermediate loan level of \$200,000 or less. That helps them target some of the business interests they have, because we definitely need more women entrepreneurs in our country.

The third item is the STEP program, which is a small business export assistance program that works with States. The Federal Government and the Small Business Administration work with States to help them target businesses within their States that can use export assistance to become exporters. This is such an important issue for our country, because we, with a growing middle class around the globe, have a great opportunity to sell new products and services around the globe. But many of our small businesses are challenged by the risk of making those kinds of attempts to sell in those markets. So this export assistance program, which had been a pilot, is now going to be a funded permanent program. So we are excited about that and excited it is moving through.

#### TRIBUTE TO MARY LANDRIEU

I also didn't get a chance last week to speak about my colleague Senator LANDRIEU on the floor, so I wanted to take a few minutes now to remind my colleagues that as someone who has served with her on the energy committee and served with her on the small business committee, I have been so impressed with the accomplishments she has achieved in her career here in the U.S. Senate. For much of the time she was talking the other day—rightfully so—she shared a lot of moments of her career and a lot of personal moments. I wanted to remind my colleagues of some of the very big challenges she faced as a Senator and how impressed I am with what she was able to actually overcome.

Many people know that obviously being hit by Katrina was one of the biggest economic challenges not just in Louisiana but to our country, and her impassioned leadership and calls to hasten the efforts to make sure we were doing everything we could for those individuals to receive medical aid and shelter and help find loved ones was nonstop for many days. She suc-

cessfully, as she mentioned on the floor, urged OMB to fully fund the repairs of the levee system in southeast Louisiana and continues that work. She succeeded in passing legislation that directed the Army Corps of Engineers to analyze, design, and strengthen the storm mitigation systems against category 5 hurricanes.

Now if any of my colleagues in the U.S. Senate have ever worked with the Army Corps of Engineers, say no more. You know how challenging it is. We don't control them. They base all of their work on science. They have a budget. It is never enough money. It can seem as though we are fighting them for ever and ever to get something we think is essential to protect the people in our State to move forward. So she did all of that and moved the focus to make sure we establish a defense against category 5 hurricanes.

Also, if any of my colleagues ever had a flood or a storm in their State post-Katrina, they know the first person they were going to hear from was MARY LANDRIEU. She didn't stop her efforts in Louisiana. She wanted to take everything she learned from that emergency and call you up and tell you these are the things you need to do immediately and this is how you should get prepared. I know she did that for many of my colleagues and we so appreciated it.

Then another catastrophe happened—the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. As a member of the Commerce Committee, I can tell my colleagues I spoke to her many times about issues as they related to the Clean Water Act and what was eventually passed, the RESTORE Act, which was a bipartisan effort. Basically, the bill made sure that 80 percent of the Clean Water Act fines from BPA went directly into the Gulf States, making this the biggest individual investment in environmental conservation and restoration in our country's history. That was no easy task. There were a lot of people at the time who wanted to focus on many different aspects of that disaster, and so many events have taken place since then. But I can remember clearly the catastrophe and what it meant for the fishing community, the individuals, the States' economies—all of the questions. A lot of people were looking backwards about what happened, but the Senator from Louisiana was looking forward to make sure those funds were invested right there in the gulf. That was a big challenge that she was successful in meeting.

Obviously, she used her voice for many issues related to Louisiana, but I wish to emphasize to my colleagues how much she also used her voice for many other people who didn't seem to be here in the Halls of Washington and made sure that those issues were at the top of the agenda.

We had the 2009 economic crisis in our country and many people remember because it had such a huge economic impact to individual families. The Senator from Louisiana made sure she was standing up for small businesses during that time period. There were millions of Americans who lost their jobs during that time period, and as everybody was here talking about what to do to help these big banks—and we all know that they got a bailout—many small businesses across the country actually had performing lines of credit cut out right from under them. So they didn't have anybody knocking on the door to make sure they were being helped. But the Senator from Louisiana got very vocal here about the prioritization of making sure that we did something about conventional lending and tried to tackle this issue.

From 2007 to 2009, the number of SBA borrowers dropped by more than half and the amount of loans dropped by more than one-third. Many of these small businesses were paying the price. So Senator LANDRIEU got busy fighting for what was the Small Business Jobs Act. If my colleagues remember that debate, there were many times that some people on the other side of the aisle didn't want to support that legislation or even moments when Treasury didn't know if they wanted to support that legislation. She was successful in the end in getting that legislation passed 61 to 38. The Small Business Jobs Act leveraged more than \$42 billion in loans to more than 90,000 businesses throughout the SBA. The bill, along with other measures, helped target about \$12 billion in tax cuts for small business. So while the big banks had immediate relief, they had someone here in DC fighting for small businesses, and that was Senator LANDRIEU.

That legislation also saw a small business lending fund increase so that there was more capital on Main Street for small business. As a result of the legislation, 2011 and 2012 were the two biggest years on record for the 7(a) and the 504 program, which are kind of the premier programs for the Small Business Administration. That went a long way to helping small businesses begin to recover. Also, the small business credit initiative helped small businesses get access to capital.

So all of these things were what my colleague from Louisiana fought for to help small businesses. I think it is a perfect example, along with those other things about how she used her voice to try to bring clarity to the challenges we were facing and stand up for those who weren't being heard.

She also, though, lent her voice to another group that is often—we don't necessarily always understand all of the issues surrounding it. I kind of think that she took over for Senator

Byrd who was a great advocate on behalf of animals and spoke a lot about his dog, and many of the stories he shared warmed everybody's heart. Senator LANDRIEU last year was the Humane Society's Legislator of the Year for her consistent work to prevent the cruel practices of horse slaughter, to protect wild animals, and strengthen provisions against animal fighting. So she clearly deserved that title and we certainly appreciate her efforts there. She was also a voice for the District of Columbia. People get committee assignments, and, yes, she had that committee assignment, but the thing about Senator LANDRIEU is that once she took an assignment, she was tough on making sure those issues were addressed. She did that for the District of Columbia.

I want to add my sincere thanks to the Senator from Louisiana for all of her work and public service here in the Senate. She will be missed. I know she and I share a passion for the Land and Water Conservation Fund. It is an issue that is near and dear to my heart and something she has tried in her time in the Senate to get fully funded. We are going to continue that work on her behalf in the energy committee.

Again, I thank my colleague and dear friend for her incredible passion and for fighting for those whose voices were not always heard. There is no mistake her voice was heard here in the Senate. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Connecticut.

#### MURTHY NOMINATION

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, I am very pleased to be here today to speak on behalf of President Obama's eminently qualified nominee to be Surgeon General, Dr. Vivek Murthy.

I request that I be permitted to yield to my colleague from Connecticut, Senator MURPHY, at the end of my remarks.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. The Surgeon General of the United States is a person of public trust in this country who has a long and eminent record of informing the Nation and fighting on behalf of the public health of Americans. He has addressed some of the Nation's most pressing public health problems. Over time, there have been a variety of people in that position of public trust to address some of the most pressing public health problems in this Nation. Those challenges have included nicotine addiction, the menaces of Big Tobacco, AIDS, and other emerging diseases, nutrition and food labeling. These challenges require someone of courage and expertise, indeed eminence as a public health warrior.

In just a few months, the Nation has faced a public health crisis that caused many to question who would be that warrior, that fighter, that eminent and

expert physician, and who would defend this Nation at a time of public health crisis.

Many decried President Obama's appointment of an Ebola czar to fill that position when no one could step forward as Surgeon General, and the reason is that there was no Surgeon General. We lacked someone who could fulfill that role because of a misplaced and misguided opposition. That position has been vacant for far too long. Hopefully today we will confirm Dr. Murthy and allow him to get on the job and get to work on this and other pressing problems facing our country.

Ebola cases continue to present a dire threat to our Nation because in parts of Africa they are still spreading. Just last week the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention announced that there are serious doubts about whether the Nation's supply of flu vaccine will be effective against the strain of flu that is circulating this winter. We need a Surgeon General to handle that potential public health crisis as well. We are not out of the woods, to quote what Dr. Frieden told me in a conversation just last week on Ebola. We are about to go into the woods in the flu season, and the Surgeon General, as a leader, is needed right now.

The Public Health Service Commissioned Corps, under the leadership of the Attorney General, was deployed to field hospitals and emergency clinics in the wake of Hurricane Katrina, the Deepwater Horizon oil spill, and the 2010 earthquake in Haiti. They are fighters and warriors for public health as well.

Dr. Murthy's credentials are without question. They are impeccable, unquestionable, and indisputable. He is a graduate of Harvard College and Yale School of Medicine. He completed his residency at the Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston. He is one of our country's most respected medical professionals. He now works and teaches at the Brigham and Women's Hospital. He also earned an MBA, also from Yale. He has been a leader of business and nonprofit organizations that work on many aspects of medical practice, biotechnology and domestic and international public health issues.

If the question were only about his qualifications, he would be in that position right now, confirmed by the Senate, but unfortunately he has been blocked. The only point raised against him, unconscionably and unnecessarily, is a political smokescreen, essentially, going to comments he has made about gun violence as a public health issue.

The simple fact is gun violence impacts far too many people. It destroys far too many lives. It is the second leading cause of death in this country after car crashes. Gun violence kills twice as many children as cancer, 5 times as many children as heart disease, and 15 times as many children as

infection. Between 2000 and 2010, more than 335,000 people died as a result of gun violence.

Pointing out these facts and asking whether there are strategies we could apply to bring that number down is exactly what a person tasked to keep Americans healthy ought to be doing. But he has said he is going to focus on issues that concern the American public health and will be a fighter for American children, for Americans, against heart disease and cancer and other kinds of issues that affect public health, especially of children, and that is to be valued.

That smokescreen about gun violence should not have blocked him and should not impede this body voting for him today, approving him as Surgeon General because of his qualifications and because he will contribute enormously to make Americans healthier and safer in this country.

I am enthusiastically and proudly a supporter of him, and I ask my colleagues to approve him as Surgeon General of the United States to make America safer and healthier and to reject the slick smokescreen that has tried to stop him.

I yield to my colleague from Connecticut.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Connecticut.

Mr. MURPHY. I thank the Senator from Connecticut for his advocacy on this issue. I know we are approaching a vote, so I will be brief in my comments. Not to repeat those of Senator BLUMENTHAL, but he is exactly right—there are absolutely no questions about the qualifications of Dr. Vivek Murthy to do this job.

In addition to his professional background and his teaching responsibilities, he also has a very impressive history of commitment to international public health—building two international organizations, one that empowers hundreds of youth in the United States and India to educate over 45,000 students on HIV prevention and another one which works in rural health partnerships in India training young women to be health educators and counselors for thousands of patients.

That is a pretty impressive record, when you combine it with what Senator BLUMENTHAL already laid out, for a still fairly young physician, someone who will bring an enormous amount of energy to this job at a moment we need it. Ebola is at the top of the list as to the reasons why we need a Surgeon General now, but we are in a remarkable period of contraction when it comes to health care spending increases. Health care costs grew by 3.6 percent in 2013, which is the slowest rate on record since the government started keeping track in 1960.

Frankly, a sound, good, sensible public health policy has a lot to do with our ability to continue curtailing the rate

of health care spending increases. Why? Because obesity rates in this country—even if they were just trimmed by 5 percent, that could save \$160 billion over the next 10 years. Smoking, which will hopefully be a centerpiece of the Surgeon General's advocacy plan, contributes about \$133 billion in direct costs.

If we want to do something about the size of the health care budget in this country—which is something the Republicans and Democrats believe in—then we need a Surgeon General because that is the person who is leading our public health conversation all across the country, eminently qualified and desperately needed. I am glad we are having a vote here today.

Let me say just a few words about this controversy that has surrounded his choice. The criticism effectively amounts to comments that Dr. Murthy made saying two things, generally—one, that he thinks gun violence is a problem; two, that he generally agrees with where the President stands on this issue.

Let's take the second first. It is not surprising that the President is choosing people to be part of this administration who agree with him on a variety of issues. But, as many of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle have said, the Surgeon General doesn't set gun violence policy in this country, and so there shouldn't be a question as to whether he can separate his views on guns from his job, just as there is not a question as to whether Secretary Castro or Secretary Burwell can do the same. But it is also not surprising that he has those views because the President is entitled to pick people for important positions who generally think the same way he does on issues that are relevant to the job they are taking but also on issues that aren't in that particular appointee's responsibilities.

But let's take the first criticism—that he made these statements about guns being a public health problem, gun violence being an issue that we should confront. If a nominee for Federal office is unqualified simply because they have pointed out that gun violence is an issue we should work on, then this debate is so far removed from what is happening on the ground floor of this country as to possibly be irretrievable for the purposes of common-sense debate. That is what Dr. Murthy essentially said, that gun violence is a problem we should be working on. If we can't even get to point where we all agree on that general notion, separate and aside from whether you agree with what he thinks we should do about it or what somebody else thinks we should do about it, well, maybe this is more hopeless than I thought.

I am glad we are going to move forward on a vote on Dr. Murthy today. He is qualified to do this job, and he has an admirable background in public

health policy, in the practice of medicine, and in the teaching of medicine. We need a Surgeon General right now, whether it is to confront Ebola or to help us continue on a path toward controlling health care costs.

Separate and aside from this nomination, let's agree to agree that Dr. Murthy is right that gun violence is a problem that this country should be addressing. No matter what your view on how we get there, that is something we should all be able to unite around. I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to yield back any remaining time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, all time is yielded back.

#### CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The assistant bill clerk read as follows:

#### CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Vivek Hallegere Murthy, of Massachusetts, to be Medical Director in the Regular Corps of the Public Health Service and to be Surgeon General of the Public Health Service.

Harry Reid, Tom Harkin, Patrick J. Leahy, Patty Murray, Tom Udall, Brian Schatz, Charles E. Schumer, Barbara Boxer, Benjamin L. Cardin, Richard Blumenthal, Jeff Merkley, Al Franken, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Elizabeth Warren, Richard J. Durbin, Christopher Murphy, Bernard Sanders.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Vivek Hallegere Murthy, of Massachusetts, to be Medical Director in the Regular Corps of the Public Health Service and to be Surgeon General of the Public Health Service, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) are necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN),

the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. JOHANNIS), and the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) would have voted "nay."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 51, nays 43, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 355 Ex.]

#### YEAS—51

Baldwin	Hirono	Pryor
Begich	Johnson (SD)	Reed
Bennet	Kaine	Reid
Blumenthal	King	Rockefeller
Booker	Kirk	Sanders
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Schatz
Cardin	Landrieu	Schumer
Carper	Leahy	Shaheen
Casey	Levin	Stabenow
Coons	Markey	Tester
Durbin	McCaskill	Udall (CO)
Feinstein	Menendez	Udall (NM)
Franken	Merkley	Walsh
Gillibrand	Mikulski	Warner
Hagan	Murphy	Warren
Harkin	Murray	Whitehouse
Heinrich	Nelson	Wyden

#### NAYS—43

Alexander	Fischer	Moran
Ayotte	Flake	Murkowski
Barrasso	Graham	Paul
Blunt	Grassley	Portman
Boozman	Hatch	Risch
Burr	Heitkamp	Roberts
Coats	Heller	Scott
Coburn	Hoeven	Sessions
Collins	Inhofe	Shelby
Corker	Isakson	Thune
Cornyn	Johnson (WI)	Toomey
Crapo	Lee	Vitter
Cruz	Manchin	Wicker
Donnelly	McCain	
Enzi	McConnell	

#### NOT VOTING—6

Boxer	Chambliss	Johannis
Brown	Cochran	Rubio

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 51, the nays are 43.

The motion is agreed to.

The majority leader.

Mr. REID. We have three more votes tonight. I ask unanimous consent that they be 10 minutes in duration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### MURTHY NOMINATION

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, it has been 10 months since the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions favorably reported the nomination of Dr. Vivek Murthy to serve as Surgeon General of the United States. While this seat sat vacant, our Nation has suffered through concerns and divergent information about the possibility of an Ebola outbreak and is on the cusp of what is predicted to be a difficult flu season. It is past time to move forward and confirm this nomination.

The Surgeon General is the Nation's chief medical officer and plays the role of chief medical information "explainer" for all Americans. There is a vast amount of information available about how to best take care of your

health and the health of your family. The Surgeon General has the authority to distill the best research to present a clear message on effective disease prevention and health promotion. As the health policy advisor to the President and the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Surgeon General plays an important role in proactively addressing the many public health issues that face Americans. With an aging population and chronic diseases such as diabetes on the rise, this is a key position in the effort to improve the overall health and wellbeing of the American people.

Unfortunately, this nomination has been stalled for months due to comments Dr. Murthy made in the context of the school shootings in Newtown, CT. Dr. Murthy referred to gun violence as an "important public health issue" but also acknowledges that the causes of gun violence are "complex and multi-faceted." He urges Congress "to develop a comprehensive national plan to stop gun violence."

While there is significant disagreement over firearm regulations in our country, we should all be able to agree that reducing gun violence, and the devastating effects it can have on our communities, is a priority. Many doctors' groups treat gun violence as a public health concern and believe it is a relevant and important issue to discuss with patients. Dr. Murthy testified in his confirmation hearing before the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee that he does "not intend to use the Surgeon General's Office as a bully pulpit for gun control. That is not going to be my priority."

Dr. Murthy further explained that his "concerns with regards to issues like gun violence have to do with my experience as a physician, seeing patients in emergency rooms who have come in with acute injuries; but also seeing many patients over the years who are dealing with spinal cord injuries, post-traumatic stress disorder, and other chronic complications from gun violence."

I am a gun owner myself, and I have enormous respect and appreciation for the freedoms the Second Amendment protects. However, I do not believe that gun violence, and the injuries and fatalities that result from it, is a problem we can simply ignore. On average, more than 100,000 people are shot every year in the United States. From 2000 to 2010, more than 335,000 people were killed by guns in the United States. This is an issue about which we must be able to have an honest discussion.

Dr. Murthy's impressive background as both a hospitalist attending physician and instructor in medicine at Brigham and Women's Hospital at Harvard Medical School, and his background as the founder and president of Doctors for America make him well qualified to serve as our Nation's Sur-

geon General. I hope his nomination is confirmed today.

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I wish to express my opposition to the nomination of Vivek Murthy to be Surgeon General.

While Dr. Murthy may have future promise as both a physician and public health expert, I have serious concerns about his current qualifications, as well as his choices regarding public health advocacy.

One former Surgeon General, Dr. Richard Carmona, shared a letter with the Senate highlighting his opposition to the nomination. In his words, "The nominee, Dr. Vivek Murthy is a physician very early in his career with great promise but no formal public health education training, leadership or management experience." He goes on to say, "His partisanship and lack of qualifications for the job of Surgeon General give this nomination the scent of political patronage." This insight, from someone who served in that position, is concerning.

Dr. Murthy's main public policy and public health activity to date has been to use the group he founded, Doctors for America, to promote President Obama's campaign to advocate for expansive gun control, going so far as to even recommend that doctors counsel their patients about gun ownership. He is entitled to his opinion, but the opinion of the Surgeon General becomes something much more significant.

At a time when our Nation is at risk from deadly chronic conditions, dangerous disease outbreaks like Ebola, and the ever-present threat of public health disasters and pandemics, this is not the moment to devalue the role of the Surgeon General. The person who serves as Surgeon General must be someone Americans can trust. But Dr. Murthy, so far, has not demonstrated that he is capable of fulfilling that role, and so I must oppose his nomination at this time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, all postcloture time is expired.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Vivek Hallegere Murthy, of Massachusetts, to be Medical Director in the Regular Corps of the Public Health Service, subject to qualifications therefor as provided by law and regulations, and to be Surgeon General of the Public Health Service?

Mr. RISCH. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays are ordered.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER)

and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) are necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN), the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. JOHANNES), and the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) would have voted "nay."

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 51, nays 43, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 356 Ex.]

#### YEAS—51

Baldwin	Hirono	Pryor
Begich	Johnson (SD)	Reed
Bennet	Kaine	Reid
Blumenthal	King	Rockefeller
Booker	Kirk	Sanders
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Schatz
Cardin	Landrieu	Schumer
Carper	Leahy	Shaheen
Casey	Levin	Stabenow
Coons	Markey	Tester
Durbin	McCaskill	Udall (CO)
Feinstein	Menendez	Udall (NM)
Franken	Merkley	Walsh
Gillibrand	Mikulski	Warner
Hagan	Murphy	Warren
Harkin	Murray	Whitehouse
Heinrich	Nelson	Wyden

#### NAYS—43

Alexander	Fischer	Moran
Ayotte	Flake	Murkowski
Barrasso	Graham	Paul
Blunt	Grassley	Portman
Boozman	Hatch	Risch
Burr	Heitkamp	Roberts
Coats	Heller	Scott
Coburn	Hoeven	Sessions
Collins	Inhofe	Shelby
Corker	Isakson	Thune
Cornyn	Johnson (WI)	Toomey
Crapo	Lee	Vitter
Cruz	Manchin	Wicker
Donnelly	McCain	
Enzi	McConnell	

#### NOT VOTING—6

Boxer	Chambliss	Johannes
Brown	Cochran	Rubio

The nomination was confirmed.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

#### CLOTURE MOTION

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The assistant bill clerk read as follows:

#### CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Daniel J. Santos, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board.

Harry Reid, Carl Levin, Brian Schatz, Patrick J. Leahy, Bernard Sanders, John E. Walsh, Patty Murray, Jack Reed, Tom Udall, Sheldon Whitehouse,

Amy Klobuchar, Debbie Stabenow, Christopher A. Coons, Robert Menendez, Barbara Boxer, Tom Harkin, Richard J. Durbin.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Daniel J. Santos, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN), and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) are necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN), the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. JOHANNES), and the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) would have voted "nay."

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 54, nays 39, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 357 Ex.]

#### YEAS—54

Baldwin	Heinrich	Murray
Begich	Heitkamp	Nelson
Bennet	Hirono	Pryor
Blumenthal	Johnson (SD)	Reed
Booker	Kaine	Reid
Cantwell	King	Rockefeller
Cardin	Klobuchar	Schatz
Carper	Landrieu	Schumer
Casey	Leahy	Shaheen
Collins	Levin	Stabenow
Coons	Manchin	Tester
Donnelly	Markey	Udall (CO)
Durbin	McCaskill	Udall (NM)
Feinstein	Menendez	Walsh
Franken	Merkley	Warner
Gillibrand	Mikulski	Warren
Hagan	Murkowski	Whitehouse
Harkin	Murphy	Wyden

#### NAYS—39

Alexander	Fischer	McConnell
Ayotte	Flake	Moran
Barrasso	Graham	Paul
Blunt	Grassley	Portman
Boozman	Hatch	Risch
Burr	Heller	Roberts
Coats	Hoeven	Scott
Coburn	Inhofe	Sessions
Corker	Isakson	Shelby
Cornyn	Johnson (WI)	Thune
Crapo	Kirk	Toomey
Cruz	Lee	Vitter
Enzi	McCain	Wicker

#### NOT VOTING—7

Boxer	Cochran	Sanders
Brown	Johannes	
Chambliss	Rubio	

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. On this vote, the yeas are 54, the nays are 39. The motion is agreed to.

#### CLOTURE MOTION

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair

lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

#### CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Frank A. Rose, of Massachusetts, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Verification and Compliance).

Harry Reid, Robert Menendez, Patrick J. Leahy, Martin Heinrich, Jack Reed, Dianne Feinstein, Tom Udall, Benjamin L. Cardin, Bill Nelson, Barbara Boxer, Thomas R. Carper, Edward J. Markey, Jeff Merkley, Sheldon Whitehouse, Jon Tester, Richard J. Durbin, Charles E. Schumer.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Frank A. Rose, of Massachusetts, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Verification and Compliance), shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) are necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN), the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. JOHANNES), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. KIRK), and the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) would have voted "nay."

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 54, nays 39, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 358 Ex.]

#### YEAS—54

Baldwin	Harkin	Murray
Begich	Heinrich	Nelson
Bennet	Heitkamp	Pryor
Blumenthal	Hirono	Reed
Booker	Johnson (SD)	Reid
Brown	Kaine	Rockefeller
Cantwell	King	Schatz
Cardin	Klobuchar	Schumer
Carper	Landrieu	Shaheen
Casey	Leahy	Stabenow
Collins	Levin	Tester
Coons	Manchin	Udall (CO)
Donnelly	Markey	Udall (NM)
Durbin	McCaskill	Walsh
Feinstein	Menendez	Warner
Franken	Merkley	Warren
Gillibrand	Mikulski	Whitehouse
Hagan	Murphy	Wyden

#### NAYS—39

Alexander	Coburn	Flake
Ayotte	Corker	Graham
Barrasso	Cornyn	Grassley
Blunt	Crapo	Hatch
Boozman	Cruz	Heller
Burr	Enzi	Hoeven
Coats	Fischer	Inhofe



Isakson	Murkowski	Sessions
Johnson (WI)	Paul	Shelby
Lee	Portman	Thune
McCain	Risch	Toomey
McConnell	Roberts	Vitter
Moran	Scott	Wicker

## NOT VOTING—7

Boxer	Johanns	Sanders
Chambliss	Kirk	
Cochran	Rubio	

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. On this vote, the yeas are 54, the nays are 39. The motion is agreed to.

The majority leader.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, the two votes scheduled in the morning will be done by voice. The first vote is going to be at 2:30 p.m. tomorrow afternoon.

## CLAY HUNT SUICIDE PREVENTION ACT

Mr. REID. Mr. President, shortly, the senior Senator from Connecticut, Senator BLUMENTHAL, will ask consent that the Senate take up and pass the Clay Hunt Suicide Prevention Act.

The reason Clay Hunt was used as a model for this situation we have is because of his outstanding record. And "60 Minutes" has done specials about him. He had two tours of duty. He was a marine who served in Iraq and Afghanistan and received the Purple Heart. He was a wonderful human being. He even helped out in Haiti after they had an earthquake. But he could not overcome what happened to him in his combat mission.

This issue is so important for our veterans. Since 7 a.m. this morning until 7 a.m. tomorrow morning, 22 veterans will have killed themselves. They commit suicide every day. They don't take weekends off. It happens 7 days a week. We need to stop this devastation—and that is what it is.

Suicide is very personal to me. As some of you know, my good dad killed himself. The heartbreak that is caused—the total loss and inability to understand—from a needless and preventable death of a loved one is hard to comprehend.

The Clay Hunt Suicide Prevention Act is bipartisan legislation. The bill passed the House last Tuesday.

I thank Senators MCCAIN and WALSH for their work on this veterans suicide issue. They have both introduced their own legislation to address this important issue—a Vietnam veteran and an Iraq veteran.

I commend Senator BLUMENTHAL for all of his efforts to get this important bill passed. We should not delay a minute more in passing this legislation. The bill is supported by an overwhelming majority of the Senate. We could pass it just like that if we could have cooperation. It is my understanding that there is only one Senator standing in the way.

Let's do what is right for our veterans one more time before we close the 113th Congress. Twenty-two veterans are dying by their own hand every day.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Connecticut.

## UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—H.R. 5059

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, I am honored and proud to follow the majority leader, and I thank him for his remarks. I will make my remarks in support of my request for unanimous consent.

If there is an objection, in deference to the Senator from Oklahoma, I will withhold the body of my remarks until after there is an objection.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of H.R. 5059, the Clay Hunt SAV Act, which was received from House and is at the desk; and further, that the bill be read three times and passed and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

I will proceed at the conclusion of any remarks by the Senator from Oklahoma and the Senator from Ohio.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there objection?

Mr. COBURN. Reserving the right to object.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Oklahoma.

Mr. COBURN. Mr. President, first of all, I will say that I recognize the honor of the Senator from Connecticut for his distinguished service in the military.

I didn't serve in our military. I was actually in college during the Vietnam war. I drew No. 354 on the lottery the week before I was to be drafted. I had two brothers who served—not in Vietnam—in the military. My father and both uncles served during World War II. My grandfather was awarded the Croix de Guerre, the highest honor the French give, for his work during World War I.

I will also state that, as a physician, I know suicide all too well. I have failed patients in the past even though I did everything I knew to do. Yet they still took their lives.

I have also experienced it personally in my own family. I know this issue. I also know what we did 3½ months ago—we passed the Veterans Choice Act, which I ultimately voted against because it didn't do what we promised the veterans we would do.

To this day Secretary McDonald has fired one person out of hundreds who should have been fired because we didn't give him the right authority on that day to hold the VA accountable.

I have treated patients with the demons that these young men and women have when they come back from war—the night terrors and the conflict that happens when they turn a corner and get a flashback of where they were versus seeing their wife and daughter. On top of that, they have the guilt that has built up, and they wonder to themselves, what is wrong with me?

Thirty-four percent of the people who are applying for mental health benefits

today from the VA are getting seen within the appropriate time. Almost everything in the bill has already been authorized and approved with the \$10 billion that we sent to the VA.

When every veteran—regardless of how long his hair is or how unshaven or how scraggly or how nice he looks—is greeted with a smile and a "yes, sir" or "yes, ma'am," when they are treated with the respect they deserve at every veterans facility because they served and some of us didn't, that is when we know we have put the VA back on course.

My great colleague from Connecticut is going to be the ranking member on the VA Committee, along with JOHNNY ISAKSON from Georgia. I have a challenge for him. I am going to be objecting to this bill because it throws money out there and doesn't solve the real problem. I know most of my colleagues disagree with me on that, but I actually did the work.

I started a year before all the VA scandals started, and I documented nearly 1,000 deaths at the hands of lack of our oversight and the lack of us holding the VA accountable. People are going to make mistakes all the time, but we are the ones who have no excuse for not holding the VA accountable.

Our veterans deserve the very best. We cannot eliminate all of the tragedies that occur with war. Some of the most remarkable things happened during this bill.

I have a military liaison who had significant injuries as a result of serving this country. He got targeted by the veterans groups who wanted to pass this bill—talk about dishonoring a veteran. You are going after my MLA who served this country with distinction, who has had multiple operations because of his injuries and second degree burns in his service to this country. Nothing could be lower than that. That is politics at its worst.

So I believe in all my heart—I prayed all weekend. How do I answer this question? And the answer to the question is to do the hard work over the next year. Don't pass another bill. Hold the VA accountable. There should be a hearing every week on every aspect of every aspect of everything the VA does for the whole next 2 years so that they, in fact, will treat the people who put their lives on the line with the very respect, the very service that they so richly earned and we have spoiled because we undervalue it.

We have great employees at most of the VA facilities, but we have some stinkers. Until we change the attitude, until we hold the administration of the Veterans' Administration accountable, we will never change the attitude that our veterans aren't getting the very best. And they deserve the very best.

My heart breaks for the people who commit suicide. Do we know what it is? They find no relief anywhere else



except death. There is no answer for them. We don't give it to them. We have failed them. I personally have failed them in my own medical practice. So they look at the only option that gives them relief from the tremendous pressure and tension they are experiencing.

I had a very close friend in the House whose son took his own life. We spent years building and loving that family to help them to deal with that loss. Catastrophic events, depression, and situations lead people to suicide—not any one individual. They are searching for an answer we have failed to give them. They are searching for the support and the nurturing and the love that needs to be there to say: I am going to mentor you and get you through this. That is where the VA has failed. That is where the military has failed. That is where we have failed.

Even the Veterans' Administration says everything in this bill has already been authorized. So what is it really about? It is about addressing an issue without addressing the issue. The real, hard work will come when, on C-SPAN, with me sitting in Oklahoma, I get to see DICK BLUMENTHAL and JOHNNY ISAKSON grilling every aspect of the VA to make sure they are top notch, they are putting their sacrifice on the line the same way our soldiers do. That is when we start changing things.

So, regrettably, I object to this bill, not because I don't want to help save suicides but because I don't think this bill is going to do the first thing to change what is happening. What is going to change what is happening is when we as Members of the Senate and the Congress start bearing down and creating the transparency that is necessary so that Americans can see that our veterans are getting everything they deserve and a "yes, sir" and a "no, sir," a "no ma'am," a "yes ma'am," a smile, and a greeting, and when they interact with the VA, they leave there fulfilled and proud that they are a veteran.

I object.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Objection is heard.

The Senator from Connecticut.

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, I wish to respond to the Senator from Oklahoma by, first of all, expressing my deep respect and appreciation for the work he has done to hold accountable the Veterans' Administration and many other agencies of our U.S. Government. In fact, he leaves a legacy of oversight that I will be honored to continue and I hope will continue through the Veterans' Affairs Committee.

The efforts of the Senator from Oklahoma to scrutinize government spending through individual and independent assessments, in fact, are addressed in this bill in section 2, which requires, in fact, an independent third party to annually evaluate the Department of Vet-

erans Affairs to establish metrics, to identify the cost-effectiveness of programs, and to propose best practices. Holding the VA accountable is one of the core purposes of this bill.

I am asking that the Senate take up a bill that was passed unanimously in the House of Representatives and that is supported on a bipartisan basis by 21 of our colleagues, that is blocked by a single Member, and that will make an impact on the spreading scourge of suicides among some of our very bravest and best warriors. We don't know—it remains a mystery—how some of our most courageous and steadfast warfighters can stare down death on the battlefield and succumb to it at home by their own hand. Those demons, those inner doubts, the invisible wounds of war, post-traumatic stress and traumatic brain injury are taking their toll at the rate of 22 a day.

This measure is actually scaled back. It is targeted and focused to provide incremental benefits to those veterans who are at risk by providing additional resources—psychiatrists and counselors—by mandating accountability in the use of those resources. That is more than we did 3½ months ago in another measure I strongly supported.

I express my appreciation to our 21 colleagues who have supported this measure but also to the IAVA and the VFW, to the survivors of veterans' suicides across the country and their families, and the families who came before us in the committee such as Susan Selke's, whose son, Clay Hunt, is in the name of this bill. Susan Selke urged us to pass this legislation that will provide for an independent and strong source of accountability, because she believes it is necessary to help others such as her son before they succumb, as her son did.

That kind of outside review to impose discipline on the VA is, as my colleague has said, absolutely necessary not only for the VA but for VA clinics and hospitals around the country. But we need more psychiatrists in those VA clinics and hospitals, and this measure will provide those resources, along with accountability.

In one of his most recent reports, my colleague from Oklahoma highlighted the appalling case of Dr. Margaret Moxness, and I thank him for that report and others he has authored.

Dr. Margaret Moxness, a former physician at the Huntington VA Medical Center in Charleston, West Virginia, said that when she reported patients who needed immediate mental health treatment, supervisors instructed her to delay care anyway. She saw at least two patients commit suicide while waiting for treatment between psychological appointments.

I share my colleagues' view that we cannot simply hire our way out of this problem. We have a nationwide shortage of mental health care professionals, and that is why this legislation, in section 4, grows a pool of psy-

chiatrists through tuition assistance, and that is why in section 6 it requires the VA to collaborate with outside nonprofit mental health organizations to improve the efficiency and the effectiveness of suicide prevention efforts.

This scaled-back bill is a down payment. It is not the end of solutions to this problem. It is a worthwhile measure that takes limited, targeted steps. Much more can and should be done. It has been championed by Chairman SANDERS, and I thank him and Ranking Member BURR for their efforts in the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act. This job will not be done until we end every suicide—not just the 22 every day, but every one of those 22 every day in this country.

Every single one of us, if we are honest with ourselves, knows a family that has been touched by this problem—every single Member of this body. I know it all too well because a friend of mine, Justin Eldridge of southeastern Connecticut succumbed to suicide as well. He was deployed in combat in Afghanistan where he braved mortar fire and sniper fire, and he returned to his family, his children, and his wife—his very young family—suffering from traumatic brain injury and post-traumatic stress. As brave as he had been on the battlefield, he could not win that war at home. He sought mental health care at the Connecticut VA facility. He had gone through a long battle for benefits. I helped him with it. But there was a significant gap in the continuity of his medical care. Basically, he slipped through the cracks and eventually took his life.

I knew him as the founder of the Marine Corps League in southeastern Connecticut, which I was proud to join as a member. How he fell into that black hole of depression and despair I certainly will never understand. But I hope someone could have understood it if we had provided the kinds of resources that are necessary in Connecticut and around the country. We have an obligation to leave none of these veterans behind, to hold the VA accountable, to make sure the resources are well spent, to avoid duplication, but to reach out to those brave and fearless warriors who fight on our battlefields and defend our Nation, and then are threatened and sometimes lose the war at home to post-traumatic stress and traumatic brain injuries—medical conditions that can be overcome with the right care as soon as possible.

I hope my colleague from Oklahoma will withdraw his objection. I thank my colleagues for supporting this measure. If it fails this time, we will bring it back and we will win and leave no one behind.

Thank you, Mr. President. I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Montana.

Mr. WALSH. Mr. President, today the Senate had an opportunity to act and pass important legislation that will continue to address the crisis of veteran suicide. The numbers have been talked about. We are losing 22 servicemembers—veterans—each and every day across this country. Thousands of men and women each year are dying by suicide. If we were losing 22 of our servicemembers on the battlefield each and every day, the citizens of this country would be up in arms. The Members of Congress would be up in arms. We would be taking action to ensure that we were doing something about it. I recall when this body did take action, I was in Iraq, in Kuwait, getting ready to go across the border. There was the Secretary of Defense at that time who came over for a town-hall meeting, and we talked about how poor the equipment was that our Reserve component members were being given to go across the border from Kuwait to Iraq. Shortly after that time, the Reserve component started to receive up-armored Humvees. The action this body took made a difference. Once the Reserve components started to receive up-armored Humvees—the same type of Humvee our Active-Duty counterparts are receiving—it did make a difference.

This body has an opportunity to take action. We have put over a million men and women into the VA health care system over the past 13 years, and we have not provided the resources our men and women in the VA need to take care of these men and women who have been put into the VA health care system.

When we talked about the fact that the VA health care system needs to do a better job, think about us not providing them with the resources they need to do their job. That is what this body is being asked to do—to provide the VA health care system with the resources and provide additional psychological health care providers in VAs all across our country so that the men and women who are coming back with psychological wounds of war can be dealt with.

When I introduced the first version of this important legislation back in March, I committed to use my time in office to bring attention to this issue. I thank all the Members of this body who have stood up and all the organizations that have come together and realized we have a problem. There are 22 men and women each and every day dying by suicide. We need to do something. We have done some things, but it is not enough.

It is a terrible disservice to millions of veterans and their families that this important bill has been blocked from passing because we are not doing everything we can do. Congress can't just thank our veterans. We hear each and every day on this floor and in the

House how much we appreciate our veterans and how much we appreciate the men and women who are willing to sign on the dotted line, how much we appreciate their families for the sacrifice they make each and every day while our men and women are serving in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Our men and women who serve in the Armed Forces are willing to put their lives on the line for our freedoms and the things we enjoy each and every day across this country. We need to do more than provide lip service from this Chamber about taking care of our men and women who sign and are willing to give their lives for this country and for those who have given their lives for this country.

As somebody who has seen the invisible wounds of war in the men and women under my command, I am deeply disappointed today that we haven't been able to pass this legislation and begin taking action to help our men and women who are contemplating dying by suicide.

One of the pieces of this legislation—right now when a young man or woman comes home, he or she can go to the VA, and they are taken care of for up to 5 years. Sometimes the wounds of PTSD or traumatic brain injury take longer than 5 years to surface. We need to continue to provide that service for up to 10 years or, in my opinion, for as long as these men and women are around and still living. Again, they were willing to put their lives on the line for this country. We need to be willing to take care of them for the rest of their lives, for those who were fortunate enough to come home from serving our country.

I am glad to see that Senator BLUMENTHAL will be around for the next Congress because I know he and other Members of this body will continue to fight to make sure our men and women who served our country and who are suffering from the visible and invisible wounds of war will have someone here to fight for them because I know they will continue to carry on this message.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Ohio.

#### UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST— H.R. 2126

Mr. PORTMAN. I ask unanimous consent that the energy committee be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 2126 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration; that the bill be read a third time and passed and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there objection?

Mr. COBURN. I object.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Objection is heard.

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, this is with regard to the energy legislation that passed the House and has four commonsense, simple provisions we hoped to be able to pass by unanimous consent tonight, and hopefully I will be able to convince my colleagues it is something that is good for American jobs, American business, and for energy efficiency. There are four or five speakers who would like to talk on this. What I would like to do, if I could, is ask them to begin the debate here and then I will wrap it up at the end.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from New Hampshire.

Mrs. SHAHEEN. Mr. President, I rise in support of my colleague and my partner in this energy efficiency effort, Senator PORTMAN, to support his unanimous consent request that the Senate pass H.R. 2126, the Energy Efficiency Improvement Act.

I am disappointed to hear Senator COBURN's continued objection to this legislation and to energy efficiency measures. This bill is identical to a more narrowly focused energy efficiency bill Senator PORTMAN and I introduced recently in the Senate. It tracks closely to legislation we have been working on actually for 4 years, the Energy Savings and Industrial Competitiveness Act, also known as Shaheen-Portman.

The legislation before us, H.R. 2126, is really a shortened version of Shaheen-Portman. Unfortunately, as we know, the longer version, the energy efficiency act, has stalled twice on the Senate floor—not due to concerns about what was in the bill but because of disagreements over other issues that were related to energy but unrelated to our bill.

While we may not be able to pass the larger bill this session, the Senate still has an opportunity to pass meaningful energy efficiency legislation by passing H.R. 2126. This is bipartisan legislation that was introduced in the House by Representatives MCKINLEY, a Republican from West Virginia, and WELCH, a Democrat from Vermont, and passed the House earlier this year with overwhelming support from both sides of the aisle, 375 to 36.

That broad bipartisan support extends beyond Capitol Hill. It enjoys the support of business groups and environmental organizations and efficiency advocates who all recognize that energy efficiency is the cheapest, fastest way to begin addressing the Nation's energy needs. Supporters include everyone from the Natural Resources Defense Council, to the U.S. Green Building Council, to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, and the Real Estate Roundtable. The list of businesses and organizations that have endorsed this bill numbers over 200.

This bill contains several provisions that will encourage efficient energy

consumption, and as a result of this legislation, consumers and families will save money. The legislation will grow our economy, create jobs, and it will reduce pollution. It really is a win-win.

Even though it is not the longer version of energy efficiency legislation Senator PORTMAN and I have been working on for the last 4 years, it will do a number of things that are critical to address our energy needs.

First, it will create a voluntary, market-based tenant star program. This is modeled after the successful ENERGY STAR labeling program from building owners. It sets up a voluntary certification system for efficiency and commercial tenant spaces.

I see my colleague from New Hampshire Senator AYOTTE, who I think is going to speak to this provision in the bill.

I think it is important to remind people that what it does not do is provide financial incentives or create new regulations. It does not do that. It is a voluntary, market-based, business-friendly approach to encourage energy efficiency in commercial buildings. It also will establish a benchmarking and disclosure process for energy consumed in federally leased buildings, so we will all know how much energy is being consumed.

Third, it will require Federal agencies to implement strategies to increase the efficiency of data centers that are operated by the Federal Government—a huge user of energy.

Finally, it will remove a regulatory barrier to the manufacturer of large-scale water heaters. It is something Senator HOEVEN has been working on for a long time.

These four commonsense, targeted provisions are widely supported. As I said, they will grow our economy and help create jobs and demand for the American-made energy efficiency technologies. They will save businesses and families money on their energy bills, and they will cut pollution.

I am pleased to join Senator PORTMAN in this unanimous consent request, and I am disappointed that once again we are going to be prevented from moving forward with commonsense energy efficiency measures. I do hope that with the continued support on both sides of the aisle for energy efficiency, we will be able to come back before the end of this year and pass this measure.

Thank you very much.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from New Hampshire.

Ms. AYOTTE. Mr. President, first of all, I wish to thank my colleague from New Hampshire for her leadership on this important legislation, and I join her request, as well as the Senator from Ohio, Mr. PORTMAN's request for

unanimous consent on H.R. 2126 that passed the House overwhelmingly in March by a vote of 375 to 36. Why is that? Because this is commonsense, bipartisan legislation that creates jobs, increases energy efficiency, reduces the amount of energy we need to use, and less pollution—and think about our overall goals of making sure America remains safe, energy independent, and energy secure, and it does it all in a way that is market-based, in a way that you have seen overwhelming support from both the business community and the environmental community.

This House bill on which we are asking unanimous consent is a companion bill to the work done by Senators PORTMAN and SHAHEEN in the Energy Efficiency Improvement Act, of which I am proud to be a cosponsor. This is an area where I believe we can find strong common ground in this body—energy efficiency measures that are market based, that move us forward to use less energy and create American jobs.

Within this bill is a provision called the Better Buildings Act, which I was proud to introduce with Senator BENNET from Colorado, and this is commonsense, no-cost legislation that would help boost energy efficiency in commercial buildings through the design and construction of efficiency improvements in leased tenant spaces in commercial buildings. So one of the important pieces of this legislation that is contained in the Better Buildings Act actually brings the tenants into the discussion. It is voluntary. It creates a situation where we have tenants and owners working together to reduce energy costs, save us money, and create jobs.

So I am hopeful that this bill will be cleared, this legislation. If you look at the list of groups that are supporting this legislation, it is not often that these groups all come together, and it really speaks to the commonsense nature of this legislation, the importance of it.

I, again, want to thank my colleagues for their leadership, especially Senator SHAHEEN and Senator PORTMAN. I hope as a body we can get this done because this is just plain common sense.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Alaska.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I too want to join in the unanimous consent that has been raised by my colleagues Senator PORTMAN and Senator SHAHEEN on this very important bill. I have to say it feels a little bit like instead of calling it the energy efficiency bill, we need to call it the groundhog day bill because it just keeps coming back. It is a measure that, as my colleagues have mentioned, is so commonsense. When we think about ways that we can do more to be responsible stew-

ards of our energy resources and do more to reduce our costs, energy efficiency is just calling to us all.

What we have in front of us today is not the full-on energy efficiency bill that Senators SHAHEEN and PORTMAN have been working so diligently on for so many years now, but it is a slimmed-down version coming across from the House, a House-drafted, Republican-sponsored, cost neutral bill that passed that Chamber on suspension back in March, as was noted, by an overwhelming margin of 375 to 36. There are four major provisions in the bill, but none of these provisions are controversial. Probably the most important to us right now is the time-sensitive provision that provides regulatory relief for our rural electric co-ops. Under a consent decree from 2010, water heater manufacturers have until just mid-April—April 16—of this next year to meet revised minimum efficiency standards from the Department of Energy.

So you have got a situation where, in anticipation of this deadline, companies that make certain types of water heaters are already stopping their production. As a result, you are going to have co-ops that will effectively no longer have the ability to purchase them and use them in their systems. So they are coming to us and saying, "Help." We need to have some certainty here and now.

What we do in this measure—what the House does is simply exempt rural co-ops and creates a different, achievable standard for them. It is a compromise that has been forged by the co-ops, the industry, the Department of Energy. Senator HOEVEN has been leading on this and has been great. This is something that needs to be addressed and it needs to be addressed now rather than later.

The remaining provisions within this measure are all voluntary efficiency programs. One focuses on the efficiency of commercial office buildings, another provides greater information about energy usage in the buildings, and then the third looks at energy-efficient government technology and practices.

Again, none of these are controversial. None of them impose mandates, penalties, or taxes. CBO has deemed them to cost nothing. So there is only benefit. There is only an upside. So, again, we have seen the full-on energy efficiency measure before us now two separate times on this floor. We have reported that bill from the energy committee on a strong bipartisan basis.

We really should be moving to do right when it comes to energy efficiency. Senators SHAHEEN and PORTMAN have led that effort. The House has now acted. It is unfortunate that we will not be able to resolve this. But I am certainly committed to working with my colleagues in the new year to advance what, again, is just simple common sense.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from North Dakota.

Mr. HOEVEN. Mr. President, I would like to thank the Senator from Alaska for her leadership of our energy committee on this and many other important energy issues. I want to follow along with much of what she just covered and why it is important.

In this legislation, which is sponsored by Senator PORTMAN and Senator SHAHEEN, there are a number of energy efficiency measures. But the one she emphasized and the one which I want to emphasize is the water heater efficiency provision. This is a commonsense provision. It is very important for people in rural areas across the country.

The rural electric cooperatives have been very strong on working to get this legislation passed. They have gotten it passed in the House on behalf of all of those people out there in rural America where this can make a real difference in terms of quality of life, but at the same time save energy and save money. So it is one of those measures where everyone wins all the way around.

We have sponsored this in a number of different forms. We have not been able to move it through the Senate yet. We will, I am convinced, move it through next year. But as the good Senator from Alaska said, there are some timelines here that make it very important that we get the measure passed.

Essentially what we are dealing with is in 2010, the Department of Energy issued a rule on water heaters that will effectively ban the manufacture of large electric water heaters beginning in 2015—so next year—which could greatly affect consumers in rural areas and hurt the effectiveness of some of our demand-response rural programs.

Many of our rural areas are not serviced by natural gas, and geothermal water heaters can cost many thousands of dollars. So this is a practical win-win amendment that improves the efficiency of electric water heaters but still lets our rural areas have access to affordable, efficient water heaters that can supplement renewable energy.

Electric cooperatives and other utilities have voluntary demand-response programs that use electric water heaters to more effectively manage power supply and demand. In those areas where renewables are part of the electric generation system, those water heaters facilitate the integration of renewable energy that can be stored for use during peak hours, like wind and solar energy.

So this provision would allow the continued manufacture of large grid-enabled electric resistance water heaters only for use in electric thermal storage or demand-response programs, meaning you are using offpeak load. So

you are using lower cost energy, energy that otherwise would be lost. So, again, it really is a win for everybody involved.

This provision would require grid-enabled water heaters to have a volume of more than 75 gallons, be energy efficient, and work on grids that have a demand-response program. It is that simple. It is that straightforward. It is that commonsense.

But it affects a tremendous number of people across rural America, people in States such as Indiana, North Dakota, Ohio, across the country. I am convinced we are going to get this. The issue is when. We are facing this timeline, as I say, in 2015.

I will conclude with some of the organizations that support this legislation. I do not know of anyone opposing it. We have got a tremendous number of organizations that support it, including the Air Conditioning, Heating, and Refrigeration Institute, the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy, the American Public Power Association, Edison Electric Institute, the General Electric Company, National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the National Resource Defense Council, the Northwest Energy Alliance.

The bill saves money, it saves energy, it benefits the environment, it benefits consumers. Look, we need to get it passed. This bill on the floor easily gets more than enough to pass on a bipartisan basis with flying colors.

I would certainly yield the floor to our leader on this important issue, the good Senator from Ohio.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Ohio.

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, I thank my colleague from North Dakota. He has done a great job of talking about the importance of the overall bill, and then these four small provisions we are trying to do tonight. But specifically he made a great point about the importance of dealing with this water heater issue. He feels it every day, because in North Dakota he is hearing from his rural electric co-ops saying: This is crazy. Why would we not go ahead and pass this legislation?

In effect, what he just said was: We need to pass this legislation to be able to keep the Federal Government from imposing a regulation that makes no sense for anybody, whether you believe in energy efficiency or not. It makes no sense for anybody.

I am hopeful we can get this done. I know we had an objection earlier in the process this evening. I am hopeful we can convince the colleague from Oklahoma who objected that this is commonsense legislation that has to get passed.

We have heard from Senator SHAHEEN also, who has been the Democrat leader on this with me. We also heard from

the chairman of the energy committee come January, Senator MURKOWSKI, a Republican from Alaska. She is a strong supporter. We have heard from Senator AYOTTE, also a Republican from New Hampshire, who is an expert on energy efficiency as it relates to what is called Tenant Star and better building programs. This is one thing that we ought to be getting done here during this lameduck session of Congress. We are doing other things that I think could be improved, but this is one where it is so simple.

Just to be sure people understand what we are talking about tonight, these are four provisions that have all passed the Senate committees, have all passed the House committees—unanimously, by the way, these four provisions passed unanimously in the Republican House of Representatives. It has come to the floor twice here in the Senate.

For other reasons which had to do with process and not allowing amendments, the overall bill was objected to, but not these four provisions. Then these four provisions went to the House floor for a vote. They were passed overwhelmingly 375 to 36. This is the sort of legislation that has been fully vetted. Everybody knows what is in it. It is being supported across the spectrum. We could help people right away.

There is also an urgency here, because these manufacturers that are making these water heaters that the Department of Energy, under their regulations, wants to prohibit, those manufacturers are telling us the deadline is right now. Even though it is not until March-April that the regulations have a deadline, the manufacturers are already stopping production of these water heaters because it takes that long to get them manufactured and get them distributed out to those rural co-ops.

It is urgent that we do this now and not wait until January. If we do not, we are going to hurt a lot of consumers and we are going to hurt a lot of these rural electric co-ops, and again do something that makes no sense. You want to encourage these water heaters to be built, because these water heaters are part of a program where, because they are not used during peak times, called the demand-response program, they actually save energy. This is a good thing. I am hopeful that provision will be able to get through, along with the others.

This is a bill, again, that has already passed the House, unanimously out of committee, overwhelming vote on the floor. All we have to do tonight is say yes and it goes to the President for his signature. The administration has indicated they will sign it. It will then become law.

There are three other provisions we should also talk about. One is called the Tenant Star provision. It was

talked about a little bit earlier tonight. Let me be sure people understand what it is.

Some of you are aware of a program for appliances called ENERGY STAR. That is so you, as the consumer, can go into an appliance store and determine whether something meets the standard, the Good Housekeeping Seal for energy efficiency. When we bought a dryer recently, that was nice to be able to know whether it had the stamp of approval. Some people like energy-efficient appliances. Why? It saves you money. It is also good for the environment. So that is not a mandate. It is not a tax incentive. It is not a grant program. It contains no regulatory authority. There is nothing in it that requires any new spending. But it does give a boost and a powerful branding opportunity to commercial real estate owners to market their buildings to tenants, investors, and other key audiences. It says, just as the appliance Good Housekeeping Seal says, it says to a business owner: This tenant space is efficient. It meets the Tenant Star requirements. That is why this provision is so strongly supported by the commercial real estate industry, organizations such as the Real Estate Roundtable, the International Council of Shopping Centers.

By the way, the industry considers this provision as an important alternative to onerous regulations. They like this because this is voluntary. As consumers, we should all like it, because it is something that gives us more information to be able to make a good decision.

The third provision we are talking about tonight has to do with the Federal Government. Let me make this very clear. The Federal Government is the biggest user of energy in the world, and one of the most inefficient, unfortunately. So the Federal Government said: Everybody needs to be more focused on energy efficiency.

As I looked at this, we ought to get the Federal Government to practice what it preaches. That is what this provision does. It does it with regard to information technology. We hear constantly from outside groups that this is one area that is ripe for savings. In other words, there are lots of energy savings that could be accomplished in the energy area through information technology being used more efficiently.

We have had hearings on this, had testimony on this. We know this is an area where we can have a lot of savings. This would require the Federal Government, again, to coordinate with the Office of Management and Budget, with the Department of Energy, with EPA, to develop an implementation strategy that includes best practices, measurements, verification techniques for the maintenance of IT, the purchase of IT, the use of energy-efficient information technology.

There is so much more we can do here with regard to IT. We know that. That is why it passed the House unanimously in committee and overwhelmingly on the floor, because we know this is an area where the Federal Government—your tax dollars being spent can be much more efficient, good for the environment, good for taxpayers, less energy, and overall good for our energy policy in this country.

Finally, the fourth provision. Remember, four simple provisions have to do with an existing requirement that commercial buildings leased by the Federal Government have to disclose their energy usage. This modifies that provision. It says you have got to provide more information with regard to what the actual energy usage is in these buildings.

Again, the Federal Government—recall, largest energy user in the world—to make them more efficient with regard to their buildings makes all the sense in the world. These are commercial buildings leased by the Federal Government. So, again, this is not a mandate on the private sector. This does not cost anything. It does say that we need to modify the requirements of commercial buildings leased by the Federal Government to disclose their energy usage data.

This would help all of us. These are commonsense proposals. They are bipartisan. They are long overdue. They can go to the President after a vote tonight for his signature. They could become law.

I want to thank everyone who has been involved in this small bill, getting it to the floor, including Senator MURKOWSKI, whom we heard from earlier, who is the ranking member, soon to be Chair of the energy committee; also Senator LANDRIEU, the current Chair of that committee. Also Senator AYOTTE we heard from, Senator SHAHEEN, Senator HOEVEN, Senator BENNET were on the floor earlier to speak on this issue.

I want to thank the many industry groups, the businesses, the energy efficiency organizations out there that have helped us to craft legislation with such broad support.

The least expensive energy is energy we don't use. Yes, we should produce more energy. I am for that. We should also use the energy we have more efficiently. It helps create jobs. It helps make our country safer because it is a national security issue to make America energy independent.

It ensures that we will have a better environment, and it ensures that every dollar a small business or manufacturer is spending on energy is used most efficiently. It makes us more competitive in this global economy we find ourselves in. That leads to more jobs, higher wages, all the things we should be doing in this Congress.

I thank the Presiding Officer for listening tonight. I thank the American

people for listening, and I hope they will strongly support the legislation we are putting forward tonight and the broader bill that will come to the floor we hope after the first of the year, because after the first of the year we will have a chance to take up this issue, not only these four provisions if they aren't passed over the next couple of days but a broader bill that will be broadly supported by Republicans and Democrats alike that will help our country become more energy efficient.

I yield back the remainder of my time and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. WARREN). The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. WALSH. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. WALSH. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### TRIBUTES TO DEPARTING SENATORS

CARL LEVIN

Mr. LEAHY. Madam President, on first glance, one might not think that Michigan and Vermont share much in common. But to delve deeper is to see that both States have deep roots in their rural populations, strong agricultural bases, and stunning natural landscapes. Senator CARL LEVIN has represented the people of Michigan in the U.S. Senate since 1979. He is one of this Chamber's most senior Members and one of the longest serving Senators in history. He has cast more than 12,500 votes on behalf of his constituents.

Senator LEVIN has worked to ensure that the lakes of Michigan will be clean and safe for generations of Michigan residents to come. He has sponsored legislation to protect and restore the Great Lakes and their abundant wildlife habitats and secured millions to bring Michigan's lakes back to their natural pristine glory, and he has supported the Great Lakes Fishery Commission, which has supported the Great Lakes, Lake Champlain, and international waterways.

As chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, Senator LEVIN has been a powerful force in crafting our Nation's defense policy, particularly in the post-9/11 era. The battlefield has been vast, and his support of our troops has never wavered. He has consistently worked to ensure that the

brave men and women serving in uniform have the support they need to keep our Nation and our allies safe. He and I shared reservations about launching a war in Iraq, reservations that have proven sound.

I was particularly moved by Senator LEVIN's strong support—and steadfast leadership—in advancing the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd Jr. Hate Crime Prevention Act. That measure ultimately became law in 2009, in large part to Senator LEVIN's commitment to ensuring its inclusion in the National Defense Authorization Act. This Federal hate crimes law took years to achieve. At a time when it may have been easier to push a final vote down the road, Senator LEVIN worked with me to ensure that it was considered by the Senate and then upheld through a conference committee. This alone would be a remarkable achievement, but Senator LEVIN's Senate career boasts many achievements.

I have also been honored to work with Senator LEVIN to reaffirm our Nation's commitments to those citizens of the world who, persecuted, oppressed and stateless, look to our country for protection. He has been a voice on behalf of displaced Iraqis and Syrians, and a dependable cosponsor of my Refugee Protection Act.

From protecting America's waters to crafting America's actions abroad, Senator LEVIN has been a powerful and invaluable presence in the Senate. He heads now into retirement, where I know he and Barbara will enjoy spending time with their three wonderful daughters and beautiful grandchildren. Marcelle and I wish him and Barbara the very best in this new chapter. I will miss him.

TOM HARKIN

Madam President, Senator TOM HARKIN and I came to Washington in the same year—TOM, to the House of Representatives, and I, to the Senate. For nearly 40 years, he has represented Iowans with the even temper and strong commitment that has become a hallmark of his tenure.

Senator HARKIN has been a leading defender of rights for persons with disabilities, anchored by the landmark law he authored, the Americans with Disabilities Act. Inspired by the challenges faced by his own deaf brother, HARKIN led a crusade to enact this historic legislation, ensuring that individuals living with disabilities could not be discriminated against because of those disabilities. The ongoing effort to protect and support Americans—and people around the world—living with disabilities, has become a cornerstone of Senator HARKIN's career.

As chairman of the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions, HELP, Senator HARKIN has helped create a new model of health care, one focused on prevention and health rather than reaction and

sickness. He was one of the leaders in crafting the Affordable Care Act, giving millions of Americans better access to health care. He has continually fought for the missions of and the funding for the Centers for Disease Control, the National Institutes of Health, and the Food and Drug Administration.

I have worked with Senator HARKIN on a number of matters, from international human rights to critical funding for breast cancer research. Senator HARKIN and I have worked together in our shared commitment to America's farmers and farming, an industry that it so critical to both our States. Together we have worked to increase conservation funding, promote water quality, and protect the environment while supporting our family farmers.

TOM HARKIN is a lifelong Iowan. He and his wife Ruth have given decades in public service representing the people of Iowa. I want to congratulate him on an accomplished career and wish him, Ruth, their wonderful children and grandchild all the very best.

JAY ROCKEFELLER

Madam President, for nearly 30 years, West Virginians have elected JAY ROCKEFELLER to represent them in the U.S. Senate. When he retires in January, he will leave a record of tireless service on behalf of West Virginians and all Americans.

Senator ROCKEFELLER ranks among the champions of affordable health care. He coauthored the Child Health Insurance Program, CHIP, a program I have also been proud to support, which provides health care coverage to more than 6 million children each year, who would otherwise be uninsured. A former chair of the Veterans Affairs Committee, he authored legislation to improve care for our Nation's heroes. He was instrumental in the creation of a commission on long-term care to look for solutions to a lack of essential long-term medical support for millions of Americans. With Ted Kennedy, he led the charge for health care reform in the Senate in the 1990s. The list of achievements goes on.

For nearly 50 years, Senator ROCKEFELLER has served the people of West Virginia as a State representative, a secretary of state, a college president, a Governor, and, for the last 30 years, as a U.S. Senator. He is a dear and valued friend. I wish JAY and his wife Sharon the very best as he retires from the Senate.

TIM JOHNSON

Madam President, the senior Senator from South Dakota, TIM JOHNSON, is as fine a public servant as I have known. These are words I have used before about Senator JOHNSON. As he approaches his retirement from the Senate, they are as true now as ever before.

Senator JOHNSON embodies the traits of a dedicated public servant. He represents South Dakotans with every

fiber of his being. He is the great-grandson of a homesteader who settled in South Dakota when it was still a territory. And he has never lost sight of the interests of the constituents he has served in Congress for more than 25 years. Never one to rest on the job, he introduced more legislation in his freshman term than any of the almost 60 new Members of Congress that term.

Vermont and South Dakota share similar rural challenges, and in Senator JOHNSON, I have found a partner in such efforts as protecting rural schools and giving them a voice in national competitions like Race to the Top. He and I share a strong commitment to supporting small family farms, an effort he has been recognized for by the National Farmers Union and others. Through the Appropriations Committee, Senator JOHNSON has been a stalwart defender of our Nation's veterans, and through his chairmanship of the banking committee, he has fought for middle-class families with steadfast diligence.

Senator JOHNSON has faced no shortage of challenges in his life. But with his wife Barbara by his side, he has met all of these challenges with determination and with grace, and he remains a fierce defender of South Dakota and a friend. As he retires from the Senate, I wish him, Barbara, his children and grandchildren and his entire family all of our best wishes.

MARY LANDRIEU

Madam President, for nearly 20 years, Louisianans have had no greater advocate, and no stronger voice, than that of MARY LANDRIEU. She has been a crusader for her State, and even today continues to fight to build on Louisiana's recovery from the devastating storms of 2005 that wreaked havoc across Louisiana and throughout the city of New Orleans.

It was in 2005 that Hurricanes Katrina and Rita ravaged the gulf coast, devastating New Orleans. Then in 2010 the Deepwater Horizon oil spill sent millions of barrels of oil into the gulf, coating Louisiana's beaches and wildlife. During these terrible times Louisiana could have had no better advocate than Senator LANDRIEU. After Katrina, Senator LANDRIEU secured more than \$120 billion in recovery money to help restore New Orleans and Louisiana's coast. After the Deepwater Horizon spill, Senator LANDRIEU worked tirelessly with both Democratic and Republican colleagues to move the RESTORE the Gulf Coast Act through the Senate. Her leadership secured essential reparations from British Petroleum to restore the battered gulf coast.

In 2009, Senator LANDRIEU and former Senator Olympia Snowe made history as the first two female lawmakers to lead a full congressional committee—the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship—as chair and ranking member. Senator LANDRIEU is also

the first female Senator to chair the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee.

She has been an active member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, and I have appreciated her willingness to work with me on so many issues in her capacity as the chair of the Homeland Security Subcommittee. When Vermont was devastated by Hurricane Irene, Senator LANDRIEU was a key ally in helping me secure needed resources to help rebuild roads, bridges, businesses, and communities in Vermont. I thank her for that, Vermonters thank her, and I will never forget her invaluable work and support.

Louisiana has been well represented by Senator LANDRIEU. She has been a steadfast and stalwart defender of her State's priorities and needs. I wish her, her husband Frank, and their entire family the very best.

MARK PRYOR

Madam President, since 2002, Senator MARK PRYOR has been a dedicated representative in the U.S. Senate for the people of Arkansas. Throughout his career he has carried on a strong family tradition of service. I worked alongside his father, Senator David Pryor, for nearly 20 years. Both father and son are two of the finest public servants I have known. Their conscientiousness and their decency are but two of the many distinguishing features of their work in this body.

Throughout his tenure here, MARK PRYOR has been a fierce defender of and advocate for rural communities, a commitment both he and I share. He has promoted expansion of rural broadband infrastructure to ensure that families, farmers, businesses, and students in even the most rural communities in Arkansas, in Vermont, and across the Nation have access to the World Wide Web. As the chairman of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Agriculture, he has been a partner of mine in working to ensure that farms small and large have the resources and support to maintain and contribute to the rich agricultural history of the Nation. We have also worked together to advance key conservation programs to help protect farmlands across the country.

I have also greatly admired Senator PRYOR's commitment to the National Guard. As cochair of the Senate National Guard caucus I have seen how active and effective he has been as a caucus member and as a valued ally in our bipartisan efforts to protect, defend, and bolster resources for the men and women of the National Guard.

In the day-to-day work of the Senate, I will miss Senator PRYOR's insight, his evenhandedness, and his friendship. He has been a passionate voice in the Senate for the people of Arkansas. I wish him and the entire Pryor family all best wishes in the years ahead.

MARK UDALL

Madam President, for nearly 20 years in Congress, MARK UDALL has represented the people of Colorado with commitment and courage. He is a dedicated public servant, whose drive and responsibility to the people of Colorado will not wane with his retirement.

An experienced mountaineer and proud environmentalist, Senator UDALL has spent weekends exploring and enjoying the great outdoors, and his weekdays protecting them. He has authored legislation to create wildlife refuges and preserve wilderness in Colorado. He is also a leader in renewable energy, helping his home State adopt a renewable electricity standard and working to bring a similar innovation to the national stage.

Senator UDALL has worked hard to bridge the partisan divide during a period of unprecedented polarization. Many of the bills he has authored have enjoyed wide bipartisan support, including proposals to reauthorize NASA and to protect public lands. He was one of the Senate's newest Members when he successfully called on Republicans and Democrats to sit together in a show of national unity at the 2011 State of the Union, following the tragic shootings in Tucson, AZ.

Senator UDALL has been a tireless advocate for the protection of civil liberties. His work on the Senate Intelligence Committee has been focused on protecting the privacy and civil liberties of all Americans, a commitment that I strongly share. His departure will be a loss to the work of the Intelligence Committee.

MARK UDALL comes from a family with an uncommon history of public service. Though Senator UDALL is retiring from the Senate, I know this service will continue. I wish him, his wife Maggie, their children and their entire family all best wishes as they begin their next chapter.

KAY HAGAN

Madam President, back when I was in law school, I tried to get an internship here on Capitol Hill, with no luck. Senator KAY HAGAN has a different story. She first walked these Halls as an intern in the 1970s.

Her tenure here in the Senate has been too short, but she has represented her constituents in North Carolina with vigor and dedication. She has been a tireless advocate for women and children and was a key ally in my efforts to reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act in 2013. I have long felt that she has placed conscience above politics. She has shown a willingness to take tough votes on difficult issues, from LGBT rights to gun safety.

Senator HAGAN comes from a strong military family. North Carolina has one of the highest per capita enlistment rates in the country, and Senator HAGAN has understood that behind every officer, behind every enlisted

member of the military, is a family that needs our appreciation and support. She was an active partner in our efforts to strengthen the National Guard, and she authored such important legislative initiatives as the Hire a Hero Act.

After decades of public service, I know that North Carolina can expect more service from Senator HAGAN. I wish her, her husband Chip and their wonderful daughters the best.

MARK BEGICH

Madam President, Senator MARK BEGICH comes from a long line of public servants. In his 6 years in the U.S. Senate, he has been a strong advocate for the people of Alaska. Senator BEGICH has worked tirelessly to promote Alaska's economy and business. During his Senate tenure, he has been a partner on such issues as voter protection, the USA PATRIOT Act and FISA reform, and empowering the National Guard.

Alaska has more veterans per capita than any other State. As a member of the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Senator BEGICH has fought to improve veterans access to care, increase funding for the VA, and for research to better understand mental illnesses such as post-traumatic stress disorder, PTSD, and traumatic brain injury, TBI. These are priorities I share as well. He has also worked through the commerce committee to ensure that Alaska's many fisheries and their booming industry remain sustainable. His commitment to his constituents similarly extended to his work on the Senate Indian Affairs Committee, where he fought to protect native voters from discrimination and to ensure that laws reflect and respect their needs and traditions.

I have appreciated the opportunity to work with Senator BEGICH on some of the unique challenges that face rural states like Vermont and Alaska. Senator BEGICH has consistently worked to improve rural schools through legislation such as his Investing in Innovation for Education Act, which I was pleased to cosponsor and which would have given 25 percent of its grants to rural schools. Senator BEGICH has supported legislation to facilitate rural Alaskans' access to quality health care. And he has supported measures to address the high heating costs facing our northern constituents.

He is a man with an unfailing optimistic outlook on life. I wish Senator BEGICH, his wife Deborah, their young son Jacob, and his entire family best wishes.

JOHN WALSH

Madam President, Senator JOHN WALSH has served but a brief time in the Senate, but he came to this body with a long history of public service. A decorated veteran, he enlisted in the Montana National Guard in 1979, and he rose through the ranks, ultimately being selected as Montana's adjutant



general. He is the first veteran of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars to serve as a Senator, and during his tour of duty, he earned the Bronze Star, the Legion of Merit, and the combat infantry badge.

As a Senator, JOHN WALSH has been a strong advocate of mental health care for veterans, preserving native languages, and bringing outsourced jobs back to the United States. As cochair of the Senate National Guard Caucus, I recognize and greatly appreciate his deep understanding and strong support for the Guard, its needs, and its future.

I wish him, his wife Janet, and their children and grandchild all the best in the next chapter of their lives.

SAXBY CHAMBLISS

Madam President, in Senator SAXBY CHAMBLISS, Georgians have had a diligent voice in Congress for nearly 20 years. We may not always agree, but I have appreciated his willingness to cross the aisle on such important issues as budget priorities and agriculture policy.

Senator CHAMBLISS is the former chairman and ranking member of the Senate agriculture committee. In his time in Congress, Senator CHAMBLISS has participated in enactment of four bipartisan omnibus agriculture bills, the most recent of which is the 2014 farm bill. He played an important role in reforming the Crop Insurance Program and has been an advocate for supporting the Nation's agricultural sector. I have particularly appreciated his support for critical conservation and forestry programs.

Senator CHAMBLISS was recognized as a key legislator in the 2011 discussions surrounding deficit reduction. He has been an active member of the Senate Armed Services Committee and a strong supporter of the National Guard. Through his tenure, he has been a steadfast representative for the people of Georgia, and one prominent publication in the State gave him the title "Georgian of the Year" in 2009.

Senator CHAMBLISS will retire at the end of this Congress, and I wish him, his wife Julianne, their children, and grandchild all the very best.

TOM COBURN

Madam President, while several Members of this Senate class will be retiring this year at the end of their terms, another Senator will also be taking his leave of this Chamber, in the midst of his current term. For a decade, Senator TOM COBURN has represented his constituents in Oklahoma with steadfast dedication and perseverance. He and I have not always agreed, but I have always respected and admired his commitment to his principles.

Senator COBURN has built a record and reputation as a fiscal hawk, reminiscent in some ways of the role that the late Senator Howard Metzenbaum of Ohio assumed for many years in the

Senate. Senator COBURN can be a tough bargainer, and sometimes he has chosen not to seek or accept compromise at all. But he also has shown the ability to work across the aisle, whether on reducing government spending or promoting transparency in government. In the first Congress in which he served in the Senate, he partnered with then-Senator Barack Obama and others to author the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act, which established a public, online database detailing Federal spending. For many years he served as an active member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, where we worked together on such policy issues as patent reform, copyright protections, and support for law enforcement.

Senator COBURN is a longtime public servant for the State of Oklahoma. Members retire from Congress for a host of reasons, and I know Senator COBURN's retirement has been hastened. He has left his mark on this institution, and I wish him, his wife Carolyn, their three daughters and their grandchildren good health and all the best in TOM COBURN's retirement from the Senate.

MIKE JOHANNIS

Madam President, it is not uncommon for Senators to leave this Chamber to serve in Cabinet positions. Senator MIKE JOHANNIS, however, brought that executive branch experience with him when he was elected by the people of Nebraska to represent them in the Senate. A former mayor, Governor, and U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, Senator JOHANNIS has served at every level of government.

While we have often supported competing proposals, we have found important and meaningful places to work together. Senator JOHANNIS joined me in coauthoring legislation to improve the Food for Peace program, helping to feed an additional 200,000 people in dire need. Serving on the agriculture committee together, we are both committed to farming, family farming, and supporting our Nation's agriculture sectors and the people and communities that are part and parcel of farming and food production in America. Senator JOHANNIS has also been an important advocate for veterans, working on programs to help returning soldiers find civilian employment.

I wish Senator JOHANNIS, his wife Stephanie, and their family the very best in this next chapter of their lives.

#### MURTHY NOMINATION

Mr. BROWN. Madam President, I wish to congratulate Dr. Vivek H. Murthy on his confirmation as the 19th Surgeon General of the United States.

Earlier today, the U.S. Senate held a series of votes in order to confirm Dr. Vivek H. Murthy as Surgeon General of the United States. The first vote was

held to invoke cloture on his nomination, the second to confirm. Dr. Murthy was successfully confirmed by a vote of 51–43.

My flight from Cleveland to Washington, DC was delayed causing me to miss both votes. Had I been present, I would have voted to support Mr. Murthy's nomination.

President Obama nominated Dr. Murthy for this position last November. Dr. Murthy's extensive experience as an entrepreneur, health professional, and public health advocate make him an exceptionally well qualified candidate for Surgeon General. Although I was unable to make it to DC in time to vote to help confirm Dr. Murthy, I would have voted to support his confirmation.

Dr. Vivek H. Murthy will be an exemplary Surgeon General, and it is for this reason that I wrote to President Obama asking that he nominate Dr. Murthy for this position. His long record of innovative business leadership and unwavering belief in a more inclusive health care system advance our Nation's public health agenda.

I look forward to working with Dr. Murthy in his role as Surgeon General.

#### VOTE EXPLANATION

● Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, due to previous commitments in Florida today, I was unable to cast the following four votes:

Motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Dr. Vivek Hallegere Murthy to be U.S. Surgeon General, as well as a final vote to confirm him. On both occasions, I would have voted no. I oppose Dr. Murthy's nomination because he has never served in the uniformed services, and one of the primary duties of the Surgeon General is to command the entire Commissioned Corps of uniformed public health officers. I am opposed to his advocacy efforts to weaken the constitutional rights of law-abiding Americans as enshrined in the 2nd Amendment to the Constitution;

Motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Daniel Santos to be a Member of the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board. I would have voted no; and

Motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Frank A. Rose to be an Assistant Secretary of State. I would have voted no.●

#### OMNIBUS APPROPRIATIONS BILL

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, I wish to clarify my understanding of the following report language included with H.R. 83, the Omnibus Appropriations Act:

*The Secretary is directed to operate the marketing assistance loan program in a way that encourages redemption and minimizes forfeitures of loan commodities to the Federal government, and enables the orderly marketing of loan*



*commodities throughout the year. Further, the Secretary shall ensure that the marketing assistance loan program remains a viable tool for all producers to use in marketing loan commodities freely and competitively.*

The Senate Agriculture Committee has confirmed this language simply intends to encourage USDA to better inform farmers of the status of any marketing loan gains they may receive during a marketing year for eligible commodities.

Furthermore, it was also conveyed by minority staff of the Senate Agriculture Committee that the referenced language in no way seeks to change implementation or enforcement of Section 1603 of the Agricultural Act of 2014.

• Mr. WYDEN. Madam President, I wish to thank Chair MIKULSKI for her tireless work in keeping our government open for another year. I understand Chair MIKULSKI and Ranking Member SHELBY have worked hard on this bill.

In the big picture, this bill continues to honor our commitment to our veterans by allowing advance funding for Veterans Administration accounts so they are locked in a year in advance, ending uncertainty. This bill also provides desperately needed funds to respond to and prepare for Ebola at its epicenter. This bill keeps faith with the American people who dream of a better life by increasing Pell Grants and making college more affordable. It creates jobs by strengthening our infrastructure, building roads and bridges, to keep the economy moving, and helps develop our economy by investing in research in agriculture, health, and geosciences, among other areas.

I am glad that the Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program was fully funded at \$40 million. The program is one of the successes in collaboration and forest management and deserves strong support. The Land and Water Conservation Fund—LWCF—also received sustained funding at the same level as last year. Although this is only one-third of the total authorized for LWCF, I am pleased that the program received consistent funding and I remain hopeful that we will fully fund this program in the future. I am also glad that the National Park Service received \$10 million for the Centennial Challenge. As the National Park Service moves into celebrating its centennial, it is so important that our parks receive the care and attention they need.

However, I also have to voice my disappointment over a number of provisions included in H.R. 83, as well as several provisions that were blocked from inclusion in H.R. 83. Keeping the government running is imperative but it should not come at the cost of stripping the rights of voters, further chipping away at what is left of our eroding

campaign finance laws, and rolling back Dodd-Frank protections meant to reduce taxpayer risk from “too-big-to-fail” entities, just to name a few of the objectionable provisions in this bill.

One such provision greatly expands donations to the Republican and Democratic parties by allowing a tenfold increase in the maximum amount that donors may contribute to their political party’s various national committees in one election cycle. The donation amounts skyrocket from \$32,400 to \$324,000 per year and ultimately up to a total contribution of \$1.5 million to a party per each 2-year election cycle. At a time when more and more Americans are convinced our political system is rigged toward the rich, this provision only confirms that view.

This bill also contains a provision that will put taxpayers back on the hook for big banks by rolling back the regulatory protections that Congress put into place in response to the financial crisis that devastated our economy in 2008. With the Dodd-Frank Act, Congress sought to ensure that high-stakes gambling on Wall Street by reckless risk takers would not threaten the livelihood of the American taxpayer. As part of this effort, Dodd-Frank included a provision known as the “swaps push out” which requires Federally insured banks to separate out their riskiest activities into subsidiaries. This way, the risky trading activities that contributed to the meltdown would be separated from the insured banking entity and ensure that banks—not taxpayers—would be responsible if risky trades fail. Today, this spending bill repeals that provision and once again potentially leaves the taxpayer on the hook for Wall Street gambling gone wrong.

I am particularly dismayed that last-minute partisan maneuvering has left America’s rural counties in the dust. Two funds that are lifelines for cash-strapped rural counties and school districts struggling to fund basic education, road improvements, law enforcement, and other public services were hurt by this bill. First, House Republican Leadership blocked repeated efforts to include the Secure Rural Schools—SRS—funding program, though it came with offset funding. Instead, they split it from the Payment in Lieu of Taxes program—PILT—funded PILT, and left SRS behind. This is a problem for two distinct reasons. First, PILT is a laudable program for rural counties around the country who host our public lands. But so is SRS, which funds education, roads and critical services in more than 700 counties across the country, and these counties will now be forced to lay off teachers, close libraries and jails, and lay off sheriffs. Second, PILT’s formula is connected with SRS funding levels, in fact, and while this bill includes funding for PILT, in the absence of Secure Rural

Schools, the funding level for PILT provided in this bill actually reduces PILT payments as compared to last year. We have seen this movie before and it never ends well—a last-minute scheme worked out largely in private to solve a complex problem without the full and public consideration of Congress—leads to mistakes. This is one of those mistakes that will reverberate across rural America. I am disappointed this mistake was not averted simply by providing SRS funding.

Speaking of hampering rural America, there is another provision missing that would help the rural West and one missing that would help the rural West were it included. This package fails to include the Wildfire Disaster Funding Act—a bill I introduced with my colleague Senator CRAPO and 17 additional bipartisan cosponsors, and which was also a strong bipartisan measure in the House. This legislation would have solved the problem of paying for the ever-increasing costs of fighting wildland fires without decimating the agencies’ core budgets, where they get the money to pay for their essential work—including the forest restoration work that can help us get ahead of these infernos. Our commonsense solution would have paid for these natural disasters like other natural disasters are paid for, instead of cannibalizing the agencies’ budgets.

In addition, this bill interferes with the work that private landowners are doing for sage grouse restoration. This bill blocks the administration from complying with its Endangered Species Act obligations—and its deadline in a court-approved settlement agreement—by barring any funds from being used in efforts to list the sage-grouse under the Endangered Species Act. Now, while I join my colleagues and others in wanting to see a listing avoided, this kind of blunt force prohibition of compliance with legal obligations—one that sends the message that these obligations can be ignored when they are deemed inconvenient—is very disturbing. In my State, and across the West, numerous parties have come together to try to tackle the threats to this species, which is just an indicator of threats to an entire ecosystem. I commend these great efforts by ranchers, conservationists, Governors and others who have come to the table, signed agreements, and worked hard on the ground to protect the landscape and avoid a sage-grouse listing. Those efforts are the right way to avoid a listing, not through dangerous riders as we see in this bill. It is my hope the administration will continue to work to manage and improve sage-grouse habitat to avoid undermining those efforts.

On a global scale, this legislation would reverse a policy that takes a step toward saving our global climate. The United States has made tremendous and continued progress to reduce

its greenhouse gas emissions as well as transition our electricity sector to cleaner energy sources. That progress gets undermined if other nations continue to grow their economies based upon high-carbon emitting electricity sources such as coal, without also putting in place the technologies to clean it up, capture, and store the emissions from those powerplants. It only makes sense then that the United States currently has in place a policy that it will not use its funds, through the Export-Import Bank and through the Overseas Private Investment Corporation to build power sources overseas that are dirtier than are allowed here at home, and that will continue polluting the atmosphere for many decades. A rider carried by this legislation up-ends that agreement.

This bill is flexible in its approaches to environmental degradation—it easily transitions from the global, as discussed above, to the very local: this legislation bans the Department of Energy—DOE—from implementing or enforcing light bulb efficiency standards. No environmental improvement is too small or too commonsensical to not attract an opponent.

This legislation hampers progress by taking aim at particular agencies: it takes aim at environmental protection by going directly after the Environmental Protection Agency. At a time when climate change is already hurting Americans and holding back the United States economy, the omnibus takes aim at the only agency with the authority to regulate greenhouse gas emissions, slashing its budget to levels not seen since 1989.

And this bill takes aim at the Internal Revenue Service by cutting their budget by another \$400 million. That's the lowest level since 2008. Now, I get it. Some people might think that is a good thing: who wants to fund the tax collector? Except that the IRS is responsible for more than just cashing checks; it also has to make sure that tax fraud is under control, that Americans get their tax refunds in a timely way, and that taxpayers can get their questions about their taxes answered, again, in a timely way. All of that is hobbled by an insufficient budget.

In addition, it is hard to pick up a newspaper or turn on the news these days without finding a story about ever more aggressive efforts to dodge taxes. The average American does not cheat on her taxes, but for those who do, the IRS needs the resources to catch them. Otherwise, every honest, hard-working American ends up on the hook for more. By continuing to cut the IRS budget, I am afraid Congress is sending a message that tax enforcement is not so important. It communicates an unfortunate signal that fighting tax cheating is not a priority, and enforcement is not a priority. Ultimately, that is a problem for every American taxpayer.

Congress also continues to cut funding to the IRS while adding more duties to the agency, including in this spending bill. Next year is already a busy year for the IRS. In addition to administering the filing season and combating identity theft and fraud, the IRS will also be implementing the late-passed extenders bill, the Foreign Accounts Tax Compliance Act, and the health premium tax credits.

But that is not all. Congress is cutting the funding, but telling the IRS to use the funding to improve the 1-800 help line service and allocate resources to improve response time. Why? Because maintaining an acceptable level of service for the American taxpayer has been strained substantially due to previous budget cuts.

Congress is asking the IRS to do all these things while cutting funding. Congress is telling the IRS to do more, but with much, much less.

I have long been an ardent proponent of tax reform. We have a broken tax code in desperate need of fixing. Why does that matter in this context? I will tell you why. If Congress finally succeeds in meaningfully reforming our antiquated tax code, implementing those changes will require a substantial investment in the IRS. Will Congress have the same attitude toward funding the IRS when it is charged with the implementation of a reformed and modern tax code? I wonder, and I worry.

On the defense side, there is no doubt that this omnibus bill includes funding for important national security priorities. However, it also contains billions in wasteful and unnecessary military spending—like nearly \$500 million to buy more F-35 Joint Strike Fighters than the Pentagon requested. The bill also contains more than \$8 billion for nuclear weapons activities, which is nearly \$390 million more than the President requested. During the Reagan years, we spent about \$8 billion annually to develop, test, produce and maintain more than 20,000 nuclear warheads. Today we spend that same \$8 billion on fewer than 5,000 warheads. What is wrong with this picture?

This bill also handicaps efforts to invest in infrastructure and keep our Nation competitive. Buried in the pages of this bill is a \$100 million cut to the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery, or TIGER, grant program. Since Congress created this program in the 2009 Recovery Act, the competitive grants have played a critical role in funding road, rail, port and transit projects across the country. Cutting this program makes absolutely no sense when Congress is struggling to shore up the Highway Trust Fund and meet infrastructure needs in Oregon and across the country.

And I would be remiss if I didn't highlight my disappointment with the multiemployer pension provisions.

These reforms were rushed through by a few House Members in private during the final days of the legislative year without consideration by the Senate Finance Committee and other committees of jurisdiction. That flawed process has produced a lopsided solution leaving existing retirees to shoulder a disproportionate share of sacrifice. It also will result in the rolling back of a major tenet enshrined in pension law—never take away money a pensioner has already earned. Under this bill, for the first time, Congress will allow multiemployer plans to cut retirees' earned pension benefits. This is unprecedented and I worry about the impact on retirees and the slippery slope we are about to head down.

No matter what one thinks about the underlying policy, legislation this complex and controversial requires thorough review and analysis. That hasn't happened here. In fact, no one in the Senate, including the committees of jurisdiction, had the opportunity to fully review these provisions. Even a single, small, unintentional misstep in the rush to legislate could have serious and negative consequences to retirees and businesses alike. I am working hard to protect retirees' pensions, and jamming these reforms through Congress virtually sight unseen is no way to solve the problems with multiemployer pensions.

As a conglomerate, these provisions tip the balance of this fine bill to one that I cannot support and with that I regretfully voted against its final passage.●

Mr. REED. Madam President, I wish to explain my opposition to the Fiscal Year 2015 Omnibus Appropriations bill.

For months, I worked hard alongside Chairwoman BARBARA MIKULSKI, Ranking Member RICHARD SHELBY, and our colleagues on the Senate Appropriations Committee to craft a bipartisan agreement, which fit within stringent spending limits, to fund the government and strengthen our economy.

Regrettably, the last minute addition of an unrelated bill on multiemployer pension plans tilted the balance away from a bill that reflects a tough bipartisan compromise to a bill that, hastily and without thorough review, makes fundamental changes to numerous private retirement plans. Moreover, another provision of the bill seeks to undo a portion of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act that would force large banks to separate the riskiest derivatives trades away from subsidiaries that benefit from federal deposit insurance.

Because of the inclusion of these provisions, I am unable to vote for the omnibus. It is a shame, because there is otherwise much good here.

This compromise bill includes federal funds, which I advocated for, to boost economic and community development and environmental restoration projects

in Rhode Island, as well as key education, manufacturing, workforce training, health care, nutrition, energy efficiency, transportation, and defense initiatives.

I thank Chairwoman MIKULSKI for her boundless energy and ceaseless efforts in putting a bill together with these kinds of investments.

As chairman of the Senate Interior Appropriations Subcommittee, I am proud of what we were able to accomplish. I particularly commend Senator LISA MURKOWSKI for being an outstanding partner, as well as her clerk, Leif Fennesbeck, and her subcommittee staff, Brent Wiles, and Emy Lesofski. I also thank the majority staff: Rachael Taylor, Virginia James, Ryan Hunt, and Rita Culp for their work and guidance during my tenure as chairman.

I especially wish to recognize Virginia James, who is retiring this January after a distinguished 27-year Senate career. Ginny has served as a trusted adviser on tribal health, science, and arts and cultural issues to both Democrats and Republicans, stretching back to her days serving as an aide to former Appropriations Committee Chairman Mark O. Hatfield. There are many Federal agencies—from the Smithsonian and the National Gallery of Art to the U.S. Geological Survey and the Indian Health Service—that owe Ginny a debt of gratitude for her work, as does the Senate. She will be missed for both her skill and her humor.

Because of the bipartisan efforts of the staff and members of our Subcommittee, the Interior Appropriations bill included in this omnibus legislation has \$2.356 billion for the Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Funds, which is \$581 million above the fiscal year 2015 budget request. This funding will help states and localities make important infrastructure investments, create jobs here in the U.S., and improve environmental quality.

While I am disappointed that the House insisted on the inclusion of a few controversial policy riders, I'm pleased that we were able to eliminate many of the most damaging legislative provisions that those on the other side of the aisle were demanding. These provisions would have impacted the ability of agencies under the Subcommittee's jurisdiction to do their jobs to protect the public and the environment, including their ability to address climate change.

I am dismayed, however, that the House refused to accept the Senate's language that would have allowed for a more rational way to account and pay for emergency wildfire suppression. Every member of the House Interior Appropriations Subcommittee had cosponsored nearly identical legislation and the House Committee report ex-

pressed support for this change. Yet the House refused to adopt it in this agreement. I believe my colleagues in the West may regret not taking the opportunity when they had the chance.

I am also disappointed that my colleagues in the House could not agree, at long last, that it is time for oil and gas companies to pay a share of the costs of inspecting their on-shore drilling operations.

There are other aspects of the omnibus that are troubling.

As the long time champion of the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), along with Senator SUSAN COLLINS, I regret seeing the program cut by \$34 million. Although significantly higher than the President's request, the reduction comes after years of cuts or stagnant appropriations. Meanwhile, the number of households eligible for LIHEAP assistance continues to exceed available funds and those receiving assistance have seen their grants decrease. I hope we can do better in the future.

While the bill includes important investments in surface transportation and aviation systems, I think we should be doing more, given the benefits to our economy. I am especially disappointed that the TIGER grant program, which has helped advance a number of critical transportation projects in Rhode Island, has been cut by \$100 million from a year ago.

I am also troubled by language that would set aside the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's Hours of Service regulation in order to have further study of the rule, which has been in effect for nearly 1½ years. While I welcome additional studies on driver safety, I don't think it is appropriate to simply set aside a rule that has been the subject of more than a decade of work and legal review. What concerns me most is that it could force truck drivers, who have one of the most grueling jobs in the country, to work longer hours, potentially increasing fatigue and putting more people at risk on our roadways.

The bill also hobbles the Department of Homeland Security, providing only enough funding to keep it running until February 27 of next year. This is the response by my colleagues on the other side of the aisle to the actions the President has taken with respect to immigration. Due to this intransigence, some initiatives to secure the border cannot be funded nor can measures to address the humanitarian crisis of children crossing our Southwest border or security weaknesses at the White House.

Even if these faults could be overlooked because of the many positive provisions in the bill, it is, for me, irreparably damaged by two controversial riders that have nothing to do with funding the government.

The bill would repeal section 716 of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform

Act. Section 716 prevents bank subsidiaries that are covered by federal deposit insurance or that take advantage of Federal Reserve lending programs from engaging in the riskiest derivatives trades. In essence, the riskiest derivatives trades would be pushed out from these subsidiaries in an effort to reduce systemic risk and provide greater assurances that Wall Street gambles would not be subsidized by taxpayers.

Whether you are in favor of preserving or repealing section 716, everyone should understand by now that the last thing Congress should be doing is passing incredibly complex and consequential derivatives legislation with little deliberation as part of an omnibus appropriations bill.

Serious concerns have been raised about repealing Section 716. Some have pointed out that the riskiest derivatives are so volatile that it will be impossible to charge the proper deposit insurance premium to account for the additional risk that the most unpredictable swaps will bring to FDIC insured banking subsidiaries. In other words, the potential losses could far exceed the amounts that have been reserved for contingencies. This should be concerning to all of my colleagues, especially in light of the 2008 financial crisis.

It is clear that big Wall Street banks have more than had their say. I merely ask that taxpayers be given an equal opportunity to have their say before they are asked yet again, perhaps years from now, to bail out Wall Street for their excesses.

The deep irony is that when my colleagues and I transparently fight for foreclosure prevention for Americans who were harmed by the recklessness of big banks and financial institutions, we are told that it was our constituents who were reckless and that we shouldn't be encouraging moral hazard. By repealing a section that seeks to establish a prohibition against federal government bailouts of swaps entities, some of my colleagues are revealing their view that our largest banks should be held to a significantly lesser standard than distressed American homeowners. They seem to believe that when it comes to the potentially reckless choices of banks, they can continue to wreak havoc in our financial markets—and if their bets fail spectacularly, taxpayers will be there to clean up their mess. This shouldn't be the case.

If Members want to debate and vote on this issue in the open, I welcome the opportunity, but to avoid the debate by tucking this provision in a 1,600 page funding bill is a disservice to the seriousness of the issue. I am disheartened that despite what past experience has shown us, we are rushing towards what could be another grave mistake.

While much attention has been paid to the repeal of section 716 and other

controversial pieces of this legislation, I am even more troubled by the last-minute addition of a bill that would make major changes to the multiemployer pension system.

The multiemployer pension program, guaranteed by the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC), is in financial distress. Just 1 month ago, the PBGC's annual report raised a number of concerns about the increasing deficits of the multiemployer pension program. Alarming, the report predicted a high likelihood of many plans failing over the next decade, which would jeopardize the PBGC's ability to ensure retirees even a minimum guarantee on their pensions. We must take action to ensure that middle-income employees and retirees do not have the rug cut out from under them and lose retirement benefits.

We should have a thoughtful, open debate about how we ensure that middle-income employees and retirees receive the pension benefits they have earned so they are able to enjoy a secure retirement. We need a solution that honors these retirees' lifelong work.

Regrettably, this legislation—for the first time—opens the door to cutting pension benefits for current retirees. It would renege on the commitments made to middle-income families across the country. Hamstrung by budget constraints over the last few years, we have not done as much as I would have liked to protect programs that provide much needed support to hard-working families. My efforts to extend unemployment insurance, which benefits a broad cross-section of Americans, have been rebuffed by House Republicans time after time this year. And now even hard earned pension benefits are not safe.

The financial stability of multiemployer plans is a serious challenge that Congress will have to confront. However, we must consider a range of options before we move to dismantle the longstanding protections afforded to employees and their families by the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA). One of the most important aspects of this law stipulates that benefits for troubled multiemployer pension plans must be paid out first with remaining assets. The legislation we are considering flies in the face of that commitment by allowing benefit cuts to be the first option for restoring solvency to these plans.

Any solution is going to require tough compromises from everyone, but all stakeholders should have the opportunity to participate in crafting a solution instead of having it developed in secret and rammed through as part of a must-pass spending bill. This is the sort of action that infuriates the people we represent. But more important than process, this bill will have an effect on people's lives for years to come

and gives further cause for Americans to think that their government doesn't have their back or care about their economic security. We shouldn't approach it so frivolously. We need to make sure the policy is right.

Given the outstanding efforts of Chairwoman MIKULSKI and my colleagues on the Appropriations Committee it is difficult for me to say this, but because of the reasons I have explained, I voted no on this bill.

Ms. BALDWIN. Madam President, this is not the time for another government shutdown. The American people have had enough of Washington's dysfunction. They want us to do our job and work together to get the job done. Since the Budget Committee, on which I serve, crafted a bipartisan agreement that ended last year's government shutdown and paved the way for a cease-fire on recent budget wars, the economy has gained an average of 240,000 jobs per month. In Wisconsin, our economy continues to lag behind, so we need to build on this progress and strengthen the economic security of families and businesses that are working hard to move our economy forward.

This bipartisan appropriations bill will help do that by increasing the Child Care and Development Block Grant funding by \$75 million; increasing the maximum Pell grant award; providing a cost of living pay raise for our men and women in the Armed Forces; increasing funding for science and research at the National Institutes of Health by \$150 million; providing grants to States for job training and assistance to dislocated workers; extending Trade Adjustments Assistance for workers who lose their jobs due to international trade; and moving bipartisan Manufacturing Hubs legislation forward that I support to keep our country on the leading edge of advanced manufacturing.

I also fought to include in this legislation a number of provisions that will help us build a stronger made in Wisconsin economy, including support for our shipbuilding industry and transportation infrastructure.

With all of these benefits, I am the first to admit that this bill is far from perfect. But we have a divided government and I recognize that I can't get everything I want in this bill, just as my colleagues across the aisle can't get everything they want in this bill. This bill is a compromise.

Let me be very clear here: Republicans' insistence on including a Wall Street giveaway is extremely objectionable to me. I also strongly oppose a provision that weakens our already loose campaign laws and the changes made to multiemployer pensions deserved a full debate in the Senate, as separate legislation, not tucked into an appropriations bill by the House of Representatives at the last minute. I

agree with my colleagues who have said these provisions represent the very worst of creating an uneven playing field for those hard working Americans who ask for nothing more than a voice in Washington and fair shot at getting ahead. I would also add that these provisions in particular are a direct assault on our proud progressive traditions in Wisconsin.

But what would have happened if we did not pass this bill now? I can tell you what will happen because we saw the path the Republican controlled House of Representatives wanted to take. Republicans tried to add more than 30 additional harmful policy provisions—from more Wall Street giveaways to rolling back workers' rights to eroding environmental policy—but Senate Democrats were able to use their current leverage as the majority party in the Senate to keep them out. If this bill did not pass now, Republicans would have had the power to add more objectionable provisions when they will hold majorities in both the House and Senate next year.

I supported this bipartisan compromise because I believe it is our job to deliver progress for the American people, not an endless drift from one crisis to the next or a government shutdown.

#### GUN VIOLENCE

Mr. LEVIN. Madam President, 15 years ago, in the days after the shooting at Columbine High School stunned our Nation, I spoke to the Economic Club of Detroit. There, as our country reflected on gun violence's horrific toll, I asked a simple question: "Are we willing to say enough is enough?"

Now, so many years later, that question still haunts us. Today, in a country dedicated to "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness," guns kill over 32,000 people a year. That is almost 88 people a day. On top of that, there are over 73,000 nonfatal gun injuries each year. That is 200 a day. Some statistics have shown that 50 percent of suicides in the United States are committed with a firearm. Others have found that children and young adults account for 38 percent of gun deaths and nonfatal injuries, and that when guns are present during incidents of domestic violence, the risk of homicide escalates over 500 percent.

Each of these statistics represents tragedy: people with stories, families, loved ones left behind and dreams shattered. A recent CNN report, for example, analyzed all the gun incidents that occurred in America on a day picked at random—July 12, 2014. Their research found on that day alone, at least 83 gun incidents occurred in our country. At 3:20 a.m., a 23-year-old man was shot and killed at an apartment complex in Tallahassee, FL. At 11:01 a.m., in Ohio, officers responding to a domestic violence complaint arrived to a fire

that ended when the gunman turned his weapon on himself. At 6:20 p.m. an elderly man mistakenly shot and killed his neighbor, whom he mistook for an intruder. At 8:40 p.m., in South Carolina, after an altercation at a party, a man sprayed bullets into the crowd, killing a 47-year-old man and injuring another. And these are just a few examples: in the report's words, "we are certain about one thing—we did not capture every gun incident."

Congress can take commonsense steps to make things better. We should pass a bill making background checks mandatory on all gun sales, a step that study after study has shown is supported by 90 percent of the American people, as well as 95 percent of American internists and 55.4 percent of gun dealers and pawnbrokers. We should pass legislation to ban military style assault weapons, so as to stop the flood of these weapons into our neighborhoods and streets. The bottom line is that law enforcement personnel who put their lives on the line every day need and deserve our support in their effort to ban assault weapons, require background checks and take other steps to reduce gun violence.

We recently observed the 2-year anniversary of the day when a deranged individual took the lives of 26 people, 20 of them children, at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, CT. The children were first graders, 6- and 7-year-olds. Today, they would have been 8- and 9-year-olds, third graders, celebrating birthdays, learning about fractions and decimals, and reading books. Instead, we can only honor their memory and rededicate ourselves to the work of preventing these tragedies in the future.

So I must ask the question again, Are we willing to say that enough is enough? After so many years and so much senseless death, injury and pain, when will we come together to stop this violence?

I am still hopeful. I am hopeful that Congress will finally answer the question in the affirmative "Enough is enough." I am hopeful that Congress will listen to our communities, our educators, and clergy, our law enforcement officials and businesspeople, our families and loved ones and join them in saying "enough is enough." And I am hopeful that one day soon, Congress will pay victims and survivors of American gun violence the highest tribute that it can: legislation to stop the bloodshed, and to make this country that we love better and safer for generations to come.

#### GENERIC DRUG REPORT AND STUDY REQUEST

Mr. NELSON. Madam President, today I wish to call attention to a report released by the Senate Special Committee on Aging, "Medicare Part D

Prescription Drug Benefit: Increasing Use and Access of Affordable Prescription Drugs." I have long been an advocate in the fight for affordable prescription drugs for our seniors—in fact, when this body was considering the legislation that created the Medicare Part D benefit, I voiced concerns that we did not go far enough to ensure that every senior had access to the life-saving and life-sustaining treatments they need.

During the debate in the Senate on the Affordable Care Act, I fought to eliminate the so-called Medicare Part D doughnut hole because no senior should have their drug coverage disappear when they need it most. I believe that closing the prescription drug doughnut hole was one of the best things we did in the Affordable Care Act, and in my State alone seniors have saved more than \$756 million on their drugs since the law was passed.

Over the past 2 years, the Aging Committee has held hearings, drafted legislation, solicited multiple reports from the Government Accountability Office, GAO, and the Department of Health and Human Services Office of the Inspector General, OIG, on selected topics, and met with industry and beneficiary stakeholders. I requested a study by the GAO on the Part D plan finder tool's accuracy of information on plans and drug pricing.

I chaired a hearing to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the creation of Medicare Part D. During that hearing, witnesses raised issues of specialty drug costs, coverage denial, and customer service issues. As a result, Senator COLLINS and I introduced the Part D Beneficiary Appeals Fairness Act, S. 1365, to give beneficiaries the right to appeal for a lower copayment for drugs on the specialty tier, the tier on which the most expensive drugs are. I have worked hard with my colleagues to rectify issues with the Medicare Part D appeals process when I learned that seniors were still having difficulty when coverage for needed medications was denied. I also requested a thorough review by the OIG into beneficiaries' access to generic drugs in Medicare Part D plans, the results of which are in the report submitted today, as well as a continued review of the differences in prices for drugs in the Medicaid Program as compared with the Medicare Program.

I will continue to improve the Medicare Part D Program, and that is why my colleagues and I issued this committee report to inform the full Senate on innovative ways to use the tools within the Part D program to better control drug costs for seniors and taxpayers.

This report is the culmination of 2 years of work by the Senate Special Committee on Aging to assess the status of the Part D program and recommend improvements.

One undeniable factor that keeps costs down in the Part D program is the use of generic drugs. Competition in the generic drug market translates into real savings for both taxpayers and beneficiaries. The Congressional Budget Office, CBO, estimated in 2010 that the use of generic drugs in the Part D program saved beneficiaries and taxpayers approximately \$33 billion; approximately 72 percent—\$24 billion—of those savings accrued to the Medicare program and 28 percent—\$9 billion—went to beneficiaries. CBO estimates that such savings are shared by beneficiaries and the Part D program through a combination of lower copayments and lower premiums than would have been charged otherwise.

While the proportion of generic drug use has increased over time, certain high-cost beneficiary groups continue to miss savings. The committee's report finds four areas for improvement that should be addressed in order to continue to improve on value-based prescription drug use. These include:

Incentivizing and supporting plan sponsors to not only include generic drugs on plan formularies but also to proactively promote the maximum use of generic alternatives where appropriate. Currently, most plan sponsors offer a full array of generic alternatives, but they are not required to do so, leaving a small number of plan formularies that do not maximize generic offerings. In addition, there are no mechanisms that reward or incentivize plan sponsors that have undertaken successful strategies to further increase generics use. Encouraging value in Part D plans as much as possible will be increasingly important in coming years.

Finding ways to increase the adoption of generic drugs among beneficiaries that receive low income subsidy, LIS, benefits. Generally, insurance companies have been successful at encouraging enrollees to use generic alternatives when available in part because there are large differences in copays between brand and generic drugs. However, in the LIS population, these cost differences do not exist; their copays are set by statute. Innovative methods to improve use of generic drugs in this population, while still ensuring full access for this vulnerable population, must be explored.

Improving education among beneficiaries and health professionals. There continues to be a need to educate beneficiaries and health professionals on the efficacy of generic medications and incentivizing them to substitute brand-name drugs for generic drugs, when appropriate.

Maximizing program integrity efforts at pharmacies. In some situations, questionable pharmacy billing practices could thwart efforts that have been made to incentivize generics. HHS OIG, GAO, and others have identified

important program controls in the Part D program that could be improved.

While the report deals only with those levers in the Part D program that can be adjusted to incentivize the less-costly drug option where appropriate, it is undeniable that recent reports indicate certain situations where the price of a selected generic drug dramatically increases. This trend—and the factors that contribute to this disturbing trend—must be better understood. Generics have been critical to overall fiscal sustainability of the health care system, and we must understand and address volatility that results in inexplicable price spikes for patients and taxpayers. I believe this is a hugely complex and recent phenomenon but one that must be studied further. That is why today, in addition to releasing this important and timely report, I intend to request an investigation by the GAO into those factors that underlie the recent price increases of certain generic drugs.

It is my hope that these actions, taken together, are efforts that both sides can agree to and will inform us on the best way to move forward to achieve the maximum drug savings possible and provide better, more affordable care for our seniors in coming years.

#### ENROLLED BILLS PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on today, December 15, 2014, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bills:

S. 1353. An act to provide for an ongoing, voluntary public-private partnership to improve cybersecurity, and to strengthen cybersecurity research and development, workforce development and education, and public awareness and preparedness, and for other purposes.

S. 1474. An act to amend the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 to repeal a special rule for the State of Alaska, and for other purposes.

#### EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-8191. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Food and Drug Administration's annual report on the performance evaluation of FDA-approved mammography quality standards accreditation bodies; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-8192. A communication from the Director of Regulations and Policy Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Uniform Compliance Date for Food Labeling Regulations" (Docket No.

FDA-2000-N-0011, formerly Docket No. 2000N-1596) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 12, 2014; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-8193. A communication from the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department of Housing and Urban Development Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from April 1, 2014, through September 30, 2014; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-8194. A communication from the Senior Procurement Executive, Office of Acquisition Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Acquisition Regulation; Federal Acquisition Circular 2005-79; Introduction" (FAC 2005-79) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 12, 2014; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-8195. A communication from the Senior Procurement Executive, Office of Acquisition Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Acquisition Regulation; Establishing a Minimum Wage for Contractors" ((RIN9000-AM82) (FAC 2005-79)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 12, 2014; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-8196. A communication from the Senior Procurement Executive, Office of Acquisition Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Acquisition Regulation; Prohibition on Contracting with Inverted Domestic Corporations" ((RIN9000-AM70) (FAC 2005-79)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 12, 2014; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-8197. A communication from the Senior Procurement Executive, Office of Acquisition Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Acquisition Regulation; Federal Acquisition Circular 2005-79; Small Entity Compliance Guide" (FAC 2005-79) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 12, 2014; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-8198. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Vice Admiral David H. Buss, United States Navy, and his advancement to the grade of vice admiral on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-8199. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller), transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department of Defense Response to the Government Accountability Office report relative to detainee transfers; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-8200. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone; English Station Emergency Environmental Response; Mill River; New Haven, CT" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2014-0917)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 12, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8201. A communication from the Secretary of the Federal Trade Commission,

transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's tenth annual report on ethanol market concentration; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

#### ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 2762

At the request of Mr. FRANKEN, the names of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) and the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) were added as cosponsors of S. 2762, a bill to prevent future propane shortages, and for other purposes.

#### AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 4120. Mr. WALSH (for Mr. JOHANNES) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2866, to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the centennial of Boys Town, and for other purposes.

#### TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 4120. Mr. WALSH (for Mr. JOHANNES) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2866, to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the centennial of Boys Town, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 7, strike lines 8 through 10, and insert the following: "shall be paid to the United States Treasury for the purposes of reducing the national debt."

#### PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that my intern, Jonathan Merkley, be granted privileges of the floor through Thursday.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—EXECUTIVE CALENDAR NO. 1084

Mr. WALSH. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that following disposition of Calendar No. 635, Rose, that there be 3 hours of debate equally divided in the usual form on the motion to invoke cloture on Calendar No. 1084, Saldana; and further, that the time from 2:15 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. be equally divided in the usual form, with all other provisions of the previous order remaining in effect.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. WALSH. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider all nominations placed on the Secretary's desk in



the Foreign Service; that the nominations be confirmed en bloc; that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order to any of the nominations; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action and the Senate then resume legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The nominations considered and confirmed en bloc are as follows:

NOMINATIONS PLACED ON THE SECRETARY'S  
DESK

IN THE FOREIGN SERVICE

PN1377—3 FOREIGN SERVICE nomination of Sharon Lee Cromer, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 30, 2014.

PN1567 FOREIGN SERVICE nominations (4) beginning Michael A. Lally, and ending John E. Simmons, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 10, 2014.

PN1568 FOREIGN SERVICE nominations (11) beginning Andrew J. Billard, and ending Brenda Vanhorn, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 10, 2014.

PN1569 FOREIGN SERVICE nominations (456) beginning Melinda Masonis, and ending Jeffrey R. Zihlman, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 10, 2014.

PN2137 FOREIGN SERVICE nomination of James D. Lindley, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 13, 2014.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will now resume legislative session.

SECURITY CLEARANCE ACCOUNTABILITY, REFORM, AND ENHANCEMENT ACT

Mr. WALSH. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of Calendar No. 606, S. 1744.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1744) to strengthen the accountability of individuals involved in misconduct affecting the integrity of background investigations, to update guidelines for security clearances, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with an amendment and an amendment to the title.

(Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in italic.)

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

*This Act may be cited as the "Security Clearance Accountability, Reform, and Enhancement Act".*

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

*In this Act—*

(1) the term "agency" has the meaning given the term in Executive Order 13467 (73 Fed. Reg. 38103);

(2) the term "appropriate agency" means—

(A) in the case of a prime contractor for a covered contract, the agency with which the prime contractor entered the covered contract; or

(B) in the case of a subcontractor for a covered contract, any agency on whose behalf the subcontractor is performing work under the covered contract;

(3) the term "appropriate congressional committees" means—

(A) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives;

(4) the term "background investigation" means any investigation required for the purpose of determining the—

(A) eligibility of a covered individual for logical and physical access to federally controlled facilities or information systems;

(B) suitability or fitness of a covered individual for Federal employment;

(C) eligibility of a covered individual for access to classified information or to hold a national security sensitive position; or

(D) fitness of a covered individual to perform work for or on behalf of the United States Government as a contractor employee;

(5) the term "covered contract" means a contract to conduct background investigations—

(A) between an agency and a prime contractor;

(B) between a prime contractor and a subcontractor, if the prime contractor has a contract with an agency; or

(C) between subcontractors, if one of the subcontractors has a contract with a prime contractor that has a contract with an agency;

(6) the term "covered individual" means an individual who—

(A) performs work for or on behalf of an agency; or

(B) seeks to perform work for or on behalf of an agency;

(7) the term "covered misconduct" means misconduct affecting the integrity of a background investigation conducted by or for an agency with investigative authority to conduct background investigations, including—

(A) falsification of any information relating to a background investigation; or

(B) other serious misconduct that compromises the integrity of a background investigation;

(8) the term "prime contractor" means an individual who enters into a contract with an agency; and

(9) the term "subcontractor" means an individual who has contracted with a prime contractor or with another subcontractor to perform a contract on behalf of an agency.

SEC. 3. ACCOUNTABILITY OF INDIVIDUALS INVOLVED IN MISCONDUCT AFFECTING THE INTEGRITY OF AGENCY BACKGROUND INVESTIGATIONS.

(a) MISCONDUCT BY FEDERAL EMPLOYEES.—

(1) UNFIT FOR FEDERAL EMPLOYMENT.—If an agency determines that an employee of the agency has engaged in covered misconduct, the employee shall be found unfit for Federal employment.

(2) FITNESS DETERMINATIONS.—An agency shall make a determination under paragraph (1) in accordance with any statutory, regulatory, or internal agency procedures applicable to investigating alleged misconduct by employees of the agency.

(3) PROHIBITION ON REEMPLOYMENT TO CONDUCT BACKGROUND INVESTIGATIONS.—If an agency determines under paragraph (1) that an indi-

vidual is unfit for Federal employment, the individual shall not be appointed to or continue to occupy a position, as an employee of any agency, that requires its occupant to perform background investigations.

(b) MISCONDUCT BY EMPLOYEES UNDER CONTRACT.—

(1) INELIGIBILITY FOR PERFORMANCE OF WORK UNDER A COVERED CONTRACT.—If an appropriate agency, prime contractor, or subcontractor determines that an individual performing work under a covered contract has engaged in covered misconduct, the individual shall be ineligible to perform background investigations under a covered contract.

(2) MANDATORY DISCLOSURE.—A covered contract shall include a provision requiring a prime contractor or subcontractor to disclose to each appropriate agency any allegation of covered misconduct by an employee of the prime contractor or subcontractor not later than 24 hours after the prime contractor or subcontractor discloses the alleged covered misconduct.

(3) INVESTIGATION OF COVERED MISCONDUCT.—

(A) CONTRACTOR INVESTIGATION.—A covered contract shall include a provision requiring that, not later than 5 business days after the date on which a prime contractor or subcontractor discloses an allegation under paragraph (2), the prime contractor or subcontractor shall refer the allegation of covered misconduct to the agency for investigation.

(B) AGENCY INVESTIGATION.—Nothing in subparagraph (A) shall be construed to prohibit an appropriate agency from conducting its own investigation into an allegation of covered misconduct.

(4) PROHIBITION ON REEMPLOYMENT TO CONDUCT BACKGROUND INVESTIGATIONS.—If an appropriate agency determines, based on an investigation conducted under paragraph (3), that an individual is ineligible to perform work under a covered contract under paragraph (1), the individual shall be prohibited from performing background investigations under any covered contract.

(5) MODIFICATION OF EXISTING CONTRACTS.—Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, any covered contract that is in effect and was entered into before the date of enactment of this Act shall be modified to include the provisions required under paragraphs (2) and (3).

(c) REPORTING.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report providing—

(1) the number of individuals determined to be—

(A) unfit for Federal employment under subsection (a); or

(B) ineligible to perform work under a covered contract under subsection (b); and

(2) details of the covered misconduct that resulted in each determination described in paragraph (1).

SEC. 4. REVIEW AND UPDATE OF POSITION DESIGNATION GUIDANCE.

(a) GUIDELINES.—

(1) INITIAL REVIEW AND UPDATE OF GUIDANCE.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the President shall review and, if appropriate, update the guidance the President issues to assist agencies in determining—

(A) position sensitivity designation; and

(B) the appropriate background investigation to initiate for each position designation.

(2) REVIEWS AND REVISIONS OF POSITION DESIGNATIONS.—Not less frequently than every 5 years, the President, acting through relevant agencies (as determined by the President) and in accordance with the guidance described in paragraph (1), shall review and, if necessary, revise

the position designation of positions within agencies.

(b) *REPORTS TO CONGRESS.*—Not later than 30 days after completing a review under subsection (a)(2), the President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on—

(1) any issues identified in the review; and  
(2) the number of position designations revised as a result of the review.

(c) *NO CHANGE IN AUTHORITY.*—Nothing in this section limits or expands the authority of any agency to designate a position as sensitive or as requiring its occupant to have access to classified information.

Mr. WALSH. I ask unanimous consent that the committee-reported substitute amendment be agreed to, the bill, as amended, be read a third time, and the Senate proceed to vote on passage of the bill, as amended.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The committee-reported amendment in the nature of a substitute was agreed to.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading and was read the third time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall it pass?

The bill (S. 1744), as amended, was passed.

Mr. WALSH. I ask unanimous consent that the committee-reported title amendment be agreed to and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The committee-reported title amendment was agreed to, as follows:

Amend the title so as to read: "A bill to strengthen the accountability of individuals involved in misconduct affecting the integrity of background investigations, to update guidelines for position designation, and for other purposes."

#### SENATOR PAUL SIMON WATER FOR THE WORLD ACT OF 2014

Mr. WALSH. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of H.R. 2901, which was received from the House and is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 2901) to strengthen implementation of the Senator Paul Simon Water for the Poor Act of 2005 by improving the capacity of the United States Government to implement, leverage, and monitor and evaluate programs to provide first-time or improved access to safe drinking water, sanitation, and hygiene to the world's poorest on an equitable and sustainable basis, and for other purpose.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. WALSH. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time and the Senate proceed to vote on passage of the bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill was ordered to a third reading and was read the third time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Hearing no further debate, the bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill pass?

The bill (H.R. 2901) was passed.

Mr. WALSH. I ask unanimous consent that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### ENACTING TITLE 54, UNITED STATES CODE, AS POSITIVE LAW

Mr. WALSH. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 1068 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 1068) to enact title 54, United States Code, "National Park Service and Related Programs," as positive law.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. WALSH. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 1068) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

#### BOYS TOWN CENTENNIAL COMMEMORATIVE COIN ACT

Mr. WALSH. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the committee on banking be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 2866 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 2866) to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the centennial of Boys Town, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. WALSH. I ask unanimous consent that the Johanns amendment, which is at the desk, be agreed to, the bill, as amended, be read a third time and passed, and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment (No. 4120) was agreed to, as follows:

(Purpose: To provide that surcharges received from the sale of coins under the Act are used to reduce the national debt)

On page 7, strike lines 8 through 10, and insert the following: "shall be paid to the United States Treasury for the purpose of reducing the national debt."

The amendment was ordered to be engrossed, and the bill to be read a third time.

The bill was read the third time.

The bill (H.R. 2866), as amended, was passed.

#### ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2014

Mr. WALSH. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m. on Tuesday, December 16, 2014; that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; that following any leader remarks, the Senate resume executive session as provided for under the previous order.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### PROGRAM

Mr. WALSH. For the information of all Senators, the 10 a.m. confirmation votes on the Santos and Rose nominations are expected to be voice votes. There will be up to two rollcall votes at 2:30 p.m. on cloture and confirmation of the Saldana nomination. Additional rollcall votes will occur at 6 p.m.

We anticipate recessing for the purpose of the weekly caucus meetings following the use or yielding back of time on the Saldana nomination.

#### ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. WALSH. If there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it adjourn under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 8:09 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, December 16, 2014, at 10 a.m.

#### CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate December 15, 2014:

##### PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

VIVEK HALLEGGERE MURTHY, OF MASSACHUSETTS, TO BE MEDICAL DIRECTOR IN THE REGULAR CORPS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE, SUBJECT TO QUALIFICATIONS THEREFOR AS PROVIDED BY LAW AND REGULATIONS, AND TO BE SURGEON GENERAL OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE FOR A TERM OF FOUR YEARS.

##### FOREIGN SERVICE

FOREIGN SERVICE NOMINATION OF SHARON LEE CROMER.

FOREIGN SERVICE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH MICHAEL A. LALLY AND ENDING WITH JOHN E. SIMMONS, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 10, 2014.



FOREIGN SERVICE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ANDREW J. BILLARD AND ENDING WITH BRENDA VANHORN, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE	AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 10, 2014.	ZIHLMAN, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 10, 2014.
	FOREIGN SERVICE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH MELINDA MASONIS AND ENDING WITH JEFFREY R.	FOREIGN SERVICE NOMINATION OF JAMES D. LINDLEY.

**EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS****SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and

any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, December 16, 2014 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's record.

**MEETINGS SCHEDULED**

DECEMBER 17

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Environment and Public Works

Subcommittee on Clean Air and Nuclear Safety

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Environmental Protection Agency's proposed National Ambient Air Quality Standards for ozone.

SD-406

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● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

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## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES—Tuesday, December 16, 2014

The House met at noon and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. NEUGEBAUER).

### DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,  
December 16, 2014.

I hereby appoint the Honorable RANDY NEUGEBAUER to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

JOHN A. BOEHNER,  
*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

### PRAYER

Brother Thomas More Garrett, Dominican House of Studies, Washington, D.C., offered the following prayer:

Dear God, as we enter a time of expectation and new beginnings, help us to direct our minds toward the things that will last.

Let us be attentive to why we act and what we seek and how we want our last days to be spent.

Give us the space to rest this season in the cell of self-knowledge.

Remove the curtains of ignorance that shield us from the light of faith.

Open us to transcendent wisdom, and enlighten the dark corners of our neglected hearts and scatter there Your cheerful beams.

Amen.

### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(a) of House Resolution 775, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The SPEAKER pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, December 12, 2014.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,  
*Speaker, U.S. Capitol, House of Representatives,*  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on December 12, 2014 at 6:20 p.m.:

That the Senate passed without amendment H. Con. Res. 121.

That the Senate passed without amendment H. Con. Res. 123.

That the Senate concurs in the House Amendment to the Senate Amendment H.R. 3979.

With best wishes, I am  
Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

### COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, December 13, 2014.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,  
*Speaker, U.S. Capitol, House of Representatives,*  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on December 13, 2014 at 4:25 p.m.:

That the Senate agreed to without amendment H.J. Res. 131.

With best wishes, I am  
Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

### COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, December 15, 2014.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,  
*Speaker, U.S. Capitol, House of Representatives,*  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on December 15, 2014 at 8:56 a.m.:

That the Senate agreed to without amendment H. Con. Res. 122.

That the Senate agrees to the House Amendment to the Senate Amendment to the bill H.R. 83.

With best wishes, I am  
Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

### COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, December 15, 2014.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,  
*Speaker, U.S. Capitol, House of Representatives,*  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on December 15, 2014 at 9:55 a.m.:

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 2591.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 5859.

With best wishes, I am  
Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

### COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, December 16, 2014.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,  
*Speaker, U.S. Capitol, House of Representatives,*  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on December 16, 2014 at 9:03 a.m.:

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 2754.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 3572.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 1206.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 1378.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 5050.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 5185.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 5816.

That the Senate passed S. 706.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 3027.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 4416.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 4651.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 5331.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 5562.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 4276.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 5687.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

#### COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, December 16, 2014.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,  
Speaker, U.S. Capitol, House of Representatives,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on December 16, 2014 at 10:57 a.m.:

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 2901.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 1068.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 2866.

That the Senate passed S. 1744.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 4 of rule I, the following enrolled bills were signed by Speaker pro tempore WOLF on Friday, December 12, 2014:

H.R. 2640, to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to adjust the Crooked River boundary, to provide water certainty for the City of Prineville, Oregon, and for other purposes;

H.R. 3096, to designate the building occupied by the Federal Bureau of Investigation located at 801 Pollin Lane, Vienna, Virginia, as the "Michael D. Resnick Terrorist Screening Center;"

H.R. 3329, to enhance the ability of community financial institutions to foster economic growth and serve their communities, boost small businesses, increase individual savings, and for other purposes;

H.R. 4771, to amend the Controlled Substances Act to more effectively regulate anabolic steroids;

H.R. 5057, to amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to permit exemptions for external power supplies from certain efficiency standards, and for other purposes;

S. 1353, to provide for an ongoing, voluntary public-private partnership to improve cybersecurity, and to strengthen cybersecurity research and development, workforce development and education, and public awareness and preparedness, and for other purposes;

S. 1474, to amend the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 to repeal a special rule for the State of Alaska, and for other purposes.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 4 of rule I, the following enrolled joint resolution was signed by Speaker pro tempore WOLF on Saturday, December 13, 2014:

H.J. Res. 131, making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2015, and for other purposes.

#### ADJOURNMENT TO FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2014

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, when the House adjourns today, it shall adjourn to meet at noon on Friday, December 19, 2014, unless it sooner has received a message from the Senate transmitting its adoption of H. Con. Res. 125, in which case the House shall stand adjourned pursuant to that concurrent resolution.

There was no objection.

#### ENROLLED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTION SIGNED

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled bills of the House of the following titles, which were thereupon signed by the Speaker pro tempore, Mr. WOLF, on Friday, December 12, 2014:

H.R. 2640. An act to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to adjust the Crooked River boundary, to provide water certainty for the City of Prineville, Oregon, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3096. An act to designate the building occupied by the Federal Bureau of Investigation located at 801 Follin Lane, Vienna, Virginia, as the "Michael D. Resnick Terrorist Screening Center."

H.R. 3329. An act to enhance the ability of community financial institutions to foster economic growth and serve their communities, boost small businesses, increase individual savings, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4771. An act to amend the Controlled Substances Act to more effectively regulate anabolic steroids.

H.R. 5057. An act to amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to permit exemptions for external power supplies from certain efficiency standards, and for other purposes.

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House, further reported and found truly enrolled a joint resolution of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker pro tempore, Mr. WOLF, on Saturday, December 13, 2014:

H.J. Res. 131. Joint resolution making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2015, and for other purposes.

#### SENATE ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

The Speaker pro tempore, Mr. WOLF, on Friday, December 12, 2014, announced his signature to enrolled bills of the Senate of the following titles:

S. 1353. An act to provide for an ongoing, voluntary public-private partnership to im-

prove cybersecurity, and to strengthen cybersecurity research and development, workforce development and education, and public awareness and preparedness, and for other purposes.

S. 1474. An act to amend the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 to repeal a special rule for the State of Alaska, and for other purposes.

#### JOINT RESOLUTION PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House, reported that on December 11, 2014, she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following joint resolution:

H.J. Res. 130. Making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2015, and for other purposes.

#### ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, pursuant to the order of the House of today, the House stands adjourned until noon on Friday, December 19, 2014, unless it sooner has received a message from the Senate transmitting its adoption of H. Con. Res. 125, in which case the House shall stand adjourned pursuant to that concurrent resolution.

There was no objection.

Thereupon (at 12 o'clock and 8 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until noon on Friday, December 19, 2014, unless it sooner has received a message from the Senate transmitting its adoption of H. Con. Res. 125, in which case the House shall stand adjourned pursuant to that concurrent resolution.

#### EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

8337. A letter from the Chief of Staff, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's "Major" interim rule — Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) [Docket No.: NRCS-2014-0007] (RIN: 0578-AA62) received December 16, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

8338. A letter from the Under Secretary, Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Vice Admiral David H. Buss, United States Navy, and his advancement to the grade of vice admiral on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

8339. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Vice Admiral Paul J. Bushong, United States Navy, and his advancement to the grade of vice admiral on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

8340. A letter from the Senior Procurement Executive, Office of Acquisition Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation; Federal Acquisition Circular 2005-79; Introduction [Docket No.: FAR

2014-0051; Sequence No. 7] received December 11, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Armed Services.

8341. A letter from the Senior Procurement Executive, Office of Acquisition Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's interim rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation; Establishing a Minimum Wage for Contractors [FAC 2005-79; FAR Case 2015-003; Item I; Docket No.: 2014-0050; Sequence No. 1] (RIN: 9000-AM82) received December 16, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Armed Services.

8342. A letter from the Senior Procurement Executive, Office of Acquisition Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's interim rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation; Prohibition on Contracting with Inverted Domestic Corporations [FAC 2005-79; FAR Case 2014-017; Item II; Docket No.: 2014-0017, Sequence No. 1] (RIN: 9000-AM70) received December 16, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Armed Services.

8343. A letter from the Senior Procurement Executive, Office of Acquisition Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation; Federal Acquisition Circular 2005-79; Small Entity Compliance Guide [Docket No.: FAR 2014-0052, Sequence No. 7] received December 16, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Armed Services.

8344. A letter from the General Counsel, Federal Housing Finance Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Housing Trust Fund (RIN: 2590-AA73) received December 11, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

8345. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, OC/OPPLA/OP/RPMS, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Uniform Compliance Date for Food Labeling Regulations [Docket No.: FDA-2000-N-0011] (formerly Docket No.: 2000N-1596) received December 11, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8346. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting a report entitled "Performance Evaluation of Accreditation Bodies under the Mammography Quality Standards Act of 1992 as amended by the Mammography Quality Standards Reauthorization Acts of 1998 and 2004" covering January 1, 2013, through December 31, 2013; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8347. A letter from the General Counsel, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Revisions and Technical Corrections to Conform the Commission's Regulations to the Hydropower Regulatory Efficiency Act of 2013 [Docket No.: RM14-22-000; Order No. 800] received December 11, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8348. A letter from the Secretary, Federal Trade Commission, transmitting the Commission's 2014 Report on Ethanol Market Concentration, pursuant to Section 1501(a)(2) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005, as codified at 42 U.S.C. 7545(o)(10); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8349. A letter from the Executive Secretary, National Labor Relations Board, transmitting the Board's final rule — Representation — Case Procedures (RIN: 3142-AA08) received December 16, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and the Work Force.

8350. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, transmitting Transmittal No. 14-58, Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer and Acceptance, pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

8351. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Transmittal No. RSAT-14-4160, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(d) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

8352. A letter from the Director, Office of Personnel Management, President's Pay Agent, transmitting a report justifying the reasons for the extension of locality-based comparability payments to Non-General Schedule categories of positions that are in more than one executive agency, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 5304(h)(2)(C); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

8353. A letter from the Chair, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, transmitting the Inspector General's Semiannual Report to Congress and the Semiannual Management Report for the period ending September 30, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act), section 5(b); Public Law 95-452, section 5(b); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

8354. A letter from the Administrator, Small Business Administration, transmitting the semiannual report to Congress of the Office of Inspector General for the period April 1, 2014, through September 30, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act), section 5(b); Public Law 95-452, section 5(b); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

8355. A letter from the Inspector General, U.S. House of Representatives, transmitting the Audit of the Electronic Voting System final report, Report No. 14-CLK-18; to the Committee on House Administration.

8356. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act Provisions; Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Northeast Groundfish Fishery; Gulf of Maine Haddock Annual Catch Limit Revision [Docket No.: 140903748-4748-01] (RIN: 0648-BE45) received December 11, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

8357. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Monitoring and Enforcement; At-Sea Scales Requirements [Docket No.: 140113040-4919-02] (RIN: 0648-BD90) received December 11, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

8358. A letter from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Dusky Rockfish in the Western Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska [Docket No.: 130925836-4174-02] (RIN: 0648-XD630) received December 11, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

8359. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, Office of Sustainable Fisheries/Atlantic HMS

Division, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Highly Migratory Species; Technical Amendment to Regulations [Docket No.: 140930815-4916-01] (RIN: 0648-BE54) received December 11, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

8360. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Fisheries Off West Coast States; Modifications of the West Coast Commercial and Tribal Salmon Fisheries; Inseason Actions #10 through #23 [Docket No.: 140107014-4014-01] (RIN: 0648-XD425) received December 11, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

8361. A letter from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule; inseason action; Snapper-Grouper Fishery of the South Atlantic; 2014 Recreational Accountability Measure and Closure for Gray Triggerfish in the South Atlantic [Docket No.: 120815345-3525-02] (RIN: 0648-XD628) received December 11, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

8362. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Ocean Perch in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area [Docket No.: 131021878-4158-02] (RIN: 0648-XD612) received December 11, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

8363. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Amendment 96 to the Gulf of Alaska Fishery Management Plan; Management of Community Quota Entities [Docket No.: 131115973-4885-02] (RIN: 0648-BD74) received December 11, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

8364. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Modifications to Federal Fisheries Permits and Federal Processor Permits [Docket No.: 090313314-4831-02] (RIN: 0648-AX78) received December 11, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

8365. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's interim final rule — Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act Provisions; Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Northeast Groundfish Fishery; Fishing Year 2014; Emergency Gulf of Maine Cod Management Measures [Docket No.: 141002822-4933-01] (RIN: 0648-BE56) received December 11, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

8366. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Snapper-Groupers Fishery Off the Southern Atlantic States; Regulatory Amendment 14 [Docket No.: 130403320-4891-02] (RIN: 0648-BD07) received December 16, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

8367. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Herring Fishery; 2014 Sub-Annual Catch Limit (ACL) Harvested for Management Area 1A [Docket No.: 130919816-4205-02] (RIN: 0648-XD570) received December 11, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

8368. A letter from the Senior Counsel, Office of the Attorney General, Department of Justice, transmitting the Department's final rule — National Instant Criminal Background Check System Regulation [Docket No.: FBI 152; AG Order No.: 3477-2014] received December 16, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

8369. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0425; Directorate Identifier 2013-NM-180-AD; Amendment 39-18024; AD 2014-23-08] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received December 16, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8370. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Robinson Helicopter Company Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2013-0159; Directorate Identifier 2012-SW-010-AD; Amendment 39-18032; AD 2014-23-16] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received December 16, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8371. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0168; Directorate Identifier 2013-NM-208-AD; Amendment 39-18039; AD 2014-24-06] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received December 16, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8372. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2013-1066; Directorate Identifier 2013-NM-021-AD; Amendment 39-18029; AD 2014-23-13] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received December 16, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8373. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Various Restricted Category Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0337; Directorate Identifier 2013-SW-029-AD; Amendment 39-18008; AD 2014-22-03] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received December 16, 2014, pursuant to 5

U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8374. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Piper Aircraft, Inc. [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0437; Directorate Identifier 2012-CE-036-AD; Amendment 39-18019; AD 2014-23-03] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received December 16, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8375. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; PILATUS AIRCRAFT LTD. Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0594; Directorate Identifier 2014-CE-022-AD; Amendment 39-18005; AD 2014-22-01] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received December 16, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8376. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2013-0836; Directorate Identifier 2013-NM-126-AD; Amendment 39-18011; AD 2014-22-06] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received December 16, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8377. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0193; Directorate Identifier 2013-NM-234-AD; Amendment 39-18040; AD 2014-24-07] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received December 18, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8378. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0289; Directorate Identifier 2013-NM-146-AD; Amendment 39-18016; AD 2014-22-11] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received December 16, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8379. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0452; Directorate Identifier 2013-NM-185-AD; Amendment 39-18013; AD 2014-22-08] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received December 16, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8380. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc. Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0483; Directorate Identifier 2014-NM-082-AD; Amendment 39-18012; AD 2014-22-07] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received December 16, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8381. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0232; Directorate Identifier 2013-NM-100-AD; Amendment 39-18010; AD 2014-22-05] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received Decem-

ber 16, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8382. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0288; Directorate Identifier 2013-NM-101-AD; Amendment 39-18009; AD 2014-22-04] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received December 16, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8383. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0192; Directorate Identifier 2013-NM-221-AD; Amendment 39-17992; AD 2014-20-19] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received December 16, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8384. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2013-1064; Directorate Identifier 2012-NM-101-AD; Amendment 39-17991; AD 2014-20-18] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received December 16, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8385. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment and Amendment of Class D and Class E Airspace; Santa Rosa, CA [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0305; Airspace Docket No.: 14-AWP-2] received December 16, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8386. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airspace Designations; Incorporation by Reference Amendments [Docket No.: 2014-0540; Amendment No.: 71-46] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received December 16, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8387. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class E Airspace; Lakeport, CA [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0309; Airspace Docket No.: 14-AWP-3] received December 16, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8388. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class E Airspace; Apalachicola, FL [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0831; Airspace Docket No.: 14-ASO-12] received December 16, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8389. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Fokker Services B.V. Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0062; Directorate Identifier 2012-NM-031-AD; Amendment 39-18025; AD 2014-23-09] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received December 16, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8390. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of

Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Pratt and Whitney Division Turbofan Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2013-0072; Directorate Identifier 2013-NE-04-AD; Amendment 39-17525; AD 2013-15-09] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received December 16, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8391. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class D Airspace; MacDill AFB, FL [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0541; Airspace Docket No.: 14-ASO-8] received December 16, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8392. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment of Class D and Class E Airspace, and Amendment of Class E Airspace; Hammond, LA [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0600; Airspace Docket No.: 14-ASW-6] received December 16, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8393. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No. FAA-2014-0256; Directorate Identifier 2013-NM-214-AD; Amendment 39-18020; AD 2014-23-04] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received December 16, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8394. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc. Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0489; Directorate Identifier 2014-NM-048-AD; Amendment 39-18022; AD 2014-23-06] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received December 16, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8395. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class E Airspace; Roanoke Rapids, NC [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0792; Airspace Docket No.: 14-ASO-11] received December 16, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8396. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Multiple Air Traffic Service (ATS) Routes; North Central and Northeast United States [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0986; Airspace Docket No.: 14-AGL-14] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received December 16, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8397. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0449; Directorate Identifier 2013-NM-259-AD; Amendment 39-18021; AD 2014-23-05] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received December 16, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8398. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Direc-

tives; Agusta S.p.A. Helicopters (Type Certificate Currently Held by AgustaWestland S.p.A.) (Agusta) [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0472; Directorate Identifier 2013-SW-040-AD; Amendment 39-18018; AD 2014-23-02] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received December 16, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8399. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Aviation Training Device Credit for Pilot Certification [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0987; Amdt. Nos.: 61-133, 141-18] (RIN: 2120-AK62) received December 16, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8400. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 30983; Amdt. No.: 3613] received December 16, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8401. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0132; Directorate Identifier 2012-NM-007-AD; Amendment 39-18023; AD 2014-23-07] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received December 16, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8402. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 30984; Amdt. No.: 3614] received December 16, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8403. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc. Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0191; Directorate Identifier 2013-NM-256-AD; Amendment 39-18030; AD 2014-23-14] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received December 16, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8404. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 30982; Amdt. No.: 3612] received December 16, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8405. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 30981; Amdt. No.: 3611] received December 16, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8406. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of

Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0170; Directorate Identifier 2013-NM-169-AD; Amendment 39-18027; AD 2014-23-11] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received December 16, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8407. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0174; Directorate Identifier 2013-NM-212-AD; Amendment 39-18028; AD 2014-23-12] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received December 16, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8408. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 30989; Amdt. No.: 3618] received December 16, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8409. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 30988; Amdt. No.: 3617] received December 16, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8410. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Agusta S.p.A. Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0971; Directorate Identifier 2014-SW-055-AD; Amendment 39-18035; AD 2014-24-02] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received December 16, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8411. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 30987; Amdt. No.: 3616] received December 16, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8412. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0235; Directorate Identifier 2013-NM-249-AD; Amendment 39-18015; AD 2014-22-10] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received December 16, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8413. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 30986; Amdt. No.: 3615] received December 16, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8414. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0776; Directorate Identifier 2013-NM-240-AD; Amendment 39-18033; AD 2014-23-17] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received December 16, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8415. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Dowty Propellers Constant Speed Propellers [Docket No.: FAA-2009-0776; Directorate Identifier 2009-NE-32-AD; Amendment 39-18007; AD 2010-17-11R2] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received December 16, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8416. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Rolls-Royce plc Turbofan Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0433; Directorate Identifier 94-ANE-39-AD; Amendment 39-18041; AD 2014-24-08] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received December 16, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8417. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Various de Havilland Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0701; Directorate Identifier 2014-CE-025-AD; Amendment 39-18034; AD 2014-24-01] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received December 16, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8418. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0430; Directorate Identifier 2014-NM-083-AD; Amendment 39-18014; AD 2014-22-09] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received December 16, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8419. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0195; Directorate Identifier 2013-NM-195-AD; Amendment 39-18026; AD 2014-23-10] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received December 16, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

## REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

*[Pursuant to the order of the House on December 11, 2014 the following report was filed on December 15, 2014]*

Mr. GOODLATTE: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 2131. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to enhance American competitiveness through the encouragement of high-skilled immigration, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 113-676, Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

*[Pursuant to the order of the House on December 11, 2014 the following report was filed on December 16, 2014]*

Mr. GOODLATTE: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 1772. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to make mandatory and permanent requirements relating to use of an electronic employment eligibility verification system, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 113-677, Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. GOODLATTE: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 2278. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to improve immigration law enforcement within the interior of the United States, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 113-678, Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

### DISCHARGE OF COMMITTEE

*[The following actions occurred December 16, 2014]*

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII the Committees on Ways and Means and Education and the Workforce discharged from further consideration. H.R. 1772 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII the Committees on Homeland Security, Agriculture, and Natural Resources discharged from further consideration. H.R. 2278 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

## PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. KILMER:

H.R. 5887. A bill to repeal the provisions of the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2015, which amended the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to establish separate contribution limits for contributions made to national parties to support Presidential nominating conventions, national party headquarters buildings, and recounts; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. CLEAVER:

H.R. 5888. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 200 Westport Road in Kansas City, Missouri, as the "Nutterville Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

## CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. KILMER:

H.R. 5887.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the U.S. Constitution under the General Welfare Clause.

By Mr. CLEAVER:

H.R. 5888.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

power of Congress to establish post offices and post roads, as enumerated in Article I, Section 8, Clause 7 of the U.S. Constitution

## ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 2502: Mr. POLIS.

H.R. 4612: Mr. FLEMING.

H.R. 4872: Mr. JOYCE.

H.R. 5182: Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts.

H.R. 5186: Ms. BASS.

H.R. 5267: Mr. WELCH.

H.R. 5475: Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois.

H.R. 5644: Mr. POSEY.

H.R. 5866: Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts.

H. Res. 688: Mr. SWALWELL of California.

H. Res. 781: Mr. MCGOVERN.



**SENATE—Tuesday, December 16, 2014**

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

**PRAYER**

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

O God of wisdom and order, who filled the universe with the mysteries of Your power; sustain Your lawmakers with the knowledge of Your mercy and providence. May they always look to You, the architect of destinies, for guidance in the precarious journey of defending freedom. Lord, help them to grow in grace and in a knowledge of Your will and purposes. Sustain them and their loved ones with Your everlasting arms. May Your hand lead our Senators and Your right hand protect them.

We pray in Your mighty Name. Amen.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The President pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

**RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER**

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

**TAX INCREASE PREVENTION ACT OF 2014—MOTION TO PROCEED**

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I now move to proceed to Calendar No. 627, which is H.R. 5771. It is the tax extender legislation.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the motion.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 627, H.R. 5771, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend certain expiring provisions and make technical corrections, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the tax treatment of ABLE accounts established under State programs for the care of family members with disabilities, and for other purposes.

**SCHEDULE**

Mr. REID. Mr. President, following my remarks and those of the Republican leader, the Senate will resume executive session and vote on the confirmation of the Santos and Rose nominations. Those will be done by voice.

Following disposition of the nominations, there will be up to 3 hours for debate equally divided and controlled between the two leaders or their designees in relation to the Saldana nomination.

The time from 2:15 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. will be equally divided and controlled in the usual form, followed by two rollcall votes on cloture and confirmation of the Saldana nomination.

There will be our usual party caucuses today at noon. Rollcall votes will occur for sure this evening at 6 p.m.

**RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME**

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**DANIEL J. SANTOS TO BE A MEMBER OF THE DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD**

**FRANK A. ROSE TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE (VERIFICATION AND COMPLIANCE)**

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume executive session to consider the following nominations, which the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read the nominations of Daniel J. Santos, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board; and Frank A. Rose, of Massachusetts, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Verification and Compliance).

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BOOKER). The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

**VOTE ON SANTOS NOMINATION**

The PRESIDING OFFICER. If there is no further debate on the Santos nomination, the question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Daniel J. Santos, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board?

The nomination was confirmed.

**VOTE ON ROSE NOMINATION**

The PRESIDING OFFICER. If there is no further debate on the Rose nomination, the question is, Will the Senate

advise and consent to the nomination of Frank A. Rose, of Massachusetts, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Verification and Compliance)?

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the motions to reconsider are considered made and laid upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

**CLOTURE MOTION**

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there is 3 hours of debate equally divided in the usual form on the motion to invoke cloture on the Saldana nomination.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, it would probably be appropriate that I suggest the absence of a quorum but ask unanimous consent that the time be divided equally.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. This would be during all quorum calls today—because there will be several of them—that the time be divided equally on the Saldana matter.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. CORNYN. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, more than 3 months ago I was proud to introduce a fellow Texan, Sarah Saldana, to the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee in connection with her nomination to become the Nation's top immigration enforcement official, a position important to our country and particularly to Texas.

Ms. Saldana was born in Corpus Christi, TX, and became the first Latina U.S. attorney in Texas history and only the second woman to hold that position in the 135-year history of

Texas, in the northern district, a region that includes the Dallas-Fort Worth metroplex, spans 100 counties, and stretches across 95,000 square miles. I, along with former Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison, was proud to support her nomination to that important job.

In her role as U.S. attorney and previously as a line prosecutor, Sarah Saldana has fought public corruption. She has fought organized crime, sex traffickers and other dangerous criminals. She has also prosecuted numerous high-profile public corruption cases, including the very publicized corruption trial that resulted in the conviction of the former Dallas mayor pro tem, Don Hill, and the ongoing case against Dallas county commissioner John Wiley Price—both members of her political party—which put her in some disfavor, as you might imagine, in Democratic political circles. But it was something which demonstrated to me that she was a person of courage and conviction and she believed in enforcing the law beyond purely deferring to personal political interests.

Throughout her career she has developed an outstanding reputation, and based on her qualifications alone, we would be hard-pressed to find a person better suited for the job at Immigration and Customs Enforcement than Sarah Saldana.

Unfortunately, the President changed everything this last November by his Executive action on immigration. To be clear—I have said this before on the floor, but I will just repeat—I believe the President's actions are beyond his constitutional authority and are a reckless political stunt.

Here are the sorts of things the President is claiming to do. The Department of Homeland Security has issued a series of directives pursuant to the President's instructions on November 21, doing everything from repealing the Secure Communities Program, by which local law enforcement cooperates with Immigration and Customs Enforcement and when a person is arrested who also is in the country illegally, they are detained by local law enforcement, even though they have served their time or otherwise are subject to release so that ICE can come pick them up and return them to their country of origin. The President's Executive action and the Department of Homeland Security directives pursuant to that eliminate the Secure Communities Program.

It also purports to prioritize immigration enforcement according to three priorities. The problem is these add even more confusion to what is already an indecipherable and confusing mess, and it also puts to the lowest priority people who have been convicted of crimes such as child abuse, stalking, theft, some child pornography offenses, possession, distribution of alcohol to

minors, hit-and-run, including some hate crimes, property destruction, false imprisonment, some abduction offenses and the like. In other words, the President's priorities for immigration enforcement really represent a wholesale change in the law—if they were actually authorized. Until they are set aside by a court or if Congress were to repeal them along with what would require a Presidential signature, they are the standing requirement for any Director of Immigration and Customs Enforcement. The President, purportedly, also used his authority to issue work permits for millions of people illegally in the country. While I don't believe our country would ever engage in mass deportation, the fact that the President has usurped the authority of Congress and purports to take on the authority to issue work permits to people illegally in the country to me is mind boggling.

This is the situation into which the President has put a good and decent person such as Sarah Saldana. The President has put the next Director of Immigration and Customs Enforcement in an untenable position. When confirmed, she will be the principal enforcer of our immigration laws. Unfortunately, she now claims the President was operating within his legal authority to issue this Executive action. I say that because several Senators on the Senate Judiciary Committee issued written questions to the nominee about this Executive action, and it is clear in her responses that Ms. Saldana has wholeheartedly embraced the President's Executive action and claims that it is within his authority.

If you think about it, a Presidential nominee has two choices. They can either say, well, I disagree with what the President has done, so I will refuse to serve, or if they are already confirmed, I am going to resign my position, or they can embrace the President's policies, because the President is the one who makes those policies. Clearly, Ms. Saldana has embraced the President's policies, which I believe are unconstitutional.

I believe we should be deeply concerned about the damage the President's Executive actions will do to our already broken immigration system because they reinforce the dangerous message that the President is already sending to the world that our laws against illegal immigration will not be enforced. This is an invitation for lawlessness, and it will make it much more likely that we will experience further humanitarian crises and a surge of illegal immigration such as we saw last spring and which we have seen this year with more than 60,000 unaccompanied children coming from Central America through Mexico to our southern border. So the President's policies are a green light, and, unfortunately, Ms. Saldana has embraced those policies.

I believe that the recent election was a mandate for us to work together on bipartisan solutions to our country's biggest challenges, but apparently the President didn't get the memo. I was actually at a lunch at the White House with other leaders of both parties across the Capitol where Speaker BOEHNER, the incoming majority leader and I, and the current majority leader said to the President: Please don't do this. Don't poison the well. Give us a chance to do our job as the new majority in the House and the Senate to try to pass consensus immigration reform bills and put them on your desk. The President ignored that. So the President chose to poison the well and to make it harder for us to do what we know we all have to do; and that is to fix our broken immigration system to the best of our ability.

The President's reckless Executive actions have done further damage. They are deeply unfair to people who have been waiting patiently in line according to the written immigration laws—the people who have been playing by the rules. To allow millions of people simply to jump ahead of those people who have been waiting patiently in line and playing by the rules is profoundly unfair. At a time when our economy is starting to recover from the financial crisis in 2008 and the policies that have intervened, we know that there is potential harm to hard-working middle class families who are already living on stagnant wages and a rising cost of living to have millions more people eligible for work permits under the President's purported authority in these Executive actions. We ought to be careful about that, we ought to be deliberative about that, and we ought to make sure we are doing the sorts of things that will protect—not harm—hard-working middle class families. But the President has ignored all that and just done it his way.

Well, some pundits have suggested perhaps the President's real goal was to provoke Republicans to taking the bait and descending into further dysfunction. Well, if I heard one message from my constituents and people as I campaigned for reelection in Texas, it is that people really want us to work together. They want this place to function. In many instances they don't care so much about what we do, as long as we do something to work together. Of course, they care about what we do, and there are areas where we disagree. But there are areas of common ground where we can work together to solve these problems. We are not going to take the bait if that is what the President's intention was, and we are not going to descend into even more dysfunction. That would be a repudiation of the message and mandate the voters sent to us on November 4.

So we are going to plow ahead. When the new majority takes place on January 6, working with our colleagues in the House, working with our colleagues across the aisle, we are going to try to find places where we can pass bipartisan immigration legislation—not in a comprehensive fashion but in a step-by-step fashion to try to make some progress to improve our broken immigration system.

I am most concerned about the precedent the President's actions would set for our system of government. What if future Presidents take upon themselves the claimed authority to issue other Executive actions that ignore the separation of powers and allocation of responsibilities given to the different branches of government under our Constitution? It is a dangerous precedent. If the President cannot be trusted to enforce the laws passed by the people's elected representatives, then self-governance is an illusion. This is very dangerous.

The American people should never stand for rule by Executive fiat, and they should demand the rule of law be enforced under our Constitution. The President's frustration with the Republican House of Representatives is no justification for doing what he has done. He needs to give us an opportunity to do our job, and he needs to join us at the negotiating table to make progress on our broken immigration system.

Although I admire Ms. Saldana, I fear she will be tasked with carrying out the implementation of the President's unconstitutional Executive actions, refusing to enforce our immigration laws. Unfortunately, when given the chance to address the constitutionality of these actions with the Judiciary Committee, these fears were not alleviated. Members of the committee were denied a chance to ask her questions during an open confirmation hearing, something several previous nominees for this position have undergone.

As a matter of fact, Senator GRASSLEY, the ranking Republican on the Judiciary Committee, and I invited Ms. Saldana to appear at an informal question-and-answer session, since the chairman of the Judiciary Committee denied us an opportunity to have a formal hearing, so she could perhaps answer our questions and clarify her position—the position she took in the written answers to the questions for the record, which I referred to earlier.

I don't know whether she got bad advice or whether she, herself, decided it would be a futile effort, but she decided not to appear for that informal give-and-take.

Maybe it would have helped her clarify her answers to the questions sent by the committee, maybe not. Maybe she would have stood by her answers, but we will never know.

It is for these reasons I regrettably cannot support her nomination. Ms. Saldana, as I said, is somebody whom I admire and respect, but if she is determined to help the President implement this deeply flawed Executive action and refuses to enforce the law Congress has written and has been signed by previous Presidents, I cannot support her nomination.

I will not aid and abet a President dead set on unilaterally defying our Nation's immigration laws.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Illinois.

#### NOMINATION OF SARAH R. SALDANA TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Chair report the Saldana nomination, Calendar No. 1084.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Sarah R. Saldana, of Texas, to be an Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Illinois.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, my colleague from Texas has just stepped off the floor. He has spoken at some length about his position on this nomination. With the utmost respect for my colleague from Texas, I wish to address the same issue.

We disagree on many political issues, but we are truly friends, and we work together on the Senate Judiciary Committee. I respect him very much, even though we disagree on this issue. I just wanted to express my respect for the senior Senator from Texas before I speak about the nominee to be Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security.

I am at a loss to explain the position of the Senator from Texas and the Republican Party of America when it comes to the issue of immigration. What are we to make of what they tell us when we talk about immigration? Without fail, they say to us: First and foremost, we must have enforcement at our borders. Once we have secured our borders from the inflow of illegal immigrants, then—and only then—can we discuss fixing our broken immigration system.

How often have we heard that? I have heard it every time the Republicans address the issue of immigration: First, fix the border, and then we will talk.

It was about 540 days ago—on the floor of the Senate—when we called up an immigration reform bill for consideration. That immigration reform bill was put together—a comprehensive bill—by Democrats and Republicans. I was one of eight who helped to put that

bill together. We sat down for months and negotiated that bill.

The Republican side of the table had JOHN MCCAIN of Arizona, former Republican candidate for President; JEFF FLAKE of Arizona, a border State Senator with passionate feelings about this issue; MARCO RUBIO, one of the two Hispanic Members of the Republican Senate caucus; and LINDSEY GRAHAM of South Carolina, a man who is an attorney, works in the Air Force Reserve in the Judge Advocate General's Corps, and is a conservative by every measure. Those were our four on the Republican side. On the Democratic side we had Senator CHARLES SCHUMER, chairman of the Senate immigration subcommittee of the Judiciary Committee; BOB MENENDEZ, of the Presiding Officer's State of New Jersey and a Hispanic leader; MICHAEL BENNET of Colorado; and myself.

We negotiated not for weeks but for months. We laboriously went through every aspect of immigration in America, and, to the amazement of ourselves as well as the public, we reached an agreement, a compromise. I was not happy with parts of the bill. Some of it I didn't like at all, and I thought other parts were excellent. That is the nature of a compromise.

We brought this bill to the Senate Judiciary Committee and opened it up for amendment. We said to Republicans and Democrats alike: Improve it if you can. There were scores of amendments that were offered in that committee.

The bill was favorably reported from the Senate Judiciary Committee and came to the floor of the Senate, where once again it was amended. One amendment, offered by Senator CORKER of Tennessee and Senator HOEVEN of North Dakota, Republicans, dramatically increased border enforcement.

We currently spend more on immigration enforcement than on all other Federal law enforcement efforts combined. We have made a huge commitment, and the Hoeven-Corker amendment increased it with 700 miles of fences, more personnel than ever, to the point where they could literally have an agent every 1,000 feet along the southern border.

Are we serious about border enforcement in our comprehensive bill? Yes, we are. We adopted the Hoeven-Corker amendment. Although some said we were overdoing it, we adopted it in the spirit of compromise and offered it on the floor for passage. On the final vote, we had 68 Senators who voted in favor of comprehensive immigration reform. There were 14 Republicans who voted for it, along with the Democrats, which made a majority of 68, and we passed the comprehensive immigration reform bill.

Sadly, the senior Senator from Texas voted no. He voted no on comprehensive immigration reform. We did our job. We had a bill endorsed by the U.S.

Chamber of Commerce and the AFL-CIO. This bill was endorsed by faith leaders all across the United States and had the support of the civil rights community as well as conservatives such as Grover Norquist. We passed it. It is what the Constitution said we had to do.

We sent it through the Rotunda and across the Capitol to the House of Representatives, where it fell into this dark and gloomy pit never to be seen again. We have waited about 540 days now for the House of Representatives to at least acknowledge it, maybe even debate it, perhaps change it or even offer it on the floor of the House of Representatives, but no, they chose to do nothing. In the view of the House of Representatives, we have a broken immigration system. Yet they decided to leave it untouched.

So the President said time and again to Speaker BOEHNER: When are you going to accept your responsibility when it comes to fixing this broken immigration system?

The Speaker kept saying: Give me some time. Give me some time. Give me some time.

Eighteen months passed, and the President said: I am sorry. I have to do something. If you are going to do nothing in the House of Representatives when it comes to immigration, I must do something as President.

He went into an effort—I know because we spoke—of research to determine what previous Presidents had done when it came to immigration by Executive action. He started off somewhat skeptical, and he said as much publicly, as to the limits of what he could do.

He said: I need to carefully research this, and he did. He found that some 11 Presidents have engaged in Executive action on immigration, and so he set out to do the same, to carefully construct Executive action to deal with our broken immigration system, all the while knowing the Republicans in the House of Representatives, and many here in the Senate, were going to do nothing when it came to immigration.

He issued his Executive action a few weeks ago. What did it say? It said: If you have been in the United States at least 5 years and come forward and register with this government by giving us your name, your address, and vital information, we will then submit you to an extensive criminal background check to determine whether you have done anything while in the United States or before that makes you ineligible to stay. If you fail that initial criminal review, you are gone—no questions asked. But if you pass it and are prepared to register with this government and pay your fair share of taxes for working in the United States, you will be given a temporary work permit that must be renewed, as we re-

view every several years whether you are still eligible to stay. That is the Executive action that has driven the Republicans to distraction.

The notion is that this President is going to try to fix a broken immigration system by at least guaranteeing that those who are here working legally have no criminal background problems and are paying their fair share of taxes. They are so distraught over this that they have come up with a strategy that is incredible.

The Republican Party, which has insisted time and time again that border enforcement is their highest priority, have—in protest to this Executive action by the President—decided to do two things. First, they passed a spending bill in the House of Representatives which funded all of the Federal Government with a budget for the next year except for one agency. Which agency would that have been? It turned out to be the Department of Homeland Security, which is responsible for border enforcement. The party that is dedicated to border enforcement as the starting point for an immigration discussion starts off by tying the hands of the agency responsible for border enforcement when it comes to their budget.

Why would you do that? If you truly want the border enforced and you want people there doing their job, why would you limit their resources? Why would you make it more difficult for them to operate? But the Republicans—in protest of the President's decision—insisted on it. That was the first thing they did, and now we are seeing the second part of the Republican strategy, which is in protest to the President's Executive action.

They are prepared to stop the nomination of Sarah Saldana to become an Assistant Secretary leading U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. That title describes what she would do, but for the record she would be responsible for making certain that the people who are protecting our border are doing their job right and spending their money well, and it turns out she is eminently qualified to do it.

I will read a quote from Sarah Saldana's confirmation hearing:

Ms. Saldana [is] the first Latina United States Attorney in Texas history, and only the second woman to hold that position in the 135-year history of Texas' Northern District. . . . In her role as U.S. Attorney and prosecutor over the past decade, Ms. Saldana has served our state with honor—fighting corrupt public officials, organized crime, sex traffickers, and other dangerous criminals. Throughout her career, Ms. Saldana has developed a reputation for her decisive and fair temperament and her commitment to excellence.

What is the source of this glowing tribute to Ms. Saldana? It turns out the source is the Senator who just left the floor, the senior Senator from Texas who announced today he is voting against her.

After making this statement, he is voting against her. Why? He said because she would aid and abet this President of the United States in implementing his Executive action.

Elections have consequences. I noted that President Obama was reelected by the people of the United States of America and given the responsibility to lead this great Nation. He has asked for a team to do that, and whether I agree or disagree with any given policy of this President, it is clear the American people said: Mr. Obama, lead this Nation.

He has asked for help to lead this Nation, and it is help long overdue. Do my colleagues know how long it has been since we filled this critical spot to protect our border from unlawful immigration? Over 2 years. July of 2012 was the last time this spot was filled. There have been objections to those people who have been suggested by the President over and over again, by the same political party that insists border enforcement is their highest priority. Yet they will not fund the agency responsible for it in a systematic, orderly way, and they refuse to fill the vacancy of the person responsible for administering this border enforcement.

I am at a loss to explain this. It appears to me their feelings about this President have reached a point where they are not thinking clearly. They cannot announce on one hand that first we must have border enforcement and then fail to fund the agency. They cannot announce that first we need to make sure we stop the flow of undocumented immigrants and then refuse to fill the position responsible for administering that responsibility. Yet that is exactly what they want to do today.

I hope good sense will prevail. I hope Ms. Saldana is given her chance to serve this Nation. I am certainly going to support her in that process. It is time we have a Senate-confirmed head of this agency, and it is overdue for us as a Senate and a House of Representatives to address comprehensive immigration reform.

The Republicans who are critical of the President's Executive action when it comes to immigration, in the words we learned in law school, do not have clean hands. They have failed to support immigration reform. They have failed to call on the House of Representatives. They have failed to fund the agency responsible for border enforcement, and they want to fail today in even filling the spot to administer it. Leadership requires that we step forward with the President and do what is necessary.

I see the minority leader and my colleague from Utah are on the floor. I will close by saying that President Obama, when he announced his Executive action, said to his critics on the other side of the aisle: There is a way to deal with this issue and to stop this Executive action. Pass a bill.

We have waited over 500 days for the House of Representatives. I hope we don't have to wait much longer.

I yield the floor.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Republican leader is recognized.

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

STAFF SERGEANT DANIEL T. LEE

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, today I rise to honor the life of a brave soldier in the U.S. Army Special Forces from Kentucky who gave his life to defend his country. SSG Daniel T. Lee of Fort Wright, KY, was killed on January 15, 2014, in Afghanistan from wounds received during combat action in the Parwan Province while searching for militants wanted for recent attacks on Bagram Air Base. He was 28 years old.

For his service in uniform, Staff Sergeant Lee received many awards, medals, and decorations, including the Bronze Star Medal, the Purple Heart, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, the Army Achievement Medal, the Army Good Conduct Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Afghanistan Campaign Medal, the Iraq Campaign Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, two Noncommissioned Officers Professional Development Ribbons, the Army Service Ribbon, two Overseas Service Ribbons, the NATO Medal, the Combat Infantryman Badge, the Basic Parachutist Badge, and a Special Forces Tab.

Danny's mother Frances Lee has this to say about her son:

Danny became consumed with being all that he could be; not only in Special Forces but as a father, husband, brother, and son. He never lost his sense of humor and was rarely without a smile. His smile was infectious even in dire times.

A northern Kentucky native, Danny's childhood was filled with friends, family, and sports. He was a member of the Beechwood diving team from the age of 5. In the eighth grade, he transferred to Turkeyfoot Junior High School and began playing football. He also played basketball, baseball, and softball.

Danny graduated from Dixie Heights High School in 2003 and moved to Tennessee "for a fresh start," says Danny's mother. He began working for a Knoxville electrical company but soon moved to Lowe's hardware chain, where he got a job as a manager in Crossville, TN.

His mother said:

While in Crossville, he enlisted in the U.S. Army, a move that took all of us by surprise. We packed up the house and off he went to Fort Benning. He is the only person I have ever heard say that he loved basic training!

After enlisting in the U.S. Army in October of 2007, Danny completed basic training at Fort Benning. His first assignment was with the 2nd Squadron, 1st Cavalry Regiment at Fort Lewis, WA. While serving in the 1st Cavalry

Regiment, Danny deployed to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2009.

Daniel's service in Iraq compelled him to join the elite ranks of some of our finest fighters in the Armed Forces. Danny's mother said:

Upon his return from Iraq, he became a man with a mission. That mission was to become a Special Forces Green Beret.

Danny began his Special Forces training in March of 2011 and ultimately earned his Green Beret when he graduated as a Special Forces communication sergeant. To earn that Green Beret, Danny attended Airborne School at Fort Benning and went to Qualification School at Fort Bragg, NC. For approximately 20 months he completed a series of rigorous classes covering skills and tactics such as languages, leadership, navigation, survival, evasion, resistance, and escape.

While in Qualification School, Danny also married his wife Suzanne, whom he met while stationed at Fort Lewis. Danny graduated from Special Forces training in May 2013, and he and Suzanne had a child, Daniel Roderick, in July of that same year.

In August 2013, Danny was assigned to C Company, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Special Forces Group, Airborne, based in Fort Bragg. In September of that year, he was deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

After Danny's death, the Kentucky General Assembly appropriately designated a portion of Kentucky Route 1072 in northern Kentucky's Kent County as the "Sergeant Daniel Tyler Lee Memorial Highway."

We are thinking of Danny's loved ones today as I recount his story for my colleagues in the Senate, including his wife, Suzanne; his son, Daniel; his parents, Frances and Daniel Patrick Lee; his sister, Jamie Hahn; and many other beloved family members and friends.

The motto of the U.S. Army Special Forces, of which Daniel T. Lee was a proud member, is "de oppresso liber" or "to liberate the oppressed."

As an elite member of the Nation's Armed Forces, with service in both Iraq and in Afghanistan, Staff Sergeant Lee certainly fulfilled a mission to the best of his ability. The Commonwealth of Kentucky and the U.S. Senate are both grateful for his service and for his sacrifice.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Utah.

Mr. LEE. Mr. President, I rise in opposition to the nomination of Sarah Saldana to be in charge of Immigration and Customs Enforcement within the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

As we all know, the President of the United States recently announced he will take unilateral Executive action on immigration. In so doing, he has cir-

cumvented the democratic process, and he has broken the law and subverted our constitutional order.

It is incumbent on every Member of this body, no matter what their politics or what immigration policies they might prefer to enact, to oppose that usurpation of legislative power and to defend the rule of law. Fulfilling that duty—the duty to defend the rule of law and our constitutional order—leads me to oppose Ms. Saldana's nomination to be the Director of Immigration and Customs Enforcement, or ICE, as it is commonly known. Although I respect her and respect her record of public service, including an admirable and independent streak she demonstrated as U.S. attorney, I am concerned that she has also demonstrated that her commitment to the rule of law may falter where the Immigration and Nationality Act is concerned.

In response to a question raised by several members of the Senate Judiciary Committee, including me, Ms. Saldana said that she agreed with DHS Secretary Jeh Johnson that immigrants who enter the country illegally and have now been targeted for the so-called deferred action program have "earned the right to be citizens." That is bold. This is an extraordinarily bold assertion on her part.

No doubt Congress could and many people think Congress should ease the path to citizenship for some aliens, some immigrants who are currently here unlawfully, but to assert that citizenship—not just the right to remain here for a time but full-blown citizenship—is a matter of right and that it has been earned by the very act of breaking our immigration laws is an unacceptable view for a person who has been nominated to be the head of our Nation's immigration enforcement office, but, as I told the Senate last week, this seems to be precisely the mentality of this administration.

Although President Obama has repeatedly denied clearing a path to citizenship for those who have crossed our borders illegally, his denial is false, and he knows it. A 2010 Department of Homeland Security memorandum explicitly contemplated this very thing. We see some evidence of this. There was a 2010 memorandum within the U.S. Department of Homeland Security—one that made it all the way up to then-Secretary of Homeland Security Janet Napolitano—that explicitly contemplated using a legal device called parole to enable aliens who crossed our border unlawfully to become citizens.

Now, the law makes it possible for aliens with U.S. citizen children who have been paroled into the United States to adjust their immigration status and become green card holders, but parole is supposed to be very rare. In other words, there is a way to get here but not by use of parole.

Federal law—specifically INA S. 212 (d)(5)(a)—forbids the President, forbids the executive branch of government from paroling aliens into the country except for under very limited circumstances, including “urgent humanitarian reasons or significant public benefit.” That is the text of the statute enacted into law by Congress. But now, despite denying having cleared the path to citizenship, the administration has begun granting parole to beneficiaries of deferred action under the very thinnest of pretexts: The President’s policies now allow deferred action recipients to get advanced parole so long as they have a client meeting or an interview or some academic research to perform overseas—hardly an urgent humanitarian crisis. When they get back from their trips, these same individuals would then be paroled into the country and will eventually become eligible to adjust their status and get green cards—exactly as the 2010 DHS memo suggested.

All of this, of course, is illegal. But it is worse than illegal; it is illegitimate. If Congress decides to make it easier for illegal immigrants who have children here to obtain citizenship, then so be it, but that is a decision for the American people through their elected officials in the legislative branch of the Federal Government to make. If the President dislikes the law, he, as any other citizen, must ask this body to change the law—must ask Congress to change that law. He has no more right than anyone else who lives in this country to ignore or change the law outside the constitutional process.

But the President and this administration have talked themselves into doing just that. They can try to rationalize that action—to us and perhaps themselves—only by donning the mantle of moral indignation. It isn’t just that it would be prudent or merciful to reform our immigration regime. Instead, the administration’s argument is that those who flout our laws have, by the very act of flouting them and by the very act of breaking them, earned some kind of moral entitlement to have the law changed or at least to have the law ignored. If Congress will not oblige them, they will do it themselves. They will draft a law called an Executive order that overturns national immigration policy as established by law and passed by Congress, and they will announce it at a press conference. There will be no debate; there will be no amendments; there will be no vote. In short, there will be no democracy.

We have passed through the looking glass. And to see how far we have gone inside, observe: Today, the President asks us to install as custodian of our border a person who evidently believes that crossing our border illegally earns you the right to vote. The Constitution gives the Senate the responsibility to

give the President advice about his Executive nominations and ultimately consent.

My advice is this: The President should not proffer a nominee for the job of executing our immigration laws who affirmatively supports subverting those very same laws, those same laws she would be called upon to enforce and implement and execute if, in fact, she were confirmed to this position. But that is exactly what the President does. That is exactly what the President has done by submitting this name to the Senate for confirmation. I cannot and will not give my consent.

With that, I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SCHATZ). The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### CYPRUS

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, I come to the floor to speak on two separate and distinct topics. The first is about Cyprus.

This year marks the 40th anniversary of the Turkish invasion. We hoped it would have brought a fair settlement to the Cyprus question; that would have brought an end to a 40-year-long occupation and division of the island by Turkey.

There is always cause for optimism and room for faith that the realization of a reunified Cyprus is in the near future. Global and regional dynamics have made the reunification of Cyprus a priority, driven in part by Cyprus’s newly found energy resources. This is particularly true in light of Russia’s Machiavellian-like power plays in Central Europe that have placed Cyprus and Israel at the forefront of the discussion of European energy security.

The natural resources that have been discovered this year in the eastern Mediterranean offer both Greek and Turkish Cypriots alike a powerful incentive to reach an agreement. Cyprus can play a pivotal role in regional energy security. But the dynamics have again changed, which is why I rise today to express my grave concern over the Republic of Turkey’s incursion into Cyprus’s exclusive economic zone.

On October 20, Turkey sent a Russian vessel—the *Barbaros*—into Cyprus’s exclusive economic zone to stop the Government of Cyprus from exercising its lawful and sovereign right to explore the natural gas within the exclusive economic zone. In the days following, Turkey dispatched warships to support the *Barbaros* in its illegal activities, where they remain to this day.

The incident is merely the latest in a long series of violations on the part of Turkey against Cyprus’s sovereign

right to explore and exploit its natural resources within its own exclusive economic zone. Turkey, of course, also illegally occupies, with 40,000 Turkish troops, the northern portion of the island and has for 40 years prevented any meaningful reconciliation efforts.

This map, from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, shows the positions of the Turkish ships in red. They are sitting between the island of Cyprus and its own ships in its own exclusive economic zone.

There is no doubt in my mind that Turkey’s actions have endangered peace talks between the Greek and Turkish Cypriots that began in February with a joint communique issued by the two communities. That communique committed to finding a durable solution based on a bizonal, bicomunal federation with political equality. But because of Turkey’s bullying practices, peace talks are now on hold. For peace talks to resume, Turkey must immediately withdraw its ships operating in and around Cyprus.

The international community has been abundantly clear in supporting Cypriot President Nicos Anastasiades in recognizing Cyprus’s right to explore the resources within its economic zone and in condemning Turkey for this blatant violation.

On November 13, the European Parliament adopted a resolution strongly condemning Turkey’s “illegal and provocative actions” in Cyprus, stressing that “the Republic of Cyprus has the full and sovereign right to explore the natural resources within its exclusive economic zone.”

Turkey’s recent actions in Cyprus are only one instance of its belligerent and bellicose rhetoric and backsliding on peace and democracy. In recent weeks, President Erdogan and his Cabinet have used unusually belligerent and anti-Western rhetoric to attack the West. He actually said—and I am amazed at the rhetoric:

Americans look like friends but they want us dead—they like seeing our children die.

He said: They like seeing our children die. This is the President of Turkey. He also said:

Women are not equal to men. Our religion has defined a position for women: motherhood.

Erdogan said this at a summit in Istanbul on justice for women.

He went on to say:

Some people can understand this, while others can’t. You cannot explain this to feminists because they don’t accept the concept of motherhood.

He then went on so far as to say that Muslims discovered America, not Columbus.

He has vowed to make lessons in the Arabic alphabet Ottoman language compulsory in high schools—a highly symbolic move which enraged secularists who proclaim he is assuming an increasingly extremist agenda.

These statements, along with Turkey's illegal actions in Cyprus's exclusive economic zone, are a dramatic escalation of Turkey shifting away from democracy and its partners in the West, and in my view requires an immediate and forceful response.

The Cypriot people need a strong voice on this issue. They need us to demand President Erdogan to immediately withdraw from Cyprus's exclusive economic zone so reunification talks can resume.

Cyprus's leaders deserve credit for trying to change the dynamics and return to talks. They also deserve credit for being an ally and advocate of America's interests.

Cyprus's active role in supporting counterterrorism efforts, terror financing, and the removal of chemical weapons from Syria have not gone unnoticed to this Senator. Cyprus is clearly positioning itself as part of the Western security architecture and is a resource, advocate, and an ally for our interests.

These developments have led the White House to play an active role on behalf of Cyprus, and I was very pleased to see our former colleague and now Vice President—Vice President BIDEN—visit in May and to hear of his commitment to resolving the Cyprus question. I share his support for the confidence-building measures in Famagusta that would benefit both sides and accelerate progress toward a final settlement where Cypriots control their destiny and their territory, and where at the end of the day any settlement is from the people of Cyprus, by the people of Cyprus, and for the people of Cyprus, and Cyprus alone.

To that end, I recently sent a letter to President Obama urging his continued engagement on the issue of reunification of the island and the restoration of human rights for all its citizens. I also wrote to Ambassador Power urging her active involvement in the extension of the island's U.N. peace-keeping operation, and I was pleased when the extension was formalized at the end of July.

I hope President Erdogan, now that his election is behind him, will use this opportunity to play a renewed role in finding a fair settlement. We all appreciate that any progress will depend on a true commitment by the Turks to the peace process.

As the chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, I believe the United States is committed to supporting Cyprus as a friend and ally. So as we mark the 40th year of a divided Cyprus, let us hope and pray that a fair and mutually beneficial settlement will be reached very soon and that, once again, the island will be reunited. Above all, let the warship and let the other ships that do not belong in Cyprus's waters be removed and removed now.

Mr. President, at this time, I would like to switch the topic to the nomina-

tion of Sarah Saldana, and I want to reiterate my strong support for Sarah Saldana, a woman eminently qualified to serve our country and to lead ICE as our next Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security.

The junior Senator from Texas began this long legislative weekend engaged in his own political battle, wholly dependent on a strategy of obstructionism, delay, and some quixotic fixation on preventing the Senate from exercising its constitutional responsibility to legislate and ensure that critical leadership positions for our Nation are filled in a timely manner.

Unfortunately, some of my friends on the other side have joined in the politics of obstructionism. Now they want to prevent a duly elected President from filling a position they themselves feel is of paramount importance. They have railed about the need for strong Immigration and Customs Enforcement; and now, given the chance finally to confirm a Director of ICE to give them the strong enforcement they have demanded, they refuse, they obstruct, they delay, and they reverse their positions from when they voted for her to be a U.S. attorney. They now use her nomination to score political points with their base because they disagree with the President's politics—not with the qualifications of the nominee, but with the President's policies.

Sarah Saldana is qualified, and Senators CRUZ, CORNYN, SESSIONS, and everyone on the other side of the aisle know it. I think they have said so themselves. She currently serves as the U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Texas. She is the first Latina U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Texas and would be the first Latina to head ICE.

In 2011, she won bipartisan approval to serve as the U.S. Attorney in the Dallas-based Northern District of Texas. Senators JOHN CORNYN and Kay Bailey Hutchison at that time of Texas backed her for that post. She has been endorsed by the law enforcement community, including the Major Cities Chiefs Association president and the Philadelphia Police Department Police Commissioner Charles Ramsey.

She is an effective, qualified, competent, outstanding U.S. attorney. In fact, the senior Senator from Texas, my friend Senator CORNYN, has praised her as being "tough, smart and fiercely independent." Now she is being denied confirmation for that same toughness, intelligence, and independence. Why? Because—surprise of all surprises—she happens to agree with the policies of the President who nominated her; just as Attorney General Herbert Brownell agreed with President Eisenhower in 1956 when he paroled foreign-born orphans into the United States for adoption; just as Attorney General Edward Levi agreed with President Gerald Ford in 1976 when he granted extended vol-

untary departure to Lebanese citizens; just as Ed Meese agreed with Ronald Reagan in July of 1987 when he shielded Nicaraguan refugees from deportation, and later when he shielded Polish nationals from deportation; and in October 1987 when President Reagan protected from deportation the minor children of parents legalized in the 1986 immigration law; just as Attorney General Richard Thornburgh agreed with George Herbert Walker Bush in November of 1989 when he protected Chinese nationals from deportation after Tiananmen Square, and in February of 1990 when President Bush extended President Reagan's family fairness policy to spouses and unmarried children, all undocumented at the time; and just as John Ashcroft agreed with President George W. Bush when he expedited nationalization for green-card holders who enlisted in the military in 2002.

So this isn't a fundamental Republican policy issue backed by history or by the facts, it is a modern-day extreme conservative issue driven by politics, despite the facts contrary to their own history. The fact is they do not agree with the President on just about anything—certainly not on immigration, as proven by the statements we have heard on this floor.

I want to be very clear. We cannot judge the qualifications of Sarah Saldana to run Immigration and Customs Enforcement based solely on the fact she agrees with the policy decisions of the President who nominated her. That is an absurd and completely illogical standard. We judge nominees based on their qualifications, their integrity, their record, and their willingness to serve the Nation.

The fact is we don't deny confirmation to score political points. We may disagree on the issues, but we cannot raise the political bar so high in this Chamber that we no longer are able to carry out our constitutional mandate of advice and consent. I don't believe that is what my colleagues will suggest, but that appears to be how they are judging this nominee and why they have chosen to hold up confirmation of so many nominees. They have raised the political bar so high as to deny any ability for this President to fill key positions in government and in our embassies abroad—all to score political points and diminish the ability of this President and this institution of government.

Sarah Saldana is more than qualified to head Immigration and Customs Enforcement. She is more than qualified to oversee the agency my Republican colleagues fully support, which is responsible for enforcement of immigration laws, national security, drug smuggling, human trafficking, cyber security, and child exploitation.



She will direct the agency that tracks down people without documentation—that is what my Republican friends want. Yet they have set the political bar so high that they have made it impossible for them to get what they claim to want most when it comes to immigration policy—that is immigration enforcement. The illogic of their position is just mind boggling.

The Senator from Texas comes to this floor for one purpose, and one purpose only, in my view—to rail against the President, to castigate him for doing what his own party's iconic Ronald Reagan did when he was President, George H.W. Bush did when he was President, and what every President has done to defer deportations when keeping people's lives and families together were in the balance.

My friend from Texas wants to join his House colleagues and score political points with the most extreme elements of his party. So be it. But I wish to remind everyone that this isn't a game. I would say to the junior Senator from Texas that instead of floor theatrics and playing politics, it is time to step up and govern. It is time to confirm Sarah Saldana and put her in charge of Immigration and Customs Enforcement. Let's do the work we were sent here to do.

I say to my friend from Texas what I have said before on this floor. There is a simple antidote to Executive action. It is to have our friends in the House of Representatives pass immigration reform. Pass it. Call it up for a vote. That is the end of it—not disinformation and misleading speeches about what the President's action does and does not do or blocking this nominee.

Let's be clear. The President's Executive action will not grant anyone legal status or citizenship. It is not a free pass. But it will clear the way for many to come forth out of the shadows, register with the government, pass a criminal background check, get a work permit, pay taxes, and no longer live in fear of having their families ripped apart.

As a result of the President's actions—which is replicated actions by 11 Presidents for the last 60 years on 39 different times—more Border Patrol will be sent to the southern border, more felons will be deported, more people will pay taxes like the rest of us, and more families will stay together. Those are all goals and values I think we would want to espouse.

The fact is, the Senate is being prevented from conducting the people's business. For some Members that is the goal. For them it is all or nothing. For them it is an ideological war that can only be won or lost. For them it is not about governing; it is about winning.

So I would say to my colleagues, there is a very important difference, and that difference is the basis of mil-

lions of Americans who expect us to work for them. They don't care if we win or lose political battles. They want us to help them with their battles in their lives for their families. That is what they want. It is what they deserve. I ask my friends to help us do the people's business.

Our agencies have waited long enough. They need positions filled by qualified appointees, and Sarah Saldana is more than qualified. So I urge my colleagues to confirm this nominee and fill the position that is responsible for law enforcement activities that keep our country safe.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Virginia.

#### AUTHORIZATION FOR USE OF MILITARY FORCE

Mr. KAINE. Mr. President, I wish to discuss the work that Congress still must do regarding America's ongoing war against ISIL, and I am glad to follow my colleague, the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, who has played such a critical role in initiating the first major step that Congress has taken. I want to talk about that step and the steps in which we would continue to engage.

It was my strong hope as of December 2014 that Congress would have spoken by now with a clear voice regarding ISIL and authorizing the military action commenced by President Obama on August 8. While that has not occurred, action taken by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee last week finally moves the body into the sort of good-faith legislative process regarding this ongoing military action, and it is my hope the process will be completed early in 2015.

I first began speaking about this issue in the spring of 2013. I had grown deeply concerned that the administration, as did the previous administration, was using the 2001 Al Qaeda authorization and the 2002 Iraq authorization to justify military actions significantly beyond what Congress had intended when those authorizations passed. So during an Armed Services hearing in May 2013, I told administration witnesses that any decision to introduce U.S. forces into Syria would require, in my view, a new authorization.

I was pleased when President Obama sought congressional approval for military action in Syria in August 2013, and I believe the Senate Foreign Relations Committee vote at that time helped lead to the ultimate destruction of the Syrian chemical weapons stockpile—one of the largest stockpiles in the world.

There is an important lesson. The President's determination that U.S. military action is necessary is made more powerful when Congress joins in that decision.

In June of this year, when it became apparent that the advances of ISIL in

Iraq and Syria posed a threat to humanitarian values, to regional allies, to U.S. citizens and embassies and to our broader national interests, I publicly argued and encouraged the administration to address the threat—but only using military force after consultation and approval by Congress.

Make no mistake. ISIL is a major threat. But Presidents cannot constitutionally start military action without Congress unless there is a direct and imminent threat to the United States.

In this instance, with ISIL's activities occurring halfway across the globe and with the administration admitting that the organization poses no imminent threat of attacking the United States, a new congressional authorization is necessary.

Now, I regret that the administration started military action—what President Obama called going on offense against ISIL—in August without congressional approval. The White House asserts that the current action is justified by the 2001 and 2002 authorizations, but most outside observers and most Members of Congress believe the current campaign against ISIL needs its own legal authorization. The White House has not proposed authorizing language, and so it is up to Congress to do the job of providing a legal framework for this war.

I introduced a proposed authorization for war against ISIL within days after President Obama addressed the Nation on television on the evening of September 10. Since then, I have been working to have the matter heard—first in the Foreign Relations Committee and then by the full Senate. I have been greatly assisted in my effort by many colleagues, none more so than the chairman, Senator MENENDEZ, who has passionately worked to advance this item in the business of the Senate.

The pace of our efforts has been frustratingly slow. But last week, after a series of hearings and business meetings, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee voted on an authorization to authorize the ongoing military action.

The authorization is a sound product that does a number of things. First, it authorizes and describes the military campaign against ISIL. Second, it establishes a 3-year duration of the authorization, with the ability for reauthorization if the Congress determines it to be in the national interests. Third, the authorization repeals the 2002 Iraq authorization and sunsets the 2001 Al Qaeda authorization in 3 years as a mechanism for forcing Congress to review and revise that Al Qaeda authorization.

Finally, what we did last week places limitations on the use of U.S. ground troops in the war on ISIL in accord with President Obama's clear pledges to the American public and our considered judgment that the U.S. role



should be primarily to assist ground troops from the region in battling the region's own extremist violence.

After reporting the authorization out of committee, Senator MENENDEZ filed it as an amendment to the omnibus budget bill with numerous cosponsors, including me. That was entirely appropriate because the budget contained funding for the ongoing operation against ISIL. But the amendment was not allowed, and, thus, in all likelihood, we will adjourn our 2014 session without taking action beyond the SFRC vote.

But just as the SFRC vote in September of 2013 played a significant role leading to the destruction of the Syrian chemical weapons stockpile, I believe the authorization we passed last week will also have a significant effect. It becomes the first formal action by Congress in providing a legal framework for the war that, until now, has been carried out without any clear legal authority. It will be the basis for our discussions in January as we complete the necessary work of authorizing this military action.

It is my hope that the authorization passed in Senator MENENDEZ's committee will be introduced early in 2015, with dozens of cosponsors, and ultimately enable a full congressional vote on this most important matter.

I do believe the dialogue in Congress since August—since the President initiated unilateral military action on August 8—does offer some important lessons.

First, not surprisingly—and especially as a Virginian I have to say this—the Framers of our Constitution had it right—Framers such as Mason, Madison, and Jefferson. We shouldn't go to war without congressional approval. Unilateral action by the Executive without congressional support deprives the public of the full debate necessary to educate everybody about whether military action is in the national interest.

Just as importantly—maybe more importantly—it is unfair to send American troops into harm's way without a clear political consensus supporting the mission. We have already had three Americans who have lost their lives in Operation Inherent Resolve.

Congressional debate and approval expresses a support for the mission. But the lack of clear congressional support subjects an ambivalence about whether military action is a good idea or bad, and that is not healthy when we are asking people to risk their lives.

Second, when a President decides that military action is needed, the events of the last few months demonstrate it is best for the President to propose a draft authorization to Congress. When the President spoke to the Nation on September 10, he should have sent a draft authorization of the war against ISIL to Congress imme-

diately. A clear definition of the proposed mission by the President is the best way to encourage full congressional debate and build the national consensus in support of the proposed mission.

Now, if a President does not propose an authorization, that doesn't give the Article I branch—the legislature—a pass from our constitutional obligations. We cannot let the lack of Presidential action slow us down in doing our job. But the process works better if the President initiates military action with a clear proposed authorization of Congress.

Third, the administration's reliance on the 2001 and 2002 authorizations in prosecuting this war on ISIL without congressional action demonstrates the profound need to revisit those authorities, because using a 13-year-old authorization crafted in different times for a different circumstance under a different administration for a different bit of geography with the support of a vastly different Congress to justify a new war 13 years later is not the way the Nation should make the great decision about whether to go to war. That is why the repeal of the 2002 authorization and a significant revision of the 2001 authorization is so important.

Finally, the events of the last months revealed yet again the weaknesses of the War Powers Resolution of 1973, an act whose provisions have been ignored by Presidents and Congresses of both parties since the ink was dry on the original. This fall, as an example, the President provided Congress notice of the start of military action as provided by the 1973 act, but then he completely ignored the 60- and 90-day timeline for ceasing military action and instead continued military operations in a unilateral way. It is time to update the 1973 law so it will work, for gosh sake. Senator McCain and I have introduced a significant revision of the law to improve the consultation between Congress and the President on matters of war, to define the magnitude of conflict that should trigger a required congressional vote, and to set out mandatory timelines for congressional action.

I am fully aware that a better, more consistent process for initiating war will not make our security challenges easy ones. The world is a difficult place. We have bellicose authoritarian regimes—North Korea and Russia—we have non-State actors such as ISIL or Boko Haram or the al-Nusra Front or Al Qaeda. It is a complicated security situation that we have right now, and if we have a better process it will not make those security challenges easy, but I maintain—and my belief has grown stronger with every day I have been in this body—that the absence of a process for making decisions about war coupled with the twin pathologies of Executive overreach and congress-

sional abdication make it harder for us to do the right thing with clarity and with speed.

The events of the last month show that America can make decisions about war in a better way, and it is my hope we will address this important issue promptly as we reconvene in 2015.

Thank you.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. HEITKAMP). The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. CARPER. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRIBUTE TO DON MARFISI

Mr. CARPER. Madam President, over the past few years I have had the great privilege, along with Dr. TOM COBURN, to chair the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs. Our committee has many responsibilities, one of those being oversight of the Department of Homeland Security.

The Department of Homeland Security was created just shy of 12 years ago—a young organization compared to most other agencies. It was established in 2003 following the terrorist attacks of 9/11. It brought together under one umbrella 22 different and disparate agencies. Trying to form one unified agency has not been easy. There have been growing pains aplenty. Our current Secretary Jeh Johnson, Deputy Secretary Ali Mayorkas, and their leadership team have made great strides in addressing challenges, and I am confident their hard work will continue and pay off.

Behind the leadership team at the Department of Homeland Security are the more than 200,000 men and women who go to work each day to fulfill one critical mission, to create a safe, secure, and resilient place where the American way of life can thrive. Whether these employees are encountering terrorism, securing our borders and our airports, responding to natural disasters or bolstering our defenses in cyber space, few other agencies and employees touch the lives of Americans on a daily basis more than does the Department of Homeland Security.

As chairman of the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, I have had the great honor and pleasure of meeting with many of these men and women and learning more about their work, learning about their families, their frustrations, and their dedication to the service of our Nation. We have also heard the Department of Homeland Security leadership from across the Department, including Secretary Jeh Johnson, sing their praises and describe the mission-critical work they perform day in and day out in communities across America and around the world.

A young man named Don Marfisi of Kansas City, MO, is one of those employees. I wish to take a few minutes to talk about him and to acknowledge his service. Don grew up in Omaha, NE. He is the son of a civil servant and homemaker. His father worked for the city of Omaha, his brother worked for the Department of Justice, and his son currently works for the Metropolitan Community College in Kansas City, MO. Clearly, public service is a deep tradition in his family—and from what I hear, it is something Don takes to heart.

Don began his Federal service more than 24 years ago as a supply clerk with the U.S. Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency in Lincoln, NE. Four years later, in August of 1998, he joined the Immigration and Naturalization Service in the Department of Justice. After a little over 1 year there, he was transferred to Citizenship and Immigration Services in the new Department of Homeland Security. Within Citizenship and Immigration Services, Don works at the National Records Center where he is responsible for logistics, procurement, and property management. We can still find him there today. In fact, his colleagues consider him a “cave pillar,” having worked at the Center since opening day.

What does the National Records Center do exactly? According to the Department, it is the keystone to the recordkeeping of the agency for which he serves. We call it USCIS—housing millions of paper records that have been centralized into a single state-of-the-art facility. The Center where Don works improves the integrity of USCIS’s recordkeeping and dramatically reduces the time it takes to retrieve a file or paperwork, meaning faster application processing for an agency charged with overseeing our immigration system.

Don’s current job title, mission support specialist, doesn’t do his work justice. Colleagues say Don is not just a support specialist but an integral part of the National Records Center’s mission support team and plays an important role in nearly all the logistics-related projects executed at the center. In this position, he develops and administers best practices for Federal procurement and property management. While he avoids the spotlight, he is highly valued and sought out for his expertise in the asset management field.

Don’s colleagues told me, “Through his painstaking attention to detail and timely responsiveness . . . he has provided a superior level of customer service to local employees and other stakeholders.”

Don’s attention to detail ensures that folks within Citizenship and Immigration Services have the tools and resources they need to get their job

done. Don’s critical eye and expertise in procurement is also credited for saving the government and the taxpayers over \$500,000 in fiscal year 2013 and over \$800,000 to date in fiscal year 2014. Let me repeat that: Don has saved the American taxpayers in the last 2 fiscal years \$1.3 million.

His service and stewardship don’t end there. At the same time he is saving the Department and taxpayers hundreds of thousands of dollars, he is also finding a way to give back. Along with the money he has been able to trim off the Federal deficit, he has managed to arrange the contributions of nearly \$800,000 in equipment to local schools through the GSA Property Disposal Program. Through this program he ensures that unused or older government equipment goes directly to local schools. Because of his efforts, computers and other equipment that would otherwise be trashed are recycled and used to boost education and raise student achievement in schools across the country.

As one can imagine, educators, communities, and the students themselves who receive the equipment have been overjoyed with the generous donations. But don’t take my word for it. In 2012 the Miami R-1 School District, in Amoret, MO, a small K-12 school located on the Missouri border in the middle of cornfields and cow pastures, received \$45,000 worth of recycled technology equipment.

Sharon Knuth, the school’s technology administrator, wrote to Don saying that her district was “blessed by the GSA Property Disposal program.” She added:

We are limited in our funds and budgets so we do not always have the chance to purchase the latest technology equipment. Because of your generosity, we will put the computers, monitors, speakers and plugs to good use. . . . We will grow and prosper only because we found some great friends like you who gave us support along the way.

Another school in Chadwick, MO, thanked Don for the “blessing”—that is their term—of this new technology they received through his efforts. But there is more. Don was also a member of the Office of Equal Opportunity and Inclusion’s Minority Serving Institutions Program team which facilitated more than \$1 million in computer equipment donations in the past fiscal year 2014.

Don has been recognized for his extraordinary accomplishments in years past. In 2013, for example, he was recognized as USCIS Employee of the Year and as one of the National Record Center’s Employees of the Quarter. Yet despite these great accomplishments and high praise from his colleagues and from people all over the country, Don insisted that every award he has received is a team award. When he learned he was gathering such high praise for his work, his response was:

Being recognized for your efforts is appreciated, however, I’m the fortunate one, I get

to reuse items and give—two things I enjoy doing.

Like a true leader, this man is humble.

Don remembers something that I learned from Department Secretary Jeh Johnson during his confirmation. I learned that one of Secretary Johnson’s guiding principles is a lesson from Dr. Benjamin—known as Bennie—Mays, former president of Morehouse College, who said: “You earn a living by what you get; you earn a life by what you give.”

Think about that for a second, and then think about this man right here and all the giving he has done throughout his career and his service to our country. I just have to say to Jeh Johnson, the Secretary of the Department, that you have a remarkable employee. You are blessed with a lot of remarkable employees, and Don is certainly at the top of the list.

Don’s service doesn’t end at the Department. He has a couple of other critical roles. He is a husband and a dad. He and his wife Pam have been married for 30 years. He has a son, Josiah, and daughter Anna. When he is able to find some well-deserved downtime, he enjoys watching a Big Ten team, the Nebraska Cornhuskers, with his family.

I have to say that as a proud Ohio State graduate, we enjoyed playing you guys this year and look forward to next year—maybe you guys will get some revenge next year.

To Pam, Josiah, and Anna, thank you for sharing your husband and dad with us. He has done extraordinary work for our country and for a lot of communities. We are proud of him, and I bet that you are as well.

Finally, I say to Don Marfisi—on behalf of my colleagues, Democrats, Republicans, and a couple of Independents as well, and the folks who work here in the Capitol, even the pages who are sitting at the bottom of the Presiding Officer’s desk—we all thank you for what you do for us every day, for your service, and for your immeasurable generosity to our great Nation.

I also wish to thank Alejandro Mayorkas. Ale is the Deputy Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security. We were meeting with a number of employees at the Department of Homeland Security. They were discussing how to raise morale, although that is not their day job; it is an additional responsibility they have undertaken. The folks at the Department of Homeland Security—for the 12 years it has been in existence—has suffered from low morale, and sadly, still does. I think that is starting to change.

I am an old Navy guy, and I like to say that things that are hard to do are like changing the course of an aircraft carrier. I think the aircraft carrier is starting to turn at Homeland Security.

One of the keys for an organization to do well is to have great leadership.

As the Presiding Officer knows, at the beginning of this year, there were gaping holes in the top ranks of the Department of Homeland Security. One of the things Dr. COBURN, the committee, and I did—when the administration would nominate a candidate with good leadership skills—was to bring those nominations to the Senate and debate them and vote them up or down. We have made great progress this year, and I am grateful to Senator HETKAMP for being so supportive and a big part of that process.

We have a vote this afternoon on another critical nomination. Sarah Saldana is a U.S. prosecuting attorney. She leads our operation in the northern part of Texas and oversees 100 counties in her great State. She tries to make sure the Federal laws are enforced across her counties.

She has been nominated to be Assistant Secretary at the Office of Immigration and Customs Enforcement, also called ICE. It is a huge job with tens of thousands of employees who work all across America.

I hope when we debate her nomination—she has been supported very graciously by JOHN CORNYN, the senior Senator from Texas, who introduced us to her at our committee hearing—our colleagues will join together in supporting her nomination.

We have this photograph here, and I said earlier this is Don Marfisi in the middle, also known as Pam's husband.

I will be coming to the floor about once a month to talk about this department, which doesn't get the kind of credit it deserves, and the people who work there don't get the credit they deserve. We are trying to make sure that changes, and part of changing the course of the aircraft carrier is to say thanks to the good people at the Department. Don is one of many employees who deserves our thanks.

In this photograph to my right, this handsome young man is Ethan Cole. Ethan is the supervisor for the work that Don and these folks do.

We have here Terry Sloan. She is the Deputy Director of the National Records Center, and we are proud of her and her services. Standing next to Terry is another TC—we have TOM COBURN, TOM CARPER, and Tom Cioppa. I think when this picture was taken, Tom was the Director of the National Records Center, and now he is the District Director of the Chicago District.

Not long ago Ale Mayorkas and a number of Homeland Security employees were paying us a visit. The reason I mentioned Ale is because of a story he told us about a visit someone made to NASA headquarters. I can't recall if it was during the evening or weekend, but it was during off hours. As they were going through one of the big buildings at NASA, the visitor came across a guy who was a custodian. The visitor said to the custodian: What do

you do here? The janitor looked him right in the eye and said: I am helping to put a man on the moon.

The people at Homeland Security, including Don, are helping to ensure that our country is safe and secure. We are in their debt.

With that, I am looking to see if there is anyone else trying to speak. I understand the Senator from South Dakota may be emerging from the Republican cloakroom and looking for a moment to shine. If he doesn't get out here fast, I will just note the absence of a quorum and will let him call it off when he gets here.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### NEW ERA IN THE SENATE

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, the American people made one thing clear in November, and it was this. They are ready for change in Washington. The Senate Republicans are too. In fact, I think even some Senate Democrats are ready for a change in Washington.

When the Republicans take the majority in January, things will look very different here in the Senate. The start of our majority will mark an end to the dysfunction that has characterized the Senate under the Democrat's leadership. Under Republican leadership, the Senate will return to regular order.

We will once again empower the committee chairmen to start the legislative process. Bills will be drafted in committee with input from Members of both parties before the bills are fully debated on the Senate floor, and Members of both parties will be able to offer amendments, which is in strong contrast to the Democratic Senate, where the minority party has been almost entirely prevented from getting amendment votes.

History shows us that the Senate functions best when all Members are allowed to have amendments and votes. In the early years of the Reagan administration, President Reagan aggressively pursued tax cuts that faced opposition from Republicans as well as Democrats. However, after 2 weeks of debate and consideration of 141 amendments, the Senate passed the bill by an overwhelming vote of 89 to 11.

In President Reagan's second term, the Tax Reform Act of 1986 saw 3 weeks of debate on the Senate floor. After the consideration of 109 amendments and 24 rollcall votes, the bill received 97 votes in the Senate.

These are just a couple of examples of a Senate functioning as our Founders intended. An open amendment proc-

ess softens division among Members and builds bipartisan support for major legislation. The result is reforms which are not only historic but longstanding.

In addition to returning to regular order, the Senate will also focus on its oversight responsibilities. Our job is not just to pass legislation. We also have a responsibility to take a look at all government programs and existing legislation to make sure the government is doing its job in the most efficient and effective way possible.

Whether it is the IRS targeting conservative groups or a Department of Veterans Affairs that is failing our veterans, Senate Republicans will conduct aggressive oversight to hold unelected bureaucrats and executive branch political appointees accountable for their actions.

Finally, and most importantly, Republicans are going to change the Senate's priorities. No longer will the Senate's time be tied up with partisan legislation designed to please the Democrats' far left constituencies. Instead, Americans' priorities will be our priorities—jobs, the economy, and the middle class.

As even the third-ranking Democrat in the Senate admitted recently, Democrats have not done too well at focusing on the people's priorities.

The senior Senator from New York said:

Unfortunately, Democrats blew the opportunity the American people gave them. We took their mandate and put all of our focus on the wrong problem—health-care reform.

Republicans do not intend to blow the opportunity the American people have given us. We will get right to work on legislation to create jobs, grow the economy, and expand opportunities for hard-working Americans. We will take up the dozens of jobs bills that have passed the House but have been collecting dust on the Democratic leader's desk here in the Senate.

We will take up legislation to improve the Keystone XL Pipeline and the more than 42,000 jobs that it would support. We will work with the President to reauthorize trade promotion authority to open new markets to American farmers and manufacturers and make sure that American goods are competing on an equal playing field internationally.

We will take up legislation to improve flexibility for working families so Americans can meet their responsibilities at work while still having the time they need for their families at home. And, of course, we will take up legislation to address ObamaCare.

The President's health care law is not only making our health care system worse, it is also hurting our already sluggish economy. Senate Republicans want to repeal and replace this law with real health care reforms—reforms that will actually lower costs and improve America's access to care.

In the meantime, however, we will chisel away at the law's most damaging provisions—provisions like the medical device tax, which has eliminated thousands of workers' jobs in this industry and is driving up the price of lifesaving devices such as pacemakers and insulin pumps, and the 30-hour workweek, which is forcing employers to cut workers' hours and wages in order to afford ObamaCare-mandated health care costs. We will also work to repeal the health care law's individual mandate. The Federal Government should not be in the business of forcing Americans to buy a government-approved health insurance product.

Finally, Republicans will tackle some of the big challenges that need to be addressed if we are going to put our country back on a path to long-term prosperity. We want to make our Nation's costly and inefficient Tax Code fairer and simpler for families and businesses. We also intend to take up regulatory reform.

Recent regulations released by the President's EPA illustrate just how pressing the need is to reform our country's out-of-control bureaucracy. Just one of the recently proposed EPA regulations—the President's national energy tax—would eliminate tens of thousands, if not hundreds of thousands of jobs and devastate entire communities. No executive agency should be able to damage our economy in that way or to destroy the livelihoods of so many hard-working Americans. It is time to get America's regulatory agencies under control.

Republicans heard what the American people said in November, and we are not going to let them down. January 6 marks the start of a new era in the Senate. The Republican majority will focus on the American people's priorities: creating jobs, growing the economy, and increasing opportunity for middle-income American families. We hope the Democrats will join us.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oregon.

Mr. MERKLEY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senator from Ohio be allowed to speak directly after the conclusion of my remarks.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### KLAMATH BASIN

Mr. MERKLEY. Madam President, I rise today to address a key unfinished piece of business that is extremely important to the Klamath Basin of southern Oregon.

The Klamath Basin Act has still not been enacted as of the close of this Congress. In that failure, Congress is missing a critical opportunity to put in place a locally developed solution to a longtime water dispute. This failure creates a substantial risk of cata-

strophic consequences for our ranching and farming families—risks that were entirely avoidable.

Let me start by telling my colleagues what an amazing place Klamath Basin is. Klamath Basin is one of the natural wonders of the American West. It has one of the biggest salmon runs in the Pacific and part of one of the largest continuous blocks of wild rivers and wildlands on the Pacific coast. It is one of the most important migration points in the Pacific coast flyway for bird migration. It is an important place for duck hunters up and down the west coast.

The Klamath River itself charts a path to the south of Crater Lake—an amazing natural wonder where a crater created by a very large cascade volcanic mountain that blew its top—and the California Redwoods to the south. It connects the Great Basin geology, the cascading volcanos, and the deep and majestic rivers and canyons along its way. Amidst this natural wonder, in its basin lies some of the most fertile and productive agricultural land in the northwest, generating \$600 million a year in barley, potatoes, onions, mint, and, as we can see in this photo, beef.

The settlement of the Klamath Basin by pioneers from the east and the subsequent development of farming and ranching in the Klamath Basin has a storied history. The first White explorer thought to enter the area was John Freeman, on his way to play a notorious role in taking control of California during the Mexican-American war. The first White settlers were the pioneering Applegate family, scouting an easier southern route for the final stages of the Oregon Trail. Agriculture was, of course, a major focus of settlement efforts, and even some of the more recently developed agricultural lands played into key moments in American history when part of the Klamath Reclamation Project was developed by the Federal Government and offered as homesteading opportunities to veterans returning from World War II.

Of course, this region had a history long before settlers from the East came to it. It was already inhabited by Native communities who have lived in the Klamath Basin for 10,000 years and who have a deep connection to this amazing place. The Klamath and Modoc Tribes have inherited oral histories of the eruption of Mount Mazama 8,000 years ago, which formed today's Crater Lake. The tribes on the lower river in California—the Yurok, the Karuk, and the Hoopa—talked about having firepits in home sites still in use today that have been carbon-dated as being in human use many thousands of years ago. In the Klamath County Museum, there is on display the oldest sandals in the world that we have ever discovered made of sagebrush.

The early history of settlement from the East led quickly to conflict. John

Fremont's expedition led to a violent battle with the Klamath Tribes. The opening of the Applegate Trail through the basin led to conflict between the Modoc Tribes and White settlers along the Lost River. The resulting Modoc War—a dark chapter in our Nation's persecution of tribes—led to a standoff where the Army held a few dozen Modoc families under siege in barren, hostile lava beds for months.

Unfortunately, for too much of recent history, conflict has continued to define the Klamath Basin.

In the 1950s the Federal Government terminated Federal recognition of the Klamath Tribes, converting their 2 million-acre forested reservation into a combination of national forest lands and private lands.

In the 1970s conflict erupted between the lower river tribes and Federal fisheries managers of the tribes' rights to harvest fish they have harvested for thousands of years. Very soon after, farmers, ranchers, and tribes initiated litigation over water rights, and that litigation has been going intensely until very recently. On the one hand, tribes want to be assured of their rights to continue fishing practices they have passed down from generation to generation for thousands of years. Farmers and ranchers want to be sure they will have the water they need to sustain the operations their families depend on for success.

For decades the tension over water has been accentuated in times of drought, culminating most famously in a standoff in 2001 that made national news. During that 2001 drought irrigation water for the Klamath Reclamation Project was shut off to protect endangered fisheries. Thousands of people gathered in Klamath Falls in sympathy with the farmers. There was civil disobedience, and people were worried about the possibility of violence.

When Vice President Cheney intervened and guaranteed water deliveries rather than fish protections, the result was the largest fish kill in U.S. history. Meanwhile, agriculture was damaged. Families saw major losses, and some had to sell their farms. There were no real winners.

At the time, many people thought that these issues were intractable and that the arguments and lawsuits would continue interminably, perhaps for generations to come. But a number of years ago a group of leaders in the community had the boldness to start rethinking how they framed their quest for water and the water wars. Their briefing to me was one of the first briefings I received as a U.S. Senator. I was surprised to see individuals representing parts of the community who had often been bitter enemies together. They were talking about sitting down and hammering out a different vision for the future to replace the lose-lose water battles of the past

with something different: greater reliability of water for farmers and ranchers and protection for the tribes and their fishing rights and better health for the stream. We had leaders from many different parts of the community sitting down together because—they said to me: Senator, the only folks who are winning right now are the lawyers. They wanted to change that.

I was skeptical that groups who had battled for so long could sit down and work out an agreement. As we say in the West, whiskey, that is for drinking, and water, that is for fighting. But these folks said: We are going to pursue a different path.

I pledged that if they were able to develop a solution, I would do everything I could at the Federal level to help implement it. They defied the expectation of every cynic by coming up with a remarkable plan that solved an array of complex problems. The irrigators committed to reducing the total amount of water they take from the river from a variety of conservation practices. They are working collaboratively with the community and the tribes to restore habitat. In exchange, they get certainty and predictability for guaranteed amounts of water. The tribes and conservation groups and fishing organizations agreed to stop challenging these irrigators' water allocations. In exchange, they get a community partnering to restore natural resources that are of cultural and economic importance to the tribes and to help them reacquire some of the land they lost 50 years ago.

Complementing all of this and augmenting the natural resource restoration is a plan to remove four antiquated dams and open up new habitat for fish. The private utility that owns these dams agrees that the best business decision is to remove these dams. So this is a win-win situation, or actually a win-win-win-win situation.

Let me give an example of this in terms of water looked at from the perspective of the agricultural community. This chart shows, over a variety of years—2010 through 2014—what the actual deliveries were in acre-feet, thousands of acre-feet, 189,000 acre-feet, and what they would receive in the settlement: substantially more; substantially more in 2011 and substantially more in 2013. So this also provides more water for the refuge, and we can see a change of positive water for the refuge as well.

This is why everyone is coming to the table and finding a path that works better during difficult times for all of the major goals of water management in the region.

The deal is a lifeline for farming and for ranching: tens of thousands of additional acre-feet added and in some cases 100,000 acre-feet of water in some areas; at the same time, stream flows for fish, removing obstacles for migra-

tion of the fish, improving habitat. It is a truly remarkable deal.

Community leaders not only developed a visionary agreement, they also remained dedicated to this agreement during some difficult drought years in 2010 and 2013 and low water in 2014. So they could have been shattered, the coalition could have been blown up by these difficult drought years, but instead they viewed it as reinforcing why they needed to come to an agreement to save the ranching and the farming and improve the fish and restore important provisions for the tribes. They have continued to work together while we here in Congress have not acted. Also, they worked on an additional agreement to bring in additional ranchers from the upper basin into the agreement, and that worked as well. They worked to dramatically reduce the cost of the habitat restoration investments that the original plan called for. They drafted a bill with no new spending. The entire agreement was challenged by the litigation of the water rights in that the adjudication of these water rights was finally completed and, for the most part, the Klamath tribes were awarded water rights to time immemorial.

That is a powerful tool. The tribes could have walked away from the table. They could have taken this enormous control over water rights and said the agreement hasn't been implemented; we are walking away and going to use these water rights with maximum leverage.

They created partnerships. They pledged to work together, as all of these groups have, advocating not just for themselves but for the collective future of the community and collective stakeholders.

Quite frankly, this is a remarkable development in what is happening with all of these stakeholder leaders sticking together. Congress is key, however, to passing legislation that implements the provisions of this plan.

It is time for Congress to act. The Senate did its work. The Energy and Natural Resources Committee held hearings under the leadership first of Senator WYDEN and Senator MURKOWSKI, then under the leadership of Senator LANDRIEU and Senator MURKOWSKI. Senator MURKOWSKI, Senator WYDEN, and I were able to negotiate bipartisan revisions of the bill addressing significant and legitimate concerns that had been raised.

We modified Federal authority related to dam removal and requiring Governors to sign off and giving Congress a 1-year period to veto a decision to take out a particular dam. We removed provisions that the Congressional Budget Office said might contribute to the deficit. The Energy and Natural Resources Committee voted the bill out of committee on a bipartisan basis.

The community leaders have gone to work getting even broader statements of support. The Klamath County Chamber of Commerce endorsed the bill. The Klamath County Farm Bureau has endorsed the bill. The Klamath County Cattlemen's Association and the statewide Oregon Cattlemen's Association have endorsed the bill. The Klamath Falls City Council has endorsed the bill, and the Oregon Water Resources Congress has endorsed the bill.

The Senate has been ready to act, but the U.S. House of Representatives has not. Here we are in the last days of this Congress unable to complete this bill. So today I am calling upon our leaders in the House and in the Senate to work together to make this an item of immediate action when we start our new session in January.

The tribe is held back on enforcing its water rights, and the stakeholders have stayed together, saying they were going to support the multiple provisions for themselves and their partners. But that cannot last forever. Congress has to act to seal the deal. Without cooperation, this vision, so carefully, diligently, and painfully constructed over years of involvement of community stakeholders, will fall apart. What that will do is put the entire farming and ranching community in great jeopardy. We can see hundreds of families lose their water in a matter of months due to Congress's failure to act.

This community has done everything right. They have put aside longstanding tensions and conflicts. They sat down time and time again to work out these complicated provisions. They sought the help of the Interior Department which came and signed off on the agreement. They sought the State government and the Governor to sign off on the agreements. They solicited local support. They put aside damaging rhetoric during times of intense drought over the last couple of years, and they hung together. They have done everything we could have ever asked a group to do to prepare for this legislation to be passed, yet it has not been passed because the House of Representatives has not been ready to act.

We must not let this opportunity escape. We must come back in January with support from the Senate and from the House and complete this deal. This opportunity might not come again.

I ask my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to recognize that when in a region great work has been done to resolve a longstanding conflict, they need Congress to step in and seal the deal, make the agreement real, and implement the agreement. We must give it the utmost attention and help make it happen for the health of the stream, for the welfare of the tribes, for the success of the farming community, for the conditions that make ranching a vital component of the Klamath Basin—for all of these reasons.

I certainly pledge to come back and work toward that end and look forward for us early next year to not be here on the floor lamenting the fact we have failed to complete this agreement but to be here thanking all of those who came together to seize this critical opportunity.

I yield the floor to my colleague from Ohio.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

Mr. BROWN. I ask unanimous consent that following my remarks, the Senator from Hawaii be recognized.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRIBUTE TO JAY ROCKEFELLER

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I rise today to honor one of my best friends in the Senate and a long-time public servant whom I greatly admire, JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER IV.

In 1964, in Athens, OH, President Johnson went to Ohio University, and he said:

Poverty hides its face behind a mask of affluence. But I call upon you to help me to get out there and unmask it, take that mask off of that face of affluence and let the world see what we have, and let the world do something about it.

Several months later, JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER IV, 27 years old, came to West Virginia as a VISTA volunteer. Well-educated and well-connected, JAY ROCKEFELLER could have chosen any career he wanted. But to him, it was about public service.

This year marks JAY's 50th year in public service. He found himself in Emmons, WV. Emmons, WV, is a small town. JAY didn't shy away. JAY didn't keep his distance. He wanted to know the people he was going to be working with, and he set out to do that. For 2 years, he worked alongside the people of Emmons for accessible health care, for education, for opportunities. His work included dismantling and moving a condemned elementary school from a neighboring town onto a flatbed truck, and establishing it in Emmons as a community center.

JAY never forgot that, JAY, who in this Chamber sits across the aisle from me at this desk. I was sitting here 2 weeks ago and JAY was talking about Emmons. He said going to Emmons—and I will quote from his farewell speech 2 weeks ago to the Senate:

That set my moral compass and gave me direction. Where everything in my real life began. Where I learned how little I knew about the problems people face. I was humbled by that lesson.

He went on to say:

My time in Emmons was transformative. It explains every policy I pursued and every vote I have cast. It was where my beliefs were bolted down. And where my passion met my principle.

Fifty years ago, JAY learned those lessons. For 50 years, as a VISTA volunteer, as a State legislator, as the

Secretary of State, as the Governor of West Virginia, and as a Senator for 3 decades from West Virginia, he learned those beliefs. They were bolted down, and he practiced those beliefs.

In 1966, he was elected to the West Virginia House. Two years later, JAY had an opportunity that most people I know would not have refused.

Robert F. Kennedy was assassinated—the Senator from New York at that time. In June of 1968, the Governor of New York, Nelson Rockefeller—JAY ROCKEFELLER's uncle—offered that appointment to the U.S. Senate to JAY ROCKEFELLER. The Governor offered that position to JAY ROCKEFELLER, and his answer to his uncle was: No, thank you. I want to earn a seat some day in the U.S. Senate.

That is what JAY set out to do. He reminded us a few weeks ago:

Important undertakings can't be half-hearted. You have to commit your whole self—almost like pushing a heavy rock uphill. With both of your hands you push, because if you let up for a split second with either hand, you and the rock go tumbling backwards into the abyss.

JAY had a chance to prove that in this body over 20 years ago. He pushed that rock uphill to fight to protect retired coal miners' promised health care benefits. It is easy for Members of this Senate who have good titles, who are well paid, who dress like this, who don't really need to go out and listen to the public very much, to forget people like union coal miners or nonunion coal miners.

He called this “the greatest moment of my career.” JAY threatened to keep the Senate in session. He was going to do whatever it took—22 years ago, over Christmas, over New Year's, whatever it took—to make sure his colleagues didn't leave town before passing the 1992 Coal Act. Because of his legislation, more than 200,000 coal miners and their families have kept the benefits they were promised.

He spearheaded efforts to ensure workplace safety. I have talked to JAY after coal-mining disasters when miners are killed in one of the most treacherous, difficult, and dangerous jobs we can imagine. I can see the pain in his face because he knows people who work in the mines and he has listened to them.

When Lincoln's staff wanted him to stay in the White House and win the war and free the slaves and preserve the Union, Lincoln used to say, I have to go out and get my public opinion bath. That is what JAY did. A son and grandson of privilege, JAY understood that he served the public best when he got his public opinion bath and when he went out and listened to people. He fought against unfair trade practices, and he fought against tax policies that shipped jobs overseas. He reinvigorated the steel caucus, fighting for an indus-

try that clearly has been victimized by unfair trade practices.

Most importantly in JAY's career—and the thing I think he is most proud of—was another lesson he learned in Emmons, WV. He learned that many of the community school-aged children had never been to a doctor, they had never seen a dentist before because their families simply didn't have the money. Because of that, JAY made accessible, affordable health care for children part of his lifelong mission. He believes that health care is a right and not a privilege.

He championed Medicaid expansion, and he championed this new health care law. It has JAY ROCKEFELLER's fingerprints all over it. That is why hundreds of thousands of people in my State are grateful to JAY ROCKEFELLER, because hundreds of thousands of people in Ohio now have health insurance who didn't have it before. Hundreds of thousands of families have benefited for a couple of decades because their children had health insurance. Again, this is because of JAY ROCKEFELLER.

In 1997, he devoted much of his time and career at that point to help write the Children's Health Insurance Program, CHIP. Because of CHIP, 8 million children across this country—some of them in Emmons, WV, and some of them in my hometown of Mansfield, OH—now have access to health care, health care that they would not have otherwise. He continues that fight always on health care.

I want to close with this. I have seen a lot of Senators come and go. I have seen a lot of Members come and go. I have seen a lot of public officials come and go. There can be a shortage of humility in these jobs. As Members of the House and Members of the Senate, sometimes we are a little puffed up about our titles and about the power that many of us have, and we are caught up in the way we are treated. People are often obsequious to Members in Congress, and all of that.

What stands out to me—it is even more remarkable when you consider his family and what he came from—is JAY ROCKEFELLER's humility. Here is the best example, I think. I found out almost by accident what JAY, as a member of the Veterans' Affairs Committee, would do regularly during his time in the Senate is he would send all the staff away, he would send the press away, and he would go to someone's home or community center or rec center or labor hall and he would sit with a number of veterans and listen to their stories. He would take notes and help those individually who might need help. Most importantly, he was listening to their stories.

It reminds me of another story from Abraham Lincoln. Lincoln's staff watched him, during one of his public

opinion baths, talk to a number of people who were pushing him on something that mattered to them personally.

His staff wanted to send them away. Lincoln said, "No, I am not going to do that." Then Lincoln said—about these people who were talking to him, ordinary citizens outside the White House or anywhere else the President of the United States may have been—Lincoln said: They don't want much. They get so little. Each one considers his business of great importance. I know how I should feel if I were in their place.

I can see JAY ROCKEFELLER meeting with veterans, many of whom had never been thanked for their service. Many of them were suffering from wartime injuries from their time in the service, coming back to West Virginia and eking out a living. I can see JAY ROCKEFELLER saying the same thing: They don't want much. They get so little. Each one considers his business of great importance. I know how I should feel if I were in their place.

Going back 2 weeks ago to JAY's farewell speech across the aisle at this desk, he called upon us to remember that "our north star must always be the real needs of the people we serve." JAY used his farewell speech to exhort us to do better on behalf of miners, on behalf of veterans, on behalf of single parents, on behalf of children, on behalf of sick people, people who do not always get a fair shake in life.

He found his north star in public service, a career he chose because he wanted a mission to complete, a cause to believe in, a dream to follow. He found that mission. He found that cause. He found that dream in Emmons, WV, in 1964. It never left him. That is my friend JAY ROCKEFELLER. For all of that we are so grateful.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Hawaii.

Ms. HIRONO. Madam President, I rise today in support of the nomination of Sarah Saldana to serve as Director of the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, better known as ICE.

Before I proceed, I would like to thank the good Senator from Ohio for his tributary remarks regarding JAY ROCKEFELLER, an uncommon man of the people.

Prior to supporting Ms. Saldana's nomination in the Judiciary Committee, I did have a chance to meet with her. Growing up in a large family near our southern border in Corpus Christi, TX, Ms. Saldana managed to overcome hardship and become the first Latina U.S. Attorney in Texas history.

Sarah Saldana is fully qualified to serve as ICE's Director. She is a senior Federal law enforcement official for a border State district that spans almost 100,000 miles. Ms. Saldana has been on the ground in Texas and fully understands the complexities and challenges we face with our immigration system.

Republicans and Democrats agree that our immigration system is broken. Until recently, we also agreed, Republicans and Democrats alike, that Sarah Saldana needed to be confirmed as the Director of ICE. However, now Republicans are playing politics with this nomination to a critical homeland security agency. ICE is responsible for important law enforcement issues that make us all safer and has been without a permanent Director for over a year.

ICE's 19,000 people are responsible for enforcement of our immigration laws, for drug interdiction, for fighting child exploitation, and for keeping us safe from national security threats. The Senate needs to do its job and let Sarah Saldana get to work as the permanent Director of ICE. I understand that some of my colleagues on the Republican side now oppose Sarah Saldana because of the President's Executive order on immigration.

President Obama's Executive action allows millions of fathers, mothers, and students to step out of the shadows, pass background checks, work legally, and pay their taxes. The President's action is rooted in the reality that our immigration system is broken and that we need to exercise prosecutorial discretion on who to go after with our limited resources.

As Director of ICE, it is Ms. Saldana's responsibility to focus on homeland security resources on deporting felons and other criminals who have crossed our borders. It is simply not possible for the Federal Government to remove all 11 million undocumented persons in this country.

That is another point on which most Republicans and Democrats agree. We have to prioritize the resources we have. That is what the President's order does. It prioritizes deporting felons, not families. Let me repeat that: Deporting felons, that is all we need to do, not breaking apart families. President Obama's action is grounded on precedent and Executive powers.

Every single President since Eisenhower has used Executive action to provide discretionary relief from deportation. Nonetheless, the President's critics have relentlessly attacked the legitimacy of his action. Some of my colleagues have emphasized that we must enforce our immigration laws and secure our borders in their opposition to Ms. Saldana.

Ironically, my Republican colleagues are opposing the nomination of the Director of an agency responsible for these very things: securing our border and enforcing our immigration laws. Some Republicans do not even want to fund the Department of Homeland Security at all.

Those who are concerned about immigration enforcement and border security should ask themselves: How does opposing Sarah Saldana's nomination and putting DHS funding in ques-

tion make our borders more secure? How do these actions ensure effective enforcement of our laws? They do not.

If you want to truly and permanently address our broken immigration system, we need Congress to work together to pass comprehensive immigration reform, which the American people overwhelmingly support. It has been over a year since comprehensive immigration reform was passed on the Senate floor. Congress must continue working to pass commonsense, humane reform that puts families first.

As the President himself has said, Executive action does not replace congressional action. To those in Congress concerned with what he has done, we need to step up. We need to pass comprehensive reform. But in the meantime, we need to confirm Sarah Saldana so she can get on with the job at ICE.

I urge my colleagues to vote yes on her nomination.

#### ORDER OF PROCEDURE

I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now recess until 2:15 p.m.; that following the 2:30 p.m. votes, the clerk report Executive Calendar No. 1150, the Blinken nomination, and the time until 5 p.m. be equally divided in the usual form, with all other provisions of the previous order remaining in effect.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in recess until 2:15 p.m.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 1:08 p.m., recessed until 2:15 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Ms. BALDWIN).

#### NOMINATION OF SARAH R. SALDANA TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF HOMELAND SECURITY—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the time until 2:30 p.m. will be equally divided in the usual form.

Who yields time?

If neither side yields time, both sides will be equally charged.

The Senator from Delaware.

Mr. CARPER. Madam President, I rise today to urge my colleagues to vote in a few minutes to confirm Sarah Saldana to be Assistant Secretary for Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

A number of our friends have come to the floor opposing Ms. Saldana's nomination, but incredibly enough, I have not heard them question her qualifications. Their opposition appears to be in response to the President's decision to bring 5 million hard-working, law-abiding immigrants out of the shadows earlier this month.



Let me just say, as one Member of the Senate, we can quarrel about the timing and we can quarrel about the policy. I think for the most part the policy in the President's proposal is good. Do I wish we had done it as a body? Do I wish we had done our job? You bet I do. But I wish the President had delayed the announcement until a little bit later this year. He did not. So that is where we are.

Whether you like the President's Executive order or not, today it is about whether we take our responsibility seriously to ensure that Federal agencies have the leadership they need to operate efficiently and effectively.

The single most important ingredient of any organization, I do not care whether it is a governmental entity—I spent some time in the Navy—whether it is a military unit, whether it is a sports team, whether it is a school, business, whatever it might be, the single most important ingredient to the success of that entity is leadership.

This is an agency where we are talking about filling a big gap in leadership in Immigration and Customs Enforcement. We call it ICE. It is critical. It is a critical law enforcement agency within the Department of Homeland Security. Listen to this: It has been without a Presidentially appointed leader now for more than 16 months. That is far too long, particularly when we consider all the issues we face along our borders and the more than 400 laws that this agency, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, enforces.

The agency plays a critical role in securing our borders. They take dangerous criminals off the streets. They send them back to their own countries in many instances. In fact, on any given day ICE arrests some 370 criminal aliens in the interior of our country, they have some 34,000 people in detention in this country, and they remove nearly 500 criminal aliens from our country every day. Every day all that happens.

Managing such a large agency, with one of the most complex missions in the Federal Government, is a tall, tall order. This mission is made all the harder when the agency is forced to go month after month without permanent leadership.

Immigration and Customs Enforcement had the unfortunate distinction of finishing last in the annual survey of employee morale among Federal agencies. That is right—actually, not last; they were tied for last. In how many agencies were the employees really quizzed or questioned about whether they are satisfied with their work? They finished last out of not 100, not 200, not 300, but out of 314 agencies. When I visited the agency recently, employees told me that one of their biggest frustrations was the lack of Senate-confirmed leadership. Thankfully, this is one problem we can remedy, and we can remedy it today.

Ms. Saldana is a true American success story. She rose from humble beginnings in South Texas as the youngest of seven children. She went on to become an accomplished partner at a major law firm. She is now one of the Nation's top law enforcement officers. She could not be more qualified to lead Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

But do not take my word for it. One of our good friends here in the Senate, Mr. JOHN CORNYN, the senior Senator from Texas, felt strongly enough about her qualifications that he was good enough to come and introduce Ms. Saldana at her confirmation hearing before the committee I chair and the Presiding Officer serves on, the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs. Senator CORNYN told us that day that she was highly qualified, fiercely independent, and had served her State with honor.

This is what he said:

If respect for the rule of law is our standard, and I think it should be, we would be hard pressed to find a person more qualified to enforce the law than Ms. Saldana.

His comments. That is high praise, and I could not agree more.

Nevertheless, Senator CORNYN and some of his colleagues now oppose Sarah Saldana's nomination—not because she is unqualified, not because she does not work hard, not because she does not have good values, but because she will have to carry out the President's recent Executive order on immigration. That may be understandable. I think it is also unfortunate. It does not punish the President to leave this position unfilled. It does not just punish the employees to leave this position unfilled. In the end, it punishes the citizens of this country. It makes it harder for Immigration and Customs Enforcement to accomplish its critical mission of helping to secure our borders. It makes it harder for them to do their job in terms of taking dangerous criminals off of our streets. And it hurts the men and women at ICE who deserve a leader to ensure this important agency runs as effectively as possible.

I believe the President acted within the bounds—I know not everyone agrees with me on this, but I believe the President acted within the bounds of the law in announcing his Executive action. While I may quarrel with the timing of it, I also feel very deeply if we—not in this body but in the other body on the other side of the Capitol—had done our job with respect to immigration reform, we would not have this dustup today over this nomination. But whether or not you agree with me, opposing Ms. Saldana's nomination will do nothing to change what the President has done—nothing.

I said it before; I will say it again. It is irresponsible for us to leave a critical agency such as this without a

proven leader. It has been more than 16 months. It should not be another month or two or three.

So I hope Ms. Saldana—the first Hispanic person and the second woman ever to be nominated to run Immigration and Customs Enforcement—does not fall victim to politics here in the Senate. By all accounts, she is exactly what this critical agency needs: a proven leader, a respected member of the law enforcement community.

I urge all of my colleagues—Democratic and Republican and even the two Independents who are here with us serving their States—I urge you to support her. I am proud to do that today.

Thank you, Madam President.

#### CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The bill clerk read as follows:

#### CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Sarah R. Saldana, of Texas, to be an Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security.

Harry Reid, Thomas R. Carper, Patrick J. Leahy, Patty Murray, Tom Udall, Brian Schatz, Charles E. Schumer, Barbara Boxer, Benjamin L. Cardin, Richard Blumenthal, Jeff Merkley, Al Franken, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Martin Heinrich, Elizabeth Warren, Richard J. Durbin, Christopher Murphy.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Sarah R. Saldana, of Texas, to be an Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) are necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN), the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. JOHANNES), and the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 53, nays 41, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 359 Ex.]

#### YEAS—53

Baldwin	Coons	Hirono
Begich	Donnelly	Johnson (SD)
Bennet	Durbin	Kaine
Blumenthal	Feinstein	King
Booker	Franken	Klobuchar
Brown	Gillibrand	Landrieu
Cantwell	Hagan	Leahy
Cardin	Harkin	Levin
Carper	Heinrich	Manchin
Casey	Heitkamp	Markey



McCaskill	Reed	Udall (CO)
Menendez	Reid	Udall (NM)
Merkley	Rockefeller	Walsh
Mikulski	Schatz	Warner
Murphy	Schumer	Warren
Murray	Shaheen	Whitehouse
Nelson	Stabenow	Wyden
Pryor	Tester	

## NAYS—41

Alexander	Fischer	Moran
Ayotte	Flake	Murkowski
Barrasso	Graham	Paul
Blunt	Grassley	Portman
Boozman	Hatch	Risch
Burr	Heller	Roberts
Coats	Hoeven	Rubio
Coburn	Inhofe	Scott
Collins	Isakson	Shelby
Corker	Johnson (WI)	Thune
Cornyn	Kirk	Toomey
Crapo	Lee	Vitter
Cruz	McCain	Wicker
Enzi	McConnell	

## NOT VOTING—6

Boxer	Cochran	Sanders
Chambliss	Johanns	Sessions

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 53, the nays are 41.

The motion is agreed to.

Mr. LEAHY. Madam President, today, we will vote on the nomination of Ms. Sarah Saldaña to serve as Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security, where she will lead the Immigration and Customs Enforcement, ICE, office. Ms. Saldaña has been considered and favorably reported by both the Senate Homeland Security and Government Affairs Committee and the Senate Judiciary Committee.

A native of South Texas, Ms. Saldaña is the youngest of seven children. Inspired by her mother's emphasis on education, Ms. Saldaña went to college and graduated from law school. She established a successful career as an attorney in private practice before becoming a Federal prosecutor. In 2011, with the support of her home State Senators from Texas, the Senate unanimously confirmed her as U.S. attorney for the Northern District of Texas, and she became the first Latina U.S. attorney in the State's history. In this position, Ms. Saldaña has earned a reputation as a tough but fair prosecutor. Throughout her career, she has demonstrated a firm and unequivocal commitment to enforcing the law, and she has pledged that she will maintain that commitment if confirmed to lead ICE.

At her hearing before the Senate Homeland Security and Government Affairs Committee in September, Senator CORNYN introduced Ms. Saldaña and vouched for her qualifications, stating: "If respect for the rule of law is our standard . . . we would be hard-pressed to find a person more qualified to enforce the law than Ms. Saldaña." I agree. Ms. Saldaña has made clear that, if confirmed, she will "faithfully execute all immigration laws, including those laws that [she] or the President disagree with."

Some want to use Ms. Saldaña's nomination as an opportunity to attack President Obama's Executive action on

immigration, but that is not the issue we are considering today. There is no evidence that she was involved in either the House's refusal to allow a vote on the Senate-passed comprehensive immigration reform bill or the President's decision to take what steps he could in the wake of the House's refusal to act. The vote before us concerns Ms. Saldaña's qualifications to lead ICE, and she has proved that she is more than capable of executing the duties of the position. Immigration and Customs Enforcement has been without a Senate-confirmed leader for more than a year. If Senators want our immigration laws enforced, they should focus on filling this key leadership position.

There is no question that Sarah Saldaña is qualified to lead the Immigration and Customs Enforcement office. I urge Senators to vote to confirm her to this important law enforcement position at the Department of Homeland Security without further delay.

Mr. ENZI. Madam President, I wish to express my opposition to the nomination of Sarah Saldaña to be Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security.

My concerns are not based on Ms. Saldaña's qualifications. In fact I supported reporting her out of the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee on November 12, 2014 with every other member of that committee. However, in the wake of the President's unilateral changes to our immigration policies through Executive actions, I cannot support her confirmation at this time.

The head of Immigration and Customs Enforcement is responsible for enforcing Federal laws governing border control, customs, trade and immigration. But last month President Obama announced that he and his Cabinet do not intend to deport several million illegal immigrants, and I cannot vote for someone who will not enforce our laws.

By circumventing Congress on immigration and instituting his will through Executive actions last month, President Obama is eroding the very foundation of our country and form of government. This sets a dangerous precedent where future Presidents can flout any law they happen to disagree with and alter the law without going through Congress. Each branch of government is to act as a check against the others and not sit idly by as one exercises authority it does not have.

For these reasons I must oppose Ms. Saldaña's nomination at this time.

Under the previous order, all postcloture time has expired. The question occurs on the nomination.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Sarah R. Saldana, of Texas, to be an Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security?

Mr. WICKER. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) are necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN), the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. JOHANNIS), and the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS).

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MANCHIN). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 55, nays 39, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 360 Ex.]

## YEAS—55

Baldwin	Hatch	Nelson
Begich	Heinrich	Pryor
Bennet	Heitkamp	Reed
Blumenthal	Hirono	Reid
Booker	Johnson (SD)	Rockefeller
Brown	Kaine	Schatz
Cantwell	King	Schumer
Cardin	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Carper	Landrieu	Stabenow
Casey	Leahy	Tester
Coburn	Levin	Udall (CO)
Coons	Manchin	Udall (NM)
Donnelly	Markey	Walsh
Durbin	McCaskill	Warner
Feinstein	Menendez	Warren
Franken	Merkley	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Mikulski	Wyden
Hagan	Murphy	
Harkin	Murray	

## NAYS—39

Alexander	Fischer	Moran
Ayotte	Flake	Murkowski
Barrasso	Graham	Paul
Blunt	Grassley	Portman
Boozman	Heller	Risch
Burr	Hoeven	Roberts
Coats	Inhofe	Rubio
Collins	Isakson	Scott
Corker	Johnson (WI)	Shelby
Cornyn	Kirk	Thune
Crapo	Lee	Toomey
Cruz	McCain	Vitter
Enzi	McConnell	Wicker

## NOT VOTING—6

Boxer	Cochran	Sanders
Chambliss	Johanns	Sessions

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

#### NOMINATION OF ANTONY BLINKEN TO BE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF STATE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to the consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The bill clerk read the nomination of Antony Blinken, of New York, to be Deputy Secretary of State.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the time until 5 p.m. will be equally divided in the usual form.

The Senator from Maryland.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—EXECUTIVE  
CALENDAR NO. 1058

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, I come to the floor with my colleague Senator BEN CARDIN from Maryland.

Mr. President, the Senate is not in order.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will be in order. Take your conversations out of the Chamber.

Ms. MIKULSKI. Does that mean all conversations, Mr. President?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Please take your conversations outside the Chamber. Thank you.

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, I am on the floor, along with my colleague Senator BEN CARDIN from Maryland, to advocate for Carolyn Colvin to be confirmed as the Social Security Commissioner, making her the chief executive officer of the Social Security Administration.

I am very frustrated that her nomination has become a casualty of the Senate clock and unfair attacks by some Members of the Republican Party. We need a Social Security Administrator and we need a competent, qualified person to lead it and that is Carolyn Colvin. Ms. Colvin's nomination is important because the work of the Social Security Administration is important.

Over 60 million Americans rely on Social Security—900,000 in Maryland. Seniors, individuals with disabilities, and children depend on the benefits and services of the Social Security Administration. It is a big agency with big responsibilities. It supports 63,000 Social Security employees; 11,000 are in the Social Security headquarters in Woodlawn. It is not about the numbers, it is about what they do.

Guess what they do. They administer \$950 billion in benefit payments, approximately 25 percent of all government spending. Last year over 40 million people came to its field offices, 47 million people called the 800 number, 5 million came for retirement, 2.8 million came for their disability. I go through the numbers because it shows an agency, with the magnitude of its responsibility, making sure we determine who is eligible for Social Security, that there is no fraud in Social Security, and that it is administered in a competent, careful way for the American people.

That means you have to have a permanent Administrator; you cannot have someone acting. That is why we go to Carolyn Colvin. She is skilled. She is seasoned. She is experienced. She started out as a clerk at Social Security, and in her public service she has risen through the ranks in a variety of very important positions, being

well known and well respected, and is an excellent public administrator. She is a problem solver, she is a reformer, and she has been the Deputy since December 2010 and Acting Commissioner since February 2013.

I am frustrated at the attacks on Ms. Colvin. It is about a techno boondoggle that began under her predecessor, not under her. In fact, she commissioned the McKinsey & Company to study the problem. The minute she wanted to get to the bottom of the problem, she was accused of all kinds of things.

Everything has been referred to the inspector general. They said let's wait for the inspector general. Guess what. The inspectors general keep recusing themselves for this reason or that reason. While they are recusing, the Republicans are using it as excusing, and we can't get to Carolyn Colvin.

For those who need Social Security, as well as for those who want to make sure the benefits are administered competently, we need a permanent Administrator.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the following nomination: Calendar No. 1058, the nomination of Carolyn Watts Colvin to be the Commissioner of Social Security; and further that the Senate proceed to vote on the confirmation of the nomination; the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; and that no further motions be in order to the nomination; that any related statements be printed in the RECORD; and that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. HATCH. Reserving the right to object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. HATCH. No, Mr. President; reserving the right to object.

I spoke at length on the floor about my opposition to confirming Ms. Colvin at this time. While I do not doubt Ms. Colvin's qualifications for this position, there is a cloud hanging over her nomination, and I do not believe the Senate should move forward with her confirmation until that cloud is removed.

Since Ms. Colvin's nomination was reported out of the Finance Committee, several sources, including the House Ways and Means Subcommittee on Social Security, the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, and individual whistleblowers have reported that the Social Security Administration, over a 6-year period, burned through \$300 million in a failed attempt to develop and implement the Disability Case Processing System or DCPS. Some of this happened on Ms. Colvin's watch as she has served as Acting Commissioner of the SSA.

Sadly, it gets worse. We also heard allegations from multiple sources that SSA officials intentionally misled the agency's inspector general, as well as Congress, about the deficiencies in the development of the DCPS in order to facilitate Ms. Colvin's confirmation in the Senate.

These are serious allegations, and an investigation—one that may very well conclude a criminal element—is ongoing. Once again, Ms. Colvin currently serves as the Acting Commissioner of SSA. This investigation includes people working in her immediate office.

Put simply, the Senate should not move forward on her nomination until this matter is resolved. I intend to work with our two colleagues from Maryland to see if we can resolve this issue. It may very well be that Ms. Colvin has done nothing wrong. I voted for her out of committee. I certainly hope she has done nothing wrong. I hope that is the case. But we should at least be sure before we move her nomination forward; therefore, I have to object at this time.

I believe my colleague Senator ISAKSON may have some comments on this matter as well.

I will surely try to work with my colleagues and see if we can expedite this if there is no problem.

I have nothing against Ms. Colvin at all. In fact, I interviewed her in my office. I quite enjoyed meeting with her.

We will see what we can do to move this forward, but as of right now I have to object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The junior Senator from Maryland.

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I greatly respect Senator HATCH and his respect for the integrity of our system. I know he is acting with his sincere beliefs, but I am disappointed and I need to say that.

The inspector general's report is a serious investigation. It involves episodes that took place during the previous administration in which the Commissioner was appointed by a Republican. There is no indication at all of Carolyn Colvin being the subject of the investigation.

In fact, she has tried to take steps to be totally open and transparent about what has happened and has been totally forthcoming with our committee, the Ways and Means Committee, in providing information.

I wish to stress what Senator MIKULSKI said about the urgency of this matter. If we don't confirm her during the lameduck session, it will be more than 2 years that the Social Security Administration has operated without a confirmed Commissioner. This is one of the most important agencies in the government.

As an Acting Commissioner, she cannot appoint her key team in order to

carry out the responsibilities of the Social Security Administration. The morale of the agency is very much impacted when you can't get a confirmed Commissioner. Quite frankly, the Senate Finance Committee recommended her appointment 3 months ago, and as Senator HATCH pointed out, it was a 22-to-2 vote. The vote in the Senate Finance Committee at that time was not even close, and now we cannot get her confirmed.

As Senator MIKULSKI pointed out, we know Carolyn Colvin. She started out as a stenographer clerk at the Social Security Administration in the 1960s while working her way through college. She went on to become the Deputy Commissioner, carrying out major responsibilities.

Her passion has always been for public service. She was the secretary for human resources for the State of Maryland. She knows State; she knows Federal. Her whole life has been devoted to public service. She is a very honorable person and is dedicated to leading the Social Security Administration.

We have some very critical issues in the next Congress, and we may have some different views on some of those issues, but that is what this Senate is about—to debate those issues. But we need to have a confirmed Commissioner in place to help us sort through the challenges we face. Tens of millions of Americans depend upon the Social Security system. They demand accountability, not just from us but from the agency. How can you have accountability if you don't have a confirmed Commissioner?

All I can say is we have a qualified person who has gone through the process and has been recommended by the committee. She has all the talent, commitment, and drive to do the job, and it looks like we are not going to be able to get this person confirmed. If we don't confirm her now, we will have to wait until the next Congress and start all over again, and we don't know how long that will take.

I appreciate Senator HATCH's willingness to work with us, and I know we will work together on this issue. Senator HATCH has always been an honorable person—and I very much appreciate that—to work with on so many different issues, but I have to express to my colleagues my deep disappointment that we cannot get this nomination up for a vote.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Georgia.

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, I have the greatest of regard for my two colleagues from the State of Maryland, and I respect their passion for this nominee, but I rise to support delaying the advancement of Carolyn Colvin for the Social Security Administration, and I wish to explain why. In fact, my reasons somewhat address some of the reasons for my urgency.

I interviewed Carolyn Colvin on July 29 as a nominee to come before the Finance Committee in my office, as I do with every nominee who will talk to me. It was 2 days after the 2014 trustee's report of the Social Security Administration—a report that talked about the disability trust fund being in danger by 2016 and Social Security being in danger in 22 years.

I asked her questions about what she would recommend to us to fix the unfunded mandates that would be coming up with Social Security. Her answers were at best glib and at worst nonexistent.

I was one of the two votes against her nomination that Senator CARDIN referred to in the committee because I didn't feel I got the kind of passionate answer I needed from her as someone who was going to run the Social Security Administration.

Subsequent to that vote, and before today's debate, the issue came up arising from the disability technology problem and the investigation that is taking place at the Social Security Administration.

I recognize this implementation took place before she was in the position she is now in, but she is in a position of responsibility at the Administration. So until that investigation is complete, I think it would be a rush to judgment to confirm her for the position.

I don't get up and oppose many people on the floor of the Senate. I take my job very seriously, but I do represent the people of my State—those who are Social Security beneficiaries today and those who will be beneficiaries in the future.

I was reading an announcement today about the chief counsel, who is also the State director in my office in Georgia, Edward Tate. He and his wife recently had a baby, Whitaker McMillan Tate, born 4 months ago. Seventy years from now he will probably be a beneficiary in the Social Security Administration. We have to fix it in some way so it is there for him in the future.

I want to make sure the appointees we approve in this Senate are appointees—while they have the Social Security Administration under their care—who will do the things I would want them to do so when I am long gone, those children who will be beneficiaries in the future will have the funds and the money and the Administration to see to it that they are paid.

Reluctantly, but for reasons of commitment, I object to the advancement of the nomination of Carolyn Colvin to the Social Security Administration.

I yield the floor.

Ms. MIKULSKI. To be continued.

Mr. CARDIN. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. HOEVEN. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### TAX INCREASE PREVENTION ACT

Mr. HOEVEN. Mr. President, I am here this afternoon to talk about the Tax Increase Prevention Act. I have been speaking on this issue and I intend to speak on it until we get this legislation passed. I am hopeful that we will get this legislation moved tonight or maybe even tomorrow. But in any event, we need to get this very important legislation passed this week to make sure that taxes don't go up on our small businesses, farmers, and the hard-working citizens of this country. That is why I have been down talking about the legislation and its importance, and I have also been presenting and reading letters and emails from my constituents who have been contacting me about the importance of getting this done. I want them to be heard because they know very well how heavy their tax burden is and why we need to make sure they get relief for their families and for their businesses. I am talking about family farmers, men and women who work long hours and long days on the farm. I am talking about small business owners, manufacturers, shopkeepers, the whole gamut of small businesses across this great country, your neighbors and mine.

First I am going to talk about some of the provisions in the legislation. I am going to start with one that is incredibly important for farmers in my State but really for small businesses across the country, as I said earlier. That is the section 179 small business expensing and depreciation provision.

The section 179 small business expensing limitation and phaseout amounts in effect from 2010 to 2013 through 2015: Taxpayers can expense up to \$500,000 of acquired business property, rather than the current level of expensing \$25,000 and \$200,000 respectively. The \$200,000 is on the depreciation.

The section 179 expensing and depreciation provision is very important for small businesses. It is very important that we get it in place now because they are doing their year-end planning, and they are doing their tax planning. They need to know the rules of the road. They need to know what they can expense and what they can depreciate and how much. It is not just an issue of preparing their tax returns; it is also very much an issue in terms of their planning for next year. What equipment do they buy? If you are a farmer, what ag equipment do you buy? If you are a small manufacturer, what manufacturing equipment do you buy? What repairs do you do? Can you expense those repairs or do you have to go through an elaborate process of setting

up a depreciation schedule and then depreciate that repair over a long period of time?

These are things that make it very difficult to do business for small businesses and also impede their willingness and their ability to go out and buy equipment and to make those needed repairs to keep their operation running. That hurts our economy. That hurts job creation in our country. It is very important. The section 179 provision is incredibly important to our farmers and small businesses throughout the country.

Also, another very important provision is the bonus depreciation for property that is placed in service during 2014 or, in some cases, 2015 for property with a longer production period. If we are not allowed to take that depreciation, you may not buy that new equipment. If you don't buy that new equipment, obviously that has ramifications all the way through our economy.

There are eight provisions in the legislation for individuals, including the deductibility of State and local sales tax, the deduction of certain expenses for elementary and secondary schoolteachers, the extension of the above-the-line-deduction for qualified tuition, and the extension of tax redistributions from individual retirement plans for charitable purposes.

Also included in the legislation are a total of 30 business-related provisions in addition to section 179 and the bonus depreciation. They are very important and make a big difference in terms of the taxes our businesses will be required to pay.

The legislation includes the research and development tax credit that allows companies a 20-percent credit for incremental qualified research expenses or a 14-percent alternative simplified credit for R&D performed in the United States. I will use an example. We have a large Microsoft location in my State, in Fargo. They employ more than 1,700 people at their campus in Fargo.

I am going to use Microsoft as an example. Microsoft is on a pace to spend over \$12 billion on research and development this year, primarily on U.S. jobs. Other countries are competing for the same R&D investment from Microsoft and other companies. Many of them have lower corporate income tax rates, they have stable R&D incentives, and plenty of research and development talent. A consistent and stable U.S. R&D tax credit gives businesses such as Microsoft an incentive to invest and do that research and development in the United States versus some other country.

Again, we are talking about not only economic activity and jobs in our country, but we are talking about innovation right in our country that drives job creation and economic growth. As I said, the real key, I believe, is the impact this legislation has on small busi-

ness across this country. Small business is the backbone of our economy.

I want to take a few minutes to read some more of the letters and emails I have been receiving on the importance of passing this legislation and putting in place the section 179 expensing and depreciation for our small businesses.

The first letter I am going to read is from Wayne Hauge, a CPA from Ray, ND, a small town in North Dakota. He is speaking on behalf of many of his clients. He writes:

Senator Hoeven, what about the IRC Section 179? \$25,000 is far too low of a limit, and should be eliminated if that is all that can be expensed in a year. Far better would be reinstating prior limits and making such a change permanent.

A farmer does not plan a crop after you've harvested it. You plan it a year in advance. Income tax planning is the same. It is an extremely poor financial planner who decides to buy something based on an ever-changing tax policy, and after the fact.

I realize the political system in this country is stagnated, with refusals by both parties to agree on anything. But the time is now to put some semblance of future planning back on the table and help us to stay on top of the game, rather than whining about what should have been done.

We owe it to Wayne and his clients to get this bill done before we leave.

Here is another one. This one is from Mike Van Gorkom with Titan Machinery in Wishek, ND. Titan Machinery is a dealer for Case IH, Case Construction, New Holland, and New Holland Construction. Titan Machinery also represents Titan Rentals, Titan Aggregate, and a varied list of short-line equipment to meet specialized customer demand and niche product needs.

I was just wondering if anyone can tell me when to expect a vote on extending Section 179 tax deductions. I have been following this bill along with many of my customers. Many farmers are waiting to purchase equipment from me until they find out if they can use it for this year's deductions or wait until next year. Thank you and have a nice day.

Lawrence D. Stockert, a small business owner in Bismarck, ND, wants to purchase new equipment this year, but he is not certain he can because we have yet to pass the tax extender package. He writes:

I would like to know if there is a possibility for the Senate to pass the increases in the Section 179 depreciation rules. The previous year's provision enabled me to buy new equipment. Can you take this bill to the Senate and get it passed? I would like to purchase additional equipment this year as well.

Then from Stephen Stafki, vice president of service, General Equipment & Supplies in Fargo, ND. He is concerned about the bonus depreciation provision in the extender package. The Tax Increase Prevention Act extends the 50-percent bonus depreciation to property acquired and placed in service during 2014 or 2015 for certain property with a longer production period. He writes:

Senator Hoeven, I am writing to you to express my support for passing bonus depreciation before the end of 2014. As a small busi-

ness owner this legislation is crucial to us and our customer base. I truly hope you will fight to push this legislation through Congress and garner enough support to be able to override any Presidential veto.

The last letter I would like to read today comes from Jay Hansen of Fargo, ND. It is especially telling, because like the earlier letter I read from a CPA, he is also a CPA. Essentially he is speaking for the 1,000 farmers whom he does work for.

My name is Jay Hansen. I am a CPA working for Iver Eliason CPA PC in Minot, ND. We have approximately 1,000 farm clients who rely heavily on depreciating farm machinery as part of their overall tax planning strategy. With the discussion regarding the tax extender bill being on the agenda before the end of the year, we are curious to know if you have any insight on what we can expect and when we can expect it. Any information you can provide me regarding the Section 179 expense deduction would be greatly appreciated.

So time is of the essence. We are days from the end of the tax year, days away from the holidays. Millions of Americans are depending on us to spare them a burden that will hurt their businesses and hurt their families. If we do not act, taxes will go up on hard-working Americans, on small businesses across this country, on farmers. So we need to act. We need to make sure that does not happen. We need to pass the legislation we have here on the floor. We need to get it done now.

So I urge my colleagues to join together in bipartisan fashion and get this done. Let's pass the Tax Increase Prevention Act and make sure we do not see a tax increase on our small businesses and the hard-working taxpayers of this great Nation.

I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### CLIMATE CHANGE

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, we are winding down the end of this year and, indeed, the end of this Congress, and I am here today to give the last "Time to Wake Up" speech in this Congress. I am particularly pleased to be delivering it while my friend from West Virginia is presiding. He actually took the trouble to come to Rhode Island and hear firsthand about what is happening in my State on these issues.

The year that is ending now ushered in some mighty dubious milestones. January through November 2014—the year so far—were the hottest first 11 months of any year recorded. Unless something dramatic changes in December, 2014 is on track to be the hottest year since we began keeping records

back in 1880. That would mean that 14 of the warmest 15 years on record were in this century. According to the World Meteorological Organization's secretary general, "There is no standstill in global warming."

This chart shows the decades-long rise in the ocean's heat content from the surface down to a depth of 2,000 meters—a little over 1 mile. Look at 2005 to 2014, the red part. NASA estimates that the amount of energy needed to account for that much warming in that much ocean is equivalent to four magnitude-6.0 earthquakes occurring every second for those 9 years. Four 6.0 earthquakes every second for 9 years would create the kind of energy necessary to warm that much. Well, obviously it wasn't earthquakes that did it. We would have known about that. And the first law of thermodynamics—conservation of energy—decrees that all that heat in the ocean had to come from somewhere. The near certain source of that heat is increased greenhouse gases, mostly carbon pollution trapping heat from the Sun.

Since the rise of fossil fuel energy, we have been on a carbon binge. As long as humans have been on the Earth, we have existed safely in a range of about 170 to about 300 parts per million carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. This year the concentration of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, measured at the famous Mauna Loa Observatory in Hawaii, exceeded 400 parts per million for more than 3 months. Archeologists estimate that our human species has been around on this planet for about 200,000 years. The Earth last saw such high levels of carbon as 400 parts per million for that long a period more than 800,000 years ago.

Oceans have absorbed more than 90 percent of the excess heat that the carbon has trapped. As seawater warms—we all know by the law of thermal expansion—it expands, and as a result sea levels rise. Satellite measurements show that in this period, global average sea level rose about an inch. NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory attributes about one-third of global mean sea level rise to the warming of the upper ocean. Combine that with the melting of glaciers on land, and you can see that climate change is significantly increasing sea level worldwide. In my home State I see this. And the Presiding Officer was there. The Newport tide gauge records nearly 10 inches more water than it did in the 1930s.

Carbon pollution in the atmosphere also dissolves in the ocean. It doesn't just warm it up, it dissolves in it. When it dissolves in it, it makes it more acidic. Indeed, the extra carbon dioxide that humans have pumped into the oceans has caused a nearly 30 percent increase in the acidity of the upper ocean, which means a lot for shellfish, such as mussels and clams and oysters,

that make their shells from calcium carbonate because calcium carbonate dissolves in acidified seawater.

In July 2014 a Maine oyster farmer—a guy named Bill Mook—came to the Environment and Public Works Committee and described for us the difficulty his oyster crop—his oyster spat, they call it—had maturing. Here is what he said:

Through observation, trial, and error, we reached the same conclusion made by researchers using controlled, replicated experimentation. Acidification is not a future problem. It is a problem now, and it will only get worse.

He said it is a problem now and it will only get worse.

Measurements of the atmosphere and ocean tell us that climate change is real. We already see the harm connected with it in storm-damaged homes, flooded cities, drought-stricken farms, and raging wildfires, in fish disappearing from warming, acidifying waters, in shifting habitats and migrating contagions. Climate change loads the dice for these events, which carry real costs to homeowners, business owners, and taxpayers. A key cause is undeniably carbon pollution.

Some of my Republican colleagues continue to deny that climate change is even happening or at best they will stand mute in the face of the changes we see, in the face of so much evidence. "I am not a scientist" is all we get from some. Well, if they are not scientists, maybe they should ask one. Ask NOAA. Ask NASA. Ask our National Academies. If a Senator doesn't know what they are talking about, they should study up. That is our job. If they can't be bothered to ask a scientist, then look at what the military is saying about climate change or what the business community is saying.

The military's 2014 Quadrennial Defense Review, for example, offers a straightforward assessment of the threat climate change poses to national and international security. Even in Pentagon bureaucratese, the assessment is pretty harsh:

Climate change poses [a] significant challenge for the United States and the world at large.

Climate change may exacerbate water scarcity and lead to sharp increases in food costs. The pressures caused by climate change will influence resource competition while placing additional burdens on economies, societies, and governance institutions around the world.

The Pentagon also released a Climate Change Adaptation Roadmap this year, detailing the military's plans for a changed climate. The report states in no uncertain terms:

Climate change will affect the Department of Defense's ability to defend the Nation and poses immediate risks to U.S. national security.

That would seem to me to be a phrase worth listening to.

The business and financial community also see climate risk. Former

Bush Treasury Secretary Hank Paulson teamed up with former New York City business tycoon and Mayor Michael Bloomberg, former Republican Senator Olympia Snowe, and others, to put together an evidence-based assessment of the risks posed by climate change to the U.S. economy. Their report found that between \$66 billion and \$106 billion worth of existing American coastal property will likely be below sea level by midcentury. That pricetag could top \$500 billion by the end of the century.

They also found extreme heat could reduce labor productivity of outdoor workers by as much as 3 percent by the end of the century.

They found that shifting agricultural patterns could cause States in the Southeast, the lower Great Plains, and Midwest to see a 50- to 70-percent loss in average annual crop yields. It is a risk we would be reckless to ignore.

One bright light of 2014 has been the proposed limits on carbon emissions from existing coal plants announced this year by the Obama administration. The new standard will not only reduce emissions, it will change the way the polluters think. Now that it is no longer going to be free to pollute, I suspect some new thinking by polluters will be followed in short order with some new thinking on the other side of the aisle here in the Senate.

Another bright light of 2014 was the Obama administration's carbon-reduction agreement with China, the world's largest carbon polluter now, followed by news this weekend from Lima that every nation in the world is expected to put forward a plan to rein in its carbon pollution.

The public is with us on this, too. A recent poll released by the insurance firm Munich Re showed that 83 percent of Americans believe the climate is changing.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator's time has expired.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. I ask unanimous consent for 1 additional minute to conclude the page in front of me.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Seven Americans in ten say we should use more solar and wind power to battle climate change. An AP poll released this week said that half of Republicans favor regulations on carbon dioxide emissions.

In 2014, the physical evidence of climate change continued to mount. Our military, our business leaders, our President, and the American people all affirmed their commitment to fending off the worst effects of carbon pollution. So in 2015, Congress will need to step up to the plate.

I have introduced carbon fee legislation that would provide a practical tool for getting this done. By charging a fee on carbon pollution, we can correct the market failure that lets polluters unload the costs of their pollution on the

rest of us, and compete unfairly in energy markets. We can use those proceeds to reduce other taxes. Most important, we can significantly reduce harmful carbon pollution. We just need to wake up. Maybe 2015 will be the year.

I thank the Senator from Oklahoma for his courtesy, and I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma.

SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY PROGRAM AND  
FRAUD

Mr. COBURN. Mr. President, I hope not to use all our remaining time. But I come to the floor to talk about an issue that should be very important to every American.

In less than 20 months, the Social Security Disability system will be bankrupt—out of money. That may sound like just a scare tactic, but that is what the trust fund trustees say. And we have known this for some time.

My colleague CARL LEVIN, as chairman of the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, and myself as ranking, have spent a great deal of time oversighting Social Security disability. We issued a report that had some pretty remarkable findings in it. I thought I would go through some of those findings today, because I have two major concerns.

One is that those people with true disabilities are going to see in 18 months a 20-percent cut in what they get paid each month, and they are barely surviving on the disability payments we give them today.

The second thing is the failure of the Justice Department, when handed an absolutely, totally perfect case to prosecute criminals taking advantage not only of people with disabilities but other people of this country.

Social Security disability insurance is an important safety net for a large number of people—about 11 million—in this country. In the past 5 years, we have gone from 11 million to 14.1 million applications for disability—some of that is associated with our recession, but some with true injury.

We started out very meticulously as we looked at this, and I wish to applaud some of the employees of the Social Security Administration because they were the ones who highlighted to me—people who worked in the Oklahoma City Social Security office—the lousy quality of what was happening as these were being processed.

So what we did is we went to the Social Security Administration and we asked them to randomly select 300 case files—100 each—from 3 different geographical locations throughout the country. That included Oklahoma County, in my home State.

What we looked at was a large random number of cases, most of them drawn from decisions made by the Social Security Administration's 1,500 administrative law judges.

What we found, using Social Security's own criteria, was that 25 percent of the cases were decided absolutely erroneously, according to their own rules and their own guidelines.

But that didn't surprise the Social Security Administration, because they had been looking at it all along and they knew that, according to their records, 23 to 24 percent of all the cases had been being decided erroneously.

Our second step was to look where we saw this abuse at the highest, and that was in the Huntington, WV, Social Security Disability Hearing Office. So Senator LEVIN and I set our investigators about doing a total and comprehensive investigation of that office.

The problems we found there were similar to the problems we found in our prior investigation in these three other offices, except much worse. The Huntington office got our attention in part because it processed more disability cases than almost every other Social Security office in the Nation—much of that to just one attorney by the name of Eric Christopher Conn.

Despite practicing in a town of only 500 people, Mr. Conn had become the third highest paid disability attorney in the entire United States. He helped thousands of people get on to the disability program, and in 2010 he received \$4 million in payments from the Social Security disability program. The only other attorneys receiving more from SSA were Charles Binder of Binder and Binder—who, I noticed, filed bankruptcy this week—who received \$22 million; and Thomas Nash of Chicago who received \$6.3 million.

When we looked more closely at Mr. Conn's operations, what we found were reasons for serious concern. While some of what Mr. Conn did involved outright fraud—which we have documented and proven—at times he was simply able to exploit loopholes in Social Security's system. Both of those things should be a concern to Congress.

To ensure the cases were approved and his attorney fees kept flowing, Mr. Conn colluded with an ALJ in the Huntington office by the name of David B. Daugherty. The two men worked together to award hundreds of millions, if not billions, of dollars in fraudulent disability claims. This is an administrative law judge.

The plan involved several calculated steps. First, Judge Daugherty needed to ensure that Mr. Conn's cases were assigned to him. Normally, agency rules require cases to be assigned to the ALJs on a rotational basis, with the oldest case being assigned to a hearing date first. This way, no one administrative law judge receives too many of one attorney's cases.

Judge Daugherty, however, would at times intercept Mr. Conn's cases and assign them to himself. If cases would slip past him and get assigned to another judge, Judge Daugherty would

inappropriately go into the computer system and move the case to his jurisdiction.

The next step in the plan involved Judge Daugherty calling Mr. Conn's office every month to let them know what kind of additional evidence he needed for each client to be able to award disability benefits. Judge Daugherty started the monthly call by relaying the name and Social Security number of each person he was ready to approve. He would then say whether the new piece of evidence should relate to a mental or a physical medical impairment. The list of claimants would then be typed up by employees in Mr. Conn's law firm. Mr. Conn's staff referred to these monthly lists as the DB lists—the David B. Daugherty list.

We reviewed these DB lists, every one of them, from June 2006 through July 2010. Each list contained as many as 52 names each month. In total, the DB lists from that time period contained the names of 1,823 claimants who were all approved for disability benefits.

After Judge Daugherty told Mr. Conn the kind of medical evidence he needed, the next step shifted to Mr. Conn to ensure a doctor provided that evidence. Fortunately for Mr. Conn, he had a crew of doctors in his pocket, ready to provide what he needed.

To find doctors willing to go along with him, Mr. Conn searched the Internet for ones with checkered pasts. The doctors Mr. Conn used often had histories of malpractice and some had medical license revocations in multiple States. In fact, Mr. Conn's "go-to" doctor was the subject of numerous malpractice lawsuits and even had his medical license revoked and suspended in several States. Mr. Conn scheduled the DB list of claimants to be seen by his doctors. The doctors spent as little as 15 minutes evaluating each claimant and sometimes saw 35 to 40 claimants a day. Mr. Conn paid the doctors that he knew \$500 for each claimant they saw.

The doctors would complete a form used by the agency to determine a claimant's residual functional capacity to work in any job available in the national economy. While the evidentiary forms provided by the doctors were supposed to be specifically tailored to the physical or mental impairments of each client, all of Mr. Conn's forms were the same. They were prefilled out. He had 15 versions of the physical form and 5 versions of the mental form that were rotated among the clients. As a matter of fact, a committee determined that 97 of Mr. Conn's claimants approved by Judge Daugherty had exactly the same residual functional capacity—a statistical impossibility. It could not happen.

Mr. Conn would then submit the RFC forms—the residual functional capacity forms—with a brief description of the claimant to Judge Daugherty. Judge Daugherty would then approve



the claim for benefits in an abbreviated decision, determining the evidence presented by Mr. Conn outweighed all the other evidence in the claimant's medical file. At times, the medical evidence Judge Daugherty ignored could be thousands of pages long.

The plan made Mr. Conn millions. In 2010 SSI paid Mr. Conn almost \$4 million in attorney fees, making him the third highest-paid attorney in the country. In turn, he paid out almost \$2 million to the doctors who were giving the unscrupulous, ill-advised, and absolutely erroneous premanaged outcomes. Judge Daugherty, mysteriously, under our subpoenas had received some \$100,000 in unexplained cash deposits into his bank accounts during this time. But Judge Daugherty wasn't approving just Mr. Conn's cases. In the last 5 years of working for the agency, Judge Daugherty awarded more than \$2.5 billion in disability benefits. During that period, he approved more cases than any other ALJ in the entire United States.

There was another judge, Chief Judge Charlie P. Andrus, who played a major role in approving the fraudulent claims. He allowed Judge Daugherty to decide a high number of claims. He and Judge Andrus enjoyed accolades and national recognition. The Huntington office rose to have the second fastest processing time in the entire country. No wonder—they didn't actually process claims. It was a slam dunk. You get under Judge Andrus, you get under Judge Daugherty, you get Eric Conn, and you get approved—no matter whether it is true or not. Mr. Andrus, as the acting superior judge, did nothing to stop Mr. Conn and Judge Daugherty. He actually colluded with Mr. Conn to target a whistleblower from his own office.

The second thing I would note about Judge Andrus was he was not truthful in his testimony before the committee under oath, and we have evidence of his lying to the committee under oath.

When all of this was exposed, the agency put Judge Andrus on paid administrative leave and filed a claim with the Merit Systems Protection Board. That was in January of 2013.

In 2014 Mr. Andrus voluntarily retired according to a decision from the Merit Systems Protection Board. The complaint the agency filed against Mr. Andrus charged him with conduct unbecoming an ALJ; engaging in an apparent conflict of interest; lack of candor; and unauthorized disclosures.

Despite these charges, as part of the settlement agreement, the agency agreed to refrain from pursuing any disciplinary action against Andrus and to provide a neutral reference to prospective future employers. Andrus retired with his pension. So a crook retires with their pension. So no disciplinary action is taken against Charlie Andrus, even after he turned a blind

eye for years and allowed Judge Daugherty to award billions of dollars in disability benefits, admitted he conspired to retaliate against an employee, and was untruthful to Congress under oath. Nor has the Department of Justice taken any action against Mr. Conn or Judge Daugherty. In fact, Mr. Conn continues to represent disability claimants before the Social Security Administration—these two men who actively committed fraud on one of the most important safety net programs our government runs.

We should not let the actions of these individuals go unpunished. But that is what is happening. I recently had a visit with the IG from the Social Security Administration, Mr. Patrick O'Carroll. At this point the U.S. attorneys in West Virginia and Kentucky had both recused themselves and declined to prosecute Mr. Conn. Now I wonder what he has over them. I wonder what it is when you have a closed case—a prosecutorial case that you have to do no work on—and the U.S. attorneys will not prosecute a thief of the highest order. Since both U.S. attorneys recused themselves, Mr. O'Carroll is now trying to convince the Criminal Division of the Department of Justice here in Washington, DC, to take action. But to date no charges have been filed against Mr. Conn, Judge Daugherty or Judge Andrus.

If they do not take action against Mr. Conn, the Justice Department is sending a message that disability fraud will go unpunished. We need to be sending the opposite message—that these types of fraudulent practices by attorneys like Eric Conn must be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law—otherwise the disability program, no matter how much oversight we do on it, will continue to be abused, leaving those Americans who have no choice but to rely on it with less than what they expected.

I would add one final statement. In working with a lot of the disability community, we introduced this week what we hope the Congress will take up in future years as a reform to the disability program that takes the fraud out of it—the opportunity for fraud—that takes the ability actually to hold people accountable and also gives back the dignity to those who can get back to work and uses that to help them accomplish that goal.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Utah.

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I certainly appreciate all the remarks the Senator from Oklahoma has said. He is one of the great Senators of all time, as far as I am concerned.

I ask unanimous consent that I be permitted to give this statement, which shouldn't be much more than 15 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### TRIBUTE TO DEPARTING SENATORS

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, as we wind down the final days of the 113th Congress, it is a good time both to reflect on the past and to look toward the future. I have been very moved as I listened to the farewell speeches of our departing Senators, and I wish I had time to pay tribute to each one of them. They have all been wonderful colleagues, and I enjoyed working with and getting to know every one of them. I wish them all the very best in all their future endeavors. They will most certainly be missed.

In terms of the future there are a number of challenges before us. We have an economy that despite recent upticks is still struggling. We have a national debt that despite recent reductions in the deficit is headed toward astronomical levels, and we have a pending crisis with our entitlement programs that threatens to swallow up our government and take our economy down with it. I believe we can fix these problems, but it is not going to be easy.

#### TAX REFORM

Today I would like to take a few minutes to talk about a particularly important effort that I believe will help address some of these fundamental changes and challenges. I am talking about tax reform. Over the last few years I have spoken numerous times on the floor and elsewhere about the need to fix our broken Tax Code. I would understand if there are some who tire of hearing me talk about tax reform, but that doesn't mean I am going to stop any time soon.

Tax reform is no longer optional but essential. If we are going to get our economy moving again, we need a Tax Code that will stop standing in the way. Make no mistake. Promoting job creation and economic growth is the first and most important step we need to take in order to address our Nation's most pressing problems. This is no secret to anyone in this Chamber. I don't believe I have been blessed with unique insight into these matters. We all know what we have to do and that, in and of itself, is pretty remarkable. Indeed, with all the partisanship and division we have seen over the past few years, there is bipartisan agreement on the need to reform our tax system. There are disagreements on the details that cannot at this time be overlooked, but on the basic question surrounding the need for reform, people in both parties have reached the same answer: Reform is necessary, and it needs to happen sooner rather than later.

My hope is that today I can say a few words that will help to set the stage for our reform efforts in the near future. Last week I released a report drafted by my staff on the Senate Finance Committee entitled "Comprehensive Tax Reform for 2015 and Beyond." This report—I have been calling it a book

because it is 340 pages long—outlines the major issues policymakers would have to confront as we undertake tax reform. It describes where we are with our current Tax Code, where we have been, and most importantly, it gives some direction as to where we should go with our reform efforts in the future. I hope all of our colleagues will take time to read through it.

I need to be clear. This is not a tax reform plan. It is a discussion of ideas and principles that I hope will be the first step in a renewed bipartisan effort to reform our Nation's Tax Code in the very near future. More than anything, I hope my colleagues will view this book as an invitation to work together in this most important endeavor.

As I outlined in the book, tax reform, in my view, should be undertaken with a set of simple principles in mind. The most important principles are the three set out by President Reagan the last time Congress was able to pass a major tax overhaul, nearly three decades ago. President Reagan's first principle, and in my view the most important, is economic growth. Tax reform should significantly reduce many of the economic distortions that are present under the current income tax system and promote growth in our economy. It should eliminate the anti-competitive nature of the current tax system, such as the high U.S. corporate tax rate, which stifles job growth. High marginal tax rates are present up and down the income scale and they act as disincentives for work, entrepreneurship, and investment. These growth deterrents—which are embedded nearly everywhere in our Tax Code—should be eliminated.

President Reagan's second principle was fairness. The income tax base, which has become riddled with exclusions, exemptions, deductions, and credits, should be as broad as possible. Tax reform should reduce the number of tax expenditures, thereby broadening the tax base while simultaneously lowering tax rates. A broader tax base coupled with significantly lower tax rates is the basis of what would be a much fairer tax system.

The final principle outlined by President Reagan was simplicity. Our Tax Code has grown to almost four million words. Today, approximately 59 percent of American households use paid preparers to do their individual income taxes and another 30 percent use tax software to assist them. Taxpayers and businesses spend over \$168 billion annually. That is larger than the size of the entire economy of New Zealand, and an amount that would employ more than three million workers full time at an hourly wage of \$25.

A simpler Tax Code would greatly reduce these compliance costs, resulting in greater efficiency and compliance by American taxpayers. Let's unleash resources from being devoted to figuring

out or gaming our broken Tax Code and make the resources available for job creation.

The three principles from President Reagan would be vital to our tax reform efforts. But, as I said, it has been nearly 30 years since Congress tried to put President Reagan's principles into action. Much has changed in that time. In order to address the needs of today, additional principles are necessary.

One of those principles is permanence. The Tax Code needs certainty. The Joint Committee on Taxation lists almost 100 tax provisions that will expire between 2013 and 2023. Individuals and businesses need to be able to rely on provisions in the tax law for planning purposes. The lack of certainty in our tax laws hinders job creation and stifles economic growth. We need a tax system that no longer threatens to change from year to year.

Another important principle is competitiveness. The combination of a high corporate tax rate, worldwide taxation, and the temporary nature of some tax incentives make U.S. companies less competitive when compared to their foreign counterparts. In addition, U.S. multinationals are discouraged from repatriating foreign earnings because of the U.S. corporate tax that applies at the time of repatriation—a corporate rate that is the highest in our industrialized world.

Tax reform should reduce the high tax rates on businesses and also achieve neutrality through a competitive international tax system, thereby placing worldwide American companies on a level playing field with their foreign competitors when conducting business in other countries. The result would be more worldwide American companies establishing or retaining their corporate headquarters in the United States, more exports to global markets, and retention and investment of money in the United States rather than abroad.

Promoting savings and investment is another important principle. Many aspects of the U.S. income tax system discourage savings and investments by individuals, thereby hindering long-term growth. Tax reform should result in a tax system that actually encourages people to save and invest.

Last, but certainly not least, there is the principle of revenue neutrality. I know this will be a sticking point for some, though, for the life of me I can't see why. If we are scouring the Tax Code looking for ways to squeeze more revenue to fuel government spending, we are not reforming the Tax Code, we are raising taxes. It is as simple as that.

Tax reform should not be used as an excuse to raise taxes on the American people or on U.S. businesses. Any effort to use tax reform as a revenue-raising exercise is a needless distraction. Anyone who believes that the American

people are currently undertaxed should look at historical trends.

According to the Congressional Budget Office, Federal revenues are set to exceed historical averages as early as next year and will remain that way. We can talk about shoring up deficits and paying for spending, but we should not be looking to the Tax Code as a resource for additional revenue.

If you count up these principles—including those established by President Reagan, and the ones added since—there are seven in total. In my view, these seven principles should serve as guideposts for our tax reform efforts. Any idea or proposal we consider should link back and be relevant to at least one of these principles. The best ideas and proposals should probably link back to all of them.

As I said, the book we released last week outlines these principles and also provides a wealth of background information about our Tax Code and the need for reform. I view it as a first major step in a tax reform effort that I hope will get underway early next year.

In the coming weeks and months, I plan to reveal additional steps. I plan to involve many of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle, particularly those who will be joining me on the Senate Finance Committee.

My hope is that as this conversation continues, a path toward real bipartisan tax reform will begin to take shape. Of course, it will take more than just talk and discussion. It will take hard work, commitment, and, of course, compromise.

I said it many times before, and I will say it again today: I am willing to work with anyone, Republican or Democrat, to reform our Nation's Tax Code, and I look forward to continuing this effort in the 114th Congress, and, if necessary, beyond.

I yield the floor.

**THE PRESIDING OFFICER** (Ms. WARREN). For the information of the Senate, as of 5 p.m., the time until 6 p.m. is equally divided in the usual form.

**The Senator from Arizona.**

**Mr. McCain.** Madam President, I rise to discuss my opposition to the pending vote concerning Mr. Anthony "Tony" Blinken, who is not only unqualified, but, in fact, in my view, one of the worst selections of a very bad lot that this President has chosen.

I hope that many of my colleagues will understand that I do not come to the floor to oppose a nomination of the President of the United States often because I believe that elections have consequences. In this case, this individual has actually been dangerous to America and to the young men and women who are fighting and serving our country.

**Mr. Blinken** has been a foreign policy adviser to Vice President BIDEN since his days in the Senate, but as Robert



Gates has noted, Mr. BIDEN has been “wrong on nearly every major foreign policy and national security issue over the past four decades.”

At the Special Operations Fund Annual Meeting on May 6, 2013, Mr. Blinken discussed a number of the administration’s achievements, including, one, ending the war in Iraq responsibly; two, setting a clear strategy and date for the withdrawal from Afghanistan; three, decimating Al Qaeda’s senior leadership; and four, repairing our alliances and restoring America’s standing in the world.

That is as Orwellian as any statement I have ever heard. Each and every issue—the conditions are a far cry from the so-called achievements that Mr. Blinken describes.

In his capacity as an assistant to the President and Deputy National Security Adviser, Mr. Blinken has been a functionary and an agent of a U.S. foreign policy that has made the world much less safe today.

Let’s review some major elements of that policy, and in particular, Mr. Blinken’s role in conceptualizing and furthering it.

U.S. foreign policy is in a shambles. It is, at best, astrategic, and at worst, antistrategic. It lacks any concept of how to obtain our foreign policy goals. This has led to countless foreign policy failures, including the continued slaughter of the Syrian people by President Bashar al-Assad; the Russian reset that culminated with President Putin’s invasion of Ukraine; the betrayal of our key allies, especially in Central Europe, not to mention Israel; failing to achieve a status-of-forces agreement that would help to maintain Iraqi security and stability; following similarly unwise strategies in Afghanistan—we will see the same movie in Afghanistan that we saw in Iraq if we have a date-driven withdrawal rather than a status-driven, conditions-driven situation; and our feckless position in negotiations with Iran on nuclear weapons that has failed to produce any progress towards an agreement.

I could go into many other failures, such as the vaunted Geneva Convention of 40 nations that was supposed to arrange for the transition of power from Bashar al-Assad and the object failure of the Israeli-Palestinian peace talks, and what will either be an imminent failure of an Iranian nuclear weapons agreement or an agreement that will be disastrous in the long run.

There are two common sayings by the administration officials, not me, that have defined the President’s approach to foreign policy: “Leading from behind,” and “Don’t do stupid [stuff].” These approaches have resulted in a failed foreign policy that has made America and Americans less safe.

Even President Obama’s most strident supporters have begun to question

the President’s foreign policy decisions.

In an article entitled “Damage to Obama’s Foreign Policy Has Been Largely Self-Inflicted,” the Washington Post’s David Ignatius, a key supporter of the administration’s foreign policy goals, wrote, “At key turning points—in Egypt and Libya during the Arab Spring, in Syria, in Ukraine, and, yes, in Benghazi—the administration was driven by messaging priorities rather than sound, interests-based policy.”

What has Mr. Blinken had to say about all of these issues, my friends? I will give you a few examples.

On Iraq, at the Center for American Progress, on March 16, 2012—I am not making this up—Mr. Blinken said:

What’s beyond debate is that Iraq today is less violent, more democratic and more prosperous—and the United States more deeply engaged there—than at any time in recent history.

Less violent, more democratic, and more prosperous.

At a White House briefing on March 16, 2012, Mr. Blinken said:

President Obama and Vice President Biden came to office with this commitment: To end the Iraq war responsibly.

Both parts of that sentence are critical.

End the war.

Responsibly.

Under the leadership of President Obama and Vice President Biden, who the President asked to oversee our Iraq policy—and who has made 8 trips to Iraq since being elected—we have followed that path to the letter.

He went on to say:

At every significant step along the way, many predicted that the violence would return and Iraq would slide backward toward sectarian war.

Get this. He said:

Those predictions proved wrong.

He went on to say:

Over the past three years, violence has declined and remains at historic lows—even after we completed the drawdown of U.S. forces late last year.

Remember, he said this in 2012.

Weekly security incidents fell from an average of 1,600 in 2007–2008 to fewer than 100 today.

He went on to say:

And in December, after more than eight wrenching years, President Obama kept his promise to end the war—responsibly.

And, while Iran and Iraq will inevitably be more intertwined than we, and many of its neighbors, would like, one thing we learned, over more than eight years in Iraq is that the vast majority of its leaders, including the Prime Minister—

Who at that time was Prime Minister Maliki—

—are first and foremost Iraqi nationalists and resistant to outside influence from anywhere—starting with Iran.

Everybody knows that the Iranians are probably the most influential nation in Iraq, certainly under Maliki.

On foreign policy, December 27, 2013, he said:

If we still had troops in Iraq today, the numbers would have been very small. They would not have been engaged in combat. That would not have been their mission, so the idea that they could or would have done something about the violence that is going on now in Iraq seems, to me, detached from the reality of what the mission would have been had they stayed in any small number.

Now you don’t have to take my word for it. Take the word of Secretary Gates, Secretary Panetta, Ambassador Crocker, and any knowledgeable person about Iraq, and I will insert their quotes for the record, including Ambassador Crocker, who said: “Of course we could have left a residual force behind.” Both Panetta and Gates said the same thing.

At no time was there a public statement by the President of the United States or Mr. Blinken that they wanted to very seriously. In fact, they trumpeted the fact that the last American troop at that time—now we have many troops back—left Iraq and bragged about what a great day it was.

On Fox News with Chris Wallace, September 28, 2014:

Wallace:

Finally, President Obama spoke to the U.N. this week, but I wanted to ask you about his speech to the U.N., saying—general assembly last year, in which he said we are ending a decade of war. How could the President have been so wrong?

Blinken:

The president was exactly right. What we’re doing is totally different than the last decade. We’re not sending hundreds of thousands of American troops back to Iraq or Afghanistan or anywhere else. We’re not going to be spending trillions of American dollars.

Wallace:

Mr. Blinken . . . he said all our troops left Iraq. In fact, he has just sent at least 1,600 troops back into Iraq. He said we’ve dismantled the core of al Qaeda. [And yet.] the Khurasan group which you struck in the first day is an offshoot of the core of al Qaeda, and, in fact, follows the direct orders of the leader of al Qaeda, Ayman al Zawahiri.

Blinken:

Chris, they fled. Because we were so successful and effective in Afghanistan and Pakistan, they fled, because we decimated the core of Al Qaeda. They removed themselves. They went to Syria.

At the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace on October 30, 2014:

The White House “sought to leave a limited residual force” in Iraq, but the Iraqi Government simply refused to agree to legal protections for such troops, said then-Deputy National Security Adviser Tony Blinken, who argued the final decision to withdraw all U.S. troops “was not the result of a failure to negotiate.”

“It’s something we worked very hard,” he said. “But . . . after a 10-year ‘occupation,’ the Iraqi body politic did not want us to stay in Iraq. That’s what happened” . . . We were focused and acting on ISIL and the threat that it posed more than 1 year before the fall of Mosul, but the problem began to outrun the solution fueled by the conflict in Syria, Iraqi reluctance, and renewed sectarianism in Iraq in advance of elections with politicians on all sides playing to their bases.

Statements such as these are so divorced from reality, one can only draw one of two conclusions: either that Mr. Blinken is abysmally ignorant or he is simply not telling the truth for whatever motive there is.

By the way, here is what Ryan Crocker said on Iraq:

As a former ambassador to Iraq from 2007 to 2009, do you think it was a mistake not to push hard for the Status of Forces agreement with Iraq before the U.S. pullout?

I would remind my colleagues, Ryan Crocker—probably the most respected member of our diplomatic corps alive today—said:

I do. We could have gotten that agreement if we had been a little more persistent, flexible, and creative. But what really cost us was the political withdrawal. We cut off high-level political engagement with Iraq when we withdrew our troops. There were no senior visits, very few phone calls. Secretary of State John Kerry made one visit prior to this current crisis, mainly to lecture the Iraqis on how bad they were being for facilitating Iranian weapon shipments to Syrian president Bashar al-Assad. And we left them to their own devices, knowing that left to their own devices, it would not work out well.

So we have Mr. Blinken's comments, and juxtapose them with those of Ambassador Crocker.

Here is what Leon Panetta, Democrat, Secretary of Defense said:

It was clear to me—and many others—that withdrawing all our forces would endanger the fragile stability then barely holding Iraq together.

That is from Secretary Leon Panetta's book.

Then he went on to say:

My fear, as I voiced to the President and others, was that if the country split apart or slid back into the violence that we'd seen in the years immediately following the U.S. invasion, it could become a new haven for terrorists to plot attacks against the U.S. Iraq's stability was not only in Iraq's interest but also in ours. I privately and publicly advocated for a residual force that could provide training and security for Iraq's military.

Then he went on to say, talking about the Pentagon:

Those on our side viewed the White House as so eager to rid itself of Iraq that it was willing to withdraw rather than lock in arrangements that would preserve our influence and interests.

That is a statement by Leon Panetta. I will move on to Afghanistan.

Mr. Blinken said:

We have been very clear. We have been consistent. The war will be concluded by the end of 2014. We have a timetable, and that timetable will not change.

This is why I am so worried about him being in the position he is in, because if they stick to that timetable, I am telling my colleagues that we will see the replay of Iraq all over again. We must leave a stabilizing force behind of a few thousand troops or we will see again what we saw in Iraq.

So let's move on to Syria.

In an MSNBC interview in 2014, responding to a question about President

Obama's comment in August 2014 calling it "a fantasy" to say that arming the Syrian rebels 3 years ago would have helped the situation, Blinken:

Fantasy was the notion that had we started to work with these guys—

Talking about the Free Syrian Army—

six months earlier, that that somehow would have turned the tide.

Blinken:

Candy, you know, Assad has been a magnet for the very extremism we're now fighting against. And it is inconceivable to think of Syria being stable with Assad as its leader. He has forfeited his legitimacy. ISIL right now is the wolf at the door. But the answer to both Assad and ISIL actually is the moderate opposition. They need to be built up, so that they can be a counterweight to Assad. In the near term, they need to be built up so they can work on the ground to help deal with ISIL.

Candy Crowley:

So ISIS is the wolf at the door now, but Assad, as far as the U.S. is concerned, is the next wolf at the door?

Mr. Blinken:

We have been very clear that there needs to be a transition in Syria, that as long as Assad is there, it's very hard to see Syria being stable, and he will continue to be a magnet for the extremists we are fighting.

Crowley:

But a transition is not the same as, we will actively help you bring this guy down.

Blinken:

The best way to deal with Assad is to transition him out so that the moderate opposition can fill the vacuum. That's what we have been working on. The more you build them up, the more you make them a counterweight, the more possible that becomes.

Let me just remind my colleagues of what has happened. There is a guy named Caesar who about a year and a half ago smuggled out thousands of pictures. These pictures are the most gripping and horrifying I have ever seen. They were actual pictures which have been authenticated of the atrocities committed by Bashar Assad. They are wrenching, they are heartbreaking, and they are terrible.

Now, 200,000 people have been butchered in Syria, and 3.5 million are refugees; 150,000 are still in Bashar Assad's prison experiencing atrocities such as this. These are little children here. These are little children. They have been massacred by Bashar Assad.

What have we done? What have we done in response to this? First of all, amazingly, these photographs have been authenticated by this guy Caesar. He did testify before the House Foreign Affairs Committee. It didn't seem to rise to the interest of the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee or the American people or this administration.

I was at a refugee camp in Jordan where at that time there were, I think, 75,000 refugees. I was being taken around by a young woman who was a schoolteacher, and she said:

Senator MCCAIN, do you see all of these children?

I said: Yes.

She said: Those children believe that you have abandoned them, Senator MCCAIN, that you Americans have abandoned them, and when they grow up, they are going to take revenge on you.

So here we are, this incredible slaughter, massacre, torture taking place, and what is this administration doing? It is trying to make a deal with the Iranians and leaving Bashar Assad to wreak havoc on the Syrian people who are still able to fight, butchering them with barrel bombs. Most of my colleagues know what a barrel bomb is. It is a huge cylinder, and it is packed with explosives and nuts and bolts and pieces of shrapnell. Bashar Assad, unimpeded, flies his helicopters and they drop these barrel bombs. Then, when they capture these people, this is what is done to them.

Today it is clear that what is happening is that we are attacking ISIS in Syria. We are not attacking Bashar Assad, this butcher. In fact, Bashar Assad has intensified his attacks on the Free Syrian Army—intensified them. Not surprisingly, the morale of the Free Syrian Army is very low.

So General Allen and others have recently proposed a no-fly zone or an aircraft exclusion zone, an idea we have been arguing for, for about 3 years. This President still refuses to do it. It is heartbreaking. It is heartbreaking and it is tragic and it will go down in American history as one of the most shameful chapters because of our failure and the President's personal decision not to arm the Free Syrian Army when all of his key national security advisers—his Secretary of State, Hillary Clinton; the head of the CIA, General Petraeus; and Secretary of Defense, Secretary Panetta all strongly recommended providing arms to the Free Syrian Army.

I will move on to Ukraine. Mr. Blinken:

What Putin has seen is the President mobilizing the international community both in support of Ukraine and to isolate Russia for its actions in Ukraine, and Russia is paying a clear cost for that.

The notion that this is somehow the result of Syria makes very little sense to me. . . . That's because this is not about what we do or say in the first instance, it's about Russia and its perceived interests.

What Mr. Blinken doesn't understand is that weakness in one place translates throughout the world.

When I tell my colleagues, when I tell my fellow citizens that we will not supply the Ukraine people with defensive weapons, they don't believe me. They have watched the country dismembered. They have watched Crimea go. They have watched the shoot-down on an airliner that nobody talks about anymore, and they continue to create unrest and killing in eastern Ukraine, and we will not even supply the Ukrainians with weapons with which to defend themselves.

I see that I am nearly out of time. I would like to say I wish Mr. Blinken's words were matched by his deeds.

At the Holocaust Museum, October 6, 2014, he said:

A new notion is gaining currency: the "Responsibility to Protect." It holds that states have responsibilities as well as interests—especially the responsibility to shield their own populations from the depraved and murderous. This approach is bold. It is important. And the United States welcomes it and has included it as a core element of our National Security Strategy, along with our commitment to prevent genocide and hold those who organize atrocities accountable.

No one can look at those pictures, the thousands, and believe that we have held Bashar Assad responsible.

He ended up by saying:

Endorsing the responsibility to protect is one thing; acting on it is another. All of us in the international community will have to muster the political will to act—diplomatically, economically, or, in extreme cases, militarily—when governments prove unable or unwilling to prevent the slaughter of their citizens.

That is a remarkable statement from an individual whose actions have clearly contradicted that at every turn in literally every corner of the Earth.

I know we will probably lose the vote, but I believe history will hold this administration accountable. History will hold those individuals who are part of this administration, who allowed these slaughters to go on—a dismemberment of a country called Ukraine, the first time a European country has been departitioned since World War II; the needless slaughter of thousands and thousands of Ukrainian men, women, and children, and the thousands and thousands of Syrian children. The list goes on and on.

Now we are going to promote this individual to replace probably the finest diplomat I have known, Secretary Burns. Not only is Mr. Blinken unqualified, but he is, I believe, a threat to the traditional interests and values that embody the United States of America.

Madam President, I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. MENENDEZ. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. MENENDEZ. Madam President, I come to the floor in favor of the confirmation of Tony Blinken, who is no stranger to this institution and no stranger to the most significant national security issues this Nation has faced in a generation.

As the former staff director of the Foreign Relations Committee and a close confidant of then-Chairman Biden and now a member of the Presi-

dent's national security team, he has earned a reputation as hard-working, studious, and keenly analytical. He comes from a family of diplomats and has lived his life in and around the Foreign Service.

His nomination as Deputy Secretary of State comes at a time when the United States is facing a range of critical challenges, from Ebola in west Africa, to Russian aggression in Ukraine, to the challenge of countering ISIL in Syria and Iraq, to Iran's continued request for a nuclear weapons program. At the same time, we are forging new global alliances and partnerships with India, in the Middle East and Asia, and looking for opportunities to expand American exports and business opportunities. There will be no shortage of critical issues he will face.

Foremost on our national security agenda is countering the barbarity of ISIL, whose terrorist ambitions threaten our national security as well as the stability of an entire region. We also face a continued crisis in Ukraine, where the cease-fire has collapsed and Russian tanks, troops, and weapons continue cross-border incursions into eastern Ukraine.

Clearly, the list of challenges is long and the diplomatic calculations are complicated, and all of these challenges will be part of the portfolio of the Deputy Secretary of State. There will be times where we will agree and times where we will disagree. I look forward to working closely with Mr. Blinken should he be confirmed, and I expect that he will be.

I know there is opposition by some of my colleagues to Mr. Blinken. As we considered his nomination in the Foreign Relations Committee last week, several of my colleagues raised concerns which I would like to take a few minutes to address.

First, there is an incredible notion that Mr. Blinken is somehow unqualified. Anyone who has served the Senate Foreign Relations Committee as staff director, two Presidents, a Vice President, as Deputy National Security Adviser to the President of the United States, and has chaired the National Security Council's Deputies Committee is more than qualified, and my colleagues know it. They simply disagree with the politics and the policies of the President which are the responsibility of the person who is serving that President to ultimately promote—anyone he chooses to appoint to a key position. But they cannot disagree that Mr. Blinken has served the Nation admirably, with dignity, diplomacy, and has honored every position he has held, that he has devoted his life serving this Nation's national security interests, and he has excelled at doing it. Frankly, if Mr. Blinken is unqualified, then the bar my colleagues have set is too high for any human being to reach.

I ask those who would object to this nominee, what additional qualifica-

tions can there be? Outside of already occupying the position for which he is nominated, it is hard to understand what additional qualifications my colleagues would expect Mr. Blinken to have to demonstrate his worthiness. Perhaps they would prefer that he be nominated by a different President whose policies they agree with, but that is not how it works.

This is an eminently qualified candidate who has the full trust and confidence of this President, my colleagues' policy concerns notwithstanding. They may disagree with specific policy decisions of this President dutifully carried out—I repeat, carried out—by Mr. Blinken.

Even listening to my dear friend and colleague Senator MCCAIN, a distinguished member of the committee whom I regret we are going to lose in the next Congress from the committee—when he made the comment that the President's personal decision—referring to Syria—when all his national security advisers recommended providing arms to the Free Syrian Army, Mr. Blinken is clearly one of those national security advisers, but the President is the one who ultimately makes the decision on what policy will be pursued.

That leads us to the questions about Mr. Blinken's participation and decisions involving Iraq, Afghanistan, and other parts of the world, with which certain Members of this body have taken issue.

Mr. Blinken has had to defend those decisions no matter his personal views or advice. That is his job. You can disagree with the President's policies, but you cannot blame this nominee for doing his sworn constitutional duty to carry them out.

I want to be very clear. We cannot judge the qualifications of this nominee or, for that fact, any nominee based on the policy decisions of this President or any President. He has been part of this administration, to be sure, but if the Senate starts to hold every nominee to account for every decision made by every President they serve, I think we will find that there is no one who will pass muster and no one who will be confirmed.

I happen to think President Bush's decision to evade Iraq was a geostrategic blunder of the highest order. I opposed it at the time, and history, tragically, has proven that judgment right. The brave sacrifice of our young men and women and the squandering of hundreds of billions of our children's and grandchildren's inheritance have compounded the magnitude of this error. Would my colleagues suggest that I should oppose all future Republican nominees who served in the Bush administration because no matter how qualified they are, somehow they must be held accountable for what I believe history will show in evaluating

the Bush Presidency as a historic blunder that led to the civil and secular wars that are changing the shape of the Middle East? I don't believe that is what my colleagues would suggest, but that appears to be how they are judging Mr. Blinken. But none of that is reason to oppose Mr. Blinken or any nominee.

I hear these references to Iraq. Well, Prime Minister Maliki at the time opposed signing a status of forces agreement, and without such an agreement it was impossible to have our forces continue to be in Iraq subject to the possibilities of any issues being pursued legally under Iraqi law versus our own law, or, in Afghanistan, the question of what the force size should be in 2014. The President has made the statement of what it is to be, and maybe we can even have disagreements with what the size of those forces should be in 2014 as we see things evolve, but it is not for someone in an appointed position who is supposed to carry out the President's policies to say: No, we are not going to have that size; we are going to have a bigger size.

I fully expect that if confirmed, there will be a number of issues where Mr. Blinken and I probably won't see eye to eye—or, rather, the administration he will represent and I may not see eye to eye. When those issues arise, I fully intend to let Mr. Blinken know exactly how I feel and to engage him in debate to influence the policy, and I will avail myself of all the tools a Senator can use to do so.

Frankly, given his experience working for this body and given his professionalism and experience with the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, I would rather it be Mr. Blinken who will be across the table from me rather than someone else who doesn't have any understanding of this institution and the prerogatives of Senators. I am confident he will understand where I am coming from even when we disagree, and I am confident that he will approach these discussions with an open mind, that he will seek to persuade but he also will be open to persuasion.

I don't think any of us here in this body would like to be held to a standard of perfection in our judgments, one that holds no space for loyal service to this Nation and no space for qualified nominees who have honorably and faithfully implemented the policies of their President.

Let's be clear. We are not judging the President's policies; we are judging the qualifications of a man who has loyally and professionally carried out those policies.

I do not doubt the sincerity of my colleagues in this body. Even when I may disagree, I do not doubt that they are seeking what they believe is the best for our Nation. At times I think they are right. At other times I think

they are wrong. Today, as it relates to Mr. Blinken, they are wrong.

Tony Blinken is a tireless and able public servant who serves the Nation well, and I urge my colleagues to confirm this nominee. He is a man of the Senate, a qualified public servant, and an accomplished national security and foreign policy expert.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. LEVIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. LEVIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that I be permitted to proceed as though in morning business for 5 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### ENDING INSIDER TRADING IN COMMODITIES ACT

Mr. LEVIN. Madam President, last month the Senate's Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations concluded a 2-year bipartisan investigation into Wall Street bank involvement with physical commodities. Our investigation, which focused on Goldman Sachs, Morgan Stanley, and JPMorgan Chase, culminated in a 400-page report and 2 days of hearings. The subcommittee's investigation found these banks involved in a breathtaking array of physical commodities activities. They owned coal mines and oil pipelines, oil tankers and refineries, electric powerplants, massive amounts of copper and aluminum and even uranium.

We examined multiple aspects of financial holding company involvement with physical commodities, including the nature and extent of those activities with the attendant risk, such as the threat to a bank's safety and soundness from a catastrophe along the lines of the BP oilspill in the Gulf of Mexico. We also examined the impact of those activities on consumers, manufacturers, and markets. One key area of concern relates to possible price manipulation and unfair trading.

What we found is that involvement in physical commodities gave these banks access to important nonpublic information that they could use to profit in their trading of financial products tied to those same commodities. In the stock market, the use of such nonpublic information is prohibited, but no such clear prohibition exists in commodities markets. That gives the biggest Wall Street banks an enormous incentive to pursue physical commodities activities—often to the detriment of consumers and manufacturers—in order to profit in financial trades by the use of the nonpublic information they gain from their physical commodities activity and to provide the oppor-

tunity in some cases to engage in market manipulation.

I have introduced, with Senator MCCAIN, a bill intended to prevent such abuses. The Ending Insider Trading in Commodities Act, S. 3013, which we just introduced, would prevent a large financial institution from trading in physical commodities and commodity-related financial instruments while at the same time in possession of material nonpublic information arising from its ownership or interests in a business or facility used to store, ship, or use the same commodity. A large financial institution should not be able to control, for instance, a huge number of warehouses and then use the nonpublic information that it gains and sometimes creates from the operation of those warehouses to trade on the same kinds of commodities stored in those warehouses.

As we learned from our investigation, a financial institution that owns warehouses may manipulate warehouse operations in ways that move the prices of the very financial instruments and commodities the financial institution is trading.

In the case of aluminum, we saw that Goldman Sachs owned dozens of warehouses in the Detroit area, which it used to build a near monopoly on the storage of aluminum in the United States that is used to settle trades on the London Metal Exchange, which sets the benchmark price for aluminum around the world. Using that dominant position, Goldman approved warehouse deals and practices that lengthened the lines, the queues for metal owners to get their metal out of the warehouses to nearly 2 years. By lengthening the queues, Goldman raised the premium that includes such costs as storage and transportation and which, along with the London Metal Exchange's benchmark price, makes up the total price consumers pay for aluminum. Goldman manipulated these warehouse practices in ways that made metal owners wait to get their metal and influenced prices paid to buy aluminum and hedge aluminum costs. All the while, Goldman was trading in aluminum and aluminum-related financial instruments.

It is a rigged game. It needs to be stopped, and that is what this bill is intended to do. I thank Senator MCCAIN for joining me in this important effort. We hope our colleagues will take up this bill and carry on this effort in the next Congress.

(The remarks of Mr. LEVIN pertaining to the introduction of S. 3019 are printed in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

Mr. LEVIN. I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. ENZI. Madam President, I wish to express my opposition to the nomination of Antony Blinken to be Deputy Secretary of State.

There is no shortage of global conflicts or crises facing the United States, and as one of the key positions at the State Department, the Deputy Secretary of State will play a key role in developing and implementing our foreign policy. Unfortunately, I must oppose Mr. Blinken's nomination at this time because his track record on some of the most significant foreign policy and national security issues has raised serious concerns about the direction his leadership would take our Nation's foreign policy.

Mr. Blinken has been a foreign policy advisor for several years and played a significant role in determining how and when the United States left Iraq. I believe this has contributed to the instability in the region. Additionally, Mr. Blinken has been less than forthright with some of my colleagues, and has misstated the Administration's position with respect to Iran sanctions.

I am also concerned about the speed of this nomination. He was nominated a month ago and is being forced through in the lame duck. I believe a nominee of this significance should be subject to a more thorough review because at a time when the United States is facing critical national security challenges on many fronts, we must have proven and effective leadership.

For these reasons, I must oppose Mr. Blinken's nomination.

Mr. TESTER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The bill clerk read as follows:

#### CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Antony Blinken, of New York, to be Deputy Secretary of State.

Harry Reid, Brian Schatz, Patrick J. Leahy, Bernard Sanders, John E. Walsh, Patty Murray, Jack Reed, Tom Udall, Sheldon Whitehouse, Amy Klobuchar, Debbie Stabenow, Christopher A. Coons, Robert Menendez, Carl Levin, Barbara Boxer, Tom Harkin, Richard J. Durbin.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Antony Blinken, of New York, to be Deputy Secretary of State, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) are necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN), the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. JOHANNES), the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE), and the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE) would have voted "nay."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 53, nays 40, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 361 Ex.]

#### YEAS—53

Baldwin	Heinrich	Nelson
Begich	Heitkamp	Pryor
Bennet	Hirono	Reed
Blumenthal	Johnson (SD)	Reid
Booker	Kaine	Rockefeller
Brown	King	Schatz
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Schumer
Cardin	Landrieu	Shaheen
Carper	Leahy	Stabenow
Casey	Levin	Tester
Coons	Manchin	Udall (CO)
Donnelly	Markey	Udall (NM)
Durbin	McCaskill	Walsh
Feinstein	Menendez	Warner
Franken	Merkley	Warren
Gillibrand	Mikulski	Whitehouse
Hagan	Murphy	Wyden
Harkin	Murray	

#### NAYS—40

Alexander	Fischer	Murkowski
Ayotte	Flake	Paul
Barrasso	Graham	Portman
Blunt	Grassley	Risch
Boozman	Hatch	Roberts
Burr	Heller	Rubio
Coats	Hoeven	Scott
Coburn	Inhofe	Shelby
Collins	Isakson	Thune
Corker	Johnson (WI)	Toomey
Cornyn	Kirk	Vitter
Crapo	McCain	Wicker
Cruz	McConnell	
Enzi	Moran	

#### NOT VOTING—7

Boxer	Johanns	Sessions
Chambliss	Lee	
Cochran	Sanders	

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 53, the nays are 40.

The motion to invoke cloture is agreed to.

Cloture having been invoked, under the previous order, all time is yielded back.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Antony Blinken, of New York, to be Deputy Secretary of State?

Mr. REID. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) are necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN), the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. JOHANNES), the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE), and the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 55, nays 38, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 362 Ex.]

#### YEAS—55

Baldwin	Harkin	Nelson
Begich	Heinrich	Pryor
Bennet	Heitkamp	Reed
Blumenthal	Hirono	Reid
Booker	Johnson (SD)	Rockefeller
Brown	Kaine	Schatz
Cantwell	King	Schumer
Cardin	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Carper	Landrieu	Stabenow
Casey	Leahy	Tester
Coons	Levin	Udall (CO)
Corker	Manchin	Udall (NM)
Donnelly	Markey	Walsh
Durbin	McCaskill	Warner
Feinstein	Menendez	Warren
Flake	Merkley	Whitehouse
Franken	Mikulski	Wyden
Gillibrand	Murphy	
Hagan	Murray	

#### NAYS—38

Alexander	Fischer	Murkowski
Ayotte	Graham	Paul
Barrasso	Grassley	Portman
Blunt	Hatch	Risch
Boozman	Heller	Roberts
Burr	Hoeven	Rubio
Coats	Inhofe	Scott
Coburn	Isakson	Shelby
Collins	Johnson (WI)	Thune
Cornyn	Kirk	Toomey
Crapo	McCain	Vitter
Cruz	McConnell	Wicker
Enzi	Moran	

#### NOT VOTING—7

Boxer	Johanns	Sessions
Chambliss	Lee	
Cochran	Sanders	

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

#### CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

#### CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Colette Dodson Honorable, of Arkansas, to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

Harry Reid, Brian Schatz, Patrick J. Leahy, Bernard Sanders, John E. Walsh, Patty Murray, Jack Reed, Tom Udall, Sheldon Whitehouse, Amy Klobuchar, Debbie Stabenow, Christopher

A. Coons, Robert Menendez, Carl Levin, Barbara Boxer, Tom Harkin, Richard J. Durbin.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Colette Dodson Honorable, of Arkansas, to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) are necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN), the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. JOHANNIS), the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE), and the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS).

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. DONNELLY). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 65, nays 28, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 363 Ex.]

#### YEAS—65

Alexander	Graham	Murkowski
Ayotte	Hagan	Murphy
Baldwin	Harkin	Murray
Begich	Heinrich	Nelson
Bennet	Heitkamp	Portman
Blumenthal	Hirono	Pryor
Booker	Hoeven	Reed
Boozman	Inhofe	Reid
Brown	Johnson (SD)	Rockefeller
Burr	Kaine	Schatz
Cantwell	King	Schumer
Cardin	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Carper	Landrieu	Stabenow
Casey	Leahy	Tester
Coburn	Levin	Udall (CO)
Collins	Manchin	Udall (NM)
Coons	Markey	Walsh
Donnelly	McCaskill	Warner
Durbin	McConnell	Warren
Feinstein	Menendez	Whitehouse
Franken	Merkley	Wyden
Gillibrand	Mikulski	

#### NAYS—28

Barrasso	Grassley	Roberts
Blunt	Hatch	Rubio
Coats	Heller	Scott
Corker	Isakson	Shelby
Cornyn	Johnson (WI)	Thune
Crapo	Kirk	Toomey
Cruz	McCain	Vitter
Enzi	Moran	Wicker
Fischer	Paul	
Flake	Risch	

#### NOT VOTING—7

Boxer	Johannis	Sessions
Chambliss	Lee	
Cochran	Sanders	

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 65, the nays are 28.

The motion is agreed to.

#### NOMINATION OF COLETTE DODSON HONORABLE TO BE A MEMBER OF THE FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Colette Dodson Honorable, of Arkansas, to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I am going to submit to the body a unanimous consent request in just a minute. However, I want everyone to understand we are trying our utmost to have a pathway so we can move along. We don't have that done yet, but we are working on it. We have a lot of work still to do.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask that everyone be patient. I am trying to be as patient as I can be, as is the Republican leader.

#### UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—H.R. 5771

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding cloture having been invoked, the Senate now resume legislative session and the Senate then proceed to consideration of Calendar No. 627, H.R. 5771, which is the tax extenders legislation; that there be 30 minutes of debate equally divided between the two leaders or their designees prior to a vote on passage of the bill, which will be a 60-vote threshold; that there be no amendments, motions or points of order in order prior to the vote; further, that if H.R. 5771 is passed, the Senate proceed to consideration of H. Con. Res. 124, which is a concurrent resolution correcting the enrollment of H.R. 5771, modifying the title of the bill; that the concurrent resolution be agreed to; and that following disposition of the concurrent resolution, the Senate resume executive session and consideration of the Honorable nomination.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

#### TAX INCREASE PREVENTION ACT OF 2014

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will now resume legislative session and proceed to the consideration of H.R. 5771, which the clerk will report by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 5771) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend certain expiring provisions and make technical corrections, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the tax treatment of

ABLE accounts established under State programs for the care of family members with disabilities, and for other purposes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oregon.

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, with this tax bill, the Congress is turning in its tax homework 11½ months late and expects to earn full credit. Tax incentives will last just 2 weeks before families and businesses are thrown back into the dark with respect to the taxes they owe. The legislation accomplishes nothing for 2015.

The debate takes place against the backdrop of positive economic news, showing that unemployment is down and wages are up—just the kind of news the Congress ought to build on by providing certainty and predictability for families and businesses. Instead, the Congress is about to pass a tax bill that doesn't have the shelf life of a carton of eggs.

Of course, we have the power to enshrine tax provisions for any length of time we choose. What the Congress can't do is travel back through time. The Congress can pass this \$41 billion bill, but it cannot change anything taxpayers did 6, 8 or 10 months ago. Those decisions have been made.

The only new effects of this legislation apply to the next 2 weeks. That is not enough time for the key provisions; for example, putting a dent in veterans unemployment, to start a clean energy project, to hire new workers or to help a student who is on the fence about whether to enroll in college next semester. Particularly important is this bill drops the health coverage tax credit, yanking away an economic lifeline that working-class Americans were counting on this April 15. This means that for tens of thousands of our people in States such as Wisconsin, Illinois, Ohio, and Pennsylvania, who have been kicked down by a fiercely competitive economy, they are going to face a very unpleasant surprise this spring.

I am just going to spend a minute talking about how the Senate got here and where our tax policy should go in the future. The truth is the Senate didn't need to be in this spot. Within a few weeks after I became chairman of the Finance Committee, with the help and good counsel of Senator HATCH and many members of the committee, we unanimously passed the EXPIRE Act, a balanced, bipartisan bill that would provide 2 years of certainty and a springboard to comprehensive reform. When the bill came to the floor, a host of Senators said they were eager to move it forward. Democrats and Republicans all wanted to move ahead, but the toxic Senate environment and a battle over amendments caused the EXPIRE Act to stall out.

This fall there were discussions with the House about a bipartisan, bicameral agreement. I was encouraged at the outset, especially when the



House indicated they would accept the Senate's bipartisan work. We also talked about the possibility of making several provisions permanent. In my view, any agreement on permanent tax policy has to be balanced—balanced between support for business and support for working families. A deal that is skewed in just one direction fails the test of fairness. The Democrats on the Finance Committee felt the same way. The negotiations progressed, more offers were traded, and there was real hope. However, after weeks of hard work, there was a conflicting process and that drove House Republicans to quit the negotiations. Senate negotiators, in effect, were left without a dance partner. Our team kept making new offers. We tried to suggest proposals that had drawn support from Republicans and Democrats in the past, but the House settled on passing this 2-week extender bill that is now before us this evening.

However Senators choose to vote on this legislation, I want to recognize that this bill proves, once and for all, how broken America's tax system is. The Congress is about to spend \$41 billion on a tax incentive package that when done right ought to lift the cloud of uncertainty and strengthen the important parts of our American economy. Instead, all of the \$41 billion in this legislation is going to go for things that happened months and months ago. Virtually all of the \$41 billion has absolutely no incentive power whatsoever. Reforming the Tax Code is going to be hard, but it can be done. I sat next to our former colleague Senator Gregg every week for 2 years to produce the first bipartisan Federal income tax reform bill. I am very grateful to our current colleague Senator COATS, who picked up on those efforts. Senator HATCH—and I commend him for it—put out an analysis for tax reform issues, recognizing that getting more perspectives in the debate is going to help advance reform.

I know Senator HATCH is going to keep working diligently when he takes the gavel—and I congratulate him for that—in January, and I look forward to working with him.

Before we wrap up for the year, I also want to congratulate Senator CASEY and Senator BURR, who worked tirelessly in a bipartisan way on behalf of the disabled. I met with these disabled folks in our community, and I commend Senator CASEY and Senator BURR for their work.

Here is the bottom line for the future: The middle class deserves a tax cut. The tax system in America needs to do more to promote innovation and launch a new wave of job creation. Our country desperately needs a simpler and more competitive corporate tax system that draws investment and jobs to our country. We have to end the cycle of stop-and-go policy that leaves

taxpayers in the dark time and time again.

I want to yield our remaining time to my colleague Senator CANTWELL, from Washington and close by saying, retroactive tax bills, such as the one before the Senate tonight, may satisfy some, but they leave our workers, our families, and businesses wanting. It is the time for real tax reform.

For the last word on our side, my colleague and seatmate, Senator CANTWELL.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

Ms. CANTWELL. Mr. President, I thank the Senator for his leadership on the Finance Committee and just point out to my colleagues who come from States that don't have an income tax that this legislation before us tonight includes making sure we are able to deduct our State sales tax from our Federal tax obligations. I hope we will be here someday when we can actually get tax fairness in the code. This is a permanent solution. We don't have to go back every year to try to get the tax fairness our States deserve. My colleague Senator MURRAY is here and knows this issue well. But tonight at least we can say Washingtonians can take the sales receipts they have this year and make sure they are deducted from their tax obligations for 2014. But as the Presiding Officer said, let's make sure we take these provisions that are so important for our economy to move forward and give the taxpayers predictability and certainty.

I would say that is making the sales tax deduction permanent, but I am glad Washingtonians will at least have this opportunity this year and we will move forward to have a more robust debate.

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, how much time does our side have left?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There is 6½ minutes.

Mr. WYDEN. I want to yield 3 minutes to Senator BEGICH and 3 minutes to Senator CASEY.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

Mr. BEGICH. Mr. President, I will be brief. I wanted to say I appreciate the Senator's comments, and what I thought was most important about it was the fact that these tax benefits come after the fact. It is not going to create new opportunities. The tax reform legislation the Senator has been working on with Senator Gregg, Senator COATS, and myself is about real reform. It is about setting economic opportunities and creating growth. It is not about looking back. It is about looking forward. I have the same feelings the Senator has on this bill; that doing the short term, really 2 weeks, and then putting uncertainty back into the system again for another year would be a mistake. From my perspective, it is a \$40 billion bill that is not

paid for. Let's deal with it. Let's figure out real tax reform.

I will not be here in January. I wish all the Members will sit down, after years of work that you have done, and focus on a longer term situation that actually creates incentive for small business and not after the fact. My wife is in a small business, and they don't spend the last 2 weeks trying to figure out what their tax benefits will be to help do to investments. They have done it already. If we really want to do something for the economy and have real tax reform and real tax relief, focus into the future and not the past.

I commend you for the work that has been done on this, but I agree that there are a lot of problems with this and the way it is laid out for 2 weeks which is problematic.

Mr. WYDEN. I want the body to know the Senator from Alaska has written some of the really thoughtful provisions with respect to education tax credits, and I commend him for that.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, today, the Senate is considering the Tax Increase Prevention Act of 2014, a House-passed bill that extends a limited and narrow set of expired tax credits and deductions, and includes the Achieving a Better Life Experience Act of 2014, ABLE Act. Once again, Congress has waited until the eleventh hour to address tax credits that expired nearly a year ago. Once again, this has resulted in needless confusion for families and businesses who have been unable to plan and unable to grow, given the uncertainty of the outcome of these credits. I heard from Vermonters over the last year concerned about the expiration of these credits—and the pending expiration of dozens of more tax credits that benefit hardworking, middle-class families. Congress has a responsibility to do its part to provide certainty within the Tax Code to ensure families in Vermont and across the country have the predictability they need to make financial decisions. While I support extending these tax credits, I cannot support an effort that once again simply kicks the can down the road and leaves for the next year the unfinished business of this Congress.

I am disappointed that, earlier this year, Republicans in the Senate squandered an opportunity to consider a more comprehensive package that would have benefited small businesses, researchers, the environment, and middle-class families. I have been deeply disappointed in the process, which has left us with a choice between bad: passing the House bill; and worse: not doing anything. This legislation revives more than 55 expired tax deductions from 2013, and while I agree these are important provisions, I cannot support this bill on principle. We cannot continue to retroactively fix problems Congress carelessly and irresponsibly creates,

without addressing the same tax provisions that will expire in just a few short weeks from now, only to have the same fight next year. It is time we have a meaningful, full debate about tax reform, and how Congress can ensure that our Tax Code reflects the needs of all Americans, not just those who are the wealthiest among us.

Included in this patch bill is the important ABLE Act, which allows those with disabilities to plan for their futures by creating tax-free savings accounts. I have strongly supported this legislation, and continue to do so. This legislation creates opportunities for individuals with disabilities to save for college or retirement or other living expenses and opens doors for families across the country. The House of Representatives held two votes last week related to taxes: one on the extenders package, and one on the ABLE Act. If the Senate were allowed to do so, I would cast my vote in strong support of the ABLE Act.

I asked Vermonters to elect me as their representative in the Senate because I wanted carry their voices to the decision centers in Washington. I strongly believe in the best of what the Senate has been, should be, and can once again become. There are many Vermonters, and people across the country, who are counting on us to provide comprehensive, long-term solutions to our country's problems. I hope that in the new Congress we can work together instead of kicking the can down the road, yet again. We were elected to find solutions, not excuses.

Mr. REED. Mr. President, the House has sent us a \$42 billion year-long extension of several tax provisions known as tax extenders. This year-long extension is unpaid for, and while I will support this measure because several provisions in this bill need to be extended—and soon—I must raise concerns about the approach here to once again stack the deck against middle-class families. They rightfully are concerned that they have been left out—and continually so—in policies that this body finds the will to pass.

Case in point is the effort I engaged in all year with my Republican colleague, Senator HELLER, to restore emergency unemployment insurance benefits for 1.3 million Americans. Now this program is typically considered an emergency measure because it has been fundamental to supporting our economic recovery, and as such the \$24 billion cost to extend the program through 2014 would normally not be paid for. Well this year that was not the case and several of my colleagues, particularly House Republicans, insisted that this typical emergency measure be offset for it to get consideration.

So Senator HELLER and I worked with several of our colleagues to craft a paid-for measure that would extend

the program for 5 months. That paid-for bill passed the Senate, but the House has since refused to give it an up-or-down vote—despite the fact that it met the condition of being paid-for and the Congressional Budget Office had estimated a full year extension of the program would create 200,000 jobs and boost economic growth by 0.2 percent of GDP. So it strikes me as incredibly one-sided and patently unfair that House Republicans would send us a \$42 billion unpaid-for retroactive year-long extension of tax provisions that would not generate the same kind of economic boost as UI, but they still would not consider helping the long-term unemployed as they search for work. Indeed, in the bipartisan Senate extenders bill, we included a provision that would encourage employers to hire the long-term unemployed—but even that modest change to the Work Opportunity Tax Credit was not included in the House bill.

This is part of a troubling pattern created by some of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle and in the other body—if it helps a small set of businesses or special interests, well the deficit does not seem to matter to them. But if a proposal or initiative is aimed at helping low and middle-income Americans get a foothold in the economy, then the standard is much higher and constantly changing.

The 1-year tax extenders bill does have some good provisions, like the extension of credits that help families afford college, make it easier for homeowners and lenders to keep families in their homes, or promote the production of renewable energy like wind. But the bill also has tax breaks for race horses, rum, NASCAR and is skewed towards corporations. All equaling a total of \$42 billion in unpaid-for tax cuts.

Indeed, we also considered an appropriations bill, which included a sneak-in provision that allows pension cuts on the backs of middle-income employees and retirees in multiemployer pension plans. We should not have considered such far-reaching pension reform without thoughtful, strenuous, and open debate. So the insertion of a pension deal, negotiated behind closed doors, that hurts middle-income employees and retirees at the waning hours of a lame duck Congress is untenable and further cause for Americans to think that their government does not have their back or care about their economic security. They will see Congress giving tax deals for race horses and NASCAR, while their pensions are cut. That's not how this body should govern.

Now as we enter a new Congress, we will have to confront the impending sequester that we will face head on again in fiscal year 2016, which will seriously frustrate our ability to provide for the national defense and general welfare. Those sequestration cuts, brought on

by the refusal of my colleagues on the other side to reach a deficit reduction agreement that included raising revenue, total \$109 billion per year and will impact non-defense and defense spending equally. So again it is striking that many of my colleagues on the other side will have no problem voting for \$42 billion in unpaid-for tax cuts—or even as was reported last month, a \$450 billion unpaid-for permanent extension of these tax breaks—but when it comes to helping American workers or confronting and undoing the sequester cuts to our domestic programs my colleagues on the other side apply a tougher standard that is tilted against everyday Americans.

I have made the tough choices in the 1990s to balance the budget and I have supported over \$3.3 trillion in deficit reduction since 2010, over two-thirds of that coming from spending reductions. The deficit is on its fastest decline since World War II and has been cut by more than half since 2009. But the economy has not been growing fast enough and many Americans have seen stagnating wages and have the sense that the economy is stacked against them. So I will work with my colleagues, as I have consistently tried to do, to urge them to join with Democrats to spur broad-based growth for every American and ensure the economy and government works for them—not just for large corporations or special interests.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, the Senate will likely pass legislation to extend several dozen expired tax provisions. While I support a number of the individual provisions extended by this bill, I rise today to explain why I reluctantly plan to oppose it.

The so-called “tax extenders” package includes the 1-year extension of a hodgepodge of over 4 dozen tax provisions. This extension is not for the year ahead of us, as one might reasonably expect, but rather for the year that's mostly past us. In other words, we will be extending for 2014 tax programs that expired at the end of 2013. This means that, for the most part, the bill will offer credits and deductions to reward things that have already happened while doing absolutely nothing to help businesses and individuals plan for the future.

If tax policy is intended to influence behavior, the extenders bill is a double failure: it spends money rewarding things that have already happened and offers no incentives for businesses and individuals for the year ahead.

Let's take for example the production tax credit for wind energy, a program I strongly support that encourages the construction of wind farms. The provision in the extenders bill offers this incentive for properties for which construction has commenced by the end of 2014. That's 3 weeks from now. Instead of giving energy companies time to plan and prepare wind



projects, we are saying: if you happen to have one ready to go, you have got until the end of the holiday season to break ground. The clock is ticking.

In contrast to Congress's temporary, year-to-year treatment of the wind tax credit and other incentives for renewable energy, Big Oil and Gas enjoy permanent subsidies in the Tax Code. It is long past time to reform the Tax Code so it reflects America's 21st century energy priorities. Permanent incentives for oil and gas and temporary programs for renewable energy is simply upside-down public policy.

In total, there are 50 or so extensions in this bill, and the only thing they seem to have in common is that Congress repeatedly packages them together. It is truly a mix of the good, the bad, and the ugly. Let's start with some of the good provisions. In addition to clean energy incentives, the bill extends a popular tax credit that encourages businesses to hire veterans, a host of incentives for energy efficiency, and a provision that ensures that families that lose their homes in foreclosure do not incur tax bills for the deficiencies. These provisions have strong bipartisan support.

Then there is the bad: the unjustifiable tax giveaways. These include so-called "bonus depreciation," a program that allows corporations to deduct the costs of equipment right away instead of spreading out the deductions over the life of the equipment. Congress first included this provision in 2009 in the Recovery Act when it made some sense. The idea was to encourage businesses to accelerate their purchases when the economy most needed the investments. We have extended it so many times, though, that now we are just giving money away to corporations for buying things they would have bought anyway. That is a nice subsidy for the businesses, but not a wise use of taxpayer dollars.

The bill also includes tax giveaways for NASCAR tracks and racehorses. While I know these sports are popular, it is hard to justify subsidizing them with taxpayer dollars at a time when we are running large deficits and face the prospect of more budget sequestration.

And then there is the ugly, the stuff that does actual harm. There is a pair of provisions in the bill—the "active financing" and "controlled foreign corporation look through" provisions—that reward U.S. corporations for shifting money overseas to avoid paying taxes. Sadly, there are already a number of provisions in the Tax Code that encourage companies to move operations and assets overseas. We should repeal those provisions, not enhance them as the extenders bill does.

This 1-year, retroactive mixed bag of extensions will increase the budget deficit by over \$41 billion. To put that figure into perspective, that is more than

the annual budget for the entire Department of Homeland Security.

Earlier this year, my senior Senator from Rhode Island, JACK REED, led an effort to extend unemployment benefits for the millions of Americans who have struggled to find work in this uneven economic recovery. Republicans repeatedly filibustered his unemployment insurance legislation, with many citing the \$17 billion price tag and the offsets included to pay for it.

I expect many of these same Republicans will vote to pass the \$41 billion tax extenders bill, legislation which is not offset and will add to the deficit. If Republicans are truly as worried about the deficit as many of them claim to be, they need to raise these concerns consistently and not forget them when it is convenient. Spending through the Tax Code is still spending, and we should offset it.

Mr. President, next year this body will have new leadership and a fresh opportunity to tackle our Nation's problems. I hope Senate Republicans will show us they can exercise the power of being in the majority responsibly. President Obama says he is eager to work with the Republican majority on several major bills including tax reform. I too am eager to work with Republicans on sensible, responsible tax reform—reform that ends the era of year-to-year extensions, eliminates wasteful tax spending, and decreases the deficit.

Mr. WYDEN. I yield the rest of our time to Senator CASEY.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Pennsylvania.

Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, I am honored to be able to rise tonight. I will have a longer statement later to talk about the ABLE Act that Senator BURR and I worked on coming through the Finance Committee and talking with Chairman WYDEN and Ranking Member HATCH. I want to thank the two leaders—Majority Leader REID and Republican Leader MCCONNELL—for not having just a bipartisan effort in the Senate but really a bicameral support for this legislation—over 400 Members of Congress supporting the ABLE Act, simple. For years we have created incentives in the Tax Code to save for higher education, the cost of college, to save for retirement. Now at long last for Americans who have a disability, those families will be able to save for a disability, whether it is to pay for health care or education, the basic expenses that these individuals with disabilities have wanted to save for, for many years.

I am honored to be part of it. I will have a longer statement later. This is a great testament to bipartisanship, coming together on such an important issue. We believe—this is what undergirds the ABLE Act—people with a disability have the ability to live a full life if we give them the tools. One

of those tools is an incentive in the Tax Code to save for the future for an individual with a disability.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Who yields time?

The Senator from Utah.

Mr. HATCH. I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished Senator from North Carolina.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Carolina.

Mr. BURR. Mr. President, I thank the soon-to-be chairman of the Finance Committee and the current chairman of the Finance Committee for their help. I want to turn to my good friend BOB CASEY about this in just a second.

This has taken 8 years to bring to this point. The amazing thing is that we have taken the opportunity to meet with every group on every side of this issue and to find agreement finally, and to go out and tell the American people what we are doing, and they look at us and say this makes common sense; what took so damned long. I am embarrassed it took so long, but this is a product that Congress, the Senate, can be proud of.

Senator CASEY just covered a lot of the specifics of the legislation. I will not go over those again.

I want to say to my colleagues: One of the clues that something was wrong was the fact that we penalized individuals who had disabilities from holding assets. It meant they couldn't buy a car and have it be in their name. It meant they could only earn so much before they were penalized. What we have done is changed the landscape, and we have actually put into effect something that allows them to accumulate something for the later years when parents are gone and when they are going to need the funds. We have tried to be fiscally responsible in capping the annual amounts, capping total amounts, affecting benefits if they exceed those amounts, and automatically reinstate them if they fall back below.

I think this is a bill that the Senate and the House of Representatives can be proud of. I thank the chairs, and I thank Senator CASEY. I also want to take the opportunity on behalf of our colleagues in the House to say to Congressmen CRENSHAW, SESSIONS and Congresswoman MCMORRIS RODGERS that we couldn't have done it without their leadership and an overwhelming vote in the House of Representatives. I urge my colleagues to not only vote yes but to be proud of this legislation.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Utah.

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I am going to personally thank the distinguished Senators from North Carolina and Pennsylvania for their work on the act. It is a very important bill. I want to give them credit for doing such a good job. The Senate will soon vote on

a 1-year tax extenders package that, if enacted, will retroactively extend tax provisions that expire at the end of 2014. It is quite literally the best we can do. At this point it is something we must do. We are actually disappointed that 1-year package that was sent over to the House was basically rejected by the President. We would have preferred to have had that package. On the other hand, this is reckoning time at the end of the year. I might add in his epic speech, Prime Minister Winston Churchill stated, "Never in the field of human conflict has so much been owed by so many to so few."

In the case of the legislation before us, it could be said: Never in the history of tax legislation have so many voted for so little and been so disappointed. In fact, today, for the first time in 20 years, we will ensure that the new Congress will start with all of the regular so-called tax extenders already expired at the end of the first session, as the distinguished Senator from Oregon has explained. That is a dubious distinction that was entirely avoidable in our view.

The problem of course is the President and some of his allies in the Senate pulled the plug on a bipartisan negotiation that would have produced a more satisfying result. As we all know, the Speaker of the House and the Senate majority leader were, just a few weeks ago, on the verge of reaching a deal that both sides could reasonably support. President Obama caught wind of the emerging deal which had yet to be finalized and promptly issued a veto threat. That threat was then ratified by many in this Chamber, including some at the negotiating table. For those who wish we were voting on a better extenders package, they should know who to blame—President Obama and his supporters in the Senate. At this late hour, passing a 1-year extension is the only option left for us.

I plan to support the bill before us, and I urge my colleagues to do the same. I should also note this bill includes, as we have said, the ABLE Act—a great piece of legislation that our colleagues, Senators CASEY and BURR, have worked on for years right up to this point. I want to applaud them for their work on behalf of families affected by disabilities. I take a great interest in that myself, so I am very pleased to see these two leaders getting this bill finally through.

I am pleased we are coming to the end of this session; hopefully in the next year, we can all work together to do an even better job than we have done this year.

How much time do we have remaining?

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. There is 9 minutes remaining.

Mr. HATCH. How much time does the other side have?

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. There is 3 minutes remaining.

Mr. HATCH. The Senate will soon vote on a one-year tax extenders package that, if enacted, will retroactively extend tax provisions that expired at the end of 2013. It is, quite literally, the least we can do, and at this point, it is something we must do.

The remarkable thing about this tax extenders bill is that no one seems to be happy with it. I don't know a single Member of Congress that is pleased that we're going to pass a simple, one-year extension of expiring provisions. But, sadly, that's where we are. Of course, it didn't have to be this way.

There was a time in the not-too-distant past when we were working on a package that would not only extend most of the expired provisions for a longer period time, but also make a number of important provisions permanent, thus eliminating much of the year-to-year roller coaster that individuals, families, and businesses have to go through when planning for their taxes.

There was bipartisan agreement on such an approach. And, in fact, at one point it appeared that a deal—a bipartisan, bicameral deal—was on the immediate horizon. But, as we all know now, that deal came crashing down after the President and some of his more liberal allies here in the Senate decided they were unwilling to compromise.

I came to the floor to talk about this debacle a couple weeks back, but some of the points bear repeating.

Just before Thanksgiving, the Senate majority leader and the Speaker of the House were very close to reaching a deal on the tax extenders, one that would have included all of the provisions of the Senate Finance Committee's extenders package—the EXPIRE Act—while also making a number of tax extenders permanent.

The emerging deal was a reasonable compromise. It would have been something both Republicans and Democrats could support, and I have little doubt that it would have passed easily through both Chambers.

It wasn't perfect. There were certainly parts of it that I, personally, could have lived without and provisions that most Republicans that I know didn't really support. But, as a compromise between two negotiating positions, it was a very good deal, and, as I said, I believe it would have passed easily through both the House and Senate.

Unfortunately, the deal was not good enough for President Obama, who was apparently less willing than the Senate majority leader to compromise on the extenders package. Before the negotiations were even completed and a deal was even reached, the President issued a veto threat. That's right, the President issued a veto threat on a deal still under negotiation. That's how eager he was to put the kibosh on a compromise.

That was unfortunate. What was even more unfortunate, however, was that parties to the negotiations decided to ratify this threat and pull the plug on the deal being negotiated by the leaders of the two Chambers. The President's excuse for issuing his veto threat on the emerging deal was that it did too much to help the business community and not enough to help individuals and families.

For those of us who have been working on tax issues and have been asking the President to engage on these matters, this statement from the White House was more than just a little bit strange. After all, while Republicans have for years been strongly advocating for comprehensive tax reform, encompassing both the individual and business tax systems, the President has only expressed a willingness to engage in tax reform on the business side. Indeed, he has more or less refused to even talk about tax reform for individuals and families, unless, of course, such reform amounted to a massive tax increase.

In other words, he threatened to veto a tax extenders package that, in his eyes, only helped businesses and not individuals, while at the same time, maintaining a vision for tax reform that did just what he said he opposed—helping businesses and not individuals.

The mental gymnastics at play here are dizzying, and you would be forgiven for being confused by the White House's attempt to be on both sides of this issue.

I am definitely confused by the President's statements. I am even more confused as to why some of my colleagues here in the Senate opted to go along with it.

It is no secret that things are going to change around here in the next Congress. I can't imagine that any of my colleagues really think they are going to get a better deal on the tax extenders than the one that was being negotiated by the current Senate majority leader. But, as is too often the case around here, simple and obvious logic can easily be cast aside when there is a political point to be made. That's what I think is going on here. Pure politics. Sadly, as is also too often the case around here, the American people are the ones who are going to suffer.

Rather than a longer tax extenders deal with some permanency in some key provisions, the American people will be left with a 1-year, retroactive extension. Rather than being able to plan for the future, individuals, families, and businesses will instead have to wait around and hope that Congress can do better the next time around.

Don't get me wrong, I plan to support the 1-year extension, as I have said before, but, we could have done better. And, it's unfortunate that, once again, politics and an unwillingness to compromise stopped a good deal—one that

would have satisfied the majority of both parties—from being made.

In his epic speech on the Battle of Britain, Prime Minister Winston Churchill stated: “Never in the field of human conflict has so much been owed by so many to so few.”

In the case of the legislation before us, it could be said: Never in the history of tax legislation have so many voted for so little and been so disappointed.

In fact, today, for the first time in 20 years, a new Congress will start with all the regular so-called tax extenders already expired at the beginning of the first session. That is a dubious distinction that was entirely avoidable.

I have been pretty hard on the President for his actions on this matter. But, it is not just him. There are many in this Chamber who supported and went right along with him, and, as a result, the package we will be voting on is not nearly as good as it could have been. But, in the end, we don't have much choice on this matter. Passing the 1-year extension is the only option left to us at this late hour. So, I plan to support the bill before us, and I urge my colleagues to do the same.

Finally, I just want to say I am very pleased that an extremely important bill will accompany the extenders package. I'm talking about the Achieving a Better Life Experience Act of 2014, or the ABLE Act.

The ABLE Act makes permanent changes to the tax code that will provide critical assistance to families saving private funds for the support of individuals with disabilities. These funds may be used to maintain health, independence, quality of life, and pay for all manner of disability-related expenses. The funds may be used throughout the disabled person's life, an important feature for parents that worry about providing for children with lifelong challenges. The funds will supplement, but not supplant, benefits provided through private insurance, Medicaid, Social Security, and employment.

I especially want to thank my friends and colleagues, Senator CASEY and Senator BURR, who for several years have done the heavy lifting necessary to make this law a reality. For decades to come disabled Americans will owe these two Senators and their fine staffs an enormous debt of gratitude.

I yield the floor without losing any time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oregon.

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, as I indicated earlier, what is especially troubling to me is that we are talking about \$418 billion, in effect, that is supposed to provide incentives. But it cannot change anything taxpayers did 6, 8 or 10 months ago. The decisions have been made. This is a 2-week bill.

I would just say, from my own standpoint, having worked with our col-

league Senator COATS to present a bipartisan alternative, that the lesson out of this debate is that this cannot happen again. Senator HATCH and I put together a bipartisan bill, the EXPIRE Act. We thought that was the way to go. I continue to believe that had we had the opportunity, without an alternative process coming out in the home stretch, we could have built on that. That is not going to be possible tonight.

I hope that Senators will say, however they vote tonight, that the real lesson out of this is when you have an opportunity to provide certainty and predictability for the American economy, take it. Do not walk away from it. Unfortunately, because this bill is only 2 weeks long, that is what we are doing. We are walking away from the chance to provide some certainty and predictability.

Instead, our citizens are going to be in the dark come January 1 with respect to taxes. Let's make sure that next time on a bipartisan basis we do better.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Utah.

Mr. HATCH. If the Senator is prepared to yield back his time, I will yield back ours.

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I yield back the time on our side.

Mr. HATCH. I yield back our time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. All time is yielded back.

The bill was ordered to a third reading and was read the third time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill pass?

Mr. BURR. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) are necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN), the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. JOHANNES), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. KIRK), the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE), and the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 76, nays 16, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 364 Leg.]

YEAS—76

Alexander  
Ayotte  
Baldwin  
Barrasso

Beginch  
Blumenthal  
Blunt  
Booker

Boozman  
Burr  
Cantwell  
Cardin

Carper  
Casey  
Collins  
Coons  
Corker  
Cornyn  
Cruz  
Donnelly  
Durbin  
Enzi  
Feinstein  
Fischer  
Franken  
Gillibrand  
Graham  
Grassley  
Hagan  
Harkin  
Hatch  
Heinrich  
Heitkamp  
Heller

Hirono  
Hoeven  
Inhofe  
Isakson  
Johnson (SD)  
Johnson (WI)  
Kaine  
King  
Klobuchar  
Landrieu  
Levin  
Markey  
McCain  
McCaskill  
McConnell  
Menendez  
Mikulski  
Moran  
Murkowski  
Murphy  
Murray  
Nelson

Paul  
Pryor  
Reed  
Reid  
Roberts  
Rockefeller  
Rubio  
Schatz  
Schumer  
Shaheen  
Shelby  
Stabenow  
Tester  
Thune  
Udall (CO)  
Udall (NM)  
Vitter  
Walsh  
Warner  
Wicker

NAYS—16

Bennet  
Brown  
Coats  
Coburn  
Crapo  
Flake

Leahy  
Manchin  
Merkley  
Portman  
Risch  
Scott

NOT VOTING—8

Boxer  
Chambliss  
Cochran

Johanns  
Kirk  
Lee

Sanders  
Sessions

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The 60-vote threshold having been achieved, the bill (H.R. 5771) is passed.

PROVIDING FOR A CORRECTION IN THE ENROLLMENT OF H.R. 5771.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to the consideration of H. Con. Res. 124, which the clerk will report by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 124) providing for a correction in the enrollment of H.R. 5771.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 124) is agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume executive session.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR, NOMINATION DISCHARGED, AND PRIVILEGED NOMINATIONS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of Calendar Nos. 900, Broadcasting Board of Governors; 651, 970, Chemical Safety Board; 1079, Rasmussen; 514, Lopes; 1104, Bradley; 1141, Rosekind; 933, Tierney; 644, 645, 646, 737, Udall Foundation; 844, 845, 862, 864, 865, Legal Services Board; 757, 1085, 1086, Election Assistance Commission; 1062, 1005, U.S. Attorneys; 1099, 1100, Coleman; 790, Alexander; 1111, Berteau; 1110, Scher; 1090, Baily; 1091, Cekuta; 1092, Uyehara; 1093, Mills; further, that the commerce committee be discharged

from further consideration of the nomination PN 2092, O'Rielly; further, that the HELP Committee be discharged from further consideration of PN 2065, PN 1279, PN 1280, Legal Services Board; further, that the Environment and Public Works Committee be discharged from further consideration of PN 1916, Udall Foundation; that the nominations be agreed to; the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order to the nominations; that any statements related to the nominations be printed in the RECORD; and that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The nominations considered and confirmed are as follows:

#### BROADCASTING BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Karen Kornbluh, of New York, to be a Member of the Broadcasting Board of Governors for a term expiring August 13, 2016.

#### CHEMICAL SAFETY AND HAZARD INVESTIGATION BOARD

Richard J. Engler, of New Jersey, to be a Member of the Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board for a term of five years.

Manuel H. Ehrlich, Jr., of New Jersey, to be a Member of the Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board for a term of five years.

#### OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

Nicholas J. Rasmussen, of Virginia, to be Director of the National Counterterrorism Center, Office of the Director of National Intelligence.

#### INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

Mark E. Lopes, of Arizona, to be United States Executive Director of the Inter-American Development Bank for a term of three years.

#### DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Leigh A. Bradley, of Virginia, to be General Counsel, Department of Veterans Affairs.

#### DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Mark R. Rosekind, of California, to be Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

#### DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Helen Tierney, of Virginia, to be Chief Financial Officer, Department of Veterans Affairs.

#### MORRIS K. UDALL AND STEWART L. UDALL FOUNDATION

Charles P. Rose, of Illinois, to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Foundation for a term expiring May 26, 2019.

Mark Thomas Nethery, of Kentucky, to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Foundation for a term expiring October 6, 2018.

Anne J. Udall, of Oregon, to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Foundation for a term expiring October 6, 2016.

Camilla C. Feibelman, of New Mexico, to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Foundation for a term expiring April 15, 2017.

#### LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

Martha L. Minow, of Massachusetts, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the

Legal Services Corporation for a term expiring July 13, 2017.

Charles Norman Wiltse Keckler, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Legal Services Corporation for a term expiring July 13, 2016.

#### LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

Gloria Valencia-Weber, of New Mexico, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Legal Services Corporation for a term expiring July 13, 2017.

John Gerson Levi, of Illinois, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Legal Services Corporation for a term expiring July 13, 2017.

Robert James Grey, Jr., of Virginia, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Legal Services Corporation for a term expiring July 13, 2017.

#### ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

Thomas Hicks, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Election Assistance Commission for a term expiring December 12, 2017.

Matthew Vincent Masterson, of Ohio, to be a Member of the Election Assistance Commission for a term expiring December 12, 2017.

Christy A. McCormick, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Election Assistance Commission for a term expiring December 12, 2015.

#### DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

David Rivera, of Tennessee, to be United States Attorney for the Middle District of Tennessee for the term of four years.

Arthur Lee Bentley III, of Florida, to be United States Attorney for the Middle District of Florida for the term of four years.

#### UNITED NATIONS

Isobel Coleman, of New York, to be Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations for U.N. Management and Reform, with the rank of Ambassador.

Isobel Coleman, of New York, as an Alternate Representative of the United States of America to the Sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations during her tenure of service as Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations for U.N. Management and Reform.

#### UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Paige Eve Alexander, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development.

#### DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

David J. Berteau, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense.

Robert M. Scher, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense.

#### DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Jess Lippincott Bailey, of Ohio, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Macedonia.

Robert Francis Cekuta, of New York, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Margaret Ann Uyehara, of Ohio, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to Montenegro.

Richard M. Mills, Jr., of Texas, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraor-

dinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Armenia.

#### FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Michael P. O'Rielly, of New York, to be a Member of the Federal Communications Commission for a term of five years from July 1, 2014.

#### LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

Joseph Pius Pietrzyk, of Ohio, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Legal Services Corporation for a term expiring July 13, 2017.

Laurie I. Mikva, of Illinois, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Legal Services Corporation for a term expiring July 13, 2016.

Victor B. Maddox, of Kentucky, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Legal Services Corporation for a term expiring July 13, 2016.

#### MORRIS K. UDALL AND STEWART L. UDALL FOUNDATION

James L. Huffman, of Oregon, to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Foundation for a term expiring October 6, 2020.

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the action of the Senate with respect to discharging PN Nos. 2065, 1279, 1280, and 1916 from the HELP and EPW Committees be viated.

For the information of the Senate, these nominations were on the calendar on the privileged nominations list.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### ROSEKIND NOMINATION

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President. I support the nomination of Dr. Mark Rosekind to be the next administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, NHTSA.

Dr. Rosekind has served as a member of the National Traffic Safety Board, NTSB since 2009. His expertise is in developing countermeasures for fatigue in order to enhance vehicle safety. He also previously served at NASA for a number of years, and founded a technology company aimed at creating software that helps to reduce the role of fatigue in traffic incidents.

While I have some reservations about his somewhat limited management experience, given the size of the workforce he has been nominated to lead, I believe Dr. Rosekind's experience and expertise will enable him to approach this agency that many perceive to be in crisis with an eye toward making it more agile and technologically capable. I believe that NHTSA must have a leader who can hit the ground running, and Dr. Rosekind's extensive work in the safety area gives me confidence that he will be the right leader at this time.

As I stated at Dr. Rosekind's nomination hearing last week, the string of auto recalls this year has been cause for grave concern. We are on pace to have the all-time worst year for auto recalls in U.S. history, with about 60

million vehicles being subject to recalls so far. In many of these cases, there are legitimate questions about whether NHTSA should have identified the defective products earlier and communicated more effectively with the public.

Since the start of the year, I have called on President Obama to nominate a qualified individual to lead NHTSA without delay because inaction sends a terrible signal to the regulated community and the American people about automobile safety and oversight.

It took 343 days for President Obama to nominate a qualified individual to lead NHTSA, at a time when the Nation faced a year of record recalls, from the GM ignition switch recalls that began in February to the recalls involving defective Takata air bags. In fact, President Obama did not formally nominate Dr. Rosekind until the evening before the Commerce Committee was to hold a hearing regarding these defective Takata air bags.

By contrast, it has taken only 22 days for the Senate to receive the nomination, work through regular order at the Commerce Committee to hold a hearing and a markup for Dr. Rosekind's nomination, and today, to confirm his nomination by the full Senate. I believe the Senate's action today sends the clear signal that Senators on both sides of the aisle care very deeply about improving auto safety.

I look forward to working with Dr. Rosekind as NHTSA continues to work through the issues underlying the record number of recalls this year. I particularly look forward to learning the conclusions of the top-to-bottom review of NHTSA currently being conducted by the Obama administration, which Dr. Rosekind has promised to share publicly. Dr. Rosekind has a challenging road ahead of him, and the Commerce Committee will continue to pursue rigorous oversight of NHTSA for the foreseeable future, as well as possible solutions to better address some of the lapses that have occurred both at NHTSA and with certain auto manufacturers and parts suppliers.

I thank the Presiding Officer, and I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

#### NOMINATION OF COLETTE DODSON HONORABLE TO BE A MEMBER OF THE FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION—Continued

Mr. REID. Mr. President, we are doing our best to keep everyone advised. We have got a picture; we have made a lot of progress. But in the meantime, my favorite words: I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 618; that the nomination be confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order to the nomination; and that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The nomination considered and confirmed is as follows:

#### DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

James Cole, Jr., of New York, to be General Counsel, Department of Education.

#### NOMINATION OF COLETTE DODSON HONORABLE TO BE A MEMBER OF THE FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION—Continued

#### ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the cloture motions with respect to the following nominations be withdrawn: Calendar Nos. 840, Lopez; 922, Jadotte; 901, Stivers; 735, Cruden; and 553, Smith; further, that all postcloture time on the Honorable nomination be considered expired and the Senate proceed to vote on confirmation of the Honorable nomination; that upon disposition of the Honorable nomination, the Senate proceed to confirmation votes on the following nominations: Calendar Nos. 840, Lopez; 922, Jadotte; 901, Stivers; 735, Cruden; 553, Smith; further, that if any nomination is confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order to the nomination; that any statements related to the nomination be printed in the RECORD; and that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### VOTE ON HONORABLE NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. All time on the Honorable nomination has expired.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Colette Dodson Honorable, of Arkansas, to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission?

The nomination was confirmed.

#### NOMINATION OF ESTEVAN R. LOPEZ TO BE COMMISSIONER OF RECLAMATION

#### NOMINATION OF MARCUS DWAYNE JADOTTE TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF COMMERCE

#### NOMINATION OF JONATHAN NICHOLAS STIVERS TO BE AN ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR OF THE UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

#### NOMINATION OF JOHN CHARLES CRUDEN TO BE AN ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL

#### NOMINATION OF CHRISTOPHER SMITH TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF ENERGY (FOSSIL ENERGY)

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will now proceed to the following nominations, which the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read the nominations of Estevan R. Lopez, of New Mexico, to be Commissioner of Reclamation; Marcus Dwayne Jadotte, of Florida, to be an Assistant Secretary of Commerce; Jonathan Nicholas Stivers, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development; John Charles Cruden, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Attorney General; and Christopher Smith, of Texas, to be an Assistant Secretary of Energy (Fossil Energy).

#### VOTE ON LOPEZ NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Estevan R. Lopez, of New Mexico, to be Commissioner of Reclamation?

The nomination was confirmed.

#### VOTE ON JADOTTE NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Marcus Dwayne Jadotte, of Florida, to be an Assistant Secretary of Commerce?

The nomination was confirmed.

#### VOTE ON STIVERS NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Jonathan Nicholas Stivers, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development?

The nomination was confirmed.

#### VOTE ON CRUDEN NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of John Charles Cruden, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Attorney General?

The nomination was confirmed.

VOTE ON SMITH NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Christopher Smith, of Texas, to be an Assistant Secretary of Energy (Fossil Energy)?

The nomination was confirmed.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Under the previous order, the motions to reconsider are considered made and laid upon the table and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—S. 2244

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate resume legislative session and proceed to the consideration of the House message to accompany S. 2244, which is the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act; that the majority leader be recognized for the purpose of offering a motion to concur in the House amendment to S. 2244; that there be up to 10 minutes of debate equally divided between the two leaders or their designees prior to a vote on the motion to concur; that there be no motions to concur with an amendment or motions to refer in order prior to a vote on the motion to concur; finally, the vote on adoption of the motion to concur be subject to a 60-affirmative-vote threshold.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. COBURN. Reserving the right to object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma.

Mr. COBURN. Mr. President, I thank Senator SCHUMER for trying to work with me on this bill, and the members of the banking committee. They have known my objections all along on both NARAB and the options we offered.

We offered this evening to the House three options under which they could enroll to come back to where the Senate had been in terms of a 2-year sunset provision. They disagreed with that. And the other options we offered—taking NARAB completely out

of this bill—which doesn't have anything to do with the terrorism risk insurance bill, or to give States an opt-out so the States that don't want to be a part of the NARAB provision don't have to be a part of it, we have not been able to find agreement on that, despite the best efforts of a lot of people here this evening.

I ask the majority leader if he would agree to amend his request to strike the NARAB provision from the bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Does the majority leader so modify his request?

Mr. REID. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, my friend from Oklahoma seeks to amend the House-passed TRIA bill with an unrelated piece of legislation in the sense that he knows—we all know—would change the bill, it is gone, and that would be a modification to the bill. If the Senate were to amend TRIA, we would have to send it back to the House of Representatives. They are gone. They are not going to change anything in the bill. We have been told that many times. Amending the TRIA bill would be just another way to kill the TRIA bill.

I say with respect to my friend from Oklahoma, whom I have worked with for 10 years, from the very beginning we have tried to work out something with him on this bill. We have been unable to do that. It is unfortunate, but his objection is going to kill TRIA. I am very sorry about that, but that is a fact. So I cannot accept his modification.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Is there objection to the original request?

Mr. COBURN. Reserving the right to object, to continue one portion of my statement, if I might.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma.

Mr. COBURN. According to industry calculations, TRIA has made the industry \$40 billion in the last 12 years. The American taxpayer takes all the risks, except for 35 percent, and the insurance industry makes the money.

We had a compromise bill coming out of the banking committee. My objections were well known at that time. They were trying to be accommodated by Senator SCHUMER.

With that, I must object to the bill. The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination

of Stephen R. Bough, of Missouri, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Missouri.

Harry Reid, Patrick J. Leahy, Christopher A. Coons, Dianne Feinstein, Richard J. Durbin, Richard Blumenthal, Brian Schatz, Debbie Stabenow, Michael F. Bennet, Jeff Merkley, Patty Murray, Barbara Boxer, Christopher Murphy, Edward J. Markey, Al Franken, Tom Harkin, Sheldon Whitehouse.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Stephen R. Bough, of Missouri, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Missouri, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY), and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) are necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER), the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN), the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. JOHANNES), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. KIRK), the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE), and the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) would have voted "nay".

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KING). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 51, nays 38, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 365 Ex.]

YEAS—51

Baldwin	Harkin	Nelson
Begich	Heinrich	Pryor
Bennet	Hirono	Reed
Blumenthal	Johnson (SD)	Reid
Booker	Kaine	Rockefeller
Brown	King	Schatz
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Schumer
Cardin	Landrieu	Shaheen
Carper	Levin	Stabenow
Casey	Manchin	Tester
Coons	Markey	Udall (CO)
Donnelly	McCaskill	Udall (NM)
Durbin	Menendez	Walsh
Feinstein	Merkley	Warner
Franken	Mikulski	Warren
Gillibrand	Murphy	Whitehouse
Hagan	Murray	Wyden

NAYS—38

Ayotte	Flake	Murkowski
Barrasso	Graham	Paul
Boozman	Grassley	Portman
Burr	Hatch	Risch
Coats	Heitkamp	Roberts
Coburn	Heller	Rubio
Collins	Hoeven	Scott
Corker	Inhofe	Shelby
Cornyn	Isakson	Thune
Crapo	Johnson (WI)	Toomey
Cruz	McCain	Vitter
Enzi	McConnell	Wicker
Fischer	Moran	

## NOT VOTING—11

Alexander	Cochran	Lee
Blunt	Johanns	Sanders
Boxer	Kirk	Sessions
Chambliss	Leahy	

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 51, the nays are 38.

The motion is agreed to.

### NOMINATION OF STEPHEN R. BOUGH TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Stephen R. Bough, of Missouri, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Missouri.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

## ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. REID. With this nomination, this will be the last vote of this Congress.

I ask unanimous consent that the remaining cloture motions with respect to judicial nominations be withdrawn and the Senate proceed to vote on the nominations in the order upon which cloture was filed and all time on the Bough nomination be yielded back.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

All time is yielded back.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Stephen R. Bough, of Missouri, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Missouri.

Mrs. MCCASKILL. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll

The assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY), and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) are necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER), the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN), the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH), the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. JOHANNIS), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. KIRK), and the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) would have voted "no".

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 51, nays 38, as follows:

## [Rollcall Vote No. 366 Ex.]

## YEAS—51

Baldwin	Harkin	Nelson
Begich	Heinrich	Pryor
Bennet	Hirono	Reed
Blumenthal	Johnson (SD)	Reid
Booker	Kaine	Rockefeller
Brown	King	Schatz
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Schumer
Cardin	Landrieu	Shaheen
Carper	Levin	Stabenow
Casey	Manchin	Tester
Coons	Markey	Udall (CO)
Donnelly	McCaskill	Udall (NM)
Durbin	Menendez	Walsh
Feinstein	Merkley	Warner
Franken	Mikulski	Warren
Gillibrand	Murphy	Whitehouse
Hagan	Murray	Wyden

## NAYS—38

Ayotte	Flake	Murkowski
Barrasso	Graham	Paul
Boozman	Grassley	Portman
Burr	Heitkamp	Risch
Coats	Heller	Roberts
Coburn	Hoeven	Rubio
Collins	Inhofe	Scott
Corker	Isakson	Shelby
Cornyn	Johnson (WI)	Thune
Crapo	Lee	Toomey
Cruz	McCain	Vitter
Enzi	McConnell	Wicker
Fischer	Moran	

## NOT VOTING—11

Alexander	Cochran	Leahy
Blunt	Hatch	Sanders
Boxer	Johanns	Sessions
Chambliss	Kirk	

The nomination was confirmed.

### NOMINATION OF JORGE LUIS ALONSO TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

### NOMINATION OF HAYWOOD STIRLING GILLIAM, JR., TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

### NOMINATION OF AMIT PRIYAVADAN MEHTA TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

### NOMINATION OF ALLISON DALE BURROUGHS TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS

### NOMINATION OF JOHN ROBERT BLAKEY TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

### NOMINATION OF AMOS L. MAZZANT, III, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS

### NOMINATION OF ROBERT LEE PITMAN TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS

### NOMINATION OF ROBERT WILLIAM SCHROEDER III TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS

### NOMINATION OF JOAN MARIE AZRACK TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

### NOMINATION OF ELIZABETH K. DILLON TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA

### NOMINATION OF LORETTA COPELAND BIGGS TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to the following nominations, which the clerk will report.

The bill clerk read the nominations of Jorge Luis Alonso, of Illinois, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois; Haywood Stirling Gilliam, Jr., of California, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of California; Amit Priyavadan Mehta, of the District of Columbia, to be United States District Judge for the District of Columbia; Allison Dale Burroughs, of Massachusetts, to be United States District Judge for the District of Massachusetts; John Robert Blakey, of Illinois, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois; Amos L. Mazzant, III, of Texas, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Texas; Robert Lee Pitman, of Texas, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Texas; Robert William Schroeder III, of Texas, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Texas; Joan Marie Azrack, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New



York; Elizabeth K. Dillon, of Virginia, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Virginia; and Loretta Copeland Biggs, of North Carolina, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of North Carolina.

## ALONSO NOMINATION

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I speak in support of Jorge Alonso, who has been nominated to serve as a Federal district court judge in the Northern District of Illinois. He will fill the vacancy that opened when Judge Ronald Guzman took senior status last month.

Judge Alonso is an outstanding nominee for the Federal bench. He was reported out of the Judiciary Committee last month on a unanimous voice vote.

I want to thank Chairman LEAHY for his efforts to move Judge Alonso's nomination promptly through the Judiciary Committee, and I want to thank the majority leader, Senator REID, for scheduling this vote on the floor.

Since 2003, Jorge Alonso has served as an associate judge for the Cook County Judicial Circuit. He is currently in his third appointed term as a State trial court judge. Judge Alonso has presided over hundreds of cases that have gone to verdict or judgment, including at least 88 jury trials.

He also presides over the Women's Justice Mental Health Call in Cook County. Judge Alonso helped to create this program, which provides intensive support and services to women in the justice system who have suffered from trauma and addiction.

Prior to serving as a State court judge, Judge Alonso served for 12 years as an assistant public defender in Cook County. As a public defender, he participated in approximately 30 jury trials and 150 bench trials.

In addition to his substantial courtroom and judicial experience, Judge Alonso has an admirable record of service to the Chicago community. Among his activities, he serves on the boards of the Daniel Murphy Scholarship Fund, which provides scholarships and support to low-income Chicago students, and the Cristo Rey Jesuit High School in Chicago's Pilsen neighborhood.

He also works as a judicial intervisor with the Lawyers' Assistance Program, which assists members of the bar who are struggling with mental health or addiction issues.

Judge Alonso came highly recommended to me by a bipartisan judicial screening committee that I established in the Northern District. I was pleased to recommend Judge Alonso's name to the White House for this nomination.

I also thank my colleague, Senator KIRK, for submitting his blue slip in support of the nomination.

In short, Judge Alonso has the experience, the integrity and the judgment

to be an excellent addition to the Federal bench in Chicago. I urge my colleagues to support this outstanding nominee.

## VOTE ON ALONSO NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Jorge Luis Alonso, of Illinois, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois?

The nomination was confirmed.

## VOTE ON GILLIAM NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Haywood Stirling Gilliam, Jr., of California, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of California?

The nomination was confirmed.

## VOTE ON MEHTA NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Amit Priyavadan Mehta, of the District of Columbia, to be United States District Judge for the District of Columbia?

The nomination was confirmed.

## VOTE ON BURROUGHS NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Allison Dale Burroughs, of Massachusetts, to be United States District Judge for the District of Massachusetts?

The nomination was confirmed.

## BLAKEY NOMINATION

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I speak in support of the nomination of Jack Blakey to serve as a Federal district court judge in the Northern District of Illinois. Mr. Blakey has been nominated to fill the seat that was left vacant when Chief Judge James Holderman took senior status last December.

In Illinois we have a bipartisan process for recommending Federal district court judges to the White House. Under this process, Mr. Blakey was recommended by my colleague, Senator KIRK, and I support his nomination.

Mr. Blakey currently serves as the chief of the Special Prosecutions Bureau in the Cook County State's Attorney's Office. He has served in this position since 2009. During that time, he has also served as a special assistant U.S. attorney in the Northern District of Illinois. He helps supervise all joint State-Federal investigations and prosecutions in Cook County.

Mr. Blakey previously served as an assistant U.S. attorney in Chicago from 2004 to 2009, as an AUSA in Miami from 2000 to 2004, and as an assistant State's attorney in Cook County from 1996 to 2000.

Mr. Blakey has gained significant courtroom experience over the course

of his career. He has tried over 90 cases to final verdict, including at least 27 jury trials.

Mr. Blakey is a graduate of the University of Notre Dame and Notre Dame Law School.

Upon Mr. Blakey's confirmation, the Federal district courts in Illinois will be operating at full strength, with no vacancies in the State.

I urge my colleagues to support this nomination.

## VOTE ON BLAKEY NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of John Robert Blakey, of Illinois, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois?

The nomination was confirmed.

## VOTE ON MAZZANT NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Amos L. Mazzant, III, of Texas, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Texas?

The nomination was confirmed.

## VOTE ON PITMAN NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Robert Lee Pitman, of Texas, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Texas?

The nomination was confirmed.

## VOTE ON SCHROEDER NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Robert William Schroeder III, of Texas, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Texas?

The nomination was confirmed.

## VOTE ON AZRACK NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Joan Marie Azrack, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York?

The nomination was confirmed.

## VOTE ON DILLON NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Elizabeth K. Dillon, of Virginia, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Virginia?

The nomination was confirmed.

## VOTE ON BIGGS NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Loretta Copeland Biggs, of North Carolina, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of North Carolina?



The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that any statements related to the nominations be printed in the RECORD; and that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to a period of morning business for debate only, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oregon.

#### UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST— H.R. 5701

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 5701, which is at the desk; that the bill be read three times and passed; and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Louisiana.

Mr. VITTER. Mr. President, on behalf of Senator SESSIONS, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, this objection is very unfortunate. The Oregon congressional delegation has teamed up in a bipartisan way to provide, among other things, trust land for the two remaining Native American tribes in our State that have no land base. These tribes have been waiting for over 100 years, and Senator MERKLEY and I, with the whole Oregon congressional delegation, intend to be back early next year working to pass these bills and stay at it until justice is done.

#### UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST— H.R. 4137

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Louisiana.

Mr. VITTER. Mr. President, also on behalf of Senator SESSIONS, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Finance be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 4137; that the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration; that the bill be read a third time and passed; and that the motion

to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. WYDEN. Reserving the right to object, Mr. President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oregon.

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I want to be clear, as chair of the Senate Finance Committee, that I oppose taxpayers subsidizing illegal conduct, and I also oppose setting up a one-size-fits-all Federal mandate that is going to create redtape and confusion for our States to implement.

This proposal says that TANF electronic benefits cannot be used in any retail store which sells marijuana. This means that a TANF card cannot be swiped in these locations. The reality is that TANF benefits can be withdrawn for cash, and cash can be spent anywhere. Yet this proposal does not seem to recognize that fact.

Of course, we here in the Senate often hear of burdensome Federal rules and regulations that are imposed on our States and our businesses. My view is this sounds like the epitome of needless bureaucracy in its current form and actually achieves nothing except generating a lot of regulatory hassle.

For the reasons I have stated, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The Senator from Massachusetts.

#### UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST— S. 1898

Ms. WARREN. Mr. President, I came to the floor last week to ask a simple question: Who does this government work for? Does it work only for the billionaires and the biggest corporations or does it work for all of us?

I asked that question last week as Congress considered the government funding bill—a bill that included a completely unrelated provision literally written by Citigroup lobbyists that increased the risk of future taxpayer bailouts just so the biggest banks in this country could rake in more profits. Sadly, that bill was just the latest example of how the government works just fine for those who have already made it.

In the past few years, Federal agencies have entered into a number of major settlement agreements with big banks and other large corporations after those companies have broken the law. These agencies have touted these settlements as being worth millions or in some cases billions of dollars. That sounds like a great deal for taxpayers, but often that sticker price is much higher than the actual value at the settlement. Agencies have often permitted corporations to deduct the cost of the settlement from their taxes, which can cut the actual value of the

payment by more than 30 percent. And instead of requiring corporations to actually pay the full settlement amount, agencies often give corporations credits toward the settlement amount for taking certain actions—actions the corporations would have taken even if the settlement had never existed. By structuring the settlements this way, agencies can get credit for being tough on corporate wrongdoers even when the actual deal paints a much different picture.

In January I introduced a bill with Senator COBURN to shed more light on this kind of backroom dealmaking. This bipartisan bill, the Truth in Settlements Act, is pretty simple. It just requires Federal agencies to publicly disclose certain basic information about the major settlements they enter into with corporations—information such as whether a settlement is going to be tax deductible or whether it lets companies claim credit for things they are already doing. That is pretty much it.

The idea behind the bill is straightforward. If the government is going to cut deals on behalf of the American people, the American people are entitled to know what kind of a deal they are getting. That is the only way the public can hold agencies accountable.

The Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee approved the Truth in Settlements Act in July without any objections from any Democrats or any Republicans. The CBO found the bill wouldn't cost taxpayers a single dime. This is a non-partisan, commonsense measure that simply brings more transparency to critical actions the government takes on behalf of the public.

Accordingly, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of Calendar No. 566, S. 1898; that the committee-reported substitute amendment be agreed to; the bill, as amended, be read a third time and passed; and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. TOOMEY. Mr. President, on behalf of Senator CORNYN, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Ms. WARREN. Mr. President, I am disappointed but not surprised that there is an objection to this request because although there is bipartisan support for this bill and only one outside group has raised concerns—that group is the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, a powerful lobbying organization that represents the interests of large corporations. The chamber's concern about this bill demonstrates just how much the interests of these giant corporations that break the law conflict with public interests.

In its letter opposing the bill, the Chamber wrote that the bill “would remove the incentive for investigation targets to settle and force the government to expend more resources to prove its assertions in court.” Think about that for a second. The chamber’s position is that agencies shouldn’t disclose basic facts about settlement agreements to the public because if the public were aware of those facts, they would demand more accountability for corporate wrongdoers.

The chamber’s position boils down to this: Let’s keep the details of these agreements hidden from view so that corporate wrongdoers don’t have to worry about any real accountability for their illegal actions. That sounds great if you are a big company that breaks the law, but I don’t think it sounds great to the American people. I think the American people are tired of seeing large corporations break the law and then negotiate sweetheart deals behind closed doors.

While we will not be able to pass the Truth in Settlements Act this Congress, I will be reintroducing it in the next Congress, and I will continue to fight for the public to get access to the details of these agreements because we weren’t sent here to work for big companies and to protect them from accountability when they break the law; we were sent here to stand up for everyone.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Hampshire.

#### UNANIMOUS CONSENTS REQUEST— H.R. 2126

Mrs. SHAHEEN. Mr. President, I am here with Senator PORTMAN of Ohio to try—I think for about the sixth time—to get energy efficiency legislation passed.

Senator PORTMAN and I have been working on legislation called the Energy Savings and Industrial Competitiveness Act for 4 years now. We have tried to bring it to the floor, and it has been objected to not because of provisions in the bill but because of extraneous provisions that have people holding it up.

Tonight we are again trying to pass a smaller version of that bill. It is H.R. 2126, the Energy Efficiency Improvement Act, which was passed out of the House with a strong bipartisan vote of 375 to just 36. It was sponsored in the House by Representative MCKINLEY from West Virginia and Representative WELCH from Vermont. Senator PORTMAN and I introduced the same bill here in the Senate a couple of weeks ago.

I am going to be asking for unanimous consent that the Senate consider passage of this legislation. Before I do that, it is my understanding it is going to be objected to again and that Sen-

ator TOOMEY is here to do that. But I wonder if I could get an answer to a question from Senator TOOMEY about what his specific objections are to the legislation.

I understand the Tenant Star provision in the bill is what he is objecting to. Yet this would establish best practices, and it would set up a voluntary certification system for efficiency and commercial tenant spaces. What it does not do is provide financial incentives or create new regulations. It is a voluntary, market-based, business-friendly approach to encouraging energy efficiency—which is the cheapest, fastest way to deal with our energy needs in this country. It is something everybody agrees we should try and do.

So I wonder if I can ask my colleague from Pennsylvania if he could describe his concerns about that provision in the bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Pennsylvania.

Mr. TOOMEY. Mr. President, I am objecting on behalf of a colleague who is unavoidably detained. So the Senator from New Hampshire will have to take this up with our colleague.

Mrs. SHAHEEN. Mr. President, in that case, I ask unanimous consent that the energy committee be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 2126, the Energy Efficiency Improvement Act, and the Senate proceed to its consideration; that the bill be read a third time and passed and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. TOOMEY. Mr. President, on behalf of my colleague who is unavoidably detained, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mrs. SHAHEEN. Mr. President, I yield to my colleague from Ohio who I know is here to talk about the legislation or my colleague from New Hampshire who has been working on the Tenant Star provision with Senator BENNET from Colorado.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Hampshire.

Ms. AYOTTE. Mr. President, I thank my colleague from New Hampshire and my colleague from Ohio, Senators SHAHEEN and PORTMAN, for their work on this legislation.

As my colleague from New Hampshire has said, unfortunately this is a piece of legislation that is being blocked. As we saw on the floor, we don’t even know the reason it is being blocked. I think, when we have an objection on the Senate floor, we should have to come to the floor and state what our objection is.

So here we are. We are going to again ask for this legislation to be brought forward that passed overwhelmingly in the House and in fact has over-

whelming support from both the business community and environmental groups.

If the Tenant Star provision is what is being raised—we are not quite sure what the objection is because we haven’t heard here publicly.

This program is supported not only by commercial landowners but also tenants, the business community, and environmental groups. What it does is establish a market-based approach that is not a mandate but encourages both the commercial owners and tenants to be able to create a voluntary Tenant Star certification to encourage commercial tenants to implement cost measures that will help reduce energy consumption.

Energy efficiency is a bipartisan way we can reduce energy costs, we can protect our environment, and we can ensure that we don’t have to be dependent on countries overseas. It is about security of this country too.

I thank my colleagues, Senators SHAHEEN and PORTMAN, for working so hard on this bill. It is surprising, this bill that passed—obviously, a smaller version of the bill that they have introduced and I am proud to cosponsor, but it has overwhelming support. It passed the House. It is unfortunate that we are here and aren’t going to be able to get this done because it is just common sense.

Again, the program is not a mandate. There is no tax incentive, no grant program. It contains no regulatory authority, no new costs. This is one that just makes common sense.

So I am very disappointed that this bill is not going to be brought forward tonight. It is unfortunate that we are essentially here fighting against something we don’t even know what the objections are because they haven’t been stated publicly.

With that, I again thank my colleagues for working on this bill. I hope to support their efforts in the next Congress to get this bipartisan, commonsense energy efficiency legislation through this body.

With that, I turn to my colleague from Ohio.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, I am also joined by our colleague from Alaska, the ranking member on the energy committee who will be the chair come January. I want to give her a chance to talk in a moment, but let me state a few things.

First, this legislation represents a lot of hard work by a lot of people, including Senator AYOTTE from New Hampshire, who spoke, Senator SHAHEEN also from New Hampshire, Senator BENNET, and others. It is an example of smart, bipartisan legislation that was worked out with the business community, with folks who are concerned about energy efficiency who are in non-profits. It has no objection, as far as I

know, in the real world; meaning there is no group, not a single group, that has objected to it.

On the other hand, there are dozens of people who support it, including business groups, environmental groups, and people who want to have the opportunity on a voluntary basis—no mandates, as the Senator from New Hampshire has said, to be able to know that there is a certification that a building is energy efficient, to be able to have information.

Second, I want to make the point that it is part of four provisions, one of which is urgent because it involves a decision we have to make now—tonight—in the Senate in order to keep a regulation from the Department of Energy unfairly imposed on businesses and consumers in America, and this is the water provision.

So not only are we objecting to something I don't think anyone objects to in the real world, but also we are blocking something that would be good for our consumers and good for business.

Because of our inaction tonight—because we had this objection for reasons we don't know because we have not been able in two nights on the floor to get a reason. All we heard was: We object. No reason. We are stopping the ability for companies to produce water heaters that are then used by rural electric co-ops that are used in an energy-efficient way, because during a peak demand they are turned off. So they could superheat the water and be turned off in peak demand, called demand response. It is an efficiency measure.

The regulation doesn't make any sense that bans the production of these water heaters, but it is because of legislation that Congress passed that DOE feels they have to oppose the regulation.

So tonight we had the opportunity not only to pass something good on Tenant Star, not only to do other things that are good for the Federal Government to become efficient—the biggest energy user in the world, by the way—but also we have an urgent matter before us; that is, to change this regulation before manufacturers are blocked from producing these water heaters.

Rural electric co-ops all over the country are watching tonight, and they are disappointed. Why? Because they use these water heaters, and they use them in an energy-efficient way. They are not going to be able to do that going forward because manufacturers are literally having to stop producing these water heaters because we are not acting.

So after the first of the year I hope we will be able to, in regular order, take this forward, and hopefully some of these manufacturers will begin to produce these water heaters again.

Once we can take care of the regulations that are onerous on business owners and consumers and does not make sense for energy efficiency.

Finally, this is part of what I hope will be the past Congress. I hope in the future Congress, which will start in January, that we do things in a different way. I hope we begin to look at ideas from both sides of the aisle, find common ground, and move forward in legislation to help the American people.

This is a small matter. I understand that. It is a big matter if you are a rural electric co-op or if you are one of these commercial buildings that want to use Energy Star or if we care about the fact that we think about \$5 billion is wasted in energy inefficiency by the Federal Government that could be addressed by some of the other provisions here tonight.

I think this is, unfortunately, symbolic of where we are as a Congress. We can't even get simple things done.

This legislation was reported out of the committee in the House unanimously—all four provisions. We are talking about the Republican-led House unanimously on the floor of the House passed by a vote of 375. I think it was 375 to 34, as I recall. We don't see those kind of bipartisan votes often.

Then it came over here. It has gone through the energy committee. The energy committee's vote was something like 18 to 3, as I recall. It has come to the floor now for the third time—the fourth time, if we include last night.

This legislation has been fully vetted. We have had hearings on it. We have done all the right things. We have played by the rules, and those of us who played by the rules on this legislation again are being stopped as we get to the floor of the Senate.

I hope we will see not just good energy efficiency legislation passed in the next Congress but other legislation as well to deal with our Tax Code that is out of date, antiquated, to deal with the overreach and regulations, some of the regulatory reform measures that the Presiding Officer and I have talked about.

We can deal with the fact that we are falling behind in terms of exports; that we are not dealing with some of our urgent problems we should be dealing with to get this economy moving.

We have to change the way we are doing business around here. We are letting things move only in very incremental and, unfortunately, partisan ways. We are not allowing the process to work.

So I am hopeful this legislation will be taken up in January. I am very disappointed it was objected to again tonight for no apparent reason. I am hopeful this will lead us to be able to better represent the people who hired us, the people who said: Go to Washington. I want you to find common

ground because there are big problems to solve, not just give speeches. We have had enough of those. There is enough rhetoric. It is time to get things done. This is a small example of what could have gotten done tonight but for an objection with no apparent reason.

With that, I appreciate the fact that my colleague from Alaska has stayed late to be able to talk about this tonight. She will be the next chair of the energy committee, and she has the ability. Working with her colleagues on the other side of the aisle, to get some great legislation accomplished, and I hope this will be one of them.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I join with my colleagues and express my disappointment that we are again at this place: A good measure that has good, strong, bipartisan, bicameral support has been blocked. It has been objected to.

I made a comment last evening when we once again attempted to bring up the unanimous consent order to advance the energy efficiency bill. It kind of feels like "Groundhog Day," the movie, where it is just the same scene over and over again, the third time to the floor on a measure that enjoys strong support. It kind of begs the question, why? What is the problem with it? But as both my colleagues Senator SHAHEEN and Senator AYOTTE from New Hampshire have outlined in terms of the specifics, there is no opposition there.

As the cosponsor, my colleague from Ohio has pointed out these four provisions that are contained in this House measure have so much bipartisan support that it passed the House unanimously coming over here.

So we have to ask: If we cannot advance a measure in this body such as energy efficiency that enjoys this level of support, how can we do anything around here?

I asked the question months ago, when I was being stopped in the hallway by reporters asking: What is going to happen to the energy efficiency bill, and I was bullishly optimistic because, as I said, this is a measure that enjoys strong support. It enjoys strong support and it is common sense.

I said: If we can't demonstrate that, we can't get a measure such as energy efficiency through both Houses and enacted into law, how are we ever going to get to the really thorny, difficult issues?

I have been working with my colleagues on the appropriating side of energy and water, the Senator from California and Senator ALEXANDER from Tennessee working with us on the authorizing side. First it was me and Senator WYDEN, and then it was me and Senator LANDRIEU, and in January it will be Senator CANTWELL.

We will be trying to figure out how we are going to deal with the issues surrounding nuclear waste disposal. These are tough issues. These are contentious. We have got some issues that will face us in the new Congress relating to the export of our energy resources. These are also going to be contentious. How are we ever going to get to the tough ones if—on the easy ones, what we describe around here as the low-hanging fruit—we cannot get through this process?

So I have to say, it is late—it is not the 11th hour; it is beyond the 11th hour because we have just taken the last vote, the last vote of the 113th Congress. We are done, and what we are leaving people with is uncertainty. When we are talking about those ways that we as a Congress can help right some of the problems in this country—how we can get our economy on a better track, how we can move towards more jobs and job creation—the best thing we can do is offer a level of certainty.

Well, right now you have these manufacturers of these water heaters that are saying: We don't know whether we are going to have any kind of a reprieve from this regulation or not. So we are not only not going to be making these water heaters, but that means we don't have the workers, those in the manufacturing companies who are going to be there or the people that are selling them. Think about what we have done with this one hurdle that we just couldn't get around. Yet we couldn't get a straight answer as to what the opposition—what the push-back—was.

Something is wrong with this process when we cannot advance measures such as the energy efficiency bill, a measure that has been worked on for years—diligently and in good faith—in a very, very open and bipartisan way. So I am hopeful that the 114th Congress is going to bring with it not only some fresh air—fresh perspective—but a willingness and a commitment to move through a process. If there is an objection, it should be stated, and we can work it out. But to continue to block and block when we have the level of support on a measure that we have, that is just not right. There has to be a better way. So I have pledged to my colleagues, the sponsors of this bill and all of those who have been working hard on it, that we are taking this back up again in the new year. We are going to work to make sure this has, yet again, the committee process, now for the third time, and we will work to advance it to the floor. It is my hope that if someone has problems with it, they have a solution to fix it, and they then come down and offer their amendments, we will debate them, and we will move on. But we have to be in a better place than where we have ended this evening.

So it is with regret that I say we will take it up again next year. But my hope is that we will do right by our energy policy, by focusing not only on the production side, not only the renewable side, but our efficiency measures that we have included in this bill. We are going to do right for a lot of the right reasons.

With that, I yield the floor.

Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### ACHIEVING BETTER LIFE EXPERIENCE ACT

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I want to thank my Senate colleagues for joining me in supporting and passing the Achieving Better Life Experience Act. I especially want to acknowledge Senator ROBERT CASEY, who has been a champion for all people with disabilities and the ABLE Act for years.

Earlier this year, Senator CASEY introduced us to Sara Wolff—a 31-year-old law clerk at O'Malley and Langdon in Scranton, PA. Since 2007, Sara has been an advocate for the National Down Syndrome Society. She also happens to have Down syndrome. Currently, Sara cannot have more than \$2,000 in assets before her government aid is cut off. Every month, she works with her employer so that she doesn't earn more than \$700. This enables Sara to maintain her much needed government benefits.

Over a year ago, Sara lost her mother to a sudden illness. It was a tremendous loss—her mother was her No. 1 advocate. Before her mother passed, Sara promised her that she would fight to get the ABLE Act passed. Sara has her whole life ahead of her and she needs a savings account to plan for her future, and she is not alone. Thousands of people with disabilities are outliving their parents. Parents need the peace of mind that their children will be taken care of.

Everywhere I go in Illinois, I meet people whose lives have been affected by disabilities. Take Gene and Lynn Bensinger—from the north side of Chicago. Gene and Lynn are the parents of

two adult sons. Their oldest son, Nate, is 21 years old and has autism spectrum disorder. Nate is about to “age out” of services offered through Chicago Public Schools and will no longer be eligible for special education services that he relies on. Nate's parents, along with thousands of Illinois families, experience many sleepless nights worrying about their responsibility to financially support their adult children today, in the future, and long after they are gone. Without this important legislation, it is almost impossible for those with disabilities—like Nate and Sara—to save enough so that they can be financially independent.

The ABLE Act will encourage and assist individuals and families to invest in private savings accounts, which can then be used to support activities that allow those with disabilities to maintain a healthy, independent life. Here's how it will work. The ABLE Act establishes tax-exempt accounts to assist parents of children with a disability to help provide for their long-term care. The accounts can be used to pay for medical care, dental care, education, housing, transportation and other community-based supports for individuals with disabilities. The money earned in an ABLE account would supplement but not replace Medicaid, Social Security, or other benefits. This would enable people, like Sara, to earn a livable wage and save for the future without worrying about losing coverage for critical health services.

I thank Senators ROBERT CASEY, RICHARD BURR, and 77 of my colleagues for cosponsoring this legislation. This is a true bipartisan effort. By passing this bipartisan bill today, Sara gets to keep her promise to her mother—and thousands of people with disabilities—like Nate—will finally be able to save for the bright futures they deserve.

#### SENATOR PAUL SIMON WATER FOR THE WORLD ACT

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, today we celebrate the passage of a bill I have been working on for 6 years—the Senator Paul Simon Water for the World Act.

The bill is aptly named after my predecessor from Illinois in the Senate—Paul Simon. Paul Simon was ahead of his time on so many issues—including on the importance of clean water and sanitation for the world's poor.

He understood if you wanted to avoid conflict between some nations, you had to look at the issue of water. He understood if you wanted to keep a girl in school or reduce infant mortality, you had to provide adequate sanitation and clean water. He understood that without clean water and sanitation, efforts to improve health and economic opportunities will never be fully realized.

In fact, a dollar spent on clean water and sanitation returns between \$4 and

\$8 in economic, health, and other benefits. Paul understood all this.

In 1998, he wrote the book, *Tapped Out*. It was prescient in its wisdom and policy proposals. Despite my recommendations, the book never became a bestseller. Though Senator Simon's wife, Patti Simon, has become a champion on water in her own right.

In 2005, the Congress passed the Senator Paul Simon Water for the Poor Act, which made providing access to clean water and sanitation for the world's poor a key priority in U.S. development assistance.

When we passed this bill, it was the first time our Nation had written into law our commitment to any of the United Nations Millennium Development Goals.

Since then, we have succeeded in increasing funding for these important goals. USAID established an Office of Water and a Senior Water Coordinator for Water, and last year, it launched its first-ever Global Water and Development Strategy to significantly increase clean water and sanitation programs.

These efforts and the original legislation have made real differences in the lives of the world's poor. I have seen the simple wells providing water for thousands in Haiti.

For the first time, water and toilets have been provided to slum communities in Indonesia, where USAID's program has helped the local water utility reach thousands upon thousands of poor people who never had access to clean water and sanitation.

In fact, in 2012, the world achieved the Millennium Development Goal of reducing by half the proportion of people in the world without access to clean drinking water and basic sanitation. At that time, it was the only Millennium Development Goal to have been achieved.

So for the last several years, we have tried to pass the Simon Water for the World Act—and in 2009 it passed the full Senate, only to stall in the House. Again last Congress, it passed out of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

Today's version does not include everything from the original bill—I wish it would have included more. But such is the nature of compromise.

Today, with passage of the Senator Paul Simon Water for the World Act, we are going to make more progress.

It would not have happened without my partner in this effort, Senator CORKER, and strong support from Senators COONS, FLAKE, and MURRAY here in the Senate. I also need to acknowledge the leadership of Representatives BLUMENAUER and POE and the great help of Representative ROYCE in the House.

This bill will lock in many of the leadership, program, and strategic changes that have occurred around USAID water and sanitation programs

in recent years. It will establish the diplomatic and conflict mitigation priorities around water at the Department of State. It will refine and establish key criteria to ensure our scarce foreign assistance dollars for water and sanitation are truly reaching the world's most impoverished populations.

We have made progress. But there are still almost 1 billion people around the world who lack access to clean water, and at least 2.5 billion more people lack access to adequate sanitation.

Every day in the developing world, 5,000 children die from water-borne diseases. Millions of poor children miss school every day because they have to walk for hours to find water for their families, or they are sick from drinking dirty water. Girls and women suffer most when this happens because they are the water-carriers of the world.

Experts in the Pentagon and elsewhere have called the world water shortage a real and growing threat to America's own security.

New York Times columnist Tom Friedman published a devastating piece about how drought and water mismanagement contributed to Syria's bloody civil war that makes that clear.

We also know that every dollar we invest in clean water and basic sanitation yields many times that amount in benefits: people are healthier; kids stay in school; food is safer; AIDS drugs and other critical health treatments are able to work.

So I thank my colleagues, my key co-sponsors in the Senate and House, Patti Simon, and the many organizations for supporting this important legislation. It will help save lives.

#### VOTE EXPLANATION

Mr. NELSON. Mr. President, I was necessarily absent for the vote on the motion to proceed to executive session to consider the confirmation of the nomination of Sarah R. Saldana, to be an Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security, which occurred on Saturday, December 13, 2014. Had I been present, I would have voted in favor of the motion.

#### ARMY PUBLIC SCHOOL MURDERS

Mr. COONS. Mr. President, I wish to offer my heartbroken condolences to the people of Pakistan and to the friends and family, the parents and loved ones, of those murdered yesterday at the Army Public School in Peshawar.

As the Pakistan military continues its assault on the Pakistani Taliban in North Waziristan, the terrorist group responded yesterday with an act of murder and barbarity that simply has no parallel, as nine gunmen murdered more than 140 students and teachers who together were simply gathered to ensure a brighter future for their country.

This is a crime that simply passes comprehension. As the father of three, I can only imagine in my worst nightmares the reality that those parents are now living.

Unfortunately, as a nation, Americans have in our not so distant past also felt the grief that now envelops Pakistan.

Two years ago this past weekend, a gunman stormed the Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, CT and murdered 26 of our sons and daughters, our brothers and sisters. Two years later we remain in mourning, for the lives taken from us and for the futures that were so quickly extinguished.

My prayers are with all Pakistanis who mourn today and with the loved ones of the victims of Newtown who remain in mourning. May we pray for the safety of those who are most precious and sacred to us, and may we remain undeterred in the face of such evil.

#### TRIBUTES TO DEPARTING SENATORS

Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, before this Congress ends, I wanted to pay tribute to several of my colleagues who will not be here when we convene next year. Some chose not to run again, and others unfortunately lost their reelection campaigns, but we will miss them all next year. I begin in order of seniority.

TIM JOHNSON

Mr. President, I wish to begin with Senator TIM JOHNSON. After several years of service in South Dakota, where he received the Outstanding Citizen Award and the Billie Sutton Award for Legislative Achievement, TIM was elected to the House of Representatives in 1986. He served there for 10 years, earning many distinctions, among them, one for passing more legislation than the other 50 first-term Members. In 1996 he was elected to the Senate, where he has served three terms. In recent years Senator JOHNSON has served as chairman of the banking committee, of which he has been a member since 1997. Over the years he has advocated for community banks in South Dakota, worked to pass the Safe and Fair Deposit Insurance Act of 2005, which updated the Federal deposit insurance system, and pushed to deal with the special needs of consumers in rural areas. TIM has also shown immense courage in dealing with health issues and has been an exemplary public servant. We will miss him next year and wish him and Barbara well.

MARY LANDRIEU

Mr. President, Senator MARY LANDRIEU started a career of public service in the Louisiana State Legislature and then as State treasurer. She was elected to the U.S. Senate in 1996 becoming her State's first female Senator. Senator LANDRIEU has always fought for

her State, a fact never more apparent than in the aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita when she fought valiantly for disaster funding and reforms that helped countless people in Louisiana. MARY has also been a champion for our children, and I have seen her commitment as we worked together on adoption and foster care issues over the years. We will miss MARY's spirit, but we know she will never stop fighting for what she believes in. I wish MARY and Frank well in this new chapter of their lives.

MARK PRYOR

Mr. President, Senator MARK PRYOR comes from a family with a history of public service. MARK served as Arkansas attorney general before being elected to the Senate in 2002, occupying the same Senate seat his father David held. As a member of the Agriculture Committee, MARK fought hard to protect the interests of Arkansas' farmers, and through his position on the Homeland Security and Government Affairs Committee he pushed for regulatory reform, all the while asking how each decision he made would impact people back in Arkansas. Through his work, MARK embodied what it meant to be a public servant.

MARK UDALL

Mr. President, Senator MARK UDALL's family has served the United States for decades. His cousin TOM has served beside him in the Senate for the past 6 years. His father Morris "Mo" Udall was a Member of the U.S. House of Representatives for 30 years and also ran for President. His uncle Stewart served as Interior Secretary under Presidents John F. Kennedy and Lyndon B. Johnson in the 1960s. Before being elected to the Senate in 2008, MARK served in the U.S. House of Representatives and the Colorado State Legislature. Through his position on the Energy and Natural Resources Committee, MARK has continued his family's commitment to our public lands and resources, chairing the National Parks Subcommittee. Senator UDALL has also worked hard to help the U.S. Government get its fiscal house in order, pushing his colleagues to make tough choices today to help create a better tomorrow. As a member of the Armed Services and Select Intelligence Committees, MARK has advocated for more transparent detention and drone policies and pushed to make public the "Committee Study of the Central Intelligence Agency's Detention and Interrogation Program."

KAY HAGAN

Mr. President, Senator KAY HAGAN spent 10 years serving in the North Carolina State senate before being elected to the U.S. Senate in 2008. I have had the pleasure of sitting next to KAY on the Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee and working with her on issues such as medication

therapy management to help ensure our seniors are taking the prescription drugs that help keep them healthy and the Newborn Screening Saves Lives Reauthorization Act that provides funding for the screening of newborn babies for heritable disorders, allowing them the earliest possible access to treatments. Through her position on the Small Business and Entrepreneurship Committee, Senator HAGAN has pushed to protect and grow North Carolina jobs. On the Armed Services Committee, she has fought for North Carolina's military families. I wish KAY and Chip well in the years ahead.

MARK BEGICH

Mr. President, Senator MARK BEGICH arrived in the Senate in 2008, having previously served as mayor of Anchorage. MARK worked hard and accomplished a lot in his 6 years here, but what I will always remember is MARK's commitment to our veterans. Alaska has more veterans per capita than any other state in our Nation, and through his position on the Veterans' Affairs Committee, Senator BEGICH has been their champion. I thank MARK for his public service and his commitment, and I wish him and Deborah well.

JAY ROCKEFELLER

Mrs. SHAHEEN. Mr. President, I wish to pay tribute to my friend and colleague, Senator JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER IV, who will soon retire from the Senate after representing his beloved West Virginia for the last 30 years.

Senator ROCKEFELLER and I both came to Washington after having previously served as Governors of our home States, and I have been grateful for his friendship and counsel. I would also note that Senator ROCKEFELLER has some familiarity with New Hampshire, having graduated from Phillips Exeter Academy.

Senator ROCKEFELLER will forever be remembered in the Senate for his dedication to the hard-working people of West Virginia. When West Virginia coal mining companies threatened to abandon their pension obligations to miners, Senator ROCKEFELLER successfully fought to pass the Coal Act of 1992 to safeguard their retirements. Among his numerous other legislative accomplishments, Senator ROCKEFELLER will certainly be remembered as the father of the Children's Health Insurance Program. Since its creation in 1997, CHIP has provided millions of low-income children and pregnant women access to health insurance. Just last year, CHIP touched the lives of more than 8 million Americans.

During his lengthy career Senator ROCKEFELLER chaired the Senate Committees on Veterans' Affairs, Intelligence, and most recently Commerce, Science, and Transportation. As a chairman, Senator ROCKEFELLER believed strongly that good policy started with listening and ran his commit-

tees in a way that allowed all Senators, no matter their party, a voice and a role in the legislative process.

The example set by Senator ROCKEFELLER is an inspiration to all of us who serve in the Senate. On behalf of the people of New Hampshire, I thank him for his years of dedicated service to our country and wish him the best in his well-deserved retirement.

CARL LEVIN

Mr. President, I wish to honor Senator CARL LEVIN as he prepares to retire after 36 years of dedicated service in the Senate.

As the longest serving Senator in Michigan's history, Senator LEVIN has been a stalwart advocate for the people of his State. In the aftermath of the 2008 financial crisis, Senator LEVIN played a critical role in drafting the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to ensure it would bolster the Midwestern manufacturers that would prove integral to our national economic recovery. As cochair of the Great Lakes Task Force, Senator LEVIN has worked throughout his career to protect the vast waterways that are critical to Michigan's economy and those of the other Great Lakes States.

I have had the honor of serving on the Senate Armed Services Committee under the leadership of Chairman LEVIN, and his concern for the people of Michigan is perhaps only matched by his concern for the soldiers, sailors, marines, and airman who defend our Nation, as well as the families who support them. Under his steady leadership the Senate has kept faith with our military by passing the annual National Defense Authorization Act, and this year's defense bill bears Senator LEVIN's name as tribute to his lengthy service on the Committee. As chair of the Armed Services Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support, I have always appreciated Senator LEVIN's commitment to a strong bipartisan spirit in the work of the committee, and I know it will endure thanks to his example.

A sharp legal mind, Senator LEVIN also worked in a bipartisan fashion as chairman of the Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations to hold powerful public and private institutions accountable. Born from the highly successful Truman Committee formed in the lead-up to World War II, Senator LEVIN's subcommittee investigated critical issues such as the 2008 financial crisis, systemic credit card fraud, as well as corporate abuse of offshore tax havens—bringing light to complex and obscure issues to the benefit of the American people.

Senator LEVIN has been a source of reasoned counsel for many in the Senate, and I know his presence will be missed. However, I also know he is looking forward to spending some well-earned time back in Michigan with his children, grandchildren, and wife Barbara.

TOM HARKIN

Mr. President, I wish to recognize Senator TOM HARKIN and his 30 years of Senate service.

When Senator HARKIN retires at the end of this year, he will also step down from his chairmanship of the Senate Committee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions, a post from which he has advocated progressive policies aimed at increasing opportunity for all Americans.

One of Senator HARKIN's greatest legislative achievements is the Americans with Disabilities Act, legislation that he fought for on behalf of millions of disabled Americans. The ADA is truly a landmark law in this country, and Senator HARKIN's decades of work on this issue will never be forgotten.

Senator HARKIN also has a strong legacy as a champion for human rights, which began even before his election to public office while he was still a staffer on Capitol Hill. Invited to travel with a congressional delegation to Vietnam in the summer of 1970, Senator HARKIN arranged for the group to visit the Con Son prison in order to investigate allegations of human rights abuses by the South Vietnamese Government. At the prison, the delegation strayed from the official tour and found abused prisoners held in so-called "tiger cages," which Senator HARKIN documented extensively with a camera. In defiance of some of the delegation members, Senator HARKIN courageously handed over the pictures to *Life* magazine in order to better educate the American public about U.S. involvement in Vietnam.

I have been fortunate to witness firsthand Senator HARKIN's passion for U.S. leadership in human rights during our service together on the Senate Appropriations Committee, where he has brought heightened attention to the scourge of child labor and exploitation. I know this is one particular issue on which Senator HARKIN feels his work has just begun, and I look forward to hearing of his continued efforts on behalf of vulnerable children around the world.

On a more personal note, I will miss competing with Senator HARKIN's office for the most staff participants in the Everybody Wins! DC reading mentorship program, a great cause in which Senator HARKIN has been involved in for the last 16 years.

I join my colleagues in thanking Senator HARKIN for his dedicated service in the Senate and wish him all the best in retirement.

KAY HAGAN

Mr. President, Senator HAGAN and I came to the Senate 6 years ago with a shared commitment to bipartisan problem solving reflective of the independent spirit of the States we represent. I am glad to say that in Senator HAGAN I found not only a strong partner in policymaking but also a good friend.

Born in Shelby, NC, Senator HAGAN got her start in politics, as many of us do, at the State level. During 10 years in the North Carolina Senate, she built a reputation as a committed public servant, and that reputation would eventually propel her to the United States Senate.

In Washington, Senator HAGAN has used her position on the Senate Armed Services Committee to support the military families stationed at Fort Bragg, Camp Lejeune, and other military installations in North Carolina. Thanks to her efforts, Congress passed legislation in 2012 to provide health care and compensation to military families impacted by water contamination at Camp Lejeune. Also a member of the small business committee, Senator HAGAN's private sector experience has been a tremendous asset to the legislative work of the committee.

I would like to wish the very best to Senator HAGAN, who I know is looking forward to the opportunity to spend more time with her family, especially her grandchildren.

MARK UDALL

Mr. President, I wish to take a moment to thank my friend and colleague Senator MARK UDALL for his dedicated service to the people of Colorado and our Nation.

As many of my colleagues are aware, long before Senator UDALL was climbing the steps to Capitol Hill he was hiking the mountains of Colorado as a course director and educator with Outward Bound, an organization he would eventually lead as executive director. However, as a member of the Udall family, headed by his father Congressman Morris "Mo" Udall, who served in the House of Representatives for 30 years, elected office was never far from Senator UDALL's mind. After 20 years with Outward Bound, Senator UDALL left to pursue a career in public service.

After serving a term in the Colorado State Legislature, Senator UDALL ran successfully to represent Colorado's Second Congressional District in the House of Representatives, a seat he held for five consecutive terms. When we arrived at the Senate in 2008, Senator UDALL and I found common cause in our work on both the Senate Armed Services Committee and the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Senator UDALL's commitment to working across the aisle to confront the difficult issues facing our Nation was appreciated by many in the Senate, and I know his presence will be missed.

I wish the very best to Senator UDALL and thank him for his service.

MARY LANDRIEU

Mr. President, my friend from Louisiana Senator MARY LANDRIEU has devoted her entire life to public service, and today I wish to recognize the extraordinary leadership and energy that

she has brought to the Senate throughout her career.

Senator LANDRIEU has been a leader on so many issues, none more so than as a passionate advocate for children around the world. I was proud to work with her on legislation to address the decline in international adoptions, in addition to several other bills that Senator LANDRIEU has authored to support children both in the United States and in developing nations. This issue is particularly near to Senator LANDRIEU's heart, and I know I am speaking for countless children around the world when I thank her for her efforts to ensure all children experience the benefits of a safe and loving family.

I also had the pleasure of working with Senator LANDRIEU during her leadership of the Senate Small Business Committee, as well as on the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee.

Senator LANDRIEU has always fought hard for her home State of Louisiana, and her dedication to her constituents was made clear in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. All Americans vividly recall the scenes of destruction caused by the storm—more than 1,800 killed and \$100 billion in property destroyed in just days. Those who were fortunate to escape the storm physically unscathed were more than likely left homeless, and over 80% of Senator LANDRIEU's hometown of New Orleans was under water for weeks after Katrina made landfall.

After the storm Senator LANDRIEU immediately set to work building support for legislation to jump start the gulf coast recovery and help her constituents put their lives back together. Senator LANDRIEU nearly singlehandedly pushed through critical funding and reforms to help Louisiana rebuild.

It has been an honor working with her, and I thank her for her years of service to the Senate and the Nation.

MARK BEGICH

Mr. President, today I wish to recognize my fellow Senator from the class of 2008, Senator MARK BEGICH of Alaska.

Senator BEGICH's career in public service began earlier than most at the young age of 19, when he was hired by the Anchorage city health department. By that time, Senator BEGICH was also well on his way to establishing himself as an enterprising businessman and entrepreneur. Born and raised in Anchorage, AK, MARK BEGICH would go on to serve in the Anchorage Assembly where he was the youngest member ever elected, before successfully running for the post of mayor in 2003, a role in which he served until his election to the Senate.

Here in Washington Senator BEGICH has used his position as chair of the commerce Subcommittee on Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries, and Coast



Guard, as well as his extensive knowledge of the Alaska economy, to advocate for Alaska-first policies. As a Senator from a State with one of the highest populations of veterans per capita, Senator BEGICH has also been a passionate defender of our Nation's military. I also have had the pleasure of serving with Senator BEGICH on the Senate Appropriations Committee and have greatly appreciated his contributions.

I would like to thank Senator BEGICH for his years of dedicated service both to Alaska and the Nation.

MARK PRYOR

Mr. President, Senator MARK PRYOR of Arkansas has served the people of Arkansas in the Senate for the last 12 years, guided by his strong faith and determination to bridge the partisan divide.

As a member of the Appropriations Committee, Senator PRYOR has successfully directed Federal assistance to his Arkansas constituents, helping to strengthen his State's economy. As a member of the commerce committee, he prioritized bringing broadband Internet service to the rural parts of Arkansas. When Senator PRYOR served on the Senate Armed Services Committee, he successfully introduced and passed legislation to provide tax relief for our servicemembers deployed in combat zones, as well as legislation to more quickly inform military families when their loved ones are injured in combat.

Senator PRYOR has time and again proved his dedication to the State where he was born and raised, and I wish to thank him for his service in the Senate.

MIKE JOHANNIS

Mr. President, over three decades as a public servant, my friend and colleague Senator MIKE JOHANNIS of Nebraska has proven time and time again that politicians can be deeply principled while still recognizing the need to find common ground on the complex and difficult choices we must make as a nation. I believe this is a lesson that all former Governors carry with them after holding executive office, and Senator JOHANNIS and I were often able to reach an understanding on that basis.

Before coming to the Senate in 2009, MIKE JOHANNIS had already built a distinguished record of public service as a county board member, city council member, mayor and two term Governor of Nebraska. Senator JOHANNIS also served for 3 years in the White House Cabinet as Secretary of Agriculture to President George W. Bush. While leading the Department of Agriculture, Senator JOHANNIS helped U.S. agriculture producers find new markets overseas, promoted expanded use of renewable fuels, and encouraged conservation of agricultural lands. Having played a key role in developing the farm bill passed by Congress in 2008,

then-Secretary JOHANNIS decided to return to legislating full time and successfully ran to represent Nebraska in the Senate.

Senator JOHANNIS' time in Congress is best characterized by his low-key approach to the most high-profile and consequential issues of the day. He was one of the bipartisan Gang of 8 Senators who tackled the challenge of crafting a comprehensive Federal deficit reduction plan in 2011, and in 2013 we worked together on a bipartisan deal to reopen the Federal Government and avoid a default on our national debt. I was also very proud to work with Senator JOHANNIS on legislation to address the unacceptable trends in military sexual assault. Senator JOHANNIS always brought the work ethic he developed growing up on a Nebraska farm to our business in the Senate, and for that and many other reasons I very much enjoyed working with him.

Senator JOHANNIS has given many years to public service, earning him the right to seek a bit of a break from the spotlight, and I wish him all the best in his retirement.

CARL LEVIN

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, I take this opportunity to pay tribute to Senator LEVIN as his distinguished Senate career comes to a close at the end of the 113th Congress. Senator LEVIN has proudly represented the people of Michigan in the Senate for 36 years.

The desire to help others has been in Senator LEVIN's makeup long before coming to Washington. In fact, one might say it is in his DNA. He comes from a family with a distinguished record of public service. I served with his brother Sander in the House of Representatives, another truly distinguished Member of Congress. Their father served on the Michigan Corrections Commission. His uncle served as a chief judge on the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan, and his cousin was a Michigan Supreme Court Judge.

Given this public service pedigree, it is no surprise that he got started in politics at an early age. He was elected class President at Detroit's Central High School. After Swarthmore College and Harvard Law School, he served as an assistant attorney general and general counsel of the Michigan Civil Rights Commission. In 1969 he was elected to the Detroit City Council and in 1978 joined the Senate.

Senator LEVIN has served on the Armed Services Committee for as long as he has been in the Senate. His Armed Services Committee tenure has provided him the opportunity to work with 11 Secretaries of Defense, helping to ensure that our Armed Forces were ready and able to meet the national security challenges facing our Nation. He has long been a champion of the men and women of our military and their

families. From visiting deployed troops far from home, to ensuring much needed training, equipment, and pay increases, and improving the delivery of benefits and services they have earned, CARL LEVIN has been there for our troops.

Senator LEVIN is also a problemsolver. In order to improve the way the Pentagon buys its weapons and to get the most out of the taxpayer dollars the government is entrusted to spend, he has worked hard to improve acquisition practices throughout his career. In this arena, he led the way in passing the Competition in Contracting Act and the Weapons System Acquisition Reform Act.

I was fortunate to serve on the Armed Services Committee during my first 2 years in the Senate. I have been able to observe Chairman LEVIN firsthand as he led the committee with a steady hand in a very bipartisan manner. I have been proud to be part of two National Defense Authorization Acts—including the one this body passed last week, which bears his name—which preserve our readiness and provides for the well-being of our men and women of the armed services and their families.

Senator LEVIN also chairs the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, where he has led investigations in many critical areas, including the 2008 financial crisis, energy and food market speculation, abusive offshore tax havens, and unfair practices within the credit card industry. His investigations have led to many reforms and laws to fix these problems. In 2012, the National Journal wrote that "the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations is one of the few institutions in Congress that's still working. CARL LEVIN is a big reason why."

The Senate is losing one of its giants—a voice of reason, integrity, and fairness. Michigan's working families are losing a lifelong advocate for their best interests who has really made a difference. CARL, thank you for your service to our country. I wish you, Barbara, and your entire family all the best as you move to the next chapter of your journey.

Aloha CARL, a hui hou, "until we meet again."

TOM HARKIN

Mr. President, I wish to recognize the accomplishments of the distinguished Senator from Iowa, TOM HARKIN, who is retiring this year.

Senator HARKIN has served in the House and Senate for nearly 40 years. During those 40 years he has been a consistent and inspirational voice for the idea that America should be a place where everyone can succeed.

TOM's life experiences shaped who he fought for and why. His mother died when he was 10. His father never got beyond the sixth grade and suffered from black lung disease. He grew up in



a tiny town in Iowa. He saw what the New Deal, Social Security, and Medicare did for his family and he saw government as a force that could lift people up and give them hope.

Last week, during his farewell remarks to this body, he said something that the progressives among us should take to heart. He said:

“... I believe government must not be just an observant bystander to life. It must be a force for good, for lifting people up, for giving hope to the hopeless.”

Under TOM HARKIN's watch, government certainly has not been a bystander.

One of his proudest accomplishments was gaining passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. TOM stood with people with disabilities, one of the largest minorities in the United States, to enact historic legislation that changed the lives of millions of people. I was proud to cosponsor and support the 2008 Americans with Disabilities Amendments Act, which passed with overwhelming bipartisan support. His commitment to creating and expanding opportunities for those with disabilities is a hallmark of his career.

Senator HARKIN will also be remembered for his tireless leadership as the chairman of the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee. As chairman he worked to promote health care and education, fairness for workers, equal rights, and, above all, the American dream. He worked to fund those priorities for years on the Appropriations Committee.

These are some of TOM's signature issues. But equally important has been his work fighting injustice and human rights violations across the globe.

As a young Congressional staffer he travelled to Vietnam and uncovered torture on Con San Island, off of Vietnam. There people were being held in “tiger cages”—5 foot by 9 foot cells dug into the ground where three to five people were held captive.

While he lost his staff job over the pictures he took, he shed light on atrocities that too many others had either ignored or covered up.

TOM's values and the results he has been able to achieve have made him a powerful moral and progressive voice for decades. Some of us were drawn to TOM during his Presidential run in 1992. I was. As a Hawaii State legislator, I supported the Senator from Iowa long before I ever had the privilege of serving with him in the Senate. In fact, when his bid for the presidency ended, some of us continued to support him, making buttons with a slogan I coined: “HARKIN for the Heck of It!”

TOM HARKIN has done much to help build the ladders of opportunity that he so firmly believes is a big part of what government should do. His work inspires us to continue pushing to see that every individual in our country

has an opportunity to improve his or her life for the better.

Last week in his farewell remarks, TOM noted that while he is retiring from the Senate, he is not retiring from “the fight.” He also gave those of us who are still here a list of unfinished business to continue the fight.

First, we have to do more to address income inequality and restack the deck so that working people have confidence that their government works on their behalf. Second, we have to work on addressing climate change. Third, we have to do more to give employment opportunities to the disabled, and finally, we have to pass the U.N. Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

These are all big fights. But it speaks to TOM's passion for public service and improving access to opportunity that in his farewell remarks, he would give us a list of unfinished business.

I will miss him in the Senate. I am confident that TOM HARKIN will be a prominent voice in American society for years to come.

Aloha TOM, a hui hou, or “until we meet again.”

JAY ROCKEFELLER

Mr. President, I also wish to pay tribute to a man who has dedicated nearly 50 years to public service. That is our retiring colleague Senator JAY ROCKEFELLER of West Virginia.

JAY ROCKEFELLER's lifetime of service was shaped by his experience as a VISTA worker in a rural coal town in West Virginia. JAY told me that this experience was life changing, coming as he did from a very privileged background. Working day-to-day in that community, learning the hopes and fears and anxieties of the people, and seeing their struggles led to his lifelong commitment to improving the lot of working people everywhere.

In his farewell remarks to the Senate, Senator ROCKEFELLER said that the Senate must be a “place in which we embrace the commitment to be deliberative, passionate, and unrelenting.”

Senator ROCKEFELLER embodied these qualities while serving the people of West Virginia. He has been a deliberative, passionate, and unrelenting champion, especially for those whose circumstances in life are the hardest.

His work on health care has impacted Americans in every corner of the United States, from the mountains of West Virginia, to my State of Hawaii. He was instrumental in the efforts to establish the Children's Health Insurance Program, or CHIP, which provides care to more than 8 million children across the Nation. More than 30,000 of those children who currently receive coverage for necessary primary and preventive health care are those children in my State of Hawaii.

From his Medicare Drug Savings Act to his Rebuilding America's Schools

Act, JAY ROCKEFELLER has truly been a champion for those who needed a hand up in life.

We are all aware of JAY's efforts to enhance our national security while also holding our Nation to the highest standards possible as a chairman and member of the Senate Intelligence Committee. His commitment to keeping America safe is met only by his commitment to ensure that our Nation's veterans get the care and benefits that they have earned and deserve. I have been privileged to serve with JAY on the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee.

Senator ROCKEFELLER reminds us that to those upon whom fortune has smiled, there is no greater calling than to dedicate ourselves to fight hard for those struggling, for those hard working, and for those who put us here.

As Senators I hope that we heed JAY's words and in the coming Congress we work together on a bipartisan basis to collaborate and compromise on behalf of America's workers and families.

On a personal note, JAY and I had one of the best conversations recently on the Senate floor where we discovered that we were two pretty private people, some would even describe as introverts, who picked a most public of arenas, politics, to do our life's work of making a difference in the lives of those we are privileged to represent.

Thank you for your service, Senator ROCKEFELLER. It has been an honor being your colleague and serving with you.

Aloha JAY, a hui hou, or “until we meet again.”

TIM JOHNSON

Mr. President, I wish to recognize the contributions of Senator TIM JOHNSON of South Dakota, who is retiring at the end of this year.

Senator JOHNSON has served South Dakota in the House and the Senate for nearly 28 years. He was elected to the House in 1986 and was elected to the Senate in 1996. During those 28 years, Senator JOHNSON has been an advocate for bipartisanship to get results in Congress. In fact, bipartisanship could be considered one of the campaign platforms that first got him elected to Congress. As he related in his farewell remarks on this floor last week, when he first ran for the House of Representatives, he told the people of South Dakota that neither party had all the answers, that both parties had good ideas, and that both parties had men and women of good will.

“My job, as I understood it, would be to work in a bipartisan manner, listening to all parties and reaching a good fit—also known as compromise.”

Twenty-eight years later, it is clear that he not only understood his job well then, but his efforts to compromise have paid big dividends for South Dakota. Over the years he has

worked on a number of issues, from the farm bill, to highway funding, to flood relief and to protect South Dakota's Ellsworth Air Force Base.

No one Senator can deliver results on their own, but by working across the aisle, TIM has not only done well for his constituents but has gained a good reputation here in the Senate. He has served in leadership positions on the Senate banking committee, which he currently chairs, as well as the Senate Appropriations, Energy and Natural Resources, and Indian Affairs Committees. On each of these committees, Senator JOHNSON has championed issues that are important to the people of his State but has always done so with an eye toward fairness—listening to all parties, promoting compromise, and doing what is right for working people across the country.

For these reasons, Senator JOHNSON is well-respected and has earned the good will of the Senate. When he was faced with the challenge of a lifetime—a brain hemorrhage in 2006—he was supported by a Senate community that set aside partisanship and political calculations. Everyone wanted to see him recover. When he returned to the Senate after months of recovery, he was welcomed by the whole community. TIM continues to be a profile in courage.

His legacy is one of compromise and collaboration—two attributes that are critical to the functioning of this body and two attributes which we would do well to remember.

We will all miss Senator JOHNSON in the Senate. Aloha to him, his wife Barbara, his three children, and his six grandchildren, and a hui hou, “until we meet again.”

MARK UDALL

Mr. President, I would like to say a few words about my colleague, Senator MARK UDALL of Colorado, who will be ending his 6-year tenure in the Senate at the end of this Congress.

Senator UDALL has served in public office for 18 years, serving in the Colorado House of Representatives for 2 years before being elected to the U.S. House of Representatives, where he served for 10 years. He was elected in 2008 to the Senate.

For MARK, public service is a family affair. His father, Arizona Representative Mo Udall, served in Congress for 30 years. His father ran for the U.S. Presidency. His uncle, Stewart Udall, served as President Kennedy's Secretary of the Interior. And his cousin, TOM UDALL, serves as one of New Mexico's U.S. Senators.

This legacy, coupled with MARK's love of the outdoors, give him a unique perspective on public service. Before running for office, MARK worked as an educator and executive director of the Colorado Outward Bound School. As an avid mountaineer and educator, MARK understands the value of America's

open spaces, smart policies for conservation and economic growth, and finding practical solutions to our shared challenges.

MARK UDALL is a champion for the environment. His efforts to support progressive renewable energy policies as a State legislator and Member of Congress have helped Colorado become a frontrunner in clean, sustainable energy to prepare for a more sustainable future. He has also fought hard to expand the National Park Service, saying the Earth is borrowed from our children, not inherited from our parents, and that we must work to preserve these public lands to ensure their existence for future generations.

I have had the privilege of serving with MARK in the House and on the Senate Armed Services Committee to support the men and women who defend our country. We have worked together to focus on making our military more energy efficient and less reliant on fossil fuels.

MARK has climbed some of the most daunting peaks in the world. The kind of self-reliance and focus required to meet those kinds of challenges mark his work in public service. His decency and integrity in fighting for the middle class, for our environment, for transparency in government, inspire us to continue his work.

It has been a privilege to serve with MARK.

Aloha MARK and Maggie and a hui hou, “until we meet again.”

KAY HAGAN

Mr. President, I thank my colleague KAY HAGAN for her service in the Senate. KAY has spent every day of her 6 years fighting for North Carolina's families.

KAY's father, brother, husband, and father-in-law are all veterans. She has two nephews on Active Duty. Their experiences—and the stories of thousands of North Carolina servicemembers and veterans—have helped guide KAY's work on the Senate Armed Services Committee, SASC, where I have been privileged to serve with her.

As a member of SASC, I have seen firsthand KAY's deep knowledge and commitment to our servicemembers, veterans, and military families—in North Carolina and around the country. North Carolina, like Hawaii, has a large number of servicemembers and veterans, and KAY has worked to make sure our troops get the support they need while they are in harm's way and when they get home.

Making sure veterans get the benefits they have earned and are treated with respect is another area where KAY has been a strong leader. She has worked to make sure veterans are able to transition to civilian life and prepare for college and career. Whether that means protecting veterans from scams or making sure colleges are serving veterans effectively, KAY has their back.

KAY also is a strong advocate for children and families. She has worked on reauthorizing newborn screening legislation to make sure illnesses are detected and treated early. Just last week she got her bipartisan newborn screening bill across the finish line, and it will soon head to President Obama's desk.

On education, KAY has worked on financial literacy in middle school and high school and turning around the highest-need K-12 schools. She has fought for minority-serving institutions and making sure job-training and college help adults earn an associate's degree or industry credential as soon as possible.

As I was running for the Senate, I got a chance to get to know KAY, and upon my election, she was very helpful in showing me the ropes as a new Senator. The 20 Senate women have regular bipartisan dinners where we leave politics at the door, get to know each other, and relax. KAY is well known for her tireless work on behalf of her constituents, her graciousness as a host of Super Bowl parties, and her indefatigable positive attitude that rubs off on the rest of us.

I and the Senate sisterhood will miss KAY. However, I expect that she will continue the spirited advocacy on behalf of the people of North Carolina whatever she next undertakes.

Aloha KAY and a hui hou, “until we meet again.”

MARK BEGICH

Mr. President, I recognize the accomplishments of Senator MARK BEGICH, our colleague from the State of Alaska. These last 2 years, I have had the privilege to work with Senator BEGICH on a range of issues—from Native Adult Education and Health Care to fishing rights—and I consider him a good friend. Senator BEGICH is not only someone who is easy to work with as a reasonable, open-minded legislator, but is also someone who truly cares about the people of his State and embodies the values of the Senate.

In his farewell remarks last week, Senator BEGICH commented on the relative size of his State, which, at 660,000 square miles, is more than twice and three times as large as other large States such as Texas and California geographically.

That is 164 times larger than my home State of Hawaii. It also gets a lot colder. Despite the differences between our States, as the two non-contiguous U.S. States, Hawaii and Alaska have always had a special bond.

That bond was forged by Senators Inouye and Stevens—two of the Senate's giants. Those two men, who were from different parties and very different States, looked out for one another. They did a lot of good for our States, and all who come after them have sought to emulate their example of working together and looking out for each other.

MARK did that for me even before I was sworn in to the U.S. Senate. As many of my colleagues may know, Senator Inouye passed away just weeks before I was to be sworn in. At the time I would be assigned to the Energy, Judiciary, and Veterans' Affairs Committees. However, with Senator Inouye's passing—and I have to thank our leadership here as well—I asked for a seat on the Senate Armed Services Committee, an appointment critical to Hawaii, where military activity is a vital part of our economy.

MARK BEGICH gave his seat up on the committee to open a slot for me. Not to shortchange Alaska, MARK got a seat on Appropriations. But I will never forget that he recognized how important the military was to Hawaii and how he agreed to help me out.

Not only was MARK reinforcing the long-lasting Hawaii-Alaska bond, but it was also characteristic of MARK's desire to help something that his constituents know all too well.

As Senator BEGICH mentioned in his farewell remarks, "Alaska is a very small place in many ways. People make personal connections with their elected officials."

Whether it is answering constituent letters, or helping people navigate the Federal bureaucracy, Senator BEGICH has been there for Alaskans. He has also taken their concerns and made sure that everyone in Washington knows about them—whether it is the situation in the Arctic, fishing, energy development, or the challenges of Alaska Natives. There is not a Member of this body who has not heard Senator BEGICH talk about Alaska's unique challenges.

As he also mentioned, most people in his State pretty much know each other.

In a State like Alaska—much like Hawaii—you can't "go Washington." You have got to stay grounded in the day-to-day concerns of the unique local communities back home. Sometimes this can be tough, but MARK has always kept Alaskans first and foremost in all of his work in the Senate.

I have had the privilege of serving with MARK on the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee, and have seen firsthand how hard he has worked on behalf of Alaska's veterans. He has been tenacious in working to see that Alaska's veterans and Natives have access to health care—and creatively, worked to see that veterans can access the tribal health care delivery system. As he has put it, if the clinics are there for some, why not have them be available to all?

This is the kind of commonsense solution that is a hallmark of his time in the Senate.

I will miss his good humor and his hard work. It is been a pleasure serving with MARK and I wish him and his family all the best in their next chapter.

Aloha MARK and a hui hou, "until we meet again."

JOHN WALSH

Mr. President, I rise to pay tribute to our colleague, Senator JOHN WALSH of Montana. While his Senate career is shorter than any of us would have hoped, the institution is better for his service and he will be missed.

His road to this body is different than most anyone else. He grew up in Butte, MT, close enough to a copper mine that his house would shake when the dynamite went off. His dreams were modest—get an education, find a job, and do some fishing.

But life often takes unexpected turns. He enrolled in the Montana National Guard in order to pursue those modest dreams, and found a home in the Guard. He rose to serve as Adjutant General of the Montana National Guard. In this capacity he commanded troops in Iraq in 2004 and 2005. He earned the Bronze Star, Legion of Merit Award, and Combat Infantry Badge for his efforts leading over 700 young men and women. This military experience is one that he carries with him in ways that most of us will never know.

After retiring from the National Guard in 2012 he served as Montana's Lieutenant Governor, and currently, as a Senator. He is the first Iraq war combat veteran to serve in the Senate.

His experience growing up in a working-class family, serving in the military, and as a public servant in elected office have made him a valuable Member of this body.

His advocacy for Montana, and for our servicemembers and veterans, and his perspective on national security matters—particularly reigning in the National Security Agency—have been valuable to our caucus. I know that he will carry these priorities forward in whatever endeavor he pursues next.

I am proud to have served as his colleague in the Senate. Aloha JOHN, and a hui hou, "until we meet again," to you, your wife Janet, and your family.

• Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I wish to celebrate and thank the 13 outgoing Senators who have worked tirelessly to represent their home States in the Senate: Senator MARK BEGICH, Senator SAXBY CHAMBLISS, Senator TOM COBURN, Senator KAY HAGAN, Senator TOM HARKIN, Senator MIKE JOHANNES, Senator TIM JOHNSON, Senator MARY LANDRIEU, Senator CARL LEVIN, Senator MARK PRYOR, Senator JAY ROCKEFELLER, Senator MARK UDALL, and Senator JOHN WALSH.

I have worked side by side with these men and women for years—some for decades—and witnessed firsthand their extraordinary commitment to public service and the people they so proudly represent.

Even when we didn't see eye to eye on every issue, I always deeply respected and admired their service to our Nation and their dedication to fight for what they believe in.

It has been a privilege to serve alongside each and every one of these extraordinary colleagues. I will miss their leadership and their friendship, and I wish them all the best as they embark on the next chapter.●

#### TRIBUTE TO HAROON KHAN

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. President, I wish to recognize and to extend my thanks and appreciation to Haroon Azam Khan.

For almost two decades, I have been truly fortunate to have had Haroon on my side.

Haroon's personal story is uniquely American. While his parents Mohammad Azam and Anjum Khan immigrated to the United States in the 1960's, the first members of Haroon's family arrived in the United States in 1906 and settled in Willows, CA.

Haroon's interest in government started early, first as an intern in the district office of my friend and former colleague Congressman Bob Matsui and then as an intern in The White House.

After graduating from the University of California at Berkeley, Haroon joined my first Senate campaign and then worked with me as my finance and political director on each of my reelection efforts. He also worked with my colleagues Senator DIANNE FEINSTEIN and Senator Chris Dodd in the same capacity.

Eventually, after working in the private sector, I invited Haroon to work for me as deputy staff director of the Senate Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs.

It has been a pleasure to watch Haroon grow both personally and professionally, and it is with sincere gratitude that I would like to thank Haroon for his years of dedicated friendship, counsel and support.

#### TRIBUTE TO CHIP ROY

Mr. CRUZ. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize a fearless leader, and one I am blessed to call a friend. Chip Roy. Chip reluctantly agreed to travel from Texas to Washington—frequently leaving his beautiful wife Carrah and his two precious children, Charlie and Virginia—to help build and lead one of the most talented and principled conservative teams on Capitol Hill, and to Make D.C. Listen. He did. He will continue to lead in Texas, now just from a different front.

My good friends in Texas, especially newly elected Attorney General Paxton and Governor Abbott, are fortunate to have such a principled fighter for liberty assuming the role as First Assistant to the Attorney General. I look forward to many opportunities to continue working side-by-side to champion the rights of Texans, and all Americans.

Chip is a man of conviction. His passion is matched only by his unceasing

faith. I am confident he will continue to shine a light on the truth and to serve the Great State of Texas and this Nation with the utmost dedication to the Constitution and to the Lord Almighty.

I will always be grateful for the many days—and nights—Chip dedicated to critical fights here in the Senate, from protecting citizens' Second Amendment rights, to securing our borders, to leading a national debate on the harms of Obamacare. Chip knows DC well, but he knows the American people better, and his courage to help change the way Washington does business to put our fellow Texans and Americans first is a rare gift that will continue to live on.

This is simply the beginning, as we both continue to battle to protect our God-given rights, to secure a future filled with opportunity for our beloved children, and to keep America the land of the free. May we continue to make Texas a beacon of liberty.

Chip, thank you for your tireless service, especially in the wake of your courageous battle against cancer. Thank you for your uncompromising principles. Thank you for your continued friendship. For, as Proverbs 27:17 says, "As iron sharpens iron, so a man sharpens the countenance of his friend." Your leadership has, and will continue to, make all who are privileged to know you stronger. May God continue to bless you, and the Great State of Texas.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### TRIBUTE TO MARIA HARRISON

• Mrs. HAGAN. Mr. President, Maria Harrison reported for her first day of work with the Federal Aviation Administration on Monday, June 18, 1973. On January 3, 2015, she will retire from the U.S. Department of Transportation after 41 years and 6 months of service to our country as a Federal employee. Except for 10 months at the Small Business Administration, she spent her career in the transportation field:

Federal Aviation Administration, 6/18/1973 to 07/30/1977; Small Business Administration, 07/31/1977 to 05/20/1978; Department of Transportation/OST, 05/21/1978 to 04/03/1982; Department of Transportation/MARAD, 04/04/1982 to 12/24/1983; Department of Transportation/FAA, 12/25/1983 to 06/04/1988; Department of Transportation/FRA, 6/05/1988 to 11/03/2001; and Department of Transportation/OST, 11/04/2001 to Present.

Ms. Harrison currently works in the Office of Governmental Affairs at U.S. DOT, where she has been of assistance to my office and constituents numerous of times. I am sure that every office in the U.S. Senate benefited directly from her good works. As much as her colleagues at U.S. DOT will miss

her, she has earned the right to spend more time with her friends and family, especially her granddaughter whose pictures adorn the desk of her office. She has earned the deepest of gratitude from those of us in the U.S. Senate. Above all else, she has earned the thanks of the country she has so unselfishly served for over 41 years. Thank you Ms. Harrison.●

##### TRIBUTE TO REBECCA SCHMIDT

• Mr. MARKEY. Mr. President, I would like to recognize the outstanding career of Rebecca L. Schmidt, who retired in 2014 after 30 years of dedicated service in the Federal Government. For the last 8 years of her career, Ms. Schmidt served the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission as the Director of the Office of Congressional Affairs. In that position, she brought to the agency a fresh approach to congressional relations, implementing a more rigorous and proactive liaison role with congressional offices as well as expanding the office's outreach to other Federal agencies and external groups. She received the Meritorious Executive Presidential Rank Award in 2010 in recognition of her valuable contributions to the agency, including her organizational and communications skills and her ability to build better relationships between the NRC, Congress and community groups.

Ms. Schmidt started her career in the Congressional Budget Office, and later was selected for the Presidential Management Intern Program, where she participated in executive development assignments throughout government. Ms. Schmidt's assignments included working in the Office of Program Analysis and Evaluation for the Army Chief of Staff; the Budget Division at Army Western Command Headquarters, Hawaii; the Management Secretariat and the National Security Division at OMB; and the House Budget Committee.

She later worked for the U.S. Army Support Command in Hawaii, where she supervised analysts responsible for formulating long-run strategic plans and performing management studies for the installation. For the next 7 years she worked for the Congress serving as a senior defense and international affairs analyst for the House Budget Committee and then as a senior professional staff member of the House Armed Services Committee where she briefed Members of Congress on technical budget matters and legislative language for the Defense authorization bill.

Following her time working for Congress, Ms. Schmidt spent the next 10 years working for the Secretary of Defense. Her service included evaluating costs and benefits for operating bases as the Deputy Director of the Base Closure Office; serving as staff assisting

the members of Secretary Cohen's Defense Reform Task Force; and as a budget analyst developing the Department of Defense's 5-year budget for the Under Secretary of Defense, Comptroller. Prior to her work at the NRC, Ms. Schmidt served 6 years in the Senior Executive Service as the Associate Director for Budget Presentation and Congressional Liaison in the Office of the Secretary of Defense for the Comptroller. She was responsible for preparing the Secretary of Defense, the Deputy Secretary of Defense, and the Comptroller for all budget hearings before Congress.

Over the years, she worked for four NRC Chairmen, three Secretaries of Defense and four congressional committee chairmen. She contributed her knowledge of nuclear, defense, and budget process issues and became skillful in political strategy, strategic planning and management analysis. During her three decades of public service, she demonstrated integrity, a commitment to excellence, and outstanding leadership.

Ms. Schmidt received a bachelor's degree from Wittenberg University and earned a master's degree in public policy analysis from Duke University. She has remained a loyal supporter of the Blue Devils since her graduate school days, and her blue frosted cupcakes and enthusiasm for her basketball team will be greatly missed by her congressional affairs staff during March Madness and regular season games.●

##### TRIBUTE TO RUSS SMITH

• Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, on behalf of the Delaware Delegation, I wish to honor the exemplary service of the superintendent of the First State National Historical Park, Mr. Russell P. Russ Smith. A native of New Castle, DE, and a devoted husband to his wife Jacqueline, two sons and two grandchildren, Russ returned to Delaware in May 2013 to cap his 42-year career with the National Park Service at the First State National Historical Park.

Russ began working for the National Park Service shortly after earning a degree in American history from the University of Delaware. For the 10 years prior to his work in Delaware, he managed Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park in Fredericksburg, VA. His 28 years of field experience have included assignments at Prince William Forest Park, Fort Sumter National Monument, Independence National Historical Park, Hopewell Furnace National Historic Site and George Washington Birthplace National Monument.

In 11 years at Independence National Historical Park, Russ oversaw nearly 100 employees and was responsible for telling the park's great story in American history by planning interpretive programs, creating museum and outdoor exhibits, and developing videos

and publications. In 1989, Russ continued telling America's great stories when he was named chief of interpretation and visitor services for the Mid-Atlantic region, a position in which he pioneered the current interpretive planning system used by the National Park Service.

It is fitting that his long career led him back to Delaware, where in March of 2013, President Barack Obama authorized sites in Delaware to be a part of the First State National Monument. The monument tells the story of early colonial settlement leading up to the ratification of the constitution. For the first time, Delaware was included in the National Park System, and Russ was back home, leading the monument as superintendent. Under his watch, the First State National Monument turned into the First State National Historical Park, finally giving Delaware the national park it long deserved.

Russ has received the Mid-Atlantic Region's Freeman Tilden Award, the highest award for interpretation, the Director's Design Award for his interpretive plan for the Edgar Allan Poe National Historic Site, a Superior Service Award from the Department of the Interior for redesigning the National Park Service interpretive planning system and the National Park Service's Appleman-Judd-Lewis Award for excellence in cultural resource management.

Russ is a visionary and a leader. His work touched as many as 70 national park units from Maine to West Virginia and has allowed Americans and visitors from around the world to understand and enjoy the history and beauty that our Nation's national parks and monuments hold. Russ has devoted his life's work to our Nation's park service and has done a tremendous job of inspiring others to enjoy our Nation's history.

On behalf of Senator CHRIS COONS and Congressman JOHN CARNEY, I wholeheartedly thank Russ for his 42 years of service to the National Park Service and to our Nation. His model leadership and dedication to educate those of all generations is his legacy. We offer our sincere congratulations on a job well done, and wish him, his wife Jacqueline, and their family many happy, healthy and successful years to come.●

#### REMEMBERING MELVIN MARK RICHARDSON

● Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, I wish to honor the life of Mel Richardson, an Idaho leader with a legacy in public service and broadcasting, who passed away last week.

Mel Richardson's radio broadcasting career thankfully brought him and his wife of 61 years, Dixie, to Idaho more than six decades ago. And we are better for it. Over the span of his 62-year

radio and television broadcasting career, Mel hosted several sports and public affairs programs and was a sportscaster for professional, college and high school athletics.

He also devoted considerable time to public service. During the Korean war, he served in the Active Army Reserves and later was the first elected mayor of the City of Ammon, where he led significant public works projects, paving the way for the town's future progress. I was honored to serve in the Idaho State Legislature with him. During my time in the Idaho State Senate, he served in the Idaho House of Representatives, and was elected to the Idaho State Senate seat I vacated when I was elected to Congress in 1992. For 16 years, he served in the Idaho State Senate, where he utilized his position to expand education opportunities for Idaho students by furthering the adoption of technology in Idaho schools.

Mel served our community and Idaho with civility and excellence. In addition to his tenure in the legislature, he served in numerous other positions. These included serving as director of Idaho Association of Cities; co-chairman of the Idaho Centennial Commission; Bonneville County Recreation commissioner; chairman of the American Family Institute; and chairman of the United Way. His exemplary work was recognized through numerous awards and honors that included being named Legislator of the Year by the Idaho State Republican Party, Idaho Library Association, State Farm Bureau and Idaho School Administrators.

He was also active in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, in which he served in numerous leadership positions. Additionally, he supported the Boy Scouts of America through which he was the recipient of the Silver Beaver Award of Merit. Mel also recognized the life lessons afforded in sports and instilled these values through coaching youth athletic teams.

Mel welcomed me as a regular guest on the radio program he hosted with his son, Mark, who continues to host the talk show. I greatly admired Mel's openness in taking all sides of an issue into account, and his kindness and consideration. Mel had one of the greatest qualities: As his son, Todd, recognized, "He could disagree with you without being disagreeable." I could always count on an interesting, thoughtful discussion, and I looked forward each week to our conversations.

But among all those accomplishments and public accolades, Mel's pride and strength was found in his family and home. He and Dixie raised five children, who have all gone on to contribute to their own communities. He loved the time that he spent with them; in fact, he passed up some interesting career opportunities to ensure that he would be able to spend time

with them. Mel's enthusiasm and joy in life can also be found in his 25 grandchildren and 28 great-grandchildren.

I extend my deep condolences to Dixie, their children and his many family members and friends. We are all better for having known him, and his legacy of thoughtfulness, inclusiveness and devotion to furthering opportunities for others and Idaho's future will not be forgotten.●

#### RECOGNIZING THE YOUNG MARINES

● Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, I wish to state for the record my support for the Young Marines and their work to help reduce drug abuse in America. The abuse of drugs plagues our communities, disrupts our schools, and has a negative effect not only on the people who use drugs, but their communities as well. Drug abuse devastates our families, children and neighborhoods.

I support programs that demonstrate effective strategies to decrease drug abuse. As one of the largest drug prevention programs in the Nation, the Red Ribbon Campaign educates our youth about the problems and risks associated with drug use. The Young Marines' effort to educate and inform community members through the Red Ribbon Campaign helps increase awareness about drug abuse, and in turn, helps reduce the demand for drugs.

The Young Marines is a national nonprofit youth education and service program for boys and girls, age 8 through the completion of high school. The Young Marines promotes the mental, moral and physical development of its members. The program focuses on teaching the values of leadership, teamwork and self-discipline so its members can live and promote a healthy, drug-free lifestyle. This program was brought to my attention earlier this year by Branson Coiteux of Portland, OR who himself is a Young Marine and is working hard to educate his fellow students about the dangers of drug abuse. Each year Brandon and his fellow Young Marines participate in the national Red Ribbon Week and help educate and raise awareness about drug abuse.

We need more groups like the Young Marines and programs to fight drug abuse and bring the discussion about drug abuse out in the open and educate our children about the dangerous effects that drug abuse can have on our families. I thank them for their hard work and service and hope that we can end the devastating effect that drugs have on our Nation.●

#### REMEMBERING JOYCE CRAIG LEWIS

● Mr. TOOMEY. Mr. President, today, I honor fallen Philadelphia firefighter, Joyce Craig Lewis. Ms. Craig Lewis

tragically perished on Tuesday, December 9, 2014, while courageously battling a house fire in the West Oak Lane section of Philadelphia.

Ms. Craig Lewis was a proud 11-year veteran of the Philadelphia Fire Department and a certified EMT. A native of Philadelphia, Ms. Craig Lewis was one of 58 women among the nearly 1,800 firefighters in the city. Joyce served in several of the most active firehouses in Philadelphia.

Philadelphia Fire Commissioner Derrick Sawyer praised Ms. Craig Lewis for having a strong work ethic as evidenced by her desire to be stationed in challenging environments. Mayor Michael Nutter aptly stated that her passing is a tremendous loss for Philadelphians.

Joyce Craig Lewis is the first female firefighter in Philadelphia to die in the line of duty. She is survived by her 16-year-old son and 16-month-old daughter.

On behalf of the U.S. Senate, I wish to express my condolences to her family, friends, brothers and sisters in fire departments across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. May she rest in peace.●

#### MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

##### ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

At 4:20 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. HARRIS) has signed the following enrolled bills:

S. 2338. An act to reauthorize the United States Anti-Doping Agency, and for other purposes.

S. 3008. An act to extend temporarily the extended period of protection for members of uniformed services relating to mortgages, mortgage foreclosure, and eviction, and for other purposes.

H.R. 83. An act making consolidated appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2591. An act to amend certain provisions of the FAA Modernization and Reform Act of 2012.

H.R. 5859. An act to impose sanctions with respect to the Russian Federation, to provide additional assistance to Ukraine, and for other purposes.

The enrolled bills were subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

#### PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-364. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the State of Michigan requesting the Congress of the United States to prohibit the U.S. Postal Service from closing or consolidating the mail processing and distribution center in Lansing, Michigan; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 189

Whereas, On January 5, 2015, the United States Postal Service plans to close or consolidate the mail processing and distribution center (P&DC) on Collins Road in Lansing; and

Whereas, This plan would severely delay mail delivery; and

Whereas, The delay of mail would negatively affect residents and local businesses and harm the community; and

Whereas, The closure is not in the public's best interest and depends on a degradation of service standards that would result in the virtual elimination of overnight mail delivery throughout the country; and

Whereas, According to 39 USC 101(a), federal law stipulates: "The Postal Service shall have as its basic function the obligation to provide postal services to bind the Nation together through personal, educational, literary, and business correspondence of the people. It shall provide prompt, reliable, and efficient services to patrons to all areas and shall render postal services to all communities." Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate*, That we hereby urge congressional intervention to stop the proposal to close or consolidate the Lansing mail processing and distribution center which will cause the delay of mail and elimination of overnight delivery of first-class mail; and be it further

*Resolved*, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.

POM-365. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the State of Michigan memorializing the Congress of the United States to stop the U.S. Postal Service from closing and consolidating the mail processing and distribution center in Kingsford, Michigan; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 192

Whereas, The United States Postal Service plans to close the mail processing center in Kingsford, Michigan, and consolidate services 100 miles away in Green Bay, Wisconsin. The closure is scheduled to take effect on January 5, 2015; and

Whereas, The consolidation will severely delay mail delivery and result in a degradation of postal service standards by virtually eliminating overnight first-class mail delivery in large portions of Michigan's Upper Peninsula. The Kingsford mail processing center is the only center serving the entire Upper Peninsula. The consolidation will require mail to travel up to 230 miles simply for processing and slow current one-day, first-class mail service to two- or three-day service in the Upper Peninsula; and

Whereas, This consolidation is not in the public's best interest. For the past four years, the state of Michigan has looked to the Upper Peninsula and its natural resources as a means for sparking economic growth. This degradation of mail service sends a negative message to developers and investors. In addition, current Upper Peninsula business owners rely greatly on the U.S. Postal Service for their mail and shipping needs. The expected delays will negatively affect these local businesses, particularly small businesses, and residents; and

Whereas, The inevitable delays in mail service run directly counter to federal postal policy established by the U.S. Congress. Section 101 of the Postal Reorganization Act of 1970 stipulates:

"The Postal Service shall have as its basic function the obligation to provide postal services to bind the Nation together through personal, educational, literary, and business correspondence of the people. It shall provide prompt, reliable, and efficient services to patrons in all areas and shall render postal services to all communities."

It is difficult to conceive how this closure meets the U.S. Postal Service's obligation to provide "prompt, reliable, and efficient services to patrons in all areas". Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate*, That we memorialize the Congress of the United States to stop the U.S. Postal Service from closing and consolidating the mail processing center in Kingsford, Michigan; and be it further

*Resolved*, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the members of the Michigan congressional delegation, the Postmaster General of the United States, and the Office of the Governor.

#### INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. LEVIN:

S. 3018. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reform the rules relating to partnership audits and adjustments; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LEVIN:

S. 3019. A bill to amend the War Powers Resolution to provide for the use of military force against non-state actors; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. HARKIN:

S. 3020. A bill to establish the composition known as America the Beautiful as the national anthem; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

#### ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 1463

At the request of Ms. HIRONO, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1463, a bill to amend the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 to prohibit importation, exportation, transportation, sale, receipt, acquisition, and purchase in interstate or foreign commerce, or in a manner substantially affecting interstate or foreign commerce, of any live animal of any prohibited wildlife species.

S. 1695

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1695, a bill to designate a portion of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge as wilderness.

S. 2644

At the request of Mr. PAUL, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2644, a bill to restore the integrity of the Fifth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 2971

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the names of the Senator from Delaware



(Mr. COONS), the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER), the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN), the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN) and the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) were added as cosponsors of S. 2971, a bill to promote energy efficiency, and for other purposes.

S. 3015

At the request of Ms. AYOTTE, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 3015, a bill to establish a rule of construction clarifying the limitations on executive authority to provide certain forms of immigration relief.

AMENDMENT NO. 4117

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4117 intended to be proposed to H.R. 83, to require the Secretary of the Interior to assemble a team of technical, policy, and financial experts to address the energy needs of the insular areas of the United States and the Freely Associated States through the development of energy action plans aimed at promoting access to affordable, reliable energy, including increasing use of indigenous clean-energy resources, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4118

At the request of Ms. WARREN, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4118 intended to be proposed to H.R. 83, to require the Secretary of the Interior to assemble a team of technical, policy, and financial experts to address the energy needs of the insular areas of the United States and the Freely Associated States through the development of energy action plans aimed at promoting access to affordable, reliable energy, including increasing use of indigenous clean-energy resources, and for other purposes.

#### STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. LEVIN:

S. 3018. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reform the rules relating to partnership audits and adjustments; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, today, I am introducing the Partnership Auditing Fairness Act, a bill designed to improve and streamline the audit procedures for large partnerships. This bill would ensure that large for-profit partnerships, like other large profitable businesses, are subject to routine audits by the Internal Revenue Service, IRS, and eliminate audit red tape that currently impedes IRS oversight. This legislation mirrors a provision in the Tax Reform Act of 2014, introduced earlier this year by Congressman DAVID CAMP.

This legislation would fix a problem that has gained only more urgency

with time and the explosion in growth of large partnerships, including hedge funds, private equity funds, and publicly traded partnerships. In a September 2014 report, the Government Accountability Office, GAO, determined that the number of large partnerships, defined by GAO as those with at least 100 partners and \$100 million in assets, has tripled since 2002, to over 10,000, while the number of so-called C corporations being created, which include our largest public companies, fell by 22 percent. According to the GAO report, some of those partnerships have revenues totaling billions of dollars per year and now collectively hold more than \$7.5 trillion in assets, but the IRS is auditing only a tiny fraction of them. According to GAO, in 2012, the IRS audited less than 1 percent of large partnerships compared to 27 percent of C corporations. Put another way, a C corporation is 33 times more likely to face audit than partnership.

A recent hearing by the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, which I chair, demonstrated the critical need to audit large partnerships for tax compliance and abusive tax schemes. Our July 2014 hearing presented a detailed case study of how two financial institutions developed a structured financial product known as a basket option and sold the product to 13 hedge funds that used the options to avoid billions of dollars in Federal taxes. The trading by those hedge funds was mostly made up of short term transactions, many of which lasted only seconds. However, the hedge funds recast their short-term trading profits as long-term option profits, and claimed the profits were subject to the long-term capital gains tax rate rather than the ordinary income tax rate that would otherwise apply to hedge fund investors engaged in daily trading. One hedge fund used its basket options to avoid an estimated \$6 billion in taxes. Those types of abusive tax practices illustrate why large partnerships like hedge funds need to be audited by the IRS just as much as large corporations.

During its review, GAO found that large partnerships are often so complex that the IRS can't audit them effectively. GAO reported that some partnerships have 100,000 or more partners arranged in multiple tiers, and some of those partners may not be people or corporate entities but pass-through entities—essentially, partnerships within partnerships. Some are publicly traded partnerships, which means their partners can change on a daily basis. One IRS official told GAO that there were more than 1,000 partnerships with more than a million partners in 2012.

GAO also found obstacles in the law. The Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act, TEFRA, now 3-decades-old, was enacted at a time when many partnerships had 30-50 partners; it does not

adequately deal with current realities. That is why I am introducing legislation to repeal some of its provisions and streamline the audit and adjustment procedures used for large partnerships so that the IRS can exercise effective oversight to detect and deter tax noncompliance or tax abuse schemes.

Three technical aspects of TEFRA create particularly difficult obstacles to IRS audits and tax collection efforts for large partnerships. The first requires the IRS to identify a "tax matters partner" to represent the partnership on tax issues, but many partnerships do not designate such a partner, and simply identifying one in a complex partnership can take months. Second, notifying individual partners prior to commencing an audit costs time and money, yet produces few if any benefits. Third, TEFRA requires that any tax adjustments called for by an audit be passed through to the partnership's taxable partners, but the IRS's process for identifying, assessing, and collecting from those partners is a manual rather than by electronic process, which makes it laborious, time consuming, costly, and subject to error. For example, if a partnership with 100,000 partners under-reported the tax liability of its partners by \$1 million, the IRS would have to manually link each of the partners' returns to the partnership return. Then, assuming each partner had an equal interest in the partnership, the IRS would have to find, assess, and collect \$10 from each partner. That collection effort is not practical nor is it cost effective. In addition, under TEFRA, any tax adjustments have to be applied to past tax years, using complicated and expensive filing requirements, instead of to the year in which the audit was performed and the adjustment made.

Fixing the technical flaws in TEFRA is critical to ensuring that the audit playing field is level for all taxpayers. An essential element of any system of taxation is that it be fair—that is, that all those who pay taxes have a reasonable expectation that they are being treated in the same fashion as other taxpayers. Without fairness, not only does a tax system violate ethical principles, but the system itself fails to collect taxes owed, arouses resentment and complaints, and can even spark widespread noncompliance. The current situation in which large corporations are audited 33 times more than large partnerships is neither fair nor sustainable.

The Partnership Auditing Fairness Act would eliminate the existing audit disparity by streamlining the audit process for large partnerships. It would simplify audit notification and administrative procedures. It would no longer require the IRS to waste audit time trying to find a tax matters partner. It would allow the IRS to audit, assess,

and collect tax from the partnership, rather than passing the adjustments through to and collecting from each taxable partner. It would apply any tax adjustments to the tax year in which the adjustments were finalized, rather than past tax years under audit.

The enormous discrepancy in audit rates between partnerships and other business forms raises a fundamental question of fairness. If one type of entity can be nearly free of IRS audits, businesses that do pay their taxes and are subject to the audit process rightly feel disadvantaged. That lack of fairness is something we simply can't tolerate.

For these reasons, in the next Congress, I urge my colleagues to consider supporting this legislation to fix the large partnership audit problem.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that a bill summary be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

SUMMARY OF THE PARTNERSHIP AUDITING  
FAIRNESS ACT

The Partnership Auditing Fairness Act would ensure that large for-profit partnerships, like other large profitable businesses, are subject to routine audits by the IRS and eliminate audit red tape that currently impedes IRS oversight. Specifically, it would reform audit procedures imposed by the 1982 Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act, TEFRA, which are now outdated and contribute to the low audit rate for large partnerships. The bill mirrors the same provision addressing this issue in the larger tax reform bill developed by Congressman DAVID CAMP. Key provisions of the bill would:

Apply streamlined audit rules to all partnerships, but allow partnerships with 100 or fewer partners, other than partners that are pass-through entities, to opt out of the bill's audit procedures and elect instead to be audited under the rules for individual taxpayers.

Simplify partnership audit participation by having partnerships act through a designated partnership representative.

Simplify audit notification and administrative procedures by repealing the TEFRA and Electing Large Partnership requirement that the IRS notify all partners prior to initiating an audit.

Streamline audit adjustments by authorizing the IRS to make adjustments at the partnership level and apply the adjustments to the tax year in which the adjustments are finalized, rather than to the tax years under audit.

Streamline tax return filing by enabling partnerships to include audit adjustments on their current tax returns for the year in which the adjustments are finalized, instead of having to amend prior-year returns.

Eliminate the TEFRA problem of having to find and separately collect any tax due from each affected partner by instead collecting the tax at the partnership level.

Enable partnerships to use administrative procedures to request reconsideration of a proposed under payment of tax by submitting tax returns for individual partners and paying any tax due, while retaining the ability to contest all audit results in court.

S. 3019. A bill to amend the War Powers Resolution to provide for the use of military force against non-state actors; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, when the War Powers Resolution was passed over a Presidential veto in 1973, its supporters expected that the War Powers Resolution would ensure that a national dialogue takes place before the employment of the U.S. Armed Forces in hostilities. The President—then President Nixon—was concerned that the War Powers Resolution's termination of certain authorities after 60 days unless extended by Congress would create unpredictability in U.S. foreign policy.

The War Powers Resolution, as a practical matter, has not been effective. Every subsequent President since President Nixon has viewed the War Powers Resolution as an unconstitutional impingement on the President's powers as Commander in Chief. So the 60-day trigger in the act has never been used to terminate hostilities, and the national dialogue envisioned by the authors of the resolution has failed to come about.

I have a proposal to amend the War Powers Act in those instances where nonstate actors are the target. We are the target of them. They must become and should become the target for us to try to deter and respond to them when they attack us and try to terrorize us.

I have introduced a bill today with a suggested amendment to the War Powers Act. When the War Powers Resolution was passed over a Presidential veto in 1973, its supporters expected that the War Powers Resolution would ensure that a national dialogue takes place before the employment of the U.S. Armed Forces in hostilities.

The President, on the other hand, argued that the enactment of the legislation "would seriously undermine this Nation's ability to act decisively and convincingly in times of international crisis." In his veto message, President Nixon argued that: "As a result, the confidence of our allies in our ability to assist them could be diminished and the respect of our adversaries for our deterrent posture could decline. A permanent and substantial element of unpredictability would be injected into the world's assessment of American behavior, further increasing the likelihood of miscalculation and war."

The President was particularly concerned that the War Powers Resolution's termination of certain authorities after 60 days unless extended by Congress would create unpredictability in U.S. foreign policy. The War Powers Resolution requires the President to consult "in every possible instance" prior to introducing U.S. Armed Forces into hostilities and to report to Congress within 48 hours when, absent a declaration of war, U.S. Armed Forces

are introduced into "hostilities or . . . situations where imminent involvement in hostilities is clearly indicated by the circumstances." After this report is submitted, the resolution requires that U.S. troops be withdrawn at the end of 60 days, unless Congress authorizes continued involvement by passing a declaration of war or some other specific authorization for continued U.S. involvement in such hostilities.

Every subsequent President has viewed the War Powers Resolution as an unconstitutional impingement on the President's powers as Commander in Chief. As a result, the 60-day trigger in the Act has never been used to terminate hostilities, and the national dialogue envisioned by the authors of the Resolution has failed to come about.

At this very moment, our troops have been engaged in hostilities in Iraq and Syria for more than 60 days, without the enactment of an authorizing resolution by Congress. Some believe that the continuing hostilities are a violation of the War Powers Resolution. Others argue that the War Powers Resolution has not been triggered, because our military actions can be justified under earlier authorizations. Either way, it is clear that the 60-day limitation in the resolution has had no more force and effect in the case of the battle against ISIS than it did in earlier actions in Bosnia, Kosovo, and elsewhere.

I believe that the War Powers Resolution needs to be modernized to make it more relevant to the situations our military is likely to face in the 21st century—in particular, the ongoing struggle against new and evolving terrorist groups.

Today, I filed a bill that would amend the War Powers Resolution to authorize the President to act against non-state actors like ISIS, where he judges it necessary to address a continuing and imminent threat to the United States, subject to a resolution of disapproval by Congress under the War Powers Resolution. This approach would allow the President to take decisive action to address imminent terrorist threats, while reserving a clear role for Congress through a resolution of disapproval. I believe that this approach would provide for a national dialogue on the use of military force with respect to non-state actors like ISIS, while avoiding the dead end provided unworkable requirement of the current War Powers Resolution, under which congressional inaction could require U.S. troops to suddenly disengage from the enemy while in harm's way.

My amendment would provide that the authority to use U.S. Armed Forces against non-state actors would terminate after 60 days unless either: 1, the President's actions are based on a law providing for the use of military force



against a non-state actor; or 2, the President notifies Congress that continued use of military force is necessary because the non-state actor poses a “continuing and imminent threat” to the United States or U.S. persons, and Congress does not enact a joint resolution of disapproval under expedited procedures.

Expedited procedures under the War Powers Resolution would ensure that Congress considers the issue. Under these procedures, if a resolution of disapproval is filed in a timely manner by any Senator, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee would have 15 calendar days to report the resolution or be discharged. The Senate would then have 3 days to consider the Resolution, with time equally divided between proponents and opponents of the measure. As with any joint resolution, the measure could be vetoed, and such a veto would be subject to an override vote in Congress.

I believe this approach would provide greater clarity for the Executive and Legislative branches and I hope a future Senate will consider it.

By Mr. HARKIN:

S. 3020. A bill to establish the composition known as America the Beautiful as the national anthem; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, today I am introducing one last bill as a United States Senator. It is on an issue I have long wanted to tackle, changing our national anthem to one I believe is more representative of the amazing country and people that make up our United States of America. I believe that from its very first line, “Oh beautiful for spacious skies” America the Beautiful captures the spirit of our democracy and our shared commitment to liberty and freedom far better than our current anthem.

Now some might say but the Star Spangled Banner has always been our national anthem, but that’s not true. In fact its only been the anthem since 1931 and its only been in popular use during the last 100 years. It first became popular with the military, particularly the Navy.

But the bottom line is that the Star Spangled banner commemorates a single battle, just one of the many historic battles and wars that we have fought to create and protect our great country. I think to me the thing that best captures my concern with the Star Spangled Banner, in addition to the fact that it is hard as heck for a layperson to sing, is that it doesn’t actually mention the word “America.”

In contrast, America the Beautiful celebrates not just the amazing geography and wonder of our country—from amber waves of grain to purple mountains—from sea to shining sea, but also captures something of our national spirit when we sing “A thoroughfare of freedom beat, across the wilderness.”

Moreover, unlike the Star Spangled banner, America the Beautiful, like our coins, like our daily invocation here in the Senate acknowledges a higher power and calls upon god to guide us, to shed grace upon us, while also celebrating the heroism of those who have sacrificed their lives to create and preserve our democracy.

I am well aware that this legislation to redesignate the national anthem to “America the Beautiful” is not going to pass today, one of my final days in the Senate, but I would ask those who follow me to keep in mind the importance of symbols like the national anthem in reminding us what is great about this country—equality of opportunity, geographic diversity and majesty, shared commitment to individual liberty—and give serious thought to this proposal.

America the Beautiful is an anthem that far better embodies both the land and the principles that are the unifying beliefs of our democracy and for which we all stand together: freedom, liberty, and progress. For these reasons I believe that “America the Beautiful” should replace “The Star Spangled Banner” as the national anthem and I hope that my colleagues will come to share this view.

#### AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 4121. Mr. FLAKE (for himself, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. MCCAIN, and Mr. TOOMEY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 5771, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend certain expiring provisions and make technical corrections, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the tax treatment of ABLE accounts established under State programs for the care of family members with disabilities, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4122. Mr. PRYOR (for Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 684, to amend the Mni Wiconi Project Act of 1988 to facilitate completion of the Mni Wiconi Rural Water Supply System, and for other purposes.

SA 4123. Mr. PRYOR (for Mr. BARRASSO) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1800, to require the Secretary of the Interior to submit to Congress a report on the efforts of the Bureau of Reclamation to manage its infrastructure assets.

SA 4124. Mr. PRYOR (for Mr. BROWN (for himself and Mr. PORTMAN)) proposed an amendment to the resolution S. Res. 564, honoring conservation on the centennial of the passenger pigeon extinction.

SA 4125. Mr. PRYOR (for Mr. BROWN (for himself and Mr. PORTMAN)) proposed an amendment to the resolution S. Res. 564, supra.

SA 4126. Mr. PRYOR (for Mr. BROWN) proposed an amendment to the resolution S. Res. 226, celebrating the 100th anniversary of the birth of James Cleveland “Jesse” Owens and honoring him for his accomplishments and steadfast commitment to promoting the civil rights of all people.

#### TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 4121. Mr. FLAKE (for himself, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. MCCAIN, and Mr. TOOMEY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 5771, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend certain expiring provisions and make technical corrections, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the tax treatment of ABLE accounts established under State programs for the care of family members with disabilities, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike section 155.

SA 4122. Mr. PRYOR (for Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 684, to amend the Mni Wiconi Project Act of 1988 to facilitate completion of the Mni Wiconi Rural Water Supply System, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the end of the bill, add the following:

#### SEC. \_\_\_\_ OFFSET.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in the case of the project authorized by section 1617 of the Reclamation Projects Authorization and Adjustment Act of 1992 (43 U.S.C. 390h-12c), the maximum amount of the Federal share of the cost of the project under section 1631(d)(1) of that Act (43 U.S.C. 390h-13(d)(1)) otherwise available as of the date of enactment of this Act shall be reduced by \$15,000,000.

SA 4123. Mr. PRYOR (for Mr. BARRASSO) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1800, to require the Secretary of the Interior to submit to Congress a report on the efforts of the Bureau of Reclamation to manage its infrastructure assets; as follows:

At the end of the bill, add the following:

#### SEC. \_\_\_\_ OFFSET.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in the case of the project authorized by section 1617 of the Reclamation Projects Authorization and Adjustment Act of 1992 (43 U.S.C. 390h-12c), the maximum amount of the Federal share of the cost of the project under section 1631(d)(1) of that Act (43 U.S.C. 390h-13(d)(1)) otherwise available as of the date of enactment of this Act shall be reduced by \$2,000,000.

SA 4124. Mr. PRYOR (for Mr. BROWN (for himself and Mr. PORTMAN)) proposed an amendment to the resolution S. Res. 564, honoring conservation on the centennial of the passenger pigeon extinction; as follows:

In the resolving clause, insert “balanced and responsible” before “conservation”.

SA 4125. Mr. PRYOR (for Mr. BROWN (for himself and Mr. PORTMAN)) proposed an amendment to the resolution S. Res. 564, honoring conservation on the centennial of the passenger pigeon extinction; as follows:

Strike the first whereas clause of the preamble.

In the third whereas clause of the preamble, strike “as a cautionary tale and raise awareness of current issues related to

human-caused extinction,” and insert “to encourage communities to”.

**SA 4126.** Mr. PRYOR (for Mr. BROWN) proposed an amendment to the resolution S. Res. 226, celebrating the 100th anniversary of the birth of James Cleveland “Jesse” Owens and honoring him for his accomplishments and steadfast commitment to promoting the civil rights of all people; as follows:

In the 12th whereas clause of the preamble, strike “President Franklin D. Roosevelt” and all that follows through “President Dwight D. Eisenhower” and insert “the 32nd President of the United States or the 33rd President of the United States, but was later recognized in 1955 by the 34th President of the United States”.

In the 15th whereas clause of the preamble, strike “President Gerald R. Ford” and all that follows through “President George H.W. Bush” and insert “the 38th President of the United States in 1976 and the Living Legend Award by the 39th President of the United States in 1979, and was posthumously awarded the Congressional Gold Medal by the 41st President of the United States”.

#### GRAND PORTAGE BAND PER CAPITA ADJUSTMENT ACT

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 3608, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3608) to amend the Act of October 19, 1973, concerning taxable income to members of the Grand Portage Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. PRYOR. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read three times and passed, and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 3608) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

#### FATHER RICHARD MARQUESS- BARRY POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of H.R. 4030.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 4030) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 18640 NW 2nd Avenue in Miami, Florida, as the “Father Richard Marquess-Barry Post Office Building.”

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. PRYOR. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time

and passed and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 4030) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

#### MNI WICONI PROJECT ACT AMENDMENTS OF 2013

#### BUREAU OF RECLAMATION TRANSPARENCY ACT

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of the following bills en bloc: Calendar No. 131, S. 684; and Calendar No. 513, S. 1800.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bills by title en bloc.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 684) to amend the Mni Wiconi Project Act of 1988 to facilitate completion of the Mni Wiconi Rural Water Supply System, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with amendments, as follows:

(The parts of the bill intended to be stricken are shown in boldface brackets and the parts of the bill intended to be inserted are shown in italic.)

S. 684

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Mni Wiconi Project Act Amendments of 2013”.

#### SEC. 2. OTHER AGENCY ASSISTANCE.

The Mni Wiconi Project Act of 1988 (Public Law 100-516; 102 Stat. 2566; 108 Stat. 4543) is amended by inserting after section 3B the following:

#### “SEC. 3C. PLANS FOR COMPLETING THE OGLALA SIOUX RURAL WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM, ROSEBUD SIOUX RURAL WATER SYSTEM, AND LOWER BRULE SIOUX RURAL WATER SYSTEM.

“(a) PLANS FOR COMPLETION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In consultation with the Oglala Sioux Tribe, the Rosebud Sioux Tribe, and the Lower Brule Sioux Tribe, as applicable, and the Federal agency heads listed in subsection (b)(1), the Secretary shall develop plans to complete the Oglala Sioux Rural Water Supply System, the Rosebud Sioux Rural Water System, and the Lower Brule Sioux Rural Water System.

“(2) CONTENTS.—The plan for each water supply system described in paragraph (1) shall require—

“(A) the completion of remaining components of the applicable system in accordance with the Final Engineering Report dated May 1993;

“(B) the improvement, repair, and replacement of existing water systems; and

“(C) the transfer of those existing water systems to the United States, to be held in trust for the Oglala Sioux Tribe, the Rosebud

Sioux Tribe, or the Lower Brule Sioux Tribe, as applicable, and made part of the applicable rural water system.

“(3) SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate and the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives—

“(A) a copy of each plan developed under this subsection, including a schedule for full implementation of the plan that shall not exceed a period of 15 years after the date of enactment of this section;

“(B) a report that includes—

“(i) a description of the roles and responsibilities of each of the heads of the Federal agencies listed in subsection (b)(1) (including the Commissioner of the Bureau of Reclamation) relating to the completion of the water supply systems, including with respect to the improvement, repair, and replacement of the existing water systems before and after transfer;

“(ii) the program authorities of each Federal agency listed in subsection (b)(1) and a description of how the heads of the Federal agencies will work together to complete and implement the plans; and

“(iii) the amount of funding and any other need the Secretary determines to be necessary to complete and implement the plans; and

“(C) as applicable, a description of the roles and responsibilities of the heads of other Federal agencies that have existing authorities to provide assistance to the Oglala Sioux Tribe, the Rosebud Sioux Tribe, or the Lower Brule Sioux Tribe.

#### “(b) INTERAGENCY AGREEMENTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary shall enter into agreements with the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, and the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development—

“(A) to fulfill the trust responsibility of the United States; and

“(B) to complete the Oglala Sioux Rural Water Supply System, the Rosebud Sioux Rural Water System, and the Lower Brule Sioux Rural Water System in accordance with the Final Engineering Report dated May 1993, including the transfer of existing water systems, as set forth in the plans for completion developed under subsection (a).

#### “(2) COOPERATION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The heads of the Federal agencies described in paragraph (1) shall assist the Secretary in completing the Oglala Sioux Rural Water Supply System, the Rosebud Sioux Rural Water System, and the Lower Brule Sioux Rural Water System pursuant to sections 3(a), 3A(a), and 3B(a), respectively, including by—

“(i) improving, repairing, and replacing existing water systems as set forth in the plans developed under subsection (a); and

“(ii) constructing new rural water facilities, service lines, and other necessary features.

“(B) ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY.—The Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency shall assist the Secretary in meeting the environmental and safe drinking water needs of the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, the Rosebud Indian Reservation, and the Lower Brule Indian Reservation, including through compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300f et seq.).

“(C) SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall assist the Secretary in meeting the water supply and public health needs of the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, the Rosebud Indian Reservation, and the Lower Brule Indian Reservation, including through compliance with the Act of August 5, 1954 (commonly known as the ‘Indian Sanitation Facilities Act’) (42 U.S.C. 2001 et seq.).

“(D) SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT.—The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall assist the Secretary by carrying out projects to connect houses that are eligible for funding from the Department of Housing and Urban Development on the reservations of the Oglala Sioux Tribe, the Rosebud Sioux Tribe, and the Lower Brule Sioux Tribe, through plumbing, water pipes, appurtenances, and interconnections to the Oglala Sioux Rural Water Supply System, the Rosebud Sioux Rural Water System, and the Lower Brule Sioux Rural Water System, respectively, to meet the water conservation standards of those water supply systems.

“(3) LIVESTOCK DISTRIBUTION SYSTEMS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary and the Secretary of Agriculture shall, through the use of authorities of the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Department of Agriculture, respectively, complete, during a period not to exceed 15 years after the date of enactment of this section, the livestock distribution system for the Oglala Sioux Rural Water Supply System and the Rosebud Sioux Rural Water System, consistent with the Final Engineering Report dated May 1993.

“(B) ADMINISTRATION.—For each water supply system described in subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall enter into agreements with the Secretary of Agriculture and the Director of the Bureau of Indian Affairs that set forth the specific responsibilities of each agency concerning the construction of the livestock distribution systems.

“(4) LEAD AGENCY.—The Department of the Interior, acting through the Bureau of Reclamation, shall act as the lead agency in carrying out this section.

“(5) ADMINISTRATION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Each agency head shall carry out the duties of the agency head under this subsection out of amounts made available to the agency head under annual appropriations and existing [authority] authorities.

“(B) AUTHORIZATION OF USE OF OTHER FEDERAL AGENCY FUNDS.—Amounts made available to agencies other than the Bureau of Reclamation may also be used to carry out this Act.

“(C) ADDITIONAL FUNDING REQUESTS.—Nothing in this subsection prohibits the Oglala Sioux Tribe, the Rosebud Sioux Tribe, or the Lower Brule Sioux Tribe from applying for, seeking, or obtaining amounts from the Federal agencies referred to in paragraph (1) for any other purpose.

“(C) UPGRADING STANDARDS FOR CONNECTING HOMES.—The Director of the Bureau of Indian Affairs shall, through the use of existing programs and annual appropriations, assist the Secretary in completing the Oglala Sioux Rural Water Supply System, the Rosebud Sioux Rural Water System, and the Lower Brule Sioux Rural Water System by constructing, repairing, and upgrading plumbing fixtures, skirting, and other necessary features, such as septic tanks and drainfields, to ensure that houses within the service areas are able to meet the standards for connecting to those water systems.”.

### SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) PLANNING, DESIGN, AND CONSTRUCTION.—Section 10(a) of the Mni Wiconi Project Act of 1988 (Public Law 100–516; 102 Stat. 2571; 108 Stat. 4545; 116 Stat. 3033; 121 Stat. 1954) is amended—

(1) in the first sentence, by striking “and \$58,800,000 (based on October 1, 1997 price levels)” and inserting “, \$58,800,000 (based on October 1, 1997 price levels), and \$14,308,000 (based on October 1, 2011 price levels)”;

(2) in the second sentence, by striking “2013” and inserting “2016”; and

(3) in the third sentence, by striking “and October 1, 1997 (with respect to the \$58,800,000)” and inserting “, October 1, 1997 (with respect to the \$58,800,000), and October 1, 2011 (with respect to the \$14,308,000)”.

(b) OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF OGLALA SIOUX RURAL WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM, ROSEBUD SIOUX RURAL WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM, AND LOWER BRULE SIOUX RURAL WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM.—Section 10(b) of the Mni Wiconi Project Act of 1988 (Public Law 100–516; 102 Stat. 2571; 108 Stat. 4545) is amended—

(1) in the first sentence, by striking “There are” and inserting the following:

“(1) OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—There are”;

(2) in the second sentence, by striking “The operation” and inserting the following:

“(B) WEST RIVER AND LYMAN-JONES RURAL WATER SYSTEMS.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—The operation”;

(3) in the third sentence, by striking “Such fee” and inserting the following:

“(ii) FEE BASIS.—The fee described in clause (i)”;

(4) in the fourth sentence, by striking “Such operation and maintenance payments” and inserting the following:

“(iii) ADJUSTMENT OF PAYMENTS.—The operation and maintenance payments under this subparagraph”;

(5) by adding after paragraph (1) (as so designated) the following:

“(2) COMMUNITY WATER SYSTEMS UPGRADES.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 5 years after the date of enactment of the Mni Wiconi Project Act Amendments of 2013, each public or tribal water system that is in existence on the date of enactment of this paragraph shall be transferred to the applicable rural water supply system, to be held in trust by the United States for the benefit of the applicable Indian tribe, on the request of the Oglala Sioux Tribe, the Rosebud Sioux Tribe, or the Lower Brule Sioux Tribe, as applicable, and the owner of the water system.”

“(A) IN GENERAL.—After the date on which public or tribal water systems on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, the Rosebud Indian Reservation, and the Lower Brule Indian Reservation that are in existence on the date of enactment of this paragraph have been brought up to the standards for the water systems established in the plans developed under section 3C(a), but not later than 15 years after the date of enactment of this paragraph, title to each of the water systems shall be transferred to the United States, to be held in trust for the benefit of the applicable Indian tribe, on the request of the Oglala Sioux Tribe, the Rosebud Sioux Tribe, or the Lower Brule Sioux Tribe, as applicable, and the owner of the water system.

“(B) IMPROVEMENTS AND REPAIRS AND REPLACEMENT.—The Secretary shall use amounts authorized to be appropriated under paragraph (1) for the improvement, repair, and replacement of any water system that is transferred or [proposed to be transferred] proposed, by request of the owner of the water system, to be transferred and improved under subparagraph (A).”.

A bill (S. 1800) to require the Secretary of the Interior to submit to Congress a report on the efforts of the Bureau of Reclamation to manage its infrastructure assets.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment to strike all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof the following:

### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Bureau of Reclamation Transparency Act”.

### SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds that—

(1) the water resources infrastructure of the Bureau of Reclamation provides important benefits related to irrigated agriculture, municipal and industrial water, hydropower, flood control, fish and wildlife, and recreation in the 17 Reclamation States;

(2) as of 2013, the combined replacement value of the infrastructure assets of the Bureau of Reclamation was \$94,500,000,000;

(3) the majority of the water resources infrastructure facilities of the Bureau of Reclamation are at least 60 years old;

(4) the Bureau of Reclamation has previously undertaken efforts to better manage the assets of the Bureau of Reclamation, including an annual review of asset maintenance activities of the Bureau of Reclamation known as the “Asset Management Plan”;

(5) actionable information on infrastructure conditions at the asset level, including information on maintenance needs at individual assets due to aging infrastructure, is needed for Congress to conduct oversight of Reclamation facilities and meet the needs of the public.

### SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) ASSET.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term “asset” means any of the following assets that are used to achieve the mission of the Bureau of Reclamation to manage, develop, and protect water and related resources in an environmentally and economically sound manner in the interest of the people of the United States:

(i) Capitalized facilities, buildings, structures, project features, power production equipment, recreation facilities, or quarters.

(ii) Capitalized and noncapitalized heavy equipment and other installed equipment.

(B) INCLUSIONS.—The term “asset” includes assets described in subparagraph (A) that are considered to be mission critical.

(2) ASSET MANAGEMENT REPORT.—The term “Asset Management Report” means—

(A) the annual plan prepared by the Bureau of Reclamation known as the “Asset Management Plan”;

(B) any publicly available information relating to the plan described in subparagraph (A) that summarizes the efforts of the Bureau of Reclamation to evaluate and manage infrastructure assets of the Bureau of Reclamation.

(3) MAJOR REPAIR AND REHABILITATION NEED.—The term “major repair and rehabilitation need” means major nonrecurring maintenance at a Reclamation facility, including maintenance related to the safety of dams, extraordinary maintenance of dams, deferred major maintenance activities, and all other significant repairs and extraordinary maintenance.

(4) RECLAMATION FACILITY.—The term “Reclamation facility” means each of the infrastructure assets that are owned by the Bureau of Reclamation at a Reclamation project.

(5) RECLAMATION PROJECT.—The term “Reclamation project” means a project that is owned by the Bureau of Reclamation, including all reserved works and transferred works owned by the Bureau of Reclamation.

(6) **RESERVED WORKS.**—The term “reserved works” means buildings, structures, facilities, or equipment that are owned by the Bureau of Reclamation for which operations and maintenance are performed by employees of the Bureau of Reclamation or through a contract entered into by the Bureau of Reclamation, regardless of the source of funding for the operations and maintenance.

(7) **SECRETARY.**—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior.

(8) **TRANSFERRED WORKS.**—The term “transferred works” means a Reclamation facility at which operations and maintenance of the facility is carried out by a non-Federal entity under the provisions of a formal operations and maintenance transfer contract or other legal agreement with the Bureau of Reclamation.

#### SEC. 4. ASSET MANAGEMENT REPORT ENHANCEMENTS FOR RESERVED WORKS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to Congress an Asset Management Report that—

(1) describes the efforts of the Bureau of Reclamation—

(A) to maintain in a reliable manner all reserved works at Reclamation facilities; and

(B) to standardize and streamline data reporting and processes across regions and areas for the purpose of maintaining reserved works at Reclamation facilities; and

(2) expands on the information otherwise provided in an Asset Management Report, in accordance with subsection (b).

(b) **INFRASTRUCTURE MAINTENANCE NEEDS ASSESSMENT.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Asset Management Report submitted under subsection (a) shall include—

(A) a detailed assessment of major repair and rehabilitation needs for all reserved works at all Reclamation projects; and

(B) to the extent practicable, an itemized list of major repair and rehabilitation needs of individual Reclamation facilities at each Reclamation project.

(2) **INCLUSIONS.**—To the extent practicable, the itemized list of major repair and rehabilitation needs under paragraph (1)(B) shall include—

(A) a budget level cost estimate of the appropriations needed to complete each item; and

(B) an assignment of a categorical rating for each item, consistent with paragraph (3).

(3) **RATING REQUIREMENTS.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The system for assigning ratings under paragraph (2)(B) shall be—

(i) consistent with existing uniform categorization systems to inform the annual budget process and agency requirements; and

(ii) subject to the guidance and instructions issued under subparagraph (B).

(B) **GUIDANCE.**—As soon as practicable after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall issue guidance that describes the applicability of the rating system applicable under paragraph (2)(B) to Reclamation facilities.

(4) **PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.**—Except as provided in paragraph (5), the Secretary shall make publicly available, including on the Internet, the Asset Management Report required under subsection (a).

(5) **CONFIDENTIALITY.**—Subject to the discretion of the Secretary, the Secretary may exclude from the public version of the Asset Management Report made available under paragraph (4) any information that the Secretary identifies as sensitive or classified, but shall make available to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate and the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives a version of the report containing the sensitive or classified information.

(c) **UPDATES.**—Not later than 2 years after the date on which the Asset Management Report is

submitted under subsection (a) and biennially thereafter, the Secretary shall update the Asset Management Report, subject to the requirements of section 5(b)(2).

(d) **CONSULTATION.**—The Secretary shall consult with the Secretary of the Army (acting through the Chief of Engineers) to the extent that the consultation would assist the Secretary in preparing the Asset Management Report under subsection (a) and updates to the Asset Management Report under subsection (c).

#### SEC. 5. ASSET MANAGEMENT REPORT ENHANCEMENTS FOR TRANSFERRED WORKS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall coordinate with the non-Federal entities responsible for the operation and maintenance of transferred works in developing reporting requirements for Asset Management Reports with respect to the condition of, and planned maintenance for, transferred works that are similar to the reporting requirements described in section 4(b).

(b) **GUIDANCE.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—After considering input from water and power contractors of the Bureau of Reclamation, the Secretary shall develop and implement a rating system for transferred works that incorporates, to the maximum extent practicable, the rating system for reserved works developed under section 4(b)(3).

(2) **UPDATES.**—The ratings system developed under paragraph (1) shall be included in the updated Asset Management Reports under section 4(c).

Mr. PRYOR. I ask unanimous consent that the committee-reported amendments be considered; that the Johnson amendment relative to S. 684 and the Barrasso amendment relative to S. 1800, which are at the desk, be agreed to; that the committee-reported amendments, as amended, be agreed to, and the bills, as amended, be read a third time and passed en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment (No. 4122) was agreed to, as follows:

(Purpose: To provide an offset)

At the end of the bill, add the following:

#### SEC. \_\_\_\_ OFFSET.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in the case of the project authorized by section 1617 of the Reclamation Projects Authorization and Adjustment Act of 1992 (43 U.S.C. 390h–12c), the maximum amount of the Federal share of the cost of the project under section 1631(d)(1) of that Act (43 U.S.C. 390h–13(d)(1)) otherwise available as of the date of enactment of this Act shall be reduced by \$15,000,000.

The committee-reported amendments, as amended, were agreed to.

The bill (S. 684), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 684

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Mni Wiconi Project Act Amendments of 2013”.

#### SEC. 2. OTHER AGENCY ASSISTANCE.

The Mni Wiconi Project Act of 1988 (Public Law 100–516; 102 Stat. 2566; 108 Stat. 4543) is amended by inserting after section 3B the following:

#### “SEC. 3C. PLANS FOR COMPLETING THE OGLALA SIOUX RURAL WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM, ROSEBUD SIOUX RURAL WATER SYSTEM, AND LOWER BRULE SIOUX RURAL WATER SYSTEM.

“(a) **PLANS FOR COMPLETION.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—In consultation with the Oglala Sioux Tribe, the Rosebud Sioux Tribe, and the Lower Brule Sioux Tribe, as applicable, and the Federal agency heads listed in subsection (b)(1), the Secretary shall develop plans to complete the Oglala Sioux Rural Water Supply System, the Rosebud Sioux Rural Water System, and the Lower Brule Sioux Rural Water System.

“(2) **CONTENTS.**—The plan for each water supply system described in paragraph (1) shall require—

“(A) the completion of remaining components of the applicable system in accordance with the Final Engineering Report dated May 1993;

“(B) the improvement, repair, and replacement of existing water systems; and

“(C) the transfer of those existing water systems to the United States, to be held in trust for the Oglala Sioux Tribe, the Rosebud Sioux Tribe, or the Lower Brule Sioux Tribe, as applicable, and made part of the applicable rural water system.

“(3) **SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS.**—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate and the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives—

“(A) a copy of each plan developed under this subsection, including a schedule for full implementation of the plan that shall not exceed a period of 15 years after the date of enactment of this section;

“(B) a report that includes—

“(i) a description of the roles and responsibilities of each of the heads of the Federal agencies listed in subsection (b)(1) (including the Commissioner of the Bureau of Reclamation) relating to the completion of the water supply systems, including with respect to the improvement, repair, and replacement of the existing water systems before and after transfer;

“(ii) the program authorities of each Federal agency listed in subsection (b)(1) and a description of how the heads of the Federal agencies will work together to complete and implement the plans; and

“(iii) the amount of funding and any other need the Secretary determines to be necessary to complete and implement the plans; and

“(C) as applicable, a description of the roles and responsibilities of the heads of other Federal agencies that have existing authorities to provide assistance to the Oglala Sioux Tribe, the Rosebud Sioux Tribe, or the Lower Brule Sioux Tribe.

“(b) **INTERAGENCY AGREEMENTS.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary shall enter into agreements with the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, and the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development—

“(A) to fulfill the trust responsibility of the United States; and

“(B) to complete the Oglala Sioux Rural Water Supply System, the Rosebud Sioux Rural Water System, and the Lower Brule Sioux Rural Water System in accordance with the Final Engineering Report dated May 1993, including the transfer of existing

water systems, as set forth in the plans for completion developed under subsection (a).

“(2) COOPERATION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The heads of the Federal agencies described in paragraph (1) shall assist the Secretary in completing the Oglala Sioux Rural Water Supply System, the Rosebud Sioux Rural Water System, and the Lower Brule Sioux Rural Water System pursuant to sections 3(a), 3A(a), and 3B(a), respectively, including by—

“(i) improving, repairing, and replacing existing water systems as set forth in the plans developed under subsection (a); and

“(ii) constructing new rural water facilities, service lines, and other necessary features.

“(B) ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY.—The Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency shall assist the Secretary in meeting the environmental and safe drinking water needs of the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, the Rosebud Indian Reservation, and the Lower Brule Indian Reservation, including through compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300f et seq.).

“(C) SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall assist the Secretary in meeting the water supply and public health needs of the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, the Rosebud Indian Reservation, and the Lower Brule Indian Reservation, including through compliance with the Act of August 5, 1954 (commonly known as the ‘Indian Sanitation Facilities Act’) (42 U.S.C. 2001 et seq.).

“(D) SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT.—The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall assist the Secretary by carrying out projects to connect houses that are eligible for funding from the Department of Housing and Urban Development on the reservations of the Oglala Sioux Tribe, the Rosebud Sioux Tribe, and the Lower Brule Sioux Tribe, through plumbing, water pipes, appurtenances, and interconnections to the Oglala Sioux Rural Water Supply System, the Rosebud Sioux Rural Water System, and the Lower Brule Sioux Rural Water System, respectively, to meet the water conservation standards of those water supply systems.

“(3) LIVESTOCK DISTRIBUTION SYSTEMS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary and the Secretary of Agriculture shall, through the use of authorities of the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Department of Agriculture, respectively, complete, during a period not to exceed 15 years after the date of enactment of this section, the livestock distribution system for the Oglala Sioux Rural Water Supply System and the Rosebud Sioux Rural Water System, consistent with the Final Engineering Report dated May 1993.

“(B) ADMINISTRATION.—For each water supply system described in subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall enter into agreements with the Secretary of Agriculture and the Director of the Bureau of Indian Affairs that set forth the specific responsibilities of each agency concerning the construction of the livestock distribution systems.

“(4) LEAD AGENCY.—The Department of the Interior, acting through the Bureau of Reclamation, shall act as the lead agency in carrying out this section.

“(5) ADMINISTRATION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Each agency head shall carry out the duties of the agency head under this subsection out of amounts made available to the agency head under annual appropriations and existing authorities.

“(B) AUTHORIZATION OF USE OF OTHER FEDERAL AGENCY FUNDS.—Amounts made avail-

able to agencies other than the Bureau of Reclamation may also be used to carry out this Act.

“(C) ADDITIONAL FUNDING REQUESTS.—Nothing in this subsection prohibits the Oglala Sioux Tribe, the Rosebud Sioux Tribe, or the Lower Brule Sioux Tribe from applying for, seeking, or obtaining amounts from the Federal agencies referred to in paragraph (1) for any other purpose.

“(c) UPGRADING STANDARDS FOR CONNECTING HOMES.—The Director of the Bureau of Indian Affairs shall, through the use of existing programs and annual appropriations, assist the Secretary in completing the Oglala Sioux Rural Water Supply System, the Rosebud Sioux Rural Water System, and the Lower Brule Sioux Rural Water System by constructing, repairing, and upgrading plumbing fixtures, skirting, and other necessary features, such as septic tanks and drainfields, to ensure that houses within the service areas are able to meet the standards for connecting to those water systems.”

**SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

(a) PLANNING, DESIGN, AND CONSTRUCTION.—Section 10(a) of the Mni Wiconi Project Act of 1988 (Public Law 100-516; 102 Stat. 2571; 108 Stat. 4545; 116 Stat. 3033; 121 Stat. 1954) is amended—

(1) in the first sentence, by striking “and \$58,800,000 (based on October 1, 1997 price levels)” and inserting “, \$58,800,000 (based on October 1, 1997 price levels), and \$14,308,000 (based on October 1, 2011 price levels)”;

(2) in the second sentence, by striking “2013” and inserting “2016”; and

(3) in the third sentence, by striking “and October 1, 1997 (with respect to the \$58,800,000)” and inserting “, October 1, 1997 (with respect to the \$58,800,000), and October 1, 2011 (with respect to the \$14,308,000)”.

(b) OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF OGLALA SIOUX RURAL WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM, ROSEBUD SIOUX RURAL WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM, AND LOWER BRULE SIOUX WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM.—Section 10(b) of the Mni Wiconi Project Act of 1988 (Public Law 100-516; 102 Stat. 2571; 108 Stat. 4545) is amended—

(1) in the first sentence, by striking “There are” and inserting the following:

“(1) OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—There are”;

(2) in the second sentence, by striking “The operation” and inserting the following:

“(B) WEST RIVER AND LYMAN-JONES RURAL WATER SYSTEMS.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—The operation”;

(3) in the third sentence, by striking “Such fee” and inserting the following:

“(ii) FEE BASIS.—The fee described in clause (i)”;

(4) in the fourth sentence, by striking “Such operation and maintenance payments” and inserting the following:

“(iii) ADJUSTMENT OF PAYMENTS.—The operation and maintenance payments under this subparagraph”;

(5) by adding after paragraph (1) (as so designated) the following:

“(2) COMMUNITY WATER SYSTEMS UPGRADES.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—After the date on which public or tribal water systems on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, the Rosebud Indian Reservation, and the Lower Brule Indian Reservation that are in existence on the date of enactment of this paragraph have been brought up to the standards for the water systems established in the plans developed under section 3C(a), but not later than 15 years after the date of enactment of this paragraph, title to each of the water systems shall be transferred to the United States, to

be held in trust for the benefit of the applicable Indian tribe, on the request of the Oglala Sioux Tribe, the Rosebud Sioux Tribe, or the Lower Brule Sioux Tribe, as applicable, and the owner of the water system.

“(B) IMPROVEMENTS AND REPAIRS AND REPLACEMENT.—The Secretary shall use amounts authorized to be appropriated under paragraph (1) for the improvement, repair, and replacement of any water system that is transferred or proposed, by request of the owner of the water system, to be transferred and improved under subparagraph (A).”

**SEC. 4. OFFSET.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in the case of the project authorized by section 1617 of the Reclamation Projects Authorization and Adjustment Act of 1992 (43 U.S.C. 390h-12c), the maximum amount of the Federal share of the cost of the project under section 1631(d)(1) of that Act (43 U.S.C. 390h-13(d)(1)) otherwise available as of the date of enactment of this Act shall be reduced by \$15,000,000.

The amendment (No. 4123) was agreed to, as follows:

(Purpose: To provide an offset)

At the end of the bill, add the following:

**SEC. \_\_\_\_ OFFSET.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in the case of the project authorized by section 1617 of the Reclamation Projects Authorization and Adjustment Act of 1992 (43 U.S.C. 390h-12c), the maximum amount of the Federal share of the cost of the project under section 1631(d)(1) of that Act (43 U.S.C. 390h-13(d)(1)) otherwise available as of the date of enactment of this Act shall be reduced by \$2,000,000.

The committee-reported amendment in the nature of a substitute, as amended, was agreed to.

The bill (S. 1800), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 1800

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This Act may be cited as the “Bureau of Reclamation Transparency Act”.

**SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

Congress finds that—

(1) the water resources infrastructure of the Bureau of Reclamation provides important benefits related to irrigated agriculture, municipal and industrial water, hydropower, flood control, fish and wildlife, and recreation in the 17 Reclamation States;

(2) as of 2013, the combined replacement value of the infrastructure assets of the Bureau of Reclamation was \$94,500,000,000;

(3) the majority of the water resources infrastructure facilities of the Bureau of Reclamation are at least 60 years old;

(4) the Bureau of Reclamation has previously undertaken efforts to better manage the assets of the Bureau of Reclamation, including an annual review of asset maintenance activities of the Bureau of Reclamation known as the “Asset Management Plan”; and

(5) actionable information on infrastructure conditions at the asset level, including information on maintenance needs at individual assets due to aging infrastructure, is needed for Congress to conduct oversight of Reclamation facilities and meet the needs of the public.

**SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

In this Act:

(1) **ASSET**.—

(A) **IN GENERAL**.—The term “asset” means any of the following assets that are used to achieve the mission of the Bureau of Reclamation to manage, develop, and protect water and related resources in an environmentally and economically sound manner in the interest of the people of the United States:

(i) Capitalized facilities, buildings, structures, project features, power production equipment, recreation facilities, or quarters.

(ii) Capitalized and noncapitalized heavy equipment and other installed equipment.

(B) **INCLUSIONS**.—The term “asset” includes assets described in subparagraph (A) that are considered to be mission critical.

(2) **ASSET MANAGEMENT REPORT**.—The term “Asset Management Report” means—

(A) the annual plan prepared by the Bureau of Reclamation known as the “Asset Management Plan”; and

(B) any publicly available information relating to the plan described in subparagraph (A) that summarizes the efforts of the Bureau of Reclamation to evaluate and manage infrastructure assets of the Bureau of Reclamation.

(3) **MAJOR REPAIR AND REHABILITATION NEED**.—The term “major repair and rehabilitation need” means major nonrecurring maintenance at a Reclamation facility, including maintenance related to the safety of dams, extraordinary maintenance of dams, deferred major maintenance activities, and all other significant repairs and extraordinary maintenance.

(4) **RECLAMATION FACILITY**.—The term “Reclamation facility” means each of the infrastructure assets that are owned by the Bureau of Reclamation at a Reclamation project.

(5) **RECLAMATION PROJECT**.—The term “Reclamation project” means a project that is owned by the Bureau of Reclamation, including all reserved works and transferred works owned by the Bureau of Reclamation.

(6) **RESERVED WORKS**.—The term “reserved works” means buildings, structures, facilities, or equipment that are owned by the Bureau of Reclamation for which operations and maintenance are performed by employees of the Bureau of Reclamation or through a contract entered into by the Bureau of Reclamation, regardless of the source of funding for the operations and maintenance.

(7) **SECRETARY**.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior.

(8) **TRANSFERRED WORKS**.—The term “transferred works” means a Reclamation facility at which operations and maintenance of the facility is carried out by a non-Federal entity under the provisions of a formal operations and maintenance transfer contract or other legal agreement with the Bureau of Reclamation.

**SEC. 4. ASSET MANAGEMENT REPORT ENHANCEMENTS FOR RESERVED WORKS.**

(a) **IN GENERAL**.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to Congress an Asset Management Report that—

(1) describes the efforts of the Bureau of Reclamation—

(A) to maintain in a reliable manner all reserved works at Reclamation facilities; and

(B) to standardize and streamline data reporting and processes across regions and areas for the purpose of maintaining reserved works at Reclamation facilities; and

(2) expands on the information otherwise provided in an Asset Management Report, in accordance with subsection (b).

(b) **INFRASTRUCTURE MAINTENANCE NEEDS ASSESSMENT**.—

(1) **IN GENERAL**.—The Asset Management Report submitted under subsection (a) shall include—

(A) a detailed assessment of major repair and rehabilitation needs for all reserved works at all Reclamation projects; and

(B) to the extent practicable, an itemized list of major repair and rehabilitation needs of individual Reclamation facilities at each Reclamation project.

(2) **INCLUSIONS**.—To the extent practicable, the itemized list of major repair and rehabilitation needs under paragraph (1)(B) shall include—

(A) a budget level cost estimate of the appropriations needed to complete each item; and

(B) an assignment of a categorical rating for each item, consistent with paragraph (3).

(3) **RATING REQUIREMENTS**.—

(A) **IN GENERAL**.—The system for assigning ratings under paragraph (2)(B) shall be—

(i) consistent with existing uniform categorization systems to inform the annual budget process and agency requirements; and

(ii) subject to the guidance and instructions issued under subparagraph (B).

(B) **GUIDANCE**.—As soon as practicable after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall issue guidance that describes the applicability of the rating system applicable under paragraph (2)(B) to Reclamation facilities.

(4) **PUBLIC AVAILABILITY**.—Except as provided in paragraph (5), the Secretary shall make publicly available, including on the Internet, the Asset Management Report required under subsection (a).

(5) **CONFIDENTIALITY**.—Subject to the discretion of the Secretary, the Secretary may exclude from the public version of the Asset Management Report made available under paragraph (4) any information that the Secretary identifies as sensitive or classified, but shall make available to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate and the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives a version of the report containing the sensitive or classified information.

(c) **UPDATES**.—Not later than 2 years after the date on which the Asset Management Report is submitted under subsection (a) and biennially thereafter, the Secretary shall update the Asset Management Report, subject to the requirements of section 5(b)(2).

(d) **CONSULTATION**.—The Secretary shall consult with the Secretary of the Army (acting through the Chief of Engineers) to the extent that the consultation would assist the Secretary in preparing the Asset Management Report under subsection (a) and updates to the Asset Management Report under subsection (c).

**SEC. 5. ASSET MANAGEMENT REPORT ENHANCEMENTS FOR TRANSFERRED WORKS.**

(a) **IN GENERAL**.—The Secretary shall coordinate with the non-Federal entities responsible for the operation and maintenance of transferred works in developing reporting requirements for Asset Management Reports with respect to the condition of, and planned maintenance for, transferred works that are similar to the reporting requirements described in section 4(b).

(b) **GUIDANCE**.—

(1) **IN GENERAL**.—After considering input from water and power contractors of the Bureau of Reclamation, the Secretary shall develop and implement a rating system for transferred works that incorporates, to the maximum extent practicable, the rating sys-

tem for reserved works developed under section 4(b)(3).

(2) **UPDATES**.—The ratings system developed under paragraph (1) shall be included in the updated Asset Management Reports under section 4(c).

**SEC. 6. OFFSET.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in the case of the project authorized by section 1617 of the Reclamation Projects Authorization and Adjustment Act of 1992 (43 U.S.C. 390h–12c), the maximum amount of the Federal share of the cost of the project under section 1631(d)(1) of that Act (43 U.S.C. 390h–13(d)(1)) otherwise available as of the date of enactment of this Act shall be reduced by \$2,000,000.

**RECOGNIZING NOBEL LAUREATES KAILASH SATYARTHI AND MALALA YOUSAFZAI**

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 648, S. Res. 595.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 595) recognizing Nobel Laureates Kailash Satyarthi and Malala Yousafzai for their efforts to end the financial exploitation of children and to ensure the right of all children to an education.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution, which had been reported from the Committee on Foreign Relations, with an amendment and an amendment to the preamble.

(Strike out all after the resolving clause and insert the part printed in italic.)

(Strike the preamble and insert the part printed in italic.)

S. RES. 595

*Whereas, on October 10, 2014, the Norwegian Nobel Committee awarded the 2014 Nobel Peace Prize to Kailash Satyarthi and Malala Yousafzai;*

*Whereas the International Labour Organization estimates that, worldwide, 168,000,000 children are exploited financially, with 85,000,000 children working in very hazardous environments and deprived of an education;*

*Whereas the United Nations Children's Fund estimates that 101,000,000 children are not in school;*

*Whereas Kailash Satyarthi and his organization, Bachpan Bachao Andolan, have rescued more than 82,000 children from the worst forms of child labor;*

*Whereas Malala Yousafzai has promoted education for girls in Pakistan since she was 11 years old and is an advocate for worldwide access to education;*

*Whereas Kailash Satyarthi has endured threats on his life as a result of such rescue efforts; and*

*Whereas the Taliban attempted to kill Malala Yousafzai on October 9, 2012, as a result of her efforts to encourage more girls to attend school: Now, therefore, be it*

*Resolved, That the Senate—*

*(1) recognizes Nobel Laureates Kailash Satyarthi and Malala Yousafzai as symbols of peace and advocates for ending the financial exploitation of children and for the opportunity of all children to have access to education;*



(2) commends all individuals working around the world to end the scourge of child slavery and to advance education for all children;

(3) recognizes the challenges that remain in ending the financial exploitation of children and providing access to an education for all children;

(4) urges all governments, civil society organizations, businesses, and individuals to unite in the common purpose of protecting children from losing their childhoods as well as their futures; and

(5) recognizes the dedication and commitment to freedom, the rights of children, and the endurance of the human spirit, demonstrated by all individuals who make sacrifices to build a more peaceful world.

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the committee-reported amendment to the resolution be agreed to; the resolution, as amended, be agreed to; the committee-reported amendment to the preamble be agreed to; the preamble, as amended, be agreed to; and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The committee-reported amendment in the nature of a substitute was agreed to.

The resolution (S. Res. 595), as amended, was agreed to.

The committee-reported amendment in the nature of a substitute to the preamble was agreed to.

The preamble, as amended, was agreed to.

#### CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BIRTH OF JAMES CLEVELAND "JESSE" OWENS

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 226, and the Senate proceed to its consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 226) celebrating the 100th anniversary of the birth of James Cleveland "Jesse" Owens.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the Brown amendment to the preamble be agreed to, the preamble, as amended, be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 226) was agreed to.

The amendment (No. 4126) was agreed to, as follows:

(Purpose: To amend the preamble)

In the 12th whereas clause of the preamble, strike "President Franklin D. Roosevelt" and all that follows through "President Dwight D. Eisenhower" and insert "the 32nd President of the United States or the 33rd President of the United States, but was later recognized in 1955 by the 34th President of the United States".

In the 15th whereas clause of the preamble, strike "President Gerald R. Ford" and all that follows through "President George H.W. Bush" and insert "the 38th President of the United States in 1976 and the Living Legend Award by the 39th President of the United States in 1979, and was posthumously awarded the Congressional Gold Medal by the 41st President of the United States".

The preamble, as amended, was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, as amended, will be printed in a future edition of the RECORD.)

#### HONORING CONSERVATION ON THE CENTENNIAL OF THE PASSENGER PIGEON EXTINCTION

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Environment and Public Works Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 564 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 564) honoring conservation on the centennial of the passenger pigeon extinction.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. PRYOR. I ask unanimous consent that the amendment to the resolution that is at the desk be agreed to; the resolution, as amended, be agreed to; the amendment to the preamble be agreed to; the preamble, as amended, be agreed to; and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment (No. 4124) was agreed to, as follows:

(Purpose: To amend the resolving clause)

In the resolving clause, insert "balanced and responsible" before "conservation".

The resolution (S. Res. 564), as amended, was agreed to.

The amendment (No. 4125) was agreed to, as follows:

(Purpose: To amend the preamble)

Strike the first whereas clause of the preamble.

In the third whereas clause of the preamble, strike "as a cautionary tale and raise awareness of current issues related to human-caused extinction," and insert "to encourage communities to".

The preamble, as amended, was agreed to.

The resolution, as amended, with its preamble, as amended, reads as follows:

S. RES. 564

Whereas the death of Martha, the last passenger pigeon, on September 1, 1914, at the Cincinnati Zoo, and the extinction of the passenger pigeon helped to catalyze the American conservation movement of the early 20th century, resulting in new laws and practices that prevented the extinction of many species;

Whereas the story of the passenger pigeon can serve to encourage communities to explore connections between humans and the natural world, and inspire people to build sustainable relationships with other species;

Whereas the passenger pigeon (*Ectopistes migratorius*) was once the most abundant bird in North America, with a population exceeding 3,000,000,000 and with flocks so large that they could darken the skies for hours and even days at a time;

Whereas due to unregulated market hunting in the 19th century and deforestation, the passenger pigeon population plummeted toward extinction;

Whereas Project Passenger Pigeon, a consortium of over 150 institutions, scientists, conservationists, educators, artists, musicians, filmmakers, and others throughout the Nation, is using the centenary of the extinction of the species to tell the story of the passenger pigeon; and

Whereas the story of the passenger pigeon, once a symbol of never-ending natural abundance, and its subsequent extinction is unique in the annals of the history of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate commemorates the importance of this centenary, our natural heritage, the sustainability of our ecosystem, and the balanced and responsible conservation of our Nation's wildlife.

#### PROVIDING FOR THE SINE DIE ADJOURNMENT OF THE SECOND SESSION OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH CONGRESS

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of H. Con. Res. 125, which was received from the House and is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the concurrent resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 125) providing for the sine die adjournment of the second session of the One Hundred Thirteenth Congress.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the concurrent resolution.

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I know of no further debate on this measure.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the concurrent resolution.

The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 125) was agreed to, as follows:

H. CON RES. 125

*Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring)*, That when the House adjourns on any legislative day from Friday, December 12, 2014, through Wednesday, December 31, 2014, on a motion offered pursuant to this concurrent resolution by its Majority Leader or his designee, it stand adjourned until 1 p.m. on Friday, January 2, 2015, or

until the time of any reassembly pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first; and that when the House adjourns on the legislative day of Friday, January 2, 2015, on a motion offered pursuant to this concurrent resolution by its Majority Leader or his designee, it stand adjourned sine die, or until the time of any reassembly pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first; and that when the Senate recesses or adjourns on any day from Friday, December 12, 2014, through Friday, January 2, 2015, on a motion offered pursuant to this concurrent resolution by its Majority Leader or his designee, it stand adjourned sine die, or until the time of any reassembly pursuant to section 3 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first.

SEC. 2. (a) The Speaker or his designee, after consultation with the Minority Leader of the House, shall notify Members of the House to reassemble at such place and time as he may designate if, in his opinion, the public interest shall warrant it.

(b) After reassembling pursuant to subsection (a), when the House adjourns on a motion offered pursuant to this subsection by its Majority Leader or his designee, the House shall again stand adjourned pursuant to the first section of this concurrent resolution.

SEC. 3. (a) The Majority Leader of the Senate or his designee, after concurrence with the Minority Leader of the Senate, shall notify the Members of the Senate to reassemble at such place and time as he may designate if, in his opinion, the public interest shall warrant it.

(b) After reassembling pursuant to subsection (a), when the Senate adjourns on a motion offered pursuant to this subsection by its Majority Leader or his designee, the Senate shall again stand adjourned pursuant to the first section of this concurrent resolution.

Mr. PRYOR. I ask unanimous consent that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### APPOINTMENTS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair announces, on behalf of the Republican leader, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 106-398, as amended by Public Law 108-7, and in consultation with the chairmen of the Senate Committee on Armed Services and the Senate Committee on Finance, the reappointment of the following individuals to serve as members of the United States-China Economic Security Review Commission: Robin Cleveland of Virginia and Dennis Shea of Virginia.

#### APPOINTMENTS AUTHORITY

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding the upcoming recess or adjournment of the Senate, the President of the Senate, the President pro tempore, and the majority and minority leaders be authorized to make appointments to commissions, committees, boards, conferences, and inter-

parliamentary conferences authorized by law, by concurrent action of the two Houses, or by order of the Senate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### SIGNING AUTHORITY

Mr. PRYOR. I ask unanimous consent that during the adjournment or recess of the Senate from Wednesday, December 17, 2014, through Friday, January 2, 2015, Senators ROCKEFELLER, CARDIN, and LEVIN be authorized to sign duly enrolled bills or joint resolutions.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, JANUARY 6, 2015

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn sine die under the provisions of H. Con. Res. 125, and when it convenes on Tuesday, January 6, 2015, at 12 noon, pursuant to P.L. 113-201, following the prayer and pledge and following the presentation of the certificates of election and the swearing-in of elected Members, and the required live quorum, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### ADJOURNMENT SINE DIE

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it adjourn under the previous order.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair will exercise its prerogative to express its thanks to the floor staff for their work for the Senate and for the Nation.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 11:25 p.m., adjourned sine die.

#### NOMINATIONS RETURNED TO THE PRESIDENT

The following nominations transmitted by the President of the United States to the Senate during the second session of the 113th Congress, and upon which no action was had at the time of the sine die adjournment of the Senate, failed of confirmation under the provisions of Rule XXXI, paragraph 6, of the Standing Rules of the Senate.

##### AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

MARCIA DENISE OCCOMY, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE UNITED STATES DIRECTOR OF THE AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK FOR A TERM OF FIVE YEARS.

##### AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

LINDA THOMAS-GREENFIELD, AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE (AFRICAN AFFAIRS), TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE AFRICAN DE-

VELOPMENT FOUNDATION FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE TERM EXPIRING SEPTEMBER 27, 2015.

JOHN W. LESLIE, JR., OF CONNECTICUT, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION FOR A TERM EXPIRING SEPTEMBER 22, 2019.

##### CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

MARK D. GEARAN, OF NEW YORK, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE FOR A TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 1, 2015.

HEIDI NEEL BIGGS, OF OREGON, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE FOR A TERM EXPIRING OCTOBER 6, 2017.

WESTLEY WATENDI OMARI MOORE, OF MARYLAND, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE FOR A TERM EXPIRING OCTOBER 6, 2016.

RICHARD CHRISTMAN, OF KENTUCKY, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE FOR A TERM EXPIRING OCTOBER 6, 2017.

SHAMINA SINGH, OF NEW YORK, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE FOR A TERM EXPIRING OCTOBER 6, 2014.

SHAMINA SINGH, OF NEW YORK, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE FOR A TERM EXPIRING OCTOBER 6, 2019.

DEAN A. REUTER, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE FOR A TERM EXPIRING SEPTEMBER 14, 2016.

VICTORIA ANN HUGHES, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE FOR A TERM EXPIRING OCTOBER 6, 2016.

ERIC P. LIU, OF WASHINGTON, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE FOR A TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 27, 2017.

ROMONIA S. DIXON, OF ARIZONA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE FOR A TERM EXPIRING OCTOBER 6, 2018.

##### DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

JESSIE HILL ROBERSON, OF ALABAMA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD FOR A TERM EXPIRING OCTOBER 18, 2018.

##### DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

WILLIE E. MAY, OF MARYLAND, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY OF COMMERCE FOR STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY.

MANSON K. BROWN, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF COMMERCE.

MICHELLE K. LEE, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY OF COMMERCE FOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND DIRECTOR OF THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE.

##### DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

ALISSA M. STARZAK, OF NEW YORK, TO BE GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY.

ELISSA SLOTKIN, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE.

##### DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

MICHAEL KEITH YUDIN, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

MASSIE RITSCH, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH, DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

ERICKA M. MILLER, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION, DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

ROBERT M. GORDON, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR PLANNING, EVALUATION, AND POLICY DEVELOPMENT, DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

##### DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

MARC A. KASTNER, OF MASSACHUSETTS, TO BE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF SCIENCE, DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY.

JONATHAN ELKIND, OF MARYLAND, TO BE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF ENERGY (INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS).

MONICA C. REGALBUTO, OF ILLINOIS, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF ENERGY (ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT).

##### DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

YVETTE ROUBIDIAUX, OF MARYLAND, TO BE DIRECTOR OF THE INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS.

MARIA CANCIAN, OF WISCONSIN, TO BE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR FAMILY SUPPORT, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES.

RAFAEL J. LOPEZ, OF MARYLAND, TO BE COMMISSIONER ON CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES.



## DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

RUSSELL C. DEYO, OF NEW JERSEY, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY FOR MANAGEMENT, DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY.

## DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

LOURDES MARIA CASTRO RAMIREZ, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT.

## DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RONALD LEE MILLER, OF KANSAS, TO BE UNITED STATES MARSHAL FOR THE DISTRICT OF KANSAS FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS.

MICHAEL GRECO, OF NEW YORK, TO BE UNITED STATES MARSHAL FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS.

LORETTA E. LYNCH, OF NEW YORK, TO BE ATTORNEY GENERAL.

## DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

ADRI DAVIN JAYARATNE, OF MICHIGAN, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF LABOR.

## DEPARTMENT OF STATE

CARLOS PASCUAL, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE (ENERGY RESOURCES).

GEORGE JAMES TSUNIS, OF NEW YORK, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE KINGDOM OF NORWAY.

JOHN L. ESTRADA, OF FLORIDA, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO.

CASSANDRA Q. BUTTS, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS.

GENTRY O. SMITH, OF NORTH CAROLINA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF FOREIGN MISSIONS, AND TO HAVE THE RANK OF AMBASSADOR DURING HIS TENURE OF SERVICE.

STAFFORD FITZGERALD HANEY, OF NEW JERSEY, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF COSTA RICA.

CHARLES C. ADAMS, JR., OF MARYLAND, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF FINLAND.

PERRY L. HOLLOWAY, OF SOUTH CAROLINA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE CO-OPERATIVE REPUBLIC OF GUYANA.

MARI CARMEN APONTE, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES, WITH THE RANK OF AMBASSADOR.

SHBILA GWALTNEY, OF CALIFORNIA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE KYRGYZ REPUBLIC.

JENNIFER ANN HAVERKAMP, OF INDIANA, TO BE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE FOR OCEANS AND INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL AND SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS.

NANCY BIKOFF PETTIT, OF VIRGINIA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF LATVIA.

MICHELE THOREN BOND, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE (CONSULAR AFFAIRS).

MARIA ECHAVESTE, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE UNITED MEXICAN STATES.

BRIAN JAMES EGAN, OF MARYLAND, TO BE LEGAL ADVISER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

PAUL A. FOLMSBEE, OF OKLAHOMA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF MALI.

MARY CATHERINE PHEE, OF ILLINOIS, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH SUDAN.

AZITA RAJI, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE KINGDOM OF SWEDEN.

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

SUZETTE M. KIMBALL, OF WEST VIRGINIA, TO BE DIRECTOR OF THE UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY.

## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

LINDA STRUYK MILLSAPS, OF NORTH CAROLINA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE OVER-

SIGHT BOARD FOR A TERM EXPIRING SEPTEMBER 14, 2018.

BRODI L. FONTENOT, OF LOUISIANA, TO BE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER, DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY.

RONALD ALAN PEARLMAN, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE OVERSIGHT BOARD FOR A TERM EXPIRING SEPTEMBER 14, 2015.

SETH B. CARPENTER, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

ADEWALE ADEYEMO, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

ANTONIO F. WEISS, OF NEW YORK, TO BE AN UNDER SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

THERESE W. MCMILLAN, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATOR.

CARLOS A. MONJE, JR., OF LOUISIANA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION.

DANIEL R. ELLIOTT III, OF OHIO, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD FOR A TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 31, 2018.

## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

CONSTANCE B. TOBIAS, OF MARYLAND, TO BE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF VETERANS' APPEALS FOR A TERM OF SIX YEARS.

## ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MATTHEW STUART BUTLER, OF OHIO, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION FOR A TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 12, 2015.

## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

VICTORIA MARIE BAECHEER WASSMER, OF ILLINOIS, TO BE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY.

THOMAS A. BURKE, OF MARYLAND, TO BE AN ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY.

KENNETH J. KOPOCIS, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY.

JANET GARVIN MCCABE, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY.

ANN ELIZABETH DUNKIN, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY.

JANE TOSHIKO NISHIDA, OF MARYLAND, TO BE AN ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY.

## EUROPEAN BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT

CATHERINE ANN NOVELLI, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE UNITED STATES ALTERNATE GOVERNOR OF THE EUROPEAN BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT.

## EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

ROBERT MICHAEL SIMON, OF MARYLAND, TO BE AN ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY.

MICHAEL P. BOTTICELLI, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL DRUG CONTROL POLICY.

DANIEL HENRY MARTI, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ENFORCEMENT COORDINATOR, EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT.

MARISA LAGO, OF NEW YORK, TO BE A DEPUTY UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE, WITH THE RANK OF AMBASSADOR.

## FARM CREDIT ADMINISTRATION

DALLAS P. TONSAGER, OF SOUTH DAKOTA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE FARM CREDIT ADMINISTRATION BOARD, FARM CREDIT ADMINISTRATION, FOR A TERM EXPIRING MAY 21, 2020.

JEFFERY S. HALL, OF KENTUCKY, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE FARM CREDIT ADMINISTRATION BOARD, FARM CREDIT ADMINISTRATION, FOR A TERM EXPIRING OCTOBER 13, 2018.

## FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

JAY NEAL LERNER, OF ILLINOIS, TO BE INSPECTOR GENERAL, FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION.

## FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION

WILLIAM P. DOYLE, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE A FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSIONER FOR A TERM EXPIRING JUNE 30, 2018.

MARIO CORDERO, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE A FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSIONER FOR THE TERM EXPIRING JUNE 30, 2019.

## FEDERAL MEDIATION AND CONCILIATION SERVICES

ALLISON BECK, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE FEDERAL MEDIATION AND CONCILIATION DIRECTOR.

## FEDERAL MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

MARY LUCILLE JORDAN, OF MARYLAND, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE FEDERAL MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH REVIEW COMMISSION FOR A TERM OF SIX YEARS EXPIRING AUGUST 30, 2020.

## FEDERAL MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH REVIEW COMMISSION

MICHAEL YOUNG, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE FEDERAL MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH REVIEW COMMISSION FOR A TERM OF SIX YEARS EXPIRING AUGUST 30, 2020.

## FEDERAL RETIREMENT THRIFT INVESTMENT BOARD

DAVID AVREN JONES, OF CONNECTICUT, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE FEDERAL RETIREMENT THRIFT INVESTMENT BOARD FOR A TERM EXPIRING OCTOBER 11, 2018.

MICHAEL D. KENNEDY, OF GEORGIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE FEDERAL RETIREMENT THRIFT INVESTMENT BOARD FOR A TERM EXPIRING SEPTEMBER 25, 2018.

## HARRY S TRUMAN SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION

VICKI MILES-LAGRANGE, OF OKLAHOMA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE HARRY S TRUMAN SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION FOR A TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 10, 2015.

STEVEN H. COHEN, OF ILLINOIS, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE HARRY S TRUMAN SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION FOR A TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 10, 2019.

## INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

MILEYDI GUILARTE, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE UNITED STATES ALTERNATE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK.

## INTER-AMERICAN FOUNDATION

MARK E. LOPES, OF ARIZONA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE INTER-AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR A TERM EXPIRING SEPTEMBER 20, 2016.

JUAN CARLOS ITURREGUI, OF MARYLAND, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE INTER-AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR A TERM EXPIRING JUNE 26, 2014.

JUAN CARLOS ITURREGUI, OF MARYLAND, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE INTER-AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR A TERM EXPIRING JUNE 26, 2020.

ROBERTA S. JACOBSON, OF MARYLAND, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE INTER-AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR A TERM EXPIRING SEPTEMBER 20, 2014.

ROBERTA S. JACOBSON, OF MARYLAND, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE INTER-AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR A TERM EXPIRING SEPTEMBER 20, 2020.

## INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT

MATTHEW T. MCGUIRE, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE UNITED STATES EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT FOR A TERM OF TWO YEARS.

## INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND

JANET L. YELLEN, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE UNITED STATES ALTERNATE GOVERNOR OF THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND FOR A TERM OF FIVE YEARS.

MARK SOBEL, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE UNITED STATES EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND FOR A TERM OF TWO YEARS.

SUNIL SABHARWAL, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE UNITED STATES ALTERNATE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND FOR A TERM OF TWO YEARS.

## LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

MARTHA L. MINOW, OF MASSACHUSETTS, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION FOR A TERM EXPIRING JULY 13, 2014.

GLORIA VALENCIA-WEBER, OF NEW MEXICO, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION FOR A TERM EXPIRING JULY 13, 2014.

JOHN GERSON LEVI, OF ILLINOIS, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION FOR A TERM EXPIRING JULY 13, 2014.

HARRY JAMES FRANKLYN KORRELL III, OF WASHINGTON, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION FOR A TERM EXPIRING JULY 13, 2014.

ROBERT JAMES GREY, JR., OF VIRGINIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION FOR A TERM EXPIRING JULY 13, 2014.

## MORRIS K. UDALL AND STEWART L. UDALL FOUNDATION

JAMES L. HUFFMAN, OF OREGON, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE MORRIS K. UDALL AND STEWART L. UDALL FOUNDATION FOR A TERM EXPIRING OCTOBER 6, 2014.

## NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

DAVA J. NEWMAN, OF MASSACHUSETTS, TO BE DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR OF THE NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION.

#### NATIONAL FOUNDATION ON THE ARTS AND THE HUMANITIES

SHELLY COLLEEN LOWE, OF ARIZONA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON THE HUMANITIES FOR A TERM EXPIRING JANUARY 26, 2018.

PATRICIA NELSON LIMERICK, OF COLORADO, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON THE HUMANITIES FOR A TERM EXPIRING JANUARY 26, 2018.

THOMAS EDGAR ROTHMAN, OF MARYLAND, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON THE ARTS FOR A TERM EXPIRING SEPTEMBER 3, 2016.

JOHN MAEDA, OF MASSACHUSETTS, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON THE ARTS FOR A TERM EXPIRING SEPTEMBER 3, 2016.

FRANCINE BERMAN, OF NEW YORK, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON THE HUMANITIES FOR A TERM EXPIRING JANUARY 26, 2020.

DEBORAH WILLIS, OF NEW YORK, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON THE HUMANITIES FOR A TERM EXPIRING JANUARY 26, 2020.

#### NATIONAL INDIAN GAMING COMMISSION

JONODEV OSCEOLA CHAUDHURI, OF ARIZONA, TO BE CHAIRMAN OF THE NATIONAL INDIAN GAMING COMMISSION FOR THE TERM OF THREE YEARS.

#### NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

CHRISTOPHER A. HART, OF COLORADO, TO BE CHAIRMAN OF THE NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD FOR A TERM OF TWO YEARS.

THO DINH-ZARR, OF TEXAS, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 31, 2018.

#### NORTHERN BORDER REGIONAL COMMISSION

MARK SCARANO, OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, TO BE FEDERAL COCHAIRPERSON OF THE NORTHERN BORDER REGIONAL COMMISSION.

#### OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

EARL L. GAY, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT.

#### OVERSEAS PRIVATE INVESTMENT CORPORATION

CARMEN AMALIA CORRALES, OF NEW JERSEY, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE OVERSEAS PRIVATE INVESTMENT CORPORATION FOR A TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 17, 2015.

DEVEN J. PAREKH, OF NEW YORK, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE OVERSEAS PRIVATE INVESTMENT CORPORATION FOR A TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 17, 2016.

TODD A. FISHER, OF NEW YORK, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE OVERSEAS PRIVATE INVESTMENT CORPORATION FOR A TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 17, 2016.

#### PEACE CORPS

CARLOS J. TORRES, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE PEACE CORPS.

#### RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD

WALTER A. BARROWS, OF OHIO, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD FOR A TERM EXPIRING AUGUST 28, 2019.

#### SAINT LAWRENCE SEAWAY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

ANTHONY G. COLLINS, OF NEW YORK, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE ADVISORY BOARD OF THE SAINT LAWRENCE SEAWAY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION.

#### SECURITIES INVESTOR PROTECTION CORPORATION

LESLIE E. BAINS, OF NEW YORK, TO BE A DIRECTOR OF THE SECURITIES INVESTOR PROTECTION CORPORATION FOR A TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 31, 2015.

JOHN E. MENDEZ, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE A DIRECTOR OF THE SECURITIES INVESTOR PROTECTION CORPORATION FOR A TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 31, 2015.

#### SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

GILBERTO DE JESUS, OF MARYLAND, TO BE CHIEF COUNSEL FOR ADVOCACY, SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION.

#### SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

CAROLYN WATTS COLVIN, OF MARYLAND, TO BE COMMISSIONER OF SOCIAL SECURITY FOR THE TERM EXPIRING JANUARY 19, 2019.

ANDREW LAMONT EANES, OF KANSAS, TO BE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OF SOCIAL SECURITY FOR THE TERM EXPIRING JANUARY 19, 2019.

#### THE JUDICIARY

STEVEN M. WELLNER, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE AN ASSOCIATE JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA FOR THE TERM OF FIFTEEN YEARS.

SHERRY MOORE TRAFFORD, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE AN ASSOCIATE JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA FOR THE TERM OF FIFTEEN YEARS.

WILLIAM WARD NOOTER, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE AN ASSOCIATE JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR

COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA FOR THE TERM OF FIFTEEN YEARS.

JENNIFER PRESCOD MAY-PARKER, OF NORTH CAROLINA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA.

MICHAEL P. BOGGS, OF GEORGIA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA.

TODD SUNHWAE KIM, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE AN ASSOCIATE JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE TERM OF FIFTEEN YEARS.

NANCY B. FIRESTONE, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE A JUDGE OF THE UNITED STATES COURT OF FEDERAL CLAIMS FOR A TERM OF FIFTEEN YEARS.

THOMAS L. HALKOWSKI, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE A JUDGE OF THE UNITED STATES COURT OF FEDERAL CLAIMS FOR A TERM OF FIFTEEN YEARS.

ARMANDO OMAR BONILLA, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE A JUDGE OF THE UNITED STATES COURT OF FEDERAL CLAIMS FOR A TERM OF FIFTEEN YEARS.

PATRICIA M. MCCARTHY, OF MARYLAND, TO BE A JUDGE OF THE UNITED STATES COURT OF FEDERAL CLAIMS FOR A TERM OF FIFTEEN YEARS.

JERI KAYLENE SOMERS, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE A JUDGE OF THE UNITED STATES COURT OF FEDERAL CLAIMS FOR A TERM OF FIFTEEN YEARS.

JEANNE E. DAVIDSON, OF MARYLAND, TO BE A JUDGE OF THE UNITED STATES COURT OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE.

ALFRED H. BENNETT, OF TEXAS, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS.

GEORGE C. HANKS, JR., OF TEXAS, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS.

JOSE ROLANDO OLVERA, JR., OF TEXAS, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS.

JILL N. PARRISH, OF UTAH, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF UTAH.

ROBERT A. SALERNO, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE AN ASSOCIATE JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA FOR THE TERM OF FIFTEEN YEARS.

LUIS FELIPE RESTREPO, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE UNITED STATES CIRCUIT JUDGE FOR THE THIRD CIRCUIT.

KARA FARNANDEZ STOLL, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE UNITED STATES CIRCUIT JUDGE FOR THE FEDERAL CIRCUIT.

DALE A. DROZD, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA.

LASHANN MOUTIQUE DEARCY HALL, OF NEW YORK, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK.

ANN DONNELLY, OF NEW YORK, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK.

ROSEANN A. KETCHMARK, OF MISSOURI, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI.

TRAVIS RANDALL MCDONOUGH, OF TENNESSEE, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE.

#### UNITED NATIONS

BENJAMIN L. CARDIN, OF MARYLAND, TO BE A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE SIXTY-NINTH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS.

RONALD H. JOHNSON, OF WISCONSIN, TO BE A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE SIXTY-NINTH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS.

CAROL LESLIE HAMILTON, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE AN ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE SIXTY-NINTH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS.

LESLIE BERGER KIERNAN, OF MARYLAND, AS AN ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, TO THE SIXTY-NINTH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS.

#### UNITED STATES ADVISORY COMMISSION ON PUBLIC DIPLOMACY

ALFREDO J. BALSERA, OF FLORIDA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE UNITED STATES ADVISORY COMMISSION ON PUBLIC DIPLOMACY FOR A TERM EXPIRING JULY 1, 2014.

ALFREDO J. BALSERA, OF FLORIDA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE UNITED STATES ADVISORY COMMISSION ON PUBLIC DIPLOMACY FOR A TERM EXPIRING JULY 1, 2017.

SIM FARAR, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE UNITED STATES ADVISORY COMMISSION ON PUBLIC DIPLOMACY FOR A TERM EXPIRING JULY 1, 2015.

SIM FARAR, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE UNITED STATES ADVISORY COMMISSION ON PUBLIC DIPLOMACY FOR A TERM EXPIRING JULY 1, 2018.

WILLIAM JOSEPH HYBL, OF COLORADO, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE UNITED STATES ADVISORY COMMISSION ON PUBLIC DIPLOMACY FOR A TERM EXPIRING JULY 1, 2015.

#### UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

JAMES C. MILLER, III, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE A GOVERNOR OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE FOR THE TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 8, 2017.

STEPHEN CRAWFORD, OF MARYLAND, TO BE A GOVERNOR OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 8, 2015.

DAVID MICHAEL BENNETT, OF NORTH CAROLINA, TO BE A GOVERNOR OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE FOR A TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 8, 2018.

VICTORIA REGGIE KENNEDY, OF MASSACHUSETTS, TO BE A GOVERNOR OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE FOR A TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 8, 2016.

MICKEY D. BARNETT, OF NEW MEXICO, TO BE A GOVERNOR OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE FOR A TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 8, 2020.

DAVID S. SHAPIRA, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE A GOVERNOR OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE FOR A TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 8, 2019.

#### IN THE AIR FORCE

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF COLONEL MARK A. BAIRD, TO BE BRIGADIER GENERAL.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF COLONEL ANDREW E. SALAS, TO BE BRIGADIER GENERAL.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH COLONEL MARK W. ANDERSON AND ENDING WITH COLONEL FRANK H. STOKES, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON FEBRUARY 26, 2014.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF COL. DENNIS D. GRUNSTADT II, TO BE BRIGADIER GENERAL.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF MAJ. GEN. CHARLES Q. BROWN, JR., TO BE LIEUTENANT GENERAL.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF COL. JAMES J. BURKS, TO BE BRIGADIER GENERAL.

#### IN THE ARMY

ARMY NOMINATION OF COLONEL LEELEA J. GRAY, TO BE BRIGADIER GENERAL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF BRIGADIER GENERAL MATTHEW P. BEEVERS, TO BE MAJOR GENERAL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ERIC C. BUSH, TO BE MAJOR GENERAL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF COL. MARTA CARCANA, TO BE BRIGADIER GENERAL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF COL. RONALD P. CLARK, TO BE BRIGADIER GENERAL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF COLONEL BARRY K. TAYLOR, TO BE BRIGADIER GENERAL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF COL. EDWARD E. HILDRETH III, TO BE BRIGADIER GENERAL.

#### IN THE COAST GUARD

COAST GUARD NOMINATION OF REAR ADM. THOMAS P. OSTEO, TO BE VICE ADMIRAL.

#### IN THE MARINE CORPS

MARINE CORPS NOMINATION OF MAJ. GEN. MICHAEL R. REGNER, TO BE LIEUTENANT GENERAL.

#### IN THE NAVY

NAVY NOMINATION OF CAPT. MICHELLE C. SKUBIC, TO BE REAR ADMIRAL (LOWER HALF).

#### IN THE AIR FORCE

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH KEITH L. CLARK AND ENDING WITH JENNIE LEIGH L. STODDART, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON DECEMBER 3, 2014.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH TALIB Y. ALI AND ENDING WITH GABRIEL ZIMMERER, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON DECEMBER 3, 2014.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH BAMIDELE A. ADETUNJI AND ENDING WITH KERI L. YOUNG, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON DECEMBER 3, 2014.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH TRAVIS M. ALLEN AND ENDING WITH JEREMY JAMES WELLS, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON DECEMBER 3, 2014.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH RICHARD S. BEYEA III AND ENDING WITH TRAVIS C. YELTON, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON DECEMBER 3, 2014.

#### IN THE ARMY

ARMY NOMINATION OF RODNEY E. GARFIELD, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF ROBERT H. MCCARTHY III, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF CLARENCE E. DINGMAN, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH STEVEN R. BERGER AND ENDING WITH FRANK A. SMITH, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 15, 2014.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH STEVEN R. ANSLEY, JR. AND ENDING WITH KAREN M. WRANCHER, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 15, 2014.

ARMY NOMINATION OF RACHEL S. THEISEN, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH TREAVOR J. BELLANDI AND ENDING WITH WILLIAM D. ROSE, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 15, 2014.

ARMY NOMINATION OF SPENCER T. PRICE, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF PAUL V. RAHM, TO BE COLONEL.  
ARMY NOMINATION OF MICHELE M. SPENCER, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH LESLEY A. WATTS AND ENDING WITH ROY WILMS, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 17, 2014.

ARMY NOMINATION OF JERRY L. TOLBERT, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH TIMOTHY A. DOHERTY AND ENDING WITH CRAIG A. YUNKER, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 17, 2014.

ARMY NOMINATION OF JACOB A. JOHNSON, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF RAYMOND L. PHUA, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF SUSAN R. CLOFT, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ROGER S. GIRAUD AND ENDING WITH NEIL I. NELSON, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON NOVEMBER 13, 2014.

ARMY NOMINATION OF MARION A. ALSTON, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF STEVEN A. BREWER, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF JAMES LAWHORN, JR., TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF FRANCIS J. RACIOPPI, JR., TO BE MAJOR.

#### IN THE FOREIGN SERVICE

FOREIGN SERVICE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH SUSAN K. BREMS AND ENDING WITH R. DOUGLASS ARBUCKLE, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JANUARY 30, 2014.

FOREIGN SERVICE NOMINATION OF AARON SCHUBERT.  
FOREIGN SERVICE NOMINATION OF DOUGLAS A. KONEFF.

FOREIGN SERVICE NOMINATION OF DANIEL MENDO HIRSCH.

FOREIGN SERVICE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH BRUCE MATTHEWS AND ENDING WITH BRIAN STEPHEN ZELAKIEWICZ, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON NOVEMBER 13, 2014.

FOREIGN SERVICE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ALEXIOUS BUTLER AND ENDING WITH NAIDA ZECEVIC BEAN, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON NOVEMBER 13, 2014.

FOREIGN SERVICE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH CRAIG A. ANDERSON AND ENDING WITH HENRY KAMINSKI, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON NOVEMBER 13, 2014.

FOREIGN SERVICE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ADAM MICHAEL BRANSON AND ENDING WITH MARC C. GILKEY, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON NOVEMBER 13, 2014.

#### IN THE NAVY

NAVY NOMINATION OF JUSTIN C. LEGG, TO BE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.

### DISCHARGED NOMINATION

The Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation was discharged from further consideration of the following nomination unanimous consent and the nomination was confirmed:

MICHAEL P. O'RIELLY, OF NEW YORK, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION FOR A TERM OF FIVE YEARS FROM JULY 1, 2014.

### CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate December 16, 2014:

#### INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

MARK E. LOPES, OF ARIZONA, TO BE UNITED STATES EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK FOR A TERM OF THREE YEARS.

#### DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

CHRISTOPHER SMITH, OF TEXAS, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF ENERGY (FOSSIL ENERGY).

#### DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

JAMES COLE, JR., OF NEW YORK, TO BE GENERAL COUNSEL, DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

#### DEPARTMENT OF STATE

FRANK A. ROSE, OF MASSACHUSETTS, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE (VERIFICATION AND COMPLIANCE).

#### MORRIS K. UDALL AND STEWART L. UDALL FOUNDATION

CHARLES P. ROSE, OF ILLINOIS, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE MORRIS K. UDALL AND STEWART L. UDALL FOUNDATION FOR A TERM EXPIRING MAY 26, 2019.

MARK THOMAS NETHERY, OF KENTUCKY, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE MORRIS K. UDALL AND STEWART L. UDALL FOUNDATION FOR A TERM EXPIRING OCTOBER 6, 2018.

ANNE J. UDALL, OF OREGON, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE MORRIS K. UDALL AND STEWART L. UDALL FOUNDATION FOR A TERM EXPIRING OCTOBER 6, 2016.

#### CHEMICAL SAFETY AND HAZARD INVESTIGATION BOARD

RICHARD J. ENGLER, OF NEW JERSEY, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE CHEMICAL SAFETY AND HAZARD INVESTIGATION BOARD FOR A TERM OF FIVE YEARS.

#### DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JOHN CHARLES CRUDEN, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL.

#### MORRIS K. UDALL AND STEWART L. UDALL FOUNDATION

CAMILLA C. FEIBELMAN, OF NEW MEXICO, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE MORRIS K. UDALL AND STEWART L. UDALL FOUNDATION FOR A TERM EXPIRING APRIL 15, 2017.

#### ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

THOMAS HICKS, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION FOR A TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 12, 2017.

#### UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

PAIGE EVE ALEXANDER, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR OF THE UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT.

#### DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

ESTEVAN R. LOPEZ, OF NEW MEXICO, TO BE COMMISSIONER OF RECLAMATION.

#### LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

MARTHA L. MINOW, OF MASSACHUSETTS, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION FOR A TERM EXPIRING JULY 13, 2017.

CHARLES NORMAN WILTSE KECKLER, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION FOR A TERM EXPIRING JULY 13, 2016.

GLORIA VALENCIA-WEBER, OF NEW MEXICO, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION FOR A TERM EXPIRING JULY 13, 2017.

JOHN GERSON LEVI, OF ILLINOIS, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION FOR A TERM EXPIRING JULY 13, 2017.

ROBERT JAMES GREY, JR., OF VIRGINIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION FOR A TERM EXPIRING JULY 13, 2017.

#### BROADCASTING BOARD OF GOVERNORS

KAREN KORNBLOH, OF NEW YORK, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BROADCASTING BOARD OF GOVERNORS FOR A TERM EXPIRING AUGUST 13, 2016.

#### UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

JONATHAN NICHOLAS STIVERS, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR OF THE UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT.

#### DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

MARCUS DWAYNE JADOTTE, OF FLORIDA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF COMMERCE.

#### DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

HELEN TIERNEY, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER, DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.

#### CHEMICAL SAFETY AND HAZARD INVESTIGATION BOARD

MANUEL H. EHRLICH, JR., OF NEW JERSEY, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE CHEMICAL SAFETY AND HAZARD INVESTIGATION BOARD FOR A TERM OF FIVE YEARS.

#### DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

DANIEL J. SANTOS, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD FOR A TERM EXPIRING OCTOBER 18, 2017.

#### DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ARTHUR LEE BENTLEY III, OF FLORIDA, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FLORIDA FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS.

#### THE JUDICIARY

STEPHEN R. BOUGH, OF MISSOURI, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI.

#### DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

DAVID RIVERA, OF TENNESSEE, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS.

#### THE JUDICIARY

JORGE LUIS ALONSO, OF ILLINOIS, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS.

HAYWOOD STIRLING GILLIAM, JR., OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA.

AMIT PRIYAVADAN MEHTA, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

ALLISON DALE BURROUGHS, OF MASSACHUSETTS, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS.

JOHN ROBERT BLAKEY, OF ILLINOIS, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS.

AMOS L. MAZZANT, III, OF TEXAS, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS.

ROBERT LEE PITMAN, OF TEXAS, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS.

ROBERT WILLIAM SCHROEDER III, OF TEXAS, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS.

#### OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

NICHOLAS J. RASMUSSEN, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL COUNTERTERRORISM CENTER, OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE.

#### DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

SARAH R. SALDANA, OF TEXAS, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF HOMELAND SECURITY.

#### ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

MATTHEW VINCENT MASTERSON, OF OHIO, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION FOR A TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 12, 2017.

CHRISTY A. MCCORMICK, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION FOR A TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 12, 2015.

#### DEPARTMENT OF STATE

JESS LIPPINCOTT BAILY, OF OHIO, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA.

ROBERT FRANCIS CEKUTA, OF NEW YORK, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN.

MARGARET ANN UYEHARA, OF OHIO, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO MONTENEGRO.

RICHARD M. MILLS, JR., OF TEXAS, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA.

#### UNITED NATIONS

ISOBEL COLEMAN, OF NEW YORK, TO BE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE UNITED NATIONS FOR U.N. MANAGEMENT AND REFORM, WITH THE RANK OF AMBASSADOR.

ISOBEL COLEMAN, OF NEW YORK, AS AN ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE SESSIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS DURING HER TENURE OF SERVICE AS REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE UNITED NATIONS FOR U.N. MANAGEMENT AND REFORM.

#### DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

LEIGH A. BRADLEY, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE GENERAL COUNSEL, DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.

#### DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

ROBERT M. SCHER, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE.

DAVID J. BERTEAU, OF MARYLAND, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE.

#### DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

MARK R. ROSEKIND, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION.

#### FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

COLETTE DODSON HONORABLE, OF ARKANSAS, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE TERM EXPIRING JUNE 30, 2017.

#### THE JUDICIARY

JOAN MARIE AZRACK, OF NEW YORK, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK.

ELIZABETH K. DILLON, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA.

LORETTA COPELAND BIGGS, OF NORTH CAROLINA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ANTONY BLINKEN, OF NEW YORK, TO BE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF STATE.

LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

LAURIE I. MIKVA, OF ILLINOIS, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION FOR A TERM EXPIRING JULY 13, 2016.

VICTOR B. MADDOX, OF KENTUCKY, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION FOR A TERM EXPIRING JULY 13, 2016.

JOSEPH PIUS PIETRZYK, OF OHIO, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION FOR A TERM EXPIRING JULY 13, 2017.

MORRIS K. UDALL AND STEWART L. UDALL FOUNDATION

JAMES L. HUFFMAN, OF OREGON, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE MORRIS K. UDALL AND STEWART L. UDALL FOUNDATION FOR A TERM EXPIRING OCTOBER 6, 2020.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

MICHAEL P. O'RIELLY, OF NEW YORK, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION FOR A TERM OF FIVE YEARS FROM JULY 1, 2014.

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

## RECOGNIZING SARAH ELISABETH ENGLAND ON THE OCCASION OF HER BAT MITZVAH

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 16, 2014*

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the thirteenth birthday and Bat Mitzvah celebration of Sarah Elisabeth England. In the company of her parents Lori Slass and Bill England, as well as her grandparents, uncles, classmates, and numerous friends and neighbors, Sarah celebrated her Bat Mitzvah at Congregation Kol Ami in Elkins Park, Pennsylvania, on December 13, 2014, her thirteenth birthday. Sarah is a wonderful young lady, and the ceremony she led with Rabbi Elliot Holin was rich in both tradition and meaning. Sarah's thoughtful, articulate, and touching comments during the ceremony were a particular highlight of the celebration, and I would like to share them here so everyone can become familiar with this promising young lady.

## SARAH ENGLAND'S DVAR TORAH

I enjoy being Jewish because of the feeling that everyone is friends and family. I am proud to be part of a tradition that has been going on for thousands of years. And I am glad that I am learning about the tragedies that have happened to our people. Don't get me wrong, I hate the idea that this stuff has happened to us, but I am glad that we are not trying to hide them from our younger generations. These are things that cannot be allowed to forget. For if the world is to forget, it will be much easier for it to happen again.

My favorite holy day is Tu b'Shevat, the New Year of Trees. Even though it's not as popular as say, Rosh Hashanah, it is an entire holiday wrapped around something I love, nature!

My Mitzvah Project is helping women get business clothing so they can get back up on their feet to find jobs and other opportunities. I have done a drive to collect clothing and I will be volunteering to separate clothing in the coming months.

A particularly transforming personal experience I have had was when I realized how poorly the LGBTQ community is treated, and I was appalled. I could not believe that people would treat each other like this. People complain about something that is racist or sexist, but they overlook how people treat people who just love each other. When I found out that my family members were part of the LGBTQ community, I couldn't stop smiling. I am so proud of them and everyone who keeps fighting. I hope that marrying someone you truly love is soon legal in all states.

I chose to chant verses from Genesis 37:5-8 and 19-24 of my Torah Portion. It is about Joseph telling his brothers his dream, and their plans for revenge. The narrative warns us not to talk about something, even a

dream, that shows you overpowering someone. It could make them mad and ruin your relationship with them. It also shows that the response of hatred could make you do things that you might not mean to do, but in the heat and anger of the moment, might make you do crazy things.

My two favorite prayers are the Avote v'Imahote and the G'vurote. Even though my beliefs in god have changed, I think these prayers truly help us understand how he tries to use his powers for good.

If I were to re-write the Avote, it would read, "Thank You, God, for our mothers and fathers from the beginning. Thank You for creating us. Thank You for being You. Thank You for Your love and kindness. We are forever grateful. Blessed are You, God, helper and shield of Sarah."

If I were to re-write the G'vurote, it would read: "Thank You, God, for life. Thank You for creation. Thank You for freedom. Thank You for Your many mighty acts. Thank You for everything. Who is like You: creator and destroyer of life? Who is like You, all-powerful being?"

As for my relationship with God, it's not that I don't believe in something, it's just that if God really cared about all of their creations, then why are people starving and going to war and committing mass murder? I don't think that God functions in the way that some people think God does. I think that God just created us and said, "Have fun!" To quote Rabbi in a note he left me during our time in writing this speech: "the interesting and fascinating thing about free will is that we make the choices and bear the responsibility, but it is always easier to point our finger outward to blame God or others, rather than inward to take responsibility for what we have done wrong as individuals/community/society".

I was motivated to study for my Bat Mitzvah by my mother. She has helped me so much during my studies, and even made sure I was listening to the recordings of my portion during my concussion. The idea of being able to say that I have had my Bat Mitzvah is awesome! And I don't mind having my thirteenth birthday party on the same day. Thank you mom, Rabbi, and everyone who has ever helped me with my Hebrew, you are the truly amazing people in this world.

Rabbi Holin asked me to talk about some of the greatest challenges facing our country or the world, and I think it is the need for greater gun control. The idea that someone can obtain a weapon capable of murdering men, women, and children with great futures to be had, just makes me sick. It is wrong that people can acquire guns so easily. I would pass a law that states, "To own a gun, you must undergo multiple mental and physical tests administered by a higher force". A police member or maybe a new job could be created specially trained in this task. I would also ask that anyone who owns a gun at the moment to also take the test so that we know if they are able to have one.

Some personal goals I have are being able to fully recover from my concussion, being able to see the LGBTQ community fully accepted as who they are, seeing gun violence stopping, and getting into a good college.

I would like to take a moment now to thank all of the people that have helped me to be where I am today, my mom and dad, Rabbi Holan, Rebecca Schwartz, Mrs. Holtzman, Mr. Monblatt, and anyone else who helped me during this journey and during my concussion.

## THANKING KATHLEEN THERESE MEANY FOR HER SERVICE AS PRESIDENT OF THE MWRD BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 16, 2014*

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Kathleen Therese Meany who will retire from her position as President of the Board of Commissioners of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District (MWRD) of Greater Chicago.

Commissioner Meany is a former professor of Political Science. She taught at Harold Washington College, one of the City Colleges of Chicago. She earned her Bachelor of Arts degree from Roosevelt University and her Master's Degree from Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government.

Commissioner Meany was elected to the Board of Commissioners in 1990 and served as Vice President for 16 years. Her eight fellow Commissioners then unanimously elected her to serve as President in January 2013. She also serves as Chairman of the Ethics Committee and the Pension, Human Resources and Civil Service Committee, as well as Vice Chairman for the Federal Legislation Committee, the Finance Committee and the Maintenance and Operations Committee.

One of her accomplishments on the MWRD Board was the introduction of a program to collect and properly dispose of household hazardous waste, which had previously been discharged indiscriminately into the sewage system. I commend Commissioner Meany for always looking out for the best interests of the people she represents and hope that future commissioners will look to her as a fine example.

Commissioner Meany has made it her duty to keep the communities of the Chicago area connected to the MWRD's operations. She is truly a dedicated public official and it is only appropriate that the Kathleen Therese Meany Presidential Garden was dedicated to her on June 20th in Cicero, Illinois.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Commissioner Meany for all she has done for the Chicago area and wish her all the best as she moves forward after retiring from the Board.

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

IN HONOR OF CHIEF PROBATION  
OFFICER MANUEL "MANNY" REAL

**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 16, 2014*

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Chief Probation Officer Manuel "Manny" Real on the occasion of his retirement from the County of Monterey. On December 12, 2014 Chief Real will relinquish his position and retire after 39 years of exemplary public service.

Manny has served as the Chief Probation Officer of Monterey County since February 12, 2004 and has overseen a staff of approximately 300 along with an all administrative budget, operational aspects of the Probation Department's Divisions of Administration, Adult Juvenile Hall and Youth Center and Alternative Programs. At the time of his appointment, Chief Real was already a 30-year veteran of the Monterey County Probation Department having worked in various capacities in both the adult and juvenile divisions. He worked in investigations and field supervision. At various times "Manny" served as a juvenile traffic hearing officer, a child custody investigator and a court officer. His tenure as Chief began in the middle of a series financial crises. Chief Real worked tirelessly to with the CAO's budget office to mitigate any negative side effects, preserve the progress made, and ultimately restore balance between available resources, community needs and effective interventions.

Chief Real has worked hard in strengthening relations and collaborations County Social Services, Behavioral Health, education, law enforcement, criminal justice, behavioral health and community organizations. Chief Real was integral in securing the use of the old Natividad Hospital to establish the Silver Star Gang Prevention and Intervention Program a one-stop gang prevention and intervention program. The program is unique as it combines probation supervision, educational, vocational and job training, counseling services and truancy abatement, along with mentoring and community outreach strategies to help decrease gang activity. It was a pleasure having worked with Chief Real at the federal level to bring in \$1.5 million dollars to assist with anti juvenile violence and the programs at the Silver Star Resource Center continues to serve many families in Monterey County.

Mr. Speaker, I know I speak for the whole House in extending our most sincere gratitude for Chief Real's service. I want to wish Chief Real the best as he embarks on a new chapter in his life and know he will enjoy spending more time with his wife, children and grandchildren.

IN OPPOSITION TO THE FY15 NA-  
TIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZA-  
TION (NDAA) CONFERENCE RE-  
PORT

**HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 16, 2014*

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to the Conference Report for the FY2015 National Defense Authorization Act.

For the last 53 years, Congress has passed—and the President has signed into law—an annual Defense Authorization bill to provide critical resources our Armed Forces need to maintain the best military in the world. While I recognize that there are many important programs that are authorized in this legislation, this NDAA also contains many major policy decisions affecting our country and our armed forces. Unfortunately, Congress was not allowed to consider a single amendment dealing with very consequential policy issues to this 1,648-page bill.

The NDAA Conference Report also authorizes funding to deploy an additional 1,500 troops to Iraq. I support the core pillars of the President's plan to fight ISIS, including the use of American surveillance, intelligence assets and air power against ISIS targets in Iraq and Syria and the arming and training of the Iraqi Army and Kurdish forces to stop the ISIS advances in Iraq. I also believe we should supply weapons to those groups in Syria, such as the Syrian Kurds, who have consistently fought ISIS, and whose priority is to defeat ISIS. However, I believe the Congress should make it clear that American ground troops should not be used in a combat role in Iraq or Syria.

The President has asserted that the 2001 Authorization to Use Military Force (Public Law 107-40) provides the Executive with broad authority to take all military action necessary in both Iraq and Syria to degrade and ultimately destroy ISIL. While the President has indicated that he does not intend to deploy U.S. ground forces into combat, there is nothing in current law to prevent him from doing so. Congressman MCGOVERN, Congressman JONES, and I asked the House Rules Committee to allow us to offer an amendment to ban the use of U.S. forces in ground combat in Iraq, with the exception of rescue operations for Americans. Unfortunately, this request was denied.

The NDAA Conference Report also provides a two-year authorization to deploy American troops to train and equip the so-called "moderate" Syrian rebels. In September, a majority in Congress voted to temporarily authorize preparation for such a mission for a short period ending December 11th. This bill extends that authorization for two more years and is written so that the four defense committees can exclusively decide how much funding should be allocated for this mission. Congressman DENT and I led a bipartisan letter to Speaker BOEHNER urging him to give us the opportunity to vote on that provision. We also presented an amendment to the House Rules Committee which would have presented this authority. Once again, we were not provided the opportunity to vote on this measure.

My primary concern with the proposal to arm the so-called "moderate" Syrian opposition is that it will have unintended negative consequences that will not serve our ultimate goal of defeating ISIS.

First, the primary objective of these Sunni Islamist fighters is the defeat of Assad and his Alawite dominated regime—not the defeat of ISIS. Since the start of the war there have been shifting alliances among these Sunni Islamist forces that include the al-Qaeda affiliate, Jabhat al-Nusra, different elements of the Free Syrian Army, the Islamist Front, Ahrar al-Sham and ISIS, among others. Their common cause and overriding objective is defeating Assad. Indeed, the commander of the Syria Revolutionaries' Front, Jamal Maarouf, one of the most militarily proficient commanders of the FSA, recently said that, "It's clear that I'm not fighting against al-Qaeda. This is a problem outside of Syria's border, so it's not our problem. I don't have a problem with anyone who fights against the regime inside Syria."

While there is no doubt that Assad is a brutal dictator, he does not pose the same threat to the United States as ISIS, and his forces have recently been battling ISIS. At this point, arming fighters whose primary purpose is to weaken Assad has one unintended result—strengthening ISIS. Indeed, I fear that the arms we provide to the so-called Syrian opposition are more likely to end up in the hands of ISIS or al Nusra.

I also have significant concerns about other measures in the NDAA Conference Report. I was disappointed that it includes a provision to continue funding restrictions on the construction or modification of detention facilities in the United States to house Guantanamo detainees. It also removes the prohibition on transfers of Guantanamo detainees to Yemen that was included in the SASC-reported bill.

Despite my overall opposition to this legislation, it does authorize many important programs. I was pleased that the Women's Small Business Procurement Parity Act, S. 2481, was included in the final Conference Report. This language provides much needed guidance to assist federal agencies in reaching the goal of awarding 5 percent of federal contracts to women-owned small businesses.

Today's bill also restores more than \$818 million in cuts made to military readiness accounts. This will allow our military to invest in critical repairs and upgrades to many mission-critical facilities such as electrical and fire protection system upgrades.

I am also encouraged that this bill builds on a number of provisions passed in last year's NDAA and continues to address the problem of sexual assault in the military. In particular, it would eliminate the so-called "good soldier defense" in court-martial proceedings, prohibiting a soldier from using good military character as a defense in a sexual assault case. These proceedings should be based on the specific evidence presented in the case.

Finally, I am pleased that the bill contains many long-delayed public lands conservation measures to protect more than one million acres of public land, including 245,000 of new wilderness.

While I support each of these measures, the fact remains that without the amendments I proposed, the bill could create a very slippery

slope that would drag American troops even more deeply into Syrian war and renewed conflict in Iraq. For those reasons, I regretfully am unable to vote in favor of this year's NDAA Conference Report.

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CONGRATULATING FYFFE HIGH  
SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM

**HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 16, 2014*

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate the Fyffe High School Football Team on winning the Alabama High School Class 2-A Championship on December 5, 2014.

Coach Paul Benefield, his players, and staff achieved the very difficult task of a 15–0 record during the 2014 season. I would officially like to congratulate them on their victory.

Coach Benefield has spent 34 years in the coaching and teaching profession, winning many games and awards. In 18 years as the head coach at Fyffe, Benefield has won more than 200 games and 13 region and area championships. Now he can add to that list a state championship.

I want to commend the fine young men who make up this championship team at Fyffe. They set a goal at the beginning of the season to take the Red Devils to the state championship, and that's exactly what they did. These players worked in the scorching heat of late summer and on many cold nights in the late fall, but they never lost sight of their goal.

By beating Elba High School 28–17 in the championship game, the Fyffe Red Devils saw their goal realized and did much more. The win, and the hard work it took to get there, taught life-lessons these young men will carry with them for the rest of their lives. While the winning is certainly an important accomplishment, the struggle to get there will prove to be just as valuable.

Again, I want to congratulate the Fyffe Red Devils on this great achievement. They have brought pride to their school, community, DeKalb County and to the Fourth Congressional District. I wish them continued success in the seasons to come.

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TRANSATLANTIC TRADE AND  
INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP

**HON. STEVE STOCKMAN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 16, 2014*

Mr. STOCKMAN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to submit today important information regarding the proposed trade deal between the United States and the European Union. The following article was written for Roll Call by my Legislative Assistant Zachary Leshin. During his time as my Legislative Assistant, Mr. Leshin has conveyed a profound understanding of the issue at hand, and has been an important asset to my office.

[From Roll Call, Oct. 22, 2014]

(By Zachary Leshin)

SHOULD CONGRESS RECONSIDER TTIP?—  
COMMENTARY

Recently there has been discussion over whether the United States should enter into a free trade agreement with the European Union known as the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership. There are several major issues with TTIP that make it not in the interest of the United States to enter into the agreement.

One major issue is non-tariff barriers to free trade that are not addressed by TTIP. In the European Union there are certain classes of product known as Protected Designation of Origin and Protected Geographical Indication. One example of a PDO is Parmigiano-Reggiano cheese, which legally can be made only in a certain region of northern Italy. Currently, American dairy farmers are not allowed to sell Parmesan cheese in the European Union because the name sounds too similar to Parmigiano-Reggiano. In all of the European Union's trade agreements, PDO and PGI protection has been extended to include the products in the other countries who are party to such agreement and the European Union has stated its intent to include that in TTIP under the guise of "intellectual property rights."

There are many examples of how arbitrary and nonsensical the designation process is. Newcastle Ale had to request that its PDO status be revoked so it could move its factory just across a river. Stilton cheese is not allowed to be made in the English village of Stilton from which it derives its name, but only in three neighboring villages. Feta cheese is allowed to be produced only in Greece, but not in Cyprus or other areas where ethnic Greeks may be living.

Another major issue with TTIP is that automatically having a free trade agreement with the United States would provide a major incentive for more countries to join the European Union. The European Union has increasingly become more of a centralized government over its member states, especially since the signing of the Treaty of Lisbon in 2009. In some areas (such as rules regarding the standardization of driving licenses) the European Union government has more control over its member states than the United States federal government has over US states.

Encouraging further expansion of the European Union is bad for the people of Europe, as the European Union has been eroding the sovereignty of its member states. The European Union has been imposing many absurd and burdensome regulations. One regulation requires all projects that receive funding from the European Regional Development Fund to fly the flag of the European Union. Another regulation states that prepackaged products are allowed to be sold only in certain sized packages, and packages that deviate from the proscribed size dimensions are prohibited from sale.

What also needs to be considered is not only what these regulations are, but how they are established. In the United States, the heads of the federal executive agencies, which are responsible for establishing regulatory policies, are nominated by an elected president and confirmed by elected senators. The European Union has no such accountability mechanism.

Another issue that needs to be considered is discriminatory trade policies imposed by the European Union. In May 2014, the European Union put in place a ban on the import of poultry and eggs raised by Jews in Judea

and Samaria, but still permits import of poultry and eggs raised by Arabs in that same region. The European Union has also been considering implementation of discriminatory meat labeling policies where meat products slaughtered using religious methods are required to label the method, but meat products slaughtered using other methods are not.

Supporting TTIP may impact the proposed referendum on United Kingdom membership of the European Union that is planned for 2015, skewing the outcome in favor of maintaining membership in the European Union. Instead, the United States should seek to establish a free trade agreement with a free and independent Britain. This will encourage other European Union member states to leave the European Union as well and will hopefully serve as a catalyst for the dissolution of the European Union. It is not in the strategic interests of the United States, nor in the interests of the people of Europe, for the European Union to become a more centralized institution.

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BATTLES WORTH FIGHTING

**HON. KERRY L. BENTIVOLIO**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 16, 2014*

Mr. BENTIVOLIO. Mr. Speaker, a war is raging for the soul of America. It is not a war of steel and cartridge. It is a conflict of ideas, fought not in trenches, jungles or a desert; instead, it is played out in town halls, roundtables, tea party and Liberty groups all across the nation. Instead of cannonades, there are editorials; instead of bombs, there are speeches; instead of rifle volleys, there is education on the benefits of Liberty ordained by God protected by a United States Constitution.

There is a genuine feeling today, especially among people who attend the various Tea Party and Liberty Groups that we, our country more specifically, may not make it. Many people consider these folks, the common everyday people who attend the Tea Party meetings 'fringe, right wing nut cases and extremists'. Many of the people who attend the Tea Party meetings, sometimes weekly, most commonly monthly, and more attend intermittently, sense something is drastically wrong. For the most part, they sense it and yet cannot firmly point their finger and claim what exactly is the cause of their discontent, the uneasiness; the fear danger is lurking just around the corner. It is not necessarily a feeling of doom from a nuclear, biological or chemical attack on our country from some foreign enemy or terrorism either. It is more serious than any violence a bad actor can bring. It is something more innate, a sense that they somehow lost something but can't remember what it was, like when you know you lost something important, an item you need to accomplish a task but can't remember what it is and where you placed it. You know it's around somewhere and if you looked hard enough you'll see it and you can continue with your task.

What is missing, what they are looking for, is our capacity for governing. Today, in Washington, D.C. we have a President inept in offering any sort of cooperative government. According to the President the House of Representatives is a non-entity. As President he has a pen and a phone to make the changes he sees as necessary to move his political agenda and the People's house has no say in the matter. But, the great threat to our country, our Constitutional government, is not entirely the President. It is easy to blame him for our dysfunctional government. Rather, the blame lies entirely with the system itself. We have created by our apathy a system that has normalized a process that distorts the will of the people by an economy of influence. A system designed to make those most connected rich. Our system of government created a class of rich whose wealth does not come from innovation, creativity or hard work, instead a new class of rich who secured their wealth through the manipulation of politicians and government agencies. The great new classes of wealth are a breed of financial politicians who could not secure their power by traditional methods that instead turned to the massive wealth directed by our government as the means to secure wealth and power for themselves and their circle of supporters.

Our enemy is not simply a Democrat or a Republican; it is a new breed in thousand dollar suits. They have changed laws agreeable to their business interests, bought and paid for politicians, judges, the media and skirted criminal laws and for the most part they are engaged in bad government and fail to actively track the will of the people. To them Democracy is a charade, only rhetoric for political messaging of a lost ideal to placate the masses still engaged in the political process while they make money for themselves and their friends. That voice is often louder than the voice of the people, the middle class, the very people who as the backbone of the American economy, who join our armed services to serve rather than take, our middle class carries the burden and suffers the most, silenced and placated by promises of a better life, the hope and change for the future that never really comes.

There are battles to be fought on the way we spend our taxpayer dollars, how we handle immigration and border security issues, religious freedom, education, veterans, and our National Defense. There is a major battle on protecting the rights of our citizens because it is Congress' principle duty to protect our rights not take them away. Together, we must strive valiantly and dare greatly and fight these battles.

Through these past 24 months in Congress my convictions were tested and clarified. And they will continue to be tested in the weeks and months to come.

I want to tell you the fight is just beginning.

I WENT TO Congress an average person with certain and specific values I learned as a young man and a soldier in the military. The principles of leadership I hold dear;

And a lifelong motto;

To STRIVE VALIANTLY and DARE GREATLY

These are not simply words on a page for me. Or rhetoric for an election campaign to get votes.

They run deeper.

LEADERSHIP is living a life BY EXAMPLE.

And NEVER asking a soldier or a constituent to do something you would not do.

As one of the most CONSERVATIVE members of Congress I passed 3 important pieces of legislation with 100% Bi-partisan support.

It bothers me when someone says they wish I would comprise and be more moderate.

Rated as the number #1 most transparent congressman out of 84 freshman members of Congress, and rated in the top 30% out of the 435 members of congress with an extensive record of working with the other side.

I know there are issues needing our attention and that working together we can accomplish great things. There are issues and work to be done, as a team, not as adversaries.

There are battles yet to be fought.

I know there are children who deserve a quality education and not getting it. K-12 education has been largely stagnant. College costs have risen as federal subsidies have ballooned. Graduates indentured to college debt have lesser prospects for future employment than any time in our history.

I once gave a speech to a Conservative Group on the issues in Education. As a former private and public school teacher, certified and highly qualified in both vocational and general education, I think I am well suited to offer suggestions. My presentation was well received by the Conservative audience.

During the question and answer portion of my presentation a lady asked me how I felt being a Conservative teacher, in a public school and a member of the Liberal Teacher's Union.

Madam, I said, "I think I feel the same way Jane Fonda would feel at a VFW Convention!"

This is a battle worth fighting. I want to tell you that all across the country there are people of all ages struggling with health issues and their health insurance.

The Unaffordable Health Care Act undermines the doctor-patient relationship, limits patient choice, centralizes government control of our health care administered by bureaucrats NOT your family doctor. The administration was not transparent. They lied and deceived the American people into thinking they could keep their doctor, their hospital, their insurance and insurance premiums would be less expensive. Mr. Gruber admitted in testimony before the Oversight and Government Reform Committee he helped direct this deception.

No matter your political party affiliation, promises were made and broken. Facts speak for themselves, Obamacare is unpopular, unworkable, and unaffordable and should be stopped and repealed in its entirety.

Together we can discuss and find alternatives that produce affordable health care BEFORE it becomes law.

Remember the lady speaker who said, "We must pass it before we can see what's in it?" The last time I heard that was when my doctor asked for a stool sample. And in both cases he got the same thing!

Look what "We must pass it before we can see what's in it" has brought upon us!

Division, not unity!

This is a battle worth fighting.

I want to tell you within our country there are people who have given up looking for

work and lost hope in ever finding the American dream.

Obamacare, and the Obama administration have increased annual regulatory costs by nearly \$70 Billion dollars. Unnecessary regulatory dictates hinder job creation and innovation while undermining America's fundamental freedoms.

Passing legislation that ensures a congressional check on Governmental regulators as well as the accountability of Congress is a good idea. This will help get America back to work and restore the American dream.

This is a battle worth fighting.

I want you to know that right now while some are very skittish on issues like immigration and trying to figure it out, this country's borders are worth protecting.

This is a battle worth fighting.

FRIENDS, Since the attacks of September 11, 2001 more than fifty terrorist plots against the United States have been foiled because of domestic and international cooperation. Yet, many of the intelligence tools to combat terrorism are controversial and many unconstitutional. Each and every one of these tools should be reexamined carefully to guarantee that America liberties are protected. At the same time we must ensure our defense agencies have legal tools at their disposal to PROTECT and DEFEND our great country.

THIS is a battle worth fighting.

Mr. Speaker, I want you to know America needs a reformed tax code that facilitates, not inhibits, economic growth and job creation.

Taxes and the cost of doing business are higher. Part-time work is replacing full time work. Wages are stagnant An uncertain future is the norm rather than the exception.

The tax code has become an enormous chain around the neck of a stagnate economy.

You do not need to have a Ph.D. in economics to know Investment goes where it is welcome and stays where it is appreciated.

Tax rates on families, businesses, and investment are too high. Our tax code needs to be hassle free, simpler, and fair. Our present tax system prevents the economy from reaching its potential and further suppresses wages.

This is a battle worth fighting.

I want to tell you Religious liberty in this country is not merely the "freedom to worship." Individuals should be free to work, speak, and serve according to their deeply held beliefs seven days a week.

Religious freedom is under assault at every corner, in every form of media, especially from burdensome government policies and efforts to undermine marriage, a religious, not a government blessing.

I want to tell you about how GOD not government, determines life.

And how that LIFE shall have liberty to pursue dreams and opportunity.

This is a battle worth fighting.

I want to tell you about our basic freedoms of speech, our 2nd Amendment protections and our rights to due process.

Basic rights given us by God are gradually stolen from us by government regulators, executive orders, and YES even members of the media spread the propaganda undermining these freedoms.

This is a battle worth fighting.

I want to tell you that our most personal and confidential financial and health information is



viewed and administered by political appointees whose interests are more political than helpful in improving your life.

I want to tell you about how Government websites are unprotected.

That these Federal Websites lack basic and sound security protocols exposing your most confidential personal financial and health information to criminal hackers and bad actors both foreign and domestic.

I am pleased the House unanimously passed my bill H.R. 3635, The Safe and Secure Federal Websites Act, it had 126 original cosponsors, a record for a GOP freshman member of Congress. Thank-you.

This is a battle worth fighting.

I want to tell you there are people in Washington who want to rob our senior citizens of the monies they paid into programs like social security and renege on the promises to our veterans.

As a veteran I have firsthand knowledge of the abuse and neglect inflicted on members of our armed services when they returned home from Afghanistan and Iraq as well as the treatment my fellow Vietnam veterans and I received coming home.

Our VA hospitals are under additional and justifiable scrutiny.

There are long wait times at VA hospitals . . . and instead of addressing the issues, they threw a convention for VA employees spending almost \$1 million and an additional \$350,000 for souvenirs because they had extra money . . .

Many government bureaucrats receive millions of dollars in bonuses when they are neither accountable nor transparent to taxpayers when found abusing their authority. Rather than properly address our veterans . . .

The suicides . . .

The homelessness . . .

The wait times . . .

The healthcare . . .

The hypocrites are the first to demand war and are the last if at all to send their own son or daughter to fight it!

And yet, they are responsible for policy failures making us vulnerable to our enemies. Domestic policies and actions that weaken not strengthen our country. The list of harmful policies and actions is a long and growing. There are the lies and hidden cost of Obamacare that are undermining the quality and availability of healthcare; the rapid growth of welfare that is putting an additional strain on our economy; Distortions in presenting the real unemployment numbers; bailouts that did not work; irresponsible investments in alternative energy sources that can provide minimal benefits at best; encouragement of an entitlement mentality; no leadership on immigration so that our borders are open to ISIS and other terrorist groups; a burgeoning list of costly regulations; poor handling of the pullout from Iraq and the draw down in Afghanistan; a lack of leadership in dealing with Iran's nuclear threat; the projection of weakness in Benghazi, Crimea, Ukraine, and containment of the civil war in Syria; the haphazard, too-little-too-late approach to ISIS in Iraq; meekly referring to terrorist attacks against American soldiers as work place violence instead of calling it what it is—terrorism; swapping terrorist leaders for an American deserter; and the list goes on.

Big government is stealing the American dream and future prosperity from our children by enslaving them to more than \$18 trillion dollars of debt not of their own choosing. Congress did not ask permission from our children to borrow the money, nor receive it as a gift. The money is stolen from future generations and this is selfish and immoral.

Our military and the defense of our nation is top priority and yet, no help for Benghazi, an unsecure border, veterans issues, military training and equipment to defend us in the years to come is languishing in media hype, misinformation and political propaganda.

I want to tell you Washington's blatant disregard for a responsible fiscal policy, their wasteful overspending and continued borrowing weakens our country's ability to respond to future unexpected challenges.

And those challenges will come.

They will come. And they will come very soon.

My friends these are battles worth fighting.

It is a time to choose whether we want a big bloated Nanny government telling us what light bulbs we can purchase, how much water we can flush down a toilet, what our children can and cannot eat in school or what we can teach them and to what standards?

Do we want our Federal government to tell us who we can call doctor and what hospital we can visit in an emergency?

Do we want our Federal government to regulate who and who cannot voice opposition to abusive authority and the moral corruption of God given liberties?

Do we want a dismantled national defense leaving us defenseless?

Our country is broken, bankrupt morally and financially.

There it is. Plain and simple.

As a member of the United States House of Representatives, I swore an oath to defend the Constitution and as a soldier to defend the people of this great nation.

Before I close I want to tell you the reason I served both in the military and here in Congress.

I began in the neighborhood where I grew up as the eldest of four sons. My grandfather served in WWI and my father and uncles served in the 1940's. The gentleman who lived in the house across the street was a former sailor in WW2. He was on an aircraft carrier that was hit by a kamikaze. Our next door neighbor was Charles Parker senior. As a Marine, he received a purple heart on Iwo Jima. His son, a few years older than me, was my best friend, Chuck Jr. His name is inscribed on the Vietnam War Memorial on the Mall in DC. Down the street a few houses was another neighbor who fought in the Korean War, his daughter, Cookie gave me my first kiss. Near him was another veteran who served in the Navy on a destroyer and there were two men across the street from him who served together in Gen Patton's Third Army and were part of the force that relieved the 101st Airborne at Bastogne. I can still see their faces. Their examples of service all played a part in why I served in the Armed Forces. Perhaps, they were the reason why the words of our President Kennedy, "Ask not what your country can do for you but rather what you can do for your country" rang so true.

I don't think John Kennedy would recognize his party today.

I think my understanding of service can be best summed up by the message of the movie, "Saving Private Ryan." I hope some of you have seen it. If you haven't let me tell you what it's about. The movie begins with an elderly man walking through the cemetery off the beach at Normandy, down a sidewalk with his family behind him.

The scene then shifts to a landing craft heading for the beaches of Normandy on D-Day. Tom Hanks plays the part of Cpt Miller, 2nd Rangers. The landing craft hits the beach and the soldiers, and well, they experience the horrors of battle. Many of his fellow soldiers are killed and wounded in the scenes that follow.

After securing the beach head, Cpt Miller receives new orders. His new mission is to locate and bring home Private Ryan, played by Matt Damon, who's in the 101st Airborne because Ryan's three brothers were recently killed within weeks of each other and the Army thinks that no family should lose four sons to war. Cpt Miller, with a small contingent of soldiers set off to locate Ryan.

In the course of several days Cpt Miller loses several soldiers in the quest to locate Ryan. Eventually, they find him in a small village in France, but alas, he decides to stay with his fellow soldiers—his brothers in arms—to defend a small bridge in the village.

They fight the Germans and in the course of the battle most all of Miller's soldiers are killed. Only two remain. Cpt Miller receives a mortal wound and sits gasping his last breaths, his back against a motorcycle, looks up at young Private Ryan says, with his last breaths, "earn this . . . earn this." The scene changes to a close up of Matt Damon, his face changes from young Ryan to the older man we met at the beginning of the movie, he's overlooking a gravestone that reads, "Captain Miller, 2nd Rangers."

Old Ryan falls to his knees in front of the gravestone and says, "Not a day goes by that I don't remember what you all did for me. I tried to live my life the best that I could. I hope that was enough. I hope that, at least in your eyes, I've earned what all of you have done for me."

Let me tell you something: Not a day goes by I do not remember what the fathers of my childhood friends and playmates did for us to protect the American dream. No matter where your family hails from, no matter what cultural or religious background, as citizens we are all fundamentally equal and self-governing because the generation before us stood up to do what's right and to protect our nation's exceptional principles.

We are supposed to have a limited government, outlined in the Constitution, which gives us the liberty and opportunity to live our lives, control our fate, and pursue our happiness. Everyone here has a right to the rewards of his or her labor. These ideas challenge the notion that life is a zero sum game where if I win you lose. We have created a society in which every member can work hard, achieve success, and advance in life to the benefit of all. Because of this our economy produces almost a quarter of the world's wealth and our military forces are the most powerful on the globe.

It is the potent combination of liberty under the rule of law, the endless creativity of the marketplace, and the enduring moral character of the American people that assures opportunity for all and fuels the unlimited promise of America.

That is the "this" in the phrase "earn this" from "Saving Private Ryan."

Americans have been told by the Administration that prosperity requires more spending, more government, and more taxes. Liberals constantly want people to believe that if one American does well that means another one isn't. They have continued down this phony path even though most Americans think government does too much. Only the House of Representatives has served as a brake, trying to divert us from this dangerous road ahead.

Some argue that conservatives should accept the liberal premise. They say we must be resigned to permanent economic stagnation, give up our firearms and our religious values; submit to bureaucratic rule, and national decline. Many of my friends in the House and I disagree.

The time is now to champion the ideas of opportunity and upward mobility and to redouble our efforts to change America's course, heading back down the path created by our forefathers. We will meet the demands of the moment and address the magnitude of the challenges before us. We will fight whenever possible, constantly pointing out the false promises of liberalism, and offering conservative alternatives at every turn.

We will take our arguments to all Americans: To middle-class families struggling in a bad economy; to young people worried about their prospects; to retirees worried about their grandchildren; to job creators seeking to expand prosperity; to those who are stuck in poverty grasping for that first rung on the ladder of opportunity—conservatism is for everybody. This is what our founding fathers, our grandfathers and fathers, our uncles and neighbors, our friends struggled to protect.

The moment has arrived. It will take courage to stop the government from growing out of control while self-interests are pulling the levers of power. You don't need a uniform to fight for our freedoms. I am asking every American to stand side by side and explain to our friends and neighbors that while this is the easy way to live; it's a hard way to be free and prosperous. It's our time to "earn this", to keep the promises of our forefathers and earn what they gave us. Freedom.

Never let it be said that this generation stood idle and let liberty slip from our fingers, never let it be said we let a day go without remembering what our forefathers did for us.

I have honored that promise on the battlefields in Vietnam, in Iraq and in the halls of Congress.

My number one mission, as always, is to protect our God given rights. Not take them away!

Today, not tomorrow, we must decide whether we want to manage our own destiny, in our states, in our cities and towns as individuals or whether we want a Washington bureaucrat locked away in some distant Federal building spying on us, telling us how to manage our own lives, families, doctors and our schools!

Do we determine our own destiny or let government bureaucrats run our lives?

The time for choosing is once again upon us.

Mr. Speaker, my dear Patriots, friends and neighbors, the battle is here now, today, not in some distant jungle or desert, and we must decide whether or not we want a brighter future for ourselves and our children and grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, We, together, today, must decide whether our uniquely American culture made up of people respectfully representing every cultural, religious, and ethnic background on earth is a nation divided or united in a common cause for freedom and the opportunity liberty offers each of us.

We must choose whether we will join our friends and neighbors defending liberty and opportunity or become grease for the wheels of big government.

In respectful civil disobedience, I for one will not submit to the chains of tyranny. I fly the Stars and Stripes in my yard not the red hammer and cycle!

I choose to continue the fight for a smaller, non-intrusive, fiscally responsible, constitutional government. I choose Freedom for America! I choose prosperity for America!

Mr. Speaker, I pledged to the citizens of my State, and to the American people, that as their elected representative I will work to: Restore liberty, not restrict it; Shrink government, not expand it; Reduce taxes, not raise them; Abolish programs, not create them; Promote the freedom and independence of citizens, not the interference of government in their lives; and Observe the limited, enumerated powers of our Constitution, not ignore them. I trust I honored that pledge.

I praise God for my American roots and pray that HE may continue to Bless all of us and this great nation.

I want to thank my fellow citizens and members of Congress for the privilege, honor and experience to serve in the 113th Congress these last 24 months. And lastly, Mr. Speaker, I'd like to wish the 114th Congress my very best wishes.

Merry Christmas to all and to all a good night!

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 16, 2014*

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, December 9, Wednesday, December 10, and Thursday, December 11, 2014, I was out on medical leave continuing to recover from surgery and unable to be present for recorded votes.

Had I been present, I would have voted: "yes" on roll call vote No. 552 (on the motion to recommit H.R. 5781); "no" on roll call vote No. 553 (on passage of H.R. 5781); "no" on roll call vote No. 554 (on agreeing to the resolution H. Res. 775); "yes" on roll call vote No. 555 (on the motion to suspend the rules and pass S. 1000); "yes" on roll call vote No. 556 (on approving the journal); "yes" on roll call

vote No. 557 (on passage of S. 2244); "yes" on roll call vote No. 558 (on the motion to suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendment to H.R. 4681); "yes" on roll call vote No. 559 (on the motion to suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendment to H.R. 2719); "yes" on roll call vote No. 560 (on the motion to suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendment to H.R. 1204); "no" on roll call vote No. 561 (on agreeing to the resolution H. Res. 776); "no" on roll call vote No. 562 (on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 5806); "no" on roll call vote No. 563 (on the motion to concur in the Senate amendment to H.R. 83 with an amendment); and "yes" on roll call vote No. 564 (on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 5699, as amended).

#### URGING NOMINATION OF HARRY CHAPIN IN THE SONGWRITERS HALL OF FAME

#### HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 16, 2014*

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the career of Harry Chapin, and to urge the Songwriters Hall of Fame to nominate him for induction. Harry Chapin is known not only for his powerful songwriting but also for his philanthropy and activism, as he spent his life fighting hunger and poverty in his Long Island community and around the world. His eminence as a songwriter and as an activist proves that he is deserving of this honor. I am also submitting for the RECORD my letter to the Songwriters Hall of Fame as well as a letter from Sandy Chapin, Harry's wife.

Though his musical career lasted only a decade, Harry Chapin's talent lives on through his timeless songs and powerful storytelling. He wrote over 400 songs in that time, including classic songs like "Taxi" and "Cat's in the Cradle;" released nine albums; and wrote a Broadway musical, "The Night That Made America Famous." He also wrote songs for television and film. He was inducted into the Long Island Music Hall of Fame in 2006.

Furthermore, Harry's humanitarian work serving the people of Long Island deserves to be remembered and honored. He donated half of his concert revenue to charity and founded various organizations that continue to fight hunger and poverty on Long Island and around the world. Harry co-founded WhyHunger, a grassroots organization that supports over 8,000 community groups nationwide in their efforts to develop innovative programs to eliminate hunger and provide sustainable, health food sources. He founded New York City's Hunger Hotline and Long Island's first food bank, Long Island Cares, which today distributes more than six million pounds of food every year. Long Island Cares also provides community members with nutrition education, job training, and veterans' services, because Harry understood that ending hunger requires addressing the root causes of poverty. In 1977, he lobbied Congress and President Carter to establish a Presidential Commission on World Hunger, on

which he served as an active member. For all of his humanitarian work, Harry posthumously received a Congressional Gold Medal in 1987. His legacy lives on with the Harry Chapin Foundation, which continues to support charities that fight hunger and poverty, as well as organizations that support arts education.

Harry Chapin's contributions to music and to the world should not be forgotten, and again I encourage his nomination to the Songwriters Hall of Fame.

STEVE ISRAEL,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
December 16, 2014.

BOARD MEMBERS,  
Songwriters Hall of Fame, New York, NY.

TO THE BOARD MEMBERS OF THE SONGWRITERS HALL OF FAME: I write today to ask for full and fair consideration for Harry Chapin, a Long Island treasure, as a nominee for induction into the Songwriters Hall of Fame. In his life, Harry Chapin was known not only for writing songs that resonated but also for his philanthropic efforts and activism to combat hunger and poverty both in his Long Island community and around the world. His eminence as a songwriter and as a leader in the fight against poverty and hunger proves him truly deserving of this honor.

Though his musical career lasted only a decade, Harry Chapin's enduring legacy ensures that his talent will live on through his timeless songs that reverberate across generations. During that brief period, Harry wrote over 400 songs, including classics like "Taxi" and "Cat's in the Cradle;" released nine albums; and wrote a Broadway musical, "The Night That Made America Famous." He also wrote songs for television and film. He was inducted into the Long Island Music Hall of Fame in 2006.

Harry's unparalleled humanitarian work serving the people of Long Island also deserves recognition. Along with donating half of his concert revenue to charity and founding various organizations to fight hunger and poverty on Long Island and around the world, Harry also served as a powerful voice lobbying Congress and President Carter to establish a Presidential Commission on World Hunger, on which he served as an active member. For all of his humanitarian work, Harry posthumously received a Congressional Gold Medal in 1987. His legacy lives on with the Harry Chapin Foundation, which continues to support charities that fight hunger and poverty, such as Long Island Cares, as well as organizations that support arts education.

Today, I'm proud to give much deserved recognition to Harry Chapin's contributions to music and to the world in the House of Representatives. Harry's legacy is timeless and should not be forgotten. I once again ask for full and fair consideration for his nomination to the Songwriters Hall of Fame.

Sincerely,

STEVE ISRAEL,  
Member of Congress.

SEPTEMBER 15, 2013.

BOARD MEMBERS,  
Songwriters Hall of Fame, New York, NY.

BOARD MEMBERS OF THE SONGWRITERS HALL OF FAME: I am writing to ask that you might consider Harry Chapin as one of your next recipients for the Songwriters Hall of Fame Award. While reading your news letter about the recipients for 2008 Awards I couldn't help but think that Harry is long overdue for a honor such as this.

Harry Chapin earned a devoted audience during the '70s, through his music and his

charity work as a social activist. Harry wrote and recorded a reasonably large body of work before his death in 1981. Though many may not know all of Harry's songs (he wrote over 400), his legion of fans continue to buy his CD's, as well as attempt to unearth lost recordings by the man to this day.

Harry Chapin is remembered by a generation of music fans as one of America's greatest musical storytellers and troubadours, but as Ralph Nader said, "to talk about Harry Chapin only as a singer-composer is like viewing Theodore Roosevelt as a state assemblyman or Babe Ruth as a pitcher. More than any other entertainer in his generation, Harry was a citizen-artist."

Harry's albums, musical plays and TV contributions are listed as follows:

Chapin Music (1966, Rock-Land Records)  
Harry's early years with brothers Tom and Steve.

Heads and Tales (1972, Elektra) Harry's first album with Elektra, was released in the summer of 1972 and became a success thanks to the hit single "Taxi," which soon became the songwriter's signature tune. Taxi became the most requested song in America for ten weeks in a row and earned Harry a Grammy nomination as best new artist.

Sniper and Other Love Songs (1972, Elektra)

Short Stories (1973, Elektra) This album spent 23 weeks on the charts due to the success of the single "W.O.L.D.," a story about the life of a disc jockey.

Verities & Balderdash (1974, Elektra) This album became his biggest hit, becoming a gold record. The album's success was benefited by the number-one single "Cat's in the Cradle," a song about an inconsiderate, career-oriented father that was based on a poem written by Sandy Chapin, his wife. He earned another Grammy nomination as best male vocal performer.

Portrait Gallery (1975, Elektra) his follow-up to Verities and Balderdash. The album performed respectably, peaking at number 53.

The Night That Made America Famous In the mean time, Harry had been working on his musical which opened on February 26, 1975. The show earned two Tony nominations.

Make a Wish Harry won an Emmy award in the spring for his contributions of songs to ABC television's children's series Make a Wish, which was hosted by his brother Tom. At that time Harry also co-founded World Hunger Year, a charity designed to raise money to fight international famine; the organization earned over \$350,000 in its first year.

Greatest Stories Live (Double Album, 1976, Elektra) This double album, became the singer/songwriter's second gold album, peaking at number 48. Chapin was becoming more politically active throughout 1976, as evidenced by his role as a delegate at that summer's Democratic Convention.

Dance Band on the Titanic (Double Album, 1977, Elektra) This album was also on the charts.

Living Room Suite (1978, Elektra) The following year, Harry Chapin met with President Jimmy Carter, discussing the need for a Presidential Commission on Hunger; he also released Living Room Suite that summer, which peaked at number 133.

Legends of the Lost and Found (Double Album, 1979, Elektra) His second live album.

Sequel (1980, Boardwalk Records) Harry signed with Boardwalk Records, releasing Sequel; the title track of the album was a sequel to his first hit single, "Taxi," and became his last Top 40 hit before his death.

Mothers & Daughters: The Loving War (1980, ABC Friday Night Movie) Harry wrote the music for this TV production.

Cotton Patch Gospel (1981) The off-Broadway premiere of Cotton Patch Gospel, original score by Harry Chapin received praise as "The best music Harry Chapin ever wrote" by—David Marsh, Rolling Stone Magazine. This was his last after a career as one of the great American folk singers and one of the great humanitarians having raised over 5 million dollars for World Hunger.

Anthology of Harry Chapin (1985, Elektra)  
Remember When the Music (1987, Dunhill Compact Classics)

The Gold Medal Collection (1988, Elektra)  
The Last Protest Singer (1988, Dunhill Compact Classics)

Harry Chapin Tribute (1990, Relativity Records)

The Bottom Line Encore Collection (1998, Bottom Line/Koch)

Story of a Life (1999, Elektra)  
VHI Behind the Music The Harry Chapin Collection (2001, MTV Networks)

Sequel (2001, re-mastered and re-released on CD Chapin Productions LLC)

Sniper and Other Love Songs (Re-mastered and re-released on CD 2002, Wounded Bird Records)

The Last Protest Singer (2002, re-mastered and re-released on CD Chapin Productions LLC)

Harry Chapin Songwriter (2002) Originally produced in 1975 for the educational series Pipeline, this CD closes the distance between listener and performer. A real treat for any aspiring musician, who, regardless of his status as a Harry Chapin fan, will no doubt gain a clear and simple outline for writing a successful song. The disc is broken down into five parts: a short, friendly introduction, the second part, a soulful, acoustical version of a previously unrecorded gem called "Too Many Miles." The third part is the meat of the disc. Harry talks of the difference between "attitudinal" songs and his own unique style of story songs. He then goes through the process of building a chorus and its verses, discussing the pitfalls of first-time songwriter, strategies for successful rhyming, and finding a "zinger." In the fourth part Harry plays a short upbeat track off the Portrait Gallery album, "Stop Singing These Sad Songs." In the fifth and final part, he conveys easily such concepts as tonal consistency and "architectural constants." The conversation closes with Harry talking about what is plainly evident throughout Songwriter, his "joy of doing it."

Heads and Tales/Sniper and Other Love Songs (2004, Elektra. Double CD re-release of first two albums with bonus tracks)

Legends of the Lost and Found (Double Album, 2005, re-mastered and re-released on CD, Chapin Productions LLC)

Introducing. Harry Chapin (2006)

Harry Chapin Cat's in the Cradle and Other Songs (2008, Elektra)

Harry performed more than 250 concerts every year, and donated the proceeds for half of them to charity. After his concerts, he would go into the lobby and sign autographs and sell records, T-shirts and song books. And every penny he took in would go to charity, especially the battle to end world hunger. He spent four months nearly single-handedly successfully lobbying both Congress and President Carter to form a Presidential Commission on Domestic and International Hunger and Malnutrition, activity serving as a member of the commission.

On Sunday July 26, 1981, Ralph Nader wrote in the Sunday New York Times: "We

hope that Taxi is sung as long as there are taxis and lovers with long memories. And we hope as well that Harry Chapin's legacy will include not only his music but his citizenship, so that others may learn of his example and emulate it. For he was a model of what Justice Felix Frankfurter once referred to as the highest position in a democracy—the office of citizen. That was no third-rate folk singer (as he called himself), only a first rate American."

Harry Chapin was inducted into the Long Island Music Hall of Fame on October 15, 2006.

I have enclosed a copy of the CD, Harry Chapin Songwriter as a gift to you, thinking that you may find it an appropriate piece considering my request. May you enjoy it!

Sincerely,

SANDRA CHAPIN,  
Chapin Productions LLC.

70TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY OF  
ATLEY A. KITCHINGS AND  
BETTY JANE LANGLEY

**HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 16, 2014*

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, today marks the 70th anniversary of a very important occasion. On December 16, 1944, two special people, Atley A. Kitchings and Betty Jane Langley, were married in Miami, Florida. So, today I would like to congratulate, pay tribute to, and honor these two great Alabamians.

I first had the occasion to meet Atley Kitchings when I was a student at the Cumberland School of Law at Samford University in Birmingham, Alabama in the late 1980's. Atley was an adjunct professor teaching communications law. We became friends while I was a student of his. In 1995, I was working as Assistant Legal Advisor to then-Governor Fob James, and Atley was doing some legal work in Montgomery when our paths crossed again. It was at that time that our friendship began to bloom. It wasn't long before my wife, Caroline, and I met his lovely wife Betty Jane.

Atley A. Kitchings, Jr. was born in Louisville, KY on June 10, 1925. Betty Jane Langley was born on February 13, 1925 in Jackson, MS. Atley moved with his parents to Clinton, MS when he was 3 years old. He met Betty Jane in high school in Clinton, MS, and they began dating at Mississippi College, in Clinton, MS where they were both college students. World War II was ongoing, and Atley joined the Navy, participating first in the V-12 program at Mississippi College, and then earning a commission as an Ensign in the Navy after completing midshipman's school at Northwestern University in Chicago on November 22, 1944.

Atley was assigned to Miami for further training, and on December 16, 1944 (the day the Battle of the Bulge began in Europe), he and Betty Jane were married at a Baptist Church in downtown Miami, FL. Atley shipped out a week later to lead the crew of a sub-chaser out of San Juan, Puerto Rico to hunt Nazi U-Boats, although they never found any. Atley left active duty in 1946, but he remained in the Navy reserves until 1978, when he retired with the rank of Captain.

Atley graduated from the University of Virginia School of Law and has had a distinguished legal career, including: a time in the US Attorney's office in Birmingham, AL, a 25 year career with AT&T, and time with several law firms in Birmingham, including his current firm of Wallace, Jordan, Ratliffe and Brandt. He still practices law at the age of 89!

Betty Jane was an elementary school teacher in the early years of their marriage. Wanting to spend more time as a homemaker, she stopped teaching to raise the couple's two children, Jane Marlea and Atley Langley Kitchings.

Both Atley and Betty Jane are individuals who have touched thousands of lives over the years and have been an inspiration to all those who have known them and that continues even today. So today, December 16, 2014, I would like to wish Atley and Betty Jane a sincere congratulations on 70 years of marriage. On Sunday afternoon, December 21, they plan to celebrate this momentous occasion with their family and friends in Birmingham, Alabama.

May God grant them many more years together.

CONGRATULATING VOICE OF  
AMERICA, UKRAINE SERVICE ON  
THE OCCASION OF THEIR 65TH  
ANNIVERSARY

**HON. MARCY KAPTUR**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 16, 2014*

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Voice of America, Ukraine Service on the occasion of their 65th anniversary. For 65 years, from the dark days of Stalin's rule to Putin's current aggression against their country, VOA's Ukrainian Service has been a crucial source of news and information for the people of Ukraine. Throughout the Euromaidan revolution and Russia's campaign of aggression against Ukraine, VOA's Ukrainian Service has served an essential role as a unique and comprehensive source of news, information and discussion about the year-long crisis and the U.S. response.

Nearly every moment of television airtime has been devoted to U.S. official and expert commentary and analysis regarding the Ukrainian people's drive to overthrow authoritarian rule and integrate with the West, Russian President Vladimir Putin's determination to stop them by any means, and American and European efforts in support of Ukraine. This surge in Ukraine-related content was accompanied by an expansion of broadcasts, and both initiatives, combined, resulted in remarkable ratings, with the Service reaching more than 18 percent of the adult audience in Ukraine in a given week and maintaining VOA Ukrainian's position as the most popular Western international broadcaster in Ukraine.

VOA began broadcasting in Ukrainian on December 12, 1949. Throughout the Cold War, it was a beacon of freedom for the citizens of Soviet Ukraine, who were living under repressive rule. With the collapse of the U.S.S.R., VOA Ukrainian took advantage of

new opportunities offered by Ukraine's declaration of independence. After decades of jamming, VOA was able to sign contracts with the government broadcast channel and local FM stations for transmission of VOA radio programs on Ukrainian airwaves. In 1993, the agency launched VOA's first television program, a weekly Ukrainian-language TV magazine, Window on America.

Every week, VOA's Ukrainian Service reaches millions of people in Ukraine, a strategically located country of 45 million with a persistent Soviet legacy but with strong European aspirations. Ukrainian news organizations have a very limited reporting presence in the United States, thus VOA provides viewers in Ukraine with a unique, thoughtful and revealing window on America life, and remains the leading international broadcaster in the country. Through its daily reporting on U.S. politics, foreign policy, social issues, business, culture and the arts, VOA provides comprehensive, accurate and authoritative information that Ukrainians can employ in strengthening their nascent democracy, market economy and independent statehood.

This past year, perhaps more than any other, the service of VOA Ukraine has been a crucial lifeline between the people of the United States and Ukraine. It is with great pride that I warmly congratulate VOA Ukraine and their highly capable staff, notably chief Adrian Karmazyn, on this extraordinary milestone and wish them another 65 years of success in the public service.

IN HONOR OF LEONARD R.  
SENDELSKY

**HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 16, 2014*

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in commemoration of the life of Mr. Leonard R. Sendelsky. Mr. Sendelsky, a longtime resident of the Colonia section of Woodbridge, New Jersey, passed away on December 6, 2014 after a life filled with numerous professional and personal accomplishments.

Mr. Sendelsky was a fixture of the building industry. His commitment to high quality and standards set him apart as a leader and advocate in the industry. He earned several honors and accolades, including the New Jersey Builders Golden Hammer Award and the New Jersey Builders Association inaugural Lifetime Achievement Award.

Not only was Mr. Sendelsky a prominent representative of the building industry, he was also an active member of the community and the Hungarian Reformed Church of Carteret. His work with the Thomas Edison Council of the Boy Scouts of America, the Raritan Bay YMCA and the Middlesex County College Foundation exemplify his commitment to service and support of the community.

Born and raised in Perth Amboy, New Jersey, Mr. Sendelsky lived in Colonia for over 50 years with his wife Judy. He and Judy were married for 60 years and together had two sons, Leonard Drew and Guy Sean. Mr. Sendelsky is remembered by his loving family,

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including his wife and sons, daughter-in-law Susan, granddaughter Christine Marie, sisters Joan Maher and Jean Muni, as well as many other relatives and friends.

Mr. Speaker, I sincerely hope that my colleagues will join me in honoring Leonard Sendelsky for his dedication to his family and

community and his immeasurable contributions to the building industry.

## SENATE—*Friday, January 2, 2015*

### NOMINATION OF FRANK ROSE AND OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE ON PROPOSED EUROPEAN UNION CODE OF CONDUCT FOR OUTER SPACE ACTIVITIES

• Mr. VITTER. Mr. President, I am deeply concerned by proposals for arms control plans related to missile defense and outer space arms, including the EU Code of Conduct for Outer Space activities, which the Obama administration has embraced. These plans were confirmed by Rose Gottemoeller, Undersecretary of State for Arms Control and International Security, during a House subcommittee hearing last week. I firmly believe any international agreement on a code of conduct for space should be submitted for Senate advice and consent as part of its treaty powers, and not be an “executive agreement” that sidesteps that process.

I have engaged with the State Department to ensure that this agreement will not be a unilateral act and that it will be fully presented to Congress before moving forward. I strongly believe, given the importance of this issue, that the U.S. Senate should be consulted as part of their advice and consent role in any decision to move forward.

I ask to have printed in the RECORD at the end of my remarks official letters and correspondence with the nominee, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State, Frank Rose that demonstrate three important points. First, due to serious ongoing concerns related to national security, the administration has not pursued plans to propose the negotiation of a debris-generating ASAT testing moratorium at this time; second, that any decision to subscribe to a code in the future will not in any way constrain our national security-related activities in space or ability to protect the U.S. or allies; third, and most importantly, that the Senate will be given access to the details surrounding any plan once and if any format is determined, and again before any agreement is entered.

Space is vital to our national security, and we must maintain the ability to use satellites and various missile capabilities. In particular, space is of critical importance to our national intelligence and warfighting capabilities. The development of anti-satellite capabilities by countries such as China and Russia is well documented, as in the example of China successfully testing a direct-ascent, anti-satellite SC-19 missile against one of its own satellites.

It is vital that the United States ensure we are not restricting activity in

ways that put our security at risk. Members of Congress have been clear in their view that they see ample disadvantage to such a code for the United States; according to assessments by the uniformed military, implementation of this code would result in real world operational impacts. Congress has previously voted to limit international agreements concerning outer space activities. Section 913 of the fiscal year 2013 National Defense Authorization Act, H.R. 4310, states that any agreement will have no legally binding effect or basis for limiting the activities of the United States in outer space, and it requires certification that any such agreement will be equitable, enhance national security, and have no militarily significant impact on the ability of the United States to conduct military or intelligence activities in space.

There are several key areas that the administration must resolve before moving forward on pursuing any decision. Pentagon officials have long expressed concern that the arms initiative will be exploited by states such as China and Russia to constrain U.S. missile defenses, while both states continue to develop their own advanced missile defenses. In 2007, the Department of Defense concluded that the progress in addressing the vulnerability of U.S. space assets has not kept pace with growing threat capabilities; consequently, the vulnerability of our space assets continues to grow. Additionally, a previous U.S. Commission to Assess United States National Security Space Management and Organization released a report that predicted that future warfare in space was a “virtual certainty” and urged the United States to begin to develop the means both to deter and defend against attacks on its space assets, and to mount offensive operations to deny the use of space to potential adversaries. To do otherwise, the commission warned, would invite a “space Pearl Harbor.”

Further troubling, a 2014 Department of Defense report noted that China is “developing a multi-dimensional program to improve its capabilities to limit or prevent the use of space-based assets by adversaries during times of crisis or conflict,” including “destroying or capturing satellites and other sensors.” To protect against these types of attacks, the Department of Defense’s ongoing policy is aimed at retaining the capabilities to respond at the time and place of our choosing. Any effort to move forward must address our national security needs and Congressional concerns.

Therefore, any State Department effort to move forward with a code or a debris-generating ASAT testing moratorium should fully overcome existing concerns and ensure the plan does not undermine current Department of Defense policy, U.S. capabilities, or congressional concerns. Our growing dependence on space makes it fundamental to U.S. national security interests. I remain extremely concerned by what appears to be previous endeavors by the administration to avoid addressing space policy concerns and potential administration efforts to bypass Congress.

While I am pleased at the assurances that Mr. Rose has provided and that relevant offices will engage with Congress if a path forward is agreed upon, I remain extremely concerned about the decision to negotiate a measure using past measures such as the European Union’s Code of Conduct as a starting point. Russia has demonstrated its willingness to break its agreements, as seen with the ongoing violation of the 1987 Intermediate-range Nuclear Forces Treaty. We need to improve our capacity to understand what is going on in space, and we need to ensure we are adequately capable of deterring the growing number of countries that are pursuing weapons capable of targeting U.S. satellites.

While necessary, the development of transparency and confidence-building measures and behavioral norms promoting responsible space operations should not come at the expense of America’s national security. The President’s own Space Policy released in 2010 states: “The United States will employ a variety of measures to help assure the use of space for all responsible parties, and, consistent with the inherent right of self-defense, deter others from interference and attack, defend our space systems and contribute to the defense of allied space systems, and, if deterrence fails, defeat efforts to attack them.” With a growing number of states acquiring the ability to degrade or destroy U.S. space capabilities, the probability that space systems will come under attack in a future crisis or conflict is ever increasing. The State Department cannot have the attitude that they are going to go it alone. The United States cannot afford it.

The material is as follows:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,  
Washington, DC, November 12, 2014.

Mr. FRANK ROSE,  
Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Space  
and Defense Policy,  
U.S. Department of State, Washington, DC.

DEAR DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF  
STATE ROSE: We write to ask for your clarification regarding the Administration's space arms control posture. Like you, we are deeply concerned by the rising threats of anti-satellite weapons in the hands of states like the People's Republic of China. That said, we believe the Administration would do better to focus on real solutions to these threats, as opposed to more feel good measures like the European Union's (EU) Code of Conduct for Outer Space activities or other similar measures.

We are concerned by proposals for outer space arms control, including the EU Code of Conduct for Outer Space activities, which the Administration has embraced. We see no advantage to such a Code for the United States; according to assessments by the uniformed military, implementation of this code would result in real world operational impacts. The product of this equation demands the opposition of the entire United States government.

With the languishing of that Code, we fear a new threat to our ability to protect U.S. outer space capabilities, and, perhaps even to develop our missile defenses. We seek your understanding of the Administration's position on space arms control, specifically, the "debris generating kinetic energy ASAT testing moratorium" which, as we have been informed, you proposed to U.S. allies. We are unfamiliar with any such proposal having been coordinated with the Department of Defense or the uniformed military, and therefore we ask for your answers to the following questions:

1) Please indicate the date, and by which Department official, the State Department Circular 175 request was signed. What was the scope of this Circ-175 and has the Department determined if this moratorium would be submitted to the Senate for its advice and consent?

2) If this Circ-175 will not be submitted to the Senate, on what basis would such an international agreement be negotiated and to what end?

3) Please detail the potential implications for United States space and missile defense activities. How would such an agreement protect our ability to fully develop our missile defenses, including our test and targets program?

4) Please further detail how such agreement will ensure full freedom of action for the United States to take needed defensive and other action in space.

5) Please provide the Joint Staff assessment of impacts to military operations you obtained before discussing this moratorium with our allies.

6) Please detail the specific allies with which you have discussed this moratorium and the respective dates of discussion. Please further detail which State Department official authorized these discussions.

We appreciate your prompt responses to these questions.

Sincerely,

DAVID VITTER,  
United States Senator.  
DOUG LAMBORN,  
Member of Congress.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE,  
Washington, DC, November 17, 2014.

DEAR SENATOR VITTER: Thank you for your letter of November 12 regarding the Adminis-

tration's efforts to enhance the security and sustainability of the outer space environment.

The Administration is deeply concerned about the development of anti-satellite (ASAT) capabilities by countries like China and Russia. In response to this increasing threat, the Department of State is pursuing a comprehensive approach to space security, including the development of bilateral and multilateral transparency and confidence building measures (TCBMs) such as the International Code of Conduct, development of international long-term sustainability guidelines by the UN Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, and other measures. The Administration believes that pragmatic TCBMs like the Code are a much more effective way to ensure the long-term security of the space environment as compared to fundamentally flawed space arms control proposals like the Russian-Chinese sponsored Prevention of Placement of Weapons in Outer Space Treaty.

The United States has made clear to our partners that we will not enter into a code of conduct, or other agreement, that in any way constrains our national security-related activities in space or our ability to protect the United States and our allies. We have worked closely with our colleagues in the Defense Department and Intelligence Community to ensure that the Code does not have any adverse impact on U.S. operations, including the development and testing of missile defenses. The Department, in coordination with the interagency, provided a series of briefings to Congress on the Administration's decision-making process regarding our willingness to work with our European allies to help craft a Code that would benefit U.S. national security. We are available to provide updates at any time.

The Administration has been clear that we are open to space arms control proposals. However, any such proposal would need to meet the criteria as outlined in the President's 2010 National Space Policy (NSP)—that it be effectively verifiable, equitable, and in the interests of the United States and its allies. At this time, the Administration has made no decision to propose the negotiation of a debris-generating ASAT testing moratorium, and therefore, no C-175 request has been signed. If a decision were made to move forward with a proposal in the future, we would work closely with the Department of Defense and Intelligence Community to ensure there were no adverse operational impacts from our efforts, especially on our missile defense and space systems. Furthermore, while we discuss a wide variety of space security issues with allies—including the potential for a Code of Conduct and ways to address the development of ASAT systems—we have not made a specific proposal to allies for negotiation of a debris-generating ASAT testing moratorium.

The Department is fully committed to closely coordinating all diplomatic space security proposals within the U.S. interagency. We would not table a proposal that had not received full U.S. Government approval and took into account all agencies' perspectives.

Should you wish to have further discussions on this issue, the Administration would be happy to assemble an interagency team to meet with you to provide further background on our efforts, and answer any additional questions you may have.

We hope this information is useful. Please do not hesitate to contact us if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

JULIA FRIFIELD,  
Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE,  
Washington, DC, December 10, 2014.

DEAR SENATOR VITTER: In response to follow-up questions from your staff, we would like to provide the following clarifications about our efforts to promote the security and long-term sustainability of the outer space environment.

As I noted in my letter of November 12, 2014, the Administration is seriously concerned about the development of anti-satellite capabilities by countries like China. We believe that effective diplomatic efforts are a critical tool in the United States' comprehensive response to countering this threat. At the same time, we recognize your concerns and want to assure you that we share them. We have made every effort to ensure that our diplomatic efforts to promote the security and sustainability of outer space do not have an adverse impact on our national security activities, especially on our missile defense and space systems.

The administration has no plans to propose the negotiation of a debris-generating ASAT testing moratorium at this time. Moreover, there has been no consideration as to what format we would seek for any proposed debris-generating ASAT testing moratorium. As a result, no C-175 package has been prepared.

Currently, our diplomatic focus is on the development of an International Code of Conduct on Outer Space Activities. At this time, the European Union is considering its next steps on the Code. As we stated in 2012, the United States has decided to work with the European Union and other nations to help develop a code which can help maintain the long-term sustainability, safety, stability and security of outer space by establishing guidelines for the responsible use of outer space. Since the text of the Code has not been finalized, the Administration has made no decision on whether to subscribe to the Code. Only after the text is finalized and open for subscription will the Administration consider whether to subscribe to the Code. Such a decision will be made only after it received full U.S. Government approval that takes into account perspectives from all departments and agencies.

As former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton stated in January 2012, the United States will not sign-up to a Code of Conduct that any way constrains our national security-related activities in space or our ability to protect the United States or our allies. If the United States were to make a decision to subscribe to a Code in the future, it would be implemented in a way that is fully consistent with this statement.

Let me also assure you that we are in close contact with our Department of Defense and Intelligence Community colleagues on the development of the Code to ensure the Code does not have any adverse impacts on U.S. operations, including the development and testing of missile defenses.

Should you wish to have further discussions on this issue, we would be prepared to assemble an interagency team to meet with you or your staff. Please do not hesitate to contact us if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,  
JULIA FRIFIELD,  
Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE,  
Washington, DC, December 11, 2014.

DEAR SENATOR VITTER: I wanted to follow-up with regarding the conversation I had with your staff regarding a potential debris generating anti-satellite (ASAT) testing

moratorium and the European Union's proposed International Code of Conduct for Outer Space Activities.

As Assistant Secretary of State Julia Frifield noted in her December 10, 2014, letter to you, the Administration has no plans to propose the negotiation of a debris-generating ASAT testing moratorium at this time. Should we determine to pursue such an agreement in the future, I pledge to keep you and your staff informed, including on the form of which a potential agreement might take.

With regard to the Code of Conduct, it is my understanding that there are no implementation issues for the Department of Defense related to the current draft of the Code. That said, only after the text of the Code is finalized will we have a full understanding of any potential implementation issues. Therefore, we continue to be in close contact with our colleagues at the Department of Defense and the Intelligence Community to ensure that our efforts to promote the security and sustainability of outer space do not have an adverse impact on our national security activities, especially on our missile defense and national security space systems.

Before a final decision is made to subscribe to the Code, the Department, along with our interagency colleagues, will make sure to provide a briefing, including relevant materials such as the text of the Code and other materials, to you and the relevant committees on the terms of the agreement, its implementation, and any other issues of interest.

I appreciate your interest in these issues. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me or my staff in the future with any questions you may have.

Regards,

FRANK A. ROSE,  
*Deputy Assistant Secretary of State  
Space and Defense Policy.*•

#### TRIBUTES TO DEPARTING SENATORS

TIM JOHNSON

• Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I also wish to pay tribute to a man I have admired throughout my career in this Chamber, Senator TIM JOHNSON of South Dakota. I am proud to call TIM my friend.

Long before Senator JOHNSON and I crossed paths in the Senate, we were both studying at Michigan State University—I was an undergrad while Senator JOHNSON was doing postgraduate studies. In fact, his parents retired in the East Lansing area. I know that Senator JOHNSON considers the University of South Dakota to be his alma mater, but I will always think of him as a fellow Spartan.

All of us here are committed to public service, to defending the Constitution and to protecting our Nation against foreign threats, but few of us have had our commitment tested as Senator JOHNSON has.

In 2004 Senator JOHNSON learned that he had prostate cancer, but he was determined to beat it and to continue representing the people of South Dakota. “I wish this was something that wasn't happening to me,” he said. “But

I will deal with it head on,” and he did. He had surgery, then he made a full recovery, and was soon back to work.

In 2006 we were all shocked to learn that Senator JOHNSON suffered a brain hemorrhage—and for weeks we hoped and prayed for him and his family. Incredibly, he again made a full recovery—and he again came back to work.

That is commitment. That is a Senator with a deep appreciation for the privilege of serving the people of South Dakota. That is TIM JOHNSON.

Despite the personal health issues Senator JOHNSON experienced, he succeeded in leading passage of the Safe and Fair Deposit Insurance Act of 2005, a law that 3 years later was critical to keeping America's deposits safe during a time of great economic turmoil. As chair of the Senate banking committee we have relied on his leadership and judgment in reducing risk in the financial sector and in ensuring that Dodd-Frank reforms were implemented effectively.

I will miss our work together to improve the health care of American veterans, and I will miss the opportunity I have had through the years to work with Senator JOHNSON on empowering small family farms to compete in the modern marketplace and to help ethanol producers expand their place in our Nation's renewable energy future.

Knowing how important it was for ranchers to be able to tell consumers their meat products came from the U.S.A., Senator JOHNSON has been a champion of country of origin labeling since going back to the 2002 farm bill, and since then he has helped to strengthen and fully implement the law, a mission that carried over to the 2014 farm bill that I authored as chair of the agriculture committee.

In addition, Senator JOHNSON has been a forceful advocate for the Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration rules that ensure that family farmers and ranchers are able to compete on a level playing field.

I know how much Senator JOHNSON has loved policymaking, so I know he must have agonized over this decision. But I also know that the love and devotion he has for his family comes first, and now he will be able to spend more time with his wife Barbara, his two sons, his daughter, and all his grandchildren.

TIM, thank you for being such a strong, resilient, and resourceful partner and friend through the years. I wish you a happy and successful retirement with your family.

MARY LANDRIEU

Mr. President, at the end of this session of Congress, the Senate will be bidding farewell to my colleague and dear friend, Senator MARY LANDRIEU, who has served the people of Louisiana with such devotion over the last 18 years.

I don't think it is possible to overstate the magnitude of the challenges

that she has faced on behalf of her constituents. Hurricane Katrina may have been the most horrible natural disaster our country has ever experienced—and Senator LANDRIEU's native city of New Orleans was ground zero.

No one was more engaged in the recovery effort that followed that calamity. Senator LANDRIEU fought tenaciously to secure the funds it would take to repair and revitalize the gulf coast with infrastructure improvements that would protect the coast against another major event.

In the 10 years since Katrina, Senator LANDRIEU has been a champion for homeowners who were struggling to afford flood insurance, most recently by winning passage of the Homeowner Flood Insurance Affordability Act, this past March.

Of course, just as the gulf coast appeared close to making a full recovery, it was struck by another disaster—the Deepwater Horizon oilspill. Again, Senator LANDRIEU was on the vanguard of that recovery, winning passage of the RESTORE Act so that the vast majority of the fines collected by the U.S. Government would go back to the gulf coast to help pay for the cleanup. It is the single biggest investment in environmental restoration in American history.

These were the moments when the people of Louisiana needed MARY LANDRIEU most—and she delivered as only she can.

At the same time, Senator LANDRIEU has always understood that the oil and gas industry is vital to her State's economy, and so it was a major milestone when she became the first woman to chair the Senate energy committee.

She fights so hard for Louisiana, but over the years of working with her, I have learned how much she is driven by a deep feeling of compassion, not just for those displaced by hurricanes or those whose livelihood was jeopardized by the Deepwater Horizon but for the children of her State and our country who were given up for adoption or placed in foster care.

Senator LANDRIEU knows the joys of adopting firsthand, having adopted her two children, Connor and Mary Shannon, and she wants other parents to feel that joy. So she sympathizes with parents who wish to adopt a child but who are struggling to do so—especially since she knows there are children desperate for parents but who remain wards of the State. By matching those parents with that child, she knows that she can create a true family.

So she has led the efforts in the Senate to improve child welfare systems internationally and to make it easier for American parents to adopt children in other countries. She has pushed for Federal funds to create foster care mentoring programs, so that children who are in the foster system have better guidance during the most critical years of their social development.



I know I speak for other Members of this Chamber when I say that we will do our very best to continue the momentum that Senator LANDRIEU has created for finding a permanent, loving home for every American child.

I will deeply miss having her with us but I have absolutely no doubt that MARY LANDRIEU will find new ways to express her devotion to the people of Louisiana and our country. It is not just a tradition in her family; it is her singular passion. I thank her for her amazing service here and I look forward to all the great achievements that are in her future.

MARK UDALL

Mr. President, I wish to express my gratitude to a dear colleague and friend who has been a champion for our national parks and for preserving the natural splendor of our Western lands: Senator MARK UDALL.

Just as the Great Lakes are part of my DNA, the Rocky Mountains are part of Senator UDALL's. He likes to quote the saying that we did not inherit this earth from our parents but that we are borrowing it from our children—and that is the perspective that has guided him as Chair of the Senate National Parks Subcommittee.

He has worked to expand national parks and to revitalize our natural resources. Recognizing that our dependence on fossil fuels poses a threat to our land, water and wildlife, Senator UDALL has been a leader in pushing for investments in renewable energy. I know how proud he was that Colorado was the first State to pass a voter-approved renewable energy policy. A key to making it happen was Senator UDALL teaming up in a bipartisan way with the speaker of the Colorado House.

When Colorado was struck by floods, forest fires, and beetle infestations, Senator UDALL fought to make sure the State had the Federal resources to contain the damage and aid the recovery.

We learn a lot about our leaders during a time of crisis, and time and again, Senator UDALL has proven the strength of his character and his convictions.

In the wake of the mass shooting in Aurora, CO, Senator UDALL threw his support behind a ban on combat weapons, as well as an amendment to expand background searches for gun purchases. It was a bold position to take politically, but the Udall family has a long tradition of taking bold positions whose wisdom is borne out by history: His grandfather issued a court decision that recognized Native Americans' right to vote; his uncle challenged discrimination by Washington's football team; and his father helped integrate the University of Arizona.

It is fitting that in Senator UDALL's last full week with the Senate he gave a stirring speech on the floor, demand-

ing transparency in the way that our Nation treats suspected terrorists. Senator UDALL has also been one of the Senate's most vocal advocates for civil liberties, arguing passionately that our government's conduct must always respect both our values and the Constitution.

Personally, I have had the honor of working alongside Senator UDALL as co-Chair of the Congressional Caucus on Parkinson's Disease, teaming up on behalf of the National MS and Parkinson's Disease Registries Act. This past month we joined forces on an amendment that ensures women in the military will have access to quality health services, with a specific focus on maternity and preventive care.

I will miss our talks and our collaborations. But leaving the Senate will allow Senator UDALL to become an even more avid outdoorsman. While he has already climbed Mt. Everest and the 100 tallest peaks in his home State of Colorado, I have no doubt that he will soon conquer new and exciting challenges in the great outdoors.

And from listening to his farewell address, it is already apparent to me that Senator UDALL has achieved a clarity that will serve him forever after. "As a lifelong mountain climber," he said, "I have learned far more from the mountains I did not summit, than those that I did."

I know I speak for many of us here when I say that I have learned a great deal from Senator UDALL, and I thank him for serving Colorado and our Nation in the U.S. Senate—and for being a great friend. Happy trails, Senator.

KAY HAGAN

Mr. President, I also wish to pay tribute to my dear friend and colleague, Senator KAY HAGAN from North Carolina.

KAY HAGAN has quite a collection of hats. There is the hat she wore as a lawyer in Greensboro. She wore one hat as a banker, another as a State legislator helping to write North Carolina's State budget. And when she excelled in each of these roles, the voters of North Carolina gave her another hat to wear, as their U.S. Senator.

KAY HAGAN joined us in January 2009, which was a difficult time for our Nation's economy. With her background in the banking sector and her knowledge of the housing finance system, she got right to work on rebuilding our economy, with a stronger foundation.

At the same time, she never allowed herself to be distracted from the needs specific to her North Carolina constituents. She recognized that North Carolina workers and small businesses were being threatened by unfair trade practices abroad, and she sought to address it.

She recognizes how vital military bases are to North Carolina's economy and to its culture, so she worked to protect them from cuts and closures.

She was a leader for military families who care for disabled children, seeking to provide payments for them from the Survivor Benefit Plan. And it was Senator HAGAN who stepped up to help families at Camp Lejeune get access to health care, following one of the worst cases of water contamination in American history.

With two daughters of her own, Senator HAGAN knows about the demands of balancing child care with a career, and as Chair of the Senate Subcommittee on Children and Families, she called attention to the need for paid leave. Senator HAGAN and I share important health care priorities: She cosponsored a bill to improve the care of mothers and babies by establishing higher quality standards for maternity care through Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program. And she has been a valuable ally on the HOPE for Alzheimer's Act, which would help doctors detect this disease earlier and provide more support for those taking care of a family member with Alzheimer's.

I had the distinct honor of teaming up with Senator HAGAN earlier this year to help pork farmers get disaster assistance after a deadly virus devastated their livestock. And we worked together to sound the alarm on student loan debt and to try to stop interest rates on Federal loans from rising.

We both come from States where hunting, fishing, and wildlife are important components to residents' quality of life. So I was pleased this past year to help Senator HAGAN push for her Bipartisan Sportsmen's Act, which sought to expand access to Federal lands while taking significant steps toward conserving the land we use for recreation.

I deeply regret that I will not be able to work with Senator HAGAN in the next Congress. But knowing how dear public service is to her, and how deeply that tradition is established in her family, I have no doubt that she will find new ways to serve the people of her beloved home State, and our Nation.

Senator HAGAN, thank you for your service and thank you for being a wonderful friend. I wish you the very best of luck in all your future endeavors.●

MARY LANDRIEU

● Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, I wish to recognize the many accomplishments of my friend, Senator MARY LANDRIEU, my colleague from Louisiana, during her 18 years here in the U.S. Senate.

Senator LANDRIEU was elected to the U.S. Senate in 1996. Prior to serving in the Senate, she had already served the people of her State for 16 years—first as a State legislator, and later as a State treasurer. Altogether Senator LANDRIEU's service to the people of Louisiana has spanned nearly 34 years of commitment to the people of Louisiana.

MARY served her constituents with utter conviction, dedication, and persistence—qualities that her colleagues in the U.S. Senate use to describe her.

However, Senator LANDRIEU's dedication can be described in other ways as well.

In her farewell remarks last week, Senator LANDRIEU discussed how faith and family helped drive her. She draws tremendous strength from her faith, and also her large and supportive family—a family that knows a thing or two about the ups and downs of politics.

Her father, Moon Landrieu, served as a judge, State representative, New Orleans city councilman and Secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Her brother, Mitch Landrieu, was Louisiana's Lieutenant Governor, and both her father and brother have served as mayors of New Orleans—her father during an era of renewal, and her brother during an era of rebuilding.

MARY has clearly stepped up to the plate during the devastation of Hurricane Katrina and the horrendous BP oil spill. Those are the kinds of challenges that none of us expect when we enter public life—but they are the challenges which show our communities what we are made of.

Senator LANDRIEU rose to both challenges. She has worked as hard as any Senator has ever worked to see that her constituents were taken care of. She has pushed hard on Federal agencies to help rebuild, and passed legislation to help with Gulf restoration. She has also fought to see that flood insurance rates remain affordable—not just for those in Louisiana, but across the country.

Her efforts have earned the respect of everyone she has worked with, and she earned the opportunity to serve as Chair of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee as well as the Senate Small Business and Entrepreneurship Committee. I know that the issues she championed on these two committees were important to her constituents and I admire her advocacy for jobs in her State and more opportunities for small businesses.

Of course, Senator LANDRIEU's work extended beyond these two committees. For years, she worked on adoption, education, conservation, and other issues that were near and dear to her heart.

All of us will miss MARY's drive, tenacity, and willingness to work with others to get things done. She will continue to be a tough and relentless fighter for Louisiana no matter what her next challenge will be.

Aloha, MARY, a hui hou, "until we meet again."

MARK PRYOR

Mr. President, I wish to say a few words about my colleague, Senator MARK PRYOR of Arkansas, who will be

ending his tenure in the Senate at the end of this Congress.

The Pryor name is synonymous with public service in Arkansas. MARK's father, David, served Arkansas in the U.S. House, as Governor, and in the U.S. Senate. In fact, MARK succeeded his father in the U.S. Senate after serving in the State legislature and as attorney general.

Throughout his two terms in the Senate, MARK has been a workhorse and not a showhorse. As he noted in his farewell remarks, he is not one to attend many press conferences. But he certainly has done a lot of work on behalf of the people of Arkansas. In 12 years in the Senate he has worked to get 70 laws passed—many on a bipartisan basis.

His work improves the lives of Americans and our youth each day—from his work in consumer product safety, access to health care, veterans issues, and more. He has fought to protect Medicare, and to support Arkansas' farmers, small businesses, and middle class families.

That may be why in his 2008 reelection to the Senate he earned more votes than any statewide elected official in Arkansas history.

Senator PRYOR told us in his farewell to look inside our desks and see the names written in the drawer, to see the predecessors who have come before us. These names can serve as a reminder of what we all are here for and what large shoes we must fill, as well as how we must collaborate to get things done.

MARK has spoken about the fact that politics is about people—both the people we serve and the people we serve with.

While there are many good people serving here, we will all miss the work ethic, warmth, and charm that MARK brought to the Senate during his service.

It has been an honor serving as his colleague.

Aloha, MARK, a hui hou, "until we meet again."•

#### TRIBUTE TO JOHN D. DINGELL

• Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I rise to pay tribute to an amazing colleague from my home State of Michigan, who has served in Congress for 59 years, the longest tenure of any Member in history: the dean of the House, JOHN D. DINGELL.

In fact, his service to our Nation goes back even further: In 1938 he worked as a congressional page and on December 8, 1941, he was on the floor to hear President Roosevelt declare that the bombing of Pearl Harbor was a day that would live in infamy. In fact, a 15-year-old JOHN DINGELL helped record that speech.

Three years later he served America in Europe in the fight against Nazi Germany. He would have been in the

Battle of the Bulge if he hadn't been hospitalized with meningitis. Then he joined the fight in the Pacific, making preparations to be in the first wave of American soldiers for the ground invasion of Japan—except that the Japanese surrendered before it could happen.

So JOHN DINGELL proved his patriotism long before he joined Congress in 1955, following the death of his beloved father, who preceded him as Representative for Michigan's 15th Congressional District.

It is hard to imagine, but Congressman DINGELL was a Member of Congress before Medicare and Medicaid existed. In fact, he helped vote those programs into law. When he joined Congress, the Interstate Highway System did not exist. Alaska and Hawaii were not yet States.

Congressman DINGELL is not merely a witness to history. He is a maker of it. His original family name, translated into Polish, meant "blacksmith," and this is a man who hammered out our Nation's laws, forging a stronger Union that could weather the challenges of the future.

I would like to list all of Congressman DINGELL's accomplishments, but I would be accused of staging a filibuster. For the sake of brevity, I will list only the most exceptional moments in Congressman DINGELL's legendary career.

Perhaps his most courageous vote occurred in 1964, in favor of the Civil Rights Act. Advisers told him that vote would destroy his chances at reelection, but he had more faith in his constituents—and he refused to compromise the principles of social justice.

Health care was a great passion—one he inherited from his father. John Dingell, Sr., introduced a bill for universal health care in 1943, and though it failed, he continued to fight for it until the end of his life, and JOHN DINGELL, Jr., adopted that cause from his first day as his father's successor, proposing a bill to reform the health care system in every Congress since 1955. He has always believed that every American should have access to health care. So I know that voting for the Affordable Care Act was one of Congressman DINGELL's proudest moments in Congress.

As a boy he lived through America's Great Depression, and as a Congressman he helped to overcome America's great recession.

He witnessed the rise of the automobile industry and saw how those unionized workers powered the rise of America's middle class. Then we fought together to make sure that American autos and American workers could compete with foreign competition on an even playing field. Congressman DINGELL recognized that this was the key to a new golden age of American cars and trucks. We are seeing that today.

While scientific consensus was still forming about threats pollution posed to our air and animals, JOHN DINGELL wrote the Endangered Species Act in 1973 and the major expansion of the Clean Air Act in 1990. In 2001, he created the Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge—the very first of its kind in North America—and in the years since he has worked to expand refuge protection to more acres.

He loves Michigan dearly. He understands the connection our people have to manufacturing, to agriculture and to the land and Great Lakes that power our tourism industry and our Michigan way of life.

Even during the years he spent chairing the House Committee on Energy and Commerce, when Congressman Dingell was one of the most powerful Members of Congress, you could still find him waving to the crowd from the open top of a Ford Mustang convertible at Dearborn's Memorial Day Parade or at a booth at the Monroe County Fair, always with that same big smile. As Tip O'Neill once said, "All politics is local," and local people are what JOHN DINGELL loves about politics.

The people of his district never doubted his dedication. That is why they would still put "Dingell for Congress" signs on their lawn, long after his district boundaries had changed. If a piece of Southeast Michigan was "Dingell Country" once, then it was Dingell Country forever.

And now he feels great pride—and his constituents feel great comfort—knowing that the district will remain in his family's hands. His beloved wife Deborah, who has been his closest confidant and understands him more intimately than anyone, will carry on his legacy long into the future. So if you go back to Congressman John Dingell, Sr., it means that Southeast Michigan has been under the Dingell name for 81 years—and counting.

While Congressman DINGELL will no longer be in Congress, we can still follow him on Twitter.

Even at age 88, he is constantly evolving, charging boldly into the future, driven by a very simple principle: We are put on this earth to help people.

JOHN D. DINGELL, Jr., has helped many people and yet he will insist that he has received much more than he has been given. He claims to be the "luckiest man in shoe leather," and we are lucky that he has served Michigan and our Nation, so long and so faithfully.●

#### RECOGNIZING CARE CHEST OF SIERRA NEVADA

● Mr. HELLER. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the 25th anniversary of Care Chest of Sierra Nevada, an organization that supplies free medical equipment to Northern Nevadans in

need. As a provider of services to underserved communities, Care Chest has long been a vital nonprofit in Nevada, and I am proud of the work they do on behalf of the Silver State.

Founded in 1990, Care Chest began as a grassroots effort to reuse and recycle medical equipment. Today, this organization helps improve the quality of life for those who otherwise could not afford the rising cost of health care supplies. Twenty-five years later, Care Chest has served over 100,000 people in Northern Nevada. Last year alone, Care Chest served nearly 9,000 Nevadans and distributed over 16,000 medical items. Free of charge services provided by Care Chest include emergency prescriptions, diabetic supplies, respiratory items, and liquid nutritional products. Care Chest has dedicated its efforts to the underserved communities in Northern Nevada, as 69 percent of its clients in 2013 were uninsured while 55 percent were below the poverty line.

As Nevada's unemployment rate remains one of highest in the Nation and as health care costs continue to rise, I recognize the unique role that Care Chest has played in working to address the needs of its local community by offering health care services to those in need. As a lifelong Nevadan and member of the Senate Committee on Finance and the Senate Special Committee on Aging starting in the 114th Congress, I am proud of the work Care Chest does on behalf of the Reno community and its senior citizens.

Today, I ask my colleagues and all Nevadans to join me in recognizing Care Chest of Sierra Nevada, an organization whose mission is both noble and charitable. I am humbled and honored to recognize Care Chest, and I wish them the best of luck in their 25th year of service to the State of Nevada.●

#### RECOGNIZING THE WELLS FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA

● Mr. HELLER. Mr. President, I wish to recognize and congratulate the Wells, NV, Future Farmers of America chapter for winning a national title in the Western National Rangeland Career Development Event. As a lifelong Nevadan and advocate of agriculture education, I am proud to celebrate this victory for Wells and for the Silver State.

As a rancher, I recognize the role the Future Farmers of America organization plays in preparing students for a future in agriculture. The Western National Rangeland Convention, hosted in Elko, NV, brought 14 teams from five States to compete in various categories including plant identification, rangeland biodiversity, habitat evaluation, and stocking management. With nearly 6 million acres of farmland in the Silver State, these are invaluable skills for future Nevada farmers.

I am especially proud to recognize team members Wyatt Gibbs, Deseret

Johnson, DeMar Gale, Chelsea James, and Justin Sorenson for representing the Wells community as leaders in rangeland farming techniques. Under the leadership of adviser Don Noorda, the Wells Future Farmers of America chapter proudly brought home Nevada's first national title. As ranch owners, my wife Lynne and I understand the importance of agriculture education. Management of our State's rangelands has been one of my top natural resources priorities in the U.S. Senate. Recently, I was instrumental in the enactment of the Grazing Improvement Act, which will provide much needed security to livestock producers all across the West.

Today, I ask my colleagues and all Nevadans to join me in recognizing the Wells Future Farmers of America, a group of driven young adults dedicated to Nevada's agriculture and rangeland. Their commitment to Nevada's agricultural future is commendable, and I wish them the best of luck in all of their future endeavors.●

#### CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BIRTH OF JAMES CLEVELAND "JESSE" OWENS

On Tuesday, December 16, 2014, the Senate adopted S. Res. 226, with its preamble, as amended, as follows:

##### S. RES. 226

Whereas James Cleveland "Jesse" Owens was born on September 12, 1913 in Oakville, Alabama;

Whereas Jesse Owens, the youngest of 10 children of sharecroppers and the grandson of a slave, moved with his family at the age of 9 to Cleveland, Ohio as part of the Great Migration;

Whereas as a student at Fairmount Junior High School, Jesse Owens broke junior high school world records for the high jump and the broad jump;

Whereas Jesse Owens attended East Technical High School in Cleveland, Ohio where, as a member of the track team, he placed first in 75 of the 79 races he entered during his senior year, set the world record in the 220-yard dash, and tied the world record in the 100-yard dash;

Whereas Jesse Owens, the "Buckeye Bullet", matriculated at the Ohio State University in 1933 after attracting national attention as a high school athlete;

Whereas while attending classes, training, and breaking a number of track and field records, Jesse Owens worked various jobs, including as an elevator operator at the Ohio State Capitol, a waiter, a gas station attendant, and a library employee;

Whereas due to his race, Jesse Owens was barred from living on campus at the Ohio State University, denied service at restaurants near the University, and forced to stay in segregated hotels;

Whereas on May 25, 1935, in a 45-minute period during the Big Ten Track and Field Championships in Ann Arbor, Michigan, Jesse Owens, competing with an injured back, tied the world record in the 100-yard dash and set new world records in the long jump, the 220-yard dash, and the 220-yard low hurdles;

Whereas as of the 2012 Summer Olympics, only two men had surpassed the long jump record Jesse Owens set in 1935;

Whereas at the 1936 Summer Olympics, Jesse Owens won 4 gold medals, tied the world record in the 100-meter dash, and set new Olympic records in the 200-meter race, the long jump, and the 400-meter relay;

Whereas Jesse Owens' resilience and heroic performance at the 1936 Summer Olympics exposed the struggle against racial bigotry and publicly defied Adolf Hitler's intention of proving that ethnicity was a predetermining factor for achievement;

Whereas the record-breaking performance by Jesse Owens at the 1936 Summer Olympics was never recognized by the 32nd President of the United States or the 33rd President of the United States, but was later recognized

in 1955 by the 34th President of the United States, who referred to Jesse Owens as an "Ambassador of Sport";

Whereas following his Olympic career, Jesse Owens resumed his commitment to public service by spending much of his time working with community groups such as the Boys Clubs of America, chronicling his personal story to magnify the importance of equality and civil rights;

Whereas during the 1950s, Jesse Owens worked with the Department of State to promote democracy abroad as an Ambassador of Goodwill during the Cold War and advocated for socioeconomic equality, individuality, freedom, and love of country;

Whereas Jesse Owens was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom by the 38th President of the United States in 1976 and

the Living Legend Award by the 39th President of the United States in 1979, and was posthumously awarded the Congressional Gold Medal by the 41st President of the United States in 1990; and

Whereas the integrity, courage, and strength of character that Jesse Owens demonstrated remain an example for all people of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) honors and celebrates the 100th anniversary of the birth of James Cleveland "Jesse" Owens; and

(2) supports and encourages the people of the United States to recognize the contributions of Jesse Owens to the Olympic Games, collegiate athletics, international race relations, and democracy.

# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES—Friday, January 2, 2015

The House met at 1 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MESSER).

## DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,  
January 2, 2015.

I hereby appoint the Honorable LUKE MESSER to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

JOHN A. BOEHNER,  
*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

## PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer: God of the universe, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

In the final hour of the 113th Congress, we give You thanks for Your faithfulness to our Nation. There have been many struggles, many sorrows; and yet we are still here and able to give You thanks that millions of our citizens live free.

May the work of the 113th issue forth to the benefit of our Nation and its citizens. Where the efforts of this Congress have fallen short, we ask Your forgiveness and the forgiveness of all Americans.

May all that is done this day be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

## THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(a) of House Resolution 775, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

## PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The SPEAKER pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

## COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, December 17, 2014.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,  
*Speaker, House of Representatives,*  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on December 17, 2014 at 9:43 a.m.:

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 5771.

That the Senate passed without amendment H. Con. Res. 124.

With best wishes, I am  
Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

## COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, December 17, 2014.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,  
*Speaker, House of Representatives,*  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on December 17, 2014 at 10:41 a.m.:

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 3608.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 4030.

That the Senate passed without amendment H. Con. Res. 125.

That the Senate passed S. 1800.

That the Senate passed S. 684.

Appointment: United States-China Economic Security Review Commission.

With best wishes, I am  
Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

## ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 4 of rule I, the following enrolled bills were signed by Speaker pro tempore HARRIS on Tuesday, December 16, 2014:

H.R. 83, making consolidated appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes;

H.R. 2591, to amend certain provisions of the FAA Modernization and Reform Act of 2012;

H.R. 5859, to impose sanctions with respect to the Russian Federation, to provide additional assistance to Ukraine, and for other purposes;

S. 2338, to reauthorize the United States Anti-Doping Agency, and for other purposes;

S. 3008, to extend temporarily the extended period of protection for members of uniformed services relating to mortgages, mortgage foreclosure, and eviction, and for other purposes.

## ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 4 of rule I, the following enrolled bills were signed by Speaker pro tempore Harris on Wednesday, December 17, 2014:

H.R. 1206, to grant the Secretary of the Interior permanent authority to authorize States to issue electronic duck stamps, and for other purposes;

H.R. 1378, to designate the United States Federal Judicial Center located at 333 West Broadway in San Diego, California, as the "John Rhoades Federal Judicial Center" and to designate the United States courthouse located at 333 West Broadway in San Diego, California, as the "James M. Carter and Judith N. Keep United States Courthouse";

H.R. 2754, to amend the Hobby Protection Act to make unlawful the provision of assistance or support in violation of that Act, and for other purposes;

H.R. 3027, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 442 Miller Valley Road in Prescott, Arizona, as the "Barry M. Goldwater Post Office";

H.R. 3572, to revise the boundaries of certain John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System units;

H.R. 3979, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes;

H.R. 4276, to extend and modify a pilot program on assisted living services for veterans with traumatic brain injury;

H.R. 4416, to redesignate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 161 Live Oak Street in Miami, Arizona, as the "Staff Sergeant Manuel V. Mendoza Post Office Building";

H.R. 4651, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 601 West Baker Road in Baytown, Texas, as the "Specialist Keith Erin Grace, Jr. Memorial Post Office";

H.R. 5050, to repeal the Act of May 31, 1918, and for other purposes;

H.R. 5185, to reauthorize the Young Women's Breast Health Education and Awareness Requires Learning Young Act of 2009;

H.R. 5331, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 73839 Gorgonio Drive in Twentynine Palms, California, as the "Colonel M.J. 'Mac' Dube, USMC Post Office Building";

H.R. 5562, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 801 West Ocean Avenue in Lompoc, California, as the "Federal Correctional Officer Scott J. Williams Memorial Post Office Building";

H.R. 5687, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 101 East Market Street in Long Beach, California, as the "Juanita Millender-McDonald Post Office";

H.R. 5816, to extend the authorization for the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 4 of rule I, the following enrolled bills were signed by Speaker pro tempore Thornberry on Thursday, December 18, 2014:

H.R. 1068, to enact title 54, United States Code, "National Park Service and Related Programs", as positive law;

H.R. 2901, to strengthen implementation of the Senator Paul Simon Water for the Poor Act of 2005 by improving the capacity of the United States Government to implement, leverage, and monitor and evaluate programs to provide first-time or improved access to safe drinking water, sanitation, and hygiene to the world's poorest on an equitable and sustainable basis, and for other purposes;

H.R. 3608, to amend the Act of October 19, 1973, concerning taxable income to members of the Grand Portage Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians;

H.R. 4030, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 18640 NW 2nd Avenue in Miami, Florida, as the "Father Richard Marquess-Barry Post Office Building";

H.R. 5771, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend certain expiring provisions and make technical corrections, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the tax treatment of ABLE accounts established under State programs for the care of family members with disabilities, and for other purposes.

#### LAYING ON THE TABLE H.R. 647

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, H.R. 647 is laid on the table. There was no objection.

#### ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled bills of the House of the following titles, which were thereupon signed by the Speaker pro tempore, Mr. HARRIS, on Tuesday, December 16, 2014:

H.R. 83. An act making consolidated appropriations for fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2591. An act to amend certain provisions of the FAA Modernization and Reform Act of 2012.

H.R. 5859. An act to impose sanctions with respect to the Russian Federation, to provide additional assistance to Ukraine, and for other purposes.

On Wednesday, December 17, 2014:

H.R. 1206. An act to grant the Secretary of the Interior permanent authority to authorize States to issue electronic duck stamps, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1378. An act to designate the United States Federal Judicial Center located at 333 West Broadway in San Diego, California, as the "John Rhoades Federal Judicial Center" and to designate the United States courthouse located at 333 West Broadway in San Diego, California, as the "James M. Carter and Judith N. Keep United States Courthouse";

H.R. 2754. An act to amend the Hobby Protection Act to make unlawful the provision of assistance or support in violation of that Act, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3027. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 442 Miller Valley Road in Prescott, Arizona, as the "Barry M. Goldwater Post Office";

H.R. 3572. An act to revise the boundaries of certain John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System units.

H.R. 3979. An act to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4276. An act to extend and modify a pilot program on assisted living services for veterans with traumatic brain injury.

H.R. 4416. An act to redesignate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 161 Live Oak Street in Miami, Arizona, as the "Staff Sergeant Manuel V. Mendoza Post Office Building";

H.R. 4651. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 601 West Baker Road in Baytown, Texas, as the "Specialist Keith Erin Grace, Jr. Memorial Post Office";

H.R. 5050. An act to repeal the Act of May 31, 1918, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5185. An act to reauthorize the Young Women's Breast Health Education and Awareness Requires Learning Young Act of 2009.

H.R. 5331. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 73839 Gorgonio Drive in Twentynine Palms, California, as the "Colonel M.J. 'Mac' Dube, USMC Post Office Building";

H.R. 5562. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 801 West Ocean Avenue in Lompoc, California, as the "Federal Correctional Officer Scott J. Williams Memorial Post Office Building";

H.R. 5687. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located

at 101 East Market Street in Long Beach, California, as the "Juanita Millender-McDonald Post Office";

H.R. 5816. An act to extend the authorization for the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom.

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House, further reported and found truly enrolled bills of the House of the following titles, which were thereupon signed by the Speaker pro tempore, Mr. THORNBERRY, on Thursday, December 18, 2014:

H.R. 1068. An act to enact title 54, United States Code, "National Park Service and Related Programs", as positive law.

H.R. 2901. An act to strengthen implementation of the Senator Paul Simon Water for the Poor Act of 2005 by improving the capacity of the United States Government to implement, leverage, and monitor and evaluate programs to provide first-time or improved access to safe drinking water, sanitation, and hygiene to the world's poorest on an equitable and sustainable basis, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3608. An act to amend the Act of October 19, 1973, concerning taxable income to members of the Grand Portage Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians.

H.R. 4030. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 18640 NW 2nd Avenue in Miami, Florida, as the "Father Richard Marquess-Barry Post Office Building";

H.R. 5771. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend certain expiring provisions and make technical corrections, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the tax treatment of ABLE accounts established under State programs for the care of family members with disabilities, and for other purposes.

#### SENATE ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

The Speaker pro tempore, Mr. HARRIS, on Tuesday, December 16, 2014, announced his signature to enrolled bills of the Senate of the following titles:

S. 2338. An act to reauthorize the United States Anti-Doping Agency, and for other purposes.

S. 3008. An act to extend temporarily the extended period of protection for members of uniformed services relating to mortgages, mortgage foreclosure, and eviction, and for other purposes.

#### BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTION PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House, reported that on December 12, 2014, she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bills:

H.R. 2719. To require the Transportation Security Administration to implement best practices and improve transparency with regard to technology acquisition programs, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1281. To amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize programs under part A of title XI of such Act.

H.R. 1204. To amend title 49, United States Code, to direct the Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security (Transportation Security Administration) to establish an Aviation Security Advisory Committee, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3044. To approve the transfer of Yellow Creek Port properties in Iuka, Mississippi.

H.R. 4007. To recodify and reauthorize the Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards Program.

H.R. 3468. To amend the Federal Credit Union Act to extend insurance coverage to amounts held in a member account on behalf of another person, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5705. To modify certain provisions relating to the Propane Education and Research Council.

H.R. 4926. To designate a segment of Interstate Route 35 in the State of Minnesota as the "James L. Oberstar Memorial Highway."

H.R. 4193. To amend title 5, United States Code, to change the default investment fund under the Thrift Savings Plan, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3374. To provide for the use of savings promotion raffle products by financial institutions to encourage savings, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1447. To encourage States to report to the Attorney General certain information regarding the deaths of individuals in the custody of law enforcement agencies, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2952. To require the Secretary of Homeland Security to assess the cybersecurity workforce of the Department of Homeland Security and develop a comprehensive workforce strategy, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1067. To make revisions in title 36, United States Code, as necessary to keep the title current and make technical corrections and improvements.

H.R. 4199. To name the Department of Veterans Affairs medical center in Waco, Texas, as the "Doris Miller Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center."

H.R. 4681. To authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2014 and 2015 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes.

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House, further reported that on December 13, 2014, she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bills and joint resolution:

H.J. Res. 131. Making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2015, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5057. To amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to permit exemptions for external power supplies from certain efficiency standards, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2640. To amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to adjust the Crooked River boundary, to provide water certainty for the City of Prineville, Oregon, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3096. To designate the building occupied by the Federal Bureau of Investigation located at 801 Follin Lane, Vienna, Virginia, as the "Michael D. Resnick Terrorist Screening Center."

H.R. 3329. To enhance the ability of community financial institutions to foster economic growth and serve their communities, boost small businesses, increase individual savings, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4771. To amend the Controlled Substances Act to more effectively regulate anabolic steroids.

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House, further reported that on December 16, 2014, she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bills:

H.R. 83. Making consolidated appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2591. To amend certain provisions of the FAA Modernization and Reform Act of 2012.

H.R. 5859. To impose sanctions with respect to the Russian Federation, to provide additional assistance to Ukraine, and for other purposes.

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House, further reported that on December 17, 2014, she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bills:

H.R. 5687. To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 101 East Market Street in Long Beach, California, as the "Juanita Millender-McDonald Post Office."

H.R. 5816. To extend the authorization for the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom.

H.R. 5331. To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 73839 Gorgonio Drive in Twentynine Palms, California, as the "Colonel M.J. 'Mac' Dube, USMC Post Office Building."

H.R. 5562. To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 801 West Ocean Avenue in Lompoc, California, as the "Federal Correctional Officer Scott J. Williams Memorial Post Office Building."

H.R. 5050. To repeal the Act of May 31, 1918, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5185. To reauthorize the Young Women's Breast Health Education and Awareness Requires Learning Young Act of 2009.

H.R. 4416. To redesignate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 161 Live Oak Street in Miami, Arizona, as the "Staff Sergeant Manuel V. Mendoza Post Office Building."

H.R. 4651. To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 601 West Baker Road in Baytown, Texas, as the "Specialist Keith Erin Grace Jr. Memorial Post Office."

H.R. 4276. To extend and modify a pilot program on assisted living services for veterans with traumatic brain injury.

H.R. 3027. To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 442 Miller Valley Road in Prescott, Arizona, as the "Barry M. Goldwater Post Office."

H.R. 3572. To revise the boundaries of certain John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System units.

H.R. 2754. To amend the Hobby Protection Act to make unlawful the provision of assistance or support in violation of that Act, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1206. To grant the Secretary of the Interior permanent authority to authorize States to issue electronic duck stamps, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1378. To designate the United States Federal Judicial Center located at 333 West Broadway in San Diego, California, as the "John Rhoades Federal Judicial Center" and to designate the United States courthouse located at 333 West Broadway in San Diego, California, as the "James M. Carter and Judith N. Keep United States Courthouse."

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House, further reported that on December 18, 2014, she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bills:

H.R. 1068. To enact title 54, United States Code, "National Park Service and Related Programs", as positive law.

H.R. 2901. To strengthen implementation of the Senator Paul Simon Water for the Poor Act of 2005 by improving the capacity of the United States Government to implement, leverage, and monitor and evaluate programs to provide first-time or improved access to safe drinking water, sanitation, and hygiene to the world's poorest on an equitable and sustainable basis, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3608. To amend the Act of October 19, 1973, concerning taxable income to members of the Grand Portage Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians.

H.R. 3979. To authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4030. To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 18640 NW 2nd Avenue in Miami, Florida, as the "Father Richard Marquess-Barry Post Office Building."

H.R. 5771. To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend certain expiring provisions and make technical corrections, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the tax treatment of ABLE accounts established under State programs for the care of family members with disabilities, and for other purposes.

#### SINE DIE ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, in accordance with House Concurrent Resolution 125, the Chair declares the second session of the 113th Congress adjourned sine die.

There was no objection.

Thereupon (at 1 o'clock and 7 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned.

#### EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

8420. A letter from the Acting Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Importation of Plants for Planting [Docket No.: APHIS-2008-0071] (RIN: 0579-AD47) received December 17, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

8421. A letter from the Regulatory Review Group Director, Farm Service Agency, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's interim rule — Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (RIN: 0560-AI20) received December 18, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

8422. A letter from the Director, Issuances Staff, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Uniform Compliance Date for Food Labeling Regulations [Docket No.: FSIS-2014-0042] (RIN: 0583-AD05) received December 30, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

8423. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's interim rule — Khapra Beetle; New Regulated



Countries and Regulated Articles [Docket No.: APHIS-2013-0079] received December 30, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

8424. A letter from the Associate Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Domestic Dates Produced or Packed in Riverside County, California; Decreased Assessment Rate [Docket No.: AMS-FV-14-0057; FV14-987-3 FIR], pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

8425. A letter from the Administrator, Rural Housing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Direct Single Family Housing Loans and Grants (RIN: 0575-AD01) received December 30, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

8426. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Labeling of Pesticide Products and Devices for Export; Clarification of Requirements [EPA-HQ-OPP-2009-0607; FRL-9919-63] (RIN: 2070-AJ53) received December 18, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

8427. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting designation as emergency requirements all funding so designated by the Congress, pursuant to Section 6 of the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2015; (H. Doc. No. 113—177); to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed.

8428. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting designation as Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism all funding (including the rescission of funds) and contributions from foreign governments so designated by the Congress; (H. Doc. No. 113—178); to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed.

8429. A letter from the Under Secretary, Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting authorization for Major General Frederick S. Rudesheim, United States Army, to wear the authorized insignia of the grade of lieutenant general for a period not to exceed 14 days before assuming the duties of the position for which the higher grade is authorized, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 777a; to the Committee on Armed Services.

8430. A letter from the Under Secretary, Acquisition, Technology and Logistics, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter regarding the report on the amount of DoD purchases from foreign entities in fiscal year 2013, pursuant to 41 U.S.C. 8305; to the Committee on Armed Services.

8431. A letter from the Under Secretary, Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter authorizing Rear Admiral (lower half) John C. Scorby, Jr., United States Navy, to wear the insignia of the grade of rear admiral, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 777; to the Committee on Armed Services.

8432. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting the semi-annual report of the Inspector General for the period April 1, 2014, through September 30, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act), section 5(b); Public Law 95-452, section 5(b); to the Committee on Armed Services.

8433. A letter from the Chief Counsel, FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Suspension of Community Eligibility; Virginia: Clinchport, Town of, Scott County;

[Docket ID: FEMA-2014-0002] [Internal Agency Docket No.: FEMA-8361] received December 30, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

8434. A letter from the Chief Counsel, FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Final Flood Elevation Determinations; Platte County, Missouri, and Incorporated Areas; [Docket ID: FEMA-2014-0002; Docket Nos.: FEMA-B-1178] received December 30, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

8435. A letter from the Regulatory Specialist, LRAD, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule — Annual Stress Test — Schedule Shift and Adjustments to Regulatory Capital Projections [Docket ID: OCC-2014-0015] (RIN: 1557-AD85) received December 23, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

8436. A letter from the General Counsel, Federal Housing Finance Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Credit Risk Retention (RIN: 2590-AA43) received December 30, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

8437. A letter from the Secretary, Division of Investment Management, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Temporary Rule Regarding Principal Trades With Certain Advisory Clients [Release No.: IA-3984; File No.: ST-23-07] (RIN: 3235-AL56) received December 23, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

8438. A letter from the Director, Office of Management and Budget, transmitting a report on discretionary appropriations legislation required by the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2015; to the Committee on the Budget.

8439. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the "Physician Compare Report to Congress" for 2014, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 1395w-5; Public Law 111-148, section 10331(f); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8440. A letter from the Administrator, Energy Information Administration, Department of Energy, transmitting a report entitled "The Availability and Price of Petroleum and Petroleum Products Produced in Countries Other Than Iran", pursuant to National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2012, Section 1245(d)(4)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8441. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Nuclear Energy, Department of Energy, transmitting a report on the effect of the U.S.-Russia Highly Enriched Uranium Agreement on domestic uranium mining, conversion, and enrichment industries for Fiscal Year 2012, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 2297h-10(b)(10); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8442. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Food Additives Permitted for Direct Addition to Food for Human Consumption; Advantame [Docket No.: FDA-2009-F-0303] received December 30, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8443. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Beauveria bassiana strain ANT-03; Exemption from the Requirement of

a Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2013-0717; FRL-9918-65] received December 22, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8444. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Missouri; Withdrawal of Direct Final Rule, Controlling Emissions During Episodes of High Air Pollution Potential [EPA-R07-OAR-2014-0602; FRL-9921-08-Region 7] received December 22, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8445. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Rulemaking on the Definition of Solid Waste [EPA-HQ-RCRA-2010-0742; FRL-9728-5-OSWER] (RIN: 2050-AG62) received December 19, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8446. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final amendments — Oil and Natural Gas Sector: Reconsideration of Additional Provisions of New Source Performance Standards [EPA-HQ-OAR-2010-0505; FRL-9921-03-OAR] (RIN: 2060-AR75) received December 19, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8447. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Quality Designations for the 2012 Primary Annual Fine Particle (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) [EPA-HQ-OAR-2012-0918; FRL-9921-00-OAR] (RIN: 2060-AR95) received December 19, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8448. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plan; Pennsylvania; Determination of Attainment for the 2008 Lead National Ambient Air Quality Standard for the Lyons Nonattainment Area [EPA-R03-OAR-2014-0409; FRL-9920-68-Region-3] received December 19, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8449. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Identification of Nonattainment Classification and Deadlines for Submission of State Implementation Plan (SIP) Provisions for the 1997 Fine Particle (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) and 2006 PM<sub>2.5</sub> NAAQS; Correcting Amendment [EPA-HQ-OAR-2013-0694; FRL-9920-83-Region 4] received December 19, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8450. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Greenhouse Gas Reporting Program: Addition of Global Warming Potentials to the General Provisions and Amendments and Confidentiality Determinations for Fluorinated Gas Production; Correction [EPA-HQ-OAR-2009-0927; FRL-9920-59-OAR] (RIN: 2060-AR78) received December 19, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8451. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental



Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's direct final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Indiana; Ozone and PM<sub>2.5</sub> Standards [EPA-R05-OAR-2014-0661; FRL-9920-47-Region-5] received December 19, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8452. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval of Implementation Plans and Designation of Areas; Georgia; Redesignation of the Georgia Portion of the Chattanooga, 1997 PM<sub>2.5</sub> Nonattainment Area to Attainment [EPA-R04-OAR-2014-0267; FRL-9920-60-Region 4] received December 19, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8453. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval of Implementation Plans and Designation of Areas; Alabama; Redesignation of Alabama Portion of the Chattanooga, 1997 PM<sub>2.5</sub> Nonattainment Area to Attainment [EPA-R04-OAR-2014-0674; FRL-9920-61-Region 4] received December 19, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8454. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Zeta-cypermethrin; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2014-0210; FRL-9920-23] received December 18, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8455. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Benzidine-Based Chemical Substances; Di-n-pentyl Phthalate (DnPP); and Alkanes, C12-13, Chloro; Significant New Use Rule [EPA-HQ-OPPT-2010-0573; FRL-9915-60] (RIN: 2070-AJ73) received December 18, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8456. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Significant New Use Rules on Certain Chemical Substances; Withdrawal [EPA-HQ-OPPT-2014-0390; FRL-9920-63] (RIN: 2070-AB27) received December 18, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8457. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Tobacco mild green mosaic tobamovirus strain U2; Amendment to an Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2013-0761; FRL-9919-26] received December 18, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8458. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting notification of an Executive Order issued with respect to North Korea that expands the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13466 of June 26, 2008, as amended by Executive Order 13551 of August 30, 2010, and Executive Order 13570 of April 18, 2011, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.; (H. Doc. No. 113—180); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed.

8459. A letter from the Under Secretary for Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting a foreign policy report to Congress on the Expansion of the Microprocessor Military End Use and End User Control, pursuant to the Export Administra-

tion Act, Section 6(f)(2); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

8460. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Commerce, transmitting the annual report for FY 2014 of the Department's Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS), pursuant to the Export Administration Act of 1979, Section 14, as amended; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

8461. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Expansion of the Microprocessor Military End-Use and End-User Control [Docket No.: 140813667-4667-01] (RIN: 0694-AG27) received December 23, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

8462. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Corrections and Clarifications to the Export Administration Regulations [Docket No.: 141027899-4899-01] (RIN: 0694-AG34) received December 30, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

8463. A letter from the Director, International Cooperation, Department of Defense, transmitting Pursuant to Section 27(f) of the Arms Export Control Act and Executive Order 13637, Transmittal No. 18-14, informing the Congress of the Department's intent to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with Australia; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

8464. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting consistent with the Authorization for the Use of Military Force Against Iraq Resolution of 2002 (Pub. L. 107-243) and the Authorization for the Use of Military Force Against Iraq Resolution of 1991 (Pub. L. 102-1), and in order to keep the Congress fully informed, a report prepared by the Department of State for the June 15, 2014 — August 14, 2014 reporting period; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

8465. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Department's report on progress toward a negotiated solution of the Cyprus question, covering the period August 1 through September 30, 2014, pursuant to Section 620C(c) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, and in accordance with Section 1(a)(6) of Executive Order 13313, as amended; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

8466. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction that was declared in Executive Order 12938 of November 14, 1994, and continued by the President each year, most recently on November 7, 2014; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

8467. A letter from the Assistant Legal Adviser, Office of Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a report prepared by the Department of State concerning international agreements, other than treaties entered into by the United States, to be transmitted to the Congress within the sixty-day period specified in the Case-Zablocki Act, pursuant to 1 U.S.C. 112b; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

8468. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment to the International Traffic in

Arms Regulations: United States Munitions List Category XI (Military Electronics), Correction, and Other Changes (RIN: 1400-AD25) received December 30, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

8469. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Transmittal No. DDTC 14-104, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

8470. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting an Executive Order further expanding the scope of the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13660 of March 6, 2014, and expanded in scope by Executive Order 13661 of March 16, 2014, that takes additional steps to address the Russian occupation of the Crimea Region of Ukraine; (H. Doc. No. 113—179); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed.

8471. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Education, transmitting the sixtieth Semiannual Report to Congress of the Office of Inspector General for the period April 1, 2014, through September 30, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act), section 5(b); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

8472. A letter from the Executive Analyst, Office of the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting two reports pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

8473. A letter from the General Counsel, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting three reports pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

8474. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's semiannual reports to Congress from the Treasury Inspector General and the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration for the period of April 1, 2014, through September 30, 2014, pursuant to the Inspector General Act of 1978; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

8475. A letter from the Director, Congressional Affairs, Federal Election Commission, transmitting the Commission's semiannual report from the Office of Inspector General for the period April 1, 2014, through September 30, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act), section 5(b); Public Law 95-452, section 5(b); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

8476. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Federal Election Commission, transmitting in accordance with Section 647(b) of Title VI of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2004, Pub. L. 108-199, the Commission's report to Congress on FY 2014 competitive sourcing efforts; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

8477. A letter from the Deputy Inspector General, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's semiannual report to the Congress from the Office of Inspector General for the 6-month period ending September 30, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act), section 5(b); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

8478. A letter from the Chairman, Holocaust Memorial Museum, transmitting the

Museum's FY 2014 Report on Audit and Investigative Activities, pursuant to the Inspector General Act of 1978; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

8479. A letter from the Administrator, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, transmitting the Administration's Agency Financial Report for fiscal year 2014; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

8480. A letter from the Chairman, National Endowment for the Arts, transmitting pursuant to the provisions of the Federal Activities Inventory Reform (FAIR) Act of 1998 (Pub. L. 105-270) and OMB Circular A-76, Performance of Commercial Activities, the Endowment's FY 2014 inventory of commercial and inherently governmental activities performed by federal employees; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

8481. A letter from the Director, Office of Government Ethics, transmitting the Office's annual report for Fiscal Year 2013, prepared in accordance with Title II, Section 203 of the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act), Pub. L. 107-174; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

8482. A letter from the Acting Commissioner, Social Security Administration, transmitting the Administration's report for fiscal year 2014 on competitive sourcing efforts, as required by Section 647(b) of Division F of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2004, Pub. L. 108-199; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

8483. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Election Commission, transmitting the Commission's legislative recommendations, 2014, pursuant to 52 U.S.C. 30111(a)(9); to the Committee on House Administration.

8484. A letter from the Acting Director, NMFS, Office of Sustainable Fisheries/Greater Atlantic Region, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's Inseason Action — Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Bluefish Fishery; Quota Transfer [Docket No.: 140214138-4482-02] (RIN: 0648-XD609) received December 18, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

8485. A letter from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Magnuson-Stevens Act Provisions; Fisheries off West Coast States; Biennial Specifications and Management Measures; Inseason Adjustments [Docket No.: 120814338-2711-02] (RIN: 0648-BE64) received December 18, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

8486. A letter from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone off Alaska; Northern Rockfish in the Western Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska [Docket No.: 130925836-4174-02] (RIN: 0648-XD632) received December 18, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

8487. A letter from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Ocean Perch in the Western Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska

[Docket No.: 130925836-4174-02] (RIN: 0648-XD631) received December 18, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

8488. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Inseason Adjustment to the 2014 Gulf of Alaska Pollock Seasonal Apportionments [Docket No.: 130925836-4174-02] (RIN: 0648-XD627) received December 18, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

8489. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — International Fisheries; Western and Central Pacific Fisheries for Highly Migratory Species; Restrictions on the Use of Fish Aggregating Devices in Purse Seine Fisheries for 2015 [Docket No.: 140710571-4977-02] (RIN: 0648-BE36) received December 18, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

8490. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Snapper-Grouper Fishery of the South Atlantic; 2014 Commercial Accountability Measure and Closure for South Atlantic Gag [Docket No.: 120924488-3671-02] (RIN: 0648-XD599) received December 18, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

8491. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — International Fisheries; Pacific Tuna Fisheries; 2014 Commercial Fishing for Pacific Bluefin Tuna in the Eastern Pacific Ocean; Commercial Retention Limit [Docket No.: 141103918-4918-01] (RIN: 0648-BE58) received December 18, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

8492. A letter from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Bluefish Fishery; Quota Transfer [Docket No.: 140214138-4482-02] (RIN: 0648-XD638) received December 18, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

8493. A letter from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; 2014 Commercial Accountability Measure and Closure for Atlantic Migratory Group Cobia [Docket No.: 101206604-1758-02] (RIN: 0648-XD601) received December 18, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

8494. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Summer Flounder Fishery; Commercial Quota Harvested for the State of New Jersey [Docket No.: 140117052-4402-02] (RIN: 0648-XD571) received December 18, 2014,

pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

8495. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Commercial Aggregated Large Coastal Sharks (LCS) and Hammerhead Sharks in the Atlantic Region [Docket No.: 130402317-3966-02] (RIN: 0648-XD636) received December 18, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

8496. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish Fisheries; Closure of the 2014 Trimester 2 Directed Longfin Squid Fishery [Docket No.: 130903775-4276-02] (RIN: 0648-XD378) received December 18, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

8497. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries Off West Coast States; Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery Management Plan; Trawl Rationalization Program; Chafing Gear Modifications [Docket No.: 130405338-4987-02] (RIN: 0648-BC84) received December 18, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

8498. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Gulf of Alaska Trawl Economic Data Report [Docket No.: 140311229-4978-02] (RIN: 0648-BE09) received December 18, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

8499. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; 2006 Consolidated Atlantic Highly Migratory Species (HMS) Fishery Management Plan; Amendment 7 [Docket No.: 120328229-4949-02] (RIN: 0648-BC09) received December 18, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

8500. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Final Endangered Listing of Five Species of Sawfish Under the Endangered Species Act [Docket No.: 101004485-4999-03] (RIN: 0648-XZ50) received December 23, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

8501. A letter from the Federal Liaison Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Reduction of Fees for Trademark Applications and Renewals [Docket No.: PTO-T-2014-0011] (RIN: 0651-AC94) received December 17, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

8502. A letter from the Deputy Director, Administration for Children and Families,

Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's interim final rule — Standards to Prevent, Detect, and Respond to Sexual Abuse and Sexual Harassment Involving Unaccompanied Children (RIN: 0970-AC61) received December 23, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

8503. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the monthly report for November 2014, prepared by Citizen and Immigration Services, on "Adjustments of Status Granted Under Section 13 of the Act of September 11, 1957", as amended; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

8504. A letter from the Project Manager, Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Notices of Decisions and Documents Evidencing Lawful Status [CIS No.: 2517-11; Docket No.: USCIS-2012-0006] (RIN: 1615-AC01) received December 30, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

8505. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's report entitled "2014 Fundamental Properties of Asphalts and Modified Asphalts — III", pursuant to the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991, Section 6016(e); the Transportation Equity Act of the 21st Century, Section 5117(b)(5); and the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act; A Legacy for Users, Section 5204(g)(1) and (3) to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8506. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the "Report of the Task Force on the Prohibition of Importation of Products of Forced or Prison Labor from the People's Republic of China (PRC): October 1, 2013, to June 30, 2014", pursuant to Public Law 106-286; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

8507. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Fiscal Year 2014 Semiannual Report to Congress on the Softwood Lumber Act of 2008, prepared by Customs and Border Protection, pursuant to Public Law 110-246, section 3301; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

8508. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the fourth-quarter, fiscal year 2014 (July — September 2014) report to Congress on Automated Commercial Environment, prepared by Customs and Border Protection, pursuant to Public Law 107-210, Section 311(b)(3); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

8509. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Labor, transmitting the Department's report entitled "List of Goods Produced by Child Labor or Forced Labor", pursuant to the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2005; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

8510. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final IRB Only rule — Update of Rev. Proc. 2012-24, Implementation of Nonresident Alien Deposit Interest Regulations (Rev. Proc. 2012-6424) received December 19, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

8511. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final IRB Only rule — 2015 Standard Mileage Rates

[Notice 2014-79] received December 19, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

8512. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final IRB Only rule — Reallocation of Section 48B Credits under the Qualifying Gasification Project Program [Notice 2014-81] received December 19, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

8513. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Reporting of Specified Foreign Financial Assets [TD 9706] (RIN: 1545-BJ69) received December 19, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

8514. A letter from the Administrator, TSA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Administration's certification that the level of screening services and protection provided at Dawson Community Airport (GDV), Glasgow International Airport (GGW), Havre City-County Airport (HVR), Wolf Point International Airport (OLF), and Sidney-Richland Municipal Airport (SDY) will be equal to or greater than the level that would be provided at the airports by TSA Transportation Security Officers, pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 44920(d); to the Committee on Homeland Security.

8515. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting a report entitled "Update on Integrated Scanning System Operations", pursuant to Public Law 109-347, section 232(c); to the Committee on Homeland Security.

8516. A letter from the Administration, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting an Interim Report to Congress on Endangered Species Act Implementation in Pesticide Evaluation Programs, pursuant to Public Law 113-79, section 10013(a); jointly to the Committees on Agriculture and Natural Resources.

8517. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting a report to Congress on the activities of the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation, pursuant to the Social Security Act, section 1115A(g), as amended; jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Ways and Means.

8518. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting a report on the activities of the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation, pursuant to the Social Security Act, section 1115A(g), as amended; jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Ways and Means.

## REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

*[Pursuant to clause 1(d), rule XI, the following reports were filed on December 18, 2014]*

Mr. LUCAS: Committee on Agriculture. Report on Activities During the 113th Congress, Second Session (Rept. 113-679). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin: Committee on the Budget. Activities and Summary Report of the Committee on the Budget, 113th Con-

gress, Second Session (Rept. 113-680). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

*[Pursuant to clause 1(d), rule XI, the following report was filed on December 19, 2014]*

Mr. SMITH of Texas: Committee on Science, Space, and Technology. Second Annual Report of Activities of the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology (Rept. 113-681). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

*[Pursuant to the order of the House on December 11, 2014 the following reports were filed on December 22, 2014]*

Mr. UPTON: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 5214. A bill to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to provide for recommendations for the development and use of clinical data registries for the improvement of patient care; with an amendment (Rept. 113-683). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 69. A bill to strengthen enforcement mechanisms to stop illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing, to amend the Tuna Conventions Act of 1950 to implement the Antigua Convention, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 113-685). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 361. A bill to expand the Alpine Lakes Wilderness in the State of Washington, to designate the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River and Pratt River as wild and scenic rivers, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 113-686). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 706. A bill to establish the Blackstone River Valley National Historical Park, to dedicate the Park to John H. Chafee, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 113-687). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 916. A bill to improve Federal land management, resource conservation, environmental protection, and use of Federal real property, by requiring the Secretary of the Interior to develop a multipurpose cadastre of Federal real property and identifying inaccurate, duplicate, and out-of-date Federal land inventories, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 113-688). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 1103. A bill to amend the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act to provide that Alexander Creek, Alaska, is and shall be recognized as an eligible Native village under that Act, and for other purposes (Rept. 113-689). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 1363. A bill to promote timely exploration for geothermal resources under existing geothermal leases, and for other purposes (Rept. 113-690). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 1561. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to make improvements to support facilities for National Historic Sites operated by the National Park Service, and for other purposes

(Rept. 113-691). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 1785. A bill to establish the Mountains to Sound Greenway National Heritage Area in the State of Washington, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 113-692). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 1839. A bill to designate certain Federal land in the San Juan National Forest in the State of Colorado as wilderness, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 113-693). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 3286. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Treasury to reimburse States that use State funds to operate National Parks during the Federal Government shutdown, and for other purposes (Rept. 113-694). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 3806. A bill to authorize payment of funds in accordance with the agreement entered into by the Tennessee Valley Authority, the State of North Carolina, Swain County, North Carolina, and the United States Department of the Interior; with amendments (Rept. 113-695). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 4166. A bill to transfer recreational management authority for Lake Berryessa in the State of California from the Bureau of Reclamation to the Bureau of Land Management, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 113-696). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 4220. A bill to authorize the exchange of certain Federal land and non-Federal land in the State of Minnesota (Rept. 113-697). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 4296. A bill to amend Public Law 94-241 with respect to the Northern Mariana Islands; with an amendment (Rept. 113-698, Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 4534. A bill to amend the Indian Child Protection and Family Violence Prevention Act to require background checks before foster care placements are ordered in tribal court proceedings, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 113-699). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 4979. A bill to provide legal certainty to property owners along the Red River in Texas, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 113-700). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 5003. A bill to adjust the boundary of the Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park to include the Wallis House and Harriston Hill, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 113-701). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 5026. A bill to

prohibit closing or repurposing any propagation fish hatchery or aquatic species propagation program of the Department of the Interior unless such action is expressly authorized by an Act of Congress, and for other purposes (Rept. 113-702). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 5139. A bill to correct the boundaries of the John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System Unit P16; with an amendment (Rept. 113-703). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 5176. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to retire coal preference right lease applications for which the Secretary has made an affirmative commercial quantities determination, and for other purposes (Rept. 113-704). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 5203. A bill to enhance the operation of the Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial Commission; with an amendment (Rept. 113-705). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 5204. A bill to amend the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act to improve recreation opportunities and increase consistency and accountability in the collection and expenditure of recreation fees collected on public lands and forests, and for other purposes (Rept. 113-706, Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 5476. A bill to modify the Forest Service Recreation Residence Program as the program applies to units of the National Forest System derived from the public domain by implementing a simple, equitable, and predictable procedure for determining cabin user fees, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 113-707). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Natural Resources. S. 311. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of designating sites in the Lower Mississippi River Area in the State of Louisiana as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes (Rept. 113-708). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Natural Resources. S. 363. An act to expand geothermal production, and for other purposes (Rept. 113-709). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Natural Resources. S. 609. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain Federal land in San Juan County, New Mexico, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 113-710). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 4742. A bill to amend the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act to provide flexibility for fishery managers and stability for fishermen, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 113-711). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 712. A bill to extend the authorization of the Highlands Conservation Act through fiscal year 2024; with amendments (Rept. 113-712, Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Natural Resources. S. 354. An act to modify the boundary of the Oregon Caves National Monument, and for other purposes (Rept. 113-713). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

*[Pursuant to clause 1(d), rule XI, the following reports were filed on December 22, 2014]*

Mr. GOODLATTE: Committee on the Judiciary. Activity Report of the Committee on the Judiciary for the Period January 3, 2013 through December 15, 2014 (Rept. 113-682). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri: Committee on Small Business. Report on the Activities of the Committee on Small Business 113th Congress (Rept. 113-684). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

*[Pursuant to the order of the House on December 11, 2014 the following report was filed on December 23, 2014]*

Mr. UPTON: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 4342. A bill to prohibit the National Telecommunications and Information Administration from relinquishing responsibility over the Internet domain name system until the Comptroller General of the United States submits to Congress a report on the role of the NTIA with respect to such system (Rept. 113-715). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

*[Pursuant to clause 1(d), rule XI, the following reports were filed on December 23, 2014]*

Mr. McKEON: Committee on Armed Services. Second Annual Report on the Activities of the Committee on Armed Services for the 113th Congress (Rept. 113-714). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. UPTON: Committee on Energy and Commerce. Activity Report of the Committee on Energy and Commerce for the Second Session of the 113th Congress (Rept. 113-716). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

*[Pursuant to clause 1(d), rule XI, the following report was filed on December 29, 2014]*

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan: Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence. Annual Report on the Activity of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence for the 113th Congress (Rept. 113-717). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

*[Pursuant to clause 1(d), rule XI, the following reports were filed on December 30, 2014]*

Mr. SHUSTER: Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. Summary on the Activities of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure for the 113th Congress (Rept. 113-718). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. McCAUL: Committee on Homeland Security. Report on Legislative and Oversight Activities of the House Committee on Homeland Security 113th Congress (Rept. 113-719). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Natural Resources. Report on Legislative and Oversight Activities of the Committee

on Natural Resources 113th Congress (Rept. 113-720). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan: Committee on House Administration. Second Annual Report on the Activities of the Committee on House Administration During the 113th Congress (Rept. 113-721). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

*[Pursuant to clause 1(d), rule XI, the following report was filed on December 31, 2014]*

Mr. HENSARLING: Committee on Financial Services. Second Annual Activity Report of the Committee on Financial Services for the period January 3, 2013 through January 2, 2015 (Rept. 113-722). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

*[Pursuant to clause 1(d), rule XI, the following reports were filed on January 2, 2015]*

Mr. CAMP: Committee on Ways and Means. Report on the Legislative and Oversight Activities of the Committee on Ways and Means 113th Congress (Rept. 113-723). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky: Committee on Appropriations. Committee on Appropriations Annual Report of Committee Activities, 113th Congress (Rept. 113-724). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. KLINE: Committee on Education and the Workforce. Report on the Activities of the Committee on Education and the Workforce for the Second Session of the 113th Congress (Rept. 113-725). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. SESSIONS: Committee on Rules. Survey of Activities of the House Committee on Rules for the 113th Congress (Rept. 113-726). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. CONAWAY: Committee on Ethics. Summary of Activities 113th Congress (Rept. 113-727). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. ROYCE: Committee on Foreign Affairs. Legislative Review and Oversight Activities of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, 113th Congress (Rept. 113-728). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. GOWDY: Select Committee on the Events Surrounding the 2012 Terrorist Attack in Benghazi. Annual Report on the Activities of the Select Committee on the Events Surrounding the 2012 Terrorist Attacks in Benghazi of the House of Representatives during the One Hundred Thirteenth Congress (Rept. 113-730). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

#### DISCHARGE OF COMMITTEE

*[The following actions occurred on December 22, 2014]*

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII the Committee on Agriculture discharged from further consideration. H.R. 712 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, and ordered to be printed.

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII the Committee on the Judiciary discharged from further consideration. H.R. 4296 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII the Committee on Agriculture discharged

from further consideration. H.R. 5204 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

*[The following actions occurred on January 2, 2015]*

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure discharged from further consideration. H.R. 328 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII the Committee on the Judiciary discharged from further consideration. H.R. 1575 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII the Committee on Education and the Workforce discharged from further consideration. H.R. 2748 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII the Committee on Homeland Security discharged from further consideration. H.R. 3300 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

#### REPORTED BILLS SEQUENTIALLY REFERRED

Under clause 2 of rule XII, bills and reports were delivered to the Clerk for printing, and bills referred as follows:

Mr. UPTON: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 1575. A bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to require a provider of a commercial mobile service or an IP-enabled voice service to provide call location information concerning the user of such a service to law enforcement agencies in order to respond to a call for emergency services or in an emergency situation that involves risk of death or serious physical harm; with an amendment (Rept. 113-729, Pt. 1); referred to the Committee on the Judiciary for a period ending not later than January 2, 2015, for consideration of such provisions of the bill and amendments as fall within the jurisdiction of that committee pursuant to clause 1(l) of rule X.

Mr. ISSA: Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. H.R. 328. A bill to establish a pilot program for the expedited disposal of Federal real property (Rept. 113-731, Pt. 1); referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure for a period ending not later than January 2, 2015, for consideration of such provisions of the bill as fall within the jurisdiction of that committee pursuant to clause 1(r) of rule X.

Mr. SHUSTER: Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. H.R. 3300. A bill to reauthorize the programs and activities of the Federal Emergency Management Agency; with an amendment (Rept. 113-732, Pt. 1); referred to the Committee on Homeland Security for a period ending not later than January 2, 2015, for consideration of such provisions of the bill and amendment as fall within the jurisdiction of that committee pursuant to clause 1(j) of rule X.

Mr. ISSA: Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. H.R. 2748. A bill to restore the financial solvency of the United States Postal Service and to ensure the efficient and affordable nationwide delivery of mail; with an amendment (Rept. 113-733, Pt.

1); referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce for a period ending not later than January 2, 2015, for consideration of such provisions of the bill and amendment as fall within the jurisdiction of that committee pursuant to clause 1(e) of rule X.

#### PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Ms. JACKSON LEE:

H.R. 5889. A bill to revise the Uniform Crime Reports, and the National Incident-Based Reporting System, to direct the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation to include information in those reports pertaining to law enforcement-involved justifiable homicides, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. JACKSON LEE:

H.R. 5890. A bill to conduct a study to ensure that enhanced communication is provided between commercial aircraft and air traffic control towers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. STOCKMAN:

H.R. 5891. A bill to increase the standards of school lunch programs; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. STOCKMAN:

H.R. 5892. A bill to protect cryptocurrencies; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, and Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. STOCKMAN:

H.R. 5893. A bill to restore the First Amendment Rights of Photographers; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committees on Natural Resources, Agriculture, and the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. STOCKMAN:

H. Res. 784. A resolution designating December 20 of each year as a national day of remembrance for victims of anti-police violence; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

#### MEMORIALS

Under clause 3 of rule XII,

337. The SPEAKER presented a memorial of the House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana, relative to House Concurrent Resolution No. 70, urging the Congress to call a convention, pursuant to Article V of the Constitution, for the specific and exclusive purpose of proposing an amendment to the Constitution; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

#### CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers

granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Ms. JACKSON LEE:

H.R. 5889.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clauses 1, 3, and 18 of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. JACKSON LEE:

H.R. 5890.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clauses 1, 3, and 18 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. STOCKMAN:

H.R. 5891.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8 of the United States Constitution: To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. STOCKMAN:

H.R. 5892.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution: "To coin Money, regulate the Value thereof, and of foreign Coin, and fix the Standard of Weights and Measures"

By Mr. STOCKMAN:

H.R. 5893.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Amendment I of the Constitution of the United States: "Congress shall make no law . . . abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press"

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#### ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 2504: Mr. HECK of Nevada, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, and Mr. HINOJOSA.

H.R. 3116: Ms. TSONGAS.

H.R. 5110: Mr. MESSER and Mr. CRENSHAW.

H.R. 5160: Mr. CULBERSON.

H.R. 5460: Mr. KING of New York and Ms. TSONGAS.

H.R. 5481: Mr. MCCLINTOCK.

H.R. 5644: Mr. GRIMM.

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING JOE W. STRICKLAND ON  
HIS RETIREMENT AS CHIEF  
REPORTER OF DEBATES

**HON. JOHN A. BOEHNER**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, January 2, 2015*

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Joe W. Strickland, the Chief Reporter of Debates, for his contributions to the House of Representatives during almost 22 years of service.

The House has employed Official Reporters of Debates since 1873, when the Speaker of the House took control of the privately-run Congressional Globe and the verbatim proceedings of events were published as the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—as they still are today.

It was a five-man operation back then, and the Reporters were praised in the New York Tribune for their “intimate knowledge of the precedents and practice of the House, and of the national events, great and small, which have passed in close review before their eyes.”

Joe follows in that long tradition, noted in the Tribune, of “superior ability” and “efficiency,” though the office is now under the supervision of the Clerk of the House and has grown to 43 people. Joe has worked diligently to achieve the daunting task of maintaining an accurate record not only of House Floor proceedings but of House Committee work, as well. In addition to his managerial responsibilities, he has been front and center, reporting seven State of the Union speeches and several Joint Meetings to receive messages from foreign heads of state, such as Afghan President Hamid Karzai and French President Nicolas Sarkozy.

Joe was born in central Texas and graduated from Hardin-Simmons University in Abilene with a degree in music. A tenor, he regularly toured with an all-male quartet and performed at conventions and competitions from Moscow to Washington, DC, including engagements at the White House.

After college, Joe co-owned a travel and tour company and pursued several other passions before turning his sights on court reporting. Joe attended court reporting school outside of Dallas, and he quickly earned a position as a real-time captionist for a television station. A mere three years later, his skills won him a place as an Official Reporter of Debates for the U.S. House of Representatives, reporting both Committee and Floor debates. The Clerk of the House promoted Joe to Deputy Chief of the office in 2000, and he became Chief Reporter of Debates in 2005.

Joe is recognized by the National Court Reporters Association as a Registered Professional Reporter, a Certified Realtime Reporter, and a Certified Communication Access

Realtime Translation provider—qualifications that place him among the elite in court reporting.

Mr. Speaker, the work of the Official Reporters of Debates has been an essential part of House operations for more than 140 years, and while the technology has changed, the dedication of the Reporters, like Joe, has not. We are sad to lose such a valuable member of the House Clerk’s team, but we wish him and his family the very best during a long and happy retirement.

THE SAVANNAH HARBOR  
EXPANSION PROJECT

**HON. JACK KINGSTON**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, January 2, 2015*

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the rule today. The underlying bill holds the line on spending, reducing it below the level of the past two years. Furthermore, this bill provides short term funding for the Department of Homeland Security and sets up an opportunity for the new Congress and Senate to repeal President Obama’s unconstitutional executive order on immigration. It also holds the line on Obamacare and prohibits taxpayer bailouts of insurance companies. In addition to these things, there are a number of conservative measures I support and I want to focus on one in particular of local importance.

This bill clarifies that the Savannah Harbor Expansion Project is an ongoing construction, not a new start. Therefore, the Office of Management and Budget can and should fully support the project in the President’s Budget. We can almost immediately begin dredging.

In 1997, through the Energy and Water Appropriations Committee, we allocated funds to support a study by the Georgia Ports Authority. That same year, the Georgia Ports Authority began a feasibility study of the project.

In 1998, the Harbor Expansion Feasibility Study Report was released, underscoring the importance of the project. Senator Cleland, Senator Coverdell and I worked with House and Senate Members and Conferees to be sure SHEP was included in WRDA. The bill became known as the WRDA bill of 1999 after it was signed into law by President Clinton. WRDA of 1999 included authorization for SHEP allowing the United States Army Corps of Engineers to release the record of decision, formally beginning the project.

The victory in WRDA never assured smooth sailing. Amidst growing competition from neighboring Charleston, Representative Floyd Spence, Chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, said he would “sink” the project [AP, March 2000]. This began an ongoing battle with our neighbors from South Carolina about the port. Meanwhile, many en-

vironmentalists and other groups began to raise objections. In addition, the Fish and Wildlife Service threatened to step away from negotiations. As objections came up, meetings required by WRDA with stakeholders including local Judy Jennings, economic development interests and federal agencies became an important forum to defuse concerns among all parties and resolve problems. Even with continued discussions, Congress worked with the Clinton Administration to secure additional funding for the project.

In 2001, the Georgia Ports Authority and the United States Army Corps of Engineers issued a Memorandum of Understanding and announced that the Port of Savannah was a top ranked port and one of the fastest growing U.S. container ports. Funding was again increased that year, with additional funding secured over the President’s budget request.

In 2002, the SHEP Project Management plan was released and the United States Army Corps of Engineers expressed their intent to draft another Environmental Impact Study.

In 2004, the major commitment by Georgia, both financially and politically, unified our message in Washington and was instrumental in moving the project up the priority list.

Further advancing the importance of this project was the approval of the Panama Canal expansion referendum in 2006. For example, in 2007, the Georgia House of Representatives passed H.R. 56 urging the Corps and the U.S. Congress to begin a study of the costs and effects of adding to the storage capacities of all Corps reservoirs in Georgia. Additionally, business groups, led by the Savannah Chamber of Commerce, ran efforts to push the project forward.

In 2008, as new WRDA legislation was debated in Congress, we again kept the project in WRDA and made sure that no amendments were allowed to adversely impact the project.

In 2009, we worked through the appropriations process to ensure funding for the Savannah Harbor Expansion Study in fiscal year 2010. Unfortunately, because so much time had lapsed and costs had increased, the project had to be reauthorized and adjusted each year.

In 2010, President Obama came to Savannah. Congressman BARROW and I had the opportunity to fly in Air Force One with him to discuss the project and followed up with a letter. He acted favorably but did not include it in the budget.

In 2011, even though the President’s 2012 budget did not include an allotted budget for SHEP, the Director of the Executive Office of the President’s Office of Management and Budget expressed the President’s willingness to consider the project. That same year, the U.S. Transportation Secretary noted the economic importance of the port and the need to provide funding. SHEP faced a hurdle when the Corps’ Water Qualification Certification was denied by South Carolina’s Department of

● This “bullet” symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



Health and Environmental Control. However, by the end of the year, construction funds were secured for the project.

In 2012, Senator ISAKSON, Senator CHAMBLISS and I met with Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works) Darcy and presented a letter asking for supportive language. This led to President Obama listing the Port of Savannah as a "We Can't Wait" port and a legislative fix to a procedural hurdle to the beginning of the project through the appropriations process.

In 2013, we again asked for supportive legislative language, held delegation wide meetings and secured a provision in WRDA to reauthorize the project at updated funding levels, removing any question that the project would move forward.

This year, through work with WRDA Conferees and the Appropriations Committee, SHEP finally received the final budgetary and legislative actions necessary to move forward after all of these years in the WRRDA of 2014 and the Omnibus Appropriations bill for fiscal year 2015.

These actions, in addition to many others, were completed to support SHEP because it is crucial to the State of Georgia and the Port of Savannah is key to maintaining our nation's international competitiveness. The Port of Savannah's return on investment is approximately an impressive 5.5:1. As the nation's fourth largest container port, it is critically important that the harbor is deepened to ensure it continues to act as a gateway for business to Georgia and to the nation. Beyond the trade benefits, the Port of Savannah supports hundreds of thousands of jobs and contributes billions in revenue and state and local taxes each year. Serving companies located in all 50 states, Georgia's deep-water ports are

strong economic engines for the entire United States.

This has been a long fight that I am proud to have been a part of. I am hopeful with the current status of the project. Again, it was a major team effort where the entire delegation, the business community, the state legislature and several governors supported the project.

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RECOGNIZING MR. BRUCE ROLAND  
ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RE-  
TIREMENT FROM THE OFFICE OF  
THE CAO

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**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, January 2, 2015*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Bruce Roland, of Clifton, Va., on the occasion of his retirement today, January 2, 2015, after more than 29 years of invaluable service to the United States House of Representatives.

Mr. Roland began his career with the House in December 1985, after working six years in the private sector. He was hired by former Clerk of the House, Ben Guthrie, as a Service Coordinator for Property Supply. Mr. Roland was responsible for initiating service and delivery orders and managing event setups.

He progressed to become the Assistant Purchasing Manager for the Operations Support Center, which offered an opportunity to learn new skills. Eventually, his tasks evolved into managing the budget and advocating for the financial needs of the Logistics & Support Office.

During the span of his career, Mr. Roland worked for the Directors of Non-Legislative

and Financial Services including General Leonard Wischart and Randall Medlock. When that position was renamed the Chief Administrative Officer, he worked under Scott Faulkner, Jeff Trandahl, Jay Eagen, Dan Beard, Dan Strodel and the current CAO, Ed Cassidy.

For many years, he worked directly under Cosmo Quattrone and Tom Van Dyke in the Furnishings Department, lending his expertise in purchase orders, and acquiring items for the House. It soon became clear that he was proficient in budget and finance, so he took that task on full-time. Eventually, he became the Budget Point of Contact for the Logistics & Support Department, working closely with Deputy CAO, Walt Edwards and Chief Logistics Officer, Jerry Bennett.

Had Mr. Roland not worked for the House, he might have tried to become a professional golfer. He is an accomplished golfer and often played on teams fielded by the CAO for charity events. Mr. Roland says he now intends to enjoy a little more golf while balancing his responsibilities for his three children, his daughter, Antoinette, who is now in college, and twin boys, Robert and Anthony, following the passing of his wife, Marguerite, in 2013.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Mr. Bruce Roland for his distinguished service and tremendous contributions to the U.S. House of Representatives. Mr. Roland's duties, like those of all his colleagues within the CAO, are vital to helping make sure we are able to perform our duties as the elected representatives of our communities and the nation. I want to thank Mr. Roland for his commitment to public service, and I wish him and his family all the best as they begin this new chapter of their lives.